

Policy Committee Meeting
Tuesday, November 28, 2023 6:30 PM

Town Campus Hammonasset Room/Zoom
10 Campus Drive
Madison, CT 06443

Meeting Agenda

I. Policies for Rescission

- 9540.11 News Media Service at Meetings
- 9900 School Board Legislative Program
- 9910 State Legislative Program
- 5120.9.4 Bicycle and Rollerblade Use
- 5120.4.2.3 Substance Abuse Counseling

II. Policies for Review

- 9510 Time, Place and Notice of Meetings
 Repeal and Replace:
 9510 Regular Board Meetings
 9520 Special Board Meetings
 9540.1 Notification of Board Meetings
- 5090.8.1 Search and Seizure
- 5090.3.1 Student Dress
- 5144.4 Physical Activity, Undirected Play and Student Discipline
- 9710 School District logo and or motto & 9720 Guidelines for use of District Logo/ Board Members' Names

III. Public Comment

The Town of Madison does not discriminate on the basis of disability, and the meeting facilities are ADA accessible. Individuals who need assistance are invited to make their needs known by contacting the Town ADA/Human Resources Director, Debra Ferrante, at 203-245-6310 or by email at ferranted@madisonct.org at least five (5) business days prior to the meeting.

Rescind

9540.11 News Media Service at Meetings

This bylaw is not required and we recommend repeal. If the Board wishes to retain this policy, we recommend further legal review to ensure compliance with the FOIA. Further, if the Board wishes to develop rules about the recording of meetings by the news media and others, such rules must be prescribed by Board rule in advance of the meeting and can be done through this bylaw.

9900 School Board Legislative Program

This bylaw is not required and we recommend repeal. The Board is legally bound to comply with federal and state law (and changes in the law), but it does not need a policy so reflecting. If the Board wishes to designate a member to stay abreast of legislative changes, it may do so without this bylaw in place.

9910 State Legislative Program

This bylaw is not required and we recommend repeal.

5120.9.4 Bicycle and Rollerblade Use

This policy is not mandatory and we recommend repeal. The use of rollerblades is outdated and likely inapplicable. Further, bicycle riding concerns the day-to-day operation of the school, and is thus more appropriately included in a regulation or school procedure. Recommend the Board consider making this a regulation and combining it with 5120.9.5. *** *It is included in student handbooks and varies from building to building – examples will be included in packet****

5120.4.2.3 Substance Abuse Counseling

We recommend repealing this policy and replacing it with the Model Policy Drug and Alcohol Use By Students, which includes language concerning counseling and support for students with substance abuse problems. *** The model policy was adopted in April 2022

Review

Adopt: Time, Place and Notice of Meetings

Repeal and Replace: 9510 Regular Board Meetings, 9520 Special Board Meetings, 9540.1 Notification of Board Meetings

We recommend repeal and replacement with our model bylaw, Time, Place and Notice of Meetings, for consistency and legal compliance.

5090.8.1 Search and Seizure

We recommend this policy be repealed and replaced with S&G's model Search and Seizure policy, for legal compliance and consistency. The policy contains accompanying administrative regulations

regarding search and seizure, as well as optional regulations regarding the use of dogs and breathalyzers on school property).

5090.3.1 Student Dress

It appears that the Board uses a version of the model policy. We recommend revision based on the CROWN Act, which was passed by the legislature in the spring of 2021, and prohibits discrimination based on protective hairstyles. The current model policy, available in the client portal, includes the recent updates.

5144.4 Physical Activity, Undirected Play and Student Discipline

Public Act No. 23-159 and Public Act No. 23-101 add new play-based learning requirements for pre-school through fifth grade. Beginning with the 2024-2025 school year, each board of education must provide for play-based learning during the instructional time of each regular school day for students in preschool and kindergarten. Teachers who instruct students in grades one to five must be permitted to utilize play-based learning during the instructional time of a regular school day. We revised this policy to include these upcoming play-based learning requirements. The new law also includes a definition of “recess,” which has been incorporated throughout the policy. Finally, we have made minor technical revisions for clarity.

9710 School District logo and or motto & 9720 Guidelines for use of District Logo/ Board Members’ Names

A draft policy has been presented for consideration. Shipman initially shared that a policy is not necessary but took greater issue with policy 9720 starting, “This bylaw is not required and we recommend repeal. In addition, the bylaw addresses duties of the Superintendent, rather than the Board, and the topic is not appropriate for a bylaw. In addition, the equal opportunity statement listed in the bylaw should be revised to reflect all protected classes and not refer to affirmative action, which is separate and distinct from equal educational opportunity.”

#9540.11**News Media Services at Meetings**

The Board believes that one of the paramount responsibilities of a Board of Education is to keep the public informed of its actions. Consequently, the local news media representatives will be welcome to attend all regular, special, and annual meetings of the Board.

A copy of the agenda of all official Board meetings will be made available to members of the working press who request it. In the event that representatives of the news media are unable to attend a meeting, upon request, they will be provided a summary of important Board actions.

All reports approved by the Board will be a matter of official record and, upon request, will be made available to the press or other members of the public. No report-in-progress, including all of those on which the Board has taken no final action, will be released by any Board or staff member unless the Board specifically authorizes its release as a "tentative report."

In situations where individual Board members receive requests from news media representatives for information about Board meetings, members may speak only for themselves and not as spokesperson for the Board unless this responsibility has been specifically delegated to a Board member.

Date of Adoption: 3/7/95

#9900**School Board Legislative Program**

The Board, as an agent of the State, must operate within the bounds of state and federal laws affecting public education. If the Board is to meet its responsibilities to the residents and students of this community, it must work vigorously for the passage of new laws designed to advance the cause of good schools and for the repeal or modification of existing laws that impede this cause. To this end, the Board ...

- Will keep itself informed of pending legislation and actively communicate its concerns and make its position known to elected representatives at both the state and national level.
- May work with its legislative representatives (both state and federal), with the state school boards association, the National School Boards Association, and other concerned groups in developing an annual, as well as long-range, legislative program. One of the major objectives of the Board's legislative program will be to seek full funding for all state and federally mandated programs.
- May annually designate a person—who may or may not be a member of the Board—to serve as its legislative representative. This person will be authorized to speak on the Board's behalf with respect to legislation being considered by the state legislature or the United States Congress or their respective committees. In all dealings with individual elected representatives, the legislature, or Congress, the Board's representative will be guided by the official positions taken by the Board.

Board's Legislative Representative

A legislative representative may serve as the Board's liaison with the state school board association legislative assembly. The legislative representative may attend state school boards' association assemblies, conveying local views and concerns to that body and participating in the formulation of state legislative programs. The legislative representative will monitor proposed school legislation and inform the Board of the issues.

Date of Adoption: 3/7/95

**#9910
State Legislative Program**

The Board recognizes the importance of sound and constructive state legislation in establishing the framework and support for public education. It is therefore directly concerned with legislative proposals affecting education.

If the Board has appointed a designated legislative liaison member, that member will report to the Board on legislative proposals, and the Board will make its position known both to the state school boards association and to appropriate state representatives and senators.

The legislative liaison member will also keep the Board informed of pertinent federal legislative proposals and communicate the Board's position to representatives and senators at the national level.

Date of Adoption: 3/7/95

#5120.9.4**Bicycle and Rollerblade Use**

The principal of each building will set specific rules for students for the use of bicycles and rollerblades to and from the school. The privileges of riding a bicycle or using rollerblades may be withdrawn if a student fails to observe the rules for bicycle or rollerblade use set by the school or by Connecticut state law.

