

River Forest District 90
PRESS Policy Update Issue 121 – March, 2026

First Reading – June 2, 2026

Policy Number	Policy Description	Recommended Action
7:70	Attendance and Truancy (Press 120)	Recommend Approval as presented
2:200	Types of Board of Education Meetings	Recommend Approval with edits; Q-1 - Yes
2:220	Board of Education Meeting Procedure	Recommend Approval with edits; Q-1 – Yes, Q-2 - Yes
2:250	Access to District Public Records	Recommend Approval as presented
2:260	Uniform Grievance Procedure	Recommend Approval as presented
4:165	Awareness and Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse and Grooming Behaviors	Recommend Approval as presented
5:30	Hiring Process and Criteria	Recommend Approval as presented
5:50	Drug and Alcohol-Fee Workplace; E-Cigarette, Tobacco, and Cannabis Prohibition	Recommend Approval as presented
5:250	Leaves of Absence	Recommend Approval as presented; Q-Default
5:330	Sick Days, Vacation, Holidays, and Leaves	Recommend Approval with edits
6:60	Curriculum Content	Recommend Approval with edits
6:65	Student Social and Emotional Development	Recommend Approval with edits
6:100	Using Animals in the Educational Program	Recommend Approval as presented
6:145	Migrant Students	Recommend Approval as presented
6:170	Title I Programs	Recommend Approval as presented
7:20	Harassment of Students Prohibited	Recommend Approval as presented
7:50	School Admissions and Student Transfers To and From Non-District Schools	Recommend Approval with edits – see new replacement content
7:100	Health, Eye, and Dental Examinations; Immunizations; and Exclusion of Students	Recommend Approval as presented
7:185	Teen Dating Violence Prohibited	Recommend Approval as presented
7:220	Bus Conduct	Recommend Approval as presented
7:230	Misconduct by Students with Disabilities	Recommend Approval with edits
7:240	Conduct Code for Participants in Extracurricular Activities	Recommend Approval with edits
7:260	Exemption from Physical Education	Recommend Approval as presented
7:280	Communicable and Chronic Infectious Disease	Recommend Approval as presented
7:300	Extracurricular Athletics	Recommend Approval as presented

**River Forest District 90
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8:90	Parent Organizations	Recommend Approval as presented
2:140-E	Exhibit – Guidance for Board Member Communications, Including Email Use	Recommend Approval as presented
UPDATES SECTION 4		
4:40	Incurring Debt	Recommend Approval as presented
4:45	Insufficient Fund Checks and Debt Recovery	Recommend Approval as presented
4:55	Use of Credit and Procurement Cards	Recommend Approval as presented
4:70	Resource Conservation	Recommend Approval as presented
4:100	Insurance Management	Recommend Approval as presented
4:120	School Wellness and Food Services	Recommend Approval as presented
4:175	Convicted Child Sex Offender; Screening; Notifications	Recommend Approval with edits

Document Status: Draft Update

Section 7 - STUDENTS

7:70 Attendance and Truancy

Compulsory School Attendance

This policy applies to individuals who have custody or control of a child: (a) between the ages of six (on or before September 1) and 17 years (unless the child has graduated from high school), or (b) who is enrolled in any of grades kindergarten through 8 in the public school regardless of age.

Subject to specific requirements in State law, the following children are not required to attend public school: (1) any child attending a private school (including a home school) or parochial school, (2) any child who is physically or mentally unable to attend school (including a pregnant student suffering medical complications as certified by her physician), (3) any child lawfully and necessarily employed, (4) any child while in confirmation classes, and (5) any child absent because of religious reasons, including to observe a religious holiday, for religious instruction, or because his or her religion forbids secular activity on a particular day(s) or time of day.

The parent/guardian of a student who is enrolled must authorize all absences from school and notify the school in advance or at the time of the student's absence. A valid cause for absence includes illness (including mental or behavioral health of the student), attendance at a verified medical or therapeutic appointment (including a victim services provider), observance of a religious holiday, death in the immediate family, attendance at a civic event, family emergency, other situations beyond the control of the student as determined by the Board, other circumstances that cause reasonable concern to the parent/guardian for the student's mental, emotional, or physical health or safety, or other reason as approved by the Superintendent or designee. For students who are parents, expectant parents, or victims of domestic or sexual violence, valid cause for absence also includes the fulfillment of a parenting responsibility and addressing circumstances resulting from domestic or sexual violence. Students absent for a valid cause may make up missed homework and classwork assignments in a reasonable timeframe.

Absenteeism and Truancy Program

The Superintendent or designee shall manage an absenteeism and truancy program in accordance with the School Code and School Board policy. The program shall include but not be limited to:

1. A protocol for excusing a student from attendance who is necessarily and lawfully employed. The Superintendent or designee is authorized to determine when the student's absence is justified.
2. A protocol for excusing a student in grades 6 through 8 from attendance to sound *Taps* at a military honors funeral held in Illinois for a deceased veteran.
3. A protocol for excusing a student from attendance on a particular day(s) or at a particular time of day when his/her parent/guardian is an active-duty member of the uniformed services and has been called to duty for, is on leave from, or has immediately returned from deployment to a combat zone or combat-support postings.
4. A process to telephone, within two hours after the first class, the parents/guardians of students in grade 8 or below who are absent without prior parent/guardian notification. In cases when a

parent cannot be reached by telephone, text messaging shall be employed.

5. A process to identify and track students who are truants, chronic or habitual truants, or truant minors as defined in [105 ILCS 5/26-2a](#).
6. A description of diagnostic procedures for identifying the cause(s) of a student's unexcused absenteeism, including interviews with the student, his or her parent(s)/guardian(s), and staff members or other people who may have information about the reasons for the student's attendance problem.
7. The identification of supportive services that may be offered to truant, chronically truant, or chronically absent students, including parent-teacher conferences, student and/or family counseling, and information about available community services relevant to such students' needs. See Board policy 6:110, *Programs for Students At Risk of Academic Failure and/or Dropping Out of School and Graduation Incentives Program*.
8. A process for the collection and review of chronic absence data and to:
 - a. Determine what systems of support and resources are needed to engage chronically absent students and their families, and
 - b. Encourage the habit of daily attendance and promote success.
9. Reasonable efforts to provide ongoing professional development to all school personnel, Board members, and school resource officers on the appropriate and available supportive services for the promotion of student attendance and engagement.
10. A process to request the assistance and resources of outside agencies, such as, the juvenile officer of the local police department or the truant office of the appropriate Regional Office of Education, if truancy continues after supportive services have been offered.
11. A protocol for cooperating with non-District agencies including County or municipal authorities, the Regional Superintendent, truant officers, the Community Truancy Review Board, and a comprehensive community-based youth service agency. Any disclosure of school student records must be consistent with Board policy 7:340, *Student Records*, as well as State and federal law concerning school student records.
12. An acknowledgement that no punitive action, including out-of-school suspensions, expulsions, or court action, shall be taken against a truant minor for his or her truancy unless available supportive services and other school resources have been provided to the student.
13. The criteria to determine whether a student's non-attendance is due to extraordinary circumstances shall include economic or medical necessity or family hardship and such other criteria that the Superintendent believes qualifies.
14. An approval process for students to attend activities allowed under 105 ILCS 5/10-19.05(k), including provisions for making up missed coursework that do not penalize students. [PRESSPlus1](#)

Updating

Pursuant to State law and Board policy 2:240, *Board Policy Development*, the Board updates this policy at least once every two years. The Superintendent or designee shall assist the Board with its update.

LEGAL REF.:

105 ILCS [5/10-19.05\(k\)](#), 5/22-92, ~~and~~ 5/26-1 through 5/26-3, 5/26-5 through 5/26-16, 5/26-18, and 5/26A.

[705 ILCS 405/3-33.5](#), Juvenile Court Act of 1987.

[23 Ill. Admin.Code §§1.242](#) and [1.290](#).

CROSS REF.: 5:100 (Staff Development Program), 6:150 (Home and Hospital Instruction), 7:10 (Equal Educational Opportunities), 7:50 (School Admissions and Student Transfers To and From Non-District Schools), 7:60 (Residence), 7:80 (Release Time for Religious Instruction/Observance), 7:190 (Student Behavior), 7:255 (Students Who are Parents, Expectant Parents, or Victims of Domestic or Sexual Violence), 7:340 (Student Records)

Adopted: July 15, 2025

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. Updated in response to 105 ILCS 5/10-19.05(k), amended by P.A. 104-250, eff. 1-1-26, requiring an approval process for students to attend allowable activities by the beginning of the 2026-2027 school year. Allowable activities are: (1) instruction in a college course where the student is dually enrolled for both high school and college credit, (2) participation in a Supervised Career Development Experience in which student participation and learning outcomes are approved by an educator licensed under 105 ILCS 5/21B for assessment of competencies, (3) participation in any work-based learning experience in which student participation and learning outcomes are approved by an educator who holds an Educator License with Stipulations with a career and technical educator endorsement and a work-based learning designation, (4) participation in a youth apprenticeship in which student participation and learning outcomes are approved by an educator licensed under 105 ILCS 5/21B for assessment of competencies, and (5) participation in a blended learning program approved by the district in which course content, student evaluation, and instructional methods are supervised by an educator licensed under 105 ILCS 5/21B. **Issue 120, October 2025**

Document Status: Draft Update

Section 2 - BOARD OF EDUCATION

2:200 Types of Board of Education Meetings

General

For all meetings of the Board of Education and its committees, the Superintendent or designee shall satisfy all notice and posting requirements contained herein, as well as the Open Meetings Act. This shall include ~~mailing meeting notifications to~~ ^{notifying} news media that have officially requested them and to others as approved by the Board of Education. Unless otherwise specified, monthly business meetings and committee of the whole meetings are held in Roosevelt School. Board policy 2:220, *Board of Education Meeting Procedure*, governs meeting quorum requirements.

The Superintendent is designated on behalf of the Board and each Board committee to receive the training on compliance with the Open Meetings Act that is required by Section 1.05(a) of that Act. The Superintendent may identify other employees to receive the training. In addition, each Board member must complete a course of training on the Open Meetings Act as required by Section 1.05(b) or (c) of that Act.

Regular Meetings

The Board of Education announces the time and place for its regular meetings at the beginning of each fiscal year. The Superintendent shall prepare and make available the calendar of regular Board of Education meetings. The regular meeting calendar may be changed with 10 days' notice in accordance with State law.

A meeting agenda shall be posted at the District's main office and the Board's meeting room, or other location where the meeting is to be held, at least 48 hours before the meeting.

Closed Meetings

The Board of Education and Board of Education committees may meet in a closed meeting to consider the following subjects:

1. The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees, specific individuals who serve as independent contractors in a park, recreational, or educational setting, or specific volunteers of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee, a specific individual who serves as an independent contractor in a park, recreational, or educational setting, or a volunteer of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity. However, a meeting to consider an increase in compensation to a specific employee of a public body that is subject to the Local Government Wage Increase Transparency Act may not be closed and shall be open to the public and posted and held in accordance with [the Open Meetings Act]. [5 ILCS 120/2\(c\)\(1\)](#).
2. Collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees. [5 ILCS 120/2\(c\)\(2\)](#).

3. The selection of a person to fill a public office, including a vacancy in a public office, when the public body is given power to appoint under law or ordinance, or the discipline, performance or removal of the occupant of a public office, when the public body is given power to remove the occupant under law or ordinance. [5 ILCS 120/2\(c\)\(3\)](#).
4. Evidence or testimony presented in open hearing, or in closed hearing where specifically authorized by law, to a quasi-adjudicative body, provided that the body prepares and makes available for public inspection a written decision setting forth its determinative reasoning. [5 ILCS 120/2\(c\)\(4\)](#).
5. Evidence or testimony presented to the Board regarding denial of admission to school events or property pursuant to [105 ILCS 5/24-24](#), provided that the Board prepares and makes available for public inspection a written decision setting forth its determinative reasoning. [5 ILCS 120/2\(c\)\(4.5\)](#).
6. The purchase or lease of real property for the use of the public body, including meetings held for the purpose of discussing whether a particular parcel should be acquired. [5 ILCS 120/2\(c\)\(5\)](#).
7. The setting of a price for sale or lease of property owned by the public body. [5 ILCS 120/2\(c\)\(6\)](#).
8. The sale or purchase of securities, investments, or investment contracts. [5 ILCS 120/2\(c\)\(7\)](#).
9. Security procedures, school building safety and security, and the use of personnel and equipment to respond to an actual, a threatened, or a reasonably potential danger to the safety of employees, students, staff, the public, or public property. [5 ILCS 120/2\(c\)\(8\)](#).
10. Student disciplinary cases. [5 ILCS 120/2\(c\)\(9\)](#).
11. The placement of individual students in special education programs and other matters relating to individual students. [5 ILCS 120/2\(c\)\(10\)](#).
12. Litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent, in which case the basis for the finding shall be recorded and entered into the minutes of the closed meeting. [5 ILCS 120/2\(c\)\(11\)](#).
13. The establishment of reserves or settlement of claims as provided in the Local Governmental and Governmental Employees Tort Immunity Act, if otherwise the disposition of a claim or potential claim might be prejudiced, or the review or discussion of claims, loss or risk management information, records, data, advice or communications from or with respect to any insurer of the public body or any intergovernmental risk management association or self insurance pool of which the public body is a member. [5 ILCS 120/2\(c\)\(12\)](#).
14. Self-evaluation, practices and procedures, or professional ethics, when meeting with a representative of a statewide association of which the public body is a member. [5 ILCS 120/2\(c\)\(16\)](#).
15. Discussion of minutes of meetings lawfully closed under this Act, whether for purposes of approval by the body of the minutes or semi-annual review of the minutes as mandated by Section 2.06. [5 ILCS 120/2\(c\)\(21\)](#).
16. Meetings between internal or external auditors and governmental audit committees, finance committees, and their equivalents, when the discussion involves internal control weaknesses, identification of potential fraud risk areas, known or suspected frauds, and fraud interviews conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards of the United States of America. [5 ILCS 120/2\(c\)\(29\)](#).

The Board may hold a closed meeting, or close a portion of a meeting, by a majority vote of a quorum, taken at an open meeting. The vote of each Board of Education member present, and the reason for the closed meeting, will be publicly disclosed at the time of the meeting and clearly stated in the motion and the meeting minutes.

No final Board of Education action will be taken at a closed meeting.

Reconvened or Rescheduled Meetings

A meeting may be rescheduled or reconvened. Public notice of a rescheduled or reconvened meeting shall be given in the same manner as that for a special meeting, except that no public notice is required when the original meeting is open to the public and: (1) is to be reconvened within 24 hours, or (2) an announcement of the time and place of the reconvened meeting was made at the original meeting and there is no change in the agenda.

Special Meetings

Special meetings may be called by the President or by any 3 members of the Board of Education by giving notice thereof, in writing, stating the time, place, and purpose of the meeting to remaining Board members by mail at least 48 hours before the meeting, or by personal service at least 24 hours before the meeting.

Public notice of a special meeting is given by posting a notice at the District's administration office^{Q1} at least 48 hours before the meeting and by notifying the news media that have filed a written request for notice. A meeting agenda shall accompany the notice.

All matters discussed by the Board at any special meeting must be related to a subject on the meeting agenda.

Emergency Meetings

Public notice of emergency meetings shall be given as soon as practical, but in any event, before the meeting to news media that have filed a written request for notice.

Posting on the District's Website

In addition to the other notices specified in this policy, the Superintendent or designee shall post the following on the District website: (1) the annual schedule of regular meetings, which shall remain posted until the Board approves a new schedule of regular meetings; (2) a public notice of all Board meetings; and (3) the agenda for each meeting which shall remain posted until the meeting is concluded.

LEGAL REF.:

[5 ILCS 120/1](#) *et seq.*

[105 ILCS 5/10-6](#) and [5/10-16](#).

CROSS REF.: 2:110 (Qualifications Term, and Duties of Board Officers), 2:120 (Board Member Development), 2:210 (Organizational School Board Meetings), 2:220 (School Board Meeting Procedure), 2:230 (Public Participation at School Board Meetings and Petitions to the Board), 6:235 (Access to Electronic Networks), 8:30 (Visitors to and Conduct on School Property)

Adopted: January 22, 2024

Questions and Answers:

***Required Question 1. Some attorneys find the Open Meetings Act's (OMA's) posting requirements for special meetings to be unclear and recommend that a board post notices and agendas of such meetings at the district's main office *and* at the location where the meeting is to be held. Consult the board attorney for guidance on this issue and ensure that posting practices align with this policy and administrative procedure 2:200-AP, *Types of School Board Meetings*. Posting at the meeting location promotes greater transparency.

Does the Board post notices and agendas for special meetings at the location where the meeting is to be held, in addition to posting at the district's main office? If yes, note that this policy may require posting in the same manner for reconvened and rescheduled meetings, in alignment with OMA.

No (Default)

Yes (IASB will revise this sentence after "the District's main office" to add "and the location where the meeting is to be held")

Document Status: Draft Update

Section 2 - BOARD OF EDUCATION

2:220 Board of Education Meeting Procedure

Agenda

The Board President is responsible for focusing the Board meetings' agendas on appropriate content. The Superintendent shall prepare agendas in consultation with the Board President. The President shall designate a portion of the agenda as a consent agenda for those items that usually do not require extensive discussion before before Board of Education action. Upon the request of any Board member, an item will be withdrawn from the consent agenda and placed on the regular agenda for independent consideration.

Each Board meeting agenda shall contain the general subject matter of any item that will be the subject of final action at the meeting. Items submitted by Board of Education members to the Superintendent or the President shall be placed on the agenda for an upcoming meeting. District residents may suggest inclusions for the agenda. ^{Q1} The Board will take final action only on items contained in the posted agenda; items not on the agenda may still be discussed.

The Superintendent shall provide a copy of the agenda, with ^{four days} adequate data and background information, to each Board of Education member at least ~~48 hours~~ before each meeting, except a meeting held in the event of an emergency. The meeting agenda shall be posted in accordance with policy 2:200, *Types of Board of Education Meetings*.

The Board President shall determine the order of business at regular Board of Education meetings. Upon consent of a majority of members present, the order of business at any meeting may be changed.

Voting Method

Unless otherwise provided by law, when a vote is taken upon any measure before the Board of Education, with a quorum being present, a majority of the votes cast shall determine its outcome. A vote of "abstain" or "present," or a vote other than "yea" or "nay," or a failure to vote, is counted for the purposes of determining whether a quorum is present. A vote of "abstain" or "present," or a vote other than "yea" or "nay," or a failure to vote, however, is not counted in determining whether a measure has been passed by the Board, unless otherwise stated in law. The sequence of casting votes shall be alphabetical, with the Board member having the first vote rotating sequentially.

On all questions involving the expenditure of money and on all questions involving the closing of a meeting to the public, a roll call vote ^{Q2} shall be taken and entered in the Board's minutes. An individual Board member may request that a roll call vote be taken on any other matter; the President or other presiding officer may approve or deny the request but a denial is subject to being overturned by a majority vote of the members present.

Any Board member may include a written explanation of his/her vote in the District file containing individual Board member statements; the explanation will not be part of the minutes.

Minutes

The Board Secretary shall keep written minutes of all Board of Education meetings (whether open or closed), which shall be signed by the President and the Secretary. The minutes include:

1. The meeting's date, time, and place;
2. Board of Education members recorded as either present or absent;
3. A summary of the discussion on all matters proposed, deliberated, or decided, and a record of any votes taken;
4. On all matters requiring a roll call vote, a record of who voted "yea" and "nay";
5. If the meeting is adjourned to another date, the time and place of the adjourned meeting;
6. The vote of each member present when a vote is taken to hold a closed meeting or portion of a meeting, and the reason for the closed meeting with a citation to the specific exception contained in the Open Meetings Act (OMA) authorizing the closed meeting;
7. A record of all motions, the members making the motion and the second; ~~and~~
8. Upon request by a Board member, a record of how he or she voted on a particular motion; ~~and~~
9. The type of meeting, including any notices and, if a reconvened meeting, the original meeting's date.

The minutes shall be submitted to the Board of Education for approval or modification at its next regularly scheduled open meeting. Minutes for open meetings must be approved within 30 days after the meeting or at the second subsequent regular meeting, whichever is later.

Every six months, or as soon after as is practicable, in an open meeting, the Board: (1) reviews minutes from all closed meetings that are currently unavailable for public release, and (2) determines which, if any, no longer require confidential treatment and are available for public inspection. This is also referred to as a *semi-annual review*. The Board may meet in a prior closed session to review the minutes from closed meetings that are currently unavailable for public release, but it reports its determination in open session.

The Board's meeting minutes must be submitted to the Board Treasurer at such times as the Treasurer may require.

