**SterlingChristianAcademy**

Legal Custody Policy

1. A single parent, grandparent, or a foster parent must provide written documentation of the legal custody of the child /children enrolled, i.e., a court decree or private settlement agreement.
2. Only the person who has legal custody of the child/children has the authority to make decisions regarding the child’s/children’s education.
3. If divorced parents share legal custody of a child/children and provide proof with written documentation provided to the school, both parents must agree on decisions relating to matters of education and medical care.
4. Grandparents and foster parents still need approval from the child’s/children’s parents regarding educational decisions.
5. Legal custody of child/children must be established before enrollment is completed.

**Legal custodians are required to adhere to the following:**

1. All legal custodians must sign the school enrollment contract.
2. Foster parents must provide the school with legal papers that show they have legal custody and authority to make educational decisions for students enrolled.
3. If a foster parent does not have sole legal custody, signed authorizations from both noncustodial parents and from the foster parents must be provided for children who are enrolled.

1. If a grandparent is merely a baby sitter and does not have legal custody, the school enrollment contract must be signed by both the parents and the grandparents.

1. Enrollment will not be complete until permission to enroll the child/children is given, in writing, by the parent named in the official custody papers as having authority to make decisions regarding the child’s/children’s education.
2. Any restrictions in the official custody papers, not in keeping with official school policy, will negate enrollment. Such restrictions may include: (1) after school pickup; (2) free exercise of religious instruction; and (3) standard of conduct.
3. Written directions as detailed in the official custody papers will be followed relative to:

(1) Calls in the event of an emergency, if the child fails to attend school, or if there is a

discipline problem; (2) receiving school notices; and (3) access to the student’s records.

1. If a noncustodial parent is unavailable or the whereabouts are unknown, the person with legal custody must provide a signed affidavit disclosing such details and give information about plans to sever the absent parent’s right to legal custody.