In general, students who ride bicycles to school are requested to park them in an orderly fashion and at the location requested by the building principal. To discourage theft, the use of bicycle locks is highly recommended. Students are required to park bicycles upon arrival at school and leave them until ready to return home. Similarly, students who rollerblade to school are requested to remove rollerblades upon arrival at school and store them as designated by the principal until ready to return home. For safety reasons, riding bicycles or rollerblading on school grounds during school hours will not be permitted. Bicycle riders and rollerbladers are expected to know the rules of the road and to follow them.

Additionally, the Board strongly urges compliance with state law requiring the use of bicycle helmets for children and charges parents with monitoring their own child's use of appropriate headgear and other safety gear for both bicycling and rollerblading.

Date of Adoption: April 2, 1996

Sports

Medical Requirements/Physicals

Interscholastic sports require a current physical exam, no more than 13 months old. Physicals expire thirteen months to the day, so parents should make note of physicals that expire during the school year.

Participation in all Interscholastic teams requires a fee. Sign-ups for Interscholastic sports are online through FamilyID. You must create an account in order to register. Please refer to the Polson Middle School Athletic website regarding registration fees and forms.

Intramural sports require a fee and MPS emergency form. Sign-ups for all Intramural sports are through the Nurse's Office.

Polson athletes are required to follow all policies and procedures outlined in the Madison Athletics Code of Conduct.

School Closings

When schools are closed, all school community activities scheduled in the schools are canceled. When school is closed, delayed, dismissed early or converted to remote learning, the information will be communicated by:

- Notification on the district and individual school homepages
- eNotify email message to parents/guardians from the school district
- Social Media: Facebook and Twitter

In addition, the following news media stations will broadcast the information:

- WFSB-3
- WTNH-8
- NBC-30
- FOX-61

Madison Public School Website - www.madison.k12.ct.us

Find us on Facebook at **Walter C. Polson Middle School**

Visitors

All visitors to Polson School, including parents, must first sign in at the main office and show their driver's license in order to receive a visitor's pass. Students are not allowed to bring friends from other school districts/schools to Polson during the school day, to after-school activities, or to school dances.

SERVICES

Bicycles

Students riding bicycles must exercise caution when riding on the driveway leading to and from school. Bicycle racks are located near the front entrance of the building. All bicycles must be parked in these racks and locked with the student's own lock. It is important to note that bicycles are left at the student's own risk. Students under the age of fifteen are required by law to wear a helmet.

Chromebooks

Daily Use

Students are expected to bring the fully-charged Chromebook to school every day. Teachers have the discretion to determine when students may use technology in the classroom. Students are expected to use the Chromebooks in a safe, ethical, and responsible manner, both in and outside of school.

Brown School is not responsible for students' lost, stolen, or damaged personal cell phones or tablets.

Use of On-Line Services

In order for a student to use the on-line services in Brown School, an **Acceptable User Policy** form must be completed and signed by the student and his/her parent or guardian. This form is kept on file in the Main Office. The user agreement specifies student responsibilities when using the internet and other types of computer-based research. Misuse of technology or access to sites not specific to school work will result in the loss of internet privileges for one week and/or referral to a school administrator. Copies of the District's Student Internet Policy and Agreement Form are located on the district website. *BOE policy 5210.*

Students are expected to:

- Exhibit exemplary behavior when accessing the Internet whether in the library, computer lab or classroom.
- Utilize the resources of specific web sites on the Internet for school-related educational purposes only.
- Follow the directions of the adult in charge when working with technology.
- Take appropriate care of all equipment.
- Follow the district's Technology Acceptable Use Policy.

Lockers

Students will be assigned lockers during homeroom during the first week of school. Each student will be given a locker for which he or she will be responsible until the end of the year. Each student may use only the locker which he or she has been assigned. All personal belongings, including mobile devices and books, must be kept in the student's locker. It is expected that lockers will be kept clean and in good order. Students are asked not to use glue or permanent markers in decorating their lockers. **If a locker is broken at any time during the school year, the student should report the problem to the Main Office immediately.**

Students may decorate the insides of their lockers with photographs and other personal belongings as long as the decorations do not interfere with the closing of the locker and are appropriate to the school setting. For safety reasons, breakable mirrors may not be attached to locker doors.

Bicycles

Students riding bicycles must exercise caution when riding on the driveway leading to and from school. Bicycle racks are located at the front of the parking lot. All bicycles must be parked and locked in these racks. It is important to note that bicycles are left at the student's own risk. **Students under the age of fourteen are required by law to wear a helmet.**

Health Office

General Information

The Health Office is staffed with a Registered Nurse and a health paraprofessional from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The Health Office provides health and emergency services to students at Brown School. If an emergency should arise while the Health Office is closed, students will be sent to the Main Office. All Health Office visits are documented and these records are maintained in Infinite Campus.

Parents/guardians will be notified if their child is to be sent home. A student with a temperature of 100 degrees or greater, or who is vomiting or has diarrhea, will be sent home from school. Individual assessments may also result in exclusion from school.

**5120.4.2.3
Substance Abuse Counseling**

Health problems of youth are primarily the responsibility of the home and community, but schools share in that responsibility because substance abuse problems often interfere with school behavior, student learning, and the fullest possible development of each student.

The Board recognizes that substance abuse is a treatable health problem which does not respect any group or age. Under no circumstances does the district condone the use or abuse of chemical substances and the district discipline policy governing such abuse, will continue to be strictly observed.

The Board recognizes that substance abuse affects not only the individual but the total family. Therefore, when a student is involved in substance abuse, services will be offered to assist the student and/or his/her family. These services may include education and awareness, identification, assessment, referral, and follow-up with student support services.

Principals will be responsible for monitoring the implementation of the substance abuse prevention program at their school site. The parents and community are responsible for learning about the school's substance abuse program and cooperating in its implementation.

A curriculum that stresses preventive substance abuse education will be conducted throughout the K - 12 program. The curriculum will be regularly reviewed and updated to assure accurate and comprehensive programming

(cf: 5090.7 Drugs, Alcohol, Tobacco, Inhalants, and Performance Enhancing Substances)

(cf: 5110.4 Suspension / Expulsion / Exclusion from School / School Activities)

(cf: 6080.14.1 Drugs, Alcohol, and Tobacco Education)

Date of Adoption: June 4, 1996

Technical Revision: August 22, 2006

Time, Place, and Notice of Meetings

1. Regular Meetings

- A. The Madison Board of Education (the “Board”) shall set a calendar of regular meetings for the ensuing year at the first regular meeting in ~~November~~December.
- B. In compliance with the Connecticut General Statutes, the Chairperson [or Secretary] shall file this calendar with the Town Clerk, and post this calendar on the Board’s Internet web site, ~~if available, by November 30~~ [or other date falling on or before January 31].
- C. Normally the Board shall schedule regular meetings on the first and third Tuesday of each month of the year except during school holidays, when the Board shall schedule no regular meetings.
- D. If at any point in the meeting the Board should not maintain a quorum, then the Chairperson of the Board will adjourn the meeting and declare the time and place of the resumption of the meeting, which shall be reflected in a written order of adjournment. A copy of the written order of adjournment will be posted on or near the door of the place where the meeting was held within twenty-four hours after the time of adjournment.
- E. If, in accordance with applicable law, the Board conducts a regular meeting by means of electronic equipment, the Board shall provide, at least forty-eight (48) hours before the meeting, direct notification in writing or by electronic transmission to each member of the Board and post a notice that the Board intends to conduct the meeting solely or in part by means of electronic equipment in the Administrative Offices of the Board, in the office of the Town Clerk, and on the Board’s Internet web site. Such notice shall include instructions for the public to attend and provide comment or otherwise participate in the meeting, by means of electronic equipment or in person, as applicable and permitted by law.

