3 3100 General Operations

3105 Visitors and Volunteers

Visitors and volunteers, including parents/guardians, may access the District's property subject to all applicable Policies. The District may deny such access for any lawful reason.

A. Visitors

- A person may not enter or remain on the District's property if prohibited by law.
- 2. A person visiting a school building during instructional hours must first report to the building's main office. At the Superintendent's or building administrator's discretion, a visitor may be required to sign in, present a form of identification, explain the visitor's purpose, wear a visitor badge, and may be escorted while on District property. District personnel that discover a visitor who has not reported to the building's main office will promptly direct the visitor to the building's main office.
- 3. The District may require advance notice from a person who desires to observe classroom instruction. See also Policy 5401.
- 4. The building principal or designee may permit a parent/guardian who is a registered sex offender to visit District property to participate in or attend his or her child's school activities. The building principal or designee may require the parent/guardian to comply with other conditions upon visitation, including: a check-in/check-out system, an employee escort while on District property, and a requirement to leave District property immediately upon conclusion of the child's activity.
- B. Volunteers (This sections does not apply to carpooling arranged by individuals outside of district organized travel.)
 - A person desiring to volunteer must provide information to the District, including that person's name, address, telephone number, and a form of identification.
 - 2. The District may lawfully require a volunteer to complete an application and consent to a background check as described in Policy 4205.
 - 3. Volunteering is a privilege, not a right. A person does not have any right to volunteer or to perform any particular volunteer assignment. The Superintendent or designee will assess a volunteer's capabilities and determine the appropriate volunteer assignment. The Superintendent or

designee may reject a volunteer's request or deny or terminate a volunteer's assignment at any time for any reason that is not unlawful.

4. Volunteer Drivers

- a. A volunteer may only drive a District vehicle with approval of the Superintendent or designee and in compliance with all applicable laws. For purposes of this subsection B.4, a "District vehicle" is a vehicle owned or leased by the District, including a school bus, and a "private vehicle" is any vehicle that is not a District vehicle.
- b. Except in an emergency, before a student rides in a private vehicle, the driver must have permission from the student's parent/guardian to transport the student to or from the school or applicable event. Permission must be in writing if the driver is using a vehicle with a manufacturer's rated seating capacity of 11 or more passengers.
- c. A volunteer driver must:
 - hold a valid driver's license appropriate for the vehicle;
 - if required by law, hold a valid chauffeur's license; and
 - for a private vehicle, provide to the Superintendent or designee's satisfaction proof of insurance, and proof of the vehicle's lawful registration.
- d. A volunteer driver is responsible for any loss, damage, cost, and liability related to the driver's operation of a District vehicle or private vehicle.

Legal authority: MCL 28.721 et seq.; MCL 257.6, 257.1807; MCL 380.1137, 380.1230, 380.1230a-h

Date adopted:

3100 General Operations

3108 Service Animals

The District will permit a person with a disability to be accompanied by a service animal in all areas of the District's facilities where members of the public, invitees, or participants in District services, programs, or activities are permitted.

A. Definition

A "service animal" means any dog that is individually trained to perform tasks for the benefit of a person with a disability. A dog whose sole purpose is to deter crime or whose mere presence is to provide emotional support or comfort to the person with a disability is not a service animal.

Except as provided by law, other animals are not service animals for purposes of this definition. Under certain circumstances, the District will permit a person with a disability to be accompanied by a miniature horse in District facilities if the horse has been individually trained to perform tasks for the benefit of the person with a disability.

The work or tasks performed by a service animal must be directly related to the person's disability. The service animal must be trained to take a specific action when needed to assist the person with a disability. Examples of work or tasks include, but are not limited to:

- assisting blind or low vision persons with navigation and other tasks;
- alerting deaf or hard of hearing persons to the presence of people or sounds;
- providing non-violent protection or rescue work;
- pulling a wheelchair;
- assisting a person during a seizure;
- alerting persons to the presence of allergens, the onset of a seizure, or high/low blood sugar levels;
- retrieving items such as medicine or a telephone;
- providing physical support and assistance with balance and stability to persons with mobility disabilities; and
- helping persons with psychiatric and neurological disabilities by preventing or interrupting impulsive or destructive behaviors.

B. Admission of Service Animals

A student or employee with a disability who desires to be accompanied by a service animal at school is encouraged, but is not required, to notify the District in writing at least 10 school days or as soon as is practicable before bringing the service animal to school. The District may provide a form for this purpose.

If a student or employee desires to be accompanied by a service animal during school or work and the student or employee will not be the animal's handler, the handler must undergo a criminal history check and any other background check required for employees and volunteers by state law or Policy before being allowed to regularly access District facilities as the handler. The District will permit the person with a disability to be accompanied by a service animal in District facilities without that handler.

C. Inquiries

District officials may ask the person with a disability or the service animal's owner or handler the following questions to the extent the answers to the questions are not readily apparent:

- Is the service animal required because of a disability?
- What type of work or task has the service animal been trained to perform?

District personnel will not inquire about the nature or extent of the person's disability. District personnel also may not require documentation that the service animal is certified, trained, or licensed as a service animal, nor may District personnel require the service animal to demonstrate its task or work.

