

Document Status: Draft Update

BOARD OF EDUCATION

2:20 Powers and Duties of the Board of Education; Indemnification

The major powers and duties of the Board of Education include, but are not limited to:

1. Annually organizing the Board by electing officers and establishing its regular meeting schedule and, thereafter, taking action during lawfully called meetings to faithfully fulfill the Board's responsibilities in accordance with Board policy and State and federal law.
2. Formulating, adopting, and modifying Board policies, at its sole discretion, subject only to mandatory collective bargaining agreements and State and federal law.
3. Employing a Superintendent and other personnel, making employment decisions, dismissing personnel, including determining whether an employee has willfully or negligently failed to report an instance of suspected child abuse or neglect as required by [325 ILCS 5/](#), and establishing an equal employment opportunity policy that prohibits unlawful discrimination.
4. Directing, through policy, the Superintendent, in his or her charge of the District's administration.
5. Approving the annual budget, tax levies, major expenditures, payment of obligations, annual audit, and other aspects of the District's financial operation; and making available a statement of financial affairs as provided in State law.
6. Entering contracts using the public bidding procedure when required.
7. Providing, constructing, controlling, and maintaining adequate physical facilities; making school buildings available for use as civil defense shelters; and establishing a resource conservation policy.
8. Establishing an equal educational opportunities policy that prohibits unlawful discrimination.
9. Approving the curriculum, textbooks, and educational services.
10. Evaluating the educational program and approving School Improvement and District Improvement Plans.
11. Presenting the District report card and School report card(s) to parents/guardians and the community; these documents report District, School and student performance.
12. Establishing and supporting student behavior policies designed to maintain an environment conducive to learning, including deciding individual student suspension or expulsion cases brought before it.
13. Establishing attendance units within the District and assigning students to the schools.
14. Establishing the school year.
15. Requiring a moment of silence to recognize veterans during any type of school event held at a District school on November 11.
16. Providing student transportation services pursuant to State law.
17. Entering into joint agreements with other boards to establish cooperative educational programs or provide educational facilities.
18. Complying with requirements in the Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act (ANCRA). Specifically, each individual Board member must, if an allegation is raised to the member during an open or closed Board meeting that a student is an abused child as defined in ANCRA, direct or cause the Board to direct the Superintendent or other equivalent school administrator to comply with ANCRA's requirements concerning the reporting of child abuse.
19. Notifying the State Superintendent of Education promptly and in writing of the name of a licensed teacher who was convicted of a felony, along with the conviction and the name and location of the court where the conviction occurred. [PRESSPlus1](#)
20. Notifying the Teachers' Retirement System (TRS) of the State of Ill. Board of Trustees promptly and in writing when it learns that a teacher as defined in the Ill. Pension Code was convicted of a felony, along with the name and location of the court where the conviction occurred, and the case number assigned by that court to the conviction. [PRESSPlus2](#)
21. Communicating the schools' activities and operations to the community and representing the needs and desires of the community in educational matters.

Indemnification

To the extent allowed by law, the Board shall defend, indemnify, and hold harmless Board of Education members, employees, volunteer personnel (pursuant to [105 ILCS 5/10-22.34](#), [10-22.34a](#) and [10-22.34b](#)), mentors of certified staff (pursuant to [105 ILCS 5/2-3.53a](#), [2-3.53b](#), and [105 ILCS 5/21A-5 et seq.](#)), and student teachers who, in the course of discharging their official duties imposed or authorized by law, are sued as parties in a legal proceeding. Nothing herein, however, shall be construed as

obligating the Board to defend, indemnify, or hold harmless any person who engages in criminal activity, official misconduct, fraud, intentional or willful and wanton misconduct, or acts beyond the authority properly vested in the individual.

LEGAL REF.:

[105 ILCS 5/10](#), [5/17-1](#), [5/21B-85](#), and [5/27-1](#).

[115 ILCS 5/](#), III. Educational Labor Relations Act.

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

CROSS REF.: 1:10 (School District Legal Status), 1:20 (District Organization, Operations, and Cooperative Agreements), 2:10 (School District Governance), 2:80 (Board Member Oath and Conduct), 2:140 (Communications To and From the Board), 2:210 (Organizational Board of Education Meeting), 2:240 (Board Policy Development), 4:60 (Purchases and Contracts), 4:70 (Resource Conservation), 4:100 (Insurance Management), 4:110 (Transportation), 4:150 (Facility Management and Building Programs), [4:165 \(Awareness and Prevention of Sexual Abuse and Grooming Behaviors\)](#), [4:175 \(Convicted Child Sex Offender: Screening; Notifications\)](#), 5:10 (Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Recruitment), [5:30 \(Hiring Process and Criteria\)](#), 5:90 (Abused and Neglected Child Reporting), [5:120 \(Employee Ethics: Conduct; and Conflict of Interest\)](#), [5:150 \(Personnel Records\)](#), [5:210 \(Resignations\)](#), [5:290 \(Employment Termination and Suspensions\)](#), 6:10 (Educational Philosophy and Objectives), 6:15 (School Accountability), 6:20 (School Year Calendar and Day), 7:10 (Equal Educational Opportunities), 7:30 (Student Assignment and Intra-District Transfer), 7:190 (Student Behavior), 7:200 (Suspension Procedures), 7:210 (Expulsion Procedures), 8:10 (Connection with the Community), 8:30 (Visitors to and Conduct on School Property)

Adopted: December 16, 2019

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. Updated in response to 105 ILCS 5/21B-85(a). **Issue 108, November 2021**

PRESSPlus 2. Updated in response to 105 ILCS 5/21B-85(b). **Issue 108, November 2021**

Document Status: Draft Update

GENERAL SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION

3:40 Superintendent

Duties and Authority

The Superintendent is the District's executive officer and is responsible for the administration and management of the District schools in accordance with Board of Education policies and directives, and State and federal law. District management duties include, without limitation, preparing, submitting, publishing, and posting reports and notifications as required by State and federal law, including the special reporting responsibilities in policy 5:90, Abused and Neglected Child Reporting, PRESSPlus1. The Superintendent is authorized to develop administrative procedures and take other action as needed to implement Board policy and otherwise fulfill his or her responsibilities. The Superintendent may delegate to other District staff members the exercise of any powers and the discharge of any duties imposed upon the Superintendent by Board policies or by Board vote. The delegation of power or duty, however, shall not relieve the Superintendent of responsibility for the action that was delegated.

Qualifications

The Superintendent must be of good character and of unquestionable morals and integrity. The Superintendent shall have the experience and the skills necessary to work effectively with the Board, District employees, students, and the community. The Superintendent must have and maintain a Professional Educator License with a superintendent endorsement issued by the Illinois State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board.

Evaluation

The Board will evaluate, at least annually, the Superintendent's performance and effectiveness, using standards and objectives developed by the Superintendent and Board that are consistent with State law, the Board's policies and the Superintendent's contract. A specific time should be designated for a formal evaluation session with all Board members present. The evaluation should include a discussion of professional strengths as well as performance areas needing improvement.

The Superintendent shall annually present evidence of professional growth through attendance at educational conferences, in-service training, or similar continuing education pursuits.

Compensation and Benefits

The Board and the Superintendent shall enter into an employment agreement that conforms to Board policy and State law. This contract shall govern the employment relationship between the Board and the Superintendent. The terms of the Superintendent's employment agreement, when in conflict with this policy, will control.

LEGAL REF.:

105 ILCS 5/10-16.7, 5/10-20.47, 5/10-21.4, 5/10-21.9, 5/10-23.8, 5/21B-20, 5/21B-25, 5/24-11, and 5/24A-3.

5 ILCS 120/7.3, Open Meetings Act.

23 Ill.Admin.Code §§1.310, 1.705, and 25.355.

CROSS REF: 2:20 (Powers and Duties of the Board of Education; Indemnification), 2:130 (Board-Superintendent Relationship), 2:240 (Board Policy Development), 3:10 (Goals and Objectives), 4:165 (Awareness and Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse and Grooming Behaviors), 4:175 (Convicted Child Sex Offender; Screening; Notifications), 5:30 (Hiring Process and Criteria), 5:90 (Abused and Neglected Child Reporting), 5:120 (Employee Ethics; Conduct; and Conflict of Interest), 5:150 (Personnel Records), 5:210 (Resignations), 5:290 (Employment Termination and Suspensions)

Adopted: January 25, 2021

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. Updated in response to the General Assembly's focus on resolving Educator Misconduct. 105 ILCS 5/10-21.9(e-5), amended by P.A.102-552, requires these notifications and provides superintendents immunity from any liability, whether civil or criminal or that otherwise might result by complying with the statute. **Issue 108, November 2021**

Document Status: Draft Update

OPERATIONAL SERVICES

4:60 Purchases and Contracts

The Superintendent shall manage the District's purchases and contracts in accordance with State law, the standards set forth in this policy, and other applicable Board of Education policies.

Standards for Purchasing and Contracting

All purchases and contracts shall be entered into in accordance with applicable federal and State law. The Board Attorney shall be consulted as needed regarding the legal requirements for purchases or contracts. All contracts shall be approved or authorized by the Board.

All purchases and contracts should support a recognized District function or purpose as well as provide for good quality products and services at the lowest cost, with consideration for service, reliability, and delivery promptness, and in compliance with State law. No purchase or contract shall be made or entered into as a result of favoritism, extravagance, fraud, or corruption.

Adoption of the annual budget authorizes the Superintendent or designee to purchase budgeted supplies, equipment, and services, provided that State law is followed. Purchases of items outside budget parameters require prior Board approval, except in an emergency.

When presenting a contract or purchase for Board approval, the Superintendent or designee shall ensure that it complies with applicable federal and State law, including but not limited to, those specified below:

1. Supplies, materials, or work involving an expenditure in excess of \$25,000 must comply with the State law bidding procedure, 105 ILCS 5/10-20.21, unless specifically exempted.
2. Construction, lease, or purchase of school buildings must comply with State law and Board policy 4:150, *Facility Management and Building Programs*.
3. Guaranteed energy savings must comply with 105 ILCS 5/19b-1 et seq.
4. Third party non-instructional services must comply with 105 ILCS 5/10-22.34c.
5. Goods and services that are intended to generate revenue and other remunerations for the District in excess of \$1,000, including without limitation vending machine contracts, sports and other attire, class rings, and photographic services, must comply with 105 ILCS 5/10-20.21(b-5). The Superintendent or designee shall keep a record of: (1) each vendor, product, or service provided, (2) the actual net revenue and non-monetary remuneration from each contract or agreement, and (3) how the revenue was used and to whom the non-monetary remuneration was distributed. The Superintendent or designee shall report this information to the Board by completing the necessary forms that must be attached to the District's annual budget.
6. Any contract to purchase food with a bidder or offeror must comply with 105 ILCS 5/10-20.21(b-10).
7. The purchase of paper and paper products must comply with 105 ILCS 5/10-20.19c and Board policy 4:70, *Resource Conservation*.
8. Each contractor with the District is bound by each of the following:
 - a. In accordance with 105 ILCS 5/10-21.9(f): (1) prohibit any of its employees who is or was found guilty of a criminal offense listed in 105 ILCS 5/10-21.9(c) and 5/21B-80(c) to have direct, daily contact at a District school or school-related activity with one or more student(s); (2) prohibits any of the contractor's employees from having direct, daily contact with one or more students if the employee was found guilty of any offense in 5/21B-80(b) (certain drug offenses) until seven years following the end of the employee's sentence for the criminal offense; and (3) require each of its employees who will have direct, daily contact with student(s) to cooperate during the District's fingerprint-based criminal history records check on him or her.
 - b. In accordance with 105 ILCS 5/24-5: (1) concerning each new employee of a contractor that provides services to students or in schools, provide the District with evidence of physical fitness to perform the duties assigned and freedom from communicable disease if the employee will have direct, daily contact with one or more student(s); and (2) require any new or existing employee who has and will have direct, daily contact with one or more student(s) to complete additional health examinations as required by the District and be subject to additional health examinations, including tuberculosis screening, as required by the Ill. Department of Public Health rules or order of a local health official.
9. After 1-1-23, any pavement engineering project using a coal tar-based sealant product or high polycyclic aromatic

hydrocarbon sealant product for pavement engineering-related use must comply with the Coal Tar Sealant Disclosure Act. [PRESSPlus1](#)

10. Purchases made with federal or State awards must comply with 2 C.F.R. Part 200 and 30 ILCS 708/, as applicable, and any terms of the award. [PRESSPlus2](#)

The Superintendent or designee shall: (1) execute the reporting and website posting mandates in State law concerning District contracts, and (2) monitor the discharge of contracts, contractors' performances, and the quality and value of services or products being provided.

LEGAL REF.:

2 C.F.R. Part 200.

105 ILCS 5/10-20.19c, 5/10-20.21, 5/10-21.9, 5/10-22.34c, 5/19b-1 et seq., and 5/24-5.

30 ILCS 708/, Grant Accountability and Transparency Act.

410 ILCS 170/, Coal Tar Sealant Disclosure Act.

820 ILCS 130/, Prevailing Wage Act.

CROSS REF.: 2:100 (Board Member Conflict of Interest), 4:70 (Resource Conservation), 4:150 (Facility Management and Building Programs), 4:175 (Convicted Child Sex Offender; Screening; Notifications)

Adopted: December 16, 2019

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. 410 ILCS 170/10(b), added by P.A. 102-242, eff. 1-1-23. **Issue 108, November 2021**

PRESSPlus 2. 2 C.F.R. §§200.318-200.327; 30 ILCS 708/. The Grant Accountability and Transparency Act (GATA) adopts the federal uniform guidance for all grants, unless the Office of the Governor grants an exception. 30 ILCS 708/55; 44 Ill.Admin.Code §7000.60. For information about the scope of GATA as it pertains to grants administered by ISBE, see www.isbe.net/gata. **Issue 108, November 2021**

Document Status: Draft Update

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. The Superintendent may select personnel on a short-term basis for a specific project or emergency condition before the Board's approval. No individual will be employed who has been convicted of a criminal offense listed in [105 ILCS 5/21B-80\(c\)](#). [PRESSPlus1](#)

All applicants must complete a District application 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, Regional Superintendent, State Superintendent, State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board, any other person necessary to the hiring decision, ~~or for purposes of clarifying the information,~~ the Ill. Dept. of 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. [PRESSPlus2](#) 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 website, 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*.

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.

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.:

42 U.S.C. §12112, Americans with Disabilities Act; 29 C.F.R. Part 1630.

15 U.S.C. § 1681 et seq., Fair Credit Reporting Act.

8 U.S.C. §1324a et seq., Immigration Reform and Control Act.

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, 5/10-22.34, 5/10-22.34b, 5/22-6.5, 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.

Americans with Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C. §12112, and 29 C.F.R. Part 1630.

Fair Credit Reporting Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1681 et seq.

Immigration Reform and Control Act, 8 U.S.C. §1324a et seq.

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), 5:125 (Personal Technology and Social Media; Usage and Conduct), 5:220 (Substitute Teachers), 5:280 (Duties and Qualifications)

Adopted: December 16, 2019

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. For additional information regarding implementation of 775 ILCS 5/2-103.1, added by P.A. 101-656 (employment decisions based on conviction records), see footnotes 5 and 6 of the sample policy, available at **PRESS** Online by

logging in at www.iasb.com. Footnote 5 is updated in response to the Ill. Human Rights Act (IHRA), 775 ILCS 5/2-103.1(c), added by P.A. 101-656, with a discussion regarding application of the IHRA's *interactive assessment* requirement for disqualifying offenses listed in 105 ILCS 5/21B-80, and footnote 6 is updated in response to Ill. Dept. of Human Rights (IDHR) guidance for implementation of 775 ILCS 5/2-103.1, added by P.A. 101-656, at: www2.illinois.gov/dhr/Pages/Conviction_Record_Protection_Frequently_Asked_Questions.aspx. **Issue 108, November 2021**

PRESSPlus 2. 105 ILCS 5/21B-85, amended by P.A. 102-552, requires a board to provide prompt written notice to the board of trustees of the Teachers' Retirement System of the State of Illinois (TRS) when it learns that any teacher has been convicted of a felony offense (which provides for a sentence of death or imprisonment for one year or more). The notice to TRS is limited to (1) the name of the license holder, (2) fact of conviction, (3) name and location of the court in which the conviction occurred, and (4) the assigned case number from the court. **Issue 108, November 2021**

Document Status: Draft Update

General Personnel

5:50 Drug- and Alcohol-Free Workplace; E-Cigarette, Tobacco, and Cannabis 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 or being *on call* for the District:

1. Unlawful manufacture, dispensing, distribution, possession, or use of an illegal or controlled substance.
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 ~~the~~ specific articulable symptoms while working that decrease or lessen the employee's performance of the duties or tasks of the employee's job position listed in the Cannabis Regulation and Tax Act (CRTA).

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. [PRESSPlus1](#) 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. [PRESSPlus2](#)

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, 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 ~~the~~ [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 shall have has the meaning provided in 105 ILCS 5/10-20.5b.

Cannabis shall have has the meaning provided in the CRTA, 410 ILCS 705/1-10.

E-Cigarette is short for electronic cigarette and shall have the meaning provided in the Prevention of Tobacco Use by Minors and Sale and Distribution of Tobacco Products Act, [720 ILCS 675/1](#)(a-9).

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*.

LEGAL REF.:

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

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

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

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

[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.

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

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

Adopted: December 16, 2019

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. 410 ILCS 705/10-50(d). If the board will not communicate to employees what will happen when reasonable suspicion exists, strike this sentence and select "Adopted with Additional District Edits" as the Save Status. **Issue 108, November 2021**

PRESSPlus 2. 410 ILCS 705/10-50(e)(1), amended by P.A. 101-593, protects the district from liability for actions described in this sentence. If the board will not communicate this information to its employees, strike this sentence and select "Adopted with Additional District Edits" as the Save Status. **Issue 108, November 2021**

Document Status: Draft Update

General Personnel

5:90 Abused and Neglected Child Reporting

Any District employee who suspects or receives knowledge that a student may be an abused or neglected child shall: (1) immediately report or cause a report to be made to the Ill. Dept. of Children and Family Services (DCFS) on its Child Abuse Hotline 1-800-25-ABUSE (1-800-252-2873)(within Illinois); 1-217-524-2606(outside of Illinois); or 1-800-358-5117 (TTY), and (2) follow directions given by DCFS concerning filing a written report within 48 hours with the nearest DCFS field office. Any District employee who believes a student is in immediate danger of harm, shall first call 911. The employee shall also promptly notify the Superintendent or Building Principal that a report has been made. The Superintendent or Building Principal shall immediately coordinate any necessary notifications to the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) with DCFS, the applicable school resource officer (SRO), and/or local law enforcement. Negligent failure to report occurs when a District employee personally observes an instance of suspected child abuse or neglect and reasonably believes, in his or her professional or official capacity, that the instance constitutes an act of child abuse or neglect under the Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act (ANCRA) and he or she, without willful intent, fails to immediately report or cause a report to be made of the suspected abuse or neglect to DCFS.

Any District employee who discovers child pornography on electronic and information technology equipment shall immediately report it to local law enforcement, the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children's CyberTipline 1-800-THE-LOST (1-800-843-5678) or online at report.cybertip.org/ or www.missingkids.org. The Superintendent or Building Principal shall also be promptly notified of the discovery and that a report has been made.

Any District employee who observes any act of hazing that does bodily harm to a student must report that act to the Building Principal, Superintendent, or designee who will investigate and take appropriate action. If the hazing results in death or great bodily harm, the employee must first make the report to law enforcement and then to the Superintendent or Building Principal. Hazing is defined as any intentional, knowing, or reckless act directed to or required of a student for the purpose of being initiated into, affiliating with, holding office in, or maintaining membership in any group, organization, club, or athletic team whose members are or include other students.

Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act (ANCRA), School Code, and Erin's Law Training

The Superintendent or designee shall provide staff development opportunities for District employees in the detection, reporting, and prevention of child abuse and neglect.

All District employees shall:

1. Before beginning employment, sign the *Acknowledgement of Mandated Reporter Status* form provided by DCFS. The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that the signed forms are retained.
2. Complete mandated reporter training as required by law within three months of initial employment and at least every three years after that date.
3. Complete an annual evidence-informed training related to child sexual abuse, grooming behaviors, and boundary violations as required by law and policy 5:100, Staff Development Program. ^{PRESSPlus1} The Superintendent will encourage all District educators to complete continuing professional development that addresses the traits and identifiers that may be evident in students who are victims of child sexual abuse, including recognizing and reporting child sexual abuse and providing appropriate follow-up and care for abused students as they return to the classroom setting.