2. Special Meetings

- A. Special meetings may be held when determined by the Board, when so called by the Chairperson, or within fourteen (14) days upon written request of three members of the Board.
- B. No special meeting shall be held unless a notice stating the time, place and purpose of the meeting has been given to each member and to the Town

46 Clerk, and has been posted on the Board’s Internet web site, if available,
47 twenty-four (24) hours before the time stated for the meeting to convene.
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49 1. If, in accordance with applicable law, the Board holds a special
50 meeting conducted solely or in part by means of electronic
51 equipment, notice of such meeting shall include whether the
52 meeting will be conducted solely or in part by means of electronic
53 equipment. If such meeting is to be conducted by means of
54 electronic equipment, such notice shall include instructions for the
55 public, by means of electronic equipment or in person, to attend
56 and provide comment or otherwise participate in the meeting, as
57 applicable and permitted by law.
58

59 C. When a majority of the members agree that an emergency exists which has
60 made a regular notice impossible, such a meeting may be called at a time
61 or place which may be most convenient. In case of such emergency
62 meeting, a copy of the minutes setting forth the nature of the emergency
63 and the proceedings occurring at such meeting shall be filed with the
64 Town Clerk [Regional School District Option: with the Town Clerk of
65 each municipal member of the school district] no later than seventy-two
66 (72) hours following the holding of such a meeting.
67

68 3. Meeting Time and Place
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70 A. All regular meetings of the Board shall begin at 7:30 p.m. or as soon
71 thereafter as a quorum is present. ~~and shall adjourn no later than unless~~
72 ~~extended to a time certain by a two-thirds vote of the Board members~~
73 ~~present.~~ All regular meetings of the Board shall be held in Central Office,
74 unless otherwise ordered by the Board.
75

76 B. Special Meetings (non-emergency) of the Board shall be held at a time and
77 place to be determined and announced in advance of meeting.
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79

80 Legal References:

81 Connecticut General Statutes

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83 Public Act 22-3, “An Act Concerning Remote Meetings Under the Freedom of
84 Information Act.”
85

- 86 1-225 Meetings of government agencies to be public. Recording of votes.
87 Schedule and agenda of certain meetings to be filed and posted on web
88 sites. Notice of special meetings. Executive sessions
89 1-228 Adjournment of meetings. Notice
90 1-229 Continued hearings. Notice
91 1-230 Regular meetings to be held pursuant to regulation,
92 ordinance or resolution

93	7-3	Warning of town and other meetings
94	7-4	Record of warning
95	10-218	Officers. Meetings
96		
97		

#9510
Regular Board Meetings

Scheduling Board Meetings

Regular meetings of the Board shall be held the first and third Tuesday of each month at a consistent time to be determined by the members of the Board. A schedule of meetings shall be made at a regular meeting of the Board. A calendar of such regularly scheduled meetings shall be made known to the Town Clerk of Madison by the Superintendent at least thirty (30) days prior to the first regularly scheduled meeting of the calendar year. Any change in the location, date and / or time of a regular meeting, due to a legal holiday or some other circumstance, shall be determined at a public meeting of the Board. Notice of such change shall be given to the Town Clerk and the public no less than forty-eight (48) hours prior to the revised meeting. If a regularly scheduled meeting of the Board would otherwise fall on the November Election Day, the meeting shall be rescheduled to such other date as determined by the Board.

Adjourning Board Meetings

A regular meeting of the Board of Education may be adjourned in the absence of a quorum or due to incomplete business. A majority vote of those members present is required when a meeting is adjourned due to incomplete business. Within twenty-four hours of the adjournment, notice must be given to all Board members, the office of the Town Clerk, and clearly posted at the meeting site. Such notice shall include the site and time for the rescheduled adjourned meeting. If the hour for the rescheduled adjourned meeting is not stated, it shall be held at the hour specified for regular meetings.

Canceling Board Meetings

A regular meeting of the Board may be canceled by agreement of the majority of the entire Board and notice given to the Town Clerk at least 24 hours in advance of the scheduled meeting. Emergency cancellation of a regular or special Board meeting may be made by

9510 (continued)

the Board Chairperson and the Superintendent when such a condition exists. Board members will be notified as soon as possible and public notice given by local radio stations or cable channel.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes
10-218 Offices Meeting; 1-21 Meetings of Public Agencies

Date of Adoption: 2/7/72
1st Revision: 3/21/89
2nd Revision: 4/7/92
3rd Revision: 1/3/95
4th Revision: 12/15/98

**#9520
Special Board Meetings**

Special meetings of the Board of Education shall be called by the Chairperson when he / she deems it necessary or upon the written request of one-third (1/3) of the members of the Board. No business shall be transacted at any special meeting which does not come within the purpose set forth in the call for the meeting unless all members are present and agree to the consideration of the additional items.

Notice of the time and location of each special meeting shall be given to the Office of the Town Clerk not less than 24 hours prior to the time of such meeting. Notice of any special meeting shall be given to all Board members not less than 24 hours prior to the time of such meeting.

Emergency Special Meetings:

In the case of an emergency, a special meeting may be held without complying with the requirement set forth above regarding notification to the Office of the Town Clerk. However, a copy of the minutes of such emergency meeting which adequately sets forth the nature of the emergency and the proceedings which occurred at the meeting shall be filed with the Office of the Town Clerk not later than 72 hours following the meeting. No other business shall be considered at emergency meetings than that for which the meeting is called.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes
Sec. 1-21

Date of Adoption: 1/17/72
1st Revision: 6/19/90
2nd Revision: 1/3/95

#9540.1**Notification of Board Meetings**

The Board must file a schedule of all regular meetings with the town clerk no later than January 31 of each year, and no such meeting may be held less than 30 days after the schedule is filed. In order to ensure timely compliance, the Superintendent will present to the Board before December 1 a calendar of proposed regular meetings which, when approved, will be transmitted to the town clerk.

Notification of special meetings must be given by posting a notice of time, place, and purpose of the meeting in the town clerk's office at least 24 hours prior to the meeting.

Where practical, the Board must give notice by mail of each regular and special meeting to any person who has filed a written request for such notice. The Board may make a reasonable charge for this service.

State law requires that notices of special meetings be delivered to the home of each member of the Board, but this requirement may be waived by individual members as permitted by law.

Wherever possible the Board will announce in advance through the media the date, time, place, and agenda for all regular, special, and rescheduled meetings. The Secretary will supervise this notification.

