

You have heard the comments of my colleagues concerning the Common Core Standards States Initiative. I want to focus on FERPA "The Family **Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974** that is a United States federal law or was. This law protected students from the public having access to their education records, medical records, and or private family information. However, President Obama, by executive order changed FERPA. In December, 2011, with the help of Arne Duncan and the U.S. Department of Education, FERPA was amended, without Congressional approval. The new FERPA

regulations went into effect January, 2012. They make it possible now for government to legally access all personal records on students and their families. Our president's administration is paving the way for private entities to buy their way into the personal data of our children and their families. Even more alarming, the U.S. Department of Education is encouraging a radical push from aggregate-level data-gathering to invasive individual student-level data collection.

The National Education Data Model, (DEDM) available online, lists hundreds of data points considered indispensable to the nationalized student tracking racket. These include:

- "Bus Stop Arrival Time" and "Bus Stop Description."
- "Dwelling arrangement."
- "Diseases, Illnesses and Other Health Conditions."
- "Religious Affiliation."
- "Telephone Number type" and "Telephone Status."

Home-schoolers and religious families that reject traditional government education would be tracked. Original National Education Data Model (NEDM) data points included hair color, eye color, weight, blood types and even dental status.

The American Principles Project, a conservative education think tank, state that Common Core's technological project is "merely one part of a much broader plan by the federal government to track individuals from birth through their participation in the workforce."

How exactly does amassing and selling such personal data improve educational outcomes? It doesn't.

Federal Education is not about excellence or academic achievement. It's about control, control, and more control.

PLEASE place Common Core on your agenda so that parents can understand what Common Core will do to their privacy.

Thank you.