



SUMMARY OF NEW AND POLICY UPDATES

- 2:160E Checklist for Selecting a Board Attorney - New policy
- 2:260 Uniform Grievance Procedure – Policy updated
- 5:50 Drug and Alcohol Free Workplace – Policy updated
- 5:170 Copyright – Policy updated
- 5:270 Employment-At-Will, Compensation, and Assignment – Policy and Legal Reference edited
- 5:290 Employment Termination and Suspensions – Policy updated
- 6:140 Education of Homeless Children – Policy edited for clarity
- 7:10 Equal Educational Opportunities – Policy updated
- 7:260 Exemption from Physical Activity - Policy updated
- 7:310 Restrictions and Publications – Policy updated
- 8:10 Connection with the Community – Policy updated
- 8:80 Gifts to the District - Rewritten

October, 2015

DRAFT UPDATE

SPEED - SEJA #802

2:260

District Boards

Uniform Grievance Procedure

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

1. Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act
2. Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972
3. Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973
4. Title VI of the Civil Rights Act, 42 U.S.C. §2000d et seq.
5. Equal Employment Opportunities Act (Title VII of the Civil Rights Act), 42 U.S.C. §2000e et seq.
6. Sexual harassment (Illinois Human Rights Act, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972)
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 (Illinois Genetic Information Privacy Act (GIPA), 410 ILCS 513/ and Titles I and II of the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act (GINA), 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 and, if a formal complaint is filed, to under this procedure, the Complaint Manager will address the complaint promptly and equitably. A student and/or parent/guardian filing a complaint under this procedure may forego any informal suggestions and/or attempts to resolve it and may proceed directly to the 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 parents/guardians); this includes mediation.

Right to Pursue Other Remedies Not Impaired

The right of a person to prompt and equitable resolution of a complaint filed hereunder 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.

Commented [AKL1]: Text throughout the policy is updated to clarify the rights of a complainant, an accused, and the school district when investigations pursuant to this policy occur. These clarifications were made in response to the uptick of investigations by the Dept. of Education's Office for Civil Rights (OCR) in Illinois involving Title VI (discrimination on the basis of race, color, and national origin) and Title IX (discrimination on the basis of sex). While the changes reflect what OCR has requested in past investigations, OCR investigations are a moving target - meaning these changes do not guarantee that OCR would not request your district to make different changes during an OCR investigation.

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Deadlines

All deadlines under this procedure 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.

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. 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 bullying and cyber-bullying, the Complaint Manager shall process and review the complaint according to Board policy 7:180, *Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment*, in addition to any response required by this policy.

Investigation

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. If the Complainant is a student, under 18 years of age, the Complaint Manager will notify his or her parent(s)/guardian(s) that they may attend any investigatory meetings in which their child is involved. The complaint and identity of the Complainant will not be disclosed except: (1) as required by law, this policy, or (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 or any collective bargaining agreement, or (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.

The Complaint Manager shall ensure both parties have an equal opportunity to present evidence during an investigation. Within 30 school business days of the date the complaint was filed, the Complaint Manager shall file a written report of his or her findings with the Superintendent. The Complaint Manager may request an extension of time. If a complaint of sexual harassment contains allegations involving the Superintendent, the written report shall be filed with the Board, which will make a decision in accordance with the following section of this policy. The Superintendent will keep the Board informed of all complaints.

Decision and Appeal

Within 5 school business days after receiving the Complaint Manager’s report, the Superintendent shall mail his or her written decision to the Complainant and the accused by ~~U.S. mail, first class, U.S. mail~~ as well as to the Complaint Manager. All decisions shall be based upon the preponderance of evidence standard.

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 Complaint Manager. The Complaint Manager shall promptly forward all materials relative to the complaint and appeal to the Board. Within 30 school business days, the Board shall affirm, reverse, or amend the Superintendent’s decision or direct the Superintendent to gather additional information. Within 5

Commented [AKL2]:

Preponderance of evidence is a standard of proof in civil cases. It means “evidence which is of greater weight or more convincing than the evidence which is offered in opposition to it; that is, evidence which as a whole shows that the fact sought to be proved is more probable than not.

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school business days of the Board's decision, the Superintendent shall inform the Complainant and the accused of the Board's action.

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

Appointing Nondiscrimination Coordinator and Complaint Managers

The Superintendent shall appoint a Nondiscrimination Coordinator to manage the District's efforts to provide equal opportunity employment and educational opportunities and prohibit the harassment of employees, students, and others. The Nondiscrimination Coordinator also serves as the District's Title IX Coordinator.