Legal Reference: Connecticut State Statutes
Sec. 1-21

Cross Reference: Bylaw #9540.2

Additional Reference: *Robert's Rules of Order, Rev.*, 75th Edition: Article XI, Sec. 65 Order of Business

Date of Adoption: 3/20/72
1st Revision: 6/19/90
2nd Revision: 1/3/95

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4 1. Search of a Student and the Student's Effects
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6 A. Fourth Amendment rights to be free from unreasonable searches and
7 seizures apply to searches conducted by public school officials. A student
8 and their effects may be searched if there are reasonable grounds for
9 suspecting that the search will turn up evidence that the student has
10 violated or is violating either the law or the rules of the school. The way
11 the search is conducted should be reasonably related to the objectives of
12 the search and not excessively intrusive in light of the protected
13 characteristics of the student - including but not limited to age and sex -
14 and the nature of the infraction.
15
16 2. Search of a Locker, Desk and Other Storage Area
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18 A. Lockers, desks and other storage areas provided by the school system for
19 use by students are the property of the school system. Such storage areas
20 are provided for the temporary convenience of students only. The Board
21 of Education (the "Board") authorizes the administration and/or law
22 enforcement officials to search lockers and other school property available
23 for use by students for the presence of weapons, contraband or the fruits of
24 a crime if there are reasonable grounds at the inception of the search for
25 suspecting that the search will reveal evidence that the student has violated
26 or is violating either the law, Board policy or the rules of the school.
27 Moreover, the scope of the search shall be reasonably related to the
28 objectives of the search and shall not be excessively intrusive in light of
29 the protected characteristics of the student - including but not limited to
30 age and sex - and the nature of the infraction.
31
32 B. If the school administration reasonably suspects that a student is not
33 maintaining a locker or other storage area assigned to them in a sanitary
34 condition, or that the storage area contains items the possession of which
35 is illegal or in violation of school regulations or that endangers the health,
36 safety or welfare of the student or others, the school administration has
37 the right to open and examine the storage area and to seize any such items
38 that are found.
39
40 C. When required by law and otherwise at the option of the building
41 principal, items that have been seized shall be submitted to the police
42 department for proper disposition. Items not submitted to the police
43 department shall be disposed of as directed by the building principal.
44
45 3. The decision to search shall be made by the principal or the principal's designee.
46 The search shall be made in the presence of at least one witness. Discovery of

47 illegal or dangerous materials shall be reported to the Office of the
48 Superintendent.

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50 4. Use of drug-detection dogs and metal detectors, similar detective devices; and/or
51 breathalyzers and other passive alcohol screening devices may be used only on the
52 express authorization of the Superintendent, in accordance with such procedures as
53 the Superintendent may devise.

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55 Legal References:

56
57 Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-221, Board of education to prescribes rules, policies and
58 procedures

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60 Conn. Gen. Stat. § 54-33n, Search of school locker and property

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62 New Jersey v. T.L.O., 469 U.S. 325 (1985)

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#5090.8.1 Regulation
Search and Seizure

ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION REGARDING SEARCH AND SEIZURE

1. Search of a Student and the Student’s Effects
 - A. All searches of students shall be conducted or directed by an authorized school administrator, i.e., the principal or vice principal, in the presence of a witness.
 - B. A search of a student's handbag, gym bag, cellular telephone, personal electronic device or similar personal property carried by a student may be conducted if there are reasonable grounds for suspecting that the search will produce evidence that the student has violated or is violating either the law or the rules of the school. A student's other effects are also subject to the same rule. Effects may include motor vehicles located on school property.
 - C. A search of a student's person may be conducted only if there are reasonable grounds at the inception of the search for suspecting that the search will reveal evidence that the student has violated or is violating either the law or the rules of the school. Moreover, the scope of the search shall be reasonably related to the objectives of the search and shall not be excessively intrusive in light of the protected characteristics of the student - including but not limited to age and sex - and the nature of the infraction. Metal detectors, breathalyzers and/or drug sniffing dogs may be used to detect the presence of contraband, including weapons, drugs or alcohol, in furtherance of this policy and to the extent authorized by law.
 - D. Strip searches are prohibited except when there are reasonable grounds for suspecting that such a search will produce evidence of conduct which places students, staff or school property in immediate danger. Such searches may be conducted at the request of the school principal, generally by a member of the police department. During such searches, a member of the school staff shall be present at all times as a witness, and both the police officer conducting the search and the witness shall be of the same sex as the student searched.
 - E. Any evidence of illegal conduct or conduct violative of the rules of the school produced as a result of searches according to these regulations shall be subject to seizure. Where required by law and otherwise at the option of the building principal, such evidence shall be submitted to the police

46 department for proper disposition. Evidence not submitted to the police
47 department shall be disposed of as directed by the building principal.
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49 2. Search of a Locker, Desk and Other Storage Area
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- 51 A. The Board of Education (the “Board”) provides lockers, desks, gym
52 baskets and other storage areas in which students may keep and store
53 personal belongings and materials provided by the Board. Such storage
54 areas are the property of the Board.
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- 56 B. No student shall keep or store personal belongings or materials provided
57 by the Board in any storage area other than one provided by the Board and
58 designated for the student’s use by the school administration.
59
- 60 C. Each student shall be responsible for maintaining any storage area
61 assigned to the student for the student’s use in an orderly and sanitary
62 condition.
63
- 64 D. No student shall keep or store in a storage area assigned to the student for
65 the student’s use any item the possession of which is illegal or in violation
66 of school regulations or that endangers the health, safety or welfare of self
67 or others (such as matches, chemicals, ammunition, weapons, drugs,
68 tobacco, alcoholic beverages, etc.).
69
- 70 E. The use of lockers and other storage areas by students is a privilege. At all
71 times such storage areas remain the property of the Board. If the school
72 administration reasonably suspects that a student is not maintaining a
73 storage area assigned to the student in a sanitary condition, or that the
74 locker contains items the possession of which is illegal or in violation of
75 school regulations or that endangers the health, safety or welfare of the
76 student or others, it has the right to open and examine the storage area and
77 to seize any such items that are found. The school administration may
78 authorize law enforcement officials to search lockers/storage areas in
79 accordance with Board Policy 5090.8.1, Section 2(A).
80
- 81 F. When required by law and otherwise at the option of the building
82 principal, items that have been seized shall be submitted to the police
83 department for proper disposition. Items not submitted to the police
84 department shall be disposed of as directed by the building principal.
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87 Legal References:
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90 Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-221, Board of education to prescribes rules, policies and
91 procedures

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Conn. Gen. Stat. § 54-33n, Search of school locker and property

New Jersey v. T.L.O., 469 U.S. 325 (1985)

103
104 **ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION REGARDING SEARCH AND SEIZURE**
105 **(OPTIONAL ADDENDUM REGARDING USE OF BREATHALYZERS ON**
106 **SCHOOL PROPERTY)**
107
108

109 The Board of Education (the “Board”) supports the use of both passive alcohol screening
110 (“PAS”) devices and breathalyzers during the school day or at school-sponsored events,
111 on or off campus, to deter the use of alcohol by students in the Madison Public Schools
112 (the “District”) and to promote the health and safety of all students.
113

114 This regulation provides the basic structure for the use of passive alcohol sensors and
115 breathalyzers in this District to detect/confirm alcohol consumption by students. Such
116 instruments shall be used by the District to 1) to confirm a reasonable suspicion that a
117 particular student has used or is under the influence of alcohol at school during the school
118 day, or at a voluntary, extracurricular school-sponsored event; and/or 2) systematically
119 screen students attending extracurricular/voluntary school-sponsored events for possible
120 alcohol use.
121

122 The passive alcohol sensor (“PAS”) device is a non-invasive high-speed breath alcohol-
123 screening instrument which can be used as a “sniffer” for overt or covert alcohol
124 detection. This device may be used to sample a student’s breath in order to detect alcohol
125 use, with results reported as either “positive” or “negative.” A breathalyzer is a device
126 that detects and measures alcohol in expired air so as to determine the concentration of
127 alcohol in a person's blood.
128

129 Only designated school personnel will be trained in the use of the PAS device and/or
130 breathalyzer test. All testing instruments shall be properly calibrated and will be checked
131 for accuracy and for full calibration in accordance with the manufacturer’s standards.
132 Testing of students using these devices will be conducted in a separate area, to the extent
133 practicable, to maintain student privacy.
134

135 Results from a PAS device or breathalyzer will be maintained in a confidential manner,
136 and released in accordance with District policy and state and federal law.
137

138 **A. Testing to Confirm Reasonable Suspicion of Alcohol Use**
139

140 If there is reasonable suspicion that a student is under the influence of alcohol at school
141 or at a school-sponsored event, the student shall be removed to a separate area for
142 observation and questioning concerning alcohol consumption. The student will be
143 informed as to how the PAS device operates and will be asked to breathe across the
144 intake part of the device. Testing will be conducted by trained personnel, in a separate
145 area whenever possible, to maintain student privacy. Any student who tests positive will
146 be asked to submit to a second test using a breathalyzer. If the student tests positive for a
147 second time, the school will contact the student’s parents. If necessary, the student will
148 be brought to the school nurse for medical treatment and emergency medical protocols
149 shall be followed.