If a local ordinance or the public health department requires that dogs be vaccinated, registered, or licensed with the county or other authority, the District may require proof that a service animal meets those requirements.

D. Charges, Fees, and Liability

The District may not ask or require a person with a disability to pay the District to be accompanied by a service animal on District property. The District may charge the service animal's owner for damages to District property caused by the service animal to the extent it charges other persons for damages caused to District property.

The owner of the service animal is solely responsible and liable for any damage to District property or injury to persons caused by the animal.

E. Care and Supervision of Service Animal

The person with a disability or the service animal's handler is responsible for the care and supervision of the service animal at school, including, toileting, feeding,

grooming, veterinary care, and exercising. The District is not responsible for supervising or otherwise caring for a service animal unless required by law.

F. Control of Service Animal

A service animal must be under the control of its handler at all times. A service animal must be on a harness, leash, backpack, or other tether unless the person's disability prevents the use of the device or the device interferes with the service animal's safe and effective performance of work or tasks. In this case, the person with a disability or the handler must use voice, signal, or other effective means to maintain control of the service animal.

G. Exclusion of Service Animal

The District may exclude a service animal from District property or functions if:

- the animal is out of control and the handler does not take effective action to control it;
- the animal is not housebroken;
- the animal poses a direct threat to the health or safety of others; or
- the animal's presence fundamentally alters the nature of the District's programs, services, or activities.

If District officials determine that the service animal should be excluded from District facilities for one of the above reasons, the person with a disability (or the parent/guardian of a student with a disability) will be notified of the determination, asked to remove the service animal immediately, and given an opportunity to respond to the District's concerns. If a District official determines to exclude a service animal, he or she shall notify the owner in writing and provide a copy of the District's Section 504/ADA grievance procedures. The person with a disability shall be given the opportunity to participate in the District service, program, or activity without the service animal.

H. Allergies

Allergies to pet dander and the fear of dogs are not valid reasons to exclude a service animal from District facilities. A person who has a concern about a service animal's presence in District facilities should contact the building administrator or the District's Section 504/ADA Coordinator.

I. Denial of Access and Grievance

If a District official denies a request for access of a service animal, the person with a disability or his/her parent/guardian may file a written grievance with the District's Section 504/ADA Coordinator.

Nothing in this Policy diminishes any right a person with a disability may have to be accompanied by a service animal or other assistance animal in District facilities or at District events under other federal or state laws.

J. Non-Service Animals

Animals on District property that are not service animals as defined by the ADA, such as pets or emotional support animals, are not covered by this Policy. See Policy 3109.

Legal authority: 28 CFR 35.136; MCL 287.291

Date adopted:

3100 General Operations

3109 Curricular Animals

An animal is not allowed on District property except as provided in this Policy, Policy 3108, with the Superintendent's or designee's approval, or as otherwise required by law. Nothing in this Policy diminishes any rights a person with a disability may have to be accompanied by a service animal or other therapy animal on District property. If an animal's handler is not a student or employee, the handler must undergo a criminal history check and any other background check required for employees and volunteers by state law or Policy before being allowed to regularly access District facilities as the handler.

A. Use of Animals for Instructional Purposes

An animal that supports a District program or curriculum or that is otherwise used for instructional purposes is allowed on District property with the Superintendent's or designee's prior written permission.

It shall be the responsibility of the building's Principal or their designee to develop a plan of care for those animals housed in District buildings in the event of a school closing (i.e., snow day, breaks). Animal-specific guidelines established by the Centers for Disease Control must be followed at all times.

B. Therapy Dogs

1. Definition of Therapy Dog

A "therapy dog," differs from an "emotional support animal," "comfort animal," or "companion animal." Therapy dogs are not "service animals" under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) or Board Policy. Therapy dogs are those that have been:

- a. individually trained and certified by an approved therapy dog training organization;
- b. engaged in animal assisted activities and interactions under the direct supervision of a handler; and
- c. managed by a handler who has been individually trained, evaluated, and registered with their therapy dog to provide animal assisted activities and animal-assisted interactions on District property.

A therapy dog must be well-behaved and have a temperament that is suitable for interaction with students and other persons in a public school.

2. Standards and Procedures for Therapy Dogs

- a. The District may, from time to time, engage the use of therapy dogs in school. The decision to use therapy dogs and the selection of a therapy dog provider is solely at the discretion of the Board. The Superintendent or designee are responsible for verifying that the therapy dog has the proper training and certification requirements. The Superintendent or designee must verify that therapy dog is clean, well-groomed, in good health, house broken, and immunized against diseases common to such animals. Health/Safety. The therapy dog must not pose a health or safety risk to any student, employee, or other person.
- b. Authorized Area(s). The owner or handler will only allow the therapy dog to be in those areas that have been pre-authorized by the Superintendent or designee.

3. Exclusion or Removal from School

A therapy dog may be excluded from District property in the sole discretion of the Superintendent or designee.

4. Allergic Reactions

If any student or employee assigned to a classroom in which a therapy dog is permitted suffers an allergic reaction to the therapy dog, the owner or handler must remove the dog to a different location designated by the Superintendent or designee.

5. Damages to District Property and Injuries

The owner of a therapy dog is solely responsible and liable for any damage to property or injury to persons caused by the therapy animal.

