



DARRINGTON ELEMENTARY K-8 SCHOOL

1075 Fir Street/PO Box 27 Darrington, WA 98241 360.436.1313 (office) 360.436.0592 (fax)

Dear Parent or Guardian of _____,

Beginning the 2016-17 school year, the state legislature passed a law requiring Washington State public schools to collect information on military affiliation beginning with the 2016–17 school-year.

(<http://app.leg.wa.gov/billinfo/summary.aspx?bill=5163&year=2015>)

Reasons for collection of the data include:

- (1) The legislature finds that, nationally, nearly two-million students are from military families, where one or more parent or guardian serves in the United States armed forces, reserves, or National Guard. There are approximately one hundred thirty-six thousand military families in Washington State.
- (2) The legislature further finds that a United States government accountability office study in 2011 identified that it is not possible to monitor educational outcomes for students from military families due to the lack of a student identifier in state educational data systems. Such an identifier is needed to allow educators and policymakers to monitor critical elements of education success, including academic progress and proficiency, special and advanced program participation, mobility and dropout rates, and patterns over time across states and school districts. Reliable information about student performance will assist educators in more effectively transitioning students to a new school and enable school districts to discover and implement best practices. [2015 c 210 § 1.]
For the purposes of this data collection, "students from military families" includes:
 - (a) Students with a parent or guardian who is a member of the active duty United States armed forces; and
 - (b) Students with a parent or guardian who is a member of the reserves of the United States armed forces or a member of the Washington national guard.” Collection and updating of this data must use the United States department of education 2007 race and ethnicity reporting guidelines, including the subracial and sub-ethnic categories within those guidelines, with modifications.

If you have any questions, please contact the school at 360.436.1140.

Parent Military Status: Please circle the applicable answer.

A – Parent or guardian is a current member of the US Armed Forces, active duty

G – Parent or Guardian is a current member of the National Guard

M – More than one parent or guardian qualifies for A, R or G

N – No parent or guardian is currently serving the US Armed Forces or National Guard

R – Parent or guardian is a current member of the US Armed Forces, reserves

Z – Prefer not to answer

Please fill out and return this form to the school. Thank you.