150
151 If the student tests positive on either test, or if the student refuses to take the test when
152 there is reasonable suspicion of alcohol use, the student may be subject to appropriate
153 disciplinary action consistent with District policies and procedures.

154
155 **Reasonable suspicion shall include**, but not be limited to, any of the following:

- 156
157 1. Observed use or possession of alcohol;
158
159 2. Alcohol odor or the presence of an alcohol container;
160
161 3. Slurred speech, unsteady gait, lack of coordination, bloodshot or glazed
162 eyes; or
163
164 4. Marked changes in personal behavior not attributable to other factors.

165
166
167 **B. Extracurricular/Voluntary School-Sponsored Events**

168
169 The Board also allows for the use of PAS devices and breathalyzers in connection with
170 students' participation in extracurricular/voluntary school-sponsored events and activities
171 without the need for school personnel to first have reasonable suspicion of alcohol use.
172 Such suspicion-less testing will occur only if students are notified prior to the event or
173 school-sponsored activity that a PAS or breathalyzer may be used, and that they may be
174 denied entry and/or removed from the event or activity for either refusing to submit to
175 such testing or for testing positive for alcohol use. Students will be notified through a
176 variety of means, including orientation programs, student handbooks and/or electronic
177 publication.

178
179 When PAS devices and/or a breathalyzer will be used at a voluntary school-sponsored
180 event (i.e. school dances, proms, etc.), such devices shall be administered as follows:

- 181
182 1. All students participating in the activity or school-sponsored event will be
183 asked to submit to a PAS screening. Students will be asked to breathe
184 across the intake part of the device.
185
186 2. If the PAS device detects alcohol, the student shall be removed to a
187 separate area for observation and questioning concerning alcohol
188 consumption. After fifteen (15) minutes, the student will be asked to
189 submit to a breathalyzer test to confirm the presence of alcohol.
190
191 3. Should the student test positive after the second test, school personnel will
192 contact the student's parents and the student shall be removed/denied entry
193 to the activity or school-sponsored event.

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4. Any student who refuses to breathe into the PAS device, or who refuses to submit to the breathalyzer test, may be excluded or removed from the activity or school-sponsored event and may face additional disciplinary actions.
 5. The District retains the right to contact local law enforcement officials at any time, as deemed appropriate, consistent with District practice and policy.

**#5090.8.1
Search and Seizure**

Desks and School Lockers

Desks and school lockers are the property of the schools. The right to inspect desks and lockers assigned to students may be exercised by school officials to safeguard students, their property and school property, giving recognition to the Fourth Amendment rights of students.

The exercise of the right to inspect also requires protection of each student's personal privacy and protection from coercion. An authorized school administrator may search a student's locker or desk and seize contraband under the following conditions:

1. There is a reasonable belief that the student's desk or locker contains contraband material, or that the student has violated or is violating either the law or the rules of the school.
2. The probable presence of contraband material poses a serious threat to the maintenance of discipline, order, safety and health in the school. Contraband is defined as any object that is illegal or in violation of any Board policy.
3. The student has been informed in advance that school board policy allows desks and lockers to be inspected if the administration has a reasonable belief that materials injurious to the best interests of students and the school are contained therein.

District officials may seize any item which is evidence of a violation of law, Board policy, administrative regulation, school rule, or which the possession or use of is prohibited by such law, policy, regulation or rule.

Student Search

A student may be searched if there are reasonable grounds for suspecting that the search will turn up evidence that the student has violated or is violating either the law or the rules of the school. The scope of the search must be reasonably related to the objectives of the

#5090.8.1 (cont.)

search and not excessively intrusive in light of the age and sex of the student and the nature of the infraction.

(c.f. 1350 Relations with Law Enforcement Agencies)
(c.f. 5090.8.1.2 Vehicle Searches on School Grounds)
(c.f. 5110.3.1 Police in Schools)
(c.f. 5142.4 School Resource Officer)

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes
 10-221 - Boards of Education to prescribe rules.
 New Jersey v. T.L.O., 469 U.S. 325; 105 S.Ct.733
 PA 94-115 An Act Concerning School Searches
 Safford Unified School District #1 v. Redding (U.S. Sup. CT 08-479)

Date of Adoption: September 19, 1995
Date of Revision: March 18, 2014

Regulation #5090.8.1
Search and Seizure

Definitions

1. “Reasonable suspicion” means sufficient knowledge possessed by the District official at the time the official makes or authorizes the search which would lead a reasonable person to believe that a search of a particular student or place will likely turn up evidence of a violation of law, Board policy, administrative regulation or school rule. The official’s knowledge may be based upon relevant past experience of the official, observation by the official and/or credible information from another person.
 - 1) “Past experience” may provide the district official with information relevant to the violation as well as information which enables the official to evaluate the credibility of information from another student.
 - 2) “Credible information from another person” may include information which the district official reasonable believes to be true provided by another District employee, a student, a law enforcement or other government official or some other person.
2. “Reasonable in scope” means the manner and extent of the search are reasonably related to the objectives of the search, limited to the particular student or students most likely to be involved in the infraction and not excessively intrusive in light of the student’s age, sex, maturity or the nature of the infraction.

Justification for Student Searches

Students have the right to be free of unreasonable searches and seizures under the fourth amendment of the constitution of the United States. Balanced against this right is the school officials' responsibility to create and maintain an environment consistent with school's educational mission. School officials have a duty to protect the health, safety and welfare of all students under their authority.

Prohibited Items

Students are prohibited from bringing to school items or substances which would disrupt the educational function of the school or which are prohibited by Board policy, administrative regulations or by law. Examples of items or substances in this category are weapons, clubs, explosives, firecrackers, alcoholic beverages, and nonprescription drugs or drug paraphernalia.

Lockers and Other School Property

Lockers and other storage spaces are provided to students for their convenience. These storage areas remain school property, and as such, are subject to routine periodic inspections by school authorities as well as searches. Such inspections to allow responsible school authorities to confirm that lockers are being used appropriately in a manner consistent with the health and safety of all students. Students should not to store items in lockers which violate school Board policy or administrative regulations or law.

Emergencies

Circumstances which put the safety of students or school staff at risk or could result in substantial property damage also will constitute sufficient reasons for school or police officials to conduct a thorough search of all school property. A bomb scare is an example of such an emergency. In responding to such an emergency or dangerous circumstance, the actions of the school officials shall be reasonably effective and not more intrusive than necessary.