A. Emotional Support Animals

An "emotional support animal" is an animal that has not been individually trained to perform a specific job or task for a person with a disability, but its presence provides comfort or emotional support to others. Emotional support animals are not "service animals" under the ADA or Board Policy.

An emotional support animal is not allowed on District property except as otherwise required by law.

Legal authority: 28 CFR 35.136

Date adopted:

3200 Finance and Borrowing

3209 Debit/Credit Cards

The Board approves the use of a debit/credit card (credit card) program for the purchase of goods and services on behalf of the District. The Board will determine the type of credit card(s) used in the program and will contract with a third-party provider as provided by law. The Superintendent or designee is responsible for issuing credit cards to authorized users, accounting for and monitoring credit card usage, retrieving credit cards when appropriate, and generally overseeing compliance with this Policy. The total combined authorized credit limit of all credit cards may not exceed 5% of the District's budgeted expenditures for the applicable fiscal year.

A. Authorized Users

The Board or designee may assign a credit card to an employee. An authorized credit card user is responsible for the protection and custody of the credit card and must immediately notify the Superintendent or designee if the credit card is lost or stolen. A person issued a credit card must return the credit card upon placement on administrative leave, disciplinary suspension, or termination of employment or service with the District.

B. Authorized Purchases

An authorized user may use a credit card to charge actual, necessary, and reasonable travel expenses in connection with official District business. Otherwise, the credit card may only be used to purchase goods and services approved by the Board or the Superintendent or designee.

C. Documentation

An authorized user must submit to the Superintendent or designee an itemized receipt. The itemized receipt must include the name of the business, the date of purchase, a description of each item and its purpose, and the price. A non-itemized receipt alone is not sufficient.

D. Suspension or Termination of Privileges

The Superintendent or designee may suspend or terminate the credit card privileges of any person who violates this Policy or for any other lawful reason. The person must promptly return the credit card to the Superintendent or designee. A person who misuses a credit card or violates this Policy may be subject to discipline, including discharge and reimbursing the District for any unauthorized purchase.

E. Reward Points or Rebates

Any reward points, rebates, or other benefits received from a third-party credit card company are the District's property.

F. Purchase Review Procedures

The Superintendent or designee will conduct an independent review of credit card expenses, or a sample of these expenses, on a monthly basis. Any unlawful or unauthorized expenditure or other discrepancy will be brought to the credit card user's attention. Upon request, the Superintendent or designee must provide the Board with the documentation submitted pursuant to this Policy or a summary of that documentation with a description sufficient to give the Board reasonable notice of the items purchased. The outstanding balance, including interest, will be paid by the District within 60 days after the initial statement date.

Legal authority: MCL 129.241 et seq.; MCL 380.1254; MCL 750.491

Date adopted:

3300 Facilities, Real, and Personal Property

3303 Gifts and Donations

The Board recognizes and appreciates the generosity and support it receives in the form of gifts, donations, and voluntary contributions ("Donations") from individuals, companies, parent/guardian support groups, the community, and other donors.

The District requests that substantial Donations be accompanied by Form 3303-F Gifts and Donations. All Donations made for a particular purpose must be accompanied by Form 3303-F.

A. Accepting Donations

- 1. Donations must be lawful and support an educational purpose.
- 2. Donations accepted by the District will become public funds or public property unless an exception is provided under applicable law.
- 3. The Board authorizes the Superintendent or designee to accept Donations of personal property on behalf of the Board with an estimated fair market value under the bid limit established annually on October 1 by MDE. The Board retains authority, in its discretion, to accept Donations of personal property with a fair market value exceeding the current MDE bid limit amount referenced above.
- 4. The Board must approve all Donations of real property, regardless of value.
- 5. Donations accepted by the District will be used for any specific purpose identified by the donor provided the purpose is lawful and consistent with the District's interests and objectives. A donor may identify the specific purpose of the Donation and any other lawful conditions using the District 3303-F.
- 6. Except as required by law, the District does not have an obligation to replace a Donation that is lost, destroyed, or becomes obsolete.

B. Soliciting Donations

- 1. The District may solicit donations in accordance with law, which may include pursuing an exemption from registration under the Charitable Organizations and Solicitations Act.
- 2. Any individual wishing to solicit donations on behalf of the District must obtain prior written approval from the Superintendent or designee before representing any affiliation with the District. Unless otherwise agreed by the Superintendent or designee, the individual will be responsible for all costs and liability related to the solicitation and all received donations will become the District's property.

- C. Scholarships are governed by Policy 3207.
- D. A donor is solely responsible for any tax consequences related to a Donation.

Legal authority: MCL 123.905; MCL 400.271, et seq.

Date adopted:

3300 Facilities, Real, and Personal Property

3308 Distribution of Printed Material and Advertising in School

District facilities may be used to advertise or distribute printed information for commercial or promotional purposes ("Advertisement") in accordance with this Policy. An approved Advertisement does not reflect the District's approval or endorsement of any product, organization, service, or issue referenced in the Advertisement. An Advertisement does not include public recognition or commemoration of District or student organization donors and sponsors.