The Superintendent shall appoint at least one Complaint Manager to administer the complaint process in this policy. If possible, the Superintendent will appoint 2 Complaint Managers, one of each gender. The District's Nondiscrimination Coordinator may be appointed as one of the Complaint Managers.

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

Nondiscrimination Coordinator:

Sharon Curry

Name

1125 Division St., Chicago Heights, IL 60411

Address

scurry@speed802.org

Email

708-481-6100, ext.3113

Telephone

Complaint Managers:

Sharon Curry

Name

1125 Division St., Chicago Heights, IL 60411

Address

scurry@speed802.org

Email

708-481-6100, ext.3113

Telephone

Kristin Elliott

Name

1125 Division St., Chicago Heights, IL 60411

Address

kelliott@speed802.org

Email

708-481-6100

Telephone

Commented [AKL3]: Title IX regulations require districts to identify the name, address, and telephone number of the person who is responsible for coordinating the district's compliance efforts. OCR prefers that school districts make Title IX information and coordinators visible to the community, and it has provided materials designed to remind schools of their obligation to designate a Title IX coordinator.

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LEGAL REF.: Age Discrimination in Employment Act, 29 U.S.C. §621 et seq.
Americans With Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C. §12101 et seq.
Equal Employment Opportunities Act (Title VII of the Civil Rights Act), 42 U.S.C. §2000e et seq.
Equal Pay Act, 29 U.S.C. §206(d).
Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act, 42 U.S.C. §2000ff et seq.
Immigration Reform and Control Act, 8 U.S.C. §1324a et seq.
McKinney Homeless Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. §11431 et seq.
Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 U.S.C. §791 et seq.
Title VI of the Civil Rights Act, 42 U.S.C. §2000d et seq.
Title IX of the Education Amendments, 20 U.S.C. §1681 et seq.
105 ILCS 5/2-3.8, 5/3-10, 5/10-20.7a, 5/10-22.5, 5/22-19, 5/24-4, 5/27-1, 5/27-23.7, and 45/1-15.
Illinois Genetic Information Privacy Act, 410 ILCS 513/.
Illinois Whistleblower Act, 740 ILCS 174/.
Illinois Human Rights Act, 775 ILCS 5/.
Victims' Economic Security and Safety Act, 820 ILCS 180, 56 Ill.Admin.Code Part 280.
Equal Pay Act of 2003, 820 ILCS 112.
Employee Credit Privacy Act, 820 ILCS 70/.
23 Ill.Admin.Code §§1.240 and 200-40.

CROSS REF.: 5:10 (Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Recruitment), 5:20 (Workplace Harassment Prohibited), 5:30 (Hiring Process and Criteria), 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), 7:20 (Harassment of Students Prohibited), 7:180 (Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment), 8:70 (Accommodating Individuals with Disabilities), 8:110 (Public Suggestions and Concerns)

ADOPTED: August 25, 2011

DRAFT UPDATE

SPEED - SEJA #802

7:10

Students

Equal Educational Opportunities

Equal educational and extracurricular opportunities shall be available for all students without regard to color, race, nationality, religion, sex, sexual orientation, ancestry, age, physical or mental disability, gender identity, status of being homeless, immigration status, order of protection status, actual or potential marital or parental status, including pregnancy. Further, the District will not knowingly enter into agreements with any entity or any individual that discriminates against students on the basis of sex or any other protected status. Any student may file a discrimination grievance by using Board policy 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*.

Sex Equity

No student shall, based on sex, sexual orientation, or gender identity be denied equal access to programs, activities, services, or benefits or be limited in the exercise of any right, privilege, advantage, or denied equal access to educational and extracurricular programs and activities.

Any student may file a sex equity complaint by using Board policy 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*. A student may appeal the Board's resolution of the complaint to the appropriate Intermediate Service Center (pursuant to 105 ILCS 5/3-10) and, thereafter, to the State Superintendent of Education (pursuant to 105 ILCS 5/2-3.8).

Administrative Implementation

The Superintendent shall appoint a Nondiscrimination Coordinator. The Superintendent and Building Principal shall use reasonable measures to inform staff members and students of this policy and grievance procedure.

LEGAL REF.: 42 U.S.C. §11431 et seq., McKinney Homeless Assistance Act.
20 U.S.C. §1681 et seq., 34 C.F.R. Part 106; Title IX of the Educational Education
Amendments implemented by 34 C.F.R. Part 106.
29 U.S.C. §791 et seq., Rehabilitation Act of 1973.
775 ILCS 35/5, Religious Freedom Restoration Act.
Ill. Constitution, Art. I, §18.
Good News Club v. Milford Central School, 121 S.Ct. 2093 (2001).
105 ILCS 5/3.25b, 3.25d(b), 10-20.12, 10-22.5, and 27-1.
775 ILCS 5/1-101 et seq., Illinois Human Rights Act.
23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.240 and Part 200.