Alleged Incidents of Sexual Abuse: Investigations

An *alleged incident of sexual abuse* is an incident of sexual abuse of a child, as defined in [720 ILCS 5/11-9.1A](#), 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.

If a District employee reports an alleged incident of sexual abuse to DCFS and DCFS accepts the report for investigation, DCFS will refer the matter to the local Children's Advocacy Center (CAC). The Superintendent or designee will implement procedures to coordinate with the CAC.

DCFS and/or the appropriate law enforcement agency will inform the District when its investigation is complete or has been suspended, as well as the outcome of its investigation. The existence of a DCFS and/or law enforcement investigation will not preclude the District from conducting its own parallel investigation into the alleged incident of sexual abuse in accordance with policy 7:20, *Harassment of Students Prohibited*.

Special Superintendent Responsibilities

The Superintendent shall execute the requirements in Board policy 5:150, *Personnel Records*, whenever another school district requests a reference concerning an applicant who is or was a District employee and was the subject of a report made by a District employee to DCFS.

~~The Superintendent shall notify the State Superintendent and the Regional Superintendent in writing when the Superintendent he or she has reasonable cause to believe that a license holder committed an intentional act of abuse or neglect with the result of making a child an abused child or a neglected child under ANCRA, and that act resulted in the license holder's dismissal or resignation from the District, he or she shall notify the State Superintendent and the Regional Superintendent in writing, providing the III. Educator Identification Number as well as a brief description of the misconduct alleged was dismissed or resigned from the District as a result of an act that made a child an abused or neglected child.~~ When the Superintendent has reasonable cause to believe that a license holder committed an intentional act of abuse or neglect with the result of making a child an abused child or a neglected child under ANCRA, and that act resulted in the license holder's dismissal or resignation from the District, he or she shall notify the State Superintendent and the Regional Superintendent in writing, providing the III. Educator Identification Number as well as a brief description of the misconduct alleged. The Superintendent must make the report within 30 days of the dismissal or resignation and mail a copy of the notification to the license holder.

Special Board of Education Member Responsibilities

Each individual Board member must, if an allegation is raised to the member during an open or closed Board meeting that a student is an abused child as defined in ANCRA, direct or cause the Board to direct the Superintendent or other equivalent school administrator to comply with ANCRA's requirements concerning the reporting of child abuse.

If the Board determines that any District employee, other than an employee licensed under [105 ILCS 5/21B](#), has willfully or negligently failed to report an instance of suspected child abuse or neglect as required by ANCRA, the Board may dismiss that employee immediately.

When the Board learns that a licensed teacher was convicted of any felony, it must promptly report it to the State agencies listed in policy 2:20, *Powers and Duties of the Board of Education; Indemnification*. [PRESSPlus2](#)

LEGAL REF.:

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

[105 ILCS 5/10-21.9, 5/10-23.13, and 5/21B-85.](#)

[20 ILCS 1305/1-1 et seq.](#), Department of Human Services Act.

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

[720 ILCS 5/12C-50.1](#), Criminal Code of 2012.

CROSS REF.: 2:20 (Powers and Duties of the Board of Education; Indemnification), [3:40 \(Superintendent\)](#), [3:50 \(Administrative Personnel Other Than the Superintendent\)](#), [3:60 \(Administrative Responsibility of the Building Principal\)](#), [4:165 \(Awareness and Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse and Grooming Behaviors\)](#), 5:20 (Workplace Harassment Prohibited), 5:30 (Hiring Process and Criteria), 5:100 (Staff Development Program), 5:120 (Employee Ethics; Conduct; and Conflict of Interest), 5:150 (Personnel Records), 5:200 (Terms and Conditions of Employment and Dismissal), 5:290 (Employment Terminations and Suspensions), 6:120 (Education of Children with Disabilities), 6:250 (Community Resource Persons and Volunteers), 7:20 (Harassment of Students Prohibited), 7:150 (Agency and Police Interviews)

Adopted: December 16, 2019

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. *Erin's Law*, 105 ILCS 5/10-23.13, amended by P.A. 102-610. For additional *Erin's Law* requirements and definitions, see policies 4:165, *Awareness and Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse and Grooming Behaviors*; 5:100, *Staff Development Program*; 5:120, *Employee Ethics; Conduct; and Conflict of Interest*; and 6:60, *Curriculum Content*. See also the footnotes of these policies at **PRESS** Online by logging in at www.iasb.com. **Issue 108, November 2021**

PRESSPlus 2. 105 ILCS 5/21B-85(a) and (b), amended by P.A. 102-552. Because felony charges often arise out of abuse and neglect investigation, this board duty is listed here for convenience. See policy 2:20, *Powers and Duties of the School Board; Indemnification* for more information. **Issue 108, November 2021**

Document Status: Draft Update

INSTRUCTION

6:50 School Wellness

Student wellness, including good nutrition and physical activity, shall be promoted in the District's educational program, school-based activities, and meal programs. This policy shall be interpreted consistently with Section 204 of the Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act of 2004 and the Healthy Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 (HHFKA).

The Superintendent will ensure:

1. Each school building complies with this policy;
2. The policy is available to the community on an annual basis through copies of or online access to the Board Policy Manual; and
3. The community is informed about the progress of this policy's implementation.

Goals for Nutrition Education and Nutrition Promotion

The goals for addressing nutrition education and nutrition promotion include the following:

- Schools will support and promote sound nutrition for students.
- Schools will foster the positive relationship between sound nutrition, physical activity, and the capacity of students to develop and learn.
- Nutrition education will be part of the District's comprehensive health education curriculum. See Board policy 6:60, *Curriculum Content*.

Goals for Physical Activity

The goals for addressing physical activity include the following:

- Schools will support and promote an active lifestyle for students.
- Physical education will be taught in all grades and shall include a developmentally planned and sequential curriculum that fosters the development of movement skills, enhances health-related fitness, increases students' knowledge, offers direct opportunities to learn how to work cooperatively in a group setting, and encourages healthy habits and attitudes for a healthy lifestyle. See Board policies 6:60, *Curriculum Content* and Board policy 7:260, *Exemption from Physical Education*.
- During the school day, all students will be required to engage in a daily physical education course, unless otherwise exempted. See Board policies 6:60, *Curriculum Content* [PRESSPlus1](#) and Board policy 7:260, *Exemption from Physical Education*.
- The curriculum will be consistent with and incorporate relevant *Illinois Learning Standards for Physical Development and Health* as established by the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE).

Nutrition Guidelines for Foods Available During the School Day; Marketing Prohibited

Students will be offered and schools will promote nutritious food and beverage choices during the school day.

In addition, in order to promote student health and reduce childhood obesity, the Superintendent or designee shall:

1. Restrict the sale of *competitive foods*, as defined by the USDA, in the food service areas during meal periods;
2. Comply with all ISBE rules; and
3. Prohibit marketing during the school day of foods and beverages that do not meet the District's standards.

Competitive foods standards do not apply to foods and beverages available, but not sold in school during the school day; e.g., brown bag lunches, foods for classroom parties, school celebrations, and reward incentives.

Exempted Fundraising Day (EFD) Requests

All food and beverages sold to students on the school campuses of participating schools during the school day must comply with the "general nutrition standards for competitive foods" specified in federal law.

ISBE rules prohibit EFDs for grades 8 and below in participating schools.

Unused Food Sharing Plan [PRESSPlus2](#)

In collaboration with the District's local health department, the Superintendent or designee will:

1. Develop and support a food sharing plan (Plan) for unused food that is focused on needy students. [PRESSPlus3](#)
2. Implement the Plan throughout the District.
3. Ensure the Plan complies with the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act, as well as accompanying guidance from the U.S. Department of Agriculture on the Food Donation Program. [PRESSPlus4](#)
4. Ensure that any leftover food items are properly donated to combat potential food insecurity in the District's community. Properly means in accordance with all federal regulations and State and local health and sanitation codes.

Monitoring

At least every three years, the Superintendent shall provide implementation data and/or reports to the Board concerning this policy's implementation sufficient to allow the Board to monitor and adjust the policy (a triennial report). This triennial report must include without limitation each of the following:

- An assessment of the District's implementation of the policy
- The extent to which schools in the District are in compliance with the policy
- The extent to which the policy compares to model local school wellness policies
- A description of the progress made in attaining the goals of the policy
- How the District will make the results of the assessment available to the public
- Where the District will retain records of the assessment

The Board will monitor and adjust the policy pursuant to policy 2:240, *Board Policy Development*.

Community Involvement

The Board and Superintendent will actively invite suggestions and comments concerning the development, implementation, periodic reviews, and updates of the school wellness policy from parents, students, representatives of the school food authority, teachers of physical education, school health professionals, the Board of Education, school administrators, and the community. Community involvement methods shall align their suggestions and comments to policy 2:140, *Communications To and From the Board* and/or the **Community Engagement** subhead in policy 8:10, *Connection with the Community*.

Recordkeeping

The Superintendent shall retain records to document compliance with this policy, the District's records retention protocols, and the Local Records Act.

LEGAL REF.:

~~Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act of 2004,~~ Pub. L. 108-265, Sec. 204, Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act of 2004.

~~Child Nutrition Act of 1966,~~ 42 U.S.C. §1771 et seq., Child Nutrition Act of 1966.

~~National School Lunch Act,~~ 42 U.S.C. §1751 et seq., National School Lunch Act.

~~Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010,~~ 42 U.S.C. §1758b, Pub. L. 111-296, Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010.

42 U.S.C. §1779, as implemented by 7 C.F.R. §§210.11 and 210.31.

~~Local Records Act,~~ 50 ILCS 205/ Local Records Act.

105 ILCS 5/2-3.139.

23 Ill.Admin.Code Part 305, Food Program.

ISBE's ~~"School Wellness Policy"~~ Goal, adopted Oct. 2007.

CROSS REF.: 2:140 (Communications To and From the Board), 2:150 (Committees), 2:240 (Board Policy Development), 5:100 (Staff Development Program), 6:60(Curriculum Content), 7:260 (Exemption from Physical Education), 8:10 (Connection with the Community)

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. Policy 6:50's sample text is based upon federal and State *goals* while sample policy 6:60, *Curriculum Content's* text is based only upon State curriculum requirements that require a minimum of three days of physical education per five-day week (with an exception for schools engaged in block scheduling). Ensure the text in this policy's goal aligns with the district's practice stated in policy 6:60 for meeting the minimum requirements of 23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.425(b). If the board adopts changes to this policy's goal, enter the change, and use the save status "Adopted with Additional District Edits." **Issue 108, November 2021**

PRESSPlus 2. Updated in response to 105 ILCS 5/2-3.182, added by P.A. 102-359. Food sharing plans will depend on many local factors and require local health department involvement, so because of that, a sample **PRESS** administrative procedure is not practical and does not exist. **Issue 108, November 2021**

PRESSPlus 3. *Needy students* is not defined by 105 ILCS 5/2-3.182, added by P.A. 102-359. **Issue 108, November 2021**

PRESSPlus 4. Required for districts that participate in child nutrition programs, the National School Lunch Program and National School Breakfast Program, the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP), and the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP). See 105 ILCS 5/2-3.182, added by P.A. 102-359. Delete number 3 *only if* the district participates in none of the programs listed. **Issue 108, November 2021**

Document Status: Draft Update

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, (h) music and (i) drug and substance abuse prevention including the dangers of opioid abuse. [PRESSPlus1](#) 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. [PRESSPlus2](#) Before the completion of grade 5, students will be offered at least one unit of cursive instruction. Beginning with the 2020-2021 school year, 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 grades 7 and 8, as well as in interscholastic athletic programs, steroid abuse prevention must be taught.
3. In kindergarten through grade 8, provided it can be funded by private grants or the federal government, violence prevention and conflict resolution must be stressed, 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. [Q1](#)
4. In grades kindergarten through 8, age-appropriate Internet safety must be taught, the scope of which shall be determined by the Superintendent or designee. The curriculum must incorporate 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. In all grades, students must receive developmentally appropriate opportunities to gain computer literacy skills that are embedded in the curriculum. [PRESSPlus3](#)
6. In all grades, character education must be taught including respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, trustworthiness, and citizenship in order to raise students' honesty, kindness, justice, discipline, respect for others, and moral courage. Instruction in all grades will include examples of behaviors that violate policy 7:180, *Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment*.
7. In all schools, citizenship values must be taught, including: (a) American patriotism, (b) democratic 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) freedom, justice, and equality, [PRESSPlus4](#) (c) proper use and display of the American flag, (d) the Pledge of Allegiance, and (e) the voting process.
8. 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 direct 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. [PRESSPlus5](#) For exemptions and substitutions, see policy 7:260, *Exemption from Physical Education*.
9. In all schools, health education must be stressed, including: [PRESSPlus6](#) (a) proper nutrition, (b) physical fitness, (c) components necessary to develop a sound mind in a healthy body, (d) dangers and avoidance of abduction, and (e) age-appropriate and evidence-informed [PRESSPlus7](#) sexual abuse and assault awareness and prevention education in all grades. [PRESSPlus8](#) The Superintendent shall implement a comprehensive health education program in accordance with State law. [Q2](#)
10. 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.
11. In all schools, conservation of natural resources must be taught, including: (a) home ecology, (b) endangered species, (c) threats to the environment, and (d) the importance of the environment to life as we know it.

12. In all schools, 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, the 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, and (g) Illinois history, and (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. [PRESSPlus9](#)

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.

12. In grade 7, students must view a Congressional Medal of Honor film made by the Congressional Medal of Honor Foundation, provided there is no cost for the film.
13. 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, Armenian Genocide, the Famine-Genocide in Ukraine, and more recent atrocities in Cambodia, Bosnia, Rwanda, and Sudan.
14. In all schools, the curriculum includes instruction as determined by the Superintendent or designee on the history, struggles, and contributions of women.
15. 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, and 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. [PRESSPlus10](#)
16. In all schools, instruction during courses as determined by the Superintendent or designee on disability history, awareness, and the disability rights movement.
17. Beginning in the fall of 2022, 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. [PRESSPlus11](#)
18. 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.:

[Pub. L. No. 108-447](#), Section 111 of Division J, Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2005.

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

47 C.F.R. §54.520.

5 ILCS 465/3 and 465/3a.

20 ILCS 2605/2605-480.

105 ILCS 5/2-3.80(e) and (f), 5/10-20.73 (final citation pending), 5/10-23.13, 5/27-3, 5/27-3.5, 5/27-5, 5/27-6, 5/27-6.5, 5/27-7, 5/27-12, 5/27-12.1, 5/27-13.1, 5/27-13.2, 5/27-20.08, 5/27-13.2, 5/27-20.3, 5/27-20.4, 5/27-20.5, 5/27-20.7, 5/27-20.8, 5/27-21, 5/27-22, 5/27-23.3, 5/27-23.4, 5/27-23.7, 5/27-23.8, 5/27-23.10, 5/27-23.11, 5/27-23.15, 5/27-24.1, and 5/27-24.2.

105 ILCS 435/, and 110/3, Comprehensive Health Education Program.

105 ILCS 435/, Vocational Education Act.

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

23 III.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: December 16, 2019

Questions and Answers:

***Required Question 1. 105 ILCS 5/27-23.6 entitled *Anti-bias education* allows districts to incorporate activities to address intergroup conflict, with the objectives of improving intergroup relations on and beyond the school campus, defusing intergroup tensions, and promoting peaceful resolution of conflict.

Boards that adopt a policy to incorporate activities to address anti-bias education and intergroup conflict pursuant to this law must make information available to the public that describes the manner in which the district has implemented the activities. Methods for making this information available include: the district's website, if any, and in the district's offices upon request. See 2:250-E2, *Immediately Available District Public Records and Web-Posted Reports and Records*, available at **PRESS** Online by logging in at www.iasb.com. Districts may also include the information in a student handbook and in district newsletters. The Ill. Principals Association (IPA) maintains a handbook service that coordinates with **PRESS** material, Online Model Student Handbook (MSH), at: www.ilprincipals.org/resources/model-student-handbook.

Does the District provide anti-bias education and intergroup conflict resolution?

- ☐ Yes (default)
- ☐ No (IASB will remove the sentence regarding anti-bias education and intergroup conflict resolution from policy 6:60. If the Board has adopted policy 6:180, IASB will also remove Anti-bias education and intergroup conflict resolution from its list of extended instructional programs.)

***Required Question 2. The repealed family life and sex education programs (105 ILCS 5/27-9.1 and 5/27-9.2, amended by P.A. 102-522) were replaced with the National Sex Education Standards (NSES) (105 ILCS 5/27-9.1a, added by P.A. 102-522) and a developmentally appropriate consent education curriculum (105 ILCS 5/27-9.1b, added by P.A. 102-522). But at the time of **PRESS** Issue 108's publication, the term *family life*, "including evidence-based and medically accurate information regarding sexual abstinence," remained in the Comprehensive Health Education Program (CHEP) (105 ILCS 110/3, amended by P.A. 102-464). The CHEP also includes many other health education topics that all elementary and secondary schools in Illinois must provide, including *teen dating violence* (105 ILCS 110/3.10, see 7:185, *Teen Dating Violence Prohibited*, for the required "teen dating violence policy") and cardiopulmonary resuscitation and automated external defibrillator use. For ease of administration, 6:60-AP1, *Comprehensive Health Education Program*, content includes reference to the new NSES curriculum that is outlined in more detail at 6:60-AP2, *Comprehensive Personal Health and Safety and Sexual Health Education Program (National Sex Education Standards (NSES))*. 105 ILCS 5/27-9.1a, added by P.A. 102-522. While the NSES law is effective immediately, ISBE has until 8-1-22 to develop its learning standards and resources, and at the time of **PRESS** Issue 108's publication, no guidance existed about whether districts that provide the now-repealed family life and sex education programs formerly in 105 ILCS 5/27-9.1 and 9.2, repealed by P.A. 102-522, may continue to do so for: (a) their 21-22 school years, and/or (b) continuing into the 22-23 school year and subsequent school years. Consult the board attorney if the district offered the now-repealed family life and sex education program to assess whether that program may continue during the 21-22 school and/or school years beyond.

Two choices exist for school boards related to providing students with a sex education curriculum:

1. No sex education; or
2. NSES a/k/a Comprehensive Personal Health and Safety and Sexual Health Education Program (105 ILCS 5/27-9.1a, added by P.A. 102-522, and see 6:60-AP2, *Comprehensive Personal Health and Safety and Sexual Health Education Program (National Sex Education Standards (NSES))*).

While boards are not required to include sex education curriculum information in their policies, if they offer it, the new law requires them to identify the curriculum their district uses along with the name and contact information, including an email address, of a school staff member who can respond to inquiries about instruction and materials. 105 ILCS 5/27-9.1a(e), added by P.A. 102-522. Methods for making this information available include: the district's website, if any, and in the district's offices upon request. See 2:250-E2, *Immediately Available District Public Records and Web-Posted Reports and Records*, available at **PRESS** Online by logging in at www.iasb.com.

If NSES is offered, ensure that the superintendent implements both 6:60-AP1, *Comprehensive Health Education Program*, and 6:60-AP2, *Comprehensive Personal Health and Safety and Sexual Health Education Program (National Sex Education Standards (NSES))*.

If developmentally appropriate consent education curriculum pursuant to 105 ILCS 5/27-9.1b is offered, ensure that implementation of 6:60-AP3, *Developmentally Appropriate Consent Education*, aligns with this policy.

Enter the board's choice below regarding communication to their communities in this policy about the sex education curriculum offered by the district:

- The Board does not offer NSES or developmentally appropriate consent education. (No change to the policy.)
- The Board offers NSES and/or developmentally appropriate consent education, but the Board will not communicate the curriculum chosen in this policy. (No change to the policy.)
- The Board offers National Sex Education Standards (NSES) curriculum, and the Board would like to communicate that in this policy. (IASB will add the following sentence: 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 5/27-9.1a.)
- The Board offers National Sex Education Standards (NSES) curriculum and developmentally appropriate consent education curriculum, and the Board would like to communicate both in this policy. (IASB will add the following sentences: 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 5/27-9.1a. The Superintendent shall also implement a developmentally appropriate consent education curriculum pursuant to 105 ILCS 5/27-9.1b.)
- The Board either does not offer NSES, or offers NSES but does not want to communicate that in this policy, but the Board does offer developmentally appropriate consent education curriculum and wants to communicate it in this policy. (IASB will add the following sentence: The Superintendent shall implement a comprehensive health education program in accordance with State law, including a developmentally appropriate consent education curriculum pursuant to 105 ILCS 5/27-9.1b.)