A. General Restrictions on Advertisements

- 1. No Advertisement may:
 - violate law or Policy or urge a violation of law or Policy;
 - lie or mislead;
 - advocate the use, or advertise the availability, of tobacco (including e-cigarettes), alcohol, cannabis/marijuana, illegal drugs, or related paraphernalia;
 - contain a statement or image that describes or displays profanity, pornography, sexual activity, nudity, violence, serious injuries, or corpses;
 - incite violence or advocate the unlawful use of force:
 - invade a person's privacy;
 - violate a trademark, copyright, patent, or other intellectual property right;
 - include material inappropriate for the maturity level of the students exposed to the Advertisement; or
 - create a likelihood of a material and substantial disruption.
- 2. The District may regulate Advertisement content within legally permitted parameters.
- 3. The District may determine the size, location, and times of display of all Advertisements.
- B. Student Group Advertisements

- 1. A student group is 1 or more students participating in District-sponsored curricular or extracurricular activities supervised by District personnel, such as an athletic team, student council, academic team, or student club.
- 2. A student group may use District facilities for that group's Advertisements with the prior approval of the applicable building principal or designee.
- A non-student group Advertisement that appears within materials produced or distributed by a student group (e.g., yearbooks, student newspapers, and athletics or student club publications) is considered a non-student group Advertisement.

C. Non-Student Group Advertisements

- 1. A non-student group Advertisement is any Advertisement that is not considered a student group Advertisement or District speech.
- 2. A non-student group Advertisement must:
 - include a statement explaining that the group is not affiliated with, or endorsed by, the District;
 - receive prior approval from the Superintendent or designee; and
 - be subject to a written contract with the District describing each party's obligations and rights.
- 3. A non-student group Advertisement may not reference a political candidate or ballot question.
- 4. A non-student group Advertisement, if approved, is intended to generate revenue and does not create a forum for speech or expression.

D. School Bus Advertisements

- 1. An Advertisement may not appear on the exterior of a school bus.
- 2. The District may allow an Advertisement in a school bus interior to the extent consistent with MDE's "Advertising Inside School Buses" guidelines: https://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/Advertising_Inside_School_Buses_325476_7.pdf. A school bus Advertisement is otherwise subject to the same restrictions and approval procedures as other Advertisements.

E. District Speech

An Advertisement does not include material used to promote, inform, or collect funds for a product or service the District uses or authorizes in the performance of its educational operations, regardless of whether the product or service is provided by a non-student group. That material is considered the District's speech. Examples include, but are not limited to, material distributed by District

vendors whose products or services the District uses or encourages students or staff to use.

Legal authority: MCL 257.1833

Date adopted:

3400 School Safety and Security

3401 School Cancellation, Delay, and Early Dismissal

The Superintendent may close, delay, or dismiss school, and cancel or alter any school-related activities, to protect the health, safety, and welfare of students, employees, and others. The Superintendent will endeavor to timely and accurately notify persons affected by schedule alterations.

Date adopted:

3400 School Safety and Security

3402 Drills, Plans, and Reports

The Board will take reasonable steps to provide a safe and secure learning environment to protect students and employees.

- A. Emergency Drills. The Superintendent or designee will schedule, notify, conduct, report, and post all fire, tornado, and other emergency drills as required by law.
- B. Cardiac Emergency Response Plan. The Board will develop, adopt, and provide for annual review a cardiac emergency response plan as required by law.
- C. Cooperation. The Superintendent or designee will act as liaison to work with the School Safety Commission and the Office of School Safety, including to identify model practices for determining school safety measures.
- D. Safety and Emergency Plans. The Board will comply with the statewide school information policy, and the Superintendent or designee will provide all reports, information, and notices required by that policy. If the policy does not satisfy the requirements of Revised School Code Section 1308b(3), the Board will develop and adopt an emergency operations plan with public input and participation by at least 1 law enforcement agency having jurisdiction over the District. The statewide school information policy or the emergency operations plan, as applicable, will be reviewed every 2 years in conjunction with at least 1 law enforcement agency having jurisdiction over the District. The Board will notify MDE within 30 days after completing a required review.
- E. Reporting Incidents of Crime. Each building principal will collect and update information at least weekly on incidents of crime in the applicable building. At least annually, the Board will post information on its website about incidents of crime in the District and will make this information available to parents and guardians on a per-building basis. Within 24 hours after an incident occurs, the Superintendent or designee will report to the Michigan State Police crimes and attempted crimes identified in MCL 380.1310a(2).

Legal authority: MCL 29.19; MCL 380.1241, 380.1308, 380.1308a, 380.1308b, 380.1310a

Date adopted:

3500 FOIA Requests and Record Retention

3502 Record Retention

A "public record" means a writing prepared, owned, used, in the possession of, or retained by the District in the performance of an official function, from the time it is created.

The District will comply with all federal and state record retention requirements and with Michigan's general record retention schedules. Regardless of format, the District will make public records accessible for the applicable retention period.

A. The District will store its public records in a secure and stable environment, whether digital or physical, and protect them from tampering and damage.

B. Disposal of Records

- 1. Once a public record has been retained for the duration required by law, the District may dispose of the public record unless the disposal or preservation of a public record is mandated by law or Policy.
- 2. The District will not destroy a public record responsive to a FOIA request received before the date the record is destroyed until the District has produced the public record or determined it is exempt from disclosure.