Student Searches

School authorities are authorized to conduct searches of students or their property when reasonable suspicion indicates that a particular student is in possession of an item or a substance that represents a material threat to school routine or is prohibited by Board policy, administrative regulations or by law. Student property shall include, but not be limited to, purses, book bags and cars. If students don't have access to their cars during school hours, the justification for searching student-driven cars is removed. School authorities in cooperation with the local police department reserve the right to conduct sniff searches with dogs of school property and student-driven cars.

Police Notification

With regard to possession of items that constitute a violation of law, school authorities may wish to cooperate with the appropriate law enforcement agencies in the interest of preserving the integrity of the school's educational mission.

Lockers and Other School Property (Desks)

1. The school principal or his/her designee shall maintain an accurate list of all locker assignments and either a master key or combinations to all lockers.
2. At the time a student is assigned a locker or other storage space, he or she shall be informed that school authorities are empowered to conduct random periodic inspections of school lockers. Notices of this inspection policy also shall be posted in appropriate locations throughout the school.

3. Students also will be informed of the following locker regulations:
 - A. Students are responsible for the contents of the locker assigned to them.
 - B. Students are to keep their lockers locked.
 - C. Students are not to give other students access to their locker.
4. The exercise of that right to inspect also requires protection of each student's personal privacy and protection from coercion. An authorized school administrator may search a student's desk or locker under the following conditions:
 - A. There is reason to believe that the students' desk or locker contains contraband material and the presence of said material poses a serious threat to the maintenance of discipline, order, safety or health in the school.
 - B. The search of a group of students' desks or a group of students' lockers where no particular student within the group is suspected may be conducted only if there is a reasonable suspicion of conduct immediately harmful to students, staff or school property.

Prescription Drugs

Students who have a legitimate need to bring prescription drugs to school should register this information in the nurse's office. (cf. 5120.3.3 Administration of Medication)

Lost or Abandoned Items

Lost or abandoned items will be inspected by school authorities.

Student Searches

1. All searches of students shall be conducted or authorized by the Principal or designee, in the presence of a witness.
2. When the need to search a student arises, the student may be asked to give his or her consent to the search, but in no event shall the student be threatened with harsher punishment or treatment for refusing to consent, nor shall he or she be coerced or induced to give consent in any other manner. The consent, if given, shall be put in writing. If the student is unwilling to give free and voluntary consent, the school administrator may order the student to submit to a search. If the student refuses to obey the order, the school administrator may bring insubordination charges against the student as stipulated in applicable school regulations.
3. Searches should be no more intrusive than necessary to discover that for which the search was instigated.

4. A search of a student's handbag, gym bag or similar personal property carried by a student may be conducted if there is "reasonable grounds" for suspecting that the search will turn up evidence that the student has violated or is violating either the law or the rules of the school.
5. Locker searches shall be conducted in the presence of another staff member and in the presence of the student responsible for the contents of the locker, if possible.
6. Searches may include, if school authorities think necessary, a frisk or pat down of student clothing. Frisk or pat down searches shall be conducted by a member of the same sex as the student and in the presence of another staff member. Where the object of the search may be felt by a pat down of clothing or personal property, the District official may first pat the clothing or property in an attempt to locate the article before searching inside the clothing or property.
7. At no time should school officials conduct a search which requires a student to remove more clothing than his/her shoes or jacket. If school authorities are convinced that a more intrusive search is required to expose contraband they should advise the proper law enforcement agency.
8. A search of a student's person, or a search of a group of students where no particular student within the group is suspected, may be conducted only if there is a reasonable suspicion of conduct immediately harmful to students, staff or school property. "Strip searches" of students are prohibited by employees of this school District.
9. Student searches which disclose evidence of school misconduct, but not criminal misconduct, should be treated according to applicable policies and/or regulations.
10. In the event that a student search discloses evidence of criminal wrongdoing, the school Principal or his/her designee shall determine whether or not police officials should be notified of the fruits of the search. If police officials are notified the student's parents should be advised of this fact as soon as possible.
11. A strip search requiring a student to remove clothing down to the student's underwear or including underwear is prohibited by the District. (CABE's recommended position)

Emergency/Dangerous Circumstances

1. Where a District official has knowledge which would lead a reasonable person to believe that either an emergency or dangerous circumstance exists and that it is necessary to act to protect the safety of any person or property, the official may make a search to the extent necessary to relieve the emergency or dangerous circumstance.

2. In responding to such an emergency or dangerous circumstance, the actions of the official shall be reasonably effective and no more intrusive than necessary.

Documentation

Administrators shall document all searches. Documentation shall consist of the following:

- Name, age and sex of student;
- Time and location of search;
- Justification for search and nature of reasonable suspicion;
- Type/Scope of search (what was searched);
- Results of search, prohibited material(s) found, disposition of the material(s) seized and discipline imposed;
- Name of the witness to the search;
- Name of the District official.

Notice of the Board's policy and pertinent provisions of this regulation will be provided to staff, students and their parents annually, through such means as staff and student/parent handbooks and the school/District website.

(c.f. 5090.8.1.2 Search of Vehicles on School Grounds)

(cf. 5090.3.3.1 Video Surveillance)

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes
10-221 Boards of education to prescribe rules.
New Jersey v T.L.O., 53 U.S.L.W. 4083 (1985)
PA 94-115 An Act Concerning School Searches.
Safford Unified School District #1 v. Redding (U.S. Sup. CT 08-479)

Regulation approved:

**Madison Public Schools
Search and Seizure**

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1. Name, age and sex of student: _____

2. Time and location of search: _____

3. Basis for search and nature of reasonable suspicion. What factors caused you to have a reasonable suspicion that the search of this student, his/her person or property assigned by the District for student use, would turn up evidence of a violation of law, Board policy, administrative regulation or school rule or which possession or use of is prohibited by law, policy, regulation or rule? Explain.

4. Describe exactly what was searched:

5. What did the search yield? Were any prohibitive materials seized? Were seized items/materials turned over to the police? Parents? Other? Explain.

6. Name of the witness and title/position to the search:

7. Notifications: Parent/Guardian _____
Law Enforcement: _____
Other: _____

8. Name of District official and title/position conducting the search.

#5090.3.1
Student Dress

In order to maintain an environment conducive to the educational process, the Madison Board of Education (the “Board”) prohibits the following from wear during the academic school day, deemed disruptive to the educational environment:

- a. Coats, jackets, or other attire normally worn as outerwear.
- b. Head coverings. Head coverings shall not be worn, carried, hung on belts or around the neck, or kept in the classroom during regular school hours. Approved coverings worn as part of a student's religious practice or belief, or as required or permitted in conjunction with school district health and safety protocols, shall not be prohibited under this policy. Nothing in this policy shall be construed to prohibit protective hairstyles. “Protective hairstyles” includes, but is not limited to, wigs, headwraps and hairstyles such as individual braids, cornrows, locs, twists, Bantu knots, afros and afro puffs.
- c. Sunglasses unless required pursuant to a documented medical issue.
- d. Attire or accessories that may present a safety hazard to the student, other students, or staff.
- e. Attire or accessories that contain vulgarity or that contain overly offensive or disruptive writing or pictures.
- f. Attire or accessories depicting or suggesting violence so as to disrupt the educational environment or that provokes others to act violently or causes others to be intimidated by fear of violence or that constitute "fighting words," including but not limited to attire or accessories depicting the Confederate flag and/or the Nazi swastika.
- g. Attire or accessories that depict logo or emblems that encourage the use of drugs, tobacco products, or alcoholic beverages.
- h. Shirts and/or blouses that reveal the abdomen, ~~or~~ chest, or undergarments.