CROSS REF.: 2:260 (Uniform Grievance Procedure), 6:10 (Educational Goals), 6:220
(Instructional Materials Selection and Adoption), 7:20 (Harassment of Students
Prohibited), 7:130 (Student Rights and Responsibilities), 7:180 (Prevention of
and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment), 8:20 (Community Use
of School Facilities)

ADOPTED: August 25, 2011

Commented [AKL1]: The list of protected classifications now includes immigration status. The change is for clarification purposes. *Nationality* was and continues to be listed as a protected classification; it was intended to protect children from discrimination based on their immigration status. ISBE states that "no school system may deny access to its schools or programs to students who lack documentation of their immigration status or legal presence in the United States, and no school system may inquire about the immigration status of a student (*Plyler v. Doe*, 457 U.S. 202 (1982))."
Issue 89, August 2015

DRAFT UPDATE

SPEED - SEJA #802

6:140

Instruction

Education of Homeless Children

Each child of a homeless individual and each homeless youth has equal access to the same free, appropriate public education; as provided to other children and youths, including a public pre-school education. A ~~homeless child~~² is defined as provided in the McKinney Homeless Assistance Act and ~~State law~~: the Ill. Education for Homeless Children Act.

A homeless child may attend a school operated by SPEED if: (a) the child currently lives in any member district's school attendance area; or (b) the child when permanently housed resided in a member district or was enrolled in a member district's school.

Commented [APowell1]: After its 5-Year Review, this policy was nonsubstantively edited for clarity.

Issue 89, August 2015

LEGAL REF.: McKinney Homeless Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. §11431 ~~et seq.~~
Ill. Education for Homeless Children Act, 105 ILCS 45/4-1 et seq.

CROSS REF.: 2:260 (Uniform Grievance Procedure), 4:110 (Transportation), 7:10 (Equal Educational Opportunities), 7:30 (Student Assignment), 7:50 (School Admissions/Eligibility for Services), 7:60 (Residence), 7:100 (Health, Eye, and Dental Examinations; Immunizations; and Exclusion of Students)

ADOPTED: ~~September 3, 2009~~

DRAFT UPDATE

SPEED - SEJA #802

5:270

Educational Support Personnel

Employment At-Will, Compensation, and Assignment

Employment At-Will

Unless otherwise specifically provided, District employment is at-will, meaning that employment may be terminated by the District or employee at any time for any reason, other than a reason prohibited by law, or no reason at all. Nothing in Board policy is intended or should be construed as altering the employment at-will relationship.

Exceptions to employment at-will may include employees who are employed annually, have an employment contract, or are otherwise granted a legitimate interest in continued employment. The Superintendent is authorized to make exceptions to employing ~~non-certificated~~ nonlicensed employees at-will but shall maintain a record of positions or employees who are not at-will, ~~and the reason for the exception.~~

Compensation

Please refer to the current Collective Bargaining Agreement between SPEED District #802 and SPEED Education Association.

For employees not covered by this agreement:

The Governing Board will determine salary and wages for educational support personnel. Increments are dependent on evidence of continuing satisfactory performance. An employee covered by the overtime provisions in State or federal law, shall not work overtime without the prior authorization from the employee's immediate supervisor. Educational support personnel are paid twice a month.

Assignment

Please refer to the current Collective Bargaining Agreement between SPEED District #802 and SPEED Education Association.

For employees not covered by this agreement:

The Superintendent is authorized to make assignments and transfers of educational support personnel.

Commented [AP1]: The policy and Legal References are edited to delete ~~certificated~~ and for efficiency reasons.

Issue 88, May 2015

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DRAFT UPDATE

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/10-22.34 and 5/10-23.5.

~~Griggsville-Perry Community Unit School Dist. No. 4 v. Illinois Educ. Labor Relations Bd., 963 N.E.2d 332 (Ill.App.1, 2013);~~

~~Cook v. Eldorado Community Unit School District, No. 03-MR-32 (Ill.App.5, 2004);~~

~~Duldulao v. St. Mary of Nazareth Hospital, 483 N.E. 2d 956 (Ill.App.1, 1985);
aff'd in part and remanded, 505 N.E.2d 314 (Ill. 1987);~~

~~Kaiser v. Dixon, 468 N.E. 2d 822 (Ill.App.2, 1984).~~

CROSS REF.: 5:10 (Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Recruitment) 5:35
(Compliance with the Fair Labor Standards Act), 5:290 (Educational Support
Personnel - Employment Termination and Suspensions), 5:310 (Educational
Support Personnel - Compensatory Time-Off)

ADOPTED: September 3, 2009

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Commented [APowell2]: The Legal References are updated to delete case law that has been overturned or refers to lower court decisions. The reference to Griggsville-Perry Community Unit School Dist. No. 4 v. Illinois Educ. Labor Relations Bd. was added with PRESS Issue 88. At this time, your district has not yet responded to Issue 88; this change to the Legal References reverses the change offered in that issue.