C. Litigation, Investigation, or Audit Holds

The Superintendent or designee will issue a hold directive to all persons suspected of having records that may relate to the potential issues in a reasonably anticipated or pending litigation, investigation, or audit. A hold directive overrides any records retention schedule that may otherwise call for the disposition or destruction of the records until the litigation, investigation, or audit hold has been lifted.

Legal authority: MCL 15.231-246; MCL 399.811; MCL 750.491; General Retention Schedule Nos. 1, 2, 23, 26, 30, 31

Date adopted:

4100 Employee Rights and Responsibilities

4101 Non-Discrimination

A. Equal Employment Opportunity

The District is committed to equal employment opportunity and compliance with federal, state, and local laws that prohibit workplace discrimination, unlawful harassment, and unlawful retaliation based on any protected class or activity. This Policy applies to all aspects of employment, including recruiting, advertising, hiring, training, job placement, evaluation, classification, promotion, transfer, work assignment, compensation, benefits, discipline, demotion, termination, reduction in force, recall, and any other term or condition of employment.

This Policy prohibits discrimination against employees or applicants for employment based on the following protected classes: race, color, national origin, ethnicity, religion, sex (including pregnancy, gender identity, and sexual orientation), height, weight, marital status, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, military service, or any other legally protected class. This Policy also prohibits unlawful retaliation based on a protected activity.

The District prohibits unlawful employment discrimination as required by applicable civil rights statutes, including:

- Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which prohibits discrimination based on race, color, religion, or national origin;
- Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which prohibits discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex (including gender identity, and sexual orientation), or national origin;
- Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, which prohibits discrimination based on sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation);
- Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967 (ADEA), which prohibits discrimination based on age as to persons who are at least 40 years old;
- Equal Pay Act of 1963, which prohibits sex discrimination in payment of wages for persons performing substantially equal work in the same establishment;
- Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Section 504), which prohibits discrimination based on disability;
- Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), which prohibits discrimination against qualified persons with disabilities in

- employment, public service, public accommodations, and telecommunications;
- Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 (FMLA), which requires covered employers to provide up to 12 work weeks of unpaid, job-protected leave to eligible employees for certain family, military, and medical reasons, and up to 26 work weeks to care for a covered service member with a serious injury or illness;
- Pregnancy Discrimination Act of 1978, which prohibits discrimination based on pregnancy, childbirth, or related medical conditions;
- Pregnant Workers Fairness Act (PWFA), which requires covered employers to provide reasonable accommodations to a worker's known limitations related to pregnancy, childbirth, or related medical conditions, unless the accommodation will cause an undue hardship.
- Genetic Information Non-Discrimination Act of 2008 (GINA), which prohibits discrimination based on genetic information as to health insurance and employment;
- Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act of 1994 (USERRA), which provides job protection and reemployment rights to individuals who voluntarily or involuntarily leave employment to undertake military service, including military reservists and National Guard members called to duty;
- Michigan Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act of 1976 (ELCRA), which prohibits discrimination based on race, color, national origin, age, sex, pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, religion, height, weight, or marital status;
- Michigan Persons with Disabilities Civil Rights Act of 1976 (MPDCRA), which prohibits discrimination against qualified persons based on disability that is unrelated to that person's ability to perform the duties of a particular position or genetic information;
- Michigan Equal Pay Act, which prohibits discriminatory wage practices based on sex; and
- Public Employment Relations Act of 1947 (PERA), which prohibits a public employer from discriminating against an employee based on membership or non-membership in a labor organization.
- Michigan Whistleblower Protection Act of 1980, which protects employees who report a violation or suspected violation of state,

local, or federal law and employees who participate in hearings, investigations, or court actions.

B. Reporting Requirements

Any employee who believes they have been subjected to behavior that violates this Policy must file a complaint using the Employment Complaint Procedure in Policy 4104. If Title IX sexual harassment is alleged, the procedures set forth in Policy 3118 should be followed.

Employees with questions about compliance with this Policy and applicable laws should contact the Superintendent or the Employment Compliance Officer(s).

Board members, administrators, and supervisors must promptly report incidents of unlawful discrimination and retaliation. This duty to report applies to unlawful discrimination and retaliation that the Board member, administrator, or supervisor observes or about which they receive information.

Board members, administrators, or supervisors who receive a complaint alleging a violation of this Policy must promptly report the complaint, in writing, to the Employment Compliance Officer(s).

A failure to comply with reporting requirements may result in discipline, including discharge.

C. Employment Discrimination Compliance Training

The District will train administrators, supervisors, and the Employment Compliance Officer(s) on how to address and investigate discrimination and retaliation complaints.

The District may also provide discrimination and retaliation training to Board members and employees.

Training may be provided by an outside entity or person approved by the District.

Legal authority: 20 USC 1681 et seq.; 29 USC 206 et seq., 701 et seq., 2601 et seq.; 38USC 4301 et seq.; 42 USC 2000d et seq., 2000e et seq., 2000ff et seq., 12101 et seq.; H.R. 2617-1626, 117th Cong. § 103(1) (signed into law December 29, 2022); MCL 37.1101 et seq., 37.2101 et seq.; MCL 423.201 et seq.; MCL 750.556

Date adopted:

4100 Employee Rights and Responsibilities

4108 Union Activity and Representation

The District will not engage in any of the following:

- interfere with, restrain, or coerce employees in the exercise of their rights under the Public Employment Relations Act (PERA);
- discriminate in regard to hire, terms, or other conditions of employment based on membership or non-membership in a labor organization;
- discriminate against an employee because they have given testimony or instituted proceedings under PERA;
- initiate, create, dominate, contribute to, or interfere with the formation or administration of any labor organization; and
- use public school resources to assist a labor organization in collecting dues or service fees from wages of public school employees.

