Board of Education Information

To: Board of Education

From: Matt Rich

Date: November 3, 2026

Re: First Reading of Policies

Recommendation:

It is the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the first reading of policies as presented.

Background Information:

The Illinois Association of School Boards (IASB) released their latest updates of policies. School Boards have 4 months to review, edit, and adopt policies through the use of the IASB Policy Services portal. Each policy needs to be on 2 board meeting agendas, at the second of which adoption occurs. This month we have first reading of policies in 2 categories: Draft Update - items in which IASB or the administration has recommended changes, Draft Update New - new policies to be added to the manual.

Draft Update Policies:
2:150 Committees - clarifies naming and work of the committee that looks at behavior policy review.
3:60 Administrative Responsibility of Principal - legal reference update
4:10 Fiscal and Business Management - ensures budget is presented to the Board by a regular Board meeting in August
4:80 Accounting and Audits - Allows for extensions in filing an audit
4:110 Transportation - legal reference update
4:170 Safety - adds cardiac response drill
5:10 Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Recruitment - adds reasonable accommodations for menopause-related conditions as required by Illinois Human Rights Act, legal reference update
5:80 Court Duty - changes timeline for witness and jury notifications to the school district.
5:100 Staff Development Program - adds service animals to accommodations training, legal reference update
5:120 Employee Ethics; Code of Professional Conduct; and Conflict of Interest - Updates to clean up Faith's Law/Employee potential grooming of students and boundaries
5:200 Terms and Conditions of Employment and Dismissal - legal reference update
5:220 Substitute Teachers - changes dates in which retired teachers can work 120 days as substitute teachers
6:60 Curriculum Content - slight wording changes
6:120 Education of Children with Disabilities - slight wording changes, legal reference updates **question to be answered - see below**
6:235 Access to Electronic Networks - Adds AI section
7:10 Equal Educational Opportunities - legal reference update

7:50 School Admissions and Student Transfers To and From Non-District Schools - legal reference update
7:150 Agency and Law Enforcement Requests - legal reference update
7:160 Student Appearance - adds a section on allowing religious hairstyles but ensuring health and safety requirements are met.
7:190 Student Behavior - Changes sections related to wireless devices to reflect proposed new policy and legal limitation
7:270 Administering Medicines to Students - changes to epinephrine and diabetic care
7:290 Suicide and Depression Awareness and Prevention - adds suicide prevention curricula grades 6-12

Draft Update New:

7:195 - Wireless Communication Devices - New policy due to law change banning student used cellular devices during the school day except in limited circumstances. This policy aligns with what we already have in the handbook **question to be answered - see below**

Questions to be answered:

6:120 Education of Children with Disabilities *(The administration recommends no as we do not have a formal gifted and talented program but rather provide significant differentiation and create plans based on individual student needs)*

Twice-exceptional students are those who are gifted and talented and have a disability. 105 ILCS 5/22-50(a), amended by P.A. 104-822. See 105 ILCS 5/22-50(b), added by P.A. 104-822, for suggested best practices to address the needs of twice-exceptional students and any student who is gifted, talented, or accelerated or would benefit from an advanced academic program and who is eligible for a Section 504 plan under the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 U.S.C. §794.

105 ILCS 5/22-50(c), added by P.A. 104-822, authorizes a school board to adopt a policy to allow for the development of a written plan to support twice-exceptional students. If the board wishes to adopt such a policy, IASB will add the following subheading to the end of this policy and add 105 ILCS 5/22-50 to the Legal References. If the board has adopted policy 6:130, *Program for the Gifted*, IASB will also add a Cross Reference to 6:130 at the end of this policy, as well as a Cross Reference to 6:120 at the end of policy 6:130.

Twice-Exceptional Students

The Superintendent or designee shall develop a written education plan to address the advanced abilities or achievement levels of *twice-exceptional students* as defined in 105 ILCS 5/22-50, through individualized services, goals, accommodations, and objectives for a student, while continuing to provide services and support for the student's disabilities in all educational settings.

Has the Board adopted the subheading shown above to allow for the development of a written plan to support twice-exceptional students?

Options

☐ No. (Default)

☐ Yes. (IASB will add the subheading, Legal Reference, and Cross References shown above.)

7:195 Wireless Communication Devices ***(Administration recommends selecting yes to match what we currently have in our handbook)***

***Required Question. Board may choose to ban wearable devices altogether based on concerns that students may surreptitiously use them to record others at school, to further limit classroom distractions, and/or to address enforceability issues.

Has the Board adopted a ban on wearable devices?

Options

☐ No. (Default)

☐ Yes. (IASB will delete “, unless the capability to provide messaging or transmit other data communications is disabled” from item #5.)