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. Updated in response to 105 ILCS 5/27-13.2, amended by P.A. 102-195, which requires that in addition to instruction, study, and discussion of effective methods for the prevention and avoidance of drugs and substance abuse, the subject must also cover the dangers of opioid abuse. **Issue 108, November 2021**

PRESSPlus 2. Updated in response to 105 ILCS 5/27-6.3, added by P.A. 102-357. Schools must provide at least 30 minutes of play time for any school day five clock hours or longer in length. For any school days less than that, the total time allotted during the school day must be at least one-tenth of a day of attendance for the student. Time spent dressing or undressing for outdoor play may not count towards the daily time allotment. Play time must be computer-, tablet-, phone-, and video-free. Play time may be withheld as a disciplinary or punitive action only if a student's participation poses an immediate threat to the safety of the student or others. **Issue 108, November 2021**

PRESSPlus 3. Updated in response to 105 ILCS 5/10-20.73 (final citation pending), 5/10-20.74, and 5/27-22(e)(3.5), added by P.A. 101-654. 105 ILCS 5/10-20.74, added by P.A. 101-654, requires that districts submit an annual report to ISBE regarding educational technology capacities and policies. See the subhead **Educational Technology Committee** and footnote 20 in 2:150-AP, *Superintendent Committees*, available at **PRESS** Online by logging in at www.iasb.com. **Issue 108, November 2021**

PRESSPlus 4. Updated to align with Illinois statute. **Issue 108, November 2021**

PRESSPlus 5. Boards that want their daily physical education requirement to align with their goal in policy 6:50, *School Wellness*, may replace "minimum of three days per five-day week" with their local daily requirements. If the board adopts changes to this policy's physical education requirement, enter the change, and use the save status "Adopted with Additional District Edits." **Issue 108, November 2021**

PRESSPlus 6. Required by the Comprehensive Health Education Program law (105 ILCS 110/3). More detailed critical health problems and comprehensive health education program content is described in administrative procedure 6:60-AP1, *Comprehensive Health Education Program*, available at **PRESS** Online by logging in at www.iasb.com. **Issue 108, November 2021**

PRESSPlus 7. *Evidence-informed per Erin's Law* means modalities that were created utilizing components of evidence-based treatments or curriculums. 105 ILCS 5/10-23.13(a), added by P.A. 102-610. Contrast with National Sex Education Standards (NSES) at 105 ILCS 5/27-9.1a(a), added by P.A. 102-552, which defines an *evidence-informed program* as "a program that uses the best available research and practice knowledge to guide program design and implementation." **Issue 108, November 2021**

PRESSPlus 8. 105 ILCS 110/3 and 105 ILCS 5/10-23.13, amended by P.A. 102-610 a/k/a *Erin's Law* (child sexual abuse

prevention). While 105 ILCS 5/10-23.13(b) states pre-K through 12th, this policy uses *all grades* for brevity and ease of administration. *Erin's Law* requires a policy addressing child sexual abuse prevention and curriculum content on that subject (see policy 4:165, *Awareness and Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse and Grooming Behaviors*). A sentence in 6:60-AP1, *Comprehensive Health Education Program*, restates the basic recommendations from page 16 of the *Erin's Law* Taskforce Final Report (Report) to Governor Quinn at: www.isbe.net/Documents/erins-law-final0512.pdf, which was the basis for HB 1975 text, which did not pass in the first half of the 102nd Ill. General Assembly but is used as the basis for sample content to implement P.A. 102-610 due to that Public Act's vagueness. The professional educator training component of *Erin's Law* is addressed in policies 5:90, *Abused and Neglected Child Reporting* and 5:100, *Staff Development Program*. The Report also encouraged parental involvement because parents play a key role in protecting children from child sexual abuse. **Issue 108, November 2021**

PRESSPlus 9. Updated in response to 105 ILCS 5/27-21, amended by P.A. 102-411. **Issue 108, November 2021**

PRESSPlus 10. Updated in response to 105 ILCS 5/27-20.4, amended by P.A. 101-654. **Issue 108, November 2021**

PRESSPlus 11. Updated in response to 105 ILCS 5/27-20.8, added by P.A. 102-44. The regional superintendent of schools [or Intermediate Service Center Executive Director, whichever is appropriate] will monitor districts' compliance with this law during the annual compliance review visits. Districts may meet this law's requirements through online programs or courses. **Issue 108, November 2021**

Document Status: Draft Update

STUDENTS

7:30 Student Assignment and Intra-District Transfer

Attendance Areas

The School District is divided into school attendance areas. The Superintendent will:

1. Review the boundary lines annually and recommend to the Board of Education any changes or revisions for existing units; or
2. Create new units using a lens that considers preventing segregation and the elimination of separating students in the District's schools because of color, race, or nationality to the Board of Education. [PRESSPlus1](#)

The Superintendent or designee shall maintain a map of the District showing current school attendance areas. All records pertaining to the creation, alteration, or revision of attendance units are open to the public. Students living in a given school attendance area will be assigned to that school. Homeless children shall be assigned according to Board policy 6:140, *Education of Homeless Children*.

Transfers Within the District

A student's parent(s)/guardian(s) may request a transfer for their child to a District school other than the one assigned. A request should be directed to the Superintendent, who, at his or her sole discretion, may grant the request when the parent(s)/guardian(s) demonstrate that the student could be better accommodated at another school, provided space is available. If a request is granted, the parent/guardian shall be responsible for transportation. The provisions in this section have no applicability to transfers pursuant to the Unsafe School Choice Option covered in Board policy 4:170, *Safety*.

Class Assignments

The Superintendent or designee shall assign students to classes.

LEGAL REF.:

[105 ILCS 5/10-21.3](#), [5/10-21.3a](#), and [5/10-22.5](#).

CROSS REF.: 4:170 (Safety), 6:30 (Organization of Instruction), 6:140 (Education of Homeless Children)

ADOPTED: January 28, 2019

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. Updated in response to a five-year review. Changes to the policy reflect better alignment with the School Code's text, which also align with the IASB's 6th Strategic Priority: "Initiate, advocate for, and support efforts to ensure EQUITY, Diversity, Inclusion and Racial Justice within IASB, its membership and PK-12 Schools." 105 ILCS 5/10-21.3 requires school attendance areas to be periodically revised, if necessary, to prevent or eliminate segregation by color, race, or nationality. Note that the law uses the term units, but that these are often referred to as attendance areas; this policy uses both terms. **Issue 108, November 2021**

Document Status: Draft Update

STUDENTS

7:60 Residence

Resident Students

Only students who are residents of the District may attend a District school without a tuition charge, except as otherwise [PRESSPlus1](#) provided below or in State law. A student's residence is the same as the person who has legal custody of the student.

A person asserting legal custody over a student, who is not the child's natural or adoptive parent, shall complete a signed statement, stating: (a) that he or she has assumed and exercises legal responsibility for the child, (b) the reason the child lives with him or her, other than to receive an education in the District, and (c) that he or she exercises full control over the child regarding daily educational and medical decisions in case of emergency. If the District knows the current address of the child's natural or adoptive parent, the District shall request in writing that the person complete a signed statement or Power of Attorney affidavit stating: (a) the role and responsibility of the person with whom their child is living, and (b) that the person with whom the child is living has full control over the child regarding daily educational and medical decisions in case of emergency.

A student whose family moves out of the District during the school year will be permitted to attend school for the remainder of the year without payment of tuition.

When a student's change of residence is due to the military service obligation of the student's legal custodian, the student's residence is deemed to be unchanged for the duration of the custodian's military service obligation if the student's custodian made a written request. The District, however, is not responsible for the student's transportation to or from school.

If, at the time of enrollment, a dependent child of military personnel is housed in temporary housing located outside of the District, but will be living within the District within 60 days six months [PRESSPlus2](#) after the time of initial enrollment, the child is allowed to enroll, subject to the requirements of State law, and must not be charged tuition.

Admission of Nonresident Students Pursuant to an Agreement or Order

Nonresident students may attend District schools tuition-free pursuant to:

1. A written agreement with an adjacent school district to provide for tuition-free attendance by a student of that district, provided both the Superintendent or designee and the adjacent district determine that the student's health and safety will be served by such attendance.
2. A written agreement with cultural exchange organizations and institutions supported by charity to provide for tuition-free attendance by foreign exchange students and nonresident pupils of charitable institutions.
3. According to an intergovernmental agreement.
4. Whenever any State or federal law or a court order mandates the acceptance of a nonresident student.

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 to establish residency. Board of Education policy 6:140, *Education of Homeless Children*, and its implementing administrative procedure, govern the enrollment of homeless children.

Challenging a Student's Residence Status

If the Superintendent or designee determines that a non-resident student is attending school on a tuition-free basis is a nonresident of the District for whom tuition is required to be charged school, he or she on behalf of the Board of Education shall notify the person who enrolled the student of the tuition amount that is due and immediately begin proceedings to ban the student from future attendance. [PRESSPlus3](#) The notice shall detail the specific reasons why the Board believes that the student is a nonresident of the District and shall be given by certified mail, return receipt requested. The person who enrolled the student may challenge this determination and request a hearing as provided by the School Code, [105 ILCS 5/10-20.12b](#).

LEGAL REF.:

McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. §11431 et seq., McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act.

105 ILCS 5/10-20.12a, 5/10-20.12b, and 5/10-22.5, and 5/10-22.5a.

105 ILCS 45/, Education for Homeless Children Act and 70/.

105 ILCS 70/, Educational Opportunity for Military Children Act.

23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.240.

Israel S. by Owens v. Board of Educ. of Oak Park and River Forest High Sch., 601 N.E.2d 1264, 235 Ill.App.3d 652 (Ill.App.1, 5th Dist. 1992).

Joel R. v. Board of Education of Manheim School District 83, 686 N.E.2d 650, 292 Ill.App.3d 607 (Ill.App.1, 1st Dist. 1997).

Kraut v. Rachford, 366 N.E.2d 497, 51 Ill.App.3d 206 (Ill.App.1, 1st Dist. 1977).

CROSS REF.: 6:140 (Education of Homeless Children), 7:50 (School Admissions and Student Transfers To and From Non-District Schools), 7:70 (Attendance and Truancy)

ADOPTED: January 28, 2019

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. Updated in response to a five-year review. **Issue 108, November 2021**

PRESSPlus 2. 105 ILCS 5/10-22.5a(a-5), amended by P.A. 102-126. **Issue 108, November 2021**

PRESSPlus 3. Updated in response to a five-year review. **Issue 108, November 2021**

Document Status: Draft Update

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 over 12 and under 14 years of age while in confirmation classes, and (5) any child absent because of religious reasons, [PRESSPlus1](#) 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), [PRESSPlus2](#) observance of a religious holiday, death in the immediate family, 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. [Students absent for a valid cause may make up missed homework and classwork assignments in a reasonable timeframe.](#) [PRESSPlus3](#)

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 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 service 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.
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 or chronically truant or chronically absent students, including parent-teacher conferences, student and/or family counseling, or information about community agency services. 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:](#) [PRESSPlus4](#)
 - 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 teacher, administrators, Board members, school resource officers, and staff 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.

LEGAL REF.:

[105 ILCS 5/26-1 through 186](#).

[705 ILCS 405/3-33.5](#).

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

CROSS REF.: 5:100 (Staff Development Program), 6:110 (Programs for Students At Risk of Academic Failure and/or Dropping Out of School and Graduation Incentives 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), 7:340 (Student Records)

Adopted: May 18, 2020

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. Updated in response to 105 ILCS 5/26-1, amended by P.A. 102-406, which prohibits schools from requiring students excused for religious reasons to submit a written excuse after returning to school. **Issue 108, November 2021**

PRESSPlus 2. 105 ILCS 5/26-1 and 5/26-2a, amended by P.A.s. 102-266 and 102-321. A student may be absent for mental or behavioral health for up to five days without providing a medical note, and the student must be given an opportunity to make up any missed school work. *Medical note* is not defined, but the same portion of the statute discusses a student's inability to attend school due to a disability being certified by an Illinois licensed physician, chiropractic physician, advanced practice registered nurse, or physician assistant; presumably any of these individuals could provide a *medical note*. After the second mental health day used, the student may be referred to the appropriate school support personnel. See policy 7:250, *Student Support Services*. **Issue 108, November 2021**

PRESSPlus 3. 105 ILCS 5/10-20.73 (final citation pending), added by P.A. 102-471, requires a written policy related to absences and missed homework or classwork assignments as a result of or related to a student's pregnancy. It makes sense to apply such a policy to all students who are absent for a valid cause. **Issue 108, November 2021**

PRESSPlus 4. 105 ILCS 5/22-90 (final citation pending), added by P.A. 102-157, requires the incorporation of provisions relating to chronic absenteeism in accordance with 105 ILCS 5/26-18. 105 ILCS 5/26-18 requires districts to collect and review chronic absence data and determine what systems of support and resources are needed to engage chronically absent students and their families to encourage the habit of daily attendance and promote success. 105 ILCS 5/26-18(c). **Issue 108, November 2021**

Document Status: Draft Update

STUDENTS

7:80 Release Time for Religious Instruction/Observance

A student shall be released from school, as an excused absence, because of religious reasons, including to observe a religious holiday, ~~or for religious instruction, or because the student's religion forbids secular activity on a particular day(s) or time of day.~~ The student's parent/guardian must give written notice to the Building Principal at least five calendar days before the student's anticipated absence(s). ~~This notice shall satisfy the District's requirement for a written excuse when the student returns to school.~~ [PRESSPlus1](#)

The Superintendent or designee shall develop and distribute to teachers appropriate procedures regarding student absences for religious reasons ~~and include a list of religious holidays on which a student shall be excused from school attendance,~~ including how teachers are notified of a student's impending absence, and the State law requirement that teachers provide the student with an equivalent opportunity to make up any examination, study, or work requirement.

LEGAL REF.:

~~Religious Freedom Restoration Act, 775 ILCS 35/.~~

105 ILCS 5/26-1 and 5/26-2b.

775 ILCS 35/, Religious Freedom Restoration Act.

CROSS REF.: 7:70 (Attendance and Truancy)

~~ADOPTED: January 28, 2019~~

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. Updated in response to 105 ILCS 5/26-1, amended by P.A. 102-406. Schools cannot require students who are excused for religious reasons to submit a written excuse after returning to school. **Issue 108, November 2021**

Document Status: Draft Update

BOARD OF EDUCATION

2:110 Qualifications, Term, and Duties of Board Officers

The Board of Education officers are: President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. These officers are elected or appointed by the Board at its organizational meeting.

President

The Board elects a President from its members for a one-year term. The duties of the President are to:

1. Preside at all meetings;
2. Focus the Board meeting agendas on appropriate content;
3. Make all Board committee appointments, unless specifically stated otherwise;
4. Attend and observe any Board committee meeting at his or her discretion;
5. Represent the Board on other boards or agencies;
6. Sign official District documents requiring the President's signature, including Board minutes and Certificate of Tax Levy;
7. Call special meetings of the Board;
8. Serve as the *head of the public body* for purposes of the Open Meetings Act and Freedom of Information Act;
9. Ensure that a quorum of the Board is physically present at all Board meetings, except as otherwise provided by the Open Meetings Act. [PRESSPlus1](#)
10. Administer the oath of office to new Board members;
11. Serve as or appoint the Board's official spokesperson to the media; and
12. Except when the Board President is the subject of a complaint of sexual harassment, a witness, or otherwise conflicted, appoint a qualified outside investigator to conduct an independent review of allegations of sexual harassment made against a Board member by another Board member or elected official.
13. Ensure that the fingerprint-based criminal history records information checks and/or screenings required by State law and policy 5:30, Hiring Process and Criteria, is completed for the Superintendent. [PRESSPlus2](#)

The President is permitted to participate in all Board meetings in a manner equal to all other Board members, including the ability to make and second motions.

The Vice President fills a vacancy in the Presidency.

Vice President

The Board elects a Vice President from its members for a one-year term. The Vice President performs the duties of the President if:

1. The office of President is vacant;
2. The President is absent; or
3. The President is unable to perform the office's duties.

A vacancy in the Vice Presidency is filled by a special Board election.

Secretary

The Board elects a Secretary for a one-year term. The Secretary may be, but is not required to be, a Board member. The Secretary may receive reasonable compensation as determined by the Board before appointment. However, if the Secretary is a Board member, the compensation shall not exceed \$500 per year, as fixed by the Board at least 180 days before the beginning of the term. The duties of the Secretary are to:

1. Keep minutes for all Board meetings, and keep the verbatim record for all closed Board meetings;
2. Mail meeting notification and agenda to news media who have officially requested copies;
3. Keep records of the Board's official acts, and sign them, along with the President, before submitting them to the Treasurer at such times as the Treasurer may require;

4. Report to the Treasurer on or before July 7, annually, such information as the Treasurer is required to include in the Treasurer's report to the Regional Superintendent;
5. Act as the local election official for the District;
6. Arrange public inspection of the budget before adoption;
7. Publish required notices;
8. Sign official District documents requiring the Secretary's signature; and
9. Maintain Board policy and such other official documents as directed by the Board.

The Secretary may delegate some or all of these duties, except when State law prohibits the delegation. The Board appoints a secretary pro tempore, who may or may not be a Board member, if the Secretary is absent from any meeting or refuses to perform the duties of the office. A permanent vacancy in the office of Secretary is filled by special Board election.

Recording Secretary

The Board may appoint a Recording Secretary who is a staff member. The Recording Secretary shall:

1. Assist the Secretary by taking the minutes for all open Board meetings;
2. Assemble Board meeting material and provide it, along with prior meeting minutes, to Board members before the next meeting; and
3. Perform the Secretary's duties, as assigned, except when State law prohibits the delegation.

Treasurer

The Treasurer of the Board shall be either a member of the Board who serves a 1-year term or a non-Board member who serves at the Board's pleasure. A Treasurer who is a Board member may not be compensated. A Treasurer who is not a Board member may be compensated provided it is established before the appointment. The Treasurer must:

1. Be at least 21 years old;
2. Not be a member of the County Board of School Trustees; and
3. Have a financial background or related experience, or 12 credit hours of college-level accounting.

The Treasurer shall:

1. Furnish a bond, which shall be approved by a majority of the full Board;
2. Maintain custody of school funds;
3. Maintain records of school funds and balances;
4. Prepare a monthly reconciliation report for the Superintendent and Board; and
5. Receive, hold, and expend District funds only upon the order of the Board.

A vacancy in the Treasurer's office is filled by Board appointment.

LEGAL REF.:

[5 ILCS 120/7](#) and [420/4A-106](#).

105 ILCS 5/8-1, 5/8-2, 5/8-3, 5/8-6, 5/8-16, 5/8-17, 5/10-1, 5/10-5, 5/10-7, 5/10-8, 5/10-13, 5/10-13.1, 5/10-14, 5/10-16.5, [5/10-21.9](#), and [5/17-1](#), and [5/21B-85](#).

CROSS REF.: 2:80 (Board Member Oath and Conduct), 2:105 (Ethics and Gift Ban), 2:150 (Committees), 2:210 (Organizational Board of Education Meeting), 2:220 (Board of Education Meeting Procedure)

Adopted: December 16, 2019

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. Updated to reflect changes to 5 ILCS 120/7, amended by P.A. 101-640, permitting public bodies to meet remotely without a quorum physically present at the meeting location during a public health emergency. **Issue 108, November 2021**

PRESSPlus 2. The School Code continues to define the board president's role in conducting criminal background investigations and receiving the results of these investigations, including the results for employees of district contractors. 105 ILCS 5/10-21.9. Many districts delegate this task in the hiring process to a human resources department. For more information,

see the subhead entitled Screening in policy 4:175, *Convicted Child Sex Offender; Screening; Notifications*, and the subhead entitled Investigations in policy 5:30, *Hiring Process Criteria*. **Issue 108, November 2021**

Document Status: Draft Update

BOARD OF EDUCATION

2:120 Board Member Development

The School Board desires that its individual members learn, understand, and practice effective governance principles. The Board is responsible for Board member orientation and development. Board members have an equal opportunity to attend State and national meetings designed to familiarize members with public school issues, governance, and legislation.

The Board President and/or Superintendent shall provide all Board members with information regarding pertinent education materials, publications, and notices of training or development.

