

Data Practices Policy – Members of the Public

Board Approved: 12.19.13

Board Amended: 9.18.14, 10.22.15, 9.22.16, 10.26.17, 8.16.18, 11.21.19, 10.22.20, 9.23.21, 9.22.22

Policy Number: 512

POLICY PURPOSE

The Government Data Practices Act (Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 13) presumes that all government data are public unless a state or federal law says the data are not public. Government data is a term that means all recorded information a government entity has, including paper, email, DVDs, photographs, etc.

The Government Data Practices Act also provides that this government entity must keep all government data in a way that makes it easy for you, as a member of the public, to access public data. You have the right to look at (inspect), free of charge, all public data that we keep. You also have the right to get copies of public data. The Government Data Practices Act allows us to charge for copies. You have the right to look at data, free of charge, before deciding to request copies.

GENERAL STATEMENT

HOW TO MAKE A DATA REQUEST

To look at data or request copies of data that Spectrum High School and Spectrum Middle School (Spectrum) keeps, make a written request. Make your request for data to the appropriate individual listed in the Data Practices Contacts on page 3. You may make your request for data by using the data request form on page 5.

On the data request form, your request should include:

- that you, a member of the public, are making a request for data under the Government Data Practices Act, Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 13;
- whether you would like to look at the data, get copies of the data, or both; and
- a clear description of the data you would like to inspect or have copied.

Spectrum cannot require you, as a member of the public, to identify yourself or explain the reason for your data request. However, depending on how you want us to process your request (if, for example, you want us to mail you copies of data), we may need some information about you. If you choose not to give us any identifying information, we will provide you with contact information so you may check on the status of your request. In addition, please keep in mind that if we do not understand your request and have no way to contact you, we will not be able to begin processing your request.

HOW WE RESPOND TO A DATA REQUEST

Upon receiving your request, we will work to process it.

- If we do not have the data, we will notify you in writing as soon as reasonably possible.
- If we have the data, but the data are not public, we will notify you as soon as reasonably possible and state which specific law says the data are not public.

- If we have the data, and the data are public, we will respond to your request appropriately and promptly, within a reasonable amount of time by doing one of the following:
 - arrange a date, time, and place to inspect data, for free, if your request is to look at the data, or
 - provide you with copies of the data as soon as responsibly possible. You may choose to pick up your copies, or we will mail or electronically send via fax or email them to you. If you want us to send you the copies, you will need to provide us with an address, fax number, or email address. We will provide electronic copies (such as email or CD-ROM) upon request if we keep the data in electronic format.

Information about copy charges in on page 4.

If you do not understand some of the data (technical terminology, abbreviations, or acronyms), please let us know. We will give you an explanation if you ask.

The Government Data Practices Act does not require us to create or collect new data in response to a data request if we do not already have the data, or to provide data in a specific form or arrangement if we do not keep the data in that form or arrangement. (For example, if the data you request are on paper only, we are not required to create electronic documents to respond to your request.) If we agree to create data in response to your request, we will work with you on the details of your request, including cost and response time.

In addition, the Government Data Practices Act does not require us to answer questions that are not requests for data.

REQUESTS FOR SUMMARY DATA

Summary data are statistical records or reports that are prepared by removing all identifiers from private or confidential data on individuals. The preparation of summary data is not a means to gain access to private or confidential data. We will prepare summary data if you make your request in writing and (pre-pay/pay) for the cost of creating the data. Upon receiving your written request – you may use the data request form on page 5. We will respond within ten (10) business days with the data or details of when the data will be ready and how much we will charge.



17796 Industrial Circle NW ■ Elk River, MN 55330
Phone: 763-241-8703 ■ Fax: 763-633-1380
www.spectrumhighschool.org

Data Practices Contacts

Responsible Authority

Jason Ruzek, Board Secretary
17796 Industrial Circle N.W.
Elk River, MN 55330
763-241-8703
F: 763-633-1380
jruzek@spectrumhighschool.org

Data Practices Compliance Official

Dan DeBruyn, Executive Director
17796 Industrial Circle N.W.
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763-241-8703
F: 763-633-1380
ddebruyn@spectrumhighschool.org

Data Practices Designee(s)

Mark Leland, High School Principal, mleland@spectrumhighschool.org
Greg Heinecke, Middle School Principal, gheinecke@spectrumhighschool.org
Christy Siegel, Admissions/Office Manager 7/8 Grade, csiegel@spectrumhighschool.org
Cathy Durkot, Office Manager 6th Grade, cdurkot@spectrumhighschool.org
Stephanie Kobes, Lead School Counselor, skobes@spectrumhighschool.org
Patty Jorris, Office Manager, pjorris@spectrumhighschool.org

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Copy Costs

Spectrum charges members of the public for copies of our data. These charges are authorized under Minnesota Statutes, section 13.03, subdivision 3(c).

You must pay for the copies before we will give them to you.

We do not charge for copies if the cost is less than \$10.

FOR 100 OR FEWER PAPER COPIES – 25 cents per page

100 or fewer pages of black and white, letter or legal size paper copies cost 25¢ for a one-sided copy, or 50¢ for a two-sided copy.

MOST OTHER TYPES OF COPIES – Actual Cost

The charge for most other types of copies, when a charge is not set by statute or rule, is the actual cost of searching for and retrieving the data, and making the copies or electronically transmitting the data (e.g. sending the data by email).

In determining the actual cost of making copies, we factor in employee time, the cost of the materials onto which we are copying the data (paper, CD, DVD, etc.), and mailing costs (if any). If your request is for copies of data that we cannot reproduce ourselves, such as photographs, we will charge you the actual cost we must pay an outside vendor for the copies.

The cost of employee time to search for data, retrieve data, and make copies is \$20.00/hour plus expenses (i.e., mailing costs, etc.)

If, because of the subject matter of your request, we find it necessary for a higher-paid employee to search for and retrieve the data, we will calculate the search retrieval portion of the copy charge at the higher salary/wage.



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Data Request Form – Members of the Public

Date of Request: _____

I am requesting access to data in the following way:

- Inspection Copies Both inspection and copies

Note: Inspection is free, but Spectrum charges for copies if the cost is over \$10.00.

These are the data I am requesting:

Describe the data you are requesting as specifically as possible. If you need more space, please use the back of this form.

Contact Information

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone number: _____ Email address: _____

You do not have to provide any of the above contact information. However, if you want us to mail/email you copies of data, we will need some type of contact information. In addition, if we do not understand your request and need to get clarification from you, without contact information we will not be able to begin processing your request until you contact us.

We will respond to your request as soon as reasonably possible.