



REYNOLDSBURG CITY SCHOOLS

Custody, Guardianship, Parental Rights General Information

Welcome Center: 1555 Graham Road, Reynoldsburg OH 43068

Phone: (614) 501-1033, Fax: (614) 501-1049, Email: welcomecenter@reyn.org

Ohio Revised Code (ORC) – Section 3109.042 Custody rights of unmarried mother

Effective March 23, 2015

Legislation: Senate Bill 207 – 130th General Assembly

(A) An unmarried female who gives birth to a child is the sole residential parent and legal custodian of the child until a court of competent jurisdiction issues an order designating another person as the residential and legal custodian. A court designating the residential parent and legal custodian of a child described in this section shall treat the mother and father as standing upon an equality when making the designation.

If you are the biological father of the child, but never married the mother, please understand Reynoldsburg City Schools cannot legally enroll your student without custody or shared parenting order by the court.

MOTION / COURT HEARING SCHEDULED:

In any scenario where a motion for custody or guardianship has been filed with the court and you have been granted a hearing date, **enrollment can proceed with a tuition agreement ONLY.**

This tuition based agreement for enrolling a student is only valid for a maximum of sixty (60) calendar days under ORC 3313.64. The case must be fully executed/finalized before the sixty days expire to remain in Reynoldsburg City Schools. This means that your case must have been heard, decided, signed by the appointed magistrate and filed in court. ***Mediation is NOT resolved until signed by an appointed judge and filed in court.***

During the sixty (60) calendar days, Reynoldsburg City Schools charges tuition for the school session days allowed under the ORC 3317.08. **This tuition payment must be paid in full prior to the student attending class.** The daily rate will be determined by the Ohio Department of Education each year. *Tuition can be refunded if the custody, shared parenting, or guardianship is awarded before the sixty days expire.*

**Franklin County
Clerk of Courts**
373 S. High Street
Floor 4
Columbus, OH 43215
#614-525-3600

**Licking County
Clerk of Courts**
75 E. Main Street
Newark, OH 43055
#740-670-5392

**Fairfield County
Clerk of Courts**
224 E. Main Street
Suite #212
Lancaster, OH 43130
#740-652-7360

Notarized statements / Power of Attorney from the current custodial parent(s) are NOT acceptable.

Changes in Residency or Custody

Any and all changes MUST BE REPORTED to the RCS Welcome Center within ten (10) days of the legal change.

Providing information directly to your child's school is NOT sufficient notification.

Failure to present such documents will constitute a falsification of applications and/or enrollment documents. The consequence of failing to inform the Welcome Center of such updates may result in the denial of all or new open enrollment applications, intra-district or school of choice requests.

Any change in RESIDENCY - moving anywhere within or out of Reynoldsburg City School District boundaries - requires new proof of residency be presented in the form of a signed lease, settlement statement, or notarized friends or family affidavit, AND a current utility bill, paystub or official mail. No changes in transportation will be made until all required documents are received by the Welcome Center.

The McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act defines homeless children and youth as those who “lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence”

Please ask to speak to the enrollment representative if you are in transitional housing.

CUSTODY changes – require finalized court papers to be on file, in accordance with Ohio law - including but not limited to:

Divorce or Dissolution – including both judgment entry and decree,
New, or changes in existing Shared Parenting Plans - including both plan and decree
House Bill 130 (Grandparent Power of Attorney) – notarized and FILED,
Foster or Kinship placements - ICCA and journal entry

TERMS and DEFINITIONS

Guardianship: Granted through the court, usually temporary or expiring on the child's 18th birthday.

This is valid ONLY in the state in which it is granted. *If you are coming from outside of Ohio, you must have jurisdiction transferred from the original court to an Ohio court before enrollment is possible.*

Custody: Granted through the court, usually long term. Temporary or Emergency Orders granted by the court are acceptable for enrollment.

Reallocation of Parental Rights: Only the parent designated as School Placement Parent (*or similar phrasing*) in a divorce or shared parenting agreement may enroll a child in school. District of Residence is determined by that parent's address. The parent not designated as School Placement Parent must petition the court of original jurisdiction for a Reallocation of Parental Rights (*or similar phrasing*) requesting that he/she be named as such. This may be done through mediation, *but not considered finalized until the order has been signed by a judge and filed in the court.*

Unwed Parents: In the State of Ohio, parental rights default solely to the mother of all children born to unwed couples after January 1, 1998, until otherwise ordered by a court. Fathers must have an affidavit of paternity AND *court-granted custodial rights* in order to enroll the child in school and participate in any educational decisions both disciplinary and academic.

House Bill 130 (Grandparent Power of Attorney): This is a short term agreement which extends parental rights to biological grandparents without taking any rights away from the custodial parent. It is only valid while a student is residing full-time with the grandparent. The order allows the grandparent to enroll the child in school and attend functions as the custodial parent would. It must be filed in the court and is a quick and inexpensive procedure as opposed to any of the other options above.

Notarized statements / POA from the current custodial parent(s) are NOT acceptable.