Mandatory Board Member Training

Each Board member is responsible for his or her own compliance with the mandatory training laws that are described below:

1. Each Board member elected or appointed to fill a vacancy of at least one year's duration must complete at least four hours of professional development leadership training in education and labor law, financial oversight and accountability, and fiduciary responsibilities, and (beginning in the fall of 2023) trauma-informed practices for students and staff within the first year of his or her first term. [PRESSPlus1](#)
2. Each Board member must complete training on the Open Meetings Act no later than 90 days after taking the oath of office for the first time. After completing the training, each Board member must file a copy of the certificate of completion with the Board. Training on the Open Meetings Act is only required once.
3. Each Board member must complete a training program on evaluations under the Performance Evaluation Reform Act (PERA) before participating in a vote on a tenured teacher's dismissal using the optional alternative evaluation dismissal process. This dismissal process is available after the District's PERA implementation date.

The Superintendent or designee shall maintain on the District website a log identifying the complete training and development activities of each Board member, including both mandatory and non-mandatory training.

Professional Development; Adverse Consequences of School Exclusion; Student Behavior

The Board President or Superintendent, or their designees, will make reasonable efforts to provide ongoing professional development to Board members about the adverse consequences of school exclusion and justice-system involvement, effective classroom management strategies, culturally responsive discipline, appropriate and available supportive services for the promotion of student attendance and engagement, and developmentally appropriate disciplinary methods that promote positive and healthy school climates.

Board Self-Evaluation

The Board will conduct periodic self-evaluations with the goal of continuous improvement.

New Board Member Orientation

The orientation process for newly elected or appointed Board members includes:

1. The Board President or Superintendent, or their designees, shall give each new Board member a copy of or online access to the Board Policy Manual, the Board's regular meeting minutes for the past year, and other helpful information including material describing the District and explaining the Board's roles and responsibilities.
2. The Board President or designee shall schedule one or more special Board meetings, or schedule time during regular meetings, for Board members to become acquainted and to review Board processes and procedures.
3. The Board President may request a veteran Board member to mentor a new member.
4. All new members are encouraged to attend workshops for new members conducted by the Illinois Association of School Boards.

Candidates

The Superintendent or designee shall invite all current candidates for the office of Board member to attend: (1) Board meetings, except that this invitation shall not extend to any closed meetings, and (2) pre-election workshops for candidates.

LEGAL REF.:

[5 ILCS 120/1.05](#) and [120/2](#).

[105 ILCS 5/10-16a](#) and [5/24-16.5](#).

CROSS REF.: 2:80 (Board Member Oath and Conduct), 2:125 (Board Member Compensation; Expenses), 2:200 (Types of School Board Meetings)

ADOPTED: January 28, 2019

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. 105 ILCS 5/10-16a, amended by P.A. 102-638. See 105 ILCS 5/10-16a(b-5) for the required and recommended elements of the training regarding trauma-informed practices. **Issue 108, November 2021**

Document Status: Draft Update

BOARD OF EDUCATION

2:220 Board of Education Meeting Procedure

Agenda

The Board of Education President is responsible for focusing the Board meeting 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 Board 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. Any Board member may submit suggested agenda items to the Board President for his or her consideration for an upcoming meeting. District residents may suggest inclusions for the agenda. 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 adequate data and background information, to each Board 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 Board policy 2:200, *Types of Board of Education Meetings*.

The Board President shall determine the order of business at regular Board 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, 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 for casting votes is as follows. The Board member that made the motion to vote will cast the first vote. The Board Member that seconded the motion to vote will cast the second vote. Remaining votes will then be cast in alphabetical order with the Board President always casting the final vote.

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 shall be taken and entered in the Board's minutes.

Any Board member may include a written explanation of his or 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 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 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, including individuals making and seconding motions;
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 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.

~~At least semi-annually~~ 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) ~~decides~~ 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. ^{PRESSPlus1} 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 meeting minutes are available for inspection during regular office hours within 10 days after the Board's approval; they may be inspected in the District's main office, in the presence of the Secretary, the Superintendent or designee, or any Board 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 for at least 60 days.

Verbatim Record of Closed Meetings

The Superintendent, or the Board Secretary when the Superintendent is absent, 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 close to the Board's regular meeting location.

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

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

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 (11th Edition), 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](#).

[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 School Board Meetings), 2:210 (Organizational Board of Education Meeting), 2:230 (Public Participation at Board of Education Meetings and Petitions to the Board)

Adopted: August 24, 2020

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. Required by 5 ILCS 120/2.06(d), amended by P.A. 102-653. If a board is unable to conduct the review every six months, it must do so as soon after as is practicable, taking into account the nature and meeting schedule of the board. A board may also conduct the review more frequently. For the sake of brevity and to align with the closed meeting exception in 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(21) that continues to refer to a public body's *semi-annual* review of its closed session minutes, this policy's exhibits use the term *semi-annual*, even though that term was removed from 5 ILCS 120/2.06(d). **Issue 108, November 2021**

Document Status: Draft Update

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 have 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 sexual harassment complaints governed by policy 2:265, *Title IX Sexual Harassment Grievance Procedure*
3. Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, [29 U.S.C. §791](#) *et seq.*
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 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 policy 2:265, *Title IX Sexual Harassment Grievance Procedure*)
7. Breastfeeding accommodations for students, [105 ILCS 5/10-20.60](#)
8. Bullying, [105 ILCS 5/27-23.7](#)
9. Misuse of funds received for services to improve educational opportunities for educationally disadvantaged or deprived children
10. Curriculum, instructional materials, and/or programs
11. Victims' Economic Security and Safety Act, [820 ILCS 180/](#)
12. Illinois Equal Pay Act of 2003, [820 ILCS 112/](#)
13. Provision of services to homeless students
14. Illinois Whistleblower Act, [740 ILCS 174/](#)
15. 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.*
16. 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 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 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.

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 any complaint alleging bullying and/or cyberbullying of students, 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. For any complaint alleging sexual harassment or other violation of Board policy 5:20, *Workplace Harassment Prohibited*, the Complaint Manager shall process and review the complaint according to that policy, in addition to any response required by this policy.

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. If the Complainant is a student under 18 years of age, the Complaint Manager will notify his or her parents/guardians 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, ~~or 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.

The Complaint Manager will inform, at regular intervals, the person(s) filing a complaint under this policy about the status of the investigation. Within 30 school business days after 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.

The Superintendent will keep the Board informed of all complaints.

If a complaint contains allegations involving the Superintendent or Board member(s), the written

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 mail his or her written decision to the Complainant and the accused by ~~first class U.S. mail~~ registered mail, return receipt requested, and/or personal delivery [PRESSPlus1](#) 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 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 mail its written decision to the Complainant and the accused by registered mail, return receipt requested, and/or personal delivery ~~first class U.S. mail~~ as well as to the Complaint Manager.

This policy 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 a 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 this policy. If possible, the Superintendent will appoint two 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, office addresses, email addresses, and telephone numbers of the Nondiscrimination Coordinator and the Complaint Managers.

Nondiscrimination Coordinator:

Dr. Jon Bartelt

164 S. Euclid Ave.,
Bloomington, IL 60108

jbartelt@sd13.org

630-803-9590

Complaint Managers:

Dr. Jon Bartelt

164 S. Euclid Ave.,
Bloomington, IL 60108

jbartelt@sd13.org

630-893-9590

~~Nicole Gabany Dr.~~
~~Evonne Waugh~~

164 S. Euclid Ave.,
Bloomington, IL 60108

~~ngabany@sd13.org~~
~~ewaugh@sd13.org~~

630-893-9590

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. ~~Age Discrimination in Employment 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.

42 U.S.C. §2000e et seq., Equal Employment Opportunities Act (Title VII of the Civil Rights Act).

42 U.S.C. §2000ff et seq., Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act.

42 U.S.C. §11431 et seq., McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act.

~~Americans With Disabilities Act,~~ 42 U.S.C. §12101 et seq., Americans With Disabilities Act.

~~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).~~

~~Immigration Reform and Control Act, 8 U.S.C. §1324a et seq.~~

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 (final citation pending), 5/10-22.5, 5/22-19, 5/24-4, 5/27-1, 5/27-23.7, and 45/1-15.

5 ILCS 415/10(a)(2), Government Severance Pay Act.

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

~~Illinois Genetic Information Privacy Act,~~ 410 ILCS 513/, Ill. Genetic Information Privacy Act.

~~Illinois Whistleblower Act,~~ 740 ILCS 174/, Whistleblower Act.

740 ILCS 175/, Ill. False Claims Act.

~~Illinois Human Rights Act,~~ 775 ILCS 5/, Ill. Human Rights Act.

~~Victims' Economic Security and Safety Act,~~ 820 ILCS 180/, Victims' Economic Security and Safety Act; 56 Ill.Admin.Code Part 280.

~~Equal Pay Act of 2003,~~ 820 ILCS 112/, Equal Pay Act of 2003.

~~Employee Credit Privacy Act,~~ 820 ILCS 70/, Employee Credit Privacy Act, 70/10(b), and 70/25.

23 Ill.Admin.Code §§1.240, ~~and~~ 200.40, 226.50, and 226.570.

CROSS REF.: 2:105 (Ethics and Gift Ban), 2:265 (Title IX Sexual Harassment Grievance Procedure), 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)

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. Optional; using a delivery method that allows the district to verify the date of receipt is a best practice. **Issue 108, November 2021**

Document Status: Draft Update

OPERATIONAL SERVICES

4:160 Environmental Quality of Buildings and Grounds

The Superintendent shall take all reasonable measures to protect: (1) the safety of District personnel, students, and visitors on District premises from risks associated with hazardous materials and (2) the environmental quality of the District's buildings and grounds.

Pesticides

Restricted use pesticides will not be applied on or within 500 feet of school property during normal school hours. [PRESSPlus1](#)

Before pesticides are used on District premises, the Superintendent or designee shall notify employees and parents/guardians of students as required by the Structural Pest Control Act, [225 ILCS 235/](#), and the Lawn Care Products Application and Notice Act, [415 ILCS 65/](#).

Coal Tar Sealant [PRESSPlus2](#)

Beginning on 1-1-23, before coal tar-based sealant products or high polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon sealant products are used on District premises, the Superintendent or designee shall notify employees and parents/guardians of students in writing or by telephone as required by the Coal Tar Sealant Disclosure Act.

LEGAL REF.:

105 ILCS 5/10-20.17a; 5/10-20.48.

29 C.F.R. §1910.1030, Occupational Exposure to Bloodborne Pathogens, as adopted by the Illinois Department of Labor, 56 Ill.Admin.Code §350.700(b).

29 C.F.R. §1910.1200, Occupational Safety and Health Administration Hazard Communication Standards, as adopted by 820 ILCS 255/1.5, Toxic Substances Disclosure to Employees Act.

20 ILCS 3130/, Green Buildings Act.

~~105 ILCS 5/10-20.17a; 5/10-20.48.~~

105 ILCS 135/, Toxic Art Supplies in Schools Act.

105 ILCS 140/, Green Cleaning School Act.

225 ILCS 235/, Structural Pest Control Act.

415 ILCS 60/14, Illinois Pesticide Act.

415 ILCS 65/, Lawn Care Products Application and Notice Act.

410 ILCS 170/, Coal Tar Sealant Disclosure Act.

820 ILCS 255/, Toxic Substances Disclosure to Employees Act. (*inoperative*)

23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.330.

CROSS REF.: 4:150 (Facility Management and Building Programs), 4:170 (Safety)

Adopted: June 24, 2019

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. The Illinois Pesticide Act (415 ILCS 60/14 3.F., amended by P.A. 102-548) makes it unlawful to apply a restricted use pesticide on or within 500 feet of school property during normal hours, except for whole structure fumigation, and if the pesticide application information listed on the pesticide label is more restrictive than the law, then the more restrictive provision applies. *Normal school hours* means Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. until 4 p.m., excluding days when classes

are not in session. The statute prohibits restricted pesticide applications during *normal hours* but defines *normal school hours*. This policy uses normal school hours. *State Restricted Pesticide Use* is defined as any pesticide use which the Director (Ill. Dept. of Agriculture or his or her authorized representative) determines, subsequent to public hearing, that an additional restriction for that use is needed to prevent unreasonable adverse effects. **Issue 108, November 2021**

PRESSPlus 2. 410 ILCS 170(a)(1)-(4), added by P.A. 102-242, eff. 1-1-23, requires schools to provide written or telephonic notification to employees and parents/guardians of students prior to any application of a coal tar-based sealant product or a high polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon sealant product. Written notifications must: (1) be included in newsletters, bulletins, calendars, or other correspondence currently published by the district (this is the only prong of written notice that is permissive); (2) be given at least 10 business days before the application and should identify the intended date and location of the application of the coal tar-based sealant product or high polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon sealant; (3) include the name and telephone contact number for the school or day care center (if the district has one) personnel responsible for the application; and (4) include any health hazards associated with coal tar-based sealant product or high polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon sealant product, as provided by a corresponding safety data sheet.

Districts may want to include numbers (3) and (4) in their student handbooks. The Ill. Principals Association (IPA) maintains a handbook service that coordinates with PRESS material, Online Model Student Handbook (MSH), at: www.ilprincipals.org/resources/model-student-handbook. **Issue 108, November 2021**

Document Status: Draft Update - New

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

New/Unpublished Section

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. [PRESSPlus1](#)

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 boundary violations pursuant to policy 5:120, *Employee Ethics; Conduct; and Conflict of Interest*;
 - b. Evidence-informed [PRESSPlus2](#) content on preventing, recognizing, reporting, and responding to child sexual abuse, grooming behaviors, and boundary violations pursuant to policies 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*; 2:265, *Title IX Sexual Harassment Grievance Procedure*; 5:90, *Abused and Neglected Child Reporting*; 5:100, *Staff Development Program*; and 5:120, *Employee Ethics; Conduct; and Conflict of Interest*; and
 - c. How to report child sexual abuse, grooming behaviors, and/or boundary violations pursuant to policies 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*; 2:265, *Title IX Sexual Harassment Grievance Procedure*; and 5:90, *Abused and Neglected Child Reporting*.
3. Provide information to parents/guardians in student handbooks about the warning signs [PRESSPlus3](#) of child sexual abuse, grooming behaviors, and boundary violations with evidence-informed educational information that also includes: [PRESSPlus4](#)
 - a. Assistance, referral, or resource information, including how to recognize grooming behaviors, [PRESSPlus5](#) appropriate relationships between District employees and students based upon policy 5:120, *Employee Ethics; 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 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. [PRESSPlus6](#)

LEGAL REF.:

105 ILCS 5/10-23.13, 5/27-9.1a, and 5/27-13.2.

105 ILCS 110/3, 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 Sexual Harassment 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; Conduct; and Conflict of Interest), 6:60 (Curriculum Content), 7:20

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. This policy is created in response to 105 ILCS 5/10-23.13 (*Erin's Law*), amended by P.A. 102-610, which requires districts to adopt and implement a policy addressing sexual abuse of children that includes an age-appropriate and evidence-informed curriculum for preK-12 students, evidence-informed training for school personnel on child sexual abuse, and evidence-informed educational information for parents/guardians in school handbooks. For more information, see this policy's footnotes and the Ethics, Training, and Educator Misconduct bundle in the **PRESS** Issue 108 Update Memo, available at **PRESS** Online by logging in at www.iasb.com. **Issue 108, November 2021**

PRESSPlus 2. Two Illinois laws address "evidence-informed." *Evidence-informed* per *Erin's Law* means modalities that were created utilizing components of evidence-based treatments or curriculums. 105 ILCS 5/10-23.13(a), added by P.A. 102-610. Contrast with National Sex Education Standards (NSES) at 105 ILCS 5/27-9.1a(a), added by P.A. 102-552, which defines an *evidence-informed program* as "a program that uses the best available research and practice knowledge to guide program design and implementation." **Issue 108, November 2021**

PRESSPlus 3. 105 ILCS 5/10-23.13(b) and (b)(1); warning signs and *likely* warning signs are mentioned twice in the law. This policy uses *likely* in the purpose introduction. The Ill. Principals Association (IPA) maintains a handbook service that coordinates with **PRESS** material, Online Model Student Handbook (MSH), at: www.ilprincipals.org/resources/model-student-handbook. **Issue 108, November 2021**

PRESSPlus 4. This information is listed in 7:190-E2, *Student Handbook Checklist*, available at **PRESS** Online by logging in at www.iasb.com. **Issue 108, November 2021**

PRESSPlus 5. Providing information to parents/guardians about how to recognize grooming behaviors is not in *Erin's Law*; it only addresses informing parents/guardians about the methods for increasing their awareness and knowledge of grooming behaviors. 105 ILCS 5/10-23.13(b)(1). This policy requires the district to provide information to parents/guardians about how to recognize grooming behaviors to: (1) effect the purpose of *Erin's Law*; (2) align with the intent of the following statutes: 105 ILCS 110/3 (Critical Health Problems and Comprehensive Health Education Act); 105 ILCS 5/27-9.1a(b), added by P.A. 102-552 (requires comprehensive health and safety and comprehensive sexual health education a/k/a NSES); and 105 ILCS 5/27-13.2 (educating all students to recognize and avoid sexual abuse and assault) and (3) align with the notification requirements in 105 ILCS 5/27-13.2 (parents/guardians of K-8 students prior to commencing instruction in recognizing and avoiding sexual abuse). **Issue 108, November 2021**

PRESSPlus 6. Required by 105 ILCS 5/27-13.2. See 6:60-AP1, E1, *Notice to Parents/Guardians of Sexual Abuse and Assault Awareness and Prevention Education; Requests to Examine Materials; Written Objection(s) and/or Opt-outs*, available at **PRESS** Online by logging in at www.iasb.com. **Issue 108, November 2021**

Document Status: Draft Update

OPERATIONAL SERVICES

4:170 Safety

Safety and Security

All District operations, including the education program, shall be conducted in a manner that will promote the safety and security of everyone on District property or at a District event. The Superintendent or designee shall develop, implement, and maintain a comprehensive safety and security plan that includes, without limitation:

1. An emergency operations and crisis response plan(s) addressing prevention, preparation, response, and recovery for each school;
2. Provisions for a coordinated effort with local law enforcement and fire officials, emergency medical services personnel, and the Board Attorney;
3. A school safety drill plan;
4. Instruction in safe bus riding practices; and
5. A clear, rapid, factual, and coordinated system of internal and external communication.

In the event of an emergency that threatens the safety of any person or property, students and staff are encouraged to follow the best practices discussed for their building regarding the use of any available cellular telephones.

School Safety Drill Plan

During every academic year, each school building that houses school children shall conduct, at a minimum, each of the following in accordance with the School Safety Drill Act, [105 ILCS 128/](#):

1. Three school evacuation drills to address and prepare students and school personnel for fire incidents. One of these three drills shall require the participation of the local fire department or district.
2. One bus evacuation drill
3. One severe weather and shelter-in-place drill to address and prepare students and school personnel for possible tornado incidents.
4. One law enforcement **lockdown** drill to address a school shooting incident and to evaluate the preparedness of school personnel and students. This drill shall occur no later than 90 days after the first day of school of each year, and shall require the participation of all school personnel and students present at school at the time of the drill, except for those exempted by administrators, **or school support personnel, or a parent/guardian.** [PRESSPlus1](#)

Annual Review

The School Board or its designee will annually review each school building's emergency operations and crisis response plan(s), protocols, and procedures, as well as each building's compliance with the school safety drill plan. This annual review shall be in accordance with the School Safety Drill Act ([105 ILCS, 128/](#)) and the Joint Rules of the Office of the State Fire Marshal and the Ill. State Board of Education (ISBE). ([29 Ill Admin. Code Part 1500](#)).

Automated External Defibrillator (AED)

The Superintendent or designee shall implement a written plan for responding to medical emergencies at the District's physical fitness facilities in accordance with the Fitness Facility Medical Emergency Preparedness Act and shall file a copy of the plan with the Ill. Dept. of Public Health (IDPH). The plan shall provide for an at least one automated external defibrillator (AED) to be available at every physical fitness facility on the premises according to State law requirements.

The District shall have an AED on site as well as a trained AED user: (1) on staff during staffed business ours; and (2) available during activities or events sponsored and conducted or supervised by the District. The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that every AED on the District's premises is properly tested and maintained in accordance with rules developed by the IDPH. This policy does not create an obligation to use an AED.