The official minutes are in the custody of the Board Secretary. Open meetings minutes are available for inspection during regular office hours within 10 days after the Board's approval, in the office of the Superintendent or designee, in the presence of the Secretary, the Superintendent or designee, or any Board of Education member.

Minutes from closed meetings are likewise available, but only if the Board has released them for public inspection, except that Board members may access closed session minutes not yet released for public inspection (1) in the District's administrative offices or their official storage location, and (2) in the presence of the Recording Secretary, the Superintendent or designated administrator, or any elected Board member. The minutes, whether reviewed by members of the public or the Board, shall not be removed from the District's administrative offices or their official storage location except by vote of the Board or by court order.

The Board's open meeting minutes shall be posted on the District website within 10 days after the Board approves them; the minutes will remain posted.

Verbatim Record of Closed Meetings

The Superintendent or the Board Secretary shall audio record all closed meetings. If neither is

present, the Board President or presiding officer shall assume this responsibility. After the closed meeting, the person making the audio recording shall label the recording with the date and store it in a secure location. The Superintendent shall ensure that: (1) an audio recording device and all necessary accompanying items are available to the Board for every closed meeting, and (2) a secure location for storing closed meeting audio recordings is maintained within the central administrative office.

After 18 months have passed since being made, the audio recording of a closed meeting is destroyed provided the Board approved: (1) its destruction, and (2) minutes of the particular closed meeting.

Individual Board members may access verbatim recordings in the presence of the Recording Secretary, the Superintendent or designated administrator, or any elected Board member. Access to the verbatim recordings is available at the District's administrative offices or the verbatim recording's official storage location. Requests shall be made to the Superintendent or Board President. While a Board member is listening to a verbatim recording, it shall not be re-recorded or removed from the District's main office or official storage location, except by vote of the Board or by court order.

Before making such requests, Board members should consider whether such requests are germane to their responsibilities, service to District, and/or Oath of Office in policy 2:80, *Board Member Oath and Conduct*. In the interest of encouraging free and open expression by Board members during closed meetings, the recordings of closed meetings should not be used by Board members to confirm or dispute the accuracy of recollections.

Quorum and Participation by Audio or Video Means

A quorum of the Board must be physically present at all Board meetings. A majority of the full membership of the Board of Education constitutes a quorum.

Provided a quorum is physically present, a Board member may attend a meeting by video or audio conference if the member is prevented from physically attending because of (1) personal illness or disability; (2) employment purposes or business of the public body; (3) a family or other emergency; (4) unexpected childcare obligations, or (5) performance of active military duty as a service member. [PRESSPlus1](#) A Board member who attends a meeting by audio or video means, as provided in this policy, may participate in all aspects of the Board meeting including voting on any item.

No Physical Presence of Quorum and Participation by Audio or Video; Disaster Declaration

The ability of the Board to meet in person with a quorum physically present at its meeting location may be affected by the Governor or the Director of the Ill. Dept. of Public Health issuing a disaster declaration related to a public health emergency. The Board President or, if the office is vacant or the President is absent or unable to perform the office's duties, the Vice President determines that an in-person meeting or a meeting conducted under the **Quorum and Participation by Audio or Video Means** subhead above, is not practical or prudent because of the disaster declaration. If neither the President nor Vice President are present or able to perform this determination, the Superintendent shall serve as the duly authorized designee for purposes of making this determination.

The individual who makes this determination for the Board shall put it in writing, include it on the Board's published notice and agenda for the audio or video meeting and in the meeting minutes, and ensure that the Board meets every OMA requirement for the Board to meet by video or audio conference without the physical presence of a quorum.

Rules of Order

Unless State law or Board-adopted rules apply, the Board President, as the presiding officer, will use

the most recent edition of *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised*, as a guide when a question arises concerning procedure.

Broadcasting and Recording Board Meetings

Any person may record or broadcast an open Board meeting. Special requests to facilitate recording or broadcasting an open Board meeting, such as seating, writing surfaces, lighting, and access to electrical power, should be directed to the Superintendent at least 24 hours before the meeting.

Recording meetings shall not distract or disturb Board members, other meeting participants, or members of the public. The Board President may designate a location for recording equipment, may restrict the movements of individuals who are using recording equipment, or may take such other steps as are deemed necessary to preserve decorum and facilitate the meeting.

LEGAL REF.:

[5 ILCS 120/2a](#), [120/2.02](#), [120/2.05](#), [120/2.06](#), and [120/7](#) Sec. 7(a) Open Meetings Act.

[105 ILCS 5/10-6](#), [5/10-7](#), [5/10-12](#), and [5/10-16](#).

CROSS REF.: 2:80 (Board Member Oath and Conduct), 2:150 (Committees), 2:200 (Types of Board of Education Meetings), 2:210 (Organizational Board of Education Meeting), 2:230 (Public Participation at Board of Education Meetings and Petitions to the Board)

Adopted: June 17, 2024

Questions and Answers:

***Required Question 1. The Board may restrict addition of discussion items suggested by District residents to the agenda to the beginning of a regular meeting and/or upon unanimous approval of those board members present.

Does the Board want to add restrictions regarding addition of discussion items suggested by District residents to the agenda? Y

No (Default)

Yes, restrict to the beginning of a regular meeting. (IASB will add the following sentence: Discussion items suggested by District residents may be added to the agenda at the beginning of a regular meeting.)

Yes, restrict to upon unanimous approval of those board members present. (IASB will add the following sentence: Discussion items suggested by District residents may be added to the agenda upon unanimous approval of those Board members present.)

Yes, restrict to the beginning of a regular meeting upon unanimous approval of those board members present. (IASB will add the following sentence: Discussion items suggested by District residents may be added to the agenda at the beginning of a regular meeting upon unanimous approval of those Board members present.)

***Required Question 2. Does the Board take a roll call vote on *all* action items?

No (Default)

2:220

☛ Yes (IASB will replace this paragraph with the following sentence: The Board shall take a roll call vote on all matters requiring its action, including but not limited to, all questions involving the expenditure of money and all questions involving the closing of a meeting to the public.)

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. Updated in response to the Open Meetings Act (OMA), 5 ILCS 120/7(a), amended by P.A. 104-438. OMA borrows the definition for *active military duty* from the Service Member Employment and Reemployment Act, 330 ILCS 61/1-10. 5 ILCS 120/7(a), amended by P.A. 104-438. It means any full-time military service regardless of length or voluntariness, including, but not limited to, annual training, full-time National Guard Duty, and State active duty. 330 ILCS 61/1-10. *Service member* means a resident of Illinois who is a member of any component of the U.S. Armed Forces or the National Guard of any state, D.C., a commonwealth, or territory of the U.S. **Issue 121, March 2026**

Document Status: Draft Update

Section 2 - BOARD OF EDUCATION

2:250 Access to District Public Records

Full access to the District's *public records* is available to any person as provided in the Illinois Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), this policy, and implementing procedures. The Superintendent or designee shall: (1) provide the Board with sufficient information and data to permit the Board to monitor the District's compliance with FOIA and this policy, and (2) report any FOIA requests during the Board's regular meetings along with the status of the District's response.

Freedom of Information Officer

The Superintendent shall serve as the District's Freedom of Information Officer and assume all the duties and powers of that office as provided in FOIA and this policy. The Superintendent may delegate these duties and powers to one or more designees, but the delegation shall not relieve the Superintendent of the responsibility for the delegated action ~~that was delegated~~.

Definition

The District's *public records* are defined as records, reports, forms, writings, letters, memoranda, books, papers, maps, photographs, microfilms, cards, tapes, recordings, electronic data processing records, electronic communications, recorded information and all other documentary material pertaining to the transaction of public business, regardless of physical form or characteristics, having been prepared by or for, or having been or being used by, received by, in the possession of, or under the control of the School District. The District's public records do not include *junk mail*. [PRESSPlus1](#)

Requesting Records

A request for inspection and/or copies of public records must be made in writing and may be submitted by personal delivery, mail, telefax, or email directed to the District's Freedom of Information Officer. Individuals making a request are not required to state a reason for the request other than to identify when the request is for a commercial purpose or when requesting a fee waiver. Email requests must include the entirety of the request within the body of the email and not as an attachment or hyperlink. [PRESSPlus2](#) The Superintendent or designee shall instruct District employees to forward immediately any request for inspection and copying of a public record to the District's Freedom of Information Officer or designee.

Responding to Requests

The Freedom of Information Officer shall approve all requests for public records unless:

1. The requested material does not exist;
2. The requested material is exempt from inspection and copying by the Freedom of Information Act; ~~or~~
3. Complying with the request would be unduly burdensome; ~~or~~
4. The request would require the District to open electronically attached files or hyperlinks to view or access details of a request. In that case, the requester shall be notified within five business days that the entirety of the electronic request must appear within the body of the electronic submission; or

5. The District has a reasonable belief that the request was not submitted by a person, and the requester fails to verify orally or in writing that they are a person within 30 days of the District's request for such verification. [PRESSPlus3](#)

Within 5 business days after receipt of a request for access to a public record, the Freedom of Information Officer shall comply with or deny the request, unless the time for response is extended as specified in Section 3 of FOIA. The Freedom of Information Officer may extend the time for a response for up to 5 business days from the original due date. If an extension is needed, the Freedom of Information Officer shall: (1) notify the person making the request of the reason for the extension, and (2) either inform the person of the date on which a response will be made, or agree with the person in writing on a compliance period.

The time periods are extended for responding to requests for records made for a *commercial purpose*, requests by a *recurrent requester*, or *voluminous requests*, as those terms are defined in Section 2 of FOIA. The time periods for responding to those requests are governed by Sections 3.1, 3.2, and 3.6 of FOIA.

When responding to a request for a record containing both exempt and non-exempt material, the Freedom of Information Officer shall redact exempt material from the record before complying with the request.

Fees

Persons making a request for copies of public records must pay any and all applicable fees. The Freedom of Information Officer shall establish a fee schedule that complies with FOIA and this policy and is subject to the Board's review. The fee schedule shall include copying fees and all other fees to the maximum extent they are permitted by FOIA, including without limitation, search and review fees for responding to a request for a *commercial purpose* and fees, costs, and personnel hours in connection with responding to a *voluminous request*.

Copying fees, except when fixed by statute, shall be reasonably calculated to reimburse the District's actual cost for reproducing and certifying public records and for the use, by any person, of its equipment to copy records. In no case shall the copying fees exceed the maximum fees permitted by FOIA. If the District's actual copying costs are equal to or greater than the maximum fees permitted by FOIA, the Freedom of Information Officer is authorized to use FOIA's maximum fees as the District's fees. No copying fees shall be charged for: (1) the first 50 pages of black and white, letter or legal sized copies, or (2) electronic copies other than the actual cost of the recording medium, except if the response is to a *voluminous request*, as defined in FOIA.

A fee reduction is available if the request qualifies under Section 6 of FOIA. The Freedom of Information Officer shall set the amount of the reduction taking into consideration the amount of material requested and the cost of copying it.

Provision of Copies and Access to Records

A public record that is the subject of an approved access request will be available for inspection or copying at the District's administrative office during regular business hours, unless other arrangements are made by the Freedom of Information Officer.

Many public records are immediately available from the District's website including, but not limited to, the process for requesting a public record. The Freedom of Information Officer shall direct a requester to the District's website if a requested record is available there. If the requester is unable to reasonably access the record online, he or she may resubmit the request for the record, stating his or her inability to reasonably access the record online, and the District shall make the requested record available for inspection and copying as otherwise provided in this policy.

Preserving Public Records

Public records, including email messages, shall be preserved and cataloged if: (1) they are evidence of the District's organization, function, policies, procedures, or activities, (2) they contain informational data appropriate for preservation, (3) their retention is required by State or federal law, or (4) they are subject to a retention request by the Board Attorney (e.g., a litigation hold), District auditor, or other individual authorized by the Board of Education or State or federal law to make such a request. Unless its retention is required as described in items numbered 3 or 4 above, a public record, as defined by the Illinois Local Records Act, may be destroyed when authorized by the Local Records Commission.

LEGAL REF.:

[5 ILCS 140/](#) Illinois Freedom of Information Act.

[50 ILCS 205/](#) Local Records Act.

105 ILCS 5/10-16 and 5/24A-7.1.

820 ILCS [40/11](#), Personnel Record Review Act.

820 ILCS [130/5](#), Prevailing Wage Act.

CROSS REF.: 2:140 (Communications To and From the Board), 5:150 (Personnel Records), 7:340 (Student Records)

Adopted: February 17, 2026

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. Updated in response to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), 5 ILCS 140/2, amended by P.A 104-438. *Junk mail* means any unsolicited commercial mail or commercial electronic communication sent to a district and not responded to by a district. **Issue 121, March 2026**

PRESSPlus 2. Updated in response to FOIA, 5 ILCS 140/3(c), amended by P.A. 104-438. **Issue 121, March 2026**

PRESSPlus 3. Updated in response to FOIA, 5 ILCS 140/3(j), added by P.A. 104-438. **Issue 121, March 2026**

Document Status: Draft Update

Section 2 - BOARD OF EDUCATION

2:260 Uniform Grievance Procedure

A student, parent/guardian, employee, or community member should notify any District Complaint Manager if he or she believes that the Board of Education, its employees, or its agents have violated his or her rights guaranteed by the [State](#) or federal [Constitution](#), State or federal statute, or Board policy, or has a complaint regarding any one of the following:

1. Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, [42 U.S.C. §12101 et seq.](#)
2. Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, [20 U.S.C. §1681 et seq.](#), excluding Title IX complaints governed by Board policy 2:265, *Title IX Grievance Procedure*
3. Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, [29 U.S.C. §791 et seq.](#)
4. Discrimination and/or harassment on the basis of race, color, or national origin prohibited by the Illinois Human Rights Act, [775 ILCS 5/](#); Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, [42 U.S.C. §2000d et seq.](#); and/or Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, [42 U.S.C. §2000e et seq.](#) (see Board policy 2:270, *Discrimination and Harassment on the Basis of Race, Color, and National Origin Prohibited*)
5. Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, [42 U.S.C. §2000e et seq.](#) (see also number 4, above, for discrimination and/or harassment on the basis of race, color, or national origin)
6. Sexual harassment prohibited by the State Officials and Employees Ethics Act, [5 ILCS 430/70-5\(a\)](#); Illinois Human Rights Act, [775 ILCS 5/](#); and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, [42 U.S.C. §2000e et seq.](#) (Title IX sexual harassment complaints are addressed under Board policy 2:265, *Title IX Grievance Procedure*)
7. Bullying, [105 ILCS 5/27-23.7](#)
8. Misuse of funds received for services to improve educational opportunities for educationally disadvantaged or deprived children
9. Curriculum, instructional materials, and/or programs
10. Victims' Economic Security and Safety Act, [820 ILCS 180/](#)
11. Illinois Equal Pay Act of 2003, [820 ILCS 112/](#)
12. Provision of services to homeless students
13. Illinois Whistleblower Act, [740 ILCS 174/](#)
14. Misuse of genetic information prohibited by the Illinois Genetic Information Privacy Act, [410 ILCS 513/](#); and Titles I and II of the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act, [42 U.S.C. §2000ff et seq.](#)
15. Employee Credit Privacy Act, [820 ILCS 70/](#)

The Complaint Manager will first attempt to resolve complaints without resorting to this grievance procedure. If a formal complaint is filed under this policy, the Complaint Manager will address the complaint promptly and equitably. A student and/or parent/guardian filing a complaint under this policy may forego any informal suggestions and/or attempts to resolve it and may proceed directly to this grievance procedure. The Complaint Manager will not require a student or parent/guardian

complaining of any form of harassment to attempt to resolve allegations directly with the accused (or the accused's parent(s)/guardian(s)); this includes mediation.

Right to Pursue Other Remedies Not Impaired

The right of a person to prompt and equitable resolution of a complaint filed under this policy shall not be impaired by the person's pursuit of other remedies, e.g., criminal complaints, civil actions, etc. Use of this grievance procedure is not a prerequisite to the pursuit of other remedies and use of this grievance procedure does not extend any filing deadline related to the pursuit of other remedies. If a person is pursuing another remedy subject to a complaint under this policy, the District will continue with a simultaneous investigation under this policy.

Deadlines

All deadlines under this policy may be extended by the Complaint Manager as he or she deems appropriate. As used in this policy, *school business days* means days on which the District's main office is open.

Appointing a Nondiscrimination Coordinator, Title IX Coordinator, Complaint Managers, or Other Investigators

The Superintendent shall appoint two Complaint Managers, each of a different gender. The District's Nondiscrimination Coordinator, if any, may be appointed as one of the Complaint Managers. others.

The Superintendent shall appoint a Title IX Coordinator to coordinate the District's efforts to comply with Title IX.

For complaints containing allegations involving the Superintendent or Board member(s), the Board President or the Board may appoint the Board Attorney or qualified outside investigator to conduct an independent review of the allegations consistent with the procedures below.

The Superintendent shall insert into this policy and keep current the names, office addresses, email addresses, and telephone numbers of the Nondiscrimination Coordinator, Title IX Coordinator, and the Complaint Managers.

Nondiscrimination Coordinator:

Edward Condon, Superintendent.
7776 Lake Street, River Forest, IL 60305
condone@district90.org
708/771-8282

Title IX Coordinator:

Edward Condon, Superintendent.
7776 Lake Street, River Forest, IL 60305
condone@district90.org
708/771-8282

Complaint Managers:

Dr. Christine Trendel,
Director of Curriculum and Instruction
7776 Lake Street, River Forest, IL 60305
trendelc@district90.org
708/771-8282

Anthony Cozzi,
Chief Operations Officer
7776 Lake Street, River Forest, IL 60305
cozzia@district90.org
708/771-8282

Filing a Complaint

A person (hereinafter Complainant) who wishes to avail him or herself of this grievance procedure may do so by filing a complaint with any District Complaint Manager. The Complainant shall not be required to file a complaint with a particular Complaint Manager and may request a Complaint Manager of the same gender. If the complaint contains allegations involving the Superintendent or Board member(s), the Complaint Manager must forward the complaint to the Board. The Complaint Manager may request the Complainant to provide a written statement regarding the nature of the complaint or require a meeting with a student's parent(s)/guardian(s). The Complaint Manager shall assist the Complainant as needed.

For any complaint alleging bullying and/or cyberbullying of students, the Complaint Manager or designee shall process and review the complaint under Board policy 7:180, *Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment*, in addition to any response required by this policy.

For any complaint alleging sex discrimination that, if true, would implicate Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 ([20 U.S.C. §1681](#) et seq.), the Title IX Coordinator or designee shall process and review the complaint under Board policy 2:265, *Title IX Grievance Procedure*.

For any complaint alleging harassment on the basis of race, color, or national origin, the Nondiscrimination Coordinator or a Complaint Manager or designee shall process and review the complaint under Board policy 2:270, *Discrimination and Harassment on the Basis of Race, Color, and National Origin Prohibited*, in addition to any response required by this policy.

For any complaint alleging sexual harassment or other violation of Board policy 5:20, *Workplace Harassment Prohibited*, the Nondiscrimination Coordinator or a Complaint Manager or designee shall process and review the complaint according to that policy, in addition to any response required by this policy, and shall consider whether an investigation under Board policy 5:120, *Employee Ethics; Code of Professional Conduct; and Conflict of Interest*, should be initiated.

Investigation Process

The Complaint Manager will investigate the complaint or appoint a qualified person to undertake the investigation on his or her behalf. The Complaint Manager shall ensure both parties have an equal opportunity to present evidence during an investigation. The complaint and identity of the Complainant will not be disclosed except: (1) as required by law, this policy, or any collective bargaining agreement, (2) as necessary to fully investigate the complaint, or (3) as authorized by the Complainant.

The identity of any student witnesses will not be disclosed except: (1) as required by law, this policy, or any collective bargaining agreement, (2) as necessary to fully investigate the complaint, or (3) as authorized by the parent/guardian of the student witness, or by the student if the student is 18 years of age or older.

Within 30 school business days after the date the complaint was filed, the Complaint Manager shall file a written investigation report of his or her findings with the Superintendent. The Complaint Manager may request an extension of time from the Superintendent.

The Superintendent will keep the Board informed of all complaints.

If a complaint contains allegations involving the Superintendent or Board member(s), the written investigation report shall be filed directly with the Board, which will make a decision in accordance with paragraph four of the following section of this policy.

Decision and Appeal

Within five school business days after receiving the Complaint Manager's report, the Superintendent shall provide his or her written decision to the Complainant and the accused as well as to the Complaint Manager.

Within 10 school business days after receiving the Superintendent's decision, the Complainant or the accused may appeal the decision to the Board by making a written request to the Superintendent. The Superintendent shall promptly forward all materials relative to the complaint and appeal to the Board.

Within 30 school business days after an appeal of the Superintendent's decision, the Board shall affirm, reverse, or amend the Superintendent's decision or direct the Superintendent to gather additional information. Within five school business days after the Board's decision, the Superintendent shall inform the Complainant and the accused of the Board's action.

