

© 2004 by the Orange County Superintendent of Schools

## Joint Custody

- Joint custody is defined in Family Code Section 3002 as joint legal custody and joint physical custody.
- Joint legal custody is defined as both parents sharing the right and the responsibility to make the decisions relating to the health, education and welfare of the child.



# Joint Custody

- Joint physical custody requires that each of the parents have significant periods of physical custody of the child.
- Joint physical custody shall be shared by the parents in such a way so as to assure a child of frequent and continuing contact with both parents.



## Sole Custody

 Sole legal custody is defined as meaning one parent shall have the right and the responsibility to make the decisions relating to the health, education and welfare of a child.

Sole physical custody is defined as meaning that a child shall reside with and be under the supervision of one parent, subject to the power of the court to order visitation.



#### Interpretation of Custody Orders

- When there is a dispute over custody of a child, the school should request from the parent a copy of the custody order.
- The school should review the custody order to determine if the custody order specifies the type of custody (usually joint legal custody and joint physical custody).



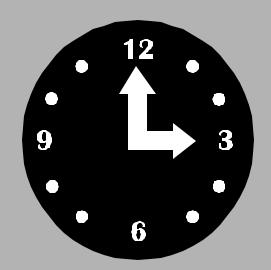
#### Interpretation of Custody Orders

- The school should review the custody order to determine if it specifies pick up and drop off at school
- A parent should not be allowed to expand their
  time with the child in excess of the custody order.



#### Interpretation of Custody Orders

 A parent wishing to expand their time with their child should seek to amend the court order or obtain the
written permission of the other parent.



#### Access to School Records

- Family Code Section 3025 and Education Code Section 49069 state that both parents, regardless of custody, shall have access to records and information pertaining to a minor child's educational records.
- Education Code Section 49061 states that only a parent having legal custody may challenge the contents of the record.