Limited Sharing/Release of Student Information for the Purpose of the Local Education Agency (LEA) Medi-Cal Billing Option

Notice to Parents/Guardians:
- Under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), LEAs must provide health assessment and treatment to students on IEP/IFSPs at no cost to the parent/guardian
- The LEA Medi-Cal Billing Option program allows school districts to receive the federal share of reimbursement for health assessment and treatment services delivered to Medi-Cal eligible children and family members within the school environment
- Health assessment and treatment may include educational assessments and services in the areas of audiology, counseling, psycho-educational, nursing, occupational therapy, physical therapy and speech-language therapy related to the services
- San Diego Unified School District (SDUSD), in cooperation with the California Department of Health Care Services and the California Department of Education, participates in the LEA Medi-Cal Billing Option program
- In order for LEAs to seek potential reimbursement via the LEA Medi-Cal Billing Option program, they must comply with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)
- FERPA requires LEAs to obtain written and signed parental consent prior to submitting personally identifiable student information contained in education records to Medi-Cal
- After obtaining parental consent, LEAs may release disability information and health services provided to verify eligibility or seek reimbursement

SDUSD’s Rights and Responsibilities:
- SDUSD must provide health assessment and treatment for students on IEP/IFSPs at no cost to the parent/guardian regardless if parental consent to share/release information is granted
- SDUSD must obtain written and signed parental consent prior to submitting personally identifiable student information contained in education records to Medi-Cal in order to seek reimbursement for services provided
- FERPA allows LEAs to disclose directory information (Name, Address, Date of Birth, Student ID) without written parental consent
- FERPA does not require LEAs to obtain written parental consent in order for Paradigm, in its capacity as the LEA’s billing agent/consultant, to access or maintain, on behalf of the LEA, health information contained in education records

Parent’s Rights and Protections:
- Granting consent for the limited sharing/release of student information is voluntary
- Accessing reimbursement via the LEA Medi-Cal Billing Option does not decrease any insurance benefits, increase any insurance premiums, or lead to the discontinuance of any public benefits that a child or family may receive
- Granting consent for the limited sharing/release of student information does not require children or families to enroll in any public benefits or insurance programs
- Parents/guardians have the right to request that this limited sharing/release information is provided in their native language, or through another mode of communication
- Consent for the limited sharing/release of student information may be revoked at any time by providing a written notice to SDUSD revoking parental consent
- SDUSD will continue to provide health assessment and treatment at no cost to the parent/guardian