Issue 89, August 2015

DRAFT UPDATE

SPEED - SEJA #802

5:170

General Personnel

Copyright

Works Made for Hire

The Superintendent shall manage the development of instructional materials and computer programs by employees during the scope of their employment in accordance with State and federal laws and Board policies. Whenever an employee is assigned to develop instructional materials and/or computer programs, or otherwise performs such work within the scope of his or her employment, it is assured the District shall be the owner of the copyright.

Copyright Compliance

While staff members may use appropriate supplementary materials, it is each staff member's responsibility to abide by the District's copyright compliance procedures and to obey the copyright laws. The District is not responsible for any violations of the copyright laws by its staff or students. A staff member should contact the Superintendent or designee whenever the staff member is uncertain about whether using or copying material complies with the District's procedures or is permissible under the law, or wants assistance on when and how to obtain proper authorization. No staff member shall, without first obtaining the permission of the Superintendent or designee, install or download any program on a District-owned computer. At no time shall it be necessary for a District staff member to violate copyright laws in order to properly perform his or her duties.

Copyright Infringement; Designation of District Digital Millennium Copyright Act (DMCA) Agent

The employee listed below receives complaints about copyright infringement within the use of the District's online services. The Superintendent or designee will register this information with the federal Copyright Office as required by federal law.

District DMCA Agent:

Name

Address

Email

Telephone

LEGAL REF.: Federal Copyright Law of 1976, 17 U.S.C. §101 et seq.
105 ILCS 5/10-23.10.

CROSS REF.: 6:235 (Access to Electronic Networks)

ADOPTED: September 3, 2009

Commented [APowell1]:

Option: An optional subhead is added for districts that are *online service providers* (OSP) under the DMCA. The DMCA is an amendment to 17 U.S.C. §101 et seq. that provides limitations on OSP liability for storage of copyrighted material residing on a system or network controlled or operated by or for the OSP. This liability limitation is called the *Safe Harbor Provision* (SHP).

If a district is an OSP, the SHP provision will not apply if the district does not designate, publicize, and register a DMCA Agent with the federal Copyright Office (at publication time, registration was \$105).

Districts that may benefit from the SHP are those that operate or contract to operate the following types of websites: file and information sharing sites; blogs that allow guests to post content; social media sites; and other sites that accept, publish or host content created and submitted by other parties. For further steps to designate a DMCA agent, see 5:170-AP4, *Designation of District Digital Millennium Copyright Act (DMCA) Agent; Registration Process*.

Before adopting this section, consult the board attorney to first identify whether the District is an *online service provider* (OSP) under the DMCA.

DRAFT UPDATE

SPEED - SEJA #802

5:50

General Personnel

Drug- and Alcohol-Free Workplace; Tobacco Prohibition

All District workplaces are drug- and alcohol-free workplaces. All employees are prohibited from engaging in any of the following activities while on District premises or while performing work for the District:

1. Unlawful manufacture, dispensing, distribution, possession, or use of an illegal or controlled substance.
2. Distribution, consumption, use, possession, or being 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. Possession or use of medical cannabis.

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.

As a condition of employment, each employee shall:

1. Abide by the terms of the 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 5 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.

Commented [AKL1]: These actions are prohibited by both federal and State statute. These laws do not address *under the influence*. The board may add the following optional language at the end of this sentence.

OPTION - , or being under the influence of any illegal substance or any detectible use of any illegal substance regardless of when or where the use occurred.

Contact the board attorney for advice concerning this optional provision and whenever the district wants to discipline or dismiss an employee using it. (See the following comment box and the Update Memo for more information.)

Issue 89, August 2015

Commented [AKL2]: Optional; alcohol is not addressed in either the federal or State Drug-Free Workplace Acts. Contact the board attorney for advice concerning this provision and whenever the district wants to discipline or dismiss an employee using it. If a hearing is required before the district may discipline or discharge an employee under this provision, the district must put forth evidence that the employee violated it. A district would also have this burden if a grievance is filed under a *just cause* provision in a collective bargaining agreement.