For complaints containing allegations involving the Superintendent or Board member(s), within 30 school business days after receiving the Complaint Manager's or outside investigator's report, the Board shall provide its written decision to the Complainant and the accused, as well as to the Complaint Manager.

Illinois regulations provide that individuals alleging that they have been discriminated against on the basis of their sex have a right to appeal the Board's decision to the Regional Superintendent and, thereafter, to the State Superintendent of Education. The Regional Superintendent retains discretion as to whether he or she will hear an appeal.

This policy shall not be construed to create an independent right to a Board hearing. The failure to strictly follow the timelines in this grievance procedure shall not prejudice any party.

LEGAL REF.:

[8 U.S.C. §1324a](#) *et seq.*, Immigration Reform and Control Act.

[20 U.S.C. §1232g](#), Family Education Rights Privacy Act.

[20 U.S.C. §1400](#), The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

[20 U.S.C. §1681](#) *et seq.*, Title IX of the Education Amendments; [34 C.F.R. Part 106](#).

[29 U.S.C. §206\(d\)](#), Equal Pay Act.

[29 U.S.C. §621](#) *et seq.*, Age Discrimination in Employment Act.

[29 U.S.C. §791](#) *et seq.*, Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

[29 U.S.C. §2612](#), Family and Medical Leave Act.

[42 U.S.C. §2000d](#) *et seq.*, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

[42 U.S.C. §2000e](#) *et seq.*, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

[42 U.S.C. §2000ff](#) *et seq.*, Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act.

[42 U.S.C. §11431](#) *et seq.*, McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act.

[42 U.S.C. §12101](#) *et seq.*, Americans With Disabilities Act; [28 C.F.R. Part 35](#).

[105 ILCS 5/2-3.8, 5/3-10, 5/10-20, 5/10-20.5, 5/10-20.7a, 5/10-20.60, 5/10-20.69, 5/10-20.75, 5/10-22.5, 5/22-19, 5/22-95 \(final citation pending\), 5/22-110, 5/24-4, and 5/27-1, ~~5/27-23.7, and 45/1-45.~~](#) [PRESSPlus1](#)

[105 ILCS 45/](#), Education for Homeless Children Act.

[5 ILCS 415/10\(a\)\(2\)](#), Government Severance Pay Act.

[5 ILCS 430/70-5\(a\)](#), State Officials and Employees Ethics Act.

[410 ILCS 513/](#), Ill. Genetic Information Privacy Act.

[740 ILCS 174/](#), Whistleblower Act.

[740 ILCS 175/](#), Ill. False Claims Act.

[775 ILCS 5/](#), Ill. Human Rights Act.

[820 ILCS 70/](#), Employee Credit Privacy Act.

[820 ILCS 112/](#), Equal Pay Act of 2003.

[820 ILCS 180/](#), Victims' Economic Security and Safety Act; [56 Ill.Admin.Code Part 280.](#)

[23 Ill.Admin.Code §§1.240, 200.40, 226.50,](#) and [226.570.](#)

CROSS REF.: 2:105 (Ethics and Gift Ban), 2:265 (Title IX Grievance Procedure), 2:270 (Discrimination and Harassment on the Basis of Race, Color, and National Origin Prohibited), 5:10 (Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Recruitment), 5:20 (Workplace Harassment Prohibited), 5:30 (Hiring Process and Criteria), 5:90 (Abused and Neglected Child Reporting), 6:120 (Education of Children with Disabilities), 6:140 (Education of Homeless Children), 6:170 (Title I Programs), 6:260 (Complaints About Curriculum, Instructional Materials, and Programs), 7:10 (Equal Educational Opportunities), 7:15 (Student and Family Privacy Rights), 7:20 (Harassment of Students Prohibited), 7:180 (Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment), 7:185 (Teen Dating Violence Prohibited), 7:310 (Restrictions on Publications; Elementary Schools), 8:70 (Accommodating Individuals with Disabilities), 8:95 (Parental Involvement), 8:110 (Public Suggestions and Concerns)

Adopted: July 15, 2025

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. The Legal References are updated in response to 105 ILCS 5/22-110, renumbered by P.A. 104-391, and for continuous improvement. **Issue 121, March 2026**

Document Status: Draft Update

Section 4 - OPERATIONAL SERVICES

4:165 Awareness and Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse and Grooming Behaviors

Child sexual abuse and grooming behaviors harm students, their parents/guardians, the District's environment, its school communities, and the community at large, while diminishing a student's ability to learn. The Board has a responsibility and obligation to increase awareness and knowledge of: (1) issues regarding child sexual abuse, (2) likely warning signs that a child may be a victim of sexual abuse, (3) grooming behaviors related to child sexual abuse and grooming, (4) how to report child sexual abuse, (5) appropriate relationships between District employees and students based upon State law, and (6) how to prevent child sexual abuse.

To address the Board's obligation to increase awareness and knowledge of these issues, prevent sexual abuse of children, and define prohibited grooming behaviors, the Superintendent or designee shall implement an Awareness and Prevention of Sexual Abuse and Grooming Behaviors Program. The Program will:

1. Educate students with:
 - a. An age-appropriate and evidence-informed health and safety education curriculum that includes methods for how to report child sexual abuse and grooming behaviors to authorities, through policy 6:60, *Curriculum Content*;
 - b. Information in policy 7:250, *Student Support Services*, about: (i) District counseling options, assistance, and intervention for students who are victims of or affected by sexual abuse, and (ii) community-based Children's Advocacy Centers and sexual assault crisis centers and how to access those serving the District.
2. Train District employees about child sexual abuse and grooming behaviors by January 31 of each school year with materials that include:
 - a. A definition of prohibited grooming behaviors and employee-student boundary violations pursuant to policy 5:120, *Employee Ethics; Code of Professional Conduct; and Conflict of Interest*;
 - b. Evidence-informed content on preventing, recognizing, reporting, and responding to child sexual abuse, grooming behaviors, and employee-student boundary violations pursuant to policies 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*; 2:265, *Title IX Grievance Procedure*; 5:90, *Abused and Neglected Child Reporting*; 5:100, *Staff Development Program*; and 5:120, *Employee Ethics; Code of Professional Conduct; and Conflict of Interest*; and
 - c. How to report child sexual abuse, grooming behaviors, and/or employee-student boundary violations pursuant to policies 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*; 2:265, *Title IX Grievance Procedure*; and 5:90, *Abused and Neglected Child Reporting*.
3. Provide information to parents/guardians in student handbooks about the warning signs of child sexual abuse, grooming behaviors, and employee-student boundary violations with evidence-informed educational information that also includes:
 - a. Assistance, referral, or resource information, including how to recognize grooming behaviors, appropriate relationships between District employees and students based upon policy 5:120, *Employee Ethics; Code of Professional Conduct; and Conflict of*

- Interest*, and how to prevent child sexual abuse from happening;
- b. Methods for how to report child sexual abuse, grooming behaviors, and/or employee-student boundary violations to authorities; and
 - c. Available counseling and resources for children who are affected by sexual abuse, including both emotional and educational support for students affected by sexual abuse, so that the student can continue to succeed in school pursuant to policy 7:250, *Student Support Services*.
4. ~~Provide parents/guardians of students in any of grades K through 8 with not less than five days' written notice before commencing any class or course providing instruction in recognizing and avoiding sexual abuse, as well as the opportunity to object in writing.~~ [PRESSPlus1](#)

LEGAL REF.:

105 ILCS 5/10-23.13, 5/22-85.5, and 5/27-1015~~0.1a, and 5/27-13.2.~~ [PRESSPlus2](#)

105 ILCS ~~110/35/27-215~~, Critical Health Problems and Comprehensive Health Education Act.

[325 ILCS 5/](#), Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act.

[720 ILCS 5/11-25](#), Criminal Code of 2012.

CROSS REF.: 2:260 (Uniform Grievance Procedure), 2:265 (Title IX Grievance Procedure), 4:175 (Convicted Child Sex Offender; Screening; Notifications), 5:90 (Abused and Neglected Child Reporting), 5:100 (Staff Development Program), 5:120 (Employee Ethics; Code of Professional Conduct; and Conflict of Interest), 6:60 (Curriculum Content), 7:20 (Harassment of Students Prohibited), 7:250 (Student Support Services)

Adopted: January 23, 2023

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. Updated in response to the repeal of 105 ILCS 5/27-13.2, by P.A. 104-391. **Issue 121, March 2026**

PRESSPlus 2. The Legal References are updated in response to 105 ILCS 5/27-1015 and 5/27-215, both renumbered by P.A. 104-391. **Issue 121, March 2026**

Document Status: Draft Update

Section 5 - GENERAL PERSONNEL

5:30 Hiring Process and Criteria

The District hires the most qualified personnel consistent with budget and staffing requirements and in compliance with Board of Education policy on equal employment opportunity and minority recruitment. The Superintendent is responsible for recruiting personnel and making hiring recommendations to the Board. If the Superintendent's recommendation is rejected, the Superintendent must submit another. No individual will be employed who has been convicted of a criminal offense listed in [105 ILCS 5/21B-80\(c\)](#).

All applicants must complete a District application form in order to be considered for employment.

Job Descriptions

The Board maintains the Superintendent's job description and directs, through policy, the Superintendent, in his or her charge of the District's administration.

The Superintendent shall develop and maintain a current comprehensive job description for each position or job category; however, a provision in a collective bargaining agreement or individual contract will control in the event of a conflict.

Investigations

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that a fingerprint-based criminal history records check and a check of the Statewide Sex Offender Database and Violent Offender Against Youth Database is performed on each applicant as required by State law. When the applicant is a successful superintendent candidate who has been offered employment by the Board, the Board President shall ensure that these checks are completed. The Superintendent or designee, or if the applicant is a successful superintendent candidate, then the Board President shall notify an applicant if the applicant is identified in either database. The School Code requires the Board President to keep a conviction record confidential and share it only with the Superintendent, appropriate Intermediate Service Center Executive Director, State Superintendent, State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board, any other person necessary to the hiring decision, the Ill. State Police and/or Statewide Sex Offender Database for purposes of clarifying the information, and/or the Teachers' Retirement System of the State of Illinois when required by law. The Board reserves its right to authorize additional background inquiries beyond a fingerprint-based criminal history records check when it deems it appropriate to do so, in accordance with applicable laws.

Each newly hired employee must complete a U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services Form as required by federal law.

The District retains the right to discharge any employee whose criminal background investigation reveals a conviction for committing or attempting to commit any of the offenses outlined in [105 ILCS 5/21B-80](#) or who falsifies, or omits facts from, his or her employment application or other employment documents. If an indicated finding of abuse or neglect of a child has been issued by the Ill. Department of Children and Family Services or by a child welfare agency of another jurisdiction for any applicant for student teaching, applicant for employment, or any District employee, then the Board must consider

that person's status as a condition of employment.

The Superintendent shall ensure that the District does not engage in any investigation or inquiry prohibited by law and complies with each of the following:

1. The District uses an applicant's credit history or report from a consumer reporting agency only when a satisfactory credit history is an established bona fide occupational requirement of a particular position.
2. The District does not screen applicants based on their current or prior wages or salary histories, including benefits or other compensation, by requiring that the wage or salary history satisfy minimum or maximum criteria.
3. The District does not request or require a wage or salary history as a condition of being considered for employment, being interviewed, continuing to be considered for an offer of employment, an offer of employment, or an offer of compensation.
4. The District does not request or require an applicant to disclose wage or salary history as a condition of employment.
5. The District does not ask an applicant or applicant's current or previous employers about wage or salary history, including benefits or other compensation.
6. The District does not ask an applicant or applicant's previous employers about claim(s) made or benefit(s) received under the Workers' Compensation Act.
7. The District does not request of an applicant or employee access in any manner to his or her personal online account, such as social networking websites, including a request for passwords to such accounts.
8. The District provides equal employment opportunities to all persons. See policy 5:10, *Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Recruitment*.

Sexual Misconduct Related Employment History Review (EHR)

Prior to hiring an applicant for a position involving *direct contact with children or students*, the Superintendent shall ensure that an EHR is performed as required by State law. When the applicant is a superintendent candidate, the Board President shall ensure that the EHR is initiated before a successful superintendent candidate is offered employment by the Board.

Physical Examinations

Each new employee must furnish evidence of physical fitness to perform assigned duties and freedom from communicable disease. The physical fitness examination must be performed by a physician licensed in Illinois, or any other state, to practice medicine and surgery in any of its branches, a licensed advanced practice registered nurse, or a licensed physician assistant who has been delegated the authority by his or her supervising physician to perform health examinations. The employee must have the physical examination performed no more than 90 days before submitting evidence of it to the District.

Any employee may be required to have an additional examination by a physician who is licensed in Illinois to practice medicine and surgery in all its branches, a licensed advanced practice registered nurse, or a licensed physician assistant who has been delegated the authority by his or her supervising physician to perform health examinations, if the examination is job-related and consistent with business necessity. The Board will pay the expenses of any such examination. [PRESSPlus1](#)

Orientation Program

The District's staff will provide an orientation program for new employees to acquaint them with the District's policies and procedures, the school's rules and regulations, and the responsibilities of their position. Before beginning employment, each employee must sign the *Acknowledgement of Mandated Reporter Status* form as provided in policy 5:90, *Abused and Neglected Child Reporting*.

LEGAL REF.:

[8 U.S.C. §1324a](#) *et seq.*, Immigration Reform and Control Act.

[15 U.S.C. §1681](#) *et seq.*, Fair Credit Reporting Act.

[42 U.S.C. §12112](#), Americans with Disabilities Act; [29 C.F.R. Part 1630](#).

[105 ILCS 5/10-16.7](#), [5/10-20.7](#), [5/10-21.4](#), [5/10-21.9](#), [5/10-22.34](#), [5/10-22.34b](#), [5/21B-10](#), [5/21B-80](#), [5/21B-85](#), [5/22-6.5](#), [5/22-94](#), and [5/24-5](#).

[20 ILCS 2630/3.3](#), Criminal Identification Act.

[820 ILCS 55/](#), Right to Privacy in the Workplace Act.

[820 ILCS 70/](#), Employee Credit Privacy Act.

[820 ILCS 112/](#), Equal Pay Act of 2003.

[Duldulao v. St. Mary of Nazareth Hospital](#), 136 Ill. App. 3d 763 (1st Dist. 1985), *aff'd in part and remanded* 115 Ill.2d 482 (Ill. 1987).

[Kaiser v. Dixon](#), 127 Ill. App. 3d 251 (2nd Dist. 1984).

[Molitor v. Chicago Title & Trust Co.](#), 325 Ill. App. 124 (1st Dist. 1945).

CROSS REF.: 2:260 (Uniform Grievance Procedure), 3:50 (Administrative Personnel Other Than the Superintendent), 4:60 (Purchases and Contracts), 4:175 (Convicted Child Sex Offender; Screening; Notifications), 5:10 (Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Recruitment), 5:40 (Communicable and Chronic Infectious Disease), 5:90 (Abused and Neglected Child Reporting), 5:120 (Employee Ethics; Code of Professional Conduct; and Conflict of Interest), 5:125 (Personal Technology and Social Media; Usage and Conduct), 5:220 (Substitute Teachers), 5:280 (Duties and Qualifications)

Adopted: January 22, 2024

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. Consult the board attorney if a staff member requests more than one physical examination to obtain a second opinion. **Issue 121, March 2026**

Document Status: Draft Update

Section 5 - GENERAL PERSONNEL

5:50 Drug- and Alcohol-Free Workplace; E-Cigarette, Tobacco, and Cannabis Prohibition

All District workplaces are drug- and alcohol-free workplaces.

An employee is on call when the District schedules the employee with at least 24 hours' notice to be on standby or otherwise responsible for performing employment-related tasks either at the District or another location previously designated by the District. [PRESSPlus1](#) All employees are prohibited from engaging in any of the following activities while on District premises or while performing work or being *on call* for the District:

1. Unlawful manufacture, dispensing, distribution, possession, or use of an illegal or controlled substance, or being impaired by or under the influence of any illegal substance or any detectable use of any illegal substance regardless of when or where the use occurred.
2. Distribution, consumption, use, possession, or being impaired by or under the influence of an alcoholic beverage; being present on District premises or while performing work for the District when alcohol consumption is detectable, regardless of when and/or where the use occurred.
3. Distribution, consumption, possession, use, or being impaired by or under the influence of cannabis; being present on District premises or while performing work for the District when impaired by or under the influence of cannabis, regardless of when and/or where the use occurred, unless distribution, possession, and/or use is by a school nurse or school administrator pursuant to *Ashley's Law*, [105 ILCS 5/22-33](#). The District considers employees impaired by or under the influence of cannabis when there is a good faith belief that an employee manifests specific articulable symptoms while working that decrease or lessen the employee's performance of the duties or tasks of the employee's job position.

Upon the Superintendent or designee's reasonable suspicion of an employee's violation of any of the prohibited activities stated above, the Superintendent or designee may direct the employee to undergo a drug and/or alcohol test to corroborate or refute the alleged violation. State law protects the District from liability when it takes actions pursuant to a reasonable workplace drug policy, including but not limited to subjecting an employee or applicant to reasonable drug and alcohol testing, reasonable and nondiscriminatory random drug testing, discipline, termination of employment, or withdrawal of a job offer due to a failure of a drug test.

For purposes of this policy a controlled substance means a substance that is:

1. Not legally obtainable,
2. Being used in a manner different than prescribed,
3. Legally obtainable, but has not been legally obtained, or
4. Referenced in federal or State controlled substance acts.

For purposes of this policy, *District premises* means workplace as defined in the Cannabis Regulation and Tax Act (CRTA) in addition to District and school buildings, grounds, and parking areas; vehicles used for school purposes; and any location used for a Board of Education meeting, 5:50

school athletic event, or other school-sponsored or school-sanctioned events or activities. *School grounds* means the real property comprising any school, any conveyance used to transport students to school or a school-related activity, and any public way within 1,000 feet of any school ground, designated school bus stops where students are waiting for the school bus, and school-sponsored or school-sanctioned events or activities. "Vehicles used for school purposes" means school buses or other school vehicles.

As a condition of employment, each employee shall:

1. Abide by the terms of this Board policy respecting a drug- and alcohol-free workplace; and
2. Notify his or her supervisor of his or her conviction under any criminal drug statute for a violation occurring on the District premises or while performing work for the District, no later than five calendar days after such a conviction.

Unless otherwise prohibited by this policy, prescription and over-the-counter medications are not prohibited when taken in standard dosages and/or according to prescriptions from the employee's licensed health care provider, provided that an employee's work performance is not impaired.

To make employees aware of the dangers of drug and alcohol abuse, the Superintendent or designee shall perform each of the following:

1. Provide each employee with a copy of this policy.
2. Post notice of this policy in a place where other information for employees is posted.
3. Make available materials from local, State, and national anti-drug and alcohol-abuse organizations.
4. Enlist the aid of community and State agencies with drug and alcohol informational and rehabilitation programs to provide information to District employees.
5. Establish a drug-free awareness program to inform employees about:
 - a. The dangers of drug abuse in the workplace,
 - b. Available drug and alcohol counseling, rehabilitation, re-entry, and any employee assistance programs, and
 - c. The penalties that the District may impose upon employees for violations of this policy.
6. Remind employees that policy 6:60, *Curriculum Content*, requires the District to educate students, depending upon their grade, about drug and substance abuse prevention and relationships between drugs, alcohol, and violence.

E-Cigarette, Tobacco, and Cannabis Prohibition

All employees are covered by the conduct prohibitions contained in policy 8:30, *Visitors to and Conduct on School Property*. The prohibition on the use of e-cigarettes, tobacco, and cannabis products applies both (1) when an employee is on school property, and (2) while an employee is performing work for the District at a school event regardless of the event's location.

Tobacco has the meaning provided in [105 ILCS 5/10-20.5b](#).

Cannabis has the meaning provided in the CRTA, [410 ILCS 705/1-10](#).

E-Cigarette is short for electronic cigarette and includes, but is not limited to, any electronic nicotine delivery system (ENDS), electronic cigar, electronic cigarillo, electronic pipe, electronic hookah, vape pen, or similar product or device, and any components or parts that can be used to build the product or device.

District Action Upon Violation of Policy

An employee who violates this policy may be subject to disciplinary action, including termination. In addition or alternatively, the Board may require an employee to successfully complete an appropriate drug- or alcohol-abuse rehabilitation program.

The Board shall take disciplinary action with respect to an employee convicted of a drug offense in the workplace within 30 days after receiving notice of the conviction.

Should District employees be engaged in the performance of work under a federal contract or grant, or under a State contract or grant of \$5,000 or more, the Superintendent shall notify the appropriate State or federal agency from which the District receives contract or grant monies of the employee's conviction within 10 days after receiving notice of the conviction.