An employee who is subject to an investigatory interview that may result in discipline or reasonably believes that an investigatory interview may result in discipline may bring to the investigatory meeting another employee, or a union representative, if the employee is in an exclusively represented bargaining unit. If the employee's union representative of choice is not immediately available, the investigatory meeting need not be delayed and may proceed with another representative present.

The District may permit a union representative to attend other meetings, but is not obligated to do so unless required by law or by an applicable collective bargaining agreement. District administration is not required to inform an employee of the right to union representation.

An employee is not entitled to have legal representation present at an employment-related meeting with District administration, unless the Superintendent or designee gives prior permission.

Legal authority: MCL 423.209, 423.210; NLRB v J Weingarten, Inc, 420 US 251 (1975)

Date adopted:

4200 Employee Conduct and Ethics

4207 Third-Party Contracting of Non-Instructional Support Services

The Board may contract on a continuing or temporary basis with a third party as the Board determines necessary to provide specialized services.

The Board may contract with a third party for 1 or more non-instructional support services currently performed by a bargaining unit if the affected bargaining unit is given the opportunity to bid on the contract for those services on an equal basis as other bidders.

If a third party contractor is selected, the third party contractor must fully comply with Policies 2202 and 4205(C).

Legal authority: MCL 423.215(3)(f)

Date adopted:

4400 Professional Staff

4404 Performance Based Compensation

The Superintendent or designee may implement a performance based compensation system for Professional Staff. This Policy must be implemented consistent with Policy 1101.

Legal authority: MCL 380.11a

Date adopted:

4400 Professional Staff

4407 Discipline

Maintaining appropriate procedures and standards for addressing misconduct and other inappropriate behavior by Professional Staff is a critical component in furthering an effective educational environment and in providing quality educational services to students. Off-duty conduct may result in discipline if it adversely impacts the District and is not a legally protected activity. Information about substantiated unprofessional conduct will not be suppressed or removed from a personnel file consistent with Revised School Code Section 1230b. This Policy must be implemented consistent with Policy 1101.

A. Probationary Professional Staff

Probationary Professional Staff discipline or demotion may occur for any lawful reason.

- 1. If the complaint alleges suspected child abuse or neglect, the matter must be immediately reported to Children's Protective Services.
- 2. An employee who is subject to an investigatory interview that may result in discipline or who reasonably believes an investigatory interview may result in discipline may bring a representative consistent with Policy 4108.
- 3. The Superintendent or designee is authorized to place a Professional Staff member on paid, non-disciplinary administrative leave pending the completion of an investigation when, in the judgment of the Superintendent or designee, placing the Professional Staff member on leave will protect the investigatory process or work environment.
- 4. Disciplinary measures may include warning, reprimand, unpaid suspension, financial penalty, or discharge. This Policy does not require that disciplinary measures be applied progressively or sequentially. The District may apply appropriate disciplinary measures for the circumstances. The District may also consider preventative measures, including training, coaching, and other remedial measures.
- Discipline will be confirmed in writing and placed in that person's personnel file. The person's year-end performance evaluation may also reflect the discipline.
- 6. The Superintendent or designee is authorized to impose discipline except for:
 - a. Nonrenewal of a probationary teacher; or
 - b. Discharge of a probationary teacher.

The Board's action may be based upon the Superintendent's or designee's written recommendation and applicable procedures set forth in the Teachers' Tenure Act.

B. Tenured and Non-Probationary Professional Staff

Tenured teacher discipline or demotion will occur only for a reason(s) that is not arbitrary or capricious. Likewise, the disciplining of Non-Teaching Professionals will be governed by the arbitrary or capricious standard unless expressly stated otherwise in a collective bargaining agreement, employee handbook, or individual employment contract. Under the arbitrary or capricious standard, a disciplinary decision must be supported by a preponderance of the evidence and the discipline must have a rational relationship to the established misconduct or inappropriate behavior.

Before imposing discipline, the Superintendent or designee will investigate whether a Professional Staff member engaged in conduct that may justify discipline. The investigation should include discussions with witnesses determined by the Superintendent or designee to have relevant information and a review of tangible evidence (e.g., documents, video, electronic communications). The Professional Staff member will be provided an opportunity to respond to the allegation(s).

If a Professional Staff member is governed by a collective bargaining agreement or individual employment contract, the Superintendent or designee will adhere to the disciplinary standards and procedures in that agreement. If the collective bargaining agreement or individual employment contract does not have an applicable provision, then the standards and procedures outlined below will apply.

The following procedures may be used for investigating allegations of Professional Staff misconduct or inappropriate conduct:

- 1. The Superintendent or designee may consult with legal counsel in appropriate cases and may request that legal counsel assist with an investigation.
- 2. The Superintendent or designee will give the Professional Staff member oral or written notice of the allegation(s).
- 3. If the complaint alleges suspected child abuse or neglect, the matter must be immediately reported to Children's Protective Services.
- 4. The Superintendent or designee will give oral or written notice of the time, date, and location of a meeting to provide the Professional Staff member with an opportunity to respond to the allegation(s) and substantiating factor(s).
- 5. An employee who is subject to an investigatory interview that may result in discipline or who reasonably believes an investigatory interview may result in discipline may bring a representative consistent with Policy 4108.