Issue 89, August 2015

DRAFT UPDATE

Tobacco 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 tobacco 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* shall have the meaning provided in section 10-20.5b of the School Code.

District Action Upon Violation of Policy

An employee who violates this policy may be subject to disciplinary action, including termination. Alternatively, the School 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.

LEGAL REF.: Americans With Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C. §12114.
Compassionate Use of Medical Cannabis Pilot Program, 410 ILCS 130/.
Controlled Substances Act, 21 U.S.C. §812; 21 C.F.R. §1308.11-1308.15.
Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988, 41 U.S.C. §701 et seq.
Safe and Drug-Free School and Communities Act of 1994, 20 U.S.C. §7101 et seq.
Drug-Free Workplace Act, 30 ILCS 580/.
105 ILCS 5/10-20.5b.

CROSS REF.: 8:30 (Visitors to and Conduct on School Property)

ADOPTED: ~~February 19, 2014~~

DRAFT UPDATE

SPEED - SEJA #802

2:160

District Boards

Board Attorney

The Governing Board may enter into ~~any agreement~~ agreements for legal services with ~~a specific attorney or law firm~~ one or more attorneys or law firms to be the Board Attorney(s). The Board Attorney represents the Governing Board in its capacity as ~~the governing body for the District~~. The Board Attorney shall not represent another client if the representation involves a concurrent conflict of interest, unless permitted by the Ill. Rules of Professional Conduct adopted by the Ill. Supreme Court. The Board Attorney serves on a retainer or other ~~fee~~ arrangement as determined in advance. The Board Attorney will provide services as described in the agreement for legal services. The District will only pay for legal services that are provided in accordance with the agreement for legal services or are otherwise authorized by this policy or a majority of the Board.

The Superintendent, Superintendent's designee, Board President, and Director of Business/Finance are each authorized to confer with and/or seek the legal advice of the Board Attorney. The Board may authorize a specific member to confer with legal counsel on its behalf.

The Superintendent may authorize the Board Attorney to represent the District in any legal matter until the Board has an opportunity to consider the matter.

The Board retains the right to consult with or employ other attorneys and to terminate the service of any attorney.

LEGAL REF.: Rule 1.7 (Conflict of Interest: Current Clients) and Rule 1.13 (Organization as Client) of the Ill. Rules of Professional Conduct adopted by the Ill. Supreme Court.

CROSS REF.: 4:60 (Purchases and Contracts)

ADOPTED: August 25, 2014

Commented [AKL1]: The changes clarify that: (1) the school board may select one or more attorneys or law firms as *Board Attorneys*; (2) the *Board Attorney* represents the school board as the governing body for the district; and (3) the *Board Attorney* must not represent another client if the representation would create a conflict of interest.

The new text is a restatement of the Ill. Supreme Court's rules governing the professional conduct of attorneys.

Issue 89, August 2015

DRAFT UPDATE

SPEED - SEJA #802

5:290

Educational Support Personnel

Employment Termination and Suspensions

Resignation and Retirement

An employee is requested to provide 2 weeks' notice of a resignation. A resignation notice cannot be revoked once given. An employee planning to retire should notify his or her supervisor at least 2 months before the retirement date.

Non-RIF Dismissal

Please refer to the current Collective Bargaining Agreement between SPEED District #802 and SPEED Education Association.

For employees not covered by this agreement:

The District may terminate an at-will employee at any time for any or no reason, but not for a reason prohibited by State or federal law.

Employees who are employed annually or have a contract, or who otherwise have a legitimate expectation of continued employment, may be dismissed: (1) at the end of the school year or at the end of their respective contract after being provided appropriate notice and after compliance with any applicable contractual provisions, or (2) mid-year or mid-contract provided appropriate due process procedures are provided.

The Superintendent is responsible for making dismissal recommendations to the School Board consistent with the Board's goal of having a highly qualified, high performing staff.

Reduction in Force and Recall

Please refer to the following current agreement:

Collective Bargaining Agreement between SPEED District #802 and SPEED Education Association.

For employees not covered by this agreement:

~~This section is applicable whenever~~The Board decides~~may, as necessary or prudent, decide~~ to decrease the number of educational support personnel or to discontinue some particular type of educational support service and, as a result of that action, an educational support employee is removed, dismissed, or his or her hours are reduced~~dismiss or reduce the hours of one or more educational support employees. When making decisions concerning reduction in force and recall, the Board will follow Sections 10-22.34c (outsourcing non-instructional services) and 10-23.5 (procedures) of the School Code, to the extent they are applicable and not superseded by legislation or an applicable collective bargaining agreement.~~

The Board shall use a seniority list to determine the order of dismissal or removal. The seniority list, categorized by positions, shows the length of continuing service of each full-time educational support employee. The employee with the shorter length of continuing service within the respective category of position shall be dismissed first.

