

October 30, 2020

## Notice to Parents: Senate File 2360

### Safe Classroom Learning Environments

The state of Iowa recently passed a law that is intended to provide a comprehensive approach to creating a safe learning space for students and teachers.

A key component of this law is about ensuring that educators have a range of classroom management tools that match the intensity of the concern and create a safe learning environment for students and teachers. This law makes clear that while a classroom clear may be necessary in the event of an imminent threat of bodily injury, it is not an appropriate response to less threatening behaviors.

#### Definitions:

“Classroom clear” - clearing all other students out of the classroom in order to calm a child.

“Imminent threat of bodily injury” - reasonably likely and about to inflict physical pain, illness, or any other impairment of physical condition.

In the event of a classroom clear, the principal will contact all parents of the children in the class that was cleared. The notification will be within 24 hours of the incident.

#### **Confidentiality and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)**

In the event the principal must notify you regarding a classroom clear, due to FERPA, the principal must not share the name or identity of any student/s involved in the incident giving rise to the classroom clear.