MSD: Custody Orders, Parent Status, and School Access Coordination

Schools shall rely on the most current court order or other legally controlling document provided to the school when determining parental authority, school access, student release, and educational decision-making authority. A parent, guardian, or other person claiming a limitation on another parent's authority is responsible to provide the school with the applicable court order or legally controlling document.

When parents were never married, the District may recognize both parents listed on the birth certificate or established by a judgment of paternity as having parental authority unless a court order or other legally controlling document provides otherwise. Disputes that cannot be resolved through school-level records review shall be referred to the Superintendent or designee for coordination with District student services, records, and legal procedures.

Source: MSD Policy 6430, Access to Students and Student Interviews, approved 2024.