Except as provided below, written notice will be given the employee by certified mail, return receipt requested, at least 30 days before the employee is removed or dismissed, or his or her hours are reduced, together with a statement of honorable dismissal and the reason therefore if applicable. The

Commented [AKL1]: This section is updated, and the paragraphs paraphrasing the RIF statute (for nonlicensed employees) are omitted because it is unnecessary in a governance policy and is frequently superseded by collectively bargained provisions.

Issue 88, May 2015

DRAFT UPDATE

~~prior written notice will be extended to at least 90 days if the lay-off is due to the District entering into a contract with a third party for non-instructional services. The prior written notice will be shortened to at least 5 days before an employee's hours are reduced as a result of an unforeseen reduction in the student population.~~

~~Any vacancies for the following school term or within one calendar year from the beginning of the following school term, shall be offered to the employees so removed or dismissed from that category or any other category of position provided they are qualified to hold such positions.~~

Final Paycheck

Please refer to the following current agreement:

Collective Bargaining Agreement between SPEED District #802 and SPEED Education Association.

For employees not covered by this agreement:

A terminating employee's final paycheck will be adjusted for any unused, earned vacation credit. Employees are paid for all earned vacation. Terminating employees will receive their final pay on the next regular payday following the date of termination, except that an employee dismissed due to a reduction in force shall receive his or her final paycheck on or before the next regular pay date following the last day of employment.

Suspension

Please refer to the current Collective Bargaining Agreement between SPEED District #802 and SPEED Education Association.


For employees not covered by this agreement:

Except as provided below, the Superintendent is authorized to suspend an employee without pay as a disciplinary measure, during an investigation into allegations of misconduct or pending a dismissal hearing whenever, in the Superintendent's judgment, the employee's presence is detrimental to the District. A disciplinary suspension shall be with pay: (1) when the employee is exempt from the overtime provisions, or (2) until an employee with an employment contract for a definite term is provided a notice and hearing according to the suspension policy for professional employees.

LEGAL REF.: 5 ILCS 430 et seq.
105 ILCS 5/10-22.34c and 5/10-23.5.
820 ILCS 105/4a.
Griggsville-Perry Community Unit School Dist. No. 5 v. Illinois Educ. Labor Relations Bd., 963 N.E.2d 332 (Ill.App.4, 2013).

CROSS REF.: 5:240 (Professional Personnel - Suspension), 5:270 (Educational Support Personnel - Employment At-Will, Compensation, and Assignment)

ADOPTED: May 24, 2011

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Commented [APowell12]: The Legal References are updated to delete case law that has been overturned. The reference to Griggsville-Perry Community Unit School Dist. No. 4 v. Illinois Educ. Labor Relations Bd. was added with PRESS Issue 88. At this time, your district has not yet responded to Issue 88; this change to the Legal References reverses the change offered in that issue.

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DRAFT UPDATE

SPEED - SEJA #802

7:260

Students

Exemption from Physical Activity

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

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

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


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 3-12, (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.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/27-6.
225 ILCS 60/, Medical Practice Act.
23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.420(p).

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

ADOPTED: August 25, 2011


Commented [APowell11]: This policy is updated to include information that currently appears only in sample policy 6:310, *High School Credit for Non-District Experiences; Course Substitutions; Re-Entering Students*. Sample policy 6:310 is not included in the district policy manual.

Issue 89, August 2015

DRAFT UPDATE

SPEED - SEJA #802

7:310

Students

Restrictions on Publications

School-Sponsored Publications and Web Sites

School-sponsored publications, productions, and web sites are part of the curriculum and are not a public forum for general student use. School authorities may edit or delete material that is inconsistent with the District's educational mission.

All school-sponsored communications shall comply with the ethics and rules of responsible journalism. Text that is libelous, obscene, vulgar, lewd, invades the privacy of others, conflicts with the basic educational mission of the school, is socially inappropriate, is inappropriate due to the maturity of the students, or is materially disruptive to the educational process will not be tolerated.

The author's name will accompany personal opinions and editorial statements. An opportunity for the expression of differing opinions from those published/produced will be provided within the same media.

Non-School Sponsored Publications Accessed or Distributed On-Campus

For purposes of this section and the following section, a *publication* includes, without limitation: (1) written or electronic print material, and (2) audio-visual material, on any medium including electromagnetic media (e.g., images, MP3 files, flash memory, etc.), or combinations of these whether off-line (e.g., a printed book, CD-ROM, etc.) or on-line online (e.g., any website, social networking site, database for information retrieval, etc.). or (3) information or material on electronic devices (e.g., data or voice messages delivered by cell phones, tablets, and other hand-held devices).

Creating, distributing and/or accessing non-school sponsored publications shall occur at a time and place and in a manner that will not cause disruption, be coercive, or result in the perception that the distribution or the publication is endorsed by the School District.

Students are prohibited from creating, distributing and/or accessing at school any publication that:

1. Will cause substantial disruption of the proper and orderly operation and discipline of the school or school activities;
2. Violates the rights of others, including but not limited to material that is libelous, invades the privacy of others, or infringes on a copyright;
3. Is socially inappropriate or inappropriate due to maturity level of the students, including but not limited to material that is obscene, pornographic, or pervasively lewd and vulgar, contains indecent and vulgar language, or *sexting* as defined by School Board policy and Student Handbooks;
4. Is reasonably viewed as promoting illegal drug use; or
5. Is distributed in kindergarten through eighth grade and is primarily prepared by non-students, unless it is being used for school purposes. Nothing herein shall be interpreted to prevent the inclusion of material from outside sources or the citation to such sources as long as the material to be distributed or accessed is primarily prepared by students.

Accessing or distributing "on-campus" includes accessing or distributing on school property or at school-related activities. A student engages in gross disobedience and misconduct and may be

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Commented [APowell1]: The sample definition of publication is edited to keep the policy current with rapid technology changes. The definition uses broad and generally understood terms, and it may be amended by the district.

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disciplined for: (1) accessing or distributing forbidden material, or (2) for writing, creating, or publishing such material intending for it to be accessed or distributed at school.

Non-School Sponsored Publications Accessed or Distributed Off-Campus

A student engages in gross disobedience and misconduct and may be disciplined for creating and/or distributing publications that cause: (1) substantial disruption or a foreseeable risk of substantial disruption to school operations or (2) interferes with the rights of other students or staff members.

Bullying and Cyberbullying

The Superintendent or designee shall treat behavior that is *bullying* and/or *cyberbullying* according to Board policy 7:180, *Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment*, in addition to any response required by this policy.

Commented [APowell2]: A section regarding Bullying and Cyberbullying was added in response to 105 ILCS 5/27-23.7

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LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/27-23.7

Hazelwood v. Kuhlmeier, 108 S.Ct. 562 (1988).

Hedges v. Wauconda Community Unit School Dist. No. 118, 9 F.3d 1295 (7th Cir. 1993).

Tinker v. Des Moines Indep. Cmty. Sch. Dist., 89 S.Ct. 733 (1969).

CROSS REF.: 6:235 (Access to Electronic Networks), 7:180 (Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment), 8:25 (Advertising and Distributing Materials in School Provided by Non-School Related Entities)

ADOPTED: August 25, 2014

REWRITTEN

8:80

Community Relations

Gifts to the District

The Governing Board appreciates gifts from any education foundation, other entities, or individuals. All gifts must adhere to each of the following:

1. Be accepted by the Board or, if less than \$500.00 in value, the Superintendent or designee. Individuals should obtain a pre-acceptance commitment before identifying the District, any school, or school program or activity as a beneficiary in any fundraising attempt, including without limitation, any Internet fundraising attempt.
2. Be given without a stated purpose or with a purpose deemed by the party with authority to accept the gift to be compatible with the Board's educational objectives and policies.
3. Be consistent with the District's mandate to provide equal educational and extracurricular opportunities to all students in the District as provided in Board policy 7:10, *Equal Educational Opportunities*. State and federal laws require the District to provide equal treatment for members of both sexes to educational programming, extracurricular activities, and athletics. This includes the distribution of athletic benefits and opportunities.
4. Permit the District to maintain resource equity among its learning centers.
5. Be viewpoint neutral. The Superintendent or designee shall manage a process for the review and approval of donations involving the incorporation of messages into or placing messages upon school property.
6. Comply with all laws applicable to the District including, without limitation, the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Prevailing Wage Act, the Health/Life Safety Code for Public Schools, and all applicable procurement and bidding requirements.

The District will provide equal treatment to all individuals and entities seeking to donate money or a gift. Upon acceptance, all gifts become the District's property. The acceptance of a gift is not an endorsement by the Board, District, or school of any product, service, activity, or program. The method of recognition is determined by the party accepting the gift.

