

MENTAL HEALTH IN SCHOOLS LEARNING SERIES

Virtual Strand

Legal and Ethical Overview of Telehealth in the Schools,

Presented by Dr. Dan Florell

Webinar Summary:

Due to the pandemic, schools have rapidly transitioned to online teaching and service delivery. This transition has caused school support personnel to scramble to provide remote services to students. Often there has not been time to carefully consider the implications of quickly made decisions. As remote service delivery continues, practitioners need to take a step back and consider how various federal laws apply to digital service provision such as through telehealth. This session will review the major federal laws that apply to digital services and highlight common ethical concerns that can arise.

Resources:

- Center for Ethical Practice – [Ethical Decision Making Model](#)
- [Joint Guidance on the Application of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act \(FERPA\) And the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 \(HIPAA\) To Student Health Records](#)
- US Dept. of Education - [Protecting Student Privacy](#)
- [Student Privacy and Special Education: An Educator's Guide During and After COVID-19](#)

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References:

See Resources above

Discussion Guide:

1. What personal identifiable information (PII) do I collect on students and how do I protect it?
2. How does FERPA influence the way student information is handled online?
3. Are there implications regarding COPPA in the way services are provided to students?
4. How do these federal laws apply to the cloud storage of student information that our district use?
5. How does our district's informed consent forms address digital services that are being used by students?
6. What steps does our district take to protect student PII?
7. How can HIPAA help inform school telehealth practice in regards to privacy of student data?
8. What ethical considerations need to be made when providing services remotely to students?