Disclaimer

The Board reserves the right to interpret, revise or discontinue any provision of this policy pursuant to the **Suspension of Policies** subhead in policy 2:240, *Board Policy Development*.

Should District employees be engaged in the performance of work under a federal contract or grant, or under a State contract or grant of \$5,000 or more, the Superintendent shall notify the appropriate State or federal agency from which the District receives contract or grant monies of the employee's conviction within 10 days after receiving notice of the conviction.

LEGAL REF.:

[20 U.S.C. §7101](#) *et seq.*, Safe and Drug-Free School and Communities Act of 1994.

[21 U.S.C. §812; 21 C.F.R. §1308.11-1308.15](#), Controlled Substances Act.

[41 U.S.C. §8101](#) *et seq.*, Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988.

[42 U.S.C. §12114](#), Americans With Disabilities Act.

[21 C.F.R. Parts 1100, 1140, and 1143](#).

[30 ILCS 580/](#), Drug-Free Workplace Act.

[105 ILCS 5/10-20.5b](#).

[410 ILCS 82/](#), Smoke Free Illinois Act.

[410 ILCS 130/](#), Compassionate Use of Medical Cannabis Program Act.

[410 ILCS 705/1-1](#) *et seq.*, Cannabis Regulation and Tax Act.

[720 ILCS 675](#), Prevention of Tobacco Use by Persons under 21 Years of Age and Sale and Distribution of Tobacco Products Act.

[820 ILCS 55/](#), Right to Privacy in the Workplace Act.

[23 Ill.Admin.Code §22.20](#).

CROSS REF.: 5:10 (Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Recruitment), 5:120 (Employee Ethics; Code of Professional Conduct; and Conflict of Interest), 6:60 (Curriculum Content), 8:30 (Visitors to and Conduct on School Property)

Adopted: February 22, 2022

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. Consult the board attorney regarding how the board wants to treat employees who may be considered on call, e.g., superintendents, principals, coaches, and/or maintenance workers, etc. **Issue 121, March 2026**

Document Status: Draft Update

Section 5 - GENERAL PERSONNEL

5:250 Leaves of Absence

Sick Leave, Bereavement Leave, Sabbatical Leave, Personal Leave, Association Leave, Religious Holidays, Jury Duty and Subpoenas

Please refer to the applicable collective bargaining agreement(s).

As a condition for paying sick leave after three days absence for personal illness or as the Board or Superintendent deem necessary in other cases, the Board or Superintendent may require that the staff member provide a certificate from: (1) a physician licensed in Illinois to practice medicine and surgery in all its branches, (2) a mental health professional licensed in Illinois providing ongoing care or treatment to the staff member, (3) a chiropractic physician licensed under the Medical Practice Act, (4) a licensed advanced practice registered nurse, (5) a licensed physician assistant who has been delegated the authority to perform health examinations by his or her supervising physician, or (6) if the treatment is by prayer or spiritual means, a spiritual adviser or practitioner of the employee's faith. If the Board or Superintendent requires a certificate during a leave of less than three days for personal illness, the District shall pay the expenses incurred by the employee.

Staff members are entitled to use up to 30 days of paid sick leave because of the birth of a child that is not dependent on the need to recover from childbirth. Such days may be used at any time within the 12-month period following the birth of the child. Intervening periods of nonworking days or school not being in session, such as breaks and holidays, do not count towards the 30 working school days. As a condition of paying sick leave beyond the 30 working school days, the Board or Superintendent may require medical certification.

For purposes of adoption, placement for adoption, or acceptance of a child in need of foster care, paid sick leave may be used for reasons related to the formal adoption or the formal foster care process prior to taking custody of the child or accepting the child in need of foster care, and for taking custody of the child or accepting the child in need of foster care. Such leave is limited to 30 days, unless a longer leave is provided in an applicable collective bargaining agreement, and need not be used consecutively once the formal adoption or foster care process is underway. The Board or Superintendent may require that the employee provide evidence that the formal adoption or foster care process is underway.

Family and Medical Leave Act ("FMLA") leave is normally unpaid. The Board may always designate an employee's qualifying leave as *FMLA* leave. In the case of any *FMLA* leave, all policies and rules regarding the use of paid sick leave apply when paid leave is substituted for unpaid *FMLA* leave. However, any substitution of sick leave for unpaid *FMLA* leave will count against the employee's *FMLA* leave entitlement. In cases of the birth of the employee's child or the employee's adoption of a child, the employee may elect to substitute his/her accrued paid sick leave for unpaid *FMLA* leave as permitted by the *FMLA* and the *Illinois School Code*. Use of compensated *FMLA* leave shall not preclude the use of other applicable unpaid leave that will extend the employee's leave beyond twelve (12) weeks, provided that the use of *FMLA* leave shall not serve to extend such other unpaid leave.

Family Bereavement Leave

State law allows a maximum of 10 unpaid work days for eligible employees (Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993, [20 U.S.C. §2601 et seq.](#)) to take family bereavement leave. The purpose, requirements, scheduling, and all other terms of the leave are governed by the Family Bereavement Leave Act. Eligible employees may use family bereavement leave, without any adverse employment action, for: (1) attendance by the bereaved staff member at the funeral or alternative to a funeral of a covered family member, which includes an employee's child, stepchild, spouse, [PRESSPlus1](#) domestic partner, sibling, parent, mother-in-law, father-in-law, grandchild, grandparent, or stepparent (2) making arrangements necessitated by the death of the covered family member, (3) grieving the death of the covered family member, or (4) absence from work due to a Significant Event, which includes: (i) miscarriage, (ii) an unsuccessful round of intrauterine insemination or of an assisted reproductive technology procedure, (iii) a failed adoption match or an adoption that is not finalized because it is contested by another party, (iv) a failed surrogacy agreement, (v) a diagnosis that negatively impacts pregnancy or fertility, or (vi) a still birth. An employee qualifying for leave due to a Significant Event will not be required to identify which specific reason applies to the employee's request.

The leave must be completed within 60 days after the date on which the employee received notice of the death of the covered family member or the date on which an event under item (4) above occurs. However, in the event of the death of more than one covered family member in a 12-month period, an employee is entitled to up to a total of six weeks of bereavement leave during the 12-month period, subject to certain restrictions under State and federal law. Other existing forms of leave may be substituted for the leave provided in the Family Bereavement Leave Act. This policy does not create any right for an employee to take family bereavement leave that is inconsistent with the Family Bereavement Leave Act.

Child Extended Bereavement Leave

Unpaid leave from work is available to employees who experience the loss of a child by suicide or homicide. The Child Extended Bereavement Leave Act governs the duration, scheduling, continuity of benefits, and all other terms of the leave. Accordingly, if the District employs at least 50 but not more than 249 employees on a full-time basis, an employee is entitled to a total of six weeks of unpaid leave within one year after the employee notifies the District of the loss. An employee may elect to substitute other forms of leave to which the employee is entitled for the leave provided under the Child Extended Bereavement Leave Act.

Leave of Absence Without Pay

The Board of Education has sole discretion to grant a leave of absence without pay to tenured professional staff members who have rendered satisfactory service and desire to return to employment in a similar capacity at a time determined by the Board of Education.

Each leave of absence shall be of the shortest possible duration required to meet the leave's purpose consistent with a reasonable continuity of instruction for students.

The granting of leave in one instance shall not constitute a precedent for any other application. All leave applications shall be in writing, in sufficient detail to describe the nature of the desired leave, and submitted in advance to the Superintendent or designee.

Leaves for Service in the Military

Leaves for service in the U.S. Armed Services or any of its reserve components and the National Guard, as well as re-employment rights, will be granted in accordance with State and Federal law. A professional staff member hired to replace one in military service does not acquire tenure.

General Assembly

5:250

Leaves for service in the General Assembly, as well as re-employment rights, will be granted in accordance with State and federal law. A professional staff member hired to replace one in the General Assembly does not acquire tenure.

Leave for Employment in Department of Defense

The Board of Education may grant professional staff members a leave of absence to accept employment in a Dept. of Defense overseas school.

School Visitation Leave

An eligible professional staff member is entitled to eight hours during any school year, no more than four hours of which may be taken on any given day, to attend school conferences, behavioral meetings, or academic meetings related to the teacher's child, if the conference or meeting cannot be scheduled during non-work hours. Professional staff members must first use all accrued vacation leave, personal leave, compensatory leave, and any other leave that may be granted to the professional staff member, except sick, and disability leave.

The Superintendent shall develop administrative procedures implementing this policy consistent with the School Visitation Rights Act.

Leaves for Victims of Domestic Violence, Sexual Violence, Gender Violence, or Other Crime of Violence

An unpaid leave from work is available to any staff member who: (1) is a victim of domestic violence, sexual violence, gender violence, or any other crime of violence or (2) has a family or household member who is a victim of such violence whose interests are not adverse to the employee as it relates to the domestic violence, sexual violence, gender violence, or any other crime of violence. The unpaid leave allows the employee to seek medical help, legal assistance, counseling, safety planning, and other assistance, and to grieve and attend to matters necessitated by the death of a family or household member who is killed in a crime of violence, without suffering adverse employment action.

The Victims' Economic Security and Safety Act (VESSA) governs the purpose, requirements, scheduling, and continuity of benefits, and all other terms of the leave. Accordingly, if the District employs at least 50 employees, and subject to any exceptions in VESSA, an employee is entitled to a total of 12 work weeks of unpaid leave during any 12-month period. Neither the law nor this policy creates a right for an employee to take unpaid leave that exceeds the unpaid leave time allowed under, or is in addition to the unpaid leave time permitted by, the federal Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 ([29 U.S.C. §2601](#) *et seq.*).

Leave to Serve as an Election Judge

Any staff member who was appointed to serve as an election judge under State law may, after giving at least 20-days' written notice to the District, be absent without pay for the purpose of serving as an election judge. The staff member is not required to use any form of paid leave to serve as an election judge. No more than 10% of the District's employees may be absent to serve as election judges on the same Election Day.

COVID-19 Paid Administrative Leave

When applicable, paid administrative leave related to COVID-19 will be granted to eligible employees in accordance with State law.

Family Neonatal Intensive Care Leave [PRESSPlus2](#)

An unpaid leave from work is available to any staff member whose child [PRESSPlus3](#) is a patient in a neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) in accordance with the requirements of the Family Neonatal Intensive Care Leave Act. If the District employs at least 51 employees, an employee is entitled to a total of 20 days of unpaid leave while a child of the employee is a patient in a NICU. [Q1](#) The District may require reasonable verification of the employee's child's length of stay in a NICU. [PRESSPlus4](#)

LEGAL REF.:

[105 ILCS 5/10-20.83, 5/24-6, 5/24-6.1, 5/24-6.2, 5/24-6.3, 5/24-13, and 5/24-13.1.](#)

[10 ILCS 5/13-2.5](#), Election Code.

[330 ILCS 61/](#), Service Member Employment and Reemployment Rights Act.

[820 ILCS 147/](#), School Visitation Rights Act.

[820 ILCS 154/](#), Family Bereavement Leave Act.

[820 ILCS 156/](#), Child Extended Bereavement Leave Act.

[820 ILCS 157/](#), Family Neonatal Intensive Care Leave Act.

[820 ILCS 180/](#), Victims' Economic Security and Safety Act.

CROSS REF.: 5:180 (Temporary Illness or Temporary Incapacity), 5:185 (Family and Medical Leave), 5:330 (Sick Days, Vacation, Holidays, and Leaves)

Adopted: January 22, 2024

Questions and Answers:

***Required Question 1. A district that employs 50 or fewer employees may substitute the following sentence: "If the District employs at least 16 but not more than 50 employees, an employee is entitled to a total 10 days of unpaid leave while a child of the employee is a patient in a NICU." 820 ILCS 157/10, added by P.A. 104-259, eff. 6-1-26. A district that employs 15 or fewer employees is not subject to the requirements of 820 ILCS 157/. If the district employs 15 or fewer employees, it may choose to delete this subhead.

How many employees are employed by the district, including part-time workers?

51 or more full- or part-time employees. (Default)

50 or fewer full- or part-time employees. (IASB will substitute the following sentence: "If the District employs at least 16 but not more than 50 employees, an employee is entitled to a total 10 days of unpaid leave while a child of the employee is a patient in a NICU.")

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. Updated for continuous improvement. A covered family member includes a spouse
5:250

under 105 ILCS 154/5. **Issue 121, March 2026**

PRESSPlus 2. Updated in response to 820 ILCS 157/1, added by P.A. 104-259, eff. 6-1-26. This leave is separate from FMLA leave, and an employer must allow the employee to take the leave in addition to FMLA leave. The term *employee* includes part-time workers. **Issue 121, March 2026**

PRESSPlus 3. *Child* means an employee's son or daughter who is a biological, adopted, or foster child, a stepchild, a legal ward, or a child of a person standing in loco parentis. **Issue 121, March 2026**

PRESSPlus 4. An employer may not request confidential information protected by the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act or other law when asking for reasonable verification. Consult the board attorney for guidance on acceptable forms of verification. **Issue 121, March 2026**

Document Status: Draft Update

Section 5 - GENERAL PERSONNEL

5:330 Sick Days, Vacation, Holidays, and Leaves

Sick Days

Full-time educational support personnel who work at least 600 hours per year receive 10 paid sick leave days per year for the first three consecutive years of full-time service. Beginning the fourth year of service an employee receives 20 sick days a year. Part-time employees will receive prorated sick leave. Unused sick leave shall accumulate to a maximum of 240 days.

Any full-time educational support personnel hired after July 1, 2007 who work at least 600 hours per year receive 10 paid sick leave days per year for every consecutive year of full-time service. Unused sick leave shall accumulate to a maximum of 240 days. This policy is the District's written plan allowing eligible employees to convert eligible accumulated sick leave to service credit upon a District employee's retirement under the Ill. Municipal Retirement Fund.

Sick leave is defined in State law as personal illness, or as may be deemed necessary in other cases, mental or behavioral complications, quarantine at home, serious illness or death in the immediate family or household, or birth, adoption, placement for adoption, or the acceptance of a child in need of foster care. The Superintendent or designee shall monitor the use of sick leave.

As a condition for paying sick leave after three days absence for personal illness or as the Board or Superintendent deem necessary in other cases, the Board or Superintendent may require that the staff member provide a certificate from: (1) a physician licensed in Illinois to practice medicine and surgery in all its branches, (2) a mental health professional licensed in Illinois providing ongoing care or treatment to the staff member, (3) a chiropractic physician licensed under the Medical Practice Act, (4) a licensed advanced practice registered nurse, (5) a licensed physician assistant who has been delegated the authority to perform health examinations by his or her supervising physician, or (6) if the treatment is by prayer or spiritual means, a spiritual adviser or practitioner of the employee's faith. If the Board or Superintendent requires a certificate during a leave of less than three days for personal illness, the District shall pay the expenses incurred by the employee.

Employees are entitled to use up to 30 days of paid sick leave because of the birth of a child that is not dependent on the need to recover from childbirth. Such days may be used at any time within the 12-month period following the birth of the child. Intervening periods of nonworking days or school not being in session, such as breaks and holidays, do not count towards the 30 working school days. As a condition of paying sick leave beyond the 30 working school days, the Board or the Superintendent may require medical certification.

For purposes of adoption, placement for adoption, or acceptance of a child in need of foster care, paid sick leave may be used for reasons related to the formal adoption or the formal foster care process prior to taking custody of the child or accepting the child in need of foster care, and for taking custody of the child or accepting the child in need to foster care. Such leave is limited to 30 days, unless a longer leave is provided in an applicable collective bargaining agreement, and need not be used consecutively once the formal adoption or foster care process is underway. The Board or Superintendent may require that the employee provide evidence that the formal adoption or foster

care process is underway.

Family and Medical Leave Act ("FMLA") leave is normally unpaid. The Board may always designate an employee's qualifying leave as *FMLA* leave. In the case of any *FMLA* leave, all policies and rules regarding the use of paid sick leave apply when paid leave is substituted for unpaid *FMLA* leave. However, any substitution of sick leave for unpaid *FMLA* leave will count against the employee's *FMLA* leave entitlement. In cases of the birth of the employee's child or the employee's adoption of a child, the employee may elect to substitute his/her accrued paid sick leave for unpaid *FMLA* leave as permitted by the *FMLA* and the *Illinois School Code*. Use of compensated *FMLA* leave shall not preclude the use of other applicable unpaid leave that will extend the employee's leave beyond twelve (12) weeks, provided that the use of *FMLA* leave shall not serve to extend such other unpaid leave.

Vacation

Full-time, twelve-month employees hired on or after July 1, 2007 shall be eligible for paid vacation days based upon the fiscal year of July 1 to June 30 according to the following schedule:

<u>Length of Employment</u>		<u>Earned Per Month Accumulation</u>	<u>Maximum Vacation Leave Earned Per Year</u>
From initial employment	To June 30	0.83 Days	As earned up to 10 days
Beginning July 1	End of year 3	1.0 Days	12 Days per year
Beginning of year 4	End of year 7	1.25 Days	15 Days per year
Beginning of year 8	End of employment	1.67 Days	20 Days per year

Full-time twelve month employees hired prior to July 1, 2007 shall be eligible for paid vacation days according to the following schedule, except that days in the first and last year of employment shall be prorated:

<u>Length of Employment</u>	<u>Eligible Vacation Days</u>
Initial to Year 5	10
Years 6 to 10	15
Year 11 and after	20

Vacation days earned in one fiscal year must be used by November 1 of the following fiscal year; they do not accumulate. Employees resigning or whose employment is terminated are entitled to the monetary equivalent of all earned vacation.

Holidays

Unless the District has a waiver or modification of the School Code pursuant to [Section 2-3.25g](#) or [24-2\(b\)](#) allowing it to schedule school on a legal school holiday listed below, District staff members who are employed for twelve months shall be entitled to the following, paid holidays:

New Year's Day	Columbus Day (Indigenous Peoples' Day)
Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday	Veterans Day*
Abraham Lincoln's Birthday or President's Day	2024 <u>General Election Day, when required by law</u> PRESSPlus1
Memorial Day	Thanksgiving Day and the Day after
Independence Day	Christmas Eve
Labor Day	Christmas Day
Juneteenth National Freedom Day	New Year's Eve

When student attendance is designated on holidays for which the District has a waiver on file with the Illinois State Board of Education, 12-month employees in attendance will receive holiday pay.

The day before Thanksgiving will be a half-day of work. *If Veterans Day is a day of school attendance, then the day before Thanksgiving (if a non-attendance day for students) shall be a paid holiday.

If Christmas Day and New Year's Day fall on a Saturday or Sunday, a compensatory holiday date shall be scheduled.

The District may require educational support personnel to work on a school holiday during an emergency or for the continued operation and maintenance of facilities or property.

Personal Leave

Full-time educational support personnel have two paid personal leave days per year (based on a fiscal year of July 1 to June 30) provided, however, employees hired between January 1 and June 30 shall receive one day. The use of two personal days is subject to the following conditions:

1. Except in cases of emergency or unavoidable situations, a personal leave request should be submitted to the Building Principal three days before the requested date.
2. No personal leave day may be used immediately before or immediately after a holiday, or during the first and/or last five days of the school year, unless the Superintendent grants prior approval.
3. Personal leave may not be used in increments of less than one-half day.
4. Personal leave is subject to any necessary replacement's availability.
5. Personal leave may not be used on an in-service training day.
6. Personal leave may not be used when the employee's absence would create an undue hardship.
7. Vacation, sick leave and personal benefits shall be prorated during the first and last years of employment if necessary.

8. In the case of an unforeseen emergency, the Superintendent may, in his/her sole discretion, permit an employee to use one day of sick leave for personal reasons during the school year.

Leaves for Service in the Military and General Assembly

Educational support personnel receive military and General Assembly leaves on the same terms and conditions granted professional staff.

Bereavement Leave

Educational support personnel receive bereavement leave on the same terms and conditions granted professional staff.

School Visitation Leave

Educational support personnel receive school visitation leave on the same terms and conditions granted professional staff.

Leaves for Victims of Domestic Violence, Sexual Violence, Gender Violence, or Other Crime of Violence

Educational support personnel receive a leave for victims of domestic violence, sexual violence, gender violence, or other crime of violence on the same terms and conditions granted professional staff.

Leave to Serve as a Trustee of the Ill. Municipal Retirement Fund

Upon request, the Board will grant 20 days of paid leave of absence per year to a trustee of the Ill. Municipal Retirement Fund in accordance with State law.

Unexcused Absence

An unexcused absence may be considered a breach of contract.

Family Bereavement Leave

Educational support personnel receive family bereavement leave on the same terms and conditions granted professional staff.

Child Extended Bereavement Leave

Educational support personnel receive child extended bereavement leave on the same terms and conditions granted professional staff.