LEGAL REF.: 20 U.S.C. §1681 *et seq.*, Title IX of the Education Amendments implemented by 34 C.F.R. Part 106.
105 ILCS 5/16-1.
23 Ill.Admin.Code §200.40.

CROSS REF.: 4:60 (Purchases and Contracts), 4:150 (Facility Management and Building Programs), 6:10 (Educational Philosophy and Objectives), 6:210 (Instructional Materials), 7:10 (Equal Educational Opportunities)

ADOPTED:

Compare to current policy 8:80, or consider adding to your manual if not currently included.

Commented [AKL1]: The policy is rewritten to specify the criteria for gifts.

105 ILCS 5/16-1 grants authority to school boards to accept and manage gifts. Specifying the criteria for gifts in the board policy provides important information to potential donors and promotes a common understanding, uniform treatment, and adherence to legal requirements.

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Commented [AKL2]: The board may remove or amend in any way the value of a gift that the superintendent or designee is permitted to accept. Please provide any edits the board wishes to make.

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Commented [AKL3]: The U.S. Constitution's Free Speech, Establishment, and Equal Protection Clauses may be triggered when a donation comes with a message. Contact the board attorney for assistance.

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SPEED - SEJA #802

8:10

Community Relations

Connection with the Community

Public Relations

The Board President is the official spokesperson for the Governing Board. The Superintendent is the District's chief spokesperson and. The Superintendent or designee shall plan and implement a District public relations program that will:

1. Develop community understanding of SPEED operation.
2. Gather community attitudes and desires for the District.
3. Secure adequate financial support for a sound educational program.
4. Help the community feel a more direct responsibility for the quality of education provided by their schools.
5. Earn the community's good will, respect, and confidence.
6. Promote a genuine spirit of cooperation between the school and the community.
7. Keep the news media ~~provided with accurate information~~ accurately informed.
8. Coordinate with the District Safety Coordinator to provide accurate and timely information to the appropriate individuals during an emergency.

The public relations program should include:

1. Regular news releases concerning District programs, policies, ~~and activities, that will be sent activities, and special event management for distribution by, for example, posting on the District website or sending to the news media.~~
2. News conferences and interviews, as requested or needed. The Board President and Superintendent will coordinate their respective media relations efforts. Individuals may speak for the District only with prior approval from the Superintendent.
3. Publications having a high quality of editorial content and effective format. All publications shall identify the District, school, department, or classroom and shall include the name of the Superintendent, the Building Principal, and/or the author and the publication date.
4. Other efforts that highlight the District's programs and activities.

Community Engagement

Community engagement is a process that the Board uses to actively involve diverse citizens in dialogue, deliberation, and collaborative thinking around common interests for the District's schools.

The Board, in consultation with the Superintendent, determines the purpose(s) and objective(s) of any community engagement initiative. For each community engagement initiative, the Board will commit to the determined purpose(s) and objective(s), and provide information about the expected nature of the public's involvement; the Superintendent or designee will identify the effective tools and tactics that will advance the Board's purpose(s) and objective(s).

The Superintendent will: (1) at least annually, prepare a report of each community engagement initiative, and/or (2) prepare a final report of each community engagement initiative.

Commented [A1]: These objectives are examples and should be customized for each district.
OPTION 1 – The board may choose to replace the Public Relations section with the following:
The Board President is the official spokesperson for the School Board. The Superintendent is the District's chief spokesperson. The Superintendent or designee shall plan and implement a District public relations program to keep the community informed and build support through open and authentic communications. The public relations program shall include, without limitation, media relations; internal communications; communications to the community; communications to students and parents/guardians; emergency communications in coordination with the District Safety Coordinator; the District website and social media channels; and other efforts to reach all audiences using suitable mediums
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Commented [A2]: The Community Engagement subhead is a new option for boards that complete the work necessary to develop and implement a community engagement initiative. IASB has extensively researched and prepared a new report titled *Connecting with the Community: the Purpose and Process of Community Engagement as part of Effective School Board Governance*. It is now available to help school boards and superintendents understand what community engagement is, why it is critical, what they can expect to accomplish, and how to evaluate the results. Contact an IASB Field Services Director if your board is interested in Community Engagement work.

OPTION 2 – Choose this option to delete the section.
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The Board will periodically: (1) review whether its community engagement initiatives are achieving the identified purpose(s) and objective(s), (2) consider what, if any, modifications would improve effectiveness, and (3) determine whether to continue individual initiatives.

CROSS REF.: 2:110 (Qualifications, Term, and Duties of Board Officers)

ADOPTED: ~~September 3, 2009~~