- 35 [i. See-through clothing.](#)
- 36 [j. Shorts, miniskirts, or pants that reveal undergarments.](#)
- 37 [k. Backpacks and/or book bags are permitted to be carried between classes, but shall not](#)
- 38 [obstruct safe passage in the classroom or in the corridors.](#)

39

40 Students who fail to comply with Board policy and regulations concerning student dress
41 will be subject to school discipline up to and including expulsion in accordance with the
42 Board's policy on student discipline.

43

44 [Legal Reference:](#)

45

46 [Connecticut General Statutes § 46a-51 \(definition of protective hairstyles\)](#)

47

48

49 Date of Adoption: October 6, 2020

~~Physical Activity, Undirected Play and Student Discipline~~ Recess and Play-Based Learning

It is the policy of the Madison Board of Education (the “Board”) to promote the health and well-being of district students by encouraging healthy lifestyles and mental health wellness, including promoting physical exercise, ~~and~~ activity and play as part of the school day within the Madison Public Schools (“District”).

For the purposes of this policy, a “school employee” is defined as (1) a teacher, substitute teacher, school administrator, school superintendent, guidance counselor, school counselor, psychologist, social worker, nurse, physician, school paraprofessional or coach employed by the Board or working in the district schools, or (2) any other individual who, in the performance of their duties, has regular contact with students and who provides services to or on behalf of students enrolled in the district schools pursuant to a contract with the Board.

For purposes of this policy, “recess” means the time during the regular school day for each student enrolled in elementary school that is devoted to physical exercise of not less than twenty minutes in total pursuant to Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-221o.

I. Deprivation of ~~Physical Exercise Period~~ Recess or Undirected Play Period as a Form of Discipline:

For elementary school students, the Board includes a time of not less than twenty (20) minutes in total, during the regular school day, ~~to be devoted to physical exercise~~ for recess, except that a planning and placement team (“PPT”) may develop a different schedule for students requiring special education and related services.

The administration may include additional time, beyond the twenty minutes required for ~~physical exercise~~ recess, devoted to undirected play during the regular school day for elementary school students.

33 In an effort to promote physical exercise and undirected play, the Board prohibits school
34 employees from disciplining elementary school students by preventing them from participating in
35 the full 20 minutes of ~~time devoted to physical exercise~~ or additional time devoted to
36 undirected play during the regular school day, except in accordance with this policy or as
37 determined by a student’s Section 504 team or PPT.

38

39 A. *Physical ~~Exercise~~ Recess Period*
40

41 School employees may prevent or otherwise restrict a student from participating in the entire
42 time devoted to ~~physical exercise in the regular school day~~ as a form of discipline, only
43 under the following circumstances:
44

45 1) When a student poses a danger to the health or safety of other students or school
46 personnel; or
47

48 2) If there are two or more periods devoted to ~~physical exercise~~ in a school day,
49 then when the prevention or restriction of ~~physical exercise~~ is limited to the
50 period ~~devoted to physical exercise~~ of recess that is the shortest in duration,
51 provided that the student still participates in at least twenty minutes of ~~physical~~
52 ~~exercise~~ in a school day.
53

54 School employees may prevent or restrict a student from participating in the entire ~~time~~
55 ~~devoted time~~ ~~to~~ ~~physical exercise in the regular school day~~ as a form of discipline, in
56 accordance with this policy, only one time during a school week, unless the student is a danger
57 to the health or safety of other students or school personnel.
58

59 School employees may not prevent or restrict a student from participating in the entire time
60 devoted to ~~physical exercise in the regular school day~~ if such prevention or restriction is
61 related to the student’s failure to complete school work on time or to the student’s academic
62 performance.
63

64 This policy distinguishes between a) discipline that is imposed before ~~the time devoted to physical~~
65 ~~exercise~~ begins and b) discipline imposed during ~~such time devoted to physical~~
66 ~~exercise~~ or methods used to redirect a student’s behavior during ~~such time~~. School

67 personnel may impose discipline during ~~time devoted to physical exercise~~ recess as a result of
68 student’s behavior during ~~such time~~ recess, if such discipline is in accordance with Board policies
69 and procedures. School personnel may also use methods to redirect a student’s behavior, in the
70 event such behavior warrants redirection, during ~~the time devoted to physical exercise~~ recess. For
71 clarity, the prohibition against preventing or restricting a student’s participation in the time
72 devoted to ~~physical exercise~~ recess shall apply to student conduct that occurs prior to the ~~physical~~
73 ~~exercise~~ recess time, rather than during the ~~physical exercise~~ recess time.
74

75 B. *Undirected Play Period*
76

77 School employees may not discipline elementary school students by preventing them from
78 participating in the full time devoted to undirected play, if any, during the regular schoolday,
79 except when a student poses a danger to the health or safety of other students or school personnel,
80 or as determined by a student’s Section 504 team or PPT.

81 **II. Play-Based Learning Requirements for Pre-Kindergarten to Grade Five**
82

83 Effective July 1, 2024, the Board directs the District administration to 1) provide for play-based
84 learning during the instructional time of each regular school day for all students in kindergarten
85 and any preschool program operated by the Board; and 2) permit a teacher to utilize play-based
86 learning during the instructional time of the regular school day for all students in grades one to
87 five, inclusive.

88
89 A. Definitions for Section II
90

- 91 1) “Free play” means unstructured, voluntary, child-initiated activities that are performed by
92 a child for self-amusement and have behavioral, social and psychomotor rewards, except
93 free play may be structured to promote activities that are child-directed, joyful and
94 spontaneous.
- 95
96 2) “Guided play” means learning experiences that combine the child-directed nature of free
97 play with a focus on learning outcomes and adult guidance.
- 98
99 3) “Play-based learning” means a pedagogical approach that emphasizes play in promoting
100 learning and includes developmentally appropriate strategies that can be integrated with
101 existing learning standards. Play-based learning does not mean time spent in recess or as
102 part of a physical education course or instruction.
- 103
104 4) “Mobile electronic device” means any hand-held or other portable electronic equipment
105 capable of providing data communication between two or more individuals, including,
106 but not limited to, a text messaging device, a paging device, a personal digital assistant, a

laptop computer, equipment that is capable of playing a video game or a digital video disk, or equipment on which digital images are taken or transmitted.

5) “Instructional time” means the time of actual school work during a regular school day.

B. Play-Based Learning Requirements for Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten

Play-based learning shall be provided during the instructional time of each regular school day for all students in kindergarten and any preschool program operated by the Board. Such play-based learning shall:

- 1) be incorporated and integrated into daily practice;
- 2) allow for the needs of such students to be met through free play, guided play and games; and
- 3) be predominantly free from the use of mobile electronic devices.

C. Play-Based Learning Requirements for Grades One to Five, Inclusive

The Board permits teachers to utilize play-based learning during the instructional time of a regular school day for all students in grades one to five, inclusive. Such play-based learning:

- 1) may be incorporated and integrated into daily practice;
- 2) shall allow for the needs of such students to be met through free play, guided play and games; and
- 3) shall be predominantly free from the use of mobile electronic devices.

D. Play-Based Learning for Students with IEPs or Section 504 Plans

Any play-based learning utilized shall comply with a student’s individualized education program (“IEP”) or Section 504 plan.