- 6. The Superintendent or designee is authorized to place a Professional Staff member on paid, non-disciplinary administrative leave pending the completion of an investigation when, in the judgment of the Superintendent or designee, placing the Professional Staff member on leave will protect the investigatory process or work environment.
- 7. If an investigation concludes that a preponderance of the evidence (i.e., more likely than not) establishes that the Professional Staff member engaged in conduct warranting discipline, the appropriate level of discipline will be guided by the following:
 - a. the seriousness of the offense;
 - b. the Professional Staff member's prior disciplinary and employment record;
 - whether other Professional Staff members have engaged in similar or like past conduct known to the District's administration and the discipline imposed for those infractions;
 - d. the existence of aggravating or mitigating factors, as determined by the Superintendent or designee;
 - e. applicable federal or state law:
 - f. the Professional Staff member's acceptance of responsibility;
 - g. the likelihood of recurrence; and
 - h. any other factors the Superintendent or designee determine are relevant.
- 8. Disciplinary measures may include:
 - a. warning;
 - b. reprimand;
 - c. unpaid suspension;
 - d. financial penalty; or
 - e. discharge.

This Policy does not require that disciplinary measures be applied progressively or sequentially. The District may apply appropriate disciplinary measure. The District may consider additional preventative measures to address the misconduct, including training, coaching, and other remedial measures.

 Discipline will be confirmed in writing and placed in that person's personnel file. The discipline imposed may also be reflected in the person's year-end performance evaluation.

- 10. The Superintendent or designee is authorized to impose discipline except for:
 - a. the discharge of a Professional Staff member; or
 - b. the demotion of a tenured teacher, as defined in the Teachers' Tenure Act.

The Board's action may be based on the Superintendent's or designee's written recommendation and applicable procedures in the Teachers' Tenure Act.

11. A tenured teacher's salary may be escrowed after tenure charges are approved by the Board pursuant to Policy 4208.

Legal authority: MCL 38.71 et seq.; MCL 380.11a, 380.601a; NLRB v J Weingarten, Inc, 420 US 251 (1975)

Date adopted:

4400 Professional Staff

4408 Termination

This Policy must be implemented consistent with Policy 1101.

A. Probationary Teachers

For purposes of this Policy, the "termination" of a probationary teacher occurs when the probationary teacher is discharged during the term of an existing individual employment contract between the probationary teacher and the Board. Discontinuation of a probationary teacher's employment at the expiration of an individual employment contract is not termination for purposes of this Policy and is addressed separately in Policy 4409.

The Board may terminate a probationary teacher for misconduct, inappropriate behavior, performance that is not effective, or for any other lawful reason at any time.

The Superintendent or designee may recommend the termination of a probationary teacher to the Board. The recommendation will include the reason(s) for the proposed termination.

Probationary teachers recommended for termination by the Superintendent or designee will be provided advance notice of the allegations; an opportunity for a hearing in closed or open session before the Board; and the time, date, and location of the Board hearing.

B. Tenured Teachers

The Superintendent or designee may recommend the termination of a tenured teacher by filing tenure charges with the Board. The Board will consider whether to proceed on the tenure charges or modify the charges. A tenured teacher may be terminated for a reason that is not arbitrary or capricious.

The tenured teacher may challenge the Board's decision to discharge or demote the teacher by timely filing an appeal with the State Tenure Commission.

C. Non-Teaching Professionals

Unless otherwise provided by a collective bargaining agreement or individual employment contract, a Non-Teaching Professional may be terminated by the Board, Superintendent or designee for any reason that is not arbitrary or capricious, subject to due process.

The Superintendent or designee may recommend the termination of a Non-Teaching Professional to the Board. The recommendation will include the reason(s) for the proposed termination.

Legal authority: MCL 38.83(2), 38.101, 38.121

Date adopted:

4500 Administrators/Supervisors

4504 Performance Based Compensation for Administrators/Supervisors

The Superintendent or designee may implement a performance based compensation system for Administrators, Supervisors, and Directors. This Policy must be implemented consistent with Policy 1101.

Legal authority: MCL 380.11a

Date adopted:

5100 Student Rights

5102 Lockers

Lockers are District property and may be made available for student use. Lockers are assigned to students on a temporary basis, and District administration may revoke a student's locker assignment at any time. The District retains ownership of lockers notwithstanding student use.

Students have no expectation of privacy in their lockers. The building principal or designee may inspect lockers without any particularized suspicion or reasonable cause and without advance notice. Upon the request of the building principal or designee, law enforcement may assist with searching lockers.

During a locker search, student privacy rights will be respected for any items that are not illegal or against Board Policy.

The Board directs the Superintendent to include this Policy in the student code of conduct and to distribute it to parents/guardians.