Leave to Serve as an Election Judge

Educational support personnel receive a leave to serve as an election judge on the same terms and conditions granted professional staff.

COVID-19 Paid Administrative Leave

Educational support personnel receive COVID-19 paid administrative leave on the same terms and conditions granted professional staff.

Family Neonatal Intensive Care Leave [PRESSPlus2](#)

Educational support personnel family neonatal intensive care leave on the same terms and conditions granted professional staff.

LEGAL REF.:

[105 ILCS 5/10-20.7b](#), [5/10-20.83](#), [5/24-2](#), [5/24-6](#), and [5/24-6.3](#).

[330 ILCS 61/](#), Service Member Employment and Reemployment Rights Act.

[820 ILCS 147/](#), School Visitation Rights Act.

[820 ILCS 154/](#), Family Bereavement Leave Act.

[820 ILCS 156/](#), Child Extended Bereavement Leave Act.

[820 ILCS 157/](#), Family Neonatal Intensive Care Leave Act.

[820 ILCS 180/](#), Victims' Economic Security and Safety Act.

School Dist 151 v. ISBE, 154 Ill.App.3d 375 (1st Dist. 1987); *Elder v. Sch. Dist. No.127 1/2*, 60 Ill.App.2d 56 (1st Dist. 1965).

CROSS REF.: 5:180 (Temporary Illness or Temporary Incapacity), 5:185 (Family and Medical Leave), 5:250 (Leaves of Absence)

ADOPTED: January 17, 2017

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REVISED: February 19, 2018; June 17, 2019; January 21, 2020; October 19, 2020; February 16, 2021; August 16, 2021; February 22, 2022; January 23, 2023; January 22, 2024; May 20, 2024

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. The General Assembly passed legislation adding General Election Day as a school holiday for 2020, 2022, and 2024. Language referring to a General Election holiday when required by law is maintained in this policy should this practice continue. **Issue 121, March 2026**

PRESSPlus 2. Updated in response to 820 ILCS 157/, added by P.A. 104-259, eff. 6-1-26. See policy 5:250, *Leaves of Absence*, for important information about this leave. **Issue 121, March 2026**

Section 6 - INSTRUCTION**6:60 Curriculum Content**

The curriculum shall contain instruction on subjects required by State statute or regulation as follows:

1. In kindergarten through grade 8, subjects include: (a) language arts, (b) reading, (c) other communication skills, (d) science, (e) mathematics, (f) social studies, (g) art, and (h) music. A reading opportunity of 60 minutes per day will be promoted for all students in kindergarten through grade 3 whose reading levels are one grade level or more lower than their current grade level. Daily time of at least 30 minutes (with a minimum of at least 15 consecutive minutes if divided) will be provided for supervised, unstructured, child-directed play for all students in kindergarten through grade 5. Before the completion of grade 5, students will be offered at least one unit of cursive instruction. In grades 6, 7, or 8, students must receive at least one semester of civics education in accordance with Illinois Learning Standards for social science.
2. In all schools, drug and alcohol abuse prevention education, including: (a) in each year in grades K through 4, age- and developmentally appropriate instruction, study, and discussion of effective methods for the prevention and avoidance of drugs and the dangers of opioid and substance abuse, (b) in grades 5 through 8, age- and developmentally appropriate classroom instruction on alcohol and drug use and abuse, (c) in grades 6-8, the dangers of fentanyl, and (d) in grades 7 and 8, anabolic steroid abuse prevention, which must also be taught in interscholastic athletic programs.
3. In kindergarten through grade 8, provided it can be funded by private grants or the federal government, violence prevention and conflict resolution including: (a) causes of conflict, (b) consequences of violent behavior, (c) non-violent resolution, and (d) relationships between drugs, alcohol, and violence. In addition, anti-bias education and intergroup conflict resolution may be taught as an effective method for preventing violence and lessening tensions in schools; these prevention methods are most effective when they are respectful of individuals and their divergent viewpoints and religious beliefs, which are protected by the [First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States](#).
4. In grades kindergarten through 8, through the 2026-2027 school year, age-appropriate Internet safety must be taught, the scope of which shall be determined by the Superintendent or designee. The curriculum must incorporate Board policy 6:235, *Access to Electronic Networks*, and, at a minimum, include: (a) education about appropriate online behavior, (b) interacting with other individuals on social networking websites and in chat rooms, and (c) cyberbullying awareness and response.
5. Beginning in the fall of 2027, in grades 3-8 each year, age- and developmentally appropriate instruction on online safety.
6. In all grades, students must receive developmentally appropriate opportunities to gain computer literacy skills that are embedded in the curriculum.
7. In all grades, instruction on behaviors that violate Board policy 7:180, *Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment*.
8. In all schools, citizenship values including: (a) American patriotism, (b) principles of representative government (the American Declaration of Independence, the Constitution of the United States of America and the Constitution of the State of Illinois), (c) proper use and display of the American flag, and (d) the Pledge of Allegiance.
9. In all grades, physical education must be taught including a developmentally planned and sequential curriculum that fosters the development of movement skills, enhances health-related fitness, increases students' knowledge, offers opportunities to learn how to work cooperatively in a group setting, and encourages healthy habits and attitudes for a healthy lifestyle. Unless otherwise exempted, all students are required to engage in a physical education course with such frequency as determined by the Board after recommendation from the Superintendent, but at a minimum of three days per five-day week or the equivalent when permitted by the Illinois State Board of Education. For exemptions and substitutions, see Board policy 7:260, *Exemption from Physical Education*.

10. In all schools, health education must be stressed, including: (a) human ecology, health, growth, development, personal health habits, and nutrition, (b) family life, (c) prevention and control of disease, (d) age- and developmentally appropriate and evidence-informed sexual abuse and assault awareness and prevention education in all grades, (e) public health, environmental health, disaster preparedness, and safety education, (f) mental health and illness, (g) dental health, (h) cancer education, and (i) age- and developmentally appropriate consent education. The Superintendent shall implement a comprehensive health education program in accordance with State law, including a personal health and safety and sexual health education program (National Sex Education Standards) pursuant to [105 ILCS 5/27-1015](#).
11. In all schools, abduction education that addresses the danger of and avoidance of abduction.
12. In all schools, career/vocational education must be taught, including: (a) the importance of work, (b) the development of basic skills to enter the world of work and/or continue formal education, (c) good work habits and values, (d) the relationship between learning and work, and (e) if possible, a student work program that provides the student with work experience as an extension of the regular classroom. A career awareness and exploration program must be available at all grade levels. In grades 6-8, students engage in career exploration and career development activities to prepare them to make informed plans and decisions about their future education and career goals.
13. In all schools, environmental education, including instruction on: (a) the current problems and needs in the conservation of natural resources and (b) beginning in the fall of 2026, instruction on climate change.
14. In all schools, instruction as determined by the Superintendent or designee on United States (U.S.) history must be taught, including: (a) the principles of representative government, (b) the Constitutions of the U.S. and Illinois, (c) the role of the U.S. in world affairs, (d) the role of labor unions, (e) the role and contributions of ethnic groups, including but not limited to, African Americans, Albanians, Asian Americans, Bohemians, Czechs, French, Germans, Hispanics (including the events related to the forceful removal and illegal deportation of Mexican-American U.S. citizens during the Great Depression), Hungarians, Irish, Italians, Lithuanians, Polish, Russians, Scots, and Slovaks in the history of this country and State, (f) a study of the roles and contributions of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) people in the history of the U.S. and Illinois, (g) Illinois history, (h) the contributions made to society by Americans of different faith practices, including, but not limited to, Muslim Americans, Jewish Americans, Christian Americans, Hindu Americans, Sikh Americans, Buddhist Americans, and any other collective community of faith that has shaped America, (i) Native American nations' sovereignty and self-determination, both historically and in the present day, with a focus on urban Native Americans, and (j) the events of the Native American experience and Native American history within the Midwest and Illinois since time immemorial in accordance with [105 ILCS 5/27-20.05](#).

In addition, all schools shall hold an educational program on the United States Constitution on Constitution Day, each September 17, commemorating the September 17, 1787 signing of the Constitution. However, when September 17 falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or holiday, Constitution Day shall be held during the preceding or following week.

15. In all schools, the curriculum includes instruction as determined by the Superintendent or designee on the Holocaust and crimes of genocide, including Nazi atrocities of 1933-1945, the Native American genocide in North America, Armenian Genocide, the Famine-Genocide in Ukraine, and more recent atrocities in Cambodia, Bosnia, Rwanda, and Sudan.
16. In all schools, the curriculum includes instruction as determined by the Superintendent or designee on the history, struggles, and contributions of women.
17. In all schools, the curriculum includes instruction as determined by the Superintendent or designee on Black History, including the history of the pre-enslavement of Black people from 3,000 BCE to AD 1619, the African slave trade, slavery in America, the study of the reasons why Black people came to be enslaved, the vestiges of slavery in this country, the study of the American civil rights renaissance, as well as the struggles and contributions of African-Americans.
18. In all schools, instruction during courses as determined by the Superintendent or designee on disability history, awareness, and the disability rights movement.

19. In all schools, instruction as determined by the Superintendent or designee on the events of Asian American history, including the history of Asian Americans in Illinois and the Midwest, as well as the contributions of Asian Americans toward advancing civil rights from the 19th century onward, which must include the contributions made by individual Asian Americans in government and the arts, humanities, and sciences, as well as the contributions of Asian American communities to the economic, cultural, social, and political development of the United States.

USE IT
NEW → 20. In kindergarten through grade 8, education must be available to students concerning effective methods of preventing and avoiding traffic injuries related to walking and bicycling.

LEGAL REF.:

AMBIGUOUS Pub. L. No. 108-447, Section 111 of Division J, Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2005.

(# 21) Pub. L. No. 110-385, Title II, 122 stat. 4096 (2008), Protecting Children in the 21st Century Act.

IEE 47 C.F.R. §54.520.

5 ILCS 465/3 and 465/3a.

ATTACHED 20 ILCS 2605/2605-480.

105 ILCS 5/2-3.80(e) and (f), 5/10-20.79, 5/10-20.84, 5/10-23.13, 5/22-110, 5/27-105, 5/27-110, 5/27-115, 5/27-210, 5/27-215, 5/27-245, 5/27-250, 5/27-255, 5/27-260, 5/27-305, 5/27-310, 5/27-315, 5/27-405, 5/27-410 (scheduled for repeal on 7-1-27), 5/27-415 (scheduled for repeal on 7-1-27), 5/27-505, 5/27-510, 5/27-515, 5/27-520, 5/27-525, 5/27-530, 5/27-535, 5/27-540, 5/27-545, 5/27-605, 5/27-705, 5/27-710, 5/27-715, 5/27-720, 5/27-725, 5/27-810, 5/27-815, and 5/27-1050.

105 ILCS 435/, Vocational Education Act.

625 ILCS 5/6-408.5, Ill. Vehicle Code.

23 Ill.Admin.Code §§1.420, 1.425, 1.430, and 1.440.

CROSS REF.: 4:165 (Awareness and Prevention of Child Sex Abuse and Grooming Behaviors), 6:20 (School Year Calendar and Day), 6:40 (Curriculum Development), 6:70 (Teaching About Religions), 6:235 (Access to Electronic Networks), 7:180 (Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment), 7:185 (Teen Dating Violence Prohibited), 7:190 (Student Behavior), 7:260 (Exemption from Physical Education)

ADOPTED: February 17, 2026

River Forest Public Schools District 90

Board Policy 6:60

21. Students in grade 8 will visit Memorial Hall in Roosevelt School as part of their study of the First World War.

Document Status: Draft Update

Section 6 - INSTRUCTION

6:65 Student Social and Emotional Development

Social and Emotional Learning ~~Learning~~ ^{PRESSPlus1} (SEL) is defined as the process through which students enhance their ability to integrate thinking, feeling, and behaving to achieve important life tasks. Students competent in SEL are able to recognize and manage their emotions, establish healthy relationships, set positive goals, meet personal and social needs, and make responsible and ethical decisions.

The Superintendent shall incorporate SEL into the District's curriculum and other educational programs consistent with the District's mission and the goals and benchmarks of the Ill. Learning Standards. The Ill. Learning Standards include three goals for students:

1. Develop self-awareness and self-management skills to achieve school and life success.
2. Use social awareness and interpersonal skills to establish and maintain positive relationships.
3. Demonstrate decision-making skills and responsible behaviors in personal, school, and community contexts.

LEGAL REF.:

~~Children's Mental Health Act~~, 405 ILCS 49/ Children's Mental Health Act.

CROSS REF.: 1:30, (School District Philosophy), 6:10 (Educational Philosophy and Objectives), 6:40 (Curriculum Development), 6:60 (Curriculum Content), 6:270 (Guidance and Social Work), 7:100 (Health, Eye, and Dental Examinations; Immunizations; and Exclusion of Students), 7:180 (Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment), 7:250 (Student Support Services)

Adopted: January 23, 2023

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. Updated throughout for continuous improvement. **Issue 121, March 2026**

Document Status: Draft Update

Section 6 - INSTRUCTION

6:100 Using Animals in the Educational Program

Animals may be brought onto District premises for educational purposes according to procedures developed by the Superintendent that assure that (a) there are no children, known to the District, in a given building, where animals are to be brought, whose health will be adversely affected by the presence of such animals, and (b) the animal is appropriately housed, humanely cared for, and properly handled. In such instances where any student's health may be adversely affected by the presence of animals, appropriate measures shall be taken to eliminate any risk to the student.

Animal Experiments

Experiments on living animals are prohibited; however, behavior studies that do not impair an animal's health or safety are permissible.

Animal Dissection

The dissection of dead animals or parts of dead animals shall be allowed in the classroom only when the dissection exercise contributes to or is a part of an illustration of pertinent study materials. All dissection of animals shall be confined to the classroom and must comply with the School Code.

Students who object to performing, participating in, or observing the dissections of animals may be excused from classroom attendance without penalty during times when such activities are taking place. No student will be penalized or disciplined for refusing to perform, participate in, or observe a dissection. The Superintendent or designee shall inform students of (1) their right to refrain from performing, participating in, or observing dissection, (2) which courses contain a dissection unit, and (3) confirm in advance with the Principal which of those courses offers an alternative project.

LEGAL REF.:

105 ILCS 5/2-3.122 ~~and 5/27-265.14, and 112/4-et seq.~~ [PRESSPlus1](#)

105 ILCS 5/112. Dissection Alternatives Act.

CROSS REF.: 6:40 (Curriculum Development)

Adopted: August 16, 2021

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. The Legal References are updated in response to 105 ILCS 5/27-265, renumbered by P.A. 104-391, and for continuous improvement. **Issue 121, March 2026**

Document Status: Draft Update

Section 6 - INSTRUCTION

6:145 Migrant Students

The Superintendent will develop and implement a program to address the needs of migrant children in the District in accordance with federal law.

This program will:

1. Identify migrant students and assess their educational and related health and social needs.
2. Provide a full range of services to migrant students through appropriate local, State, and federal educational programs, including applicable Title I programs, special education, gifted education, vocational education, language programs, counseling programs, and elective classes.
3. Provide migrant ~~children~~ students ^{PRESSPlus1} with full and appropriate opportunities to meet the same challenging State academic standards that all children are expected to meet.
4. Provide, to the extent feasible:
 - a. Advocacy and outreach programs to migrant children and their families, including helping such children and families gain access to other education, health, nutrition, and social services,
 - b. Professional development programs, including mentoring, for District staff,
 - c. Family literacy programs, and
 - d. The integration of information technology into educational and related programs.
 - e. ~~Provide~~ programs, activities, and procedures for the engagement of parents/guardians and family members of migrant students in an understandable format and language.

Migrant Education Program for Parent/Guardian and Family Member Engagement

Parents/guardians and family members of migrant students will be involved in and regularly consulted about the development, implementation, operation, and evaluation of the migrant program.

Parents/guardians and family members of migrant students will receive instruction regarding their role in improving the academic achievement of their children.

LEGAL REF.:

[20 U.S.C. §6318.](#)

[20 U.S.C. §6391](#) *et seq.*, Education of Migratory Children.

[34 C.F.R. §200.81](#) *et seq.*

CROSS REF.: 6:170 (Title I Programs)

Adopted: August 16, 2021

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. Updated throughout in response to a PRESS five-year review. PRESS Editors have a quality assurance goal to ensure that a review of each piece of the 1500+ page IASB PRESS Policy Reference Manual occurs once every five years. **Issue 121, March 2026**

Document Status: Draft Update

Section 6 - INSTRUCTION

6:170 Title I Programs

The Superintendent or designee shall pursue funding under Title I, Improving the Academic Achievement of the Disadvantaged, of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, to supplement instructional services and activities in order to improve the educational opportunities of educationally disadvantaged or deprived children.

All District schools, regardless of whether they receive Title I funds, shall provide services that, taken as a whole, are substantially comparable. Teachers, administrators, and other staff shall be assigned to schools in a manner that ensures equivalency among the District's schools. Curriculum materials and instructional supplies shall be provided in a manner that ensures equivalency among the District's schools.

Title I Parent and Family Engagement

The District maintains programs, activities, and procedures for the engagement of parents/guardians and families of students receiving services, or enrolled in programs, under Title I. These programs, activities, and procedures are described in District-level and School-level ~~compact plans~~ [PRESSPlus1](#)

District-Level Parent and Family Engagement Plan ~~Compact~~

The Superintendent or designee shall develop a District-Level Parent and Family Engagement Plan ~~Compact~~ (District Plan) according to Title I requirements. ~~This District Plan~~ Level Parent and Family Engagement Compact shall contain: (1) the District's expectations for parent and family engagement, (2) specific strategies for effective parent and family engagement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance, and (3) other provisions as required by federal law. The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that the District Plan ~~Compact~~ is distributed to parents/guardians of students receiving services, or enrolled in programs, under Title I.

School-Level Parent and Family Engagement Plan ~~Compact~~

Each Building Principal or designee shall develop a School-Level Parent and Family Engagement Plan ~~Compact~~ (School Plan) according to Title I requirements. This School Plan ~~Level Parent and Family Engagement Compact~~ shall contain: (1) a process for continually involving parents/guardians in its development and implementation, (2) how parents/guardians, the entire school staff, and students share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement, (3) the means by which the school and parents/guardians build and develop a partnership to help children achieve the State's high standards, and (4) other provisions as required by federal law. Each Building Principal or designee shall ensure that the School Plan ~~Compact~~ is distributed to parents/guardians of students receiving services, or enrolled in programs, under Title I.

Incorporated

by Reference: 6:170-AP1, E1 (District-Level Parent and Family Engagement Plan ~~Compact~~) and

6:170-AP1, E2 (School-Level Parent and Family Engagement Plan Compact)

LEGAL REF.:

~~Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act~~, 20 U.S.C. §§6301-6514, Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act.

CROSS REF.: 2:260 (Uniform Grievance Procedure), 4:110 (Transportation), 5:190 (Teacher Qualifications), 5:280 (Duties and Qualifications), 6:15 (School Accountability), 6:140 (Education of Homeless Children), 6:145 (Migrant Students), 6:160 (English Learners), 7:10 (Equal Educational Opportunities), 7:30 (Student Assignment), 7:60 (Residence), 7:100 (Health, Eye, and Dental Examinations; Immunizations; and Exclusion of Students), 8:95 (Parental Involvement)

Adopted: August 16, 2021

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. To comply with the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), a board must incorporate by reference the district's exhibits 6:170-AP1, E1, *District-Level Parent and Family Engagement Plan*, and 6:170-AP1, E2, *School-Level Parent and Family Engagement Plan*. These exhibits, which

have both been renamed to more closely align with federal statutes and guidance and terminology used by ISBE, contain all legally required components and are compatible with sample templates contained in the U.S. Dept. of Education's non-regulatory guidance titled Parent and Family Engagement (2025), at: www.ed.gov/media/document/parent-and-family-engagement-guidance-2025-109202.pdf.

Districts receiving a Title I, Part A allocation that are required to submit proof of parent and family engagement (PFE) compliance to the Ill. State Board of Education (ISBE) as part of their FY 2027 Consolidated District Plan (CDP) will need to submit this adopted policy and both exhibits 6:170-AP1, E1 and 6:170-AP1, E2. **Please note that the plans must be customized to reflect the district's actual Title I parent and family engagement activities.** At the end of March, ISBE will offer a recorded webinar on CDPs that will include additional information on Title I requirements. **Issue 121, March 2026**

Document Status: Draft Update

Section 7 - STUDENTS

7:20 Harassment of Students Prohibited

No person, including a ~~School~~ District employee, agent, or student, shall harass, intimidate, or bully a student on the basis of actual or perceived: race; color; national origin; military status; unfavorable discharge status from military service; sex; sexual orientation; gender identity; gender-related identity or expression; ancestry; age; religion; physical or mental disability; order of protection status; status of being homeless; actual or potential marital or parental status, including pregnancy; physical appearance; socioeconomic status; academic status; association with a person or group with one or more of the aforementioned actual or perceived characteristics; or any other distinguishing characteristic. The District will not tolerate harassing, intimidating conduct, or bullying whether verbal, physical, sexual, or visual, that affects the tangible benefits of education, that unreasonably interferes with a student's educational performance, or that creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive educational environment. Examples of prohibited conduct include name-calling, using derogatory slurs, stalking, sexual violence, causing psychological harm, threatening or causing physical harm, threatened or actual destruction of property, or wearing or possessing items depicting or implying hatred or prejudice of one of the characteristics stated above.

Sexual Harassment Prohibited

The District shall provide an educational environment free of verbal, physical, or other conduct or communications constituting harassment on the basis of sex as defined and otherwise prohibited by State and federal law. See Board policies 2:265, *Title IX Grievance Procedure*, and 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*.

Making a Report or Complaint

Students are encouraged to promptly report claims or incidents of bullying, intimidation, harassment, sexual harassment, or any other prohibited conduct to the Nondiscrimination Coordinator, Building Principal, Assistant Building Principal, Dean of Students, a Complaint Manager, or any employee with whom the student is comfortable speaking.

Reports under this policy will be considered a report under Board policy 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*, and/or Board policy 2:265, *Title IX Grievance Procedure*. The Nondiscrimination Coordinator, Title IX Coordinator, and/or Complaint Manager or designee shall process and review the report according to the appropriate grievance procedure.

The Superintendent shall insert into this policy the names, office addresses, email addresses, and telephone numbers of the District's current Nondiscrimination Coordinator, Title IX Coordinator, and Complaint Managers.

Nondiscrimination Coordinator:

Edward Condon, Superintendent.
7776 Lake Street, River Forest, IL 60305
condone@district90.org

Title IX Coordinator:

Edward Condon, Superintendent.
7776 Lake Street, River Forest, IL 60305
condone@district90.org

708/771-8282

708/771-8282

Complaint Managers:

Dr. Christine Trendel,

Anthony Cozzi,

Director of Curriculum and Instruction

Chief Operations Officer

7776 Lake Street, River Forest, IL 60305

7776 Lake Street, River Forest, IL 60305

trendelc@district90.org

cozzia@district90.org

708/771-8282

708/771-8282

The Superintendent shall use reasonable measures to inform staff members and students of this policy by including:

1. For students, age-appropriate information about the contents of this policy in the District's student handbook(s), on the District's website, and, if applicable, in any other areas where policies, rules, and standards of conduct are otherwise posted in each school.
2. For staff members, this policy in the appropriate employee handbook(s), if applicable, and/or in any other areas where policies, rules, and standards of conduct are otherwise made available to staff.

Investigation Process

Any District employee who receives a report or complaint of harassment must promptly forward the report or complaint to the Nondiscrimination Coordinator, Title IX Coordinator, or a Complaint Manager. Any employee who fails to promptly comply may be disciplined, up to and including discharge.

Reports and complaints of harassment will be confidential to the greatest extent practicable, subject to the District's duty to investigate and maintain an educational environment that is productive, respectful, and free of unlawful discrimination, including harassment.

For any report or complaint alleging sexual harassment that, if true, would implicate Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 ([20 U.S.C. §1681 et seq.](#)), the Title IX Coordinator or designee shall consider whether action under Board policy 2:265, *Title IX Grievance Procedure*, should be initiated.

For any report or complaint alleging harassment on the basis of race, color, or national origin, the Nondiscrimination Coordinator or a Complaint Manager or designee shall investigate under Board policy 2:270, *Discrimination and Harassment on the Basis of Race, Color, and National Origin Prohibited*.

For any other alleged student harassment that does not require action under Board policies 2:265, *Title IX Grievance Procedure*, or 2:270, *Discrimination and Harassment on the Basis of Race, Color, and National Origin Prohibited*, the Nondiscrimination Coordinator or a Complaint Manager or designee shall consider whether an investigation under Board policies 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*, and/or 7:190, *Student Behavior*, should be initiated, regardless of whether a written report or complaint is filed.

Reports That Involve Alleged Incidents of Sexual Abuse of a Child by School Personnel

An *alleged incident of sexual abuse* is an incident of sexual abuse of a child, as defined in [720 ILCS 5/11-9.1A\(b\)](#), that is alleged to have been perpetrated by school personnel, including a school vendor or volunteer, that occurred: on school grounds during a school activity; or outside of school grounds or not during a school activity.

Any complaint alleging an incident of sexual abuse shall be processed and reviewed according to Board policy 5:90, *Abused and Neglected Child Reporting*. In addition to reporting the suspected abuse, the complaint shall also be processed under Board policy 2:265, *Title IX Grievance Procedure*, or Board policy 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*.

Enforcement

Any District employee who is determined, after an investigation, to have engaged in conduct prohibited by this policy will be subject to disciplinary action up to and including discharge. Any third party who is determined, after an investigation, to have engaged in conduct prohibited by this policy will be addressed in accordance with the authority of the Board in the context of the relationship of the third party to the District, e.g., vendor, parent/guardian, invitee, etc. Any District student who is determined, after an investigation, to have engaged in conduct prohibited by this policy will be subject to disciplinary action, including but not limited to, suspension and expulsion consistent with the behavior policy. Any person making a knowingly false accusation regarding prohibited conduct will likewise be subject to disciplinary action.

Retaliation Prohibited

Retaliation against any person for bringing complaints or providing information about harassment is prohibited (see Board policies 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*, 2:265, *Title IX Grievance Procedure*, and 2:270, *Discrimination and Harassment on the Basis of Race, Color, and National Origin Prohibited*).

Students should report allegations of retaliation to the Building Principal, an administrator, the Nondiscrimination Coordinator, and/or a Complaint Manager.

LEGAL REF.:

[20 U.S.C. §1681](#) et seq., Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972; [34 C.F.R. Part 106](#).

[29 U.S.C. §791](#) et seq., Rehabilitation Act of 1973; [34 C.F.R. Part 104](#).

[42 U.S.C. §2000d](#), Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; [34 C.F.R. Part 100](#).

105 ILCS 5/10-20.12, 5/10-22.5, 5/10-23.13, [5/22-110](#), 5/26A, and 5/27-1, ~~and 5/27-23.7~~. [PRESSPlus1](#)

[775 ILCS 5/1-101](#) et seq., Illinois Human Rights Act.

[23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.240](#) and [Part 200](#).

[Davis v. Monroe County Bd. of Educ.](#), 526 U.S. 629 (1999).

[Franklin v. Gwinnett Co. Public Schs.](#), 503 U.S. 60 (1992).

[Gebser v. Lago Vista Independent Sch. Dist.](#), 524 U.S. 274 (1998).

[West v. Derby Unified Sch. Dist. No. 260](#), 206 F.3d 1358 (10th Cir. 2000).

CROSS REF.: 2:260 (Uniform Grievance Procedure), 2:265 (Title IX Grievance Procedure), 2:270 (Discrimination and Harassment on the Basis of Race, Color, and National Origin Prohibited), 4:165 (Awareness and Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse and Grooming Behaviors), 5:20 (Workplace Harassment Prohibited), 5:90 (Abused and Neglected Child Reporting), 5:120 (Employee Ethics; Code of Professional Conduct; and Conflict of Interest), 7:10 (Equal Educational Opportunities), 7:180 (Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment), 7:185 (Teen Dating Violence Prohibited), 7:190 (Student Behavior), 7:240 (Conduct Code for Participants in Extracurricular Activities), 7:255 (Students Who are Parents, Expectant Parents, or Victims of Domestic or Sexual Violence)

Adopted: July 15, 2025

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. The Legal References are updated in response to 105 ILCS 5/22-110, renumbered by P.A. 104-391. **Issue 121, March 2026**

Document Status: Draft Update

Section 7 - STUDENTS

7:50 School Admissions and Student Transfers To and From Non-District Schools

Age

To be eligible for admission, a child must be 5 years old on or before September 1 of the applicable school term. Based upon an assessment of a child's readiness to attend school, the District may permit him or her to attend school prior to these dates. A child will also be allowed to attend first grade based upon an assessment of his or her readiness if he or she attended a non-public preschool, continued his or her education at that school through kindergarten, was taught in kindergarten by an appropriately licensed teacher, and will be 6 years old on or before December 31. A child with exceptional needs who qualifies for special education services is eligible for admission at 3 years of age. Early entrance to kindergarten or first grade may also be available through Board policy 6:135, *Accelerated Placement Program*.

A child who had not attained the age of six (6) years on or before the standard entrance age of the current school year (before September 1), even though he/she has attended the District's kindergarten program, an out-of-district public kindergarten or an approved out-of-District private kindergarten, must be assessed by the Superintendent or designee to determine the child's readiness to attend first grade which shall include, unless waived by the Superintendent or designee, a trial period in the District's kindergarten program of not more than six (6) weeks. After such assessment by the Superintendent or designee, the child may be placed in the first grade at the discretion of the Superintendent or designee, if in his/her opinion, the age, maturity, and achievement of the child warrants such placement.

Effective July, 2019, a child who is 6 years old on or before September 1 of the current school year must attend first grade, unless the child's IEP team or Section 504 team determines a different grade placement. Parents/guardians may request that a child attend the District's kindergarten program even though the child is required to attend first grade based on his/her age. The Superintendent or designee shall assess the child's academic and developmental levels and take into consideration whether the child attended the District's kindergarten program, and out-of-District public kindergarten or a private kindergarten program. The Superintendent or designee may require the child attend a trial period in the first grade for a period of not more than six (6) weeks as part of the assessment. The Superintendent or designee will make the final decision concerning appropriate grade level for the child.

Nothing in this Policy prohibits an accelerated placement of a child as provided in this Policy.

Admission Procedure

All students must register for school each year on the dates and at the place designated by the Superintendent.

Parents/guardians of students enrolling in the District for the first time must present:

Replace
with
new
content

~~New paragraph~~

1. An original birth certificate or a certified copy of the student's birth certificate. If a birth certificate is not presented, the Superintendent or designee shall notify in writing the person enrolling the student that within 30 days he or she must provide a certified copy of the student's birth certificate. A student will be enrolled without a birth certificate. When a certified copy of the birth certificate is presented, the school shall promptly make a copy for its records, place the copy in the student's permanent record, and return the certified copy to the person enrolling the child. If a person enrolling a student fails to provide a certified copy of the student's birth certificate, the Building Principal shall notify the local law enforcement agency and shall also notify the person enrolling the student in writing that, unless he or she complies within 10 days, the case shall be referred to the local law enforcement authority for investigation. If compliance is not obtained within that 10-day period, the Principal shall so refer the case. The Principal shall immediately report to the local law enforcement authority any material received pursuant to this paragraph that appears inaccurate or suspicious in form or content.
2. Proof of residence, as required by Board policy 7:60, *Residence*.
3. Proof of disease immunization or detection and the required physical examination, as required by State law and Board policy 7:100, *Health, Eye, and Dental Examinations, Immunizations, and Exclusion of Students*.

The individual enrolling a student shall be given the opportunity to voluntarily state whether the student has a parent or guardian who is a member of a branch of the U.S. Armed Forces and who is either deployed to active duty or expects to be deployed to active duty during the school year. Students who are children of active duty military personnel transferring will be allowed to enter: (a) the same grade level in which they studied at the school from which they transferred, if the transfer occurs during the District's school year, or (b) the grade level following the last grade completed.

Homeless Children

Any homeless child shall be immediately admitted, even if the child or child's parent/guardian is unable to produce records normally required for enrollment.

Foster Care Students

The Superintendent will appoint at least one employee to act as a liaison to facilitate the enrollment and transfer of records of students in the legal custody of the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) when enrolling in or changing schools. The District's liaison ensures that DCFS' Office of Education and Transition Services receives all written notices and records pertaining to students in the legal custody of DCFS as required by State law.

Student Transfers To and From Non-District Schools

A student may transfer into or out of the District according to State law and procedures developed by the Superintendent or designee. A student seeking to transfer into the District must serve the entire term of any suspension or expulsion, imposed for any reason by any public or private school, in this or any other state, before being admitted into the School District.

LEGAL REF.:

[8 U.S.C. §1101](#) *et seq.*, Illegal Immigrant and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996.

[20 U.S.C. §1232g](#), Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act.

[20 U.S.C. §1400](#) *et seq.*, Individuals With Disabilities Education Improvement Act.

[29 U.S.C. §794](#), Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 504.

[42 U.S.C. §11431](#) *et seq.*, McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act.

[105 ILCS 5/2-3.13a](#), [5/10-20.12](#), [5/10-20.59](#), [5/10-22.5a](#), [5/14-1.02](#), [5/14-1.03a](#), [5/22-105](#), [5/26-1](#),
~~and 5/26-2, and 5/27-8.1.~~ [PRESSPlus1](#)

[105 ILCS 10/8.1](#), Ill. School Student Records Act.

[105 ILCS 45/](#), Education for Homeless Children Act.

[105 ILCS 70/](#), Educational Opportunity for Military Children Act.

[325 ILCS 50/](#), Missing Children Records Act.

[325 ILCS 55/](#), Missing Children Registration Law.

[410 ILCS 315/2](#), Communicable Disease Prevention Act.

[20 Ill.Admin.Code Part 1290](#), Missing Person Birth Records and School Registration.

[23 Ill.Admin.Code Part 226](#), Special Education.

[23 Ill.Admin.Code Part 375](#), Student Records.

CROSS REF.: 4:110 (Transportation); 6:135 (Accelerated Placement Program), 6:140 (Education of Homeless Children), 7:60 (Residence), 7:70 (Attendance and Truancy), 7:100 (Health Examinations, Immunizations, and Exclusion of Students), 7:340 (Student Records)

REVISED: ~~January 16, 2018; August 20, 2018;~~ January 23, 2023

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. The Legal References are updated in response to 105 ILCS 5/22-105, titled *Health examinations and immunizations* (formerly 105 ILCS 5/27-8.1), renumbered by P.A. 104-391. **Issue 121, March 2026**

A child is ordinarily eligible for kindergarten if they are 5 years old on or before September 1 of the school term. The Superintendent or designee may allow early entrance based on an assessment of the child's readiness, consistent with Board Policy 6:135, *Accelerated Placement Program*. Children with exceptional needs who qualify for special education services may enroll at 3 years of age.

A child who is not yet 6 years old on or before September 1 may be placed in first grade if the Superintendent or designee determines that the child's age, maturity, and achievement support this placement. The decision will be based on:

- Results of a readiness assessment (required)
- Additional factors that may be considered:
 - Prior attendance in public or private preschool or kindergarten
 - Whether the child was taught by an appropriately licensed teacher
 - Whether the child will turn 6 on or before December 31

The Superintendent or designee may require a trial period in kindergarten of up to 6 weeks.

A child who is 6 years old on or before September 1 will ordinarily attend first grade unless the child's IEP or Section 504 team determines a different placement. Parents/guardians may request kindergarten placement for such a child. The Superintendent or designee will consider:

- Results of a readiness assessment (required)
- Additional factors that may be considered:
 - Whether the child attended public or private kindergarten
 - Whether the child was taught by an appropriately licensed teacher
 - Whether the child will turn 7 on or before December 31

The Superintendent or designee may require a trial period in first grade of up to 6 weeks.

Document Status: Draft Update

Section 7 - STUDENTS

7:100 Health, Eye, and Dental Examinations; Immunizations; and Exclusion of Students

Required Health Examinations and Immunizations

A student's parents/guardians shall present proof that the student received a health examination, with proof of the immunizations against, and screenings for, preventable communicable diseases, as required by the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH), within one year prior to:

1. Entering kindergarten or the first grade;
2. Entering the sixth grade; and
3. Enrolling in an Illinois school, regardless of the student's grade (including nursery school, special education, Head Start programs operated by elementary or secondary schools, and students transferring into Illinois from out-of-state or out-of-country).

Proof of immunization against meningococcal disease is required for students in grade 6.

As required by State law:

1. The required health examinations must be performed by a physician licensed to practice medicine in all of its branches, an advanced practice registered nurse, or a physician assistant who has been delegated the performance of health examinations by a supervising physician.
2. A diabetes screening is a required part of each health examination; diabetes testing is not required.
3. An age-appropriate developmental screening and an age-appropriate social and emotional screening are required parts of each health examination. A student will not be excluded from school due to his or her parent/guardian's failure to obtain a developmental screening or a social and emotional screening.
4. Before admission and in conjunction with required physical examinations, parents/guardians of children between the ages of one and seven years must provide a statement from a physician that their child was risk-assessed or screened for lead poisoning.
5. The IDPH will provide all students entering sixth grade and their parents/guardians information about the link between human papillomavirus (HPV) and HPV-related cancers and the availability of the HPV vaccine.
6. The District will provide informational materials regarding influenza and influenza vaccinations developed, provided, or approved by the IDPH when it provides information on immunizations, infectious diseases, medications, or other school health issues to students' parents/guardians.

Unless an exemption or extension applies, the failure to comply with the above requirements by October 15 of the current school year will result in the student's exclusion from school until the required health forms are presented to the District. Students transferring from out of state or new students who register after October 15 of the current school year shall have 30 days following registration to comply with the health examination and immunization regulations. If a medical reason prevents a student from

receiving a required immunization by October 15, the student must present, by October 15, an immunization schedule and a statement of the medical reasons causing the delay signed by the physician, advanced practice registered nurse, physician assistant, or local health department responsible for administering the immunizations.

A student transferring from out-of-state who does not have the required proof of immunizations by October 15 may attend classes only if he or she has proof that an appointment for the required vaccinations is scheduled with a party authorized to submit proof of the required vaccinations. If the required proof of vaccination is not submitted within 30 days after the student is permitted to attend classes, the student may no longer attend classes until proof of the vaccinations is properly submitted.

Eye Examination

Parents/guardians are encouraged to have their children undergo an eye examination whenever health examinations are required.

Parents/guardians of students entering kindergarten or an Illinois school for the first time shall present proof before October 15 of the current school year that the student received an eye examination within one year prior to entry of kindergarten or the school. A physician licensed to practice medicine in all of its branches, or a licensed optometrist, must perform the required eye examination.

If a student fails to present proof by October 15, the school may hold the student's report card until the student presents proof: (1) of a completed eye examination, or (2) that an eye examination will take place within 60 days after October 15. The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that parents/guardians are notified of this eye examination requirement in compliance with the rules of the IDPH. Schools shall not exclude a student from attending school due to failure to obtain an eye examination.

Dental Examination

All children in kindergarten and the second and sixth grades must present proof of having been examined by a licensed dentist before May 15 of the current school year in accordance with rules adopted by the IDPH.

If a child in the second or sixth grade fails to present proof by May 15, the school may hold the child's report card until the child presents proof: (1) of a completed dental examination, or (2) that a dental examination will take place within 60 days after May 15. The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that parents/guardians are notified of this dental examination requirement at least 60 days before May 15 of each school year.

Exemptions

In accordance with rules adopted by the IDPH, a student will be exempted from this policy's requirements for:

1. Religious grounds, if the student's parents/guardians present the IDPH's Certificate of Religious Exemption form to the Superintendent or designee. When a Certificate of Religious Exemption form is presented, the Superintendent or designee shall immediately inform the parents/guardians of exclusion procedures pursuant to Board policy 7:280, *Communicable and Chronic Infectious Disease*, and State rules if there is an outbreak of one or more diseases from which the student is not protected.
2. Health examination or immunization requirements on medical grounds, if the examining physician, advanced practice registered nurse, or physician assistant provides written verification.

3. Eye examination requirement, if the student's parents/guardians show an undue burden or lack of access to a physician licensed to practice medicine in all of its branches who provides eye examinations or a licensed optometrist.
4. Dental examination requirement, if the student's parents/guardians show an undue burden or a lack of access to a dentist.

Homeless Child

Any homeless child shall be immediately admitted, even if the child or child's parent/guardian is unable to produce immunization and health records normally required for enrollment. Board policy 6:140, *Education of Homeless Children*, governs the enrollment of homeless children.?

LEGAL REF.:

[42 U.S.C. §11431](#) *et seq.*, McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act.

105 ILCS 5/27-8.122-105, and [PRESSPlus1](#)

[105 ILCS 45/1-20, Education for Homeless Children Act.](#)

[410 ILCS 4/75.1](#), Lead Poisoning Prevention Act.

[410 ILCS 315/2e](#), Communicable Disease Prevention Act.

[23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.530](#).

[77 Ill. Admin.Code Part 664](#), Socio-Emotional and Developmental Screening.

[77 Ill.Admin.Code Part 665](#), Child and Student Health Examination and Immunization.

[77 Ill.Admin.Code Part 690](#), Control of Notifiable Diseases and Conditions Code.

CROSS REF.: 6:140 (Education of Homeless Children), 7:50 (School Admissions and Student Transfers To and From Non-District Schools), 7:280 (Communicable and Chronic Infectious Disease)

Adopted: January 21, 2025

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. The Legal References are updated in response to 105 ILCS 5/22-105, titled *Health examinations and immunizations* (formerly 105 ILCS 5/27-8.1), renumbered by P.A. 104-391. **Issue 121, March 2026**

Document Status: Draft Update

Section 7 - STUDENTS

7:185 Teen Dating Violence Prohibited

Engaging in teen dating violence that takes place at school, on school property, at school-sponsored activities, or in vehicles used for school-provided transportation is prohibited. For purposes of this policy, ~~the term~~ *teen dating violence* occurs whenever a student who is 11 to 19 years of age uses or threatens to use physical, mental, or emotional abuse to control an individual in the dating relationship; or uses or threatens to use sexual violence in the dating relationship.

The Superintendent or designee shall develop and maintain a program to respond to incidents of teen dating violence that:

1. Fully implements and enforces each of the following Board policies:
 - a. 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*. This policy provides a method for any student, parent/guardian, employee, or community member to file a complaint if he or she believes that the School Board, its employees, or its agents have violated his or her rights under the State or federal Constitution, State or federal statute, Board policy, or various enumerated bases.
 - b. 2:265, *Title IX Grievance Procedure*. This policy prohibits a District employee, agent, or student from engaging in sexual harassment in violation of Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972. Prohibited conduct includes but is not limited to sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking.
 - c. 7:20, *Harassment of Students Prohibited*. This policy prohibits any person, including a District employee, agent, or student, from harassing intimidating, or bullying a student based on the student's actual or perceived characteristics of sex; sexual orientation; gender identity; and gender-related identity or expression (this policy includes more protected statuses).
 - d. 7:180, *Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment*. This policy prohibits students from engaging in bullying, intimidation, and harassment at school, school-related events and electronically. Prohibited conduct includes threats, stalking, physical violence, sexual harassment, sexual violence, theft, public humiliation, destruction of property, or retaliation for asserting or alleging an act of bullying.
2. Encourages anyone with information about incidents of teen dating violence to report them to any of the following individuals:
 - a. Any school staff member. School staff shall respond to incidents of teen dating violence by following the District's established procedures for the prevention, identification, investigation, and response to bullying and school violence.
 - b. The Nondiscrimination Coordinator, Building Principal, Assistant Building Principal, or a Complaint Manager identified in policy 7:20, *Harassment of Students Prohibited*.
3. Incorporates age-appropriate instruction, in accordance with the District's comprehensive health education program in Board policy 6:60, *Curriculum Content*. This includes incorporating student social and emotional development into the District's educational program as required by State law and in alignment with Board policy 6:65, *Student Social and Emotional Development*.

4. incorporates education for school staff, as recommended by the Nondiscrimination Coordinator, Building Principal, Assistant Building Principal, Dean of Students, or a Complaint Manager.
5. Notifies students and parents/guardians of this policy.

Incorporated

by Reference: 7:180-AP1, (Prevention, Identification, Investigation, and Response to Bullying)

LEGAL REF.:

105 ILCS 5/27-240~~140/2:10~~. [PRESSPlus1](#)

CROSS REF.: 2:240 (Board Policy Development), 2:260 (Uniform Grievance Procedure), 2:265 (Title IX Grievance Procedure), 5:100 (Staff Development Program), 5:230 (Maintaining Student Discipline), 6:60 (Curriculum Content), 6:65 (Student Social and Emotional Development), 7:20 (Harassment of Students Prohibited), 7:180 (Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment), 7:190 (Student Behavior), 7:220 (Bus Conduct), 7:230 (Misconduct by Students with Disabilities), 7:240 (Conduct Code for Participants in Extracurricular Activities)

Adopted: July 15, 2025

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. The Legal References are updated in response to 105 ILCS 5/27-240, renumbered by P.A. 104-391. **Issue 121, March 2026**

Document Status: Review and Monitoring

Section 7 - STUDENTS

7:220 Bus Conduct

All students must follow the District's *School Bus Safety Rules*. [PRESSPlus1](#)

School Bus Suspensions

Gross disobedience or misconduct providing grounds for suspension from riding the school bus includes:

1. Prohibited student conduct as defined in Board of Education policy 7:190, *Student Behavior*.
2. Willful injury or threat of injury to a bus driver or to another rider.
3. Willful and/or repeated defacement of the bus.
4. Repeated use of profanity.
5. Repeated willful disobedience of the bus driver's or other supervisor's directives.
6. Such other behavior as the administration deems to threaten the safe operation of the bus and/or its occupants.

Academic Credit for Missed Classes During School Bus Suspension

A student suspended from riding the bus who does not have alternate transportation to school shall have the opportunity to complete or make up work for equivalent academic credit. It shall be the responsibility of the student's parent or guardian to notify the school that the student does not have alternate transportation.

Electronic Recordings on School Buses

Electronic visual and audio recordings may be used on school buses to monitor conduct and to promote and maintain a safe environment for students and employees when transportation is provided for any school related activity. Notice of electronic recordings shall be displayed on the exterior of the vehicle's entrance door and front interior bulkhead in compliance with State law and the rules of the Illinois Department of Transportation, Division of Traffic Safety.

Discipline Procedure

The District's regular suspension procedures shall be used to suspend a student's privilege to ride a school bus.

LEGAL REF.:

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, [20 U.S.C. §1232g](#); [34 C.F.R. Part 99](#).

[105 ILCS 5/10-20.14](#), [5/10-22.6](#), and [10/](#).

[720 ILCS 5/14-3\(m\)](#).

[23 Ill.Admin.Code Part 375](#), Student Records.

CROSS REF.: 4:110 (Transportation), 4:170 (Safety), 7:130 (Student Rights and Responsibilities),

7:190 (Student Behavior), 7:200 (Suspension Procedures), 7:230 (Misconduct by Students with Disabilities), 7:340 (Student Records)

Adopted: August 16, 2021

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. This policy is suggested to be reviewed by the Board. According to policy 2:240, *Board Policy Development*, "[t]he Board will periodically review its policies for relevancy, monitor its policies for effectiveness, and consider whether any modifications are required." IASB suggests that each policy in the Board's policy manual be reviewed at a minimum of every five years. As part of the review, the Board may choose to:

- Compare the adopted version to the current PRESS sample (available at PRESS Online by logging in at www.iasb.com), discussing any differences and/or options noted in the footnotes to determine whether local changes are necessary
- Update the policy language due to changes in local conditions
- Make no changes, but update the adoption date to reflect that the policy has been reviewed and re-adopted

Issue 121, March 2026

Document Status: Review and Monitoring

Section 7 - STUDENTS

7:230 Misconduct by Students with Disabilities

Behavioral Interventions [PRESSPlus1](#)

Behavioral interventions shall be used with students with disabilities to promote and strengthen desirable behaviors and reduce identified inappropriate behaviors. The Board of Education will establish and maintain a committee to develop, implement, and monitor procedures on the use of behavioral interventions for children with disabilities, in compliance with current legal guidelines.

Discipline of Special Education Students

The District shall comply with the Individuals With Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004 and the Illinois State Board of Education's *Special Education* rules when disciplining special education students. No special education student shall be expelled if the student's particular act of gross disobedience or misconduct is a manifestation of his or her disability.

LEGAL REF.:

Individuals With Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004, [20 U.S.C. §§1412, 1413, and 1415](#).

Gun-Free Schools Act, [20 U.S.C. §7151](#) *et seq.*

[34 C.F.R. §§300.101, 300.530 - 300.536](#).

[105 ILCS 5/10-22.6](#) and [5/14-8.05](#).

[23 Ill.Admin.Code §226.400](#).

[Honig v. Doe](#), 108 S.Ct. 592 (1988).

CROSS REF.: 2:150 (Committees), 6:120 (Education of Children with Disabilities), 7:130 (Student Rights and Responsibilities), 7:190 (Student Behavior), 7:200 (Suspension Procedures), 7:210 (Expulsion Procedures), 7:220 (Bus Conduct)

Adopted: August 16, 2021

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. This policy is suggested to be reviewed by the Board. According to policy 2:240, *Board Policy Development*, "[t]he Board will periodically review its policies for relevancy, monitor its policies for effectiveness, and consider whether any modifications are required." IASB suggests that each policy in the Board's policy manual be reviewed at a minimum of every five years. As part of the review, the Board may choose to:

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Issue 121, March 2026

Document Status: Draft Update

Section 7 - STUDENTS

7:240 Conduct Code for Participants in Extracurricular Activities

who fail

The Superintendent or designee, using input from coaches and sponsors of extracurricular activities, shall develop a conduct code for all participants in extracurricular activities consistent with Board policy and the rules adopted by any association in which the School District maintains a membership. The conduct code shall: (1) require participants in extracurricular activities to conduct themselves as good citizens and exemplars of their school at all times, including after school, on days when school is not in session, and whether on or off school property; (2) emphasize that hazing and bullying activities are strictly prohibited; and (3) notify participants ~~that failure to abide by it could result in discipline, up to and including removal from the activity.~~ Participants who violate the conduct code will be allowed to give an explanation before being progressively disciplined. The conduct code shall be reviewed by the Building Principal periodically at his or her discretion and presented to the Board of Education.

Participants in extracurricular activities must abide by the conduct code for the activity and Board policy 7:190, *Student Behavior*. All coaches and sponsors of extracurricular activities shall annually review the conduct code with participants and provide participants with a copy. In addition, coaches and sponsors of interscholastic athletic programs shall provide instruction on steroid abuse prevention to students in grades 7 and 8 participating in these programs.

LEGAL REF.:

Mahanoy Area Sch. Dist. v. B.L., 141 S.Ct. 2038 594 U.S. 180 (2021). [PRESSPlus1](#)

Bd. of Educ. of Independent Sch. Dist. No. 92 v. Earls, 536 U.S. 822 (2002).

Vernonia Sch. Dist. 475 v. Acton, 515 U.S. 646 (1995).

Clements v. Bd. of Educ. of Decatur, 133 Ill.App.3d 531 (4th Dist. 1985).

Kevin Jordan v. O'Fallon THSD 203, 302 Ill.App.3d 1070 (5th Dist. 1999).

Todd v. Rush County Schs., 133 F.3d 984 (7th Cir. 1998).

105 ILCS 5/24-24; and 5/27-255(d) 23.3, and 25/2.

CROSS REF.: 5:280 (Duties and Qualifications), 6:190 (Extracurricular and Co-Curricular Activities), 7:180 (Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment), 7:190 (Student Behavior), 7:300 (Extracurricular Athletics)

Adopted: February 22, 2022

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. The Legal References are updated in response to 105 ILCS 5/27-255(d), renumbered by P.A. 104-391, and for continuous improvement. **Issue 121, March 2026**

Document Status: Draft Update

Section 7 - STUDENTS

7:260 Exemption from Physical Education

In order to be excused from participation in physical education, a student must present an appropriate excuse from his or her parent/guardian or from a person licensed under the Medical Practice Act. The excuse may be based on medical or religious prohibitions. An excuse because of medical reasons must include a signed statement from a person licensed under the Medical Practice Act that corroborates the medical reason for the request. An excuse based on religious reasons must include a signed statement from a member of the clergy that corroborates the religious reason for the request. Upon written notice from a student's parent/guardian, a student will be excused from engaging in the physical activity components of physical education during a period of religious fasting.

Special activities in physical education will be provided for a student whose physical or emotional condition, as determined by a person licensed under the Medical Practice Act, prevents his or her participation in the physical education course.

State law prohibits the Board from honoring parental excuses based upon a student's participation in athletic training, activities, or competitions conducted outside the auspices of the School District.

A student who is eligible for special education may be excused from physical education courses in either of the following situations:

1. He or she (a) is in grades 3-8, (b) his or her IEP requires that special education support and services be provided during physical education time, and (c) the parent/guardian agrees or the IEP team makes the determination; or
2. He or she (a) has an IEP, (b) is participating in an adaptive athletic program outside of the school setting, and (c) the parent/guardian documents the student's participation as required by the Superintendent or designee.

A student requiring adapted physical education must receive that service in accordance with his or her Individualized Educational Program/Plan (IEP).

Students in grades 7 and 8 may submit a written request to the Building Principal to be excused from physical education courses because of his or her ongoing participation in an interscholastic or extracurricular athletic program. The Building Principal will evaluate requests on a case-by-case basis.

The Superintendent or designee shall maintain records showing that the criteria set forth in this policy were applied to the student's individual circumstances, as appropriate.

Students who have been excused from physical education shall return to the course as soon as practical. The following considerations will be used to determine when a student shall return to a physical education course:

1. The time of year when the student's participation ceases; and
2. The student's class schedule.

LEGAL REF.:

105 ILCS 5/27-710~~6~~. [PRESSPlus1](#)

[225 ILCS 60/](#), Medical Practice Act.

[23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.420\(p\)](#) and [§1.425\(d\)](#), (e).

CROSS REF.: 6:60 (Curriculum Content), 6:310 (High School Credit for Non-District Experiences; Course Substitutions; Re-Entering Students)

Adopted: February 22, 2022

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. The Legal References are updated in response to 105 ILCS 5/27-710, renumbered by P.A. 104-391. **Issue 121, March 2026**

Document Status: Review and Monitoring

Section 7 - STUDENTS

7:280 Communicable and Chronic Infectious Disease

A student with or carrying a communicable and/or chronic infectious disease has all rights, privileges, and services provided by law and the District's policies. The Superintendent will develop procedures for communicable and chronic infectious diseases. [PRESSPlus1](#)

LEGAL REF.:

[105 ILCS 5/10-21.11.](#)

[23 Ill.Admin.Code §§ 1.610](#) and [226.300.](#)

[77 Ill.Admin.Code Part 690.](#)

[20 U.S.C. §1400](#) *et seq.*, Individuals With Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004.

[29 U.S.C. §794\(a\)](#), Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 504.

Adopted: August 16, 2021

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. This policy is suggested to be reviewed by the Board. According to policy 2:240, *Board Policy Development*, "[t]he Board will periodically review its policies for relevancy, monitor its policies for effectiveness, and consider whether any modifications are required." IASB suggests that each policy in the Board's policy manual be reviewed at a minimum of every five years. As part of the review, the Board may choose to:

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- Update the policy language due to changes in local conditions
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Issue 121, March 2026

Document Status: Draft Update

Section 7 - STUDENTS

7:300 Extracurricular Athletics

Student participation in school-sponsored extracurricular athletic activities is contingent upon the following:

1. The student must meet the academic criteria set forth in Board policy 6:190, *Extracurricular and Co-Curricular Activities*.
2. A parent/guardian of the student must provide written permission for the student's participation, giving the District full waiver of responsibility of the risks involved.
3. The student must present a current certificate of physical fitness issued by a licensed physician, an advanced practice registered nurse, or a physician assistant. The **Pre-Participation Physical Examination Form**, offered by the Illinois High School Association and the Illinois Elementary School Association, is the preferred certificate of physical fitness.
4. The student must have accident insurance coverage by an insurance [PRESSPlus1](#) policy purchased through the District-approved insurance plan or a parent/guardian provide written statement or proof that the student is covered under a family insurance ~~plan~~ policy.
5. The student must agree to follow all conduct rules and the coaches' instructions.
6. The student and his or her parent(s)/guardian(s) must: (a) comply with the eligibility rules of, and complete any forms required by, any sponsoring association (such as, the Illinois Elementary School Association, the Illinois High School Association, or the Southern Illinois Junior High School Athletic Association), and (b) complete all forms required by the District including, without limitation, signing an acknowledgment of receiving information about ~~the Board's concussion~~ policy 7:305, *Student Athlete Concussions and Head Injuries*.

The Superintendent or designee (1) is authorized to impose additional requirements for a student to participate in extracurricular athletics, provided the requirement(s) comply with Board policy 7:10, *Equal Educational Opportunities*, and (2) shall maintain the necessary records to ensure student compliance with this policy.

LEGAL REF.:

105 ILCS 5/10-20.30, ~~and 5/22-80, and 25/2.~~ [PRESSPlus2](#)

[23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.530\(b\).](#)

CROSS REF.: 4:170 (Safety), 6:190 (Extracurricular and Co-Curricular Activities), 7:10 (Equal Educational Opportunities), 7:20 (Harassment of Students Prohibited), 7:240 (Conduct Code for Participants in Extracurricular Activities), 7:305 (Student Concussions and Head Injuries), 7:340 (Student Records)

Adopted: September 16, 2025

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. Updated throughout for continuous improvement. **Issue 121, March 2026**

PRESSPlus 2. The Legal References are updated. **Issue 121, March 2026**

Document Status: Draft Update

Section 8 - COMMUNITY RELATIONS

8:90 Parent Organizations

Parent organizations are invaluable resources to the District's schools. While parent organizations have no administrative authority and cannot determine District Board [PRESSPlus1](#) policy, the Board of Education welcomes their suggestions and assistance.

Parent organizations that are recognized by the Board of Education and may be granted a non-assignable, revocable license to use the District's name, a District school's name, ~~or~~ a District school's team name, or any logo attributable to the District provided they first receive the Superintendent or designee's express written consent. Consent to use one of the above-mentioned names or logos will generally be granted if the organization has by-laws or other organizational documents containing the following:

1. Identification of the organization's name, purpose consistent with the District's mission and policies; such as, to enhance students' educational experiences, to help meet educational needs of students, to provide extra athletic benefits to students, to assist specific sports teams, fine arts organizations, or academic clubs through financial support, or to enrich extracurricular activities;
2. Reasonable and non-discriminatory rules and procedures under which it operates;
3. An agreement to adhere to all Board policies and administrative procedures;
4. A statement that membership is open and unrestricted, meaning that membership is open to all parents/guardians of students enrolled in the school, District staff, and community members;
5. A statement that the District is not, and will not be, responsible for the organization's business or financial obligations, or the conduct of its members, including on any organization or club websites or social media accounts; and
6. An agreement to maintain and protect its own finances.

Permission to use one of the above-mentioned names or logos may be rescinded at any time for any reason with or without cause, and does not constitute permission to act as the District's representative. The Board of Education's legal obligation to comply with Title IX by providing equal athletic opportunity for members of both genders will supersede an organization's recommendation.

Adopted: August 16, 2021

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. Updated throughout in response to a PRESS five-year review. PRESS Editors have a quality assurance goal to ensure that a review of each piece of the 1500+ page IASB PRESS Policy Reference Manual occurs once every five years. **Issue 121, March 2026**

Document Status: Draft Update - Rewritten

Communications To and From the Board

2:140-E Exhibit - Guidance for Board Member Communications, Including Email Use

The Open Meetings Act (OMA) requires the Board of Education to discuss District business only at a properly noticed Board meeting. [PRESSPlus1](#) 5 ILCS 120/. Other than during a Board meeting, a majority or more of a Board quorum may not engage in contemporaneous interactive communication, whether in person or electronically, to discuss District business. This guidance assumes a Board has seven members and covers issues arising from Board policy 2:140, *Communications To and From the Board*.

Note: *Public records* stored by board members on personal devices (i.e., texts) or personal email accounts pose significant logistical and administrative challenges for public record preservation and certain FOIA requests. It is therefore a best practice for board members to utilize District-issued devices or District-issued email addresses for electronic communications that qualify as public records under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) or the Local Records Act (LRA). For that reason, the examples in this guidance focus primarily on board member email use and District-issued devices.

Communications Between or Among Board Members and/or the Superintendent Outside of a Properly Noticed Board Meeting

1. The Superintendent or designee is permitted to email information to Board members. For example, the Superintendent may email Board meeting agendas and supporting information to Board members. When responding to a single Board member's request, the Superintendent should copy all other Board members and include a do not reply all/forward alert to the group, such as: **"BOARD MEMBER ALERT: This email is in response to a request. Do not reply or forward to the group but only to the sender."** Alternatively, the Superintendent may blind carbon copy (bcc) all other board members (preventing them from replying to all) and include a similar alert to the group, such as: **"BOARD MEMBER ALERT: This email is in response to a request. To prevent replies or forwards to the group, all board members are blind carbon copied on this email. Only reply to the sender."**
2. Board members are permitted to discuss any topic other than District business with each other, whether in person or by telephone, email, text, or other electronic means, regardless of the number of members participating in the discussion. For example, they may discuss sports, work, or current events.
3. Board members are permitted to provide information to each other, whether in person or by telephone, email, text, or other electronic means, that relates to District business but is non-deliberative and non-substantive. Examples of this type of communication include scheduling meetings and confirming receipt of information.
4. A Board member is not permitted to discuss District business with more than one other Board member at a time, whether in person or by telephone, email, text, or other electronic means. Stated another way, a Board member may discuss District business in person or by telephone, email, text, or other electronic means with only one other Board member at a time.

5. A Board member should not facilitate interactive communication by discussing District business in a series of visits with, or telephone calls, emails, texts, or other electronic communications to, Board members individually.
6. A Board member should include a do not reply all/forward alert when emailing a message concerning District business to more than one other Board member. The following is an example of such an alert: **"BOARD MEMBER ALERT: This email is not for interactive discussion purposes. The recipient should not reply to it or forward it to any other individual."** Alternatively, the board member may bcc the other board members and include a similar alert to the other board members, such as **"BOARD MEMBER ALERT: This email is not for interactive discussion purposes. To prevent replies or forwards to the group, all board members are blind carbon copied on this email. The recipient should not reply to it or forward it to another individual."**
7. Board members should not forward email received from another Board member.

When Must the Electronic Communications Sent or Received by Individual Board Members Be Disclosed Pursuant to a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Request?

An electronic communication must be disclosed if it is a public record as defined by FOIA, unless a specific exemption applies. A *public record* is any recorded information "pertaining to the transaction of public business, regardless of physical form or characteristics, having been prepared by or for, or having been or being used by, received by, in the possession of, or under the control of any public body." 5 ILCS 140/2, amended by P.A. 104-438. Public records do not include *junk mail*. Junk mail includes unsolicited commercial electronic communications sent to the District that it does not respond to. Id. Email or other electronic communications sent or received by an individual Board member may be, depending on the content and circumstances, subject to disclosure as a public record (unless a FOIA exemption is applicable).

If a Board member uses a District-provided device or email address to discuss public business, the electronic communication is subject to disclosure under FOIA, barring an applicable exemption. If a Board member uses a private device and email address, the communication is subject to FOIA if it satisfies this test:

First, the communication pertains to the transaction of public business, and

Second, the communication was: (1) prepared by a public body, (2) prepared for a public body, (3) used by a public body, (4) received by a public body, (5) possessed by a public body, and/or (6) controlled by a public body.

This test is from the appellate court decision in City of Champaign v. Madigan, 992 N.E.2d 629 (Ill. App. Ct. 2013).

The following examples describe FOIA's treatment of electronic communications:

1. If an electronic communication does not pertain to public business, it is not a public record and is not subject to a FOIA request.
2. An electronic communication pertaining to public business that is:
 - a. Sent and/or received by an individual Board member using a personal electronic device and personal email address while he or she is at home or work would not be a public record. Individual Board members, alone, cannot conduct school District business. As stated earlier, emails among a majority or more of a Board-quorum violate OMA and, thus, are subject to disclosure during proceedings to enforce OMA.
 - b. Sent and/or received by an individual Board member on a District-issued device or

District-issued email address **will be a public record** and subject to FOIA. The electronic communication is under the control of the District.

- c. Received by an individual Board member on a personal electronic device and then forwarded by the Board member to a District-owned device or server **will be a public record** and subject to FOIA. The electronic communication is under the control of the District.
- d. Received by an individual Board member using a personal electronic device and personal email address, and then forwarded by the Board member to enough members to constitute a majority or more of a Board-quorum **will be a public record** and subject to FOIA. The electronic communication is in the District's possession.
- e. Either sent to or from a Board member's personal electronic device during a Board meeting **will be a public record** and subject to FOIA. The electronic communication is in the District's possession because Board members were functioning collectively as a public body.

The District's Freedom of Information Officer and/or Board Attorney will help determine whether a specific communication must be disclosed pursuant to a FOIA request.

When Must Electronic Communications Be Retained?

Electronic communications that qualify under FOIA as *public records* will need to be stored pursuant to the Local Records Act (LRA), only if it is evidence of the District's organization, function, policies, procedures, or activities or contains informational data appropriate for preservation. 50 ILCS 205/. An example is any email from a Board officer concerning a decision made in his or her capacity as an officer. If a Board member uses his or her personal email, he or she must copy this type of email to the appropriate District office where it will be stored. If made available, Board members should use their email accounts provided by the District, and the District will automatically store the official record messages. The District will delete these official record messages as provided in an applicable, approved **retention schedule**. Of course, email pertaining to public business that is sent or received by a Board Member using a District-issued device or email address will be subject to FOIA, even if the email does not need to be retained under the LRA.

Important: Do not destroy any electronic communication concerning a topic that is being litigated without obtaining the Board Attorney's direction. In federal lawsuits, there is an automatic discovery of virtually all types of electronically created or stored data that might be relevant. Attorneys will generally advise their clients at the beginning of a legal proceeding that they must not destroy any electronic records that might be relevant. This is referred to as a *litigation hold*. For more discussion of a litigation hold, see administrative procedure 2:250-AP2, *Protocols for Record Preservation and Development of Retention Schedules*. In addition, any person who knowingly with the intent to defraud any party destroys, removes, or conceals any public record commits a Class 4 felony. 50 ILCS 205/4.

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. Rewritten for PRESS Plus in response to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), 5 ILCS 140/2, amended by P.A. 104-438, excluding *junk mail* from the definition of *public record*, and for continuous improvement. This exhibit is not a substitute for legal advice. Use it after having a discussion with the board attorney. A redlined version showing the changes made is available at PRESS Online by logging in at www.iasb.com. **Issue 121, March 2026**

Section 4 - OPERATIONAL SERVICES

4:40 Incurring Debt

The Superintendent or designee shall provide notice during the budget process to the Board of Education of the District's need to borrow money. The Superintendent or designee shall prepare all documents and notices necessary for the Board of Education, at its discretion, to: (1) issue State Aid Anticipation Certificates, tax anticipation warrants, working cash fund bonds, bonds, notes, and other evidence of indebtedness, or (2) establish a line of credit with a bank or other financial institution. The Superintendent shall notify the State Board of Education before the District issues any form of long-term or short-term debt that will result in outstanding debt that exceeds 75% of the debt limit specified in State law.

Bond Issue Obligations

In connection with the Board's issuance of bonds, the Superintendent shall be responsible for ensuring the District's compliance with federal securities laws, including the anti-fraud provisions of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended and, if applicable, the continuing disclosure obligations under [Rule 15c2-12](#) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.

Additionally, in connection with the Board's issuance of bonds, the interest on which is excludable from *gross income* for federal income tax purposes, or which enable the District or bond holder to receive other federal tax benefits, the Board authorizes the Superintendent to establish written procedures for post-issuance compliance monitoring for such bonds to protect their tax-exempt (or tax-advantaged) status.

The Board may contract with outside professionals, such as bond counsel and/or a qualified financial consulting firm, to assist it in meeting the requirements of this subsection.

LEGAL REF.:

[15 U.S.C. §77a](#) *et seq.*, Securities Act of 1933.

[15 U.S.C. §78a](#) *et seq.*, Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

[17 C.F.R. §240.15c2-12](#).

[30 ILCS 305/2](#), Bond Authorization Act.

[30 ILCS 352/](#), Bond Issue Notification Act.

[30 ILCS 350/](#), Local Government Debt Reform Act.

[50 ILCS 420/](#), Tax Anticipation Note Act.

[105 ILCS 5/17-16, 5/17-17, 5/18-18, and 5/19-1](#) *et seq.*

CROSS REF.: 4:10 (Fiscal and Business Management)

Adopted: July 17, 2023

Section 4 - OPERATIONAL SERVICES

4:45 Insufficient Fund Checks and Debt Recovery

Insufficient Fund Checks

The Superintendent or designee is responsible for collecting up to the maximum fee authorized by State law for returned checks written to the District which are not honored upon presentation to the respective bank or other depository institution for any reason. The Superintendent or designee is authorized to contact the Board Attorney whenever necessary to collect the returned check amount, fee, collection costs and expenses, and interest.

Delinquent Debt Recovery

The Superintendent is authorized to seek collection of delinquent debt owed the District to the fullest extent of the law.

A Local Debt Recovery Program may be available through the Illinois Office of the Comptroller (IOC). To participate in it, an intergovernmental agreement (IGA) between the District and the IOC must be in existence. The IGA establishes the terms under which the District may refer a delinquent debt to the IOC for an offset (deduction). The IOC may execute an offset, in the amount of the delinquent debt owed to the District, from a future payment that the State makes to an individual or entity responsible for paying the delinquent debt.

The Superintendent or designee shall execute the requirements of the IGA. While executing the requirements of the IGA, the Superintendent or designee is responsible, without limitation, for each of the following:

1. Providing a District-wide, uniform, method of notice and due process to the individual or entity against whom a claim for delinquent debt payment (*claim*) is made. Written notice and an opportunity to be heard must be given to the individual or entity responsible for paying a delinquent debt before the claim is certified to the IOC for offset. The notice must state the claim's amount, the reason for the amount due, the claim's date or time period, and a description of the process to challenge the claim. An individual or entity challenging a claim shall be provided an informal proceeding to refute the claim's existence, amount, or current collectability; the decision following this proceeding shall be reviewable. If a waiver of student fees is requested as a challenge to paying the claim, and the waiver of student fees is denied, an appeal of the denial of a fee waiver request shall be handled according to 4:140, *Waiver of Student Fees*. If no waiver of student fees is requested, reviews regarding payment of the claim shall be handled according to this policy before certification to the IOC for offset.
2. Certifying to the IOC that the debt is past due and legally enforceable, and notifying the IOC of any change in the status of an offset claim for delinquent debt.
3. Responding to requests for information from the IOC to facilitate the prompt resolution of any administrative review requests received by the IOC.

LEGAL REF.:

[15 ILCS 405/10.05](#) and [10.05d](#), State Comptroller Act.

[105 ILCS 123/](#), Hunger-Free Students' Bill of Rights Act.

[810 ILCS 5/3-806](#), Uniform Commercial Code.

Adopted: September 18, 2023

River Forest Public Schools District 90

Section 4 - OPERATIONAL SERVICES

4:55 Use of Credit and Procurement Cards

The Superintendent and employees designated by the Superintendent are authorized to use District credit and procurement cards to simplify the acquisition, receipt, and payment of purchases and travel expenses incurred on the District's behalf. Credit and procurement cards shall only be used for those expenses that are for the District's benefit and serve a valid and proper public purpose; they shall not be used for personal purchases. Cardholders are responsible for exercising due care and judgment and for acting in the District's best interests.

The Superintendent or designee shall manage the use of District credit and procurement cards by employees. It is the Board's responsibility, through the audit and approval process, to determine whether District credit and procurement card use by the Superintendent is appropriate.

In addition to the other limitations contained in this and other Board policies, District credit and procurement cards are governed by the following restrictions:

1. Credit and/or procurement cards may only be used to pay certain job-related expenses or to make purchases on behalf of the Board or District or any student activity fund, or for purposes that would otherwise be addressed through a conventional revolving fund.
2. The Superintendent or designee shall instruct the issuing bank to block the cards' use at unapproved merchants.
3. Each cardholder, other than the Superintendent, may charge no more than \$1500 in a single purchase and no more than \$3500 within a given month without prior authorization from the Superintendent.
4. The Superintendent or designee must approve the use of a District credit or procurement card whenever such use is by telephone, fax, and the Internet. Permission shall be withheld when the use violates any Board policy, is from a vendor whose reputation has not been verified, or would be more expensive than if another available payment method were used.
5. The consequences for unauthorized purchases include, but are not limited to, reimbursing the District for the purchase amount, loss of cardholding privileges, and, if made by an employee, discipline up to and including discharge.
6. All cardholders must sign a statement affirming that they are familiar with this policy.
7. The Superintendent shall implement a process whereby all purchases using a District credit or procurement card are reviewed and approved by someone other than the cardholder or someone under the cardholder's supervision whenever possible.
8. Cardholders must submit the original, itemized receipt to document all purchases.
9. No individual may use a District credit or procurement card to make purchases in a manner contrary to State law, including, but not limited to, the bidding and other purchasing requirements in [105 ILCS 5/10-20.21](#), or any Board policy.
10. The Superintendent or designee shall account for any financial or material reward or rebate offered by the company or institution issuing the District credit or procurement card and shall ensure that it is used for the District's benefit.

LEGAL REF.:

[105 ILCS 5/10-20.21](#).

[23 Ill.Admin.Code §100.70\(d\)](#).

CROSS REF.: 4:50 (Payment Procedures), 4:60 (Purchases and Contracts), 4:80 (Accounting and Audits), 4:90 (Student Activity and Fiduciary Funds), 5:60 (Expenses)

Adopted: January 23, 2023

River Forest Public Schools District 90

Section 4 - OPERATIONAL SERVICES

4:70 Resource Conservation

The Superintendent or designee shall manage a program of energy and resource conservation for the District that includes:

1. Periodic review of procurement procedures and specifications to ensure that purchased products and supplies are reusable, durable, or made from recycled materials, if economically and practically feasible.
2. Purchasing recycled paper and paper products in amounts that will, at a minimum, meet the specifications in the School Code, if economically and practically feasible.
3. Periodic review of procedures on the reduction of solid waste generated by academic, administrative, and other institutional functions. These procedures shall: (a) require recycling the District's waste stream, including landscape waste, computer paper, and white office paper, if economically and practically feasible; (b) include investigation of the feasibility of potential markets for other recyclable materials that are present in the District's waste stream; and (c) seek to reduce the amount of solid waste generated by the District, when it is feasible to do so.
4. Energy conservation measures, if economically and practically feasible.

LEGAL REF.:

[105 ILCS 5/10-20.19c](#) and [5/19b](#).

CROSS REF.: 4:60 (Purchases and Contracts), 4:150 (Facility Management and Building Programs)

Adopted: September 17, 2024

River Forest Public Schools District 90

Section 4 - OPERATIONAL SERVICES

4:100 Insurance Management

The Superintendent shall recommend and maintain all insurance programs that provide the broadest and most complete coverage available at the most economical cost, consistent with sound insurance principles.

The insurance program shall include:

1. Liability coverage to insure against any loss or liability of the School District and the listed individuals against civil rights damage claims and suits, constitutional rights damage claims and suits, and death and bodily injury and property damage claims and suits, including defense costs, when damages are sought for negligent or wrongful acts allegedly committed in the scope of employment or under the Board's direction or related to any mentoring services provided to the District's licensed staff members; Board members; employees; volunteer personnel authorized by [105 ILCS 5/10-22.34](#), [5/10-22.34a](#), and [5/10-22.34b](#); mentors of licensed staff members authorized in [105 ILCS 5/21A-5 et seq.](#) (new teacher), [105 ILCS 5/2-3.53a](#) (new principal), and [2-3.53b](#) (new superintendents); and student teachers.
2. Comprehensive property insurance covering a broad range of causes of loss involving building and personal property. The coverage amount shall normally be for the replacement cost or the insurable value.
3. Workers' Compensation to protect the individual employees against financial loss in case of a work-related injury, certain types of disease, or death incurred in an employee-related situation.
4. Employee insurance programs, including, but not limited to employee health, dental, accident and life insurance programs set for the in the Negotiated contract between the Board of Education of School District 90 and the River Forest Education Association.
5. Student insurance which the Board of Education annually purchases. It covers each student for injuries incurred while participating in school sponsored and supervised activities, including athletics.

It is also the intent of the Board of Education to make available an optional program of 24-hour student accident coverage and 24-hour dental accident coverage. The Board of Education shall approve the agency permitted to sell such additional student insurance.

LEGAL REF.:

Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act, [Pub. L. 99-272](#), §10001, [26 U.S.C. §4980B\(f\)](#), [42 U.S.C. §300bb-1 et seq.](#)

[105 ILCS 5/2-3.53a](#), [5/2-3.53b](#), [5/10-20.20](#), [5/10-22.3](#), [5/10-22.3a](#), [5/10-22.3b](#), [5/10-22.3f](#), [5/10-22.34](#), [5/10-22.34a](#), [5/10-22.34b](#), [5/21A-5 et seq.](#), and [5/22-15](#).

[215 ILCS 5/](#), III. Insurance Code.

[750 ILCS 75/](#), III. Religious Freedom Protection and Civil Union Act.

[820 ILCS 305/](#), Workers' Compensation Act.

CROSS REF.: 4:170 (Safety), 7:300 (Extracurricular Athletics)

Adopted: September 18, 2023

Section 4 - OPERATIONAL SERVICES

4:120 School Wellness and Food Services

School Wellness

The Board of Education of River Forest School District 90 is committed to providing a learning environment which promotes student wellness and healthy living, including proper nutrition and physical fitness. The District shall promote a healthy and active lifestyle in its educational programs and school activities for all students consistent with the following goals.

Goals

- **Promote Physical Fitness**

The District will foster an active lifestyle for students by offering opportunities for physical education courses and other physical activities during the school day.

- **Promote Nutrition Education**

The District will include proper nutritional habits in its health education curriculum, which shall be consistent with and incorporate relevant Illinois Learning Standards.

Nutrition Guidelines for Foods Sold During the School Day

The Superintendent or designee shall develop administrative procedures that limit the offering or sale of minimally nutritious foods to students during the school day. The District will offer nutritious beverage choices during meal times. The District has the authority, as needed, to prohibit minimally nutritious foods and beverages from being offered or sold to students during the school day.

Implementation and Monitoring

The Superintendent or designee shall develop administrative procedures that implement and measure the implementation of this policy.

Community Involvement

The Superintendent or designee will invite community members, parents, students, the Board of Education, and school administrators, to comment on the development of this wellness policy.

Food Services

Facilities will be provided so that children in grades one through eight may eat lunch at school. Use of lunchroom facilities is for those students who are regularly scheduled to attend our schools. Families with students in the lunchroom program will be assessed a supervisory fee to be determined by the administration subject to Board approval.

LEGAL REF.:

[7 C.F.R. Parts 210](#) (National School Lunch Program) and [220](#) (School Breakfast Program).

[105 ILCS 125/](#) School Breakfast and Lunch Program Act.

Adopted: February 22, 2022

River Forest Public Schools District 90

Section 4 - OPERATIONAL SERVICES

4:175 Convicted Child Sex Offender; Screening; Notifications

Persons Prohibited on School Property without Prior Permission

State law prohibits a child sex offender from being present on school property or loitering within 500 feet of school property when persons under the age of 18 are present, unless the offender meets either of the following two exceptions:

1. The offender is a parent/guardian of a student attending the school and has notified the Building Principal of his or her presence at the school for the purpose of: (i) attending a conference with school personnel to discuss the progress of his or her child academically or socially, (ii) participating in child review conferences in which evaluation and placement decisions may be made with respect to his or her child regarding special education services, or (iii) attending conferences to discuss other student issues concerning his or her child such as retention and promotion; or
2. The offender received permission to be present from the Board of Education, Superintendent, or Superintendent's designee. If permission is granted, the Superintendent or Board President shall provide the details of the offender's upcoming visit to the Building Principal.

In all cases, the Superintendent or designee shall supervise a child sex offender whenever the offender is in a child's vicinity. If a student is a sex offender, the Superintendent or designee shall develop guidelines for managing his or her presence in school.

Screening

The Superintendent or designee shall perform fingerprint-based criminal history records information checks and/or screenings required by State law or Board policy for employees; student teachers; students doing field or clinical experience other than student teaching; contractors' employees who have direct, daily contact with one or more children; and resource persons and volunteers. The Board President shall ensure that these checks are completed for the Superintendent. He or she shall take appropriate action based on the result of any criminal background check and/or screen.

Notification to Parents/Guardians

The Superintendent shall develop procedures for the distribution and use of information from law enforcement officials under the Sex Offender Community Notification Law and the Murderer and Violent Offender Against Youth Community Notification Law. The Superintendent or designee shall serve as the District contact person for purposes of these laws. The Superintendent and Building Principal shall manage a process for schools to notify the parents/guardians during school registration that information about sex offenders is available to the public as provided in the Sex Offender Community Notification Law. This notification must occur during school registration and at other times as the Superintendent or Building Principal determine advisable.

LEGAL REF.:

[20 U.S.C. §7926](#), Elementary and Secondary Education Act.

[20 ILCS 2635/](#), Uniform Conviction Information Act.

[720 ILCS 5/11-9.3](#), Criminal Code of 2012.

[730 ILCS 152/](#), Sex Offender Community Notification Law.

[730 ILCS 154/75-105](#), Murderer and Violent Offender Against Youth Community Notification Law.

CROSS REF.: 2:110 (Qualifications, Term, and Duties of Board Officers), 3:40 (Superintendent), 3:50 (Administrative Personnel Other Than the Superintendent), 3:60 (Administrative Responsibility of the Building Principal), 4:165 (Awareness and Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse and Grooming Behaviors), 5:30 (Hiring Process and Criteria), 5:260 (Student Teachers), 6:250 (Community Resource Persons and Volunteers), 8:30 (Visitors to and Conduct on School Property), 8:100 (Relations with Other Organizations and Agencies)

Adopted: February 22, 2022

River Forest Public Schools District 90