E. Deprivation of Play-Based Learning as a Form of Discipline

School employees may not discipline elementary school students by preventing them from participating in the full time devoted to play-based learning, if any, during the regular school day, except when a student poses a danger to the health or safety of other students or school personnel, or as determined by a student’s Section 504 team or PPT.

H.III. Prohibition on Compulsion of Physical Activity as a Form of Discipline:

151 For all students, the Board prohibits school employees from disciplining students by requiring
152 students to engage in physical activity as a form of discipline during the regular school day.

153
154

155 **III.IV. Disciplinary Action for Failure to Follow Policy:**

156

157 Any employee who fails to comply with the requirements of this policy may be subject to
158 discipline, up to and including termination of employment. Any contracted individual who
159 provides services to or on behalf of students enrolled in the district and who fails to comply with
160 the requirements of this policy may be subject to having the individual’s contract for services
161 suspended by the district.

162

163 **Legal References:**

164

165 **Connecticut General Statutes:**

166

167

168

169 § 10-221o Lunch periods. Recess. Boards to adopt policies addressing the
170 limitations of physical exercise

171

172 § 10-221u Boards to adopt policies addressing the use of physical activity as
173 discipline

174

175 [Public Act No. 22-81 “An Act Expanding Preschool and Mental and Behavioral](#)
176 [Services for Children”](#)

177 [Public Act No. 23-159, “An Act Concerning Teachers and Paraeducators”](#)

178

179 [Public Act No. 23-101, “An Act Concerning the Mental, Physical and Emotional](#)
180 [Wellness of Children”](#)

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187 Date of Adoption: March 7, 2023

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#97101200

School District Logo & Mascot

The Madison Board of Education (“the Board”) recognizes the importance of a logo and/or mascot as an identifier of the Madison Public Schools (“the District”). The Board shall adopt an official logo and/or mascot for the District. The Board shall retain final approval for all changes to the MPS District and Athletics logos and/or mascots and shall be approved with a 2/3 vote of all Board Members.

~~The logo shall appear on all documents intended for public circulation and all official forms of communication.~~ All uses of the District, school-specific, or athletic logos shall comply with the parameters set forth by the administration.

It is the intent of the Board that the changing of a logo and/or mascot occur infrequently and only if the current logo and/or mascot is determined to be no longer appropriate, as indicated by a 2/3 affirmative vote of the membership of the Board.

The Board shall seek the advice of the Superintendent when determining whether to change the logo and/or mascot. Should the Board determine a need to significantly alter and/or select a new logo and/or mascot, a formal committee shall be formed, consistent with Policy #9450, to guide the process.

Any modifications or request for changes that would not fundamentally alter the character of the existing logo and/or mascot (e.g. temporarily changing color to honor an awareness month, adding sport specific icons, etc.) shall be at the discretion of the Athletic Director with approval from the Superintendent.

~~The Superintendent is authorized to develop regulations as required to support this policy.~~

#12009710

School District Logo and Mascot

The Madison Board of Education (“the Board”) recognizes the importance of a logo and mascot as ~~an~~ identifiers of the Madison Public Schools (“the District”). The Board shall adopt an official logo and/or mascot for the District.

~~The logo shall appear on all documents intended for public circulation and all official forms of communication.~~ All uses of the District logo or school-specific logos and mascots shall comply with the parameters set forth by the administration.

The Superintendent is authorized to develop regulations as required to support this policy.

It is the intent of the Board that the changing of a logo and/or mascot occur infrequently and only if the current logo and/or mascot is determined to be no longer appropriate, as indicated by a 2/3 affirmative vote of the membership of the Board.

The Board shall seek the advice of the Superintendent when determining whether to change the logo and/or mascot.

If the Board determines the need/desire to change the District logo or mascot, the Board shall establish a committee consistent with Policy #9460 to expedite and facilitate the Board’s decision.

The Board shall seek the advice of the Superintendent before establishing or dissolving a committee. Such committee shall be established and dissolved by Board vote, and the members of the committee shall be appointed by the Board.

The committee shall be comprised of the Chair of the Board of Education (ex officio, non-voting), Superintendent (ex officio, non-voting), one or more Board members and representatives of stakeholders as the Board deems appropriate. With respect to changing the mascot, the Athletic Director shall be the chairperson (non-voting) of the committee.

The Board will establish the scope of and schedule for the committee’s work. The Board retains the right to make the final determination of any logo and/or mascot change and the change will be approved by a 2/3 affirmative vote of the membership of the Board.

Minor changes or variations to the mascot (e.g. temporarily changing color to honor an awareness month, adding sport specific icons, etc.) will be at the discretion of the Athletic Director with approval from the Superintendent.

#9710**School District Logo And / Or Motto**

The school district logo will be given prominence in identifying the schools, departments and services of the Madison Public Schools. Specifically, it will appear on all documents generated in schools and administrative offices which are intended for public circulation, and on all official forms of communications.

These will include, but not be limited to, the following:

Letterheads	Numbered forms
Pamphlets	Purchase Orders
Newsletters	Invoices
Public Notices	Checks
Advertisements	Curriculum Documents or other
Calendars	Copyrighted Publications
Video Presentations	Student Report Cards
Certificates and Diplomas	Board-owned Vehicles

Individual schools or departments who wish to use local identifying symbols in their own publications, letterheads, etc., may do so provided the official Board Logo is also used. In such cases, the Board Logo will appear on the first or cover page of any multi-page document.

The Superintendent is authorized to issue procedures as may be necessary to support this policy.

Date of Adoption: 3/7/95

#9720**Guidelines for Use of District Logo / Board Members' Names**

Guidelines are necessary to establish uniform use of the District Logo, Board of Education members' names, and use of the approved Equal Employment Opportunity statement that is printed on appropriate district publications. Therefore, it shall be the responsibility of the Superintendent to assure that all individuals responsible for the development and printing of district publications adhere to application of the following guidelines:

- Indication of the date of all publications shall be included on the publication;
- On any publications produced for general distribution, and at least once a year on all regular publications, the District's Equal Employment Opportunity statement should appear as follows:

The Madison Public Schools is committed to affirmative action and equal opportunity for employment. No student will, on the basis of race, color, creed, sex, handicap, national origin, or sexual orientation, be denied access to any appropriate educational program or activity provided by the District. The Title IX compliance coordinator and the Section 504 compliance coordinator is the Director of Special Educational and Regional Services.

- On any publications produced for employment purposes, the District's Affirmative Action statement should appear as follows:

The personnel policies, procedures, and practices of the Madison Public Schools will be administered to best assure equal employment opportunities for all applicants and employees. The District has identified and eliminated any personnel policies, procedures, or practices which discriminate on the basis of race, color, ancestry, national origin, gender, age, religion, handicap, political affiliation, sexual orientation, or status as a veteran and will continue to do so,

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remaining vigilant against development of unlawful employment discrimination. The District will comply with all applicable state and federal laws and regulations prohibiting employment discrimination, and all contractors and vendors will be requested to do likewise.

- Names of Board of Education members serving at the time of a publication should appear in the following publications annually: Board Policies and Administrative Regulations manuals, student handbooks, school / faculty handbooks, Board meeting agendas, the district annual report, all district council and committee publications, professional publications for dissemination both within and without the district, and other such publications considered to be representative of the district.
- The District Logo should appear on district-printed publications prepared for distribution to the public;
- Names of Board of Education members serving at the time of publication should be published annually in at least the first issue of the parent / community newsletter and commencement programs; use of the logo on invitations is encouraged but not required; and
- Publications currently in print must be modified to conform with this regulation at the time they are reprinted.

Date of Adoption: 4/4/95