Carbon Monoxide Alarms

The Superintendent or designee shall implement a plan with the District's local fire officials to:

1. Determine which school buildings to equip with approved *carbon monoxide alarms or carbon monoxide detectors*.

2. Locate the required carbon monoxide alarms or carbon monoxide detectors within 20 feet of a carbon monoxide emitting device, and
3. Incorporate carbon monoxide alarm or detector activation procedures into each school building that requires a carbon monoxide alarm or detector. The Superintendent or designee shall ensure each school building annually reviews these procedures.

Unsafe School Choice Option

The unsafe school choice option allows students to transfer to another District school or to a public charter school within the District. The unsafe school choice option is available to:

1. All students attending a persistently dangerous school, as defined by State law and identified by the ISBE.
2. Any student who is a victim of a violent criminal offense, as defined by [725 ILCS 120/3](#) that occurred on school grounds during regular school hours or during a school-sponsored event.

The Superintendent or designee shall develop procedures to implement the unsafe school choice option.

Lead Testing in Water

The Superintendent or designee shall implement testing for lead in each source of drinking water in school buildings in accordance with the Ill. Plumbing License Law and guidance published by the IDPH. The Superintendent or designee shall notify parent(s)/guardian(s) about the sampling results from their children's respective school buildings.

Emergency Closing

The Superintendent is authorized to close school(s) in the event of hazardous weather or other emergency that threaten the safety of students, staff members, or school property.

LEGAL REF.:

[105 ILCS 5/10-20.2](#), [5/10-20.57](#), [5/18-12](#), and [5/18-12.5](#).

105 ILCS 128/, School Safety Drill Act, ~~implemented by~~ 29 Ill.Admin.Code Part 1500.

[210 ILCS 74/](#), Physical Fitness Facility Medical Emergency Preparedness Act.

[225 ILCS 320/35.5](#), Ill. Plumbing License Law.

CROSS REF.: 4:110 (Transportation), 4:175 (Convicted Child Sex Offender; Screening; Notifications), 4:180 (Pandemic Preparedness; **Management; and Recovery**), 5:30 (Hiring Process and Criteria), 8:30 (Visitors to and Conduct on School Property), 8:100 (Relations with Other Organizations and Agencies)

Adopted: January 28, 2019

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. 105 ILCS 128/20(c), amended by P.A. 102-395. While 105 ILCS 128/20(c) uses both *lockdown drill* and *walk-through lockdown drill*, the terms are synonymous. For brevity, this material uses the term *lockdown drill*. Schools must (1) notify parents/guardians in advance of any lockdown drill that involves student participation, and (2) allow parents/guardians to exempt their child(ren) from participating for any reason. For students who do not participate in the lockdown drill, districts must provide alternative safety education and instruction related to an active threat or active shooter event. For students who do participate in the lockdown drill, districts must allow them to ask questions related to it.

Law enforcement may only run an active shooter simulation, including simulated gun fire drills, on school days when students are not present. 105 ILCS 128/20(c)(5)-(8), added by P.A. 102-395. **Issue 108, November 2021**

Document Status: Draft Update

General Personnel

5:100 Staff Development Program

The Superintendent or designee shall implement a staff development program. The goal of such program shall be to update and improve the skills and knowledge of staff members in order to achieve and maintain a high level of job performance and satisfaction. Additionally, the development program for licensed staff members shall be designed to effectuate the District and School Improvement Plans so that student learning objectives meet or exceed goals established by the District and State.

The staff development program shall include the Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act (ANCRA), School Code, and awareness and prevention of child sexual abuse and grooming behaviors (Erin's Law) training as follows (see policies 4:165, Awareness and Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse and Grooming Behaviors, and 5:90, Abused and Neglected Child Reporting).[PRESSPlus1](#)

1. Staff development for local school site personnel who work with students in grades kindergarten through 8, in the detection, reporting, and prevention of child abuse and neglect.
2. Within three months of employment, each staff member must complete mandated reporter training from a provider or agency with expertise in recognizing and reporting child abuse. Mandated reporter training must be completed again at least every three years.
3. By January 31, 2023, and every year after, all school personnel must complete evidence-informed training on preventing, reporting, and responding to child sexual abuse, grooming behaviors, and boundary violations.

The staff development program shall provide, at a minimum, at least once every two years, the in-service training of licensed school personnel and administrators on current best practices regarding the identification and treatment of attention deficit disorder and attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, the application of non-aversive behavioral interventions in the school environment, and the use of psychotropic or psychostimulant medication for school-age children.

The staff development program shall provide, at a minimum, once every two years, the in-service training of all District staff on educator ethics, teacher-student conduct, and school employee-student conduct.

In addition, the staff development program shall include each of the following:

1. At least, once every two years, training of all District staff by a person with expertise on anaphylactic reactions and management.
2. At least every two years, an in-service to train school personnel, at a minimum, to understand, provide information and referrals, and address issues pertaining to youth who are parents, expectant parents, or victims of domestic or sexual violence.
3. Training that, at a minimum, provides District staff with a basic knowledge of matters relating to acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) and the availability of appropriate sources of counseling and referral.
4. Training for licensed school personnel and administrators who work with students in grades kindergarten through 8 to identify the warning signs of mental illness and suicidal behavior in youth along with appropriate intervention and referral techniques.
5. ~~5. Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act (ANCRA), School Code, and Erin's Law Training as follows:~~

~~a. Staff development for local school site personnel who work with students in grades kindergarten through 8, in the detection, reporting and prevention of child abuse and neglect (see policy 5:90, Abused and Neglected Child Reporting).~~

~~b. Within three months of employment, each staff member must complete mandated reporter training from a provider or agency with expertise in recognizing and reporting child abuse. Mandated reporter training must be completed again at least every three years (see policy 5:90, Abused and Neglected Child Reporting).~~

~~c. Informing educators about the recommendation in the Erin's Law Taskforce Report requesting them to attend continuing professional development programs that address the prevention and identification of child sexual abuse (see policy 5:90, Abused and Neglected Child Reporting).~~

6. Education for staff instructing students in grades 7 through 8, concerning teen dating violence as recommended by the District's Nondiscrimination Coordinator, Building Principal, Assistant Building Principal, Dean of Students or Complaint Manager.

7. Ongoing professional development for teachers, administrators, school resource officers, and staff regarding the adverse consequences of school exclusion and justice-system involvement, effective classroom management strategies, culturally responsive discipline, the appropriate and available supportive services for the promotion of student attendance and engagement, and developmentally appropriate disciplinary methods that promote positive and healthy school climates.
8. Annual continuing education and/or training opportunities (*professional standards*) for school nutrition program directors, managers, and staff. Each school food authority's director shall document compliance with this requirement by the end of each school year and maintain documentation for a three year period.
9. The following individuals must complete concussion training as specified in the Youth Sports Concussion Safety Act: coaches and assistant coaches (whether volunteer or employee) of an interscholastic athletic activity; nurses, licensed and/or non-licensed healthcare professionals serving on the Concussion Oversight Team; athletic trainers; game officials of an interscholastic athletic activity; and physicians serving on the Concussion Oversight Team.
10. Every two years, school personnel who work with students must complete an in-person or online training program on the management of asthma, the prevention of asthma symptoms, and emergency response in the school setting.
11. Training for school personnel to develop cultural competency, including understanding and reducing implicit racial bias.
12. For school personnel who work with hazardous or toxic materials on a regular basis, training on the safe handling and use of such materials.
13. For nurses, administrators, [school guidance](#) [PRESSPlus2](#) counselors, teachers, persons employed by a local health department and assigned to a school, and persons who contract with the District to perform services in connection with a student's seizure action plan, training in the basics of seizure recognition, first aid, and appropriate emergency protocols.
14. For all District staff, annual sexual harassment prevention training.
15. Title IX requirements for training as follows (see policy 2:265, *Title IX Sexual Harassment Grievance Procedure*):
 - a. For all District staff, training on the definition of sexual harassment, the scope of the District's education program or activity, all relevant District policies and procedures, and the necessity to promptly forward all reports of sexual harassment to the Title IX Coordinator.
 - b. For school personnel designated as Title IX coordinators, investigators, decision-makers, or informal resolution facilitators, training on the definition of sexual harassment, the scope of the District's education program or activity, how to conduct an investigation and grievance process (including hearings, appeals, and informal resolution processes, as applicable), and how to serve impartially.
 - c. For school personnel designated as Title IX investigators, training on issues of relevance to create an investigative report that fairly summarizes relevant evidence.
 - d. For school personnel designated as Title IX decision-makers, training on issues of relevance of questions and evidence, including when questions and evidence about a complainant's sexual predisposition or prior sexual behavior are not relevant.

The Superintendent shall develop protocols for administering youth suicide awareness and prevention education to staff consistent with Board policy 7:290, *Suicide and Depression Awareness and Prevention*.

An opportunity shall be provided for all staff members to acquire, develop, and maintain the knowledge and skills necessary to properly administer life-saving techniques and first aid, including the Heimlich maneuver, cardiopulmonary resuscitation, and the use of an automated external defibrillator, in accordance with a nationally recognized certifying organization. Physical fitness facilities' staff must be trained in cardiopulmonary resuscitation and use of an automated external defibrillator.

LEGAL REF.:

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

[42 U.S.C. §1758b](#), [Pub. L. 111-296](#), Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010; [7 C.F.R. Parts 210](#) and [235](#).

[105 ILCS 5/2-3.62](#), [5/10-20.17a](#), [5/10-20.61](#), [5/10-22.6\(c-5\)](#), [5/10-22.39](#), [5/10-23.12](#), [5/10-23.13](#), [5/22-80\(h\)](#), and [5/24-5](#).

[105 ILCS 25/1.15](#), Interscholastic Athletic Organization Act.

[105 ILCS 150/25](#), Seizure Smart School Act.

[105 ILCS 110/3](#), Critical Health Problems and Comprehensive Health Education Act.

[325 ILCS 5/4](#), Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act.

[745 ILCS 49/](#), Good Samaritan Act.

[775 ILCS 5/2-109](#), III. Human Rights Act.

[23 Ill.Admin.Code §§ 22.20](#), [226.800](#), and [Part 525](#).

CROSS REF.: 2:265 (Title IX Sexual Harassment Grievance Procedure), 3:40 (Superintendent), 3:50 (Administrative Personnel Other Than the Superintendent), 4:160 (Environmental Quality of Buildings and Grounds), [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; Conduct; and Conflict of Interest), 5:250 (Leaves of Absence), 6:15 (School Accountability), 6:20 (School Year Calendar and Day), 6:50 (School Wellness), 6:160 (English Learners), 7:10 (Equal Educational Opportunities), 7:20 (Harassment of Students Prohibited), 7:180 (Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment), 7:185 (Teen Dating Violence Prohibited), 7:270 (Administering Medicines to Students), 7:285 (Food Allergy Management Program), 7:290 (Suicide and Depression Awareness and Prevention), 7:305 (Student Athlete Concussions and Head Injuries)

Adopted: October 26, 2020

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. 105 ILCS 5/10-23.12, amended by P.A. 101-531; 325 ILCS 5/4(j), amended by P.A.s 101-564 and 102-604; and *Erin's Law*, 105 ILCS 5/10-23.13, amended by P.A. 102-610.

Mandated reporter training may be in-person or web-based and must include, at a minimum, information on the following topics: (1) indicators for recognizing child abuse and child neglect; (2) the process for reporting suspected child abuse and child neglect and the required documentation; (3) responding to a child in a trauma-informed manner; (4) understanding the response of child protective services and the role of the reporter after a call has been made; and (5) implicit bias.

Implicit bias means the attitudes or internalized stereotypes that affect people's perceptions, actions, and decisions in an unconscious manner and that exist and often contribute to unequal treatment of people based on race, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, disability, and other characteristics. The implicit bias topic must include, at a minimum: (1) information on implicit bias; (2) information on racial and ethnic sensitivity; and (3) tools to adjust automatic patterns of thinking and ultimately eliminate discriminatory behaviors. 325 ILCS 5/4(j), amended by P.A.s 101-564 and 102-604.

Districts must provide mandated reporter training through either DCFS, an entity authorized to provide continuing education through the Dept. of Financial and Professional Regulation, the Ill. State Board of Education, the Ill. Law Enforcement Training Standards Board, the Ill. State Police, or an organization approved by DCFS to provide mandated reporter training. *Child-serving organizations*, which are not defined in ANCRA, are "encouraged to provide in-person annual trainings." **Issue 108, November 2021**

PRESSPlus 2. Updated in response to P.A. 102-197, changing the term *school guidance counselor* to *school counselor* to clarify that a school counselor's role is broader than the role of a school guidance counselor. School counselors have a licensed school support personnel endorsement, and the role of a school counselor includes academic, social-emotional, and college and career counseling. **Issue 108, November 2021**

Document Status: Draft Update

General Personnel

5:120 Employee Ethics; Conduct; and Conflict of Interest

Professional and Appropriate Conduct

All District employees are expected to maintain high standards in their school relationships, to demonstrate integrity and honesty, to be considerate and cooperative, and to maintain professional and appropriate relationships with students, parents, staff members, and others. In addition, the *Code of Ethics for Illinois Educators*, adopted by the Illinois State Board of Education, is incorporated by reference into this policy. Any employee who sexually harasses a student, willfully or negligently fails to report an instance of suspected child abuse or neglect as required by the Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act (325 ILCS 5/), engages in grooming as defined in 720 ILCS 5/11-25, engages in grooming behaviors, violates boundaries for appropriate school employee-student conduct, [PRESSPlus1](#) or otherwise violates an employee conduct standard will be subject to discipline up to and including dismissal.

The Superintendent or designee shall identify appropriate employee conduct standards and provide them to all District employees. [PRESSPlus2](#) Standards related to school employee-student conduct shall, at a minimum:

1. Incorporate the prohibitions noted in paragraph 1 of this policy;
2. Define prohibited grooming behaviors [PRESSPlus3](#) to include, at a minimum, sexual misconduct. Sexual misconduct [PRESSPlus4](#) is (i) any act, including but not limited to, any verbal, nonverbal, written, or electronic communication or physical activity, (ii) by an employee with direct contact with a student, (iii) that is directed toward or with a student to establish a romantic or sexual relationship with the student. Examples include, but are not limited to:
 - a. A sexual or romantic invitation
 - b. Dating, or soliciting a date
 - c. Engaging in sexualized or romantic dialog
 - d. Making sexually suggestive comments that are directed toward or with a student
 - e. Self-disclosure or physical exposure of a sexual, romantic, or erotic nature
 - f. A sexual, indecent, romantic, or erotic contact with the student
3. Identify expectations for employees to maintain professional relationships with students, including expectations for employee-student boundaries based upon students' ages, grade levels, and developmental levels. [PRESSPlus5](#) Such expectations shall establish guidelines for specific areas, including but not limited to:
 - a. Transporting a student
 - b. Taking or possessing a photo or video of a student
 - c. Meeting with a student or contacting a student outside the employee's professional role
4. Reference employee reporting requirements of the Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act (325 ILCS 5/), Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (20 U.S.C. §1681 et seq.), and the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (20 U.S.C. § 7926);
5. Outline how employees can report prohibited behaviors and/or boundary violations pursuant to Board policies 2:260, Uniform Grievance Procedure; 2:265, Title IX Sexual Harassment Grievance Procedure; and 5:90, Abused and Neglected Child Reporting; [PRESSPlus6](#) and
6. Reference required employee training related to educator ethics, child abuse, grooming behaviors, and boundary violations as required by law and policies 2:265, Title IX Sexual Harassment Grievance Procedure; 4:165, Awareness and Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse and Grooming Behaviors; 5:90, Abused and Neglected Child Reporting; and 5:100, Staff Development Program.

Statement of Economic Interests

The following employees must file a *Statement of Economic Interests* as required by the Illinois Governmental Ethics Act:

1. Superintendent;
2. Building Principal;
3. Head of any department;
4. Any employee who, as the District's agent, is responsible for negotiating one or more contracts including collective

bargaining agreement(s), in the amount of \$1,000 or greater;

5. Hearing officer;
6. Any employee having supervisory authority for 20 or more employees; and
7. Any employee in a position that requires an administrative or a chief school business official endorsement.

Ethics and Gift Ban

Board of Education policy 2:105, *Ethics and Gift Ban*, applies to all District employees. Students shall not be used in any manner for promoting a political candidate or issue.

Prohibited Interests; Conflict of Interest; and Limitation of Authority

In accordance with [Section 22-5 of the School Code](#), "no school officer or teacher shall be interested in the sale, proceeds, or profits of any book, apparatus, or furniture used or to be used in any school with which such officer or teacher may be connected," except when the employee is the author or developer of instructional materials listed with the Illinois State Board of Education and adopted for use by the Board. An employee having an interest in instructional materials must file an annual statement with the Board Secretary.

For the purpose of acquiring profit or personal gain, no employee shall act as an agent of the District nor shall an employee act as an agent of any business in any transaction with the District. This includes participation in the selection, award or administration of a contract supported by a federal award or State award governed by the Grant Accountability and Transparency Act (GATA) ([30 ILCS 708/](#)) when the employee has a real or apparent conflict of interest. A conflict of interest arises when an employee or any of the following individuals has a financial or other interest in the entity selected for the contract:

1. Any person that has a close personal relationship with an employee that may compromise or impair the employee's fairness and impartiality, including a member of the employee's immediate family or household;
2. An employee's business partner; or
3. An entity that employs or is about to employ the employee or one of the individuals listed in one or two above.

Employees shall neither solicit nor accept gratuities, favors, or anything of monetary value from contractors, potential contractors, or parties to agreements or contracts. Situations in which the interest is not substantial or the gift is an unsolicited item of nominal value must comply with State law and Board policy 2:105, *Ethics and Gift Ban*.

Outside Employment

Employees shall not engage in any other employment or in any private business during regular working hours or at such other times as are necessary to fulfill appropriate assigned duties.

Incorporated
by reference: 5:120-E (Code of Ethics for [Illinois](#) Educators)

LEGAL REF.:

[U.S. Constitution, First Amendment.](#)

[2 C.F.R. §200.318\(c\)\(1\).](#)

[5 ILCS 420/4A-101](#), Ill. Governmental Ethics Act.

[5 ILCS 430/](#), State Officials and Employee Ethics Act.

[30 ILCS 708/](#), Grant Accountability and Transparency Act.

[50 ILCS 135/](#), Local Governmental Employees Political Rights Act.

105 ILCS 5/10-22.39, [5/10-23.13](#), and [5/22-5](#), and [5/22-90](#) (final citation pending).

325 ILCS 5/, Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act.

775 ILCS 5/5A-102, Ill. Human Rights Act.

23 Ill.Admin.Code Part 22, Code of Ethics for [Illinois](#) Educators.

[Pickering v. Board of Township H.S. Dist. 205](#), 391 U.S. 563 (1968).

[Garcetti v. Ceballos](#), 547 U.S. 410 (2006).

CROSS REF.: 2:105 (Ethics and Gift Ban), [2:265 \(Title IX Sexual Harassment Grievance Procedure\)](#), 4:60 (Purchases and 5:120

Contracts), 4:165 (Awareness and Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse and Grooming Behaviors), 5:90 (Abused and Neglected Child Reporting), 5:100 (Staff Development Program), 5:125 (Personal Technology and Social Media; Usage and Conduct), 7:20 (Harassment of Students Prohibited)

Adopted: December 16, 2019

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. *Erin's Law*, 105 ILCS 5/10-23.13, amended by P.A. 102-610. **Issue 108, November 2021**

PRESSPlus 2. Sample conduct standards are contained in administrative procedure 5:120-AP2, *Employee Conduct Standards*, available at **PRESS** Online by logging in at www.iasb.com. These items are subjects of mandatory collective bargaining. Consult the board attorney for advice before establishing them. **Issue 108, November 2021**

PRESSPlus 3. 105 ILCS 5/10-23.13(b), amended by P.A. 102-610. **Issue 108, November 2021**

PRESSPlus 4. This definition of *sexual misconduct* is adapted from HB 1975, legislation that did not pass in the first half of the 102nd Ill. General Assembly; however, it includes the results of collaboration to implement some of the recommendations of the *Make Sexual and Severe Physical Abuse Fully Extinct (Make S.A.F.E.) Taskforce* and was endorsed by Stop Educator Sexual Abuse Misconduct & Exploitation (S.E.S.A.M.E.), a national organization working to prevent sexual exploitation, abuse, and harassment of students by teachers and other school staff. See www.sesamenet.org/ for further information.

As of **PRESS** Issue 108's publication, HB 1975 is still pending in the 102nd General Assembly and is expected to become law. Its enactment could close significant legal loopholes related to combating grooming by broadening the definition of grooming prohibited by the Criminal Code of 2012 and authorizing the Ill. Dept. of Children and Family Services to investigate grooming allegations under the Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act. **Issue 108, November 2021**

PRESSPlus 5. 105 ILCS 5/10-23.13(b), amended by P.A. 102-610. Sample expectations and guidelines are contained in administrative procedure 5:120-AP2, E, *Expectations and Guidelines for Employee-Student Boundaries*, available at **PRESS** Online by logging in at www.iasb.com. Establishing guidelines specific to #3(a), (b), and (c) is not currently required but is a requirement in HB 1975 (See PRESS Plus Comment 4, above). **Issue 108, November 2021**

PRESSPlus 6. 105 ILCS 5/10-23.13(b), amended by P.A. 102-610. **Issue 108, November 2021**

Document Status: Draft Update

General Personnel

5:125 Personal Technology and Social Media; Usage and Conduct

Definitions

Includes - Means "includes without limitation" or "includes, but is not limited to."

Social media - Media for social interaction, using highly accessible communication techniques through the use of web-based and mobile technologies to turn communication into interactive dialogue. This includes, but is not limited to, services such as *Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat, and YouTube.*

Personal technology - Any device that is not owned or leased by the District or otherwise authorized for District use and: (1) transmits sounds, images, text, messages, videos, or electronic information, (2) electronically records, plays, or stores information, or (3) accesses the Internet, or private communication or information networks. This includes laptop computers (e.g., laptops, ultrabooks, and chromebooks), tablets (e.g., iPads®, Kindle®, Microsoft Surface®, and other Android® platform or Windows® devices), smartphones (e.g., iPhone®, BlackBerry®, Android® platform phones, and Windows Phone®), and other devices (e.g., iPod®).

Usage and Conduct

All District employees who use personal technology and or social media shall: [PRESSPlus1](#)

1. Adhere to the high standards for **Professional and Appropriate Conduct** ~~appropriate school relationships~~ required by policy 5:120, *Employee Ethics; Conduct; and Conflict of Interest*, at all times, regardless of the ever-changing social media and personal technology platforms available. This includes District employees posting images or private information about themselves or others in a manner readily accessible to students and other employees that is inappropriate as defined by policy 5:20, *Workplace Harassment Prohibited*; 5:100, *Staff Development Program*; 5:120, *Employee Ethics; Conduct; and Conflict of Interest*; 6:235, *Access to Electronic Networks*; 7:20, *Harassment of Students Prohibited*; and the Ill. Code of Educator Ethics, [23 Ill.Admin.Code §22.20](#).
2. Choose a District-provided or supported method whenever possible to communicate with students and their parents/guardians.
3. Not interfere with or disrupt the educational or working environment, or the delivery of education or educational support services.
4. Inform their immediate supervisor if a student initiates inappropriate contact with them via any form of personal technology or social media.
5. Report instances of suspected abuse or neglect discovered through the use of social media or personal technology pursuant to a school employee's obligations under policy 5:90, *Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Child Reporting*.
6. Not disclose student record information, including student work, photographs of students, names of students, or any other personally identifiable information about students, in compliance ~~Comply~~ with policy 5:130, *Responsibilities Concerning Internal Information*. This means that personal technology and social media may not be used to share, publish, or transmit information about or images of students and/or District employees without proper approval. For District employees, proper approval may include implied consent under the circumstances.
7. Refrain from using the District's logos without permission and follow Board policy 5:170, *Copyright*, and all District copyright compliance procedures.
8. Use personal technology and social media for personal purposes only during non-work times or hours. Any duty-free use must occur during times and places that the use will not interfere with job duties or otherwise be disruptive to the school environment or its operation.
9. Assume all risks associated with the use of personal technology and social media at school or school-sponsored activities, including students' viewing of inappropriate Internet materials through the District employee's personal technology or social media. The Board expressly disclaims any responsibility for imposing content filters, blocking lists, or monitoring of its employees' personal technology and social media.
10. Be subject to remedial and any other appropriate disciplinary action for violations of this policy ranging from prohibiting the employee from possessing or using any personal technology or social media at school to dismissal and/or indemnification of the District for any losses, costs, or damages, including reasonable attorney fees, incurred by the District relating to, or arising out of, any violation of this policy.

The Superintendent shall:

1. Inform District employees about this policy during the in-service on educator ethics, teacher-student conduct, and school employee-student conduct required by Board policy 5:120, *Employee Ethics; Conduct; and Conflict of Interest*.
2. Direct Building Principals to annually:
 - a. Provide their building staff with a copy of this policy.
 - b. Inform their building staff about the importance of maintaining high standards in their school relationships.
 - c. Remind their building staff that those who violate this policy will be subject to remedial and any other appropriate disciplinary action up to and including dismissal.
3. Build awareness of this policy with students, parents, and the community.
4. Ensure that ~~no one for~~ neither the District, ~~nor anyone~~ on its behalf, ~~commits requests of an~~ act prohibited by the Right to Privacy in the Workplace Act, 820 ILCS 55/10; i.e., the Facebook Password Law ~~employee or applicant access in any manner to his or her social networking website or requests passwords to such sites.~~
5. Periodically review this policy and any procedures with District employee representatives and electronic network system administrator(s) and present proposed changes to the Board.

LEGAL REF.:

[105 ILCS 5/21B-75](#) and [5/21B-80](#).

~~Ill. Human Rights Act, 775 ILCS 5/5A-102,~~ Ill. Human Rights Act.

820 ILCS 55/10. Right to Privacy in the Workplace Act.

~~Code of Ethics for Ill. Educators, 23 Ill.Admin.Code §22.20,~~ Code of Ethics for Ill. Educators.

[Garcetti v. Ceballos](#), 547 U.S. 410 (2006).

[Pickering v. High School Dist. 205](#), 391 U.S. 563 (1968).

Mayer v. Monroe County Community School Corp., 474 F.3d 477 (7th Cir. 2007).

CROSS REF.: 4:165 (Awareness and Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse and Grooming Behaviors), 5:20 (Workplace Harassment Prohibited), 5:30 (Hiring Process and Criteria), 5:100 (Staff Development Program), 5:120 (Employee Ethics; Conduct; and Conflict of Interest), 5:130 (Responsibilities Concerning Internal Information), 5:150 (Personnel Records), 5:170 (Copyright), 5:200 (Terms and Conditions of Employment and Dismissal), 6:235 (Access to Electronic Networks), 7:20 (Harassment of Students Prohibited), 7:340 (Student Records)

~~ADOPTED: January 28, 2019~~

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. Updated in response to the requirements of districts outlined in 105 ILCS 5/10-23.13 (*Erin's Law*), amended by P.A. 102-610. For more information about *Erin's Law* requirements, see policy 4:165, *Awareness and Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse and Grooming Behaviors*. See also the Ethics, Training, and Educator Misconduct bundle in the **PRESS** Issue 108 Update Memo, available at **PRESS** Online by logging in at www.iasb.com. **Issue 108, November 2021**

Document Status: Draft Update

General Personnel

5:150 Personnel Records

Prospective Employer Inquiries Concerning a Current or Former Employee's Job Performance [PRESSPlus1](#)

The Superintendent or designee shall manage a process for responding to inquiries by a prospective employer concerning a current or former employee's job performance. The Superintendent shall: [PRESSPlus2](#)

1. Execute the requirements in the Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act whenever another school district asks for a reference concerning an applicant who is or was a District employee and was the subject of a report made by a District employee to Ill. Dept. of Children and Family Services (DCFS); and
2. Comply with the federal law prohibiting the District from providing a recommendation of employment for an employee, contractor, or agent that District knows, or has probable cause to believe, has engaged in sexual misconduct with a student or minor in violation of the law. [PRESSPlus3](#) but the Superintendent or designee may follow routine procedures regarding the transmission of administrative or personnel files for that employee.

When requested for information about an employee by an entity other than a prospective employer, the District will only confirm position and employment dates unless the employee has submitted a written request to the Superintendent or designee.

Maintenance and Access to Records [PRESSPlus4](#)

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

For employees not covered by a current applicable bargaining agreement:

The Superintendent or designee shall manage the maintenance of personnel records in accordance with State and federal law and Board of Education policy. Records, as determined by the Superintendent, are retained for all employment applicants, employees, and former employees given the need for the District to document employment-related decisions, evaluate program and staff effectiveness, and comply with government recordkeeping and reporting requirements. Personnel records shall be maintained in the District's administrative office, under the Superintendent's direct supervision.

Access to personnel records is available as follows:

1. An employee will be given access to his or her personnel records according to State law and guidelines developed by the Superintendent.
2. An employee's supervisor or other management employee who has an employment or business-related reason to inspect the record is authorized to have access.
3. Anyone having the respective employee's written consent may have access.
4. Access will be granted to anyone authorized by State or federal law to have access.
5. All other requests for access to personnel information are governed by Board policy 2:250, *Access to District Public Records*.

LEGAL REF.:

[20 U.S.C. §7926.](#)

[325 ILCS 5/4](#), Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act.

[745 ILCS 46/10](#), Employment Record Disclosure Act.

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

[23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.660.](#)

CROSS REF.: 2:250 (Access to District Public Records), [5:90 \(Abused and Neglected Child Reporting\)](#), 7:340 (Student Records)

Adopted: May 18, 2020

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. Updated in response to 105 ILCS 5/10-23.13 (*Erin's Law*), amended by P.A. 102-610. For more information, see the Ethics, Training, and Educator Misconduct bundle in the **PRESS** Issue 108 Update Memo, available at **PRESS** Online by logging in at www.iasb.com. **Issue 108, November 2021**

PRESSPlus 2. Required by the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) (20 U.S.C. §7926). On 6-27-2018, the U.S. Dept. of Education issued a *Dear Colleague Letter* stating that school policies must explicitly state this requirement. See the resources portion for the letter at: www2.ed.gov/policy/elsec/leg/essa/index.html.

Consult the board attorney about what “or has probable cause to believe, has engaged in sexual misconduct” means. For guidance, policy 5:90, *Abused and Neglected Child Reporting* defines an “alleged incident of sexual abuse” as an incident of sexual abuse of a child, as defined in 720 ILCS 5/11-9.1A, 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. **Issue 108, November 2021**

PRESSPlus 3. Consult the board attorney in these situations for help about what the superintendent may or may not say. Questions exist whether the superintendent says nothing, provides a neutral reference, or whether a *recommendation* could mean positive or negative statements. **Issue 108, November 2021**

PRESSPlus 4. Subheadings are added for clarity. **Issue 108, November 2021**

Document Status: Draft Update

General Personnel

5:185 Family and Medical Leave

Leave Description

An eligible employee may use unpaid family and medical leave (FMLA leave), guaranteed by the federal Family and Medical Leave Act. The U.S. Department of Labor's rules (federal rules) implementing FMLA, as they may be amended from time to time, control FMLA leave.

An eligible employee may take FMLA leave for up to a combined total of 12 weeks each 12-month period, beginning September 1 and ending August 31 of the next year.

During a single 12-month period, an eligible employee's FMLA leave entitlement may be extended to a total of 26 weeks of unpaid leave to care for a covered servicemember (defined in the federal rules) with a serious injury or illness. The "single 12-month period" is measured forward from the date the employee's first FMLA leave to care for the covered servicemember begins.

While FMLA leave is normally unpaid, the District will substitute an employee's accrued compensatory time-off and/or paid leave for unpaid FMLA leave, provided such leave is available for use in accordance with Board policies and rules. [PRESSPlus1](#) In addition, a All policies and rules regarding the use of paid leave apply when paid leave is substituted for unpaid FMLA leave. Any substitution of paid leave for unpaid FMLA leave will count against the employee's FMLA leave entitlement. Use of FMLA leave shall not preclude the use of other applicable unpaid leave that will extend the employee's leave beyond 12 weeks, provided that the use of FMLA leave shall not serve to extend such other unpaid leave. Any full workweek period during which the employee would not have been required to work, including summer break, winter break and spring break, is not counted against the employee's FMLA leave entitlement.

FMLA leave is available in one or more of the following instances:

1. The birth and first-year care of a son or daughter.
2. The adoption or foster placement of a son or daughter, including absences from work that are necessary for the adoption or foster care to proceed and expiring at the end of the 12-month period beginning on the placement date.
3. The serious health condition of an employee's spouse, child, or parent.
4. The employee's own serious health condition that makes the employee unable to perform the functions of his or her job.
5. The existence of a qualifying exigency arising out of the fact that the employee's spouse, child, or parent is a military member on covered active duty or has been notified of an impending call or order to active duty, as provided by federal rules.
6. To care for the employee's spouse, child, parent, or next of kin who is a covered servicemember with a serious injury or illness, as provided by federal rules.

If spouses are employed by the District, they may together take only 12-weeks for FMLA leaves when the reason for the leave is 1 or 2, above, or to care for a parent with a serious health condition, or a combined total of 26 weeks for item 6 above.

An employee may be permitted to work on an intermittent or reduced-leave schedule in accordance with federal rules.

Eligibility

To be eligible for FMLA leave, an employee must be employed at a worksite where at least 50 employees are employed within 75 miles. In addition, one of the following provisions must describe the employee:

1. The employee has been employed by the District for at least 12 months and has been employed for at least [1,000](#) [250](#) [PRESSPlus2](#) hours of service during the 12-month period immediately before the beginning of the leave. The 12 months an employee must have been employed by the District need not be consecutive. However, the District will not consider any period of previous employment that occurred more than seven years before the date of the most recent hiring, except when the service break is due to fulfillment of a covered service obligation under the employee's Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA), [38 U.S.C. 4301](#), *et seq.*, or when a written agreement exists concerning the District's intention to rehire the employee.
2. The employee is a full-time classroom teacher.

Requesting Leave

If the need for the FMLA leave is foreseeable, an employee must provide the Superintendent or designee with at least 30 days' advance notice before the leave is to begin. If 30 days' advance notice is not practicable, the notice must be given as soon as practicable. The employee shall make a reasonable effort to schedule a planned medical treatment so as not to disrupt the District's operations, subject to the approval of the health care provider administering the treatment. The employee shall provide at least verbal notice sufficient to make the Superintendent or designee aware that he or she needs FMLA leave, and the anticipated timing and duration of the leave. Failure to give the required notice for a foreseeable leave may result in a delay in granting the requested leave until at least 30 days after the date the employee provides notice.

Certification

Within 15 calendar days after the Superintendent or designee makes a request for certification for a FMLA leave, an employee must provide one of the following:

1. When the leave is to care for the employee's covered family member with a serious health condition, the employee must provide a complete and sufficient certificate signed by the family member's health care provider.
2. When the leave is due to the employee's own serious health condition, the employee must provide a complete and sufficient certificate signed by the employee's health care provider.
3. When the leave is to care for a covered servicemember with a serious illness or injury, the employee must provide a complete and sufficient certificate signed by an authorized health care provider for the covered servicemember.
4. When the leave is because of a qualified exigency, the employee must provide: (a) a copy of the covered military member's active duty orders or other documentation issued by the military indicating that the military member is on active duty or call to active duty status, and the dates of the covered military member's active duty service, and (b) a statement or description, signed by the employee, of appropriate facts regarding the qualifying exigency for which FMLA leave is requested.

The District may require an employee to obtain a second and third opinion at its expense when it has reason to doubt the validity of a medical certification.

The District may require recertification at reasonable intervals, but not more often than once every 30 days. Regardless of the length of time since the last request, the District may request recertification when the, (1) employee requests a leave extension, (2) circumstances described by the original certification change significantly, or (3) District receives information that casts doubt upon the continuing validity of the original certification. Recertification is at the employee's expense and must be provided to the District within 15 calendar days after the request. The District may request recertification every six months in connection with any absence by an employee needing an intermittent or reduced schedule leave for conditions with a duration in excess of six months.

Failure to furnish a complete and sufficient certification on forms provided by the District may result in a denial of the leave request.

Continuation of Health Benefits

During FMLA leave, employees are entitled to continuation of health benefits that would have been provided if they were working. Any share of health plan premiums being paid by the employee before taking the leave, must continue to be paid by the employee during the FMLA leave. A District's obligation to maintain health insurance coverage ceases if an employee's premium payment is more than 30 days late and the District notifies the employee at least 15 days before coverage will cease.

Changed Circumstances and Intent to Return

An employee must provide the Superintendent or designee reasonable notice of changed circumstances (i.e., within two business days if the changed circumstances are foreseeable) that will alter the duration of the FMLA leave. The Superintendent or designee, taking into consideration all of the relevant facts and circumstances related to an individual's leave situation, may ask an employee who has been on FMLA leave for eight consecutive weeks whether he or she intends to return to work.

Return to Work

If returning from FMLA leave occasioned by the employee's own serious health condition, the employee is required to obtain and present certification from the employee's health care provider that he or she is able to resume work.

An employee returning from FMLA leave will be given an equivalent position to his or her position before the leave, subject to: (1) permissible limitations the District may impose as provided in the FMLA or implementing regulations, and (2) the District's reassignment policies and practices.

Classroom teachers may be required to wait to return to work until the next semester in certain situations as provided by the FMLA regulations.

Implementation

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that: (1) all required notices and responses to leave requests are provided to employees in accordance with the FMLA; and (2) this policy is implemented in accordance with the FMLA. In the event of a conflict between the policy and the FMLA or its regulations, the latter shall control. The terms used in this policy shall be defined as in the FMLA regulations.

LEGAL REF.:

~~Family and Medical Leave Act~~, 29 U.S.C. §2601 et seq., Family and Medical Leave Act, 29 C.F.R. Part 825.

105 ILCS 5/24-6.4.

CROSS REF.: 5:180 (Temporary Illness or Temporary Incapacity), 5:250 (Leaves of Absence), 5:310 (Compensatory Time-Off), 5:330 (Sick Days, Vacation, Holidays, and Leaves)

~~ADOPTED: January 28, 2019~~

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. In order to substitute paid leave for FMLA, it must be available for use under the employer's normal leave policies. For example, under 105 ILCS 5/24-6 and sample board policies 5:250, *Leaves of Absence*, and 5:330, *Sick Day, Vacation, Holidays, and Leaves*, an employee may only substitute 30 days of sick leave for birth without providing a medical certification, even if the employee has 100 sick days accrued; only 30 of those days are available for use.

Once an eligible employee communicates a need to take leave for an FMLA-qualifying reason, a district may not delay designating the leave as FMLA leave, and neither the employee nor a district may decline FMLA protection for that leave, even when a collective bargaining agreement requires or allows for such a delay. Further, when a district requires employees to substitute accrued paid leave for FMLA leave, all the benefits and protections that would otherwise apply during the paid leave (such as accrual of seniority) must continue to apply when substituting for FMLA leave. See *DOL Wage and Hour Division Letter FMLA 2019-3-A* (9-10-19), at: www.dol.gov/sites/dolgov/files/WHD/legacy/files/2019_09_10_3A_FMLA.pdf. **Issue 108, November 2021**

PRESSPlus 2. A provision in State law expands eligibility for FMLA leave to school district employees who have been employed by the district for at least 12 months and work 1,000 hours (rather than the federal FMLA's 1,250 hours) in the 12-month period immediately preceding the leave, which effectively makes more educational support personnel eligible for the leave. 105 ILCS 5/24-6.4, added by P.A. 102-335. **Issue 108, November 2021**

Document Status: Draft Update

Professional Personnel

5:250 Leaves of Absence

Each of the provisions in this policy applies to all professional personnel to the extent that it does not conflict with an applicable collective bargaining agreement or individual employment contract or benefit plan; in the event of a conflict, such provision is severable and the applicable bargaining agreement or individual agreement will control.

Sick and Bereavement Leave, Personal Leave (Personal Days), Leave of Absence Without Pay (General Leaves of Absence), Child-Rearing Leave (Parental Leave), Jury Duty

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

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. [PRESSPlus1](#)

The use of paid sick leave for purposes of adoption, or 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 process or foster care process is underway. [PRESSPlus2](#)

Child 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 child bereavement leave. The purpose, requirements, scheduling, and all other terms of the leave are governed by the Child Bereavement Leave Act. Child bereavement leave allows for: (1) attendance by the bereaved staff member at the funeral or alternative to a funeral of his or her child, (2) making arrangements necessitated by the death of the staff member's child, or (3) grieving the death of the staff member's child, without any adverse employment action.

The leave must be completed within 60 days after the date on which the employee received notice of the death of his or her child. However, in the event of the death of more than one child 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 Child Bereavement Leave Act. This policy does not create any right for an employee to take child bereavement leave that is inconsistent with the Child Bereavement Leave Act.

Sabbatical Leave

Sabbatical leave may be granted in accordance with the School Code.

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.

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 Leave

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 may grant teachers 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, ~~or Gender Violence~~, or Other Crime of Violence [PRESSPlus3](#)

An unpaid leave from work is available to any staff member who: (1) is a victim of domestic violence, sexual violence, ~~or 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, ~~or 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 without suffering adverse employment action.

The Victims' Economic Security and Safety Act 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, 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.](#)).

Leaves to Serve as an Officer or Trustee of a Specific Organization

Upon request, the Board will grant: (1) an unpaid leave of absence to an elected officer of a State or national teacher organization that represents teachers in collective bargaining negotiations, (2) twenty days of paid leave of absence per year to a trustee of the Teachers' Retirement System in accordance with [105 ILCS 5/24-6.3](#), and (3) a paid leave of absence for the local association president of a State teacher association that is an exclusive bargaining agent in the District, or his or her designee, to attend meetings, workshops, or seminars as described in [105 ILCS 5/24-6.2](#).

LEGAL REF.:

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

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

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

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

[820 ILCS 154/](#), Child Bereavement 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: March 23, 2020

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. 105 ILCS 5/24-6, amended by P.A. 102-275, overturned the Illinois Supreme Court's decision in Dynak v. Bd. of Educ. of Wood Dale Sch. Dist. 7, 164 N.E.3d 1226 (Ill. 2020) (finding that a teacher was not entitled to use 30 days of sick leave for birth consecutively before and after an intervening summer break). It is unclear from the language of the statute if an employee can be prohibited from *intermittent* use of 30 working sick days for birth, e.g., such as taking leave once a week). Consult the board attorney for guidance on this issue. **Issue 108, November 2021**

PRESSPlus 2. 105 ILCS 5/24-6, amended by P.A. 102-275. **Issue 108, November 2021**

PRESSPlus 3. *Other crime of violence* means conduct prohibited by 720 ILCS 5/9 (homicide), 720 ILCS 5/11 (sex offenses), 720 ILCS 5/12 (bodily harm), 720 ILCS 5/26.5 (harassing and obscene communications), 720 ILCS 5/29D (terrorism), and 720 ILCS 5/33A (armed violence) or similar provisions of the Criminal Code of 1961. 820 ILCS 180/10(2.5), added by P.A. 102-487. **Issue 108, November 2021**

Document Status: Draft Update

Educational Support Personnel

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

Each of the provisions in this policy applies to all educational support personnel to the extent that it does not conflict with an applicable collective bargaining agreement or individual employment contract or benefit plan; in the event of a conflict, such provision is severable and the applicable bargaining agreement or individual agreement will control.

Sick and Bereavement Leave

Full or part-time educational support personnel who work at least 600 hours per year receive 14 paid sick leave days per year. Part-time employees will receive sick leave pay equivalent to their regular workday. Unused sick leave shall accumulate to the maximum number of days that IMRF will recognize for retirement credit purposes.

Sick leave is defined in State law as personal illness, quarantine at home, serious illness or death in the immediate family or household, or birth, adoption, ~~or~~ placement for adoption, or the acceptance of a child in need of foster care. The Superintendent and/or designee shall monitor the use of sick leave.

As a condition for paying sick leave after three days absence for personal illness ~~or 30 days for birth~~ 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 chiropractic physician licensed under the Medical Practice Act, (3) a licensed advanced practice registered nurse, (4) a licensed physician assistant who has been delegated the authority to perform health examinations by his or her supervising physician, or (5) 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. [PRESSPlus1](#)

The use of paid sick leave ~~for~~ purposes of adoption, ~~or~~ 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. [PRESSPlus2](#)

Vacation

Twelve-month employees shall be eligible for paid vacation days according to the following schedule:

Year 1 vacation may be used after 90 days. Employees starting mid-year will receive a prorated amount to be used after 90 days.

<u>Length of Employment</u>		<u>Monthly Accumulation</u>	<u>Maximum Vacation Leave Earned Per Year</u>
<u>From:</u>	<u>To:</u>		
Beginning of year 2	End of year 4	0.83 Days	10 Days per year
Beginning of year 5	End of year 10	1.25 Days	15 Days per year
Beginning of year 11	End of year 14	1.25 Days	1 additional day until
Beginning of year 15		1.67 Days	20 Days per year

Part-time employees who work at least half-time are entitled to vacation days on the same basis as full-time employees, but the pay will be based on the employee's average number of part-time hours per week during the last vacation accrual year. The Superintendent will determine the procedure for requesting vacation.

Vacation days earned in one fiscal year must be used by the end of the following fiscal year; they do not accumulate, unless a six-month extension is granted by the Superintendent. 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 employees will not be required to work on:

New Year's Day	Labor Day
Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday	Columbus Day
Abraham Lincoln's Birthday	Day After Thanksgiving
Casimir Pulaski's Birthday	2022 20 Election Day PRESSPlus3
Memorial Day	Thanksgiving Day
Juneteenth National Freedom Day PRESSPlus4	
Independence Day	Christmas Day

A holiday will not cause a deduction from an employee's time or compensation. 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 Days

The use of a personal day is subject to the following conditions:

1. When possible, notification and request for the personal day should be submitted to the Immediate Supervisor at least forty-eight (48) hours before the requested date.
2. Personal days may not be used immediately before or immediately after a holiday, or during the first and/or last two weeks of the school year, unless the Superintendent grants prior approval.
3. Personal days may only be used in increments of half day or full day increments.. Personal days not used during the school year shall rollover into unused sick days at the end of the school year.

Leave to Serve as a Trustee of the Ill.~~inois~~ 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 [105 ILCS 5/24-6.3](#).

Other Leaves

Educational support personnel receive the following leaves on the same terms and conditions granted professional personnel in Board policy 5:250, *Leaves of Absence*:

1. Leaves for Service in the Military ~~and General Assembly~~.
2. [Leave for Service in the General Assembly](#). [PRESSPlus5](#)
3. School Visitation Leave.
4. Leaves for Victims of Domestic Violence, Sexual Violence, ~~or~~ Gender Violence, [or Other Crime of Violence](#). [PRESSPlus6](#)
5. Child Bereavement Leave
6. Leave to serve as an election judge.

LEGAL REF.:

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

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

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

[820 ILCS 154/](#), Child Bereavement 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: October 26, 2020

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. Updated in response to 105 ILCS 5/24-6, amended by P.A. 102-275. **Issue 108, November 2021**

PRESSPlus 2. Updated in response to 105 ILCS 5/24-6, amended by P.A. 102-275. **Issue 108, November 2021**

PRESSPlus 3. 10 ILCS 5/2A-1.1c, added by P.A. 102-15 and scheduled to be repealed on 1-1-23, requires any school closed on 2022 Election Day to make itself available to an election authority as a polling place on those days. 2020 Election Day remains a holiday listed in 105 ILCS 5/24-2(e), amended by P.A. 102-15, but no longer appears in this policy. **Issue 108, November 2021**

PRESSPlus 4. Updated in response to 5 ILCS 490/63, amended by P.A.s 102-14, eff. 1-1-22, and 102-334 (enacting Juneteenth National Freedom Day on June 19 each year). Note that conflicts related to celebrating Juneteenth when it falls on a Saturday or Sunday exist, e.g., P.A. 102-14 (the controlling Public Act) states "when June nineteenth falls on a Saturday or Sunday, neither the preceding Friday nor the following Monday shall be held or considered as a *paid* holiday" but contrast P.A. 102-334, stating "when June nineteenth falls on a Sunday, the following Monday shall be held and considered the holiday" (notice the word *paid* is missing and it does not address when Juneteenth falls on a Saturday whether Friday is the holiday). Consult the board attorney about whether Juneteenth should be celebrated as an *unpaid holiday* on either the preceding Friday or the following Monday when it falls on a Saturday or Sunday, respectively, or not at all when it falls on a Saturday. **Issue 108, November 2021**

PRESSPlus 5. Moved from #1, above. Granting General Assembly leave to Educational Support Personnel is optional. **Issue 108, November 2021**

PRESSPlus 6. Updated in response to Victims' Economic Security and Safety Act (VESSA), 820 ILCS 180/, amended by P.A. 102-487. *Other crime of violence* means conduct prohibited by 720 ILCS 5/9 (homicide), 720 ILCS 5/11 (sex offenses), 720 ILCS 5/12 (bodily harm), 720 ILCS 5/26.5 (harassing and obscene communications), 720 ILCS 5/29D (terrorism), and 720 ILCS 5/33A (armed violence) or similar provisions of the Criminal Code of 1961. 820 ILCS 180/10(2.5), added by P.A. 102-487. **Issue 108, November 2021**

Document Status: Draft Update

STUDENTS

7:160 Student Appearance

A student's appearance, including dress and hygiene grooming, must not disrupt the educational process, interfere with the maintenance of a positive teaching/learning climate, or compromise reasonable standards of health, and safety, and decency. The District does not prohibit hairstyles historically associated with race, ethnicity, or hair texture, including, but not limited to, protective hairstyles such as braids, locks, and twists. [PRESSPlus1 Q1](#) Students who disrupt the educational process or compromise standards of health and safety must modify their appearance. Procedures for guiding student appearance, handling students who dress or groom inappropriately will be developed by the Superintendent or designee and included in the Student Handbook(s).

LEGAL REF.:

105 ILCS [5/2-3.25](#) and 5/10-22.25b.

[Tinker v. Des Moines Independent Sch. Dist.](#), 89 S.Ct. 733 393 U.S. 503 (1969).

CROSS REF.: [7:10 \(Equal Educational Opportunities\)](#), 7:130 (Student Rights and Responsibilities), 7:190 (Student Behavior)

[ADOPTED: January 28, 2019](#)

Questions and Answers:

***Required Question 1. If the board would like to expand upon the law's requirement of race, ethnicity, or hair texture, IASB will amend this sentence as follows: "The District does not prohibit hairstyles or hair textures historically associated with historically associated with race, ethnicity, or hair texture, or any other protected classes under Board policy 7:10, *Equal Educational Opportunities*, including, but not limited to, protective hairstyles such as braids, locks, and twists."

Would the board would like to expand upon the law's requirement of race, ethnicity, or hair texture?

- ☐ No (default)
☐ Yes.

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. Required by 105 ILCS 5/10-22.25b, amended by P.A. 102-360, eff. 1-1-22, for recognition under 105 ILCS 5/2-3.25 (*Jett Hawkins Law*). For districts to receive recognition from the Ill. State Board of Education (ISBE), they must provide assurances of compliance with the *Jett Hawkins Law*. This policy's second sentence does that. ISBE will have resource materials on its website by 7-1-22. State or federal law also controls this policy's content. **Issue 108, November 2021**

Document Status: Draft Update

STUDENTS

7:180 Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment

Bullying, intimidation, and harassment diminish a student's ability to learn and a school's ability to educate. Preventing students from engaging in these disruptive behaviors and providing all students equal access to a safe, non-hostile learning environment are important District goals.

Bullying on the basis of actual or perceived race, color, national origin, military status, unfavorable discharge status from the 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, or actual or potential marital or parental status, including pregnancy, association with a person or group with one or more of the aforementioned actual or perceived characteristics, or any other distinguishing characteristic is prohibited in each of the following situations:

1. During any school-sponsored education program or activity.
2. While in school, on school property, on school buses or other school vehicles, at designated school bus stops waiting for the school bus, or at school-sponsored or school-sanctioned events or activities.
3. Through the transmission of information from a school computer, a school computer network, or other similar electronic school equipment.
4. Through the transmission of information from a computer that is accessed at a nonschool-related location, activity, function, or program or from the use of technology or an electronic device that is not owned, leased, or used by the School District or school if the bullying causes a substantial disruption to the educational process or orderly operation of a school. This paragraph (item #4) applies only when a school administrator or teacher receives a report that bullying through this means has occurred; it does not require staff members to monitor any nonschool-related activity, function, or program.

Definitions from [105 ILCS 5/27-23.7](#)

Bullying includes *cyberbullying* and means any severe or pervasive physical or verbal act or conduct, including communications made in writing or electronically, directed toward a student or students that has or can be reasonably predicted to have the effect of one or more of the following:

1. Placing the student or students in reasonable fear of harm to the student's or students' person or property;
2. Causing a substantially detrimental effect on the student's or students' physical or mental health;
3. Substantially interfering with the student's or students' academic performance; or
4. Substantially interfering with the student's or students' ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities, or privileges provided by a school.

Bullying may take various forms, including without limitation one or more of the following: harassment, threats, intimidation, stalking, physical violence, sexual harassment, sexual violence, theft, public humiliation, destruction of property, or retaliation for asserting or alleging an act of

bullying. This list is meant to be illustrative and non-exhaustive. [PRESSPlus1](#)

Cyberbullying means bullying through the use of technology or any electronic communication, including without limitation any transfer of signs, signals, writing, images, sounds, data, or intelligence of any nature transmitted in whole or in part by a wire, radio, electromagnetic system, photo-electronic system, or photo-optical system, including without limitation electronic mail, Internet communications, instant messages, or facsimile communications. *Cyberbullying* includes the creation of a webpage or weblog in which the creator assumes the identity of another person or the knowing impersonation of another person as the author of posted content or messages if the creation or impersonation creates any of the effects enumerated in the definition of *bullying*. *Cyberbullying* also includes the distribution by electronic means of a communication to more than one person or the posting of material on an electronic medium that may be accessed by one or more persons if the distribution or posting creates any of the effects enumerated in the definition of *bullying*.

Restorative measures means a continuum of school-based alternatives to exclusionary discipline, such as suspensions and expulsions, that: (i) are adapted to the particular needs of the school and community, (ii) contribute to maintaining school safety, (iii) protect the integrity of a positive and productive learning climate, (iv) teach students the personal and interpersonal skills they will need to be successful in school and society, (v) serve to build and restore relationships among students, families, schools, and communities, ~~and~~ (vi) reduce the likelihood of future disruption by balancing accountability with an understanding of students' behavioral health needs in order to keep students in school, and (vii) increase student accountability if the incident of bullying is based on religion, race, ethnicity, or any other category that is identified in the Ill. Human Rights Act. [PRESSPlus2](#)

School personnel means persons employed by, on contract with, or who volunteer in a school district, including without limitation school and school district administrators, teachers, school ~~guidance~~ [PRESSPlus3](#) counselors, school social workers, school counselors, school psychologists, school nurses, cafeteria workers, custodians, bus drivers, school resource officers, and security guards.

Bullying Prevention and Response Plan

The Superintendent or designee shall develop and maintain a bullying prevention and response plan that advances the District's goal of providing all students with a safe learning environment free of bullying and harassment. This plan must be consistent with the requirements listed below; each numbered requirement, 1-12, corresponds with the same number in the list of required policy components in [105 ILCS 5/27-23.7](#)(b) 1-12.

1. The District uses the definition of *bullying* as provided in this policy.
2. Bullying is contrary to State law and the policy of this District. However, nothing in the District's bullying prevention and response plan is intended to infringe upon any right to exercise free expression or the free exercise of religion or religiously based views protected under the [First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution](#) or under [Section 3 of Article I of the Illinois Constitution](#).
3. Students are encouraged to immediately report bullying. A report may be made orally or in writing to the Nondiscrimination Coordinator, Building Principal, Assistant Building Principal, Dean of Students, a Complaint Manager, or any staff member with whom the student is comfortable speaking. Anyone, including staff members and parents/guardians, who has information about actual or threatened bullying is encouraged to report it to the District named officials or any staff member. The District named officials and all staff members are available for help with a bully or to make a report about bullying. Anonymous reports are also accepted; however, this shall not be construed to permit formal disciplinary action solely on the basis of an anonymous report.

Nondiscrimination Coordinator:

Dr. Jon Bartelt

164 S. Euclid Ave.,
Bloomington, IL 60108

jbartelt@sd13.org

630-803-9590

Complaint Managers:

Dr. Jon Bartelt

164 S. Euclid Ave.,
Bloomington, IL 60108

jbartelt@sd13.org

630-893-9590

Nicole Gabany Dr. Evonne
Waugh

164 S. Euclid Ave.,
Bloomington, IL 60108

ngabany@sd13.org
ewaugh@sd13.org

630-893-9590

4. Consistent with federal and State laws and rules governing student privacy rights, the Superintendent or designee shall promptly inform the parent(s)/guardian(s) of every student involved in an alleged incident of bullying and discuss, as appropriate, the availability of social work services, counseling, school psychological services, other interventions, and restorative measures.
5. The Superintendent or designee shall promptly investigate and address reports of bullying, by, among other things:
 - a. Making all reasonable efforts to complete the investigation within 10 school days after the date the report of a bullying incident was received and taking into consideration additional relevant information received during the course of the investigation about the reported bullying incident.
 - b. Involving appropriate school support personnel and other staff persons with knowledge, experience, and training on bullying prevention, as deemed appropriate, in the investigation process.
 - c. Notifying the Building Principal or school administrator or designee of the reported incident of bullying as soon as possible after the report is received.
 - d. Consistent with federal and State laws and rules governing student privacy rights, providing parents/guardians of the students who are parties to the investigation information about the investigation and an opportunity to meet with the Building Principal or school administrator or his or her designee to discuss the investigation, the findings of the investigation, and the actions taken to address the reported incident of bullying.

The Superintendent or designee shall investigate whether a reported incident of bullying is within the permissible scope of the District's jurisdiction and shall require that the District provide the victim with information regarding services that are available within the District and community, such as counseling, support services, and other programs.

6. The Superintendent or designee shall use interventions to address bullying, that may include, but are not limited to, school social work services, restorative measures, social-emotional skill building, counseling, school psychological services, and community-based services.

7. A reprisal or retaliation against any person who reports an act of bullying **is prohibited**. Any person's act of reprisal or retaliation will be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including discharge with regard to employees, or suspension and/or expulsion [PRESSPlus4](#) with regard to students ~~treated as bullying~~ for purposes of determining any consequences or other appropriate remedial actions.
8. A student will not be punished for reporting bullying or supplying information, even if the District's investigation concludes that no bullying occurred. However, a person who is found to have knowingly making a falsely accused another of bullying, as a means of retaliation, as a means of bullying, or providing knowingly false information will be treated as either: (a) bullying, (b) student discipline up to and including suspension and/or expulsion, and/or (c) both (a) and (b) for purposes of determining any consequences or other appropriate remedial actions.
9. The District's bullying prevention and response plan ~~is must be~~ based on the engagement of a range of school stakeholders, including students and parents/guardians.
10. The Superintendent or designee shall post this policy on the District's website, if any, and include it in the student handbook, and, where applicable, post it where other policies, rules, and standards of conduct are currently posted. The policy must be distributed annually to parents/guardians, students, and school personnel (including new employees when hired), and must also be provided periodically throughout the school year to students and faculty.
11. Pursuant to State law and policy 2:240, *Board Policy Development*, the Board monitors this policy every two years by conducting a review and re-evaluation of this policy to make any necessary and appropriate revisions. The Superintendent or designee shall assist the Board with its re-evaluation and assessment of this policy's outcomes and effectiveness. Updates to this policy will reflect any necessary and appropriate revisions. This process shall include, without limitation: [PRESSPlus5](#)
 - a. The frequency of victimization;
 - b. Student, staff, and family observations of safety at a school;
 - c. Identification of areas of a school where bullying occurs;
 - d. The types of bullying utilized; and
 - e. Bystander intervention or participation.

The evaluation process may use relevant data and information that the District already collects for other purposes. Acceptable documentation to satisfy the re-evaluated policy submission include one of the following:

1) An updated version of the policy with the amendment/modification date included in the reference portion of the policy;

2) If no revisions are deemed necessary, a copy of board minutes indicating that the policy was re-evaluated and no changes were deemed to be necessary, or a signed statement from the board; or

3) A signed statement from the Board President indicating that the Board re-evaluated the policy and no changes to it were necessary.

The Superintendent or designee must post the information developed as a result of the policy re-evaluation on the District's website, or if a website is not available, the information must be provided to school administrators, Board members, school personnel, parents/guardians, and students. Reviews and re-evaluations in years they are due must be submitted to ISBE by September 30.

12. The Superintendent or designee shall fully implement the Board policies, including without limitation, the following:
- a. 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*. A student may use this policy to complain about bullying.
 - b. 2:265, *Title IX Sexual Harassment Grievance Procedure*. Any person may use this policy to complain about sexual harassment in violation of Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972.
 - c. 6:60, *Curriculum Content*. Bullying prevention and character instruction is provided in all grades in accordance with State law.
 - d. 6:65, *Student Social and Emotional Development*. Student social and emotional development is incorporated into the District's educational program as required by State law.
 - e. 6:235, *Access to Electronic Networks*. This policy states that the use of the District's electronic networks is limited to: (1) support of education and/or research, or (2) a legitimate business use.
 - f. 7:20, *Harassment of Students Prohibited*. This policy prohibits any person from harassing, intimidating, or bullying a student based on an identified actual or perceived characteristic (the list of characteristics in 7:20 is the same as the list in this policy).
 - g. 7:185, *Teen Dating Violence Prohibited*. This policy prohibits teen dating violence on school property, at school sponsored activities, and in vehicles used for school-provided transportation.
 - h. 7:190, *Student Behavior*. This policy prohibits, and provides consequences for, hazing, bullying, or other aggressive behaviors, or urging other students to engage in such conduct.
 - i. 7:310, *Restrictions on Publications; Elementary Schools*. This policy prohibits students from and provides consequences for: (1) accessing and/or distributing at school any written, printed, or electronic material, including material from the Internet, that will cause substantial disruption of the proper and orderly operation and discipline of the school or school activities, and (2) creating and/or distributing written, printed, or electronic material, including photographic material and blogs, that causes substantial disruption to school operations or interferes with the rights of other students or staff members.

LEGAL REF.:

105 ILCS 5/10-20.14, 5/10-22.6(b-20), 5/24-24, and 5/27-23.7.

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

775 ILCS 5/1-103, III. Human Rights Act.

~~105 ILCS 5/10-20.14, 5/24-24, and 5/27-23.7.~~

23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.240 and §1.280.

CROSS REF.: 2:240 (Board Policy Development), 2:260 (Uniform Grievance Procedure), 2:265 (Title IX Sexual Harassment Grievance Procedure), 4:170 (Safety), 5:230 (Maintaining Student Discipline), 6:60 (Curriculum Content), 6:65 (Student Social and Emotional Development), 6:235 (Access to Electronic Networks), 7:20 (Harassment of Students Prohibited), 7:185 (Teen Dating Violence Prohibited), 7:190 (Student Behavior), 7:220 (Bus Conduct), 7:230 (Misconduct by Students with Disabilities), 7:240 (Conduct Code for Participants in Extracurricular Activities), 7:285 (Food Allergy Management Program), 7:310 (Restrictions on Publications; Elementary Schools)

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. All definitions are directly from 105 ILCS 5/27-23.7. See also resources from Cyberbullying Research Center, available at: cyberbullying.org/, and the U.S. School Safety Clearinghouse website at www.SchoolSafety.gov. **Issue 108, November 2021**

PRESSPlus 2. Updated in response to 105 ILCS 5/27-23.7(b), amended by P.A. 102-241. **Issue 108, November 2021**

PRESSPlus 3. Updated in response to P.A. 102-197, changing the term *school guidance counselor* to *school counselor* to clarify that a school counselor's role is broader than the role of a school guidance counselor. School counselors have a licensed school support personnel endorsement, and the role of a school counselor includes academic, social-emotional, and college and career counseling. **Issue 108, November 2021**

PRESSPlus 4. Consult the board attorney about the potential conflict of 105 ILCS 5/27-23.7(b)(7) (allowance of suspension and/or expulsion of students for reprisal/retaliation against reports of bullying) with 105 ILCS 5/10-22.6(b-20) (districts must resolve threats, address disruptions, and minimize the length (and implementation of) suspensions and expulsions to the greatest extent practicable). For more information, see sample policy 7:200, *Suspension Procedures*, at f/n 8 and sample policy 7:210, *Expulsion Procedures*, at f/ns 11 and 13, available at **PRESS** Online by logging in at www.iasb.com. **Issue 108, November 2021**

PRESSPlus 5. All districts must have a policy on bullying, monitor it, review and re-evaluate it, and file it with the Ill. State Board of Education (ISBE) every two years. 105 ILCS 5/27-23.7. See ISBE's *School Policies for Bullying Prevention* at: www.isbe.net/Documents/Bullying-Prev-Policy-Req.pdf. **Issue 108, November 2021**

Document Status: Draft Update

STUDENTS

7:240 Conduct Code for Participants in Extracurricular Activities

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 of Education policy. 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. PRESSPlus1 The conduct code shall be reviewed by the Building Principal periodically at his or her discretion and presented to the Board.

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 (2021).

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

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

Clements v. Board 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 Schools, 133 F.3d 984 (7th Cir. 1998).

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

105 ILCS 5/24-24, 5/27-23.3, 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: January 28, 2019

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. Updated in response to U.S. Supreme Court's 2021 decision in Mahanoy Area Sch. Dist. v. B.L., 141 S.Ct. 2038 (2021), which involved a student suspended from the cheerleading squad for one year after she posted two vulgar *snaps* on Snapchat while off campus during the weekend. The U.S. Supreme Court held that while schools may have a special interest in regulating some off-campus student speech, e.g., teaching good manners and preventing disruption, here the school's interests were insufficient to overcome the student's interest in free expression, and the one-year suspension violated the student's First Amendment rights. The Court noted that the school's interest in regulation was diminished by the fact that the student's speech did not identify the school, did not target any member of the school community, and was transmitted through a personal cell phone to an audience consisting of her private circle of Snapchat friends. Comments during oral argument suggest the Court was particularly struck by the severity of the discipline issued as well. Careful factual analysis, in consultation with the board attorney, should occur when considering discipline of participants for off-campus activity. See 7:240-AP1, *Code of Conduct for Extracurricular Activities*, available at **PRESS** Online by logging in at www.iasb.com. **Issue 108, November 2021**

Document Status: Draft Update

STUDENTS

7:250 Student Support Services

The following student support services may be provided by the School District:

1. Health services supervised by a qualified nurse. The Superintendent or designee may implement procedures to further a healthy school environment and prevent or reduce the spread of disease.
2. Educational and psychological testing services and the services of a school psychologist as needed. In all cases, written permission to administer a psychological examination must be obtained from a student's parent(s)/guardian(s). The results will be given to the parent(s)/guardian(s), with interpretation, as well as to the appropriate professional staff.
3. The services of a social worker. A student's parent(s)/guardian(s) must consent to regular or continuing services from a social worker.
4. Guidance and counseling services.
5. 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 when enrolling in or changing schools.
6. A liaison for homeless students.

The Superintendent or designee shall develop protocols for responding to students with social, emotional, or mental health needs that impact learning ability. The District, however, assumes no liability for preventing, identifying, or treating such needs.

Erin's Law Counseling Options, Assistance, and Intervention [PRESSPlus1](#)

The Superintendent or designee will ensure that each school building's Student Support Committee identifies counseling options for students who are affected by sexual abuse, along with District and community-based options for victims of sexual abuse to obtain assistance and intervention. Community-based options must include a Children's Advocacy Center and sexual assault crisis center(s) that serve the District, if any.

This policy shall be implemented in a manner consistent with State and federal laws, including the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, [42 U.S.C. §12101](#) *et seq.*

LEGAL REF.:

105 ILCS 5/10-23.13(b) and 5/21B-25(G).

405 ILCS 49/, Children's Mental Health Act of 2003.

740 ILCS 110/, Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities Confidentiality Act.

~~105 ILCS 5/10-20.58.~~

CROSS REF.: 6:65 (Student Social and Emotional Development), 6:270 (Guidance and Counseling Program), 7:100 (Health, Eye, and Dental Examinations; Immunizations; and Exclusion of Students), 7:280 (Communicable and Chronic Infectious Diseases), 7:340 (Student Records)

~~ADOPTED: January 28, 2019~~

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. Required by *Erin's Law*, 105 ILCS 5/10-23.13(b)(2), (3), and (5), amended by P.A. 102-610. See policy 5:90, *Abused and Neglected Child Reporting*, and administrative procedure 5:90-AP, *Coordination with Children's Advocacy Center*, available at **PRESS** Online by logging in at www.iasb.com, for more information on Children's Advocacy Centers. **Issue 108, November 2021**

Document Status: Draft Update

STUDENTS

7:290 Suicide and Depression Awareness and Prevention

Youth suicide impacts the safety of the school environment. It also affects the school community, diminishing the ability of surviving students to learn and the school's ability to educate. Suicide and depression awareness and prevention are important Board goals.

Suicide and Depression Awareness and Prevention Program

The Superintendent or designee shall develop, implement and maintain a suicide and depression awareness and prevention program (Program) that advances the Board's goals of increasing awareness and prevention of depression and suicide. This program must be consistent with the requirements of *Ann Marie's Law* listed below; each listed requirement, 1-6, corresponds with the list of required policy components in the [School Code Section 5/2-3.166\(c\)\(2\)-\(7\)](#). The program shall include:

1. Protocols for administering youth suicide awareness and prevention education to students and staff.
 - a. For students, implementation will incorporate Board policy 6:60, Curriculum Content, which implements [105 ILCS 5/2-3.139](#) and [105 ILCS 5/27-7](#) (requiring education for students to develop a sound mind and a healthy body).
 - b. For staff, implementation will incorporate Board policy 5:100, *Staff Development Program*, and teacher's institutes under [105 ILCS 5/3-14.8](#) (requiring coverage of the warning signs of suicidal behavior).
2. Procedures for methods of suicide prevention with the goal of early identification and referral of students possibly at risk of suicide. Implementation will incorporate:
 - a. The training required by [105 ILCS 5/10-22.39](#) for licensed school personnel and administrators who work with students to identify the warning signs of suicidal behavior in youth along with appropriate intervention and referral techniques, including methods of prevention, procedures for early identification, and referral of students at risk of suicide; and
 - b. Ill. State Board of Education (ISBE)-recommended guidelines and educational materials for staff training and professional development, along with ISBE-recommended resources for students containing age-appropriate educational materials on youth suicide and awareness, if available pursuant to *Ann Marie's Law* on ISBE's website.
3. Methods of intervention, including procedures that address an emotional or mental health safety plan for use during the school day and at school-sponsored events for a student identified as being at increased risk of suicide including those students who: (A) suffer from a mental health disorder; (B) suffer from a substance abuse disorder; (C) engage in self-harm or have previously attempted suicide; (D) reside in an out-of-home placement; (E) are experiencing homelessness; (F) are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or questioning (LGBTQ); (G) are bereaved by suicide; or (H) have a medical condition or certain types of disabilities. [PRESSPlus1](#) Implementation will incorporate paragraph number 2, above, along with Board policies:
 - a. Board policy 6:65, *Student Social and Emotional Development*, implementing the goals and benchmarks of the Ill. Learning Standards and 405 ILCS 49/15(b) (requiring student social and emotional development in the District's educational program);
 - b. 6:120, *Education of Children with Disabilities*, implementing special education requirements for the District;
 - c. 6:140, *Education of Homeless Children*, implementing provision of District services to students who are homeless;
 - d. Board policy 6:270, *Guidance and Counseling Program*, implementing guidance and counseling program(s) for students, and 105 ILCS 5/10-22.24a and 22.24b, which allow a qualified guidance specialist or any licensed staff member to provide school counseling services;
 - e. 7:10, *Equal Educational Opportunities*, and its implementing administrative procedure and exhibit, implementing supports for equal educational opportunities for students who are LGBTQ;
 - f. 7:50, *School Admissions and Student Transfers To and From Non-District Schools*, implementing State law requirements related to students who are in foster care;
 - g. Board policy 7:250, *Student Support Services*, implementing the Children's Mental Health Act of 2003, 405 ILCS 49/ (requiring protocols for responding to students with social, emotional, or mental health issues that impact learning ability); and
 - h. State and/or federal resources that address emotional or mental health safety plans for students who are possibly at an increased risk for suicide, if available on the ISBE's website pursuant to *Ann Marie's Law*.
4. Methods of responding to a student or staff suicide or suicide attempt. Implementation of this requirement shall incorporate building-level Student Support Committee(s) established through Board policy 7:250, *Student Support Services*.
5. Reporting procedures. Implementation of this requirement shall incorporate Board policy 6:270, *Guidance and*

Counseling Program, and Board policy 7:250, *Student Support Services*, in addition to other State and/or federal resources that address reporting procedures.

6. A process to incorporate ISBE-recommended resources on youth suicide awareness and prevention programs, including current contact information for such programs in the District's Suicide and Depression Awareness and Prevention Program.

Illinois Suicide Prevention Strategic Planning Committee

The Superintendent or designee shall attempt to develop a relationship between the District and the Illinois Suicide Prevention Strategic Planning Committee, the Illinois Suicide Prevention Coalition Alliance and/or a community mental health agency. The purpose of the relationship is to discuss how to incorporate the goals and objectives of the Illinois Suicide Prevention Strategic Plan into the District's Suicide Prevention and Depression Awareness Program.

Monitoring

The Board will review and update this policy pursuant to *Ann Marie's Law* and Board policy 2:240, *Board Policy Development*.

Information to Staff, Parents/Guardians, and Students

The Superintendent shall inform each school district employee about this policy and ensure its posting on the District's website. The Superintendent or designee shall provide a copy of this policy to the parent or legal guardian of each student enrolled in the District. Student identification (ID) cards, the District's website, and student handbooks and planners will contain the support information as required by State law. [PRESSPlus2](#)

Implementation

This policy shall be implemented in a manner consistent with State and federal laws, including the Children's Mental Health Act of 2003, [405 ILCS 49/](#), Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities Confidentiality Act, [740 ILCS 110/](#), and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, [42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq.](#)

The District, Board, and its staff are protected from liability by the Local Governmental and Governmental Employees Tort Immunity Act. Services provided pursuant to this policy: (1) do not replace the care of a physician licensed to practice medicine in all of its branches or a licensed medical practitioner or professional trained in suicide prevention, assessments and counseling services, (2) are strictly limited to the available resources within the District, (3) do not extend beyond the school day and/or school-sponsored events, and (4) cannot guarantee or ensure the safety of a student or the student body.

LEGAL REF.:

[42 U.S.C. § 1201 et seq. Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.](#)

[105 ILCS 5/2-3.166](#), [105 ILCS 5/2-3.139](#), [5/3-14.8](#), [5/10-20.73 \(final citation pending\)](#), [5/10-22.24a](#), [5/10-22.24b](#), [5/10-22.39](#), [5/10-20.75 \(final citation pending\)](#), [5/14-1.01 et seq.](#), [5/14-7.02](#), and [5/14-7.02b](#), [5/27-7.](#)

[405 ILCS 49. Children's Mental Health Act of 2003.](#)

[740 ILCS 110/. Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities Confidentiality Act.](#)

[745 ILCS 10/. Local Governmental and Governmental Tort Immunity Act.](#)

CROSS REF.: 2:240 (Board Policy Development), 5:100 (Staff Development Program), 6:60 (Curriculum Content), 6:65 (Student Social and Emotional Development), 6:120 (Education of Children with Disabilities), 6:270 (Guidance and Counseling Program), 7:180 (Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment), 7:250 (Student Support Services)

Adopted: January 28, 2019

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. Updated in response to 105 ILCS 5/2-3.166(c)(4), amended by P.A. 102-267, eff. 7-1-22, which added seven categories students who may be identified as being at increased risk of suicide. **Issue 108, November 2021**

PRESSPlus 2. Updated in response to 105 ILCS 5/10-20.73 (final citation pending), added by P.A. 102-134 (district-issued ID cards for students, and information on districts' websites); and 105 ILCS 5/10-20.75 (final citation pending), added by P.A. 102-416 (districts must insert either the Safe2Help Illinois helpline or a local suicide prevention hotline on ID card, contact to identify each helpline that may be contacted through text messaging, and include the same in student handbooks and planners (if a student planner is custom printed by a district or its schools for distribution to students in any of grades 6 through 12)). The Ill.

Principals Association (IPA) maintains a handbook service that coordinates with **PRESS** material, Online Model Student Handbook (MSH), at: www.ilprincipals.org/resources/model-student-handbook. **Issue 108, November 2021**

Document Status: Draft Update

STUDENTS

7:340 Student Records

School student records are confidential. Information from them shall not be released other than as provided by law. A school student record is any writing or other recorded information concerning a student and by which a student may be identified individually that is maintained by a school or at its direction by a school employee, regardless of how or where the information is stored, except as provided in State or federal law as summarized below:

1. Records kept in a staff member's sole possession.
2. Records maintained by law enforcement officers working in the school.
3. Video and other electronic recordings (including without limitation, electronic recordings made on school buses) that are created in part for law enforcement, security, or safety reasons or purposes. The content of these recordings may become part of a school student record to the extent school officials create, use, and maintain this content, or it becomes available to them by law enforcement officials, for disciplinary or special education purposes regarding a particular student.
4. Any information, either written or oral, received from law enforcement officials concerning a student less than the age of 18 ^{PRESSPlus1} years who has been arrested or taken into custody.

State and federal law grants students and parents/guardians certain rights, including the right to inspect, copy, and challenge school student records. The information contained in school student records shall be kept current, accurate, clear, and relevant. All information maintained concerning a student receiving special education services shall be directly related to the provision of services to that child. The District may release directory information as permitted by law, but a parent/guardian shall have the right to opt-out of the release of directory information regarding his or her child. However, The District will comply with State or federal law with regard to release of an ex parte court order requiring it to permit the U.S. Attorney General or designee to have access to a student's school records, including, where applicable, without notice to, or the consent of, the student's parent/guardian or eligible student. ^{PRESSPlus2} Upon request, the District discloses school student records without parent consent to the official records custodian of another school in which a student has enrolled or intends to enroll, as well as to any other person as specifically required or permitted by State or federal law.

The Superintendent shall fully implement this policy and designate an *official records custodian* for each school who shall maintain and protect the confidentiality of school student records, inform staff members of this policy, and inform students and their parents/guardians of their rights regarding school student records.

Student Biometric Information Collection

The Superintendent or designee may recommend a student biometric information collection system solely for the purposes of identification and fraud prevention. Such recommendation shall be consistent with budget requirements and in compliance with State law. Biometric information means any information that is collected through an identification process for individuals based on their unique behavioral or physiological characteristics, including fingerprint, hand geometry, voice, or facial recognition or iris or retinal scans.

Before collecting student biometric information, the District shall obtain written permission from the person having legal custody/parental responsibility or the student (if over the age of 18). Upon a student's 18th birthday, the District shall obtain written permission from the student to collect student biometric information. Failure to provide written consent to collect biometric information shall not be the basis for refusal of any services otherwise available to a student.

All collected biometric information shall be stored and transmitted in a manner that protects it from disclosure. Sale, lease, or other disclosure of biometric information to another person or entity is strictly prohibited.

The District will discontinue use of a student's biometric information and destroy all collected biometric information within 30 days after: (1) the student graduates or withdraws from the School District, or (2) the District receives a written request to discontinue use of biometric information from the person having legal custody/parental responsibility of the student or the student (if over the age of 18). Requests to discontinue using a student's biometric information shall be forwarded to the Superintendent or designee.

The Superintendent or designee shall develop procedures to implement this policy consistent with State and federal law.

LEGAL REF.:

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

50 ILCS 205/7, [Local Records Act](#).

105 ILCS 5/10-20.12~~21~~b, ~~5/20.37~~, 5/10-20.40, and 5/14-1.01 et seq.

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

[105 ILCS 85/](#), Student Online Personal Protection Act.

[325 ILCS 17/](#), Children's Privacy Protection and Parental Empowerment Act.

[750 ILCS 5/602.11](#), Ill. Marriage and Dissolution of Marriage Act.

[23 Ill.Admin.Code Parts 226](#) and [375](#).

[Owasso I.S.D. No. I-011 v. Falvo](#), 534 U.S. 426 (2002).

Chicago Tribune Co. v. Chicago Bd. of Ed., 332 Ill.App.3d 60 (1st Dist. 2002).

CROSS REF.: 5:100 (Staff Development Program), 5:130 (Responsibilities Concerning Internal Information), 7:15 (Student and Family Privacy Rights), 7:220 (Bus Conduct), 7:345 (Use of Educational Technologies; Student Data Privacy and Security)

Adopted: August 24, 2020

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. 705 ILCS 405/5-905, amended by P.A. 98-61, applies to law enforcement records of minors arrested or taken into custody before their 18th (formerly 17th) birthday. **Issue 108, November 2021**

PRESSPlus 2. Updated in response to feedback from PRESS Advisory Board (PAB) members. **Issue 108, November 2021**