Legal authority: MCL 380.1306

Date adopted:

5100 Student Rights

5103 Search and Seizure

School officials may search a student and the student's belongings if they have reasonable suspicion that the search will reveal contraband or evidence of a violation of law, Board Policy, or rule. In rare cases, school officials may conduct a search without reasonable suspicion if there is an imminent threat of physical harm or death.

A reasonable suspicion search must be justified at its inception and reasonable in its scope. A search is justified at its inception when school officials have reasonable grounds to suspect that the search will uncover contraband or evidence of a violation of law, Policy, or rule. A search is reasonable in scope when the measures used are reasonably related to the search objectives and are not excessively intrusive in light of the student's age and sex and the nature of the infraction.

School officials are not required to have reasonable suspicion to search lockers or other District property. See Policy 5102.

The District may use detection dogs to search for contraband on District property consistent with Policy 3107.

A breath alcohol test is a search and may be administered upon reasonable suspicion that a student has consumed or is under the influence of alcohol. For voluntary, noncurricular school activities (e.g., school dances), suspicionless breath alcohol tests may be administered for student health and safety purposes if students and their parents/guardians have been provided advance written notice.

Strip searches are prohibited.

The building principal or designee will turn over to law enforcement illegal items and dangerous weapons, as defined in Policy 5206, and may store in a secure place any other contraband or evidence seized from a search until a disciplinary hearing.

This Policy does not apply to any outside entity that may require drug or breath alcohol testing as a condition of participation. See Policy 5105.

Legal authority: MCL 380.1306, 380.1313(2)

Date adopted:

5100 Student Rights

5105 Collaboration with Outside Entities

Nothing in these Board Policies, including, without limitation, protocols for student searches and seizures, student discipline, interrogation of students, and seclusion and restraint, may be interpreted to interfere with any rule, regulation, or policy imposed by an outside entity with which the District cooperates or collaborates, except as otherwise prohibited by law.

Date adopted:

5200 Student Conduct and Discipline

5201 Investigations, Arrests, and Other Law Enforcement Contact

The Board desires to maintain a positive working relationship with law enforcement agencies while protecting student rights and educational needs.

"Law enforcement officer" means a county sheriff or deputy sheriff; an officer of a city, village, or township police department; a city, village, or township marshal; a constable; a Michigan State Police officer; a federal law enforcement officer; an investigator of the state Department of Attorney General; a U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agent; a Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI) agent; or any other person who has the legal authority to investigate criminal activity or to effectuate an arrest.

A. Student Records

District personnel may only share personally identifiable information from a student's education record with law enforcement officers pursuant to Policy 5309 and state and federal law.

B. Reporting to Law Enforcement

A District administrator may contact a law enforcement officer any time the administrator suspects criminal activity; activity that threatens the health or safety of a student; or activity that disrupts or potentially disrupts the school environment.

C. School Related Criminal Activity

School related criminal activity is alleged or suspected criminal activity that occurs on school grounds, at a school-sponsored activity or athletic event, or in a vehicle owned or used by the District.

Law enforcement officers may contact and question students at school about school-related criminal activity as provided below.

A law enforcement officer must notify the building principal or designee before questioning a student at school. The building principal or designee must request the law enforcement officer's identification before allowing the student to be auestioned.

The building principal or designee will make reasonable attempts to contact a student's parent/guardian before the student is questioned by law enforcement. If the student is 18 years or older or is emancipated, the building principal will make reasonable attempts to contact the student's parent/guardian, if requested by the student. If a parent/guardian cannot be reached after reasonable attempts, the student may be questioned only if the law enforcement officer identifies emergency circumstances requiring immediate questioning. A building principal or designee will be present for the questioning. The student will be questioned in a private room and out of sight of others as much as practicable.

The law enforcement officer has the responsibility to advise the student of all applicable rights, including the right against self-incrimination.

If at any time the building principal or designee believes that the law enforcement officer's questioning is being conducted in an inappropriate manner, the building principal or designee will request that the questioning cease.

D. Non-School Related Criminal Activity

Unless specifically authorized by law, a law enforcement officer may not question a student at school about non-school related criminal activity without parent/guardian consent or an appropriate warrant or court order.

E. Taking a Student into Custody

A law enforcement officer seeking to take a student into custody must contact the building principal or designee. If practicable, the building principal or designee will request that the law enforcement officer provide a copy of the warrant, written parent/guardian consent, court order, or other document authorizing the officer to take the student into custody. If the law enforcement officer takes a student into custody, the building principal or designee will obtain and record the officer's name, badge number, and law enforcement agency; the date, time, and reason for the arrest; and the location to which the student is reportedly being taken.

Whenever practicable, a student should be taken into custody in a manner that minimizes observation by others and disruption to the educational environment.

When a law enforcement officer removes a student from school, the building principal or designee will take immediate steps to notify the student's parent/guardian about the student's removal and the location to which the student is reportedly being taken, except when a student has been taken into custody as a victim of suspected child abuse or neglect.

F. Notification to Superintendent or Designee

The building principal or designee will promptly notify the Superintendent any time a law enforcement officer seeks or takes a student into custody, or removes a student from school.

G. Child Abuse and Neglect

This Policy does not govern child abuse and neglect investigations. See Policy 5701.

Nothing in this Policy limits the authority of District personnel to question a student about suspected misconduct or investigate suspected misconduct at school.

Legal authority: MCL 380.11a

Date adopted: