# CELINA INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

**EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK** 

2013-2014

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# **Employee Handbook Receipt**

Name

Campus/Department

I hereby acknowledge receipt of a copy of the Celina ISD Employee Handbook. I agree to read the handbook and abide by the standards, policies, and procedures defined or referenced in this document.

Employees have the option of receiving the handbook in electronic format or hard copy.

Go to celinaisd.com Click on For Staff Click on Employee Resources Click on Employee Handbook

Please indicate your choice by checking the appropriate box below:

- □ I choose to receive the employee handbook in electronic format and accept responsibility for accessing it according to the instructions provided.
- □ I choose to receive a hard copy of the employee handbook.

The information in this handbook is subject to change. I understand that changes in district policies may supersede, modify, or render obsolete the information summarized in this book. As the district provides updated policy information, I accept responsibility for reading and abiding by the changes.

I understand that no modifications to contractual relationships or alterations of at-will employment relationships are intended by this handbook.

I understand that I have an obligation to inform my supervisor or department head of any changes in personal information such as phone number, address, etc. I also accept responsibility for contacting my supervisor or the Human Resource Department if I have questions or concerns or need further explanation.

Signature

Date

Please sign and date this receipt and forward it to Lana Brooks.

# Introduction

The purpose of this handbook is to provide information that will help with questions and pave the way for a successful year. Not all district policies and procedures are included. Those that are have been summarized. Suggestions for additions and improvements to this handbook are welcome and may be sent to Rick DeMasters.

This handbook is neither a contract nor a substitute for the official district policy manual. Nor is it intended to alter the at-will status of noncontract employees in any way. Rather, it is a guide to and a brief explanation of district policies and procedures related to employment. These policies and procedures can change at any time; these changes shall supersede any handbook provisions that are not compatible with the change. For more information, employees may refer to the policy codes that are associated with handbook topics, confer with their supervisor, or call the appropriate district office. District policies can be accessed on line at <a href="http://pol.tasb.org/Home/Index/307">http://pol.tasb.org/Home/Index/307</a>.

# **District Information**

#### **Description of the District**

Celina ISD occupies 94 square miles in northwest Collin County and a small area in Denton County. The District is comprised of three communities: Celina, Alla, and Weston. Alla and Weston, previously independent school districts, consolidated with Celina in the 1950's and 1960's. The area is basically agricultural, but many residents commute to the Dallas-Ft. Worth Metroplex for work or they own local businesses. The principal taxpayers are land developers, farm and ranch businesses, utility companies, banks, and other private enterprises. The 2011 property values are \$640,058,689. Student enrollment increased in the 2011-2012 school year 3%. Student attendance averages 96.6%. The dropout rate for the 2010-2011 school year was 0%. The completion rate for the class of 2011 was 96.6%. Students are educated in four buildings: a grade PK-2 elementary school built in 2003; a grade 3-5 intermediate school built in 1987; a grade 6-8 middle school built in 1998 with additions made in 2002 and 2003; and a grade 9-12 high school built in 2008, with an addition of a auxiliary gym and an auditorium made in 2009.

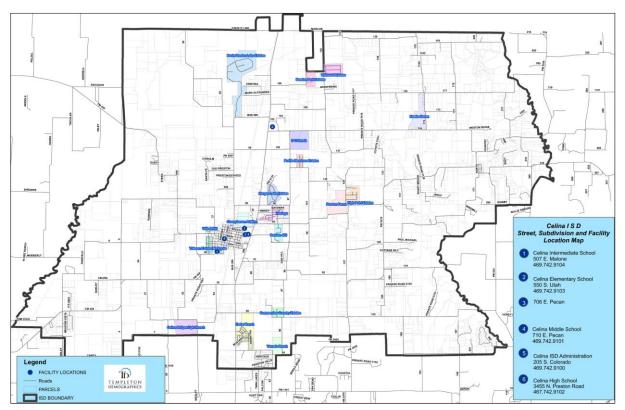
The District participates in several cooperative educational programs administered through the Region 10 Educational Service Center, to provide the best available programs for students and staff in the most cost effective manner. In addition to an extensive honors and advanced placement curriculum, the District offers a gifted and talented program for all grade levels and the option of graduating with a Distinguished Achievement diploma.

The District continues to implement programs that improve learning and benefit students. The District has updated technology resulting in computer technology for instructional and administrative use.

Individualized reading programs are present at all campuses. Learning centers and remedial programs also exist to assist students and improve performance.

The 2010 state accountability report ranks the district academically "Exemplary". The high school is "Recognized", the junior high is "Exemplary", and the intermediate and elementary schools are "Exemplary." These ratings are based on the 2010 TAKS.

#### **District Map**



#### Mission Statement, Goals, and Objectives

#### Policy AE

The mission of the District, as the primary educational entity, is to provide a safe, caring, structured learning environment where teachers educate and motivate students to become productive citizens of their community.

#### **Board of Trustees**

Policies BA, BB series, BD series, and BE series

Texas law grants the board of trustees the power to govern and oversee the management of the district's schools. The board is the policy-making body within the district and has overall responsibility for the curriculum, school taxes, annual budget, employment of the superintendent and other professional staff, and facilities. The board has complete and final control over school matters within limits established by state and federal laws and regulations.

The board of trustees is elected by the citizens of the district to represent the community's commitment to a strong educational program for the district's children. Board members are elected by place and serve three-year terms. Board members serve without compensation, must be qualified voters, and must reside in the district.

Current board members include:

- Choc Christopher, President, Place 2
- Pam Peters, Vice President, Place 5
- Kelly Juergens, Secretary, Place 6
- Chuck Hansen, Place 1
- Jeff Gravely, Place 3
- Tim Looper, Place 4
- Todd Snyder, Place 7

The board usually meets the third Monday of each month at 7:00 pm in the Board Room of the Celina Administration Building, 205 South Colorado Street. In the event that large attendance is anticipated, the board may meet at the Celina High School Caferteria, 3455 North Preston Road. Special meetings may be called when necessary. A written notice of regular and special meetings will be posted on the district Web site (www.celinaisd.com) and the front window of the Administration Building at least 72 hours before the scheduled meeting time. The written notice will show the date, time, place, and subjects of each meeting. In emergencies, a meeting may be held with a two-hour notice.

All meetings are open to the public. In certain circumstances, Texas law permits the board to go into a closed session from which the public and others are excluded. Closed session may occur for such things as discussing prospective gifts or donations, real-property acquisition, certain personnel matters including employee complaints, security matters, student discipline, or consulting with attorneys regarding pending litigation.

#### Board Meeting Schedule for 2013–2014

July 15, 2013 August 19, 2013 September 16, 2013 October 21, 2013 November 18, 2013 December 16, 2013 January 20, 2014 February 17, 2014 March 24, 2014 March 24, 2014 May 19, 2014 June 16, 2014

#### Administration

Donny O'Dell, Superintendent Rick DeMasters, Assistant Superintendent Starlynn Wells, Director of District Instruction Lana Brooks, Administrative Assistant to Director of Human Resources Sara McCarter, Business Manager Brenda Nelson, Accounts Payable/Payroll Marilyn Chamberlin, Director of Technology Bobby Manson, Technology Ofelia Almendarez, Food Service Director Bill Elliott, Athletic Director Jerry Moore, Director of Transportation Tom Moore, Maintenance Supervisor Bill Hemby, High School Principal Karen Walker, High School Assistant Principal David Wilson, High School Assistant Principal John Mathews, Middle School Principal Lori Gibbs, Middle School Assistant Principal Misty Warrick, Middle School Assistant Principal Lew Kennedy, Intermediate School Principal Stacy Ceci, Intermediate School Assistant Principal Starla Martin, Elementary School Principal

## **School Calendar**

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## **Helpful Contacts**

From time to time, employees have questions or concerns. If those questions or concerns cannot be answered by supervisors or at the campus or department level, the employee is encouraged to contact the appropriate department as listed below.

### **School Directory**

Ofelia Almendarez ofeliaalmendarez@celinaisd.com	Food Service Director	(469) 742-9100
Lana Brooks lanabrooks@celinaisd.com	Administrative Assistant to Human Resources	(469) 742-9100
Stacy Ceci stacymiller@celinaisd.com	Intermediate School Assistant Principal	(469) 742-9104
Marilyn Chamberlin marilynchamberlin@celinaisd.com	Director of Technology	(469) 742-9100
Rick DeMasters rickdemasters@celinaisd.com	Assistant Superintendent	(469) 742-9100
Bill Elliott billelliott@celinaisd.com	Athletic Director	(469) 742-9120
Lori Gibbs lorigibbs@celinaisd.com	Middle School Assistant Principal	(469) 742-2300
Bill Hemby billhemby@celinaisd.com	High School Principal	(469) 742-9102
Lew Kennedy <u>lewkennedy@celinaisd.com</u>	Intermediate School Principal	(469) 742-9104
Starla Martin <u>starlamartin@celinaisd.com</u>	Elementary School Principal	(469) 742-9103
John Mathews johnmathews@celinaisd.com	Middle School Principal	(469) 742-2300
Sara McCarter saramccarter@celinaisd.com	Business Manager	(469) 742-9100
Jerry Moore jerrymoore@celinaisd.com	Director of Transportation	(469) 742-9114
Brenda Nelson brendanelson@celinaisd.com	Accounts Payable/Payroll	(469) 742-9100

Donny O'Dell donnyodell@celinaisd.com	Superintendent	(469) 742-9100
Karen Walker <u>karenwalker@celinaisd.com</u>	High School Assistant Principal	(469) 742-9102
Misty Warrick <u>mistywarrick@celinaisd.com</u>	Middle School Assistant Principal	(469) 742-9103
Starlynn Wells starlynnwells@celinaisd.com	District Instructional Coordinator	(469) 742-9104
David Wilson <u>davidwilson@celinaisd.com</u>	High School Assistant Principal	(469) 742-9102

#### **Equal Employment Opportunity**

Policies DAA, DIA

Celina ISD does not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, color, religion, gender, national origin, age, disability, military status, genetic information, or on any other basis prohibited by law. Additionally, the district does not discriminate against an employee or applicant who acts to oppose such discrimination or participates in the investigation of a complaint related to a discriminatory employment practice. Employment decisions will be made on the basis of each applicant's job qualifications, experience, and abilities.

Employees with questions or concerns relating to discrimination for any of the reasons listed above should contact the assistant superintendent.

Job Vacancy Announcements *Policy DC* 

Announcements of job vacancies by position and location are posted on a regular basis to the district's Web site.

#### **Employment After Retirement**

Policy DC

Individuals receiving retirement benefits from the Teacher Retirement System (TRS) may be employed in limited circumstances on a full- or part-time basis without affecting their benefits, according to TRS rules and state law. Detailed information about employment after retirement is available in the TRS publication Employment After Retirement. Employees can contact TRS for additional information by calling 800-223-8778 or 512-542-6400. Information is also available on the TRS Web Site (www.trs.state.tx.us).

#### **Contract and Noncontract Employment**

Policy DC series

State law requires the district to employ all full-time professional employees in positions requiring a certificate from the State Board for Educator Certification (SBEC) and nurses under probationary, term, or continuing contracts. Employees in all other positions are employed atwill or by a contract that is not subject to the procedures for nonrenewal or termination under Chapter 21 of the Texas Education Code. The paragraphs that follow provide a general description of the employment arrangements used by the district.

**Probationary Contracts.** Nurses and full-time professional employees new to the district and employed in positions requiring SBEC certification must receive a probationary contract during their first year of employment. Former employees who are hired after a two-year lapse in district employment or employees who move to a position requiring a new class of certification may also be employed by probationary contract. Probationary contracts are one-year contracts. The probationary period for those who have been employed as a teacher in public education for at least five of the eight years preceding employment with the district may not exceed one school year.

For those with less experience, the probationary period will be three school years (i.e., three oneyear contracts) with an optional fourth school year if the board determines it is doubtful whether a term or continuing contract should be given.

**Term Contracts.** Full-time professionals employed in positions requiring certification and nurses will be employed by term contracts after they have successfully completed the probationary period. The terms and conditions of employment are detailed in the contract and employment policies. All employees will receive a copy of their contract. Employment policies can be accessed on line or copies will be provided upon request.

**Noncertified Professional and Administrative Employees.** Employees in professional and administrative positions that do not require SBEC certification (such as noninstructional administrators) are employed by a one-year contract that is not subject to the provisions for nonrenewal or termination under the Texas Education Code.

**Paraprofessional and Auxiliary Employees.** All paraprofessional and auxiliary employees, regardless of certification, are employed at will and not by contract. Employment is not for any specified term and may be terminated at any time by either the employee or the district.

#### **Certification and Licenses**

Policies DBA, DF

Professional employees whose positions require SBEC certification or professional license are responsible for taking actions to ensure their credentials do not lapse. Employees must submit

documentation that they have passed the required certification exam and/or obtained or renewed their credentials to Lana Brooks in a timely manner.

A certified employee's contract may be voided without due process and employment terminated if the individual does not hold a valid certificate or fails to fulfill the requirements necessary to renew or extend a temporary certificate, emergency certificate, probationary certificate, or permit. A contract may also be voided if SBEC suspends or revokes certification because of an individual's failure to comply with criminal history background checks. Contact Rick DeMasters if you have any questions regarding certification or licensure requirements.

### Searches and Alcohol and Drug Testing

Policy DHE

Noninvestigatory searches in the workplace including accessing an employee's desk, file cabinets, or work area to obtain information needed for usual business purposes may occur when an employee is unavailable. Therefore, employees are hereby notified that they have no legitimate expectation of privacy in those places. In addition, the district reserves the right to conduct searches when there is reasonable cause to believe a search will uncover evidence of work-related misconduct. Such an investigatory search may include drug and alcohol testing if the suspected violation relates to drug or alcohol use. The district may search the employee, the employee's personal items, and work areas including district-owned computers, lockers, and private vehicles parked on district premises or work sites or used in district business.

**Employees Required to Have a Commercial Driver's License.** Any employee whose duties require a commercial driver's license (CDL) is subject to drug and alcohol testing. This includes all drivers who operate a motor vehicle designed to transport 16 or more people counting the driver, drivers of large vehicles, or drivers of vehicles used in the transportation of hazardous materials. Teachers, coaches, or other employees who primarily perform duties other than driving are subject to testing requirements if their duties include driving a commercial motor vehicle.

Drug testing will be conducted before an individual assumes driving responsibilities. Alcohol and drug tests will be conducted when reasonable suspicion exists, at random, when an employee returns to duty after engaging in prohibited conduct, and as a follow-up measure. Testing may be conducted following accidents. Return-to-duty and follow-up testing will be conducted if an employee who has violated the prohibited alcohol conduct standards or tested positive for alcohol or drugs is allowed to return to duty.

All employees required to have a CDL or who otherwise are subject to alcohol and drug testing will receive a copy of the district's policy, the testing requirements, and detailed information on alcohol and drug abuse and the availability of assistance programs.

Employees with questions or concerns relating to alcohol and drug policies and related educational material should contact the assistant superintendent at the administration building.

#### **Health Safety Training**

Policies DBA, DMA

Certain employees who are involved in physical activities for students must maintain and submit to the district proof of current certification or training in first aid, cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), the use of an automated external defibrillator (AED), concussion, and extracurricular athletic activity safety. Certification or documentation of training must be issued by the American Red Cross, the American Heart Association, University Interscholastic League, or another organization that provides equivalent training and certification. Employees subject to this requirement must submit their certification or documentation to Lana Brooks by August 26.

#### **Reassignments and Transfers**

Policy DK

All personnel are subject to assignment and reassignment by the superintendent or designee when the superintendent or designee determines that the assignment or reassignment is in the best interest of the district. Reassignment is a transfer to another position, department, or facility that does not necessitate a change in the employment contract. Campus reassignments must be approved by the principal at the receiving campus except when reassignments are due to enrollment shifts or program changes. Extracurricular or supplemental duty assignments may be reassigned at any time unless an extracurricular or supplemental duty assignment is part of a dual-assignment contract. Employees who object to a reassignment may follow the district process for employee complaints as outlined in this handbook and district policy DGBA (Local).

An employee with the required qualifications for a position may request a transfer to another campus or department. A written request for transfer must be completed and signed by the employee and the employee's supervisor. A teacher requesting a transfer to another campus before the school year begins must submit his or her request by May 30, 2014. Requests for transfer during the school year will be considered only when the change will not adversely affect students and after a replacement has been found. All transfer requests will be coordinated by the Superintendent's office and must be approved by the receiving supervisor.

#### Workload and Work Schedules

Policies DEA, DL

**Professional Employees.** Professional employees and academic administrators are exempt from overtime pay and are employed on a 10-, 11-, or 12-month basis, according to the work schedules set by the district. A school calendar is adopted each year designating the work schedule for teachers and all school holidays. Notice of work schedules including start and end dates and scheduled holidays will be distributed each school year.

Classroom teachers will have planning periods for instructional preparation including conferences. The schedule of planning periods is set at the campus level but must provide at least 450 minutes within each two-week period in blocks not less than 45 minutes within the

instructional day. Teachers and librarians are entitled to a duty-free lunch period of at least 30 minutes. The district may require teachers to supervise students during lunch one day a week when no other personnel are available.

**Paraprofessional and Auxiliary Employees.** Support employees are employed at will and receive notification of the required duty days, holidays, and hours of work for their position on an annual basis. Paraprofessional and auxiliary employees are not exempt from overtime and are not authorized to work in excess of their assigned schedule without prior approval from their supervisor.

### Notification to Parents Regarding Qualifications

Policies DK, DBA

In schools receiving Title I funds, the district is required by the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) to notify parents at the beginning of each school year that they may request information regarding the professional qualifications of their child's teacher. NCLB also requires that parents be notified if their child has been assigned or taught for four or more consecutive weeks by a teacher who is not highly qualified.

Texas law requires that parents be notified if their child is assigned for more than 30 consecutive instructional days to a teacher who does not hold an appropriate teaching certificate. This notice is not required if parental notification under NCLB is sent. Inappropriately certified or uncertified teachers include individuals on an emergency permit (including individuals waiting to take a certification exam) and individuals who do not hold any certificate or permit. Information relating to teacher certification will be made available to the public upon request. Employees who have questions about their certification status can call Rick DeMasters, Assistant Superintendent at 469-742-9100.

## **Outside Employment and Tutoring**

Policy DBD

Employees are required to disclose in writing to their immediate supervisor any outside employment that may create a potential conflict of interest with their assigned duties and responsibilities or the best interest of the district. Supervisors will consider outside employment on a case-by-case basis and determine whether it should be prohibited because of a conflict of interest.

## Performance Evaluation

Policy DN series

Evaluation of an employee's job performance is a continuous process that focuses on improvement. Performance evaluation is based on an employee's assigned job duties and other job-related criteria. All employees will participate in the evaluation process with their assigned supervisor at least annually. Written evaluations will be completed on forms approved by the district. Reports, correspondence, and memoranda also can be used to document performance information. All employees will receive a copy of their written evaluation, participate in a performance conference with their supervisor, and have the opportunity to respond to the evaluation.

#### **Employee Involvement**

Policies BQA, BQB

At both the campus and district levels, Celina ISD offers opportunities for input in matters that affect employees and influence the instructional effectiveness of the district. As part of the district's planning and decision-making process, employees are elected to serve on district- or campus-level advisory committees. Plans and detailed information about the shared decision-making process are available in each campus office or from the administration office.

#### Staff Development

Policy DMA

Staff development activities are organized to meet the needs of employees and the district. Staff development for instructional personnel is predominantly campus-based, related to achieving campus performance objectives, addressed in the campus improvement plan, and approved by a campus-level advisory committee. Staff development for noninstructional personnel is designed to meet specific licensing requirements (e.g., bus drivers) and continued employee skill development.

Individuals holding renewable SBEC certificates are responsible for obtaining the required training hours and maintaining appropriate documentation.

#### Salaries, Wages, and Stipends

Policies DEA, DEAA, DEAB

Employees are paid in accordance with administrative guidelines and an established pay structure. The district's pay plans are reviewed by the administration each year and adjusted as needed. All district positions are classified as exempt or nonexempt according to federal law. Professional employees and academic administrators are generally classified as exempt and are paid monthly salaries. They are not entitled to overtime compensation. Other employees are generally classified as non-exempt and are paid an hourly wage or salary and receive compensatory time or overtime pay for each hour worked beyond 40 in a workweek. (See *Overtime Compensation*, page 20.)

All employees will receive written notice of their pay and work schedules before the start of each school year. Classroom teachers, full-time librarians, full-time nurses, and full-time counselors will be paid no less than the minimum state salary schedule. Contract employees who perform extracurricular or supplemental duties may be paid a stipend in addition to their salary according to the district's extra-duty pay schedule.

Employees should contact the central administration office for more information about the district's pay schedules or their own pay.

#### Paychecks

All professional and salaried employees are paid monthly. Paychecks will not be released to any person other than the district employee named on the check without the employee's written authorization.

An employee's payroll statement contains detailed information including deductions, withholding information, and the amount of leave accumulated. See the illustrated guide on page 82 if you have questions about your payroll statement.

The schedule of pay dates for the 2013–2014 school year follows:

#### PAYDATES 2012-2013

#### PAYDATE

AUGUST 20, 2013 SEPTEMBER 20, 2013 OCTOBER 18, 2013 NOVEMBER 20, 2013 DECEMBER 20, 2013 JANUARY 17, 2014 FEBRUARY 20, 2014 MARCH 20, 2014 MAY 20, 2014 JUNE 20, 2014 JUNE 20, 2014 JULY 18, 2014 AUGUST 20,2014

#### PAYROLL ENDING DATE

AUGUST 9, 2013 SEPTEMBER 13, 2013 OCTOBER 11, 2013 NOVEMBER 8, 2013 DECEMBER 13, 2013 JANUARY 10, 2014 FEBRUARY 14, 2014 MARCH 7, 2014 APRL 11, 2014 MAY 9, 2014 JUNE 13, 2014 JULY 11, 2014 AUGUST 8, 2014

#### Automatic Payroll Deposit

Employees can have their paychecks electronically deposited into a designated account. Notification by the monthly payroll cutoff date is necessary to activate this service. Contact the business office for more information about the automatic payroll deposit service.

### **Payroll Deductions**

Policy CFEA

The district is required to make the following automatic payroll deductions:

- Teacher Retirement System of Texas (TRS) or Social Security employee contributions
- Federal income tax required for all full-time employees
- Medicare tax (applicable only to employees hired in this district after March 31, 1986)

Other payroll deductions employees may elect include deductions for the employee's share of premiums for health, dental, life, and vision insurance; annuities; and higher education savings plans. Employees also may request payroll deduction for payment of membership dues to professional organizations and. Salary deductions are automatically made for unauthorized or unpaid leave.

#### **Overtime Compensation**

Policy DEA

The district compensates overtime for nonexempt employees in accordance with federal wage and hour laws. Only nonexempt employees (hourly employees and paraprofessional employees) are entitled to overtime compensation. Nonexempt employees are not authorized to work beyond their normal work schedule without advance approval from their supervisor.

Overtime is legally defined as all hours worked in excess of 40 hours in a workweek and is not measured by the day or by the employee's regular work schedule. Nonexempt employees that are paid on a salary basis are paid for a 40-hour workweek and do not earn additional pay unless they work more than 40 hours. For the purpose of calculating overtime, a workweek begins at 12:01 am Sunday and ends at midnight Saturday.

Employees may be compensated for overtime at time-and-a-half rate with compensatory time off (comp time) or direct pay. The following applies to all nonexempt employees:

- Employees can accumulate up to 60 hours of comp time.
- Comp time must be used in the duty year that it is earned.
- Use of comp time may be at the employee's request with supervisor approval, as workload permits, or at the supervisor's direction.
- An employee may be required to use comp time before using available paid leave (e.g., sick, personal, vacation).
- Weekly time records will be maintained on all nonexempt employees for the purpose of wage and salary administration.

### **Travel Expense Reimbursement**

Policy DEE

**Before any travel expenses are incurred by an employee, the employee's supervisor and superintendent's office must give approval.** For approved travel, employees will be reimbursed for mileage and other travel expenditures according to the current rate schedule established by the district. Employees must submit receipts, to the extent possible, to be reimbursed for expenses other than mileage.

### Health, Dental, and Life Insurance

Policy CRD

Group health insurance coverage is provided through TRS-ActiveCare, the statewide public school employee health insurance program. The district's contribution to employee insurance premiums is determined annually by the board of trustees. Employees eligible for health insurance coverage include the following:

• Employees who are active, contributing TRS members

• Employees who are not contributing TRS members and who are regularly scheduled to work at least 10 hours per week

TRS retirees who are enrolled in TRS-Care (retiree health insurance program) and employees who are not contributing TRS members who are regularly scheduled to work less than 10 hours per week, are not eligible to participate in TRS-ActiveCare.

The insurance plan year is from September 1 through August 31. Current employees can make changes in their insurance coverage during open enrollment each spring. Detailed descriptions of insurance coverage, employee cost, and eligibility requirements are provided to all employees in a separate booklet. Employees should contact Human Resources office for more information.

#### **Supplemental Insurance Benefits**

Policy CRD

At their own expense, employees may enroll in supplemental insurance programs for life, vision, dental, cancer, and disablity. Premiums for these programs can be paid by payroll deduction.

Employees should contact Human Resources for more information.

## Cafeteria Plan Benefits (Section 125)

Employees may be eligible to participate in the Cafeteria Plan (Section 125) and, under IRS regulations, must either accept or reject this benefit. This plan enables eligible employees to pay certain insurance premiums on a pretax basis (i.e., disability, accidental death and dismemberment, cancer and dread disease, dental, and additional term life insurance). A third-party administrator handles employee claims made on these accounts.

New employees must accept or reject this benefit during their first month of employment. All employees must accept or reject this benefit on an annual basis and during the specified time period.

### Workers' Compensation Insurance

Policy CRE

The district, in accordance with state law, provides workers' compensation benefits to employees who suffer a work-related illness or are injured on the job. The district has workers' compensation coverage from Texas Association of School Boards Risk Management Fund, effective September 1, 2010.

Benefits help pay for medical treatment and make up for part of the income lost while recovering. Specific benefits are prescribed by law depending on the circumstances of each case.

All work-related accidents or injuries should be reported immediately to Human Resources. Employees who are unable to work because of a work-related injury will be notified of their rights and responsibilities under the Texas Labor Code. See Workers' Compensation Benefits, page 29 for information on use of paid leave for such absences.

#### **Unemployment Compensation Insurance**

Policy CRF

Employees who have been laid off or terminated through no fault of their own may be eligible for unemployment compensation benefits. Employees are not eligible to collect unemployment benefits during regularly scheduled breaks in the school year or the summer months if they have employment contracts or reasonable assurance of returning to service. Employees with questions about unemployment benefits should contact Human Resources.

#### **Teacher Retirement**

Policy DEG

All personnel employed on a regular basis for at least four and one-half months are members of the Teacher Retirement System of Texas (TRS). Substitutes not receiving TRS service retirement benefits who work at least 90 days a year are also eligible for TRS membership and to purchase a year of creditable service. TRS provides members with an annual statement of their account showing all deposits and the total account balance for the year ending August 31, as well as an estimate of their retirement benefits.

Employees who plan to retire under TRS should notify Human Resources as soon as possible. Information on the application procedures for TRS benefits is available from TRS at Teacher Retirement System of Texas, 1000 Red River Street, Austin, TX 78701-2698, or call 800-223-8778 or 512-542-6400. TRS information is also available on the Web (www.trs.state.tx.us). See page 12 for information on restrictions of employment of retirees in Texas public schools.

# Leaves and Absences

#### Policies DEC, DECA, DECB

The district offers employees paid and unpaid leaves of absence in times of personal need. This handbook describes the basic types of leave available and restrictions on leaves of absence. Employees who expect to be absent for an extended period of more than five days should call Human Resources for information about applicable leave benefits, payment of insurance premiums, and requirements for communicating with the district.

Leave must be used in one half (1/2) day increments. However, if an employee is taking family and medical leave, leave shall be recorded in one-hour increments. Earned comp time must be used before any available paid state and local leave. Unless an employee requests a different order, available paid state and local leave will be used in the following order:

- Local Leave
- State Personal Leave
- State Sick Leave-accumulated prior to 1995-96 school year
- Leave donated through a sick leave pool

Employees must follow district and department or campus procedures to report or request any leave of absence and complete the appropriate form or certification.

**Medical Certification.** Any employee who is absent more than five (5) days because of a personal or family illness must submit a medical certification from a qualified health care provider confirming the specific dates of the illness, the reason for the illness, and—in the case of personal illness—the employee's fitness to return to work.

The Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008 (GINA) prohibits covered employers from requesting or requiring genetic information of an individual or family member of the individual, except as specifically allowed by this law. To comply with this law, we ask that employees and health care providers do not provide any genetic information in any medical certification. 'Genetic information,' as defined by GINA, includes an individual's family medical history, the results of an individual's or family member's genetic tests, the fact that an individual or an individual's family member sought or received genetic services, and genetic information of a fetus carried by an individual or an individual's family member receiving assistive reproductive services.

**Continuation of Health Insurance.** Employees on an approved leave of absence other than family and medical leave may continue their insurance benefits at their own expense. Health insurance benefits for employees on paid leave and leave designated under the Family and Medical Leave Act will be paid by the district as they were prior to the leave. Otherwise, the district does not pay any portion of insurance premiums for employees who are on unpaid leave.

Under TRS-Active Care rules, an employee is no longer eligible for insurance through the district after six months of unpaid leave other than FML. If an employees unpaid leave extends for more than six months, the district will provide the employee with notice of COBRA rights.

#### Personal Leave

State law entitles all employees to five days of paid personal leave per year. Personal leave is available for use at the beginning of the year. A day of personal leave is equivalent to an assigned workday. State personal leave accumulates without limit, is transferable to other Texas school districts, and generally transfers to education service centers. Personal leave may be used for two general purposes: nondiscretionary and discretionary.

**Nondiscretionary.** Leave taken for personal or family illness, family emergency, a death in the family, or active military service is considered nondiscretionary leave. Reasons for this type of leave allow very little, if any, advance planning. Nondiscretionary may be used in the same manner as state sick leave.

**Discretionary.** Leave taken at an employee's discretion that can be scheduled in advance is considered discretionary leave. An employee wishing to take discretionary personal leave must submit a request to his or her principal or supervisor five (5) days in advance of the anticipated absence. The effect of the employee's absence on the educational program or department operations, as well as the availability of substitutes, will be considered by the principal or supervisor.

### State Sick Leave

State sick leave accumulated before 1995 is available for use and may be transferred to other school districts in Texas. State sick leave can be used only in one (1) day increments, except when coordinated with family and medical leave taken on an intermittent or reduced-schedule basis or when coordinated with workers' compensation benefits.

State sick leave may be used for the following reasons only:

- Employee illness
- Illness in the employee's immediate family
- Family emergency (i.e., natural disasters or life-threatening situations)
- Death in the immediate family
- Active military service

#### Local Leave

#### DEC Local

All employees shall earn two workdays of paid local leave per school year in accordance with administrative regulations. Local leave is available for use at the beginning of the year.

All employees will be allowed three additional days at the rate of \$50 per day without being docked the employee's daily rate.

### Leave Bank (or Pool)

An employee who has exhausted all paid leave and who suffers from a catastrophic event or is absent due to the catastrophic event of a member of the employee's immediate family may request the establishment of a leave pool, to which District employees may donate only local leave for use by the eligible employee. If the employee is unable to submit the request, a member of the employee's family or the employee's supervisor may submit the request to establish a leave pool. The pool shall cease to exist when the employee no longer needs leave for the purpose requested, uses the maximum number of days allowed under a pool, or exhausts all leave days donated to the leave pool. The Superintendent or designee shall develop regulations for the implementation of the leave pool that address the following:

- 1. Procedures to request the establishment of a leave pool;
- 2. The maximum number of days an employee may donate to a leave pool;

3. The maximum number of days per school year an eligible employee may receive from a leave pool; and

4. The return of unused days to donors.

#### Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA)—General Provisions

The following text is from the federal notice, *Employee Rights and Responsibilities Under the Family and Medical Leave Act*. Specific information that the district has adopted to implement the FMLA follows this general notice.

**Basic Leave Entitlement**. The FMLA requires covered employers to provide up to 12 weeks of unpaid, job-protected leave to eligible employees for the following reasons:

- For incapacity due to pregnancy, prenatal medical care or child birth;
- To care for the employee's child after birth, or placement for adoption or foster care;
- To care for the employee's spouse, son or daughter, or parent, who has a serious health condition; or
- For a serious health condition that makes the employee unable to perform the employee's job.

**Military Family Leave Entitlements**. An eligible employee whose spouse, son, daughter or parent is on covered active duty or called to covered active duty status may use his or her 12-week leave entitlement to address certain qualifying exigencies. Qualifying exigencies may include attending certain military events, arranging for alternative childcare, addressing certain financial and legal arrangements, attending certain counseling sessions, and attending post-deployment reintegration briefings.

The FMLA also includes a special leave entitlement that permits eligible employees to take up to 26 weeks of leave to care for a covered servicemember during a single 12-month period. A covered servicemember is (1) a current member of the Armed Forces, including a member of the National Guard or Reserves, who has a serious injury or illness incurred in the line of duty on active duty that may render the servicemember medically unfit to perform his or her duties for which the servicemember is undergoing medical treatment, recuperation, or therapy; or is in

outpatient status; or is on the temporary disability retired list\*; or (2) a veteran who was discharged or released under conditions other than dishonorable at any time during the five-year period prior to the first date the eligible employee takes FMLA leave to care for the covered veteran, and who is undergoing medical treatment, recuperation, or therapyfor a serious injury or illness.\*

# \*The FMLA definitions of "serious injury or illness" for current servicemembers and veterans are distinct from the FMLA definition of "serious health condition".

**Benefits and Protections.** During FML, the employer must maintain the employee's health coverage under any "group health plan" on the same terms as if the employee had continued to work. Upon return from FML, most employees must be restored to their original or equivalent positions with equivalent pay, benefits, and other employment terms.

Use of FML cannot result in the loss of any employment benefit that accrued prior to the start of an employee's leave.

**Eligibility Requirements.** Employees are eligible if they have worked for a covered employer for at least one year, for 1,250 hours over the previous 12 months, and if at least 50 employees are employed by the employer within 75 miles.

\*Special hours of service eligibility requirements apply to airline flight crew employees.

**Definition of Serious Health Condition.** A serious health condition is an illness, injury, impairment, or physical or mental condition that involves either an overnight stay in a medical care facility, or continuing treatment by a health care provider for a condition that either prevents the employee from performing the functions of the employee's job, or prevents the qualified family member from participating in school or other daily activities.

Subject to certain conditions, the continuing treatment requirement may be met by a period of incapacity of more than 3 consecutive calendar days combined with at least two visits to a health care provider or one visit and a regimen of continuing treatment, or incapacity due to pregnancy, or incapacity due to a chronic condition. Other conditions may meet the definition of continuing treatment.

**Use of Leave.** An employee does not need to use this leave entitlement in one block. Leave can be taken intermittently or on a reduced leave schedule when medically necessary. Employees must make reasonable efforts to schedule leave for planned medical treatment so as not to unduly disrupt the employer's operations. Leave due to qualifying exigencies may also be taken on an intermittent basis.

**Substitution of Paid Leave for Unpaid Leave.** Employees may choose or employers may require use of accrued paid leave while taking FML. In order to use paid leave for FML, employees must comply with the district's normal paid leave policies.

**Employee Responsibilities.** Employees must provide 30 days advance notice of the need to take FML-when the need is foreseeable. When 30 days notice is not possible, the employee must

provide notice as soon as practicable and generally must comply with an employer's normal callin procedures.

Employees must provide sufficient information for the employer to determine if the leave may qualify for FMLA protection and the anticipated timing and duration of the leave. Sufficient information may include that the employee is unable to perform job functions, the family member is unable to perform daily activities, the need for hospitalization or continuing treatment by a health care provider, or circumstances supporting the need for military family leave. Employees also must inform the employer if the requested leave is for a reason for which FML was previously taken or certified. Employees also may be required to provide a certification and periodic recertification supporting the need for leave.

**Employer Responsibilities.** Covered employers must inform employees requesting leave whether they are eligible under the FMLA. If they are eligible, the notice must specify any additional information required as well as the employees' rights and responsibilities. If they are not eligible, the employer must provide a reason for the ineligibility.

Covered employers must inform employees if leave will be designated as FML and the amount of leave counted against the employee's leave entitlement. If the employer determines that the leave is not FML, the employer must notify the employee.

**Unlawful Acts by Employers.** The FMLA makes it unlawful for any employer to: interfere with, restrain, or deny the exercise of any right protected under the FMLA; discharge or discriminate against any person for opposing any practice made unlawful by the FMLA or for involvement in any proceeding under or relating to the FMLA.

**Enforcement.** An employee may file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Labor or may bring a private lawsuit against an employer.

The FMLA does not affect any Federal or State law prohibiting discrimination or supersede any state or local law or collective bargaining agreement which provides greater family or medical leave rights.

*FMLA section 109 (29 U.S.C. § 2619) requires FMLA covered employers to post the text of this notice. Regulations 29 C.F.R. § 825.300 (a) may require additional disclosures.* 

For additional information:

1-866-4US-WAGE (1-866-487-9243) TTY: 1-877-889-5627 www.wagehour.dol.gov

## Local Family and Medical Leave Provisions

• Eligible employees can take up to 12 weeks of unpaid leave in the 12-month period measured forward from the date an individual employee's first FML begins.

**Use of Paid Leave.** FML runs concurrently with accrued sick and personal leave, temporary disability leave, compensatory time, assault leave, and absences due to a work-related illness or injury. The district will designate the leave as FML, if applicable, and notify the employee that accumulated leave will run concurrently.

**Combined Leave for Spouses.** A husband and wife who are both employed by the district are limited to a combined total of 12 weeks of FML to care for a parent with a serious health condition; or for the birth, adoption, or foster placement of a child. Military caregiver leave for spouses is limited to a combined total of 26 weeks.

**Intermittent Leave.** When medically necessary or in the case of a qualifying exigency, an employee may take leave intermittently or on a reduced schedule. The district does not permit the use of intermittent or reduced-schedule leave for the care of a newborn child or for adoption or placement of a child with the employee.

**District Contact.** Employees that require FML or have questions should contact Human Resources for details on eligibility, requirements, and limitations.

## **Temporary Disability Leave**

**Certified Employees.** Any full-time employee whose position requires certification from the State Board for Educator Certification (SBEC) is eligible for temporary disability leave. The purpose of temporary disability leave is to provide job protection to full-time educators who cannot work for an extended period of time because of a mental or physical disability of a temporary nature. Temporary disability leave must be taken as a continuous block of time. It may not be taken intermittently or on a reduced schedule. Pregnancy and conditions related to pregnancy are treated the same as any other temporary disability.

Employees must request approval for temporary disability leave. An employee's notification of need for extended absence due to the employee's own medical condition shall be accepted as a request for temporary disability leave. The request must be accompanied by a physician's statement confirming the employee's inability to work and estimating a probable date of return. If disability leave is approved, the length of leave is no longer than 180 calendar days. If an employee is placed on temporary disability leave involuntarily, he or she has the right to request a hearing before the board of trustees. The employee may protest the action and present

additional evidence of fitness to work. When an employee is ready to return to work, the immediate supervisor should be notified at least 30 days in advance. The return-to-work notice must be accompanied by a physician's statement confirming that the employee is able to resume regular duties. Certified employees returning from leave will be reinstated to the school to which they were previously assigned if an appropriate position is available. If an appropriate position is not available, the employee may be assigned to another campus, subject to the approval of the campus principal. If a position is not available before the end of the school year, the employee will be reinstated to a position at the original campus at the beginning of the following school year.

### Workers' Compensation Benefits

An employee absent from duty because of a job-related illness or injury may be eligible for workers' compensation weekly income benefits if the absence exceeds seven calendar days.

An employee receiving workers' compensation wage benefits for a job-related illness or injury may choose to use accumulated sick leave or any other paid leave benefits. An employee choosing to use paid leave will not receive workers' compensation weekly income benefits until all paid leave is exhausted or to the extent that paid leave does not equal the pre-illness or -injury wage. If the use of paid leave is not elected, then the employee will only receive workers' compensation wage benefits for any absence resulting from a work-related illness or injury, which may not equal his or her pre-illness or -injury wage.

### Assault Leave

Assault leave provides extended job income and benefits protection to an employee who is injured as the result of a physical assault suffered during the performance of his or her job. An injury is treated as an assault if the person causing the injury could be prosecuted for assault or could not be prosecuted only because that person's age or mental capacity renders the person nonresponsible for purposes of criminal liability.

An employee who is physically assaulted at work may take all the leave time medically necessary (up to two years) to recover from the physical injuries he or she sustained. At the request of an employee, the district will immediately assign the employee to assault leave. Days of leave granted under the assault leave provision will not be deducted from accrued personal leave and must be coordinated with workers' compensation benefits. Upon investigation the district may change the assault leave status and charge leave used against the employee's accrued paid leave. The employee's pay will be deducted if accrued paid leave is not available.

### Jury Duty

Employees will receive leave with pay and without loss of accumulated leave for jury duty. Employees must present documentation of the service.

### **Other Court Appearances**

Employees will be paid while on leave to comply with a valid subpoena to appear in a civil, criminal, legislative, or administrative proceeding and will not be required to use personal leave. Employees may be required to submit documentation of their need for leave for court appearances.

#### **Military Leave**

**Paid Leave for Military Service.** Any employee who is a member of the Texas National Guard, Texas State Guard, reserve component of the United States Armed Forces, or a memer of a state or federally authorized Urban Search and Rescue Team is entitled to paid leave for authorized training or duty orders. Paid military leave is limited to 15 days each federal fiscal year (October 1–September 30). In addition, an employee is entitled to use available state and local personal or sick leave during a time of active military service.

**Reemployment after Military Leave.** Employees who leave the district to enter into the United States uniformed services or who are ordered to active duty as a member of the military force of any state (e.g., National or State Guard) may return to employment if they are honorably discharged. Employees who wish to return to the district will be reemployed provided they can be qualified to perform the required duties. To be eligible for reemployment, employees must provide notice of their obligation or intent to perform military service, provide evidence of honorable discharge or release, and submit an application for reemployment within the time specified by law to Human Resources. In most cases, the length of federal military service cannot exceed five years.

**Continuation of Health Insurance.** Employees who perform service in the uniformed services may elect to continue their health plan coverage at their own cost for a period not to exceed 24 months. Employees should contact Human Resources for details on eligibility, requirements, and limitations.

# **Employee Relations and Communications**

### **Employee Recognition and Appreciation**

Continuous efforts are made throughout the year to recognize employees who make an extra effort to contribute to the success of the district. Employees are recognized at board meetings, in the district newsletter, and through special events and activities.

#### **District Communications**

Throughout the school year, the Celina ISD Administration office publishes newsletters, brochures, fliers, calendars, news releases, and other communication materials. These publications offer employees and the community information pertaining to school activities and achievements. They include the following:

District Newsletter	Celina Record
Community Newsletter	School Messenger Communication System

# **Complaints and Grievances**

Policy DGBA

In an effort to hear and resolve employee concerns or complaints in a timely manner and at the lowest administrative level possible, the board has adopted an orderly grievance process. Employees are encouraged to discuss their concerns or complaints with their supervisors or an appropriate administrator at any time.

The formal process provides all employees with an opportunity to be heard up to the highest level of management if they are dissatisfied with an administrative response. Once all administrative procedures are exhausted, employees can bring concerns or complaints to the board of trustees. For ease of reference, the district's policy concerning the process of bringing concerns and complaints is reprinted as follows:

See DGBA(LOCAL) at <a href="http://pol.tasb.org/Home/Index/307">http://pol.tasb.org/Home/Index/307</a>

# **Employee Conduct and Welfare**

#### **Standards of Conduct**

Policy DH

All employees are expected to work together in a cooperative spirit to serve the best interests of the district and to be courteous to students, one another, and the public. Employees are expected to observe the following standards of conduct:

- Recognize and respect the rights of students, parents, other employees, and members of the community.
- Maintain confidentiality in all matters relating to students and coworkers.
- Report to work according to the assigned schedule.
- Notify their immediate supervisor in advance or as early as possible in the event that they must be absent or late. Unauthorized absences, chronic absenteeism, tardiness, and failure to follow procedures for reporting an absence may be cause for disciplinary action.
- Know and comply with department and district policies and procedures.
- Express concerns, complaints, or criticism through appropriate channels.
- Observe all safety rules and regulations and report injuries or unsafe conditions to a supervisor immediately.
- Use district time, funds, and property for authorized district business and activities only.
- Use of cell phones while operating school vehicles is prohibited, especially while transporting students.

All district employees should perform their duties in accordance with state and federal law, district policies and procedures, and ethical standards. Violation of policies, regulations, or guidelines may result in disciplinary action, including termination. Alleged incidents of certain misconduct by educators, including having a criminal record, must be reported to SBEC not later than the seventh day after the superintendent first learns of the incident. See *Reports to the Texas Education Agency*, page 48 for additional information.

The *Educators' Code of Ethics*, adopted by the State Board for Educator Certification, which all district employees must adhere to, is reprinted below:

#### **Texas Educators' Code of Ethics**

#### **Statement of Purpose**

The Texas educator shall comply with standard practices and ethical conduct toward students, professional colleagues, school officials, parents, and members of the community and shall safeguard academic freedom. The Texas educator, in maintaining the dignity of the profession, shall respect and obey the law, demonstrate personal integrity, and exemplify honesty and good moral character. The Texas educator, in exemplifying ethical relations with colleagues, shall extend just and equitable treatment to all members of the profession. The Texas educator, in accepting a position of public trust, shall measure success by the

progress of each student toward realization of his or her potential as an effective citizen. The Texas educator, in fulfilling responsibilities in the community, shall cooperate with parents and others to improve the public schools of the community. (19 TAC 247.1(b))

#### **Professional Standards**

#### 1. Professional Ethical Conduct, Practices, and Performance

**Standard 1.1** The educator shall not intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly engage in deceptive practices regarding official policies of the school district, educational institution, educator preparation program, the Texas Education Agency, or the State Board for Educator Certification (SBEC) and its certification process.

**Standard 1.2** The educator shall not knowingly misappropriate, divert, or use monies, personnel, property, or equipment committed to his or her charge for personal gain or advantage.

**Standard 1.3** The educator shall not submit fraudulent requests for reimbursement, expenses, or pay.

**Standard 1.4** The educator shall not use institutional or professional privileges for personal or partisan advantage.

**Standard 1.5** The educator shall neither accept nor offer gratuities, gifts, or favors that impair professional judgment or to obtain special advantage. This standard shall not restrict the acceptance of gifts or tokens offered and accepted openly from students, parents of students, or other persons or organizations in recognition or appreciation of service.

Standard 1.6 The educator shall not falsify records, or direct or coerce others to do so.Standard 1.7 The educator shall comply with state regulations, written local school board policies, and other state and federal laws.

**Standard 1.8** The educator shall apply for, accept, offer, or assign a position or a responsibility on the basis of professional qualifications.

**Standard 1.9** The educator shall not make threats of violence against school district employees, school board members, students, or parents of students.

**Standard 1.10** The educator shall be of good moral character and be worthy to instruct or supervise the youth of this state.

**Standard 1.11** The educator shall not intentionally or knowingly misrepresent his or her employment history, criminal history, and/or disciplinary record when applying for subsequent employment.

**Standard 1.12** The educator shall refrain from the illegal use or distribution of controlled substances and/or abuse of prescription drugs and toxic inhalants.

**Standard 1.13** The educator shall not consume alcoholic beverages on school property or during school activities when students are present.

#### 2. Ethical Conduct toward Professional Colleagues

**Standard 2.1** The educator shall not reveal confidential health or personnel information concerning colleagues unless disclosure serves lawful professional purposes or is required by law.

**Standard 2.2** The educator shall not harm others by knowingly making false statements about a colleague or the school system.

**Standard 2.3** The educator shall adhere to written local school board policies and state and federal laws regarding the hiring, evaluation, and dismissal of personnel.

**Standard 2.4** The educator shall not interfere with a colleague's exercise of political, professional, or citizenship rights and responsibilities.

**Standard 2.5** The educator shall not discriminate against or coerce a colleague on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, age, gender, disability, family status, or sexual orientation.

**Standard 2.6** The educator shall not use coercive means or promise of special treatment in order to influence professional decisions or colleagues.

**Standard 2.7** The educator shall not retaliate against any individual who has filed a complaint with the SBEC or provides information for a disciplinary investigation or proceeding under this chapter.

#### 3. Ethical Conduct toward Students

**Standard 3.1** The educator shall not reveal confidential information concerning students unless disclosure serves lawful professional purposes or is required by law.

**Standard 3.2** The educator shall not intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly treat a student or minor in a manner that adversely affects or endangers the learning, physical health, mental health, or safety of the student or minor.

**Standard 3.3** The educator shall not intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly misrepresent facts regarding a student.

**Standard 3.4** The educator shall not exclude a student from participation in a program, deny benefits to a student, or grant an advantage to a student on the basis of race, color, gender, disability, national origin, religion, family status, or sexual orientation.

**Standard 3.5** The educator shall not intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly engage in physical mistreatment, neglect, or abuse of a student or minor.

**Standard 3.6** The educator shall not solicit or engage in sexual conduct or a romantic relationship with a student or minor.

**Standard 3.7** The educator shall not furnish alcohol or illegal/unauthorized drugs to any person under 21 years of age unless the educator is a parent or guardian of that child or knowingly allow any person under 21 years of age unless the educator is a parent or guardian of that child to consume alcohol or illegal/unauthorized drugs in the presence of the educator.

**Standard 3.8** The educator shall maintain appropriate professional educator-student relationships and boundaries based on a reasonably prudent educator standard.

**Standard 3.9** The educator shall refrain from inappropriate communication with a student or minor, including, but not limited to, electronic communication such as cell phone, text messaging, email, instant messaging, blogging, or other social network communication. Factors that may be considered in assessing whether the communication is inappropriate include, but are not limited to:

- (i) the nature, purpose, timing, and amount of the communication;
- (ii) the subject matter of the communication;

- (iii) whether the communication was made openly or the educator attempted to conceal the communication;
- (iv) whether the communication could be reasonably interpreted as soliciting sexual contact or a romantic relationship;
- (v) whether the communication was sexually explicit; and
- (vi) whether the communication involved discussion(s) of the physical or sexual attractiveness or the sexual history, activities, preferences, or fantasies of either the educator or the student.

#### Discrimination, Harassment, and Retaliation

Policies DH, DIA

Employees shall not engage in prohibited harassment, including sexual harassment, of other employees or students. While acting in the course of their employment, employees shall not engage in prohibited harassment of other persons including board members, vendors, contractors, volunteers, or parents. A substantiated charge of harassment will result in disciplinary action.

Employees who believe they have been discriminated or retaliated against or harassed are encouraged to promptly report such incidents to the campus principal, supervisor, or appropriate district official. If the campus principal, supervisor, or district official is the subject of a complaint, the employee should report the complaint directly to the superintendent. A complaint against the superintendent may be made directly to the board.

The district's policy that includes definitions and procedures for reporting and investigating discrimination, harassment, and retaliation is reprinted below:

See DIA (LOCAL) at <a href="http://pol.tasb.org/Home/Index/307">http://pol.tasb.org/Home/Index/307</a>

#### Harassment of Students

Policies DF, DH, FFG, FFH

Sexual and other harassment of students by employees are forms of discrimination and are prohibited by law. Romantic or inappropriate social relationships between students and district employees are prohibited. Employees who suspect a student may have experienced prohibited harassment are obligated to report their concerns to the campus principal or other appropriate district official. All allegations of prohibited harassment of a student by an employee or adult will be reported to the student's parents and promptly investigated. An employee who knows of or suspects child abuse must also report his or her knowledge or suspicion to the appropriate authorities, as required by law. See *Reporting Suspected Child Abuse*, page 36 and *Bullying*, page 52 for additional information.

The district's policy that includes definitions and procedures for reporting and investigating harassment of students is reprinted below:

#### See DF (LEGAL) and FFH (LOCAL) at <a href="http://pol.tasb.org/Home/Index/307">http://pol.tasb.org/Home/Index/307</a>

#### **Reporting Suspected Child Abuse**

Policies DF, DG, DH, FFG, GRA

All employees are required by state law to report any suspected child abuse or neglect to a law enforcement agency, Child Protective Services, or appropriate state agency (e.g., state agency operating, licensing, certifying, or registering a facility) within 48 hours of the event that led to the suspicion. Abuse is defined by SBEC and includes the following acts or omissions:

- Mental or emotional injury to a student or minor that results in an observable and material impairment in the student's or minor's development, learning, or psychological functioning;
- Causing or permitting a student or minor to be in a situation in which the student or minor sustains a mental or emotional injury that results in an observable and material impairment in the student's or minor's development, learning, or psychological functioning;
- Physical injury that results in substantial harm to a student or minor, or the genuine threat of substantial harm from physical injury to the student or minor, including an injury that is at variance with the history or explanation given and excluding an accident or reasonable discipline; or
- Sexual conduct harmful to a student's or minor's mental, emotional, or physical welfare.

Employees are also required to make a report if they have cause to believe that an adult was a victom of abuse or neglect as a child and they determine in good faith that the disclosure of the information is necessary to protect the health and safety of another child or disabled person.

Reports to Child Protective Services can be made to 972-542-0221 or to the Texas Abuse Hotline (800-252-5400). State law specifies that an employee may not delegate to or rely on another person to make the report.

Under state law, any person reporting or assisting in the investigation of reported child abuse or neglect is immune from liability unless the report is made in bad faith or with malicious intent. In addition, the district is prohibited from retaliating against an employee who, in good faith, reports child abuse or neglect or who participates in an investigation regarding an allegation of child abuse or neglect.

An employee's failure to make the required report may result in prosecution as a Class A misdemeanor. In addition, a certified employee's failure to report may result in disciplinary procedures by SBEC for a violation of the Texas Educators Code of Ethics.

Employees who suspect that a student has been or may be abused or neglected should also report their concerns to the campus principal. This includes students with disabilities who are no longer minors. Employees are not required to report their concern to the principal before making a report to the appropriate agency.

Reporting the concern to the principal does not relieve the employee of the requirement to report it to the appropriate state agency. In addition, employees must cooperate with investigators of child abuse and neglect. Interference with a child abuse investigation by denying an interviewer's request to interview a student at school or requiring the presence of a parent or school administrator against the desires of the duly authorized investigator is prohibited.

#### Sexual Abuse and Maltreatment of Children

The district has established a plan for addressing sexual abuse and other maltreatment of children, which may be accessed at <u>http://pol.tasb.org/Home/Index/307</u> see FFG (LEGAL) and FFG (EXHIBIT). As an employee, it is important for you to be aware of warning signs that could indicate a child may have been or is being sexually abused or maltreated. Sexual abuse in the Texas Family Code is defined as any sexual conduct harmful to a child's mental, emotional, or physical welfare as well as a failure to make a reasonable effort to prevent sexual conduct with a child. Maltreatment is defined as abuse or neglect. Anyone who suspects that a child has been or may be abused or neglected has a legal responsibility under state law for reporting the suspected abuse or neglect to law enforcement or to Child Protective Services (CPS).

Employees are required to follow the procedures described above in *Reporting Suspected Child Abuse*.

#### Technology Resources

Policy CQ

The district's technology resources, including its network access to the Internet, are primarily for administrative and instructional purposes. Limited personal use is permitted if the use:

- Imposes no tangible cost to the district.
- Does not unduly burden the district's computer or network resources

• Has no adverse effect on job performance or on a student's academic performance

Electronic mail transmissions and other use of the technology resources are not confidential and can be monitored at any time to ensure appropriate use.

Employees who are authorized to use the system are required to abide by the provisions of the acceptable use policy and administrative procedures. Failure to do so can result in suspension of access or termination of privileges and may lead to disciplinary action. Employees with questions about computer use and data management can contact Marilyn Chamberlin.

#### Personal Use of Electronic Media

Policy CQ, DH

Electronic media includes all forms of social media, such as text messaging, instant messaging, electronic mail (e-mail), Web logs (blogs), electronic forums (chat rooms), video-sharing Web sites (e.g., YouTube), editorial comments posted on the Internet, and social network sites (e.g., Facebook, MySpace, Twitter, LinkedIn). Electronic media also includes all forms of telecommunication such as landlines, cell phones, and Web-based applications.

As role models for the district's students, employees are responsible for their public conduct even when they are not acting as district employees. Employees will be held to the same professional standards in their public use of electronic media as they are for any other public conduct. If an employee's use of electronic media interferes with the employee's ability to effectively perform his or her job duties, the employee is subject to disciplinary action, up to and including termination of employment. If an employee wishes to use a social network site or similar media for personal purposes, the employee is responsible for the content on the employee's page, including content added by the employee, the employee's friends, or members of the public who can access the employee's page, and for Web links on the employee's page. The employee is also responsible for maintaining privacy settings appropriate to the content.

An employee who uses electronic media for personal purposes shall observe the following:

- The employee may not set up or update the employee's personal social network page(s) using the district's computers, network, or equipment.
- The employee shall not use the district's logo or other copyrighted material of the district without express, written consent.
- The employee continues to be subject to applicable state and federal laws, local policies, administrative regulations, and the Code of Ethics and Standard Practices for Texas Educators, even when communicating regarding personal and private matters, regardless of whether the employee is using private or public equipment, on or off campus. These restrictions include:
  - Confidentiality of student records. [See Policy FL]
  - Confidentiality of health or personnel information concerning colleagues, unless disclosure serves lawful professional purposes or is required by law. [See Policy DH (EXHIBIT)]

- Confidentiality of district records, including educator evaluations and private e-mail addresses. [See Policy GBA]
- Copyright law [See Policy CY]
- Prohibition against harming others by knowingly making false statements about a colleague or the school system. [See Policy DH (EXHIBIT)]

See *Use of Electronic Media with Students*, below, for regulations on employee communication with students through electronic media.

#### Use of Electronic Media with Students

Policy DH

A certified or licensed employee, or any other employee designated in writing by the superintendent or a campus principal, may communicate through electronic media with students who are currently enrolled in the district. The employee must comply with the provisions outlined below. All other employees are prohibited from communicating with students who are enrolled in the district through electronic media.

An employee is not subject to these provisions to the extent the employee has a social or family relationship with a student. For example, an employee may have a relationship with a niece or nephew, a student who is the child of an adult friend, a student who is a friend of the employee's child, or a member or participant in the same civic, social, recreational, or religious organization.

The following definitions apply for the use of electronic media with students:

- *Electronic media* includes all forms of social media, such as text messaging, instant messaging, electronic mail (e-mail), Web logs (blogs), electronic forums (chat rooms), video-sharing Web sites (e.g., YouTube), editorial comments posted on the Internet, and social network sites (e.g., Facebook, MySpace, Twitter, LinkedIn). *Electronic media* also includes all forms of telecommunication such as landlines, cell phones, and Web-based applications.
- *Communicate* means to convey information and includes a one-way communication as well as a dialogue between two or more people. A public communication by an employee that is not targeted at students (e.g., a posting on the employee's personal social network page or a blog) is not a *communication*: however, the employee may be subject to district regulations on personal electronic communications. See *Personal Use of Electronic Media*, above. Unsolicited contact from a student through electronic means is not a *communication*.
- *Certified or licensed employee* means a person employed in a position requiring SBEC certification or a professional license, and whose job duties may require the employee to communicate electronically with students. The term includes classroom teachers, counselors, principals, librarians, paraprofessionals, nurses, educational diagnosticians, licensed therapists, and athletic trainers.

An employee who uses electronic media to communicate with students shall observe the following:

- The employee may use any form of electronic media **except** text messaging. Only a teacher, trainer, or other employee who has an extracurricular duty may use text messaging, and then only to communicate with students who participate in the extracurricular activity over which the employee has responsibility.
- The employee shall limit communications to matters within the scope of the employee's professional responsibilities (e.g., for classroom teachers, matters relating to class work, homework, and tests; for an employee with an extracurricular duty, matters relating to the extracurricular activity.
- The employee is prohibited from knowingly communicating with students through a personal social network page; the employee must create a separate social network page ("professional page") for the purpose of communicating with students. The employee must enable administration and parents to access the employee's professional page.
- The employee shall not communicate directly with any student between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. An employee may, however, make public posts to a social network site, blog, or similar application at any time.
- The employee does not have a right to privacy with respect to communications with students and parents.
- The employee continues to be subject to applicable state and federal laws, local policies, administrative regulations, and the Code of Ethics and Standard Practices for Texas Educators, including:
  - Compliance with the Public Information Act and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), including retention and confidentiality of student records. [See Policies CPC and FL]
  - Copyright law [Policy CY]
- Prohibitions against soliciting or engaging in sexual conduct or a romantic relationship with a student. [See Policy DF]
- Upon request from administration, an employee will provide the phone number(s), social network site(s), or other information regarding the method(s) of electronic media the employee uses to communicate with any one or more currently-enrolled students.
- Upon written request from a parent or student, the employee shall discontinue communicating with the student through e-mail, text messaging, instant messaging, or any other form of one-to-one communication.

An employee may request an exception from one or more of the limitations above by submitting a written request to his or her immediate supervisor.

#### **Criminal History Background Checks**

#### Policy DBAA

Employees may be subject to a review of their criminal history record information at any time during employment. National criminal history checks based on an individual's fingerprints, photo, and other identification will be conducted on certain employees and entered into the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) Clearinghouse. This database provides the district and SBEC with access to an employee's current national criminal history and updates to the employee's subsequent criminal history.

#### **Employee Arrests and Convictions**

Policy DH

An employee must notify his or her principal or immediate supervisor within three calendar days of any arrest, indictment, conviction, no contest or guilty plea, or other adjudication of any felony, and any of the other offenses listed below:

- Crimes involving school property or funds
- Crimes involving attempt by fraudulent or unauthorized means to obtain or alter any certificate or permit that would entitle any person to hold or obtain a position as an educator
- Crimes that occur wholly or in part on school property or at a school-sponsored activity
- Crimes involving moral turpitude

Moral turpitude includes the following:

- Dishonesty
- Fraud
- Deceit
- Theft
- Misrepresentation
- Deliberate violence
- Base, vile, or depraved acts that are intended to arouse or gratify the sexual desire of the actor
- Crimes involving any felony possession or conspiracy to possess, or any misdemeanor or felony transfer, sale, distribution, or conspiracy to transfer, sell, or distribute any controlled substance
- Felonies involving driving while intoxicated (DWI) or driving under the influence (DUI) of drugs or alcohol
- Acts constituting abuse or neglect under SBEC rules

If an educator is arrested or criminally charged, the superintendent is also required to report the educators' criminal history to the Division of Investigations at TEA.

### Alcohol and Drug-Abuse Prevention

Policies DH, DI

Celina ISD is committed to maintaining an alcohol- and drug-free environment and will not tolerate the use of alcohol and illegal drugs in the workplace and at school-related or school-sanctioned activities on or off school property. Employees who use or are under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs as defined by the Texas Controlled Substances Act during working hours may be dismissed. The district's policy regarding employee drug use follows:

See DH (Local) and DI (Exhibit) at <u>http://pol.tasb.org/Home/Index/307</u>

#### Tobacco Use

#### Policies DH, FNCD GKA

State law prohibits smoking or using tobacco products on all district-owned property and at school-related or school-sanctioned activities, on or off campus. This includes all buildings, playground areas, parking facilities, and facilities used for athletics and other activities. Drivers of district-owned vehicles are prohibited from smoking while inside the vehicle. Notices stating that smoking is prohibited by law and punishable by a fine are displayed in prominent places in all school buildings.

#### Fraud and Financial Impropriety

Policy CAA

All employees should act with integrity and diligence in duties involving the district's financial resources. The district prohibits fraud and financial impropriety, as defined below. Fraud and financial impropriety include the following:

- Forgery or unauthorized alteration of any document or account belonging to the district
- Forgery or unauthorized alteration of a check, bank draft, or any other financial document
- Misappropriation of funds, securities, supplies, or other district assets including employee time
- Impropriety in the handling of money or reporting of district financial transactions
- Profiteering as a result of insider knowledge of district information or activities
- Unauthorized disclosure of confidential or proprietary information to outside parties
- Unauthorized disclosure of investment activities engaged in or contemplated by the district
- Accepting or seeking anything of material value from contractors, vendors, or other persons providing services or materials to the district
- Destroying, removing, or inappropriately using records, furniture, fixtures, or equipment
- Failing to provide financial records required by state or local entities
- Failure to disclose conflicts of interest as required by policy
- Any other dishonest act regarding the finances of the district

#### **Conflict of Interest**

Policy DBD

Employees are required to disclose to their supervisor any situation that creates a potential conflict of interest with proper discharge of assigned duties and responsibilities or creates a potential conflict of interest with the best interests of the district. This includes the following:

- A personal financial interest
- A business interest
- Any other obligation or relationship
- Nonschool employment

# Gifts and Favors

Policy DBD

Employees may not accept gifts or favors that could influence, or be construed to influence, the employee's discharge of assigned duties. The acceptance of a gift, favor, or service by an administrator or teacher that might reasonably tend to influence the selection of textbooks, electronic textbooks, instructional materials or technological equipment may result in prosecution of a Class B misdemeanor offense. This does not include staff development, teacher training, or instructional materials such as maps or worksheets that convey information to students or contribute to the learning process.

#### **Copyrighted Materials**

Policy EFE

Employees are expected to comply with the provisions of federal copyright law relating to the unauthorized use, reproduction, distribution, performance, or display of copyrighted materials (i.e., printed material, videos, computer data and programs, etc.). Electronic media, including motion pictures and other audiovisual works, are to be used in the classroom for instructional purposes only. Duplication are to be used in the classroom for educational purposes only. Duplication or backup of computer programs and data must be made within the provisions of the purchase agreement.

#### **Charitable Contributions**

Policy DG

The Board or any employee may not directly or indirectly require or coerce an employee to make a contribution to a charitable organization or in response to a fund-raiser. Employees cannot be required to attend a meeting called for the purpose of soliciting charitable contributions. In addition, the Board or any employee may not directly or indirectly require or coerce an employee to refrain from making a contribution to a charitable organization or in response to a fund raiser or attending a meeting called for the purpose of soliciting charitable contributions.

#### Associations and Political Activities

#### Policy DGA

The district will not directly or indirectly discourage employees from participating in political affairs or require any employee to join any group, club, committee, organization, or association. Employees may join or refuse to join any professional association or organization.

An individual's employment will not be affected by membership or a decision not to be a member of any employee organization that exists for the purpose of dealing with employers concerning grievances, labor disputes, wages, rates of pay, hours of employment, or conditions of work.

Use of district resources including work time for political activities is prohibited.

#### Safety

#### Policy CK series

The district has developed and promotes a comprehensive program to ensure the safety of its employees, students, and visitors. The safety program includes guidelines and procedures for responding to emergencies and activities to help reduce the frequency of accidents and injuries. To prevent or minimize injuries to employees, coworkers, and students and to protect and conserve district equipment, employees must comply with the following requirements:

- Observe all safety rules.
- Keep work areas clean and orderly at all times.
- Immediately report all accidents to their supervisor.
- Operate only equipment or machines for which they have training and authorization.

Employees with questions or concerns relating to safety programs and issues can contact the assistant superintendent.

#### **Possession of Firearms and Weapons**

Policies FNCG, GKA

Employees, visitors, and students, including those with a license to carry a concealed handgun, are prohibited from bringing firearms, knives, clubs or other prohibited weapons onto school premises (i.e., building or portion of a building) or any grounds or building where a school-sponsored activity takes place. To ensure the safety of all persons, employees who observe or suspect a violation of the district's weapons policy should report it to their supervisor or call 911 immediately.

#### Visitors in the Workplace

Policy GKC

All visitors are expected to enter any district facility through the main entrance and sign in or report to the building's main office. Authorized visitors will receive directions or be escorted to their destination. Employees who observe an unauthorized individual on the district premises should immediately direct him or her to the building office or contact the administrator in charge.

#### Asbestos Management Plan

Policy CKA

The district is committed to providing a safe environment for employees. An accredited management planner has developed an asbestos management plan for each school. A copy of the district's management plan is kept in the administration office and is available for inspection during normal business hours.

#### **Pest Control Treatment**

Policies CLB, DI

Employees are prohibited from applying any pesticide or herbicide without appropriate training and prior approval of the integrated pest management (IPM) coordinator. Any application of pesticide or herbicide must be done in a manner prescribed by law and the district's integrated pest management program.

Notices of planned pest control treatment will be posted in a district building 48 hours before the treatment begins. Notices are generally located at each campus office. In addition, individual employees may request in writing to be notified of pesticide applications. An employee who requests individualized notice will be notified by telephone, written or electric means. Pest control information sheets are available from campus principals or the assitant superintendent upon request.

# **General Procedures**

#### **Bad Weather Closing**

The district may close schools because of bad weather or emergency conditions. When such conditions exist, the Superintendent will make the official decision concerning the closing of the district's facilities. When it becomes necessary to open late, to release students early, or to cancel school, district officials will post a notice on the district's Web site, issue a district wide broadcast over *School Messenger* and notify the following radio and television stations:

•	KLTY	94.9 FM

- WBAP 820 AM/96.7 FM
- Channel 4 KDFW
- Channel 5 KXAS
- Channel 8 WFAA
- Channel 11 KTVT

#### Emergencies

Policies CKC, CKD

All employees should be familiar with the safety procedures for responding to a medical emergency and the evacuation diagrams posted in their work areas. Emergency drills will be conducted to familiarize employees and students with safety and evacuation procedures. Each campus is equipped with an automatic external defibrillator. Fire extinguishers are located throughout all district buildings. Employees should know the location of these devices and procedures for their use.

#### **Purchasing Procedures**

Policy CH

All requests for purchases must be submitted to the business department on an official district purchase order (PO) form with the appropriate approval signatures. No purchases, charges, or commitments to buy goods or services for the district can be made without a PO number. The district will not reimburse employees or assume responsibility for purchases made without authorization. Employees are not permitted to purchase supplies or equipment for personal use through the district's business office. Contact Sara McCarter for additional information on purchasing procedures.

#### Name and Address Changes

It is important that employment records be kept up to date. Employees must notify the Human Resources office if there are any changes or corrections to their name, home address, contact telephone number, marital status, emergency contact, or beneficiary. The form to process a change in personal information can be obtained from Human Resources.

#### **Personnel Records**

Policy GBA

Most district records, including personnel records, are public information and must be released upon request. Employees may choose to have the following personal information withheld:

- Address
- Phone number, including personal cell phone number
- Emergency contact information
- Information that reveals whether they have family members
- Personal e-mail address

The choice to not allow public access to this information may be made at any time by submitting a written request to Human Resources. New or terminating employees have 14 days after hire or termination to submit a request. Otherwise, personal information will be released to the public.

#### **Building Use**

Policies DGA, GKD

Employees who wish to use district facilities after school hours must follow established procedures. The campus secretaries are responsible for scheduling the use of facilities after school hours. Athletic facilities should be scheduled through the athletic secretary. Contact the campus or athletic secretary to request to use school facilities and to obtain information on the fees charged.

#### Resignations

Policy DFE

**Contract Employees.**Contract employees may resign their position without penalty at the end of any school year if written notice is received 45 days before the first day of instruction of the following school year. A written notice of resignation should be submitted to the campus principal or immediate supervisor. Contract employees may resign at any other time only with the approval of the superintendent or the board of trustees. Resignation without consent may result in disciplinary action by the State Board for Educator Certification (SBEC).

The superintendent will notify SBEC when an employee resigns and reasonable evidence exists to indicate that the employee has engaged in any of the acts listed in Reports to Texas Education Agency on page 48.

**Noncontract Employees.**Noncontract employees may resign their position at any time. A written notice of resignation should be submitted to their immediate supervisor at least two weeks prior to the effective date. Employees are encouraged to include the reasons for leaving in the letter of resignation but are not required to do so.

#### **Dismissal or Nonrenewal of Contract Employees**

Policies DFAA, DFAB, DFBA, DFBB, DFCA, DFD, DFF, DFFA, DFFB, DFFC

Employees on probationary, term, and continuing contracts can be dismissed during the school year according to the procedures outlined in district policies. Employees on probationary or term contracts can be nonrenewed at the end of the contract term. Contract employees dismissed during the school year, suspended without pay, or subject to a reduction in force are entitled to receive notice of the recommended action, an explanation of the charges against them, and an opportunity for a hearing. The timelines and procedures to be followed when a suspension, termination, or nonrenewal occurs will be provided when a written notice is given to an employee. Advance notification requirements do not apply when a contract employee is dismissed for failing to obtain or maintain appropriate certification or when the employee's certification is revoked for misconduct. Information on the timelines and procedures can be found in the DF series policies that are provided to employees or are available on line.

#### **Dismissal of Noncontract Employees**

Policy DCD

Noncontract employees are employed at will and may be dismissed without notice, a description of the reasons for dismissal, or a hearing. It is unlawful for the district to dismiss any employee for reasons of race, color, religion, gender, national origin, age, disability, military status, genetic information, any other basis protected by law, or in retaliation for the exercise of certain

protected legal rights. Noncontract employees who are dismissed have the right to grieve the termination. The dismissed employee must follow the district process outlined in this handbook when pursuing the grievance. (See *Complaints and Grievances*, page 31.)

#### **Exit Interviews and Procedures**

Policies DC and CY

Exit interviews will be scheduled for all employees leaving the district. Information on the continuation of benefits, release of information, and procedures for requesting references will be provided at this time. Separating employees are asked to provide the district with a forwarding address and phone number and complete a questionnaire that provides the district with feedback on his or her employment experience. All district keys, books, property including intellectual property, and equipment must be returned upon separation from employment.

#### **Reports to Texas Education Agency**

Policy DF

The dismissal of a certified employee must be reported to the Division of Investigations at TEA whenever the terminatination is based on a determination that the employee was involved in any of the following:

- Any form of sexual or physical abuse of a minor or any other unlawful conduct with a student or a minor
- Soliciting or engaging in sexual conduct or a romantic relationship with a student or minor
- The possession, transfer, sale, or distribution of a controlled substance
- The illegal transfer, appropriation, or expenditure of district property or funds
- An attempt by fraudulent or unauthorized means to obtain or alter any certificate or permit for the purpose of promotion or additional compensation
- Committing a criminal offense or any part of a criminal offense on district property or at a school-sponsored event

The superintendent is also required to notify TEA when a certified employee resigns and there is reasonable evidence that would support a recommendation to terminate employment because of the conduct listed above.

The reporting requirements above are in addition to the superintendent's ongoing duty to notify TEA when a certified employee has a reported criminal history. "Reported criminal history" means any formal criminal justice system charges and dispositions including arrests, detentions, indictments, criminal information, convictions, deferred adjudications, and probations in any state or federal jurisdiction.

#### **Reports Concerning Court-Ordered Withholding**

The district is required to report the termination of employees that are under court order or writ of withholding for child support or spousal maintenance to the court and the individual receiving the support (Texas Family Code §8.210, 158.211). Notice of the following must be sent to the court and support recipient:

- Termination of employment not later than the seventh day after the date of termination
- Employee's last known address
- Name and address of the employee's new employer, if known

#### **Equal Educational Opportunities**

Policies FB, FFH

Celina ISD does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, gender, or disability in providing education services, activities, and programs, including vocational programs, in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972; and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.

Questions or concerns about discrimination of students based on any of the reasons listed above should be directed to the assistant superintendent.

#### **Student Records**

Policy FL

Student records are confidential and are protected from unauthorized inspection or use. Employees should take precautions to maintain the confidentiality of all student records. The following people are the only people who have general access to a student's records:

- Parents: Married, separated, or divorced unless parental rights have been legally terminated and the school has been given a copy of the court order terminating parental rights
- The student: The rights of parents transfer to a student who turns 18 or is enrolled in an institution in post-secondary education. A district is not prohibited from granting the student access to the student's records before this time.
- School officials with legitimate educational interests

The student handbook provides parents and students with detailed information on student records. Parents or students who want to review student records should be directed to the campus principal for assistance.

#### Parent and Student Complaints

Policy FNG

In an effort to hear and resolve parent and student complaints in a timely manner and at the lowest administrative level possible, the board has adopted orderly processes for handling complaints on different issues. Any campus office or the superintendent's office can provide parents and students with information on filing a complaint.

Parents are encouraged to discuss problems or complaints with the teacher or the appropriate administrator at any time. Parents and students with complaints that cannot be resolved to their satisfaction should be directed to the campus principal. The formal complaint process provides parents and students with an opportunity to be heard up to the highest level of management if they are dissatisfied with a principal's response.

#### **Administering Medication to Students**

Policy FFAC

Only designated employees may administer prescription medication, nonprescription medication, and herbal or dietary supplements to students. Exceptions apply to the self-administration of asthma medication, medication for anaphylaxis (e.g., EpiPen®), and medication for diabetes management, if the medication is self-administered in accordance with district policy and procedures. A student who must take any other medication during the school day must bring a written request from his or her parent and the medicine in its original, properly labeled container. Contact the principal or school nurse for information on procedures that must be followed when administering medication to students.

#### **Dietary Supplements**

Policies DH, FFAC

District employees are prohibited by state law from knowingly selling, marketing, or distributing a dietary supplement that contains performance-enhancing compounds to a student with whom the employee has contact as part of his or her school district duties. In addition, employees may not knowingly endorse or suggest the ingestion, intranasal application, or inhalation of a performance-enhancing dietary supplement to any student.

#### **Psychotropic Drugs**

Policy FFAC

A psychotropic drug is a substance used in the diagnosis, treatment, or prevention of a disease or as a component of a medication. It is intended to have an altering effect on perception, emotion, or behavior and is commonly described as a mood- or behavior-altering substance.

District employees are prohibited by state law from doing the following:

- Recommending that a student use a psychotropic drug
- Suggesting a particular diagnosis
- Excluding from class or school-related activity a student whose parent refuses to consent to a psychiatric evaluation or to authorize the administration of a psychotropic drug to a student

#### **Student Conduct and Discipline**

Policies in the FN series and FO series

Students are expected to follow the classroom rules, campus rules, and rules listed in the Student Handbook and Student Code of Conduct. Teachers and administrators are responsible for taking disciplinary action based on a range of discipline management strategies that have been adopted by the district. Other employees that have concerns about a particular student's conduct should contact the classroom teacher or campus principal.

#### **Student Attendance**

Policy FEB

Teachers and staff should be familiar with the district's policies and procedures for attendance accounting. These procedures require minor students to have parental consent before they are allowed to leave campus. When absent from school, the student upon returning to school, must bring a note signed by the parent that describes the reason for the absence. These requirements are addressed in campus training and in the student handbook. Contact the campus principal for additional information.

#### Bullying

Policy FFI

All employees are required to report student complaints of bullying to the campus administration. The district's policy includes definitions and procedures for reporting and investigating bullying of students and is reprinted below:

See FFI (Local) at <u>http://pol.tasb.org/Home/Index/307</u>

#### Hazing

Policy FNCC

Students must have prior approval from the principal or designee for any type of "initiation rites" of a school club or organization. While most initiation rites are permissible, engaging in or permitting "hazing" is a criminal offense. Any teacher, administrator, or employee who observes a student engaged in any form of hazing, who has reason to know or suspect that a student intends to engage in hazing, or has engaged in hazing must report that fact or suspicion to the designated campus administrator.

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# Appendix A

# Celina ISD District Business/Finance Procedures <u>Requisition/Purchase Order Procedures</u> Superintendent approval required on PO's over \$5000.00

- 1. Teacher/Staff: Purchases should not be made without a purchase order and prior authorization from Campus Principal, Central Administration and Business Office.
  - a) Fill out Purchase Order Request Form.
  - b) Complete in full the vendor name, address, phone number and fax. (*Requisition system must have this complete information*)
  - c) Check the transaction you are requesting. (Purchase Order, Check Request, or Activity Check Request)
  - d) Complete any Special Handling Instructions.
  - e) Fill in items needed, quantity, description, price each, total amount, person requesting and purpose. Be sure to include shipping and handling.
  - f) Submit to campus office.
  - g) Staff having budgets at different campuses should complete the purchase order form at the appropriate campus. Campus staffs only have access to accounts for that campus. Expenditures should be charged to the appropriate campus for correct tracking in budget.

#### 2. Campus Office:

- a) The campus office personnel will enter the request into the Requisition System and submit to the Campus Administrator for approval.
- b) The Campus Administrator may approve or disapprove. Approval sends the request on to the Business Office. Disapproval sends it back to the office personnel.
- 3. Business Office:
  - a) Verify the coding and what is being purchased.
  - b) Approve and print Purchase Orders. If Purchase Order is disapproved at business office level, requisition is sent back to original entry level.

Note: As noted on the Purchase Orders, back orders are not accepted. Orders have to be complete before Celina ISD payment will be made. If you have an incomplete order, please call the vendor immediately and determine if you need to cancel any back orders.

# Purchases called in or made without a purchase order will not be the responsibility of Celina ISD

# **Check Request Procedures**

Check requests are used when merchandise will not be received. An example would be:

Field Trips
Game Officials
Gate Start-up Money
Meals
Entry Fees

- 1. Teacher/Staff: Purchases should not be made without a Purchase Order or without prior authorization from Campus Principal, Central Administration and Business Office.
  - a. Fill out Check Request Form.
  - b. Complete in full the vendor name, address, phone number and fax. (*Requisition system must have this complete information*)
  - c. Check the transaction you are requesting. (Purchase Order, Check Request, or Activity Check Request)
  - d. Complete any Special Handling Instructions.
  - e. Fill in a full description of expenses or services.
  - f. Submit to campus office.
  - g. Supporting documentation *must be sent* to the Business Office before the check request can be approved. If requesting meals, please include a roster of individuals for which meals are provided. Entry fees also need to have roster attached.
  - h. Staff having budgets at different campuses should complete the Purchase Order form at the appropriate campus. Campus staffs only have access to accounts for that campus. Expenditures should be charged to the appropriate campus for correct tracking in budget.

- 2. Campus Office:
  - a. The campus office personnel will enter the request into the Requisition System and submit to the Campus Administrator for approval.
  - b. The campus office personnel will enter "CHECK REQUEST AND DATE NEEDED" in the vendor notes section of the Requisition Request.
  - c. The campus Administrator may approve or disapprove. Approval sends the request on to the Business Office. Disapproval sends it back to the office personnel.
- 3. Business Office:
  - a. Verify the coding and what is being purchased.
  - b. Approve and print Purchase Orders. If the Requisition Request is disapproved at Business Office level, requisition is sent back to original entry level.
  - c. If approved, Accounts Payable will process and print the check. Checks will not be released unless appropriate documentation has been received.

\*\*\*All check requests with a payee as and individual, must be accompanied by a W-9 to be approved for payment (referees, judges, etc.)

Make sure that you indicate in the "Special Handling Instructions", the date needed, if you will pick up the check or if you would like it mailed.

All check requests must be submitted to campus office personnel 2 weeks prior to needing the check. This allows for approval and any unforeseen problems. If you want the check mailed, please allow extra time for check to arrive by US Mail.

Checks are run every Thursday. <u>Check request must have completed the</u> <u>approval route and documentation in the accounts payable office</u> <u>Wednesday prior to check runs. Checks will not be released from the</u> <u>Business Office without proper documentation. Please plan ahead.</u>

# **Purchases made with Federal Funds**

All Purchased to be made with Federal Funds <u>*must*</u> have prior approval from the Federal Programs Director.

These purchases must be submitted in writing to the Federal Programs Director with all appropriate documentation. All requests must address the following questions:

- 1) Is the expenditure reasonable and necessary to carry out the intent and purpose of the program?
- 2) Does the expenditure address a need previously identified in the campus comprehensive need assessment?
- 3) How will the expenditure be evaluated to measure a positive impact on student achievement?
- 4) Is the expenditure supplemental to other federal and non-federal programs?
- 5) Are the funds spent for activities that are part of the CIP? If so, what activities?

The Federal Program Director will then submit the purchase request through the Requisition System of the RSCCC Accounting System.

# **Receiving Procedures**

- 1. The campus office is the central location for all deliveries. All Purchase Order copies should be in one place, such as a notebook or alpha file in the campus office.
- 2. The campus office needs to designate one or two people as the responsible party for receiving and signing for all items.
- 3. As noted on the bottom of our Purchase Orders, back orders are not accepted. Orders have to be complete before Celina ISD payment will be made. If you have an incomplete order, please call the vendor immediately and determine if you need to cancel any back orders. Please document to whom you spoke, the date and time of the call.
- 4. If a return needs to be made, call the vendor's customer service, find out if they make arrangements to pickup the return or if you have to package and pay postage. *Please call the Business Office to let us know so we do not pay the invoice.*

CELINA INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT						
REQUEST DATE:		PURC	HASE ORDER REQU	EST		
		OUE	K DEQUECT			
REQUESTOR:			K REQUEST ting documentation must	be sent to		
REQUESTOR.			ss Office before check wil			
			VTTY CHECK			
DATE REQUIRED			ting documentation must Office before check will b			
	e in vendor notes section of Requisiti					
VENDOR:		SPEC	TAL HANDLING INST	RUCTIONS:		
ADDRESS:						
QUANTY	DESCRIPTION		UNIT PRICE	AMOUNT		
		SHIPPING	TOTAL			
Purchase reque	st for Federal Funds must address the	e following:				
1) Is the expendi	ture reasonable and necessary to carry ou	ut the intent an	id purpose of the pri	ogram?		
2) Does the expe	nditure address a need previously identifi-	ed in the camp	us compineeds asse	ssment?		
<ol><li>How will the e</li></ol>	xpenditure be evaluated to measure a pos	sitive impact or	n student achieveme	int?		
<ol><li>Is the expendit</li></ol>	ture supplemental to other federal and no	n-federal prog	rams?			
5) Is the expendi	ture for activities that are part of the CIP?	Please note g	oal and object numb	per?		

# **Travel, Meal, and Expense Reimbursements**

### Travel:

- 1. Prior approval must be established with the campus/district administrator before a trip or workshop is coordinated. Employees must submit a purchase order/check request for all related expenses of the trip (workshop fees, meals and travel if applicable) before approval is given. Upon approval these costs should be encumbered through the requisition system.
- 2. Employees traveling to the same event should make every effort to travel together. Employees choosing not to travel with the group attending an event are not eligible for mileage reimbursement.
- **3.** District Credit Card may be used to reserve room and may be used during trip to pay for meals when traveling with students after the request has come through the requisition/purchase order system with supporting documentation. The card must be checked out through the business office and must be returned immediately upon arrival back in the district along with **the original receipts.** All check requests and requests for use of credit card for registration or hotel must have supporting documentation before approval.

## Lodging:

Lodging where appropriate will be double occupancy. The District credit card may be used to reserve lodging. This is the cost of the rental of a room or rooms for District employees, students or administrators. State guidelines allow up to \$85.00 plus city tax per person. Lodging using Federal Funds should not exceed Federal Rates as posted on the GSA website at <u>www.gsa.gov</u>. Attempts should be made to adhere to state guidelines. The District is exempt from Texas State Sales Tax. However, we are not exempt from city taxes. Amenities such as room service, laundry, phone calls (unless calling on school business), etc. should not be claimed as travel/trip expenses.

### Meals:

No meals or refreshments will be reimbursed or advanced for meetings, workshops or trips that occur during *regular school hours or business day*. The number of meals will be advanced on a per diem basis for trips beyond regular school hours or business day based on the time of departure from and the time of return to the district. **No meals will be purchased with Title I**, **Title II, Title III or Carl Perkins Federal Funds.** 

### **Employee Meals:**

Meals will be advanced at \$36.00 per day for days when the employee is out of town overnight. Meals and refreshments are not provided when the employee is out of the district on business for the day.

### **Student Meals:**

When requesting student meals, please give breakdown of meals needed and a roster of students.

Student meals are \$36.00 per day.

The District credit card may be used to purchase meals while on overnight trips with students, however, a request for these meals must have been made through the requisition system. The credit card must be checked out in the business office and returned along with all receipts the next business day after return from trip. Failure to do this will result in the card not being granted to the faculty member again.

When cash is needed for student meals, a check will be made out to the sponsor. The sponsor must have each student sign for cash they receive for a meal and make a good faith effort to collect all meal receipts. If students eat as a group then sponsor must return any unused cash and the receipt the next business day after meal. Checks are run each Thursday; requests must be in the Business Office through the requisition by Wednesday morning.

### <u>Mileage:</u>

Advances for travel mileage is not the practice of Celina ISD.

Mileage must be calculated using an internet map search such as "Mapquest" or "Google Maps" and this must be submitted with the request. Mileage will be reimbursed at the current state and federal rates.

#### Mileage will not be reimbursed for in-district travel.

# **Incidental Expense Reimbursement**

### Expense Reimbursement:

- 1. Employees should request reimbursement of travel incidental expenses through the proper administrator. Upon approval the reimbursement should be processed through the requisition system.
- 2. Only the trip expenses of the District employee should be requested for reimbursement. The District does not pay travel expenses for spouses, or other related guests.
- 3. Administrator/principals should code to the proper funds and verify receipts are correct.
- 4. Make a copy of the expense reimbursement form before sending it to the business office.
- 5. Please allow two weeks after receiving your request to get them processed.
- 6. All requests for reimbursements must be submitted within 10 school days of the event.

# **Budget Amendments**

It is very important to manage your budget and keep your accounts out of deficit. Please make sure your coding follows the TEA guidelines. If you have a question, please call the Business Office for verification. Be specific on your requests and put the full account codes on the requests.

All Budget Amendments **MUST** be submitted to the Business Office prior to entering a PO or Check Request in the Requisition System for approval. The system will not save any request to an account that is in deficit. The Business Office will inform the campus secretary when the budget amendment has been posted so they can begin the purchase request.

If you have a Budget Amendment, submit it to your Campus Administrator by email. The administrator will in turn forward the request to the Business Manager.

A transfer of funds within functions will be done promptly and the campus secretary will be notified.

A transfer of funds between functions (i.e.; from function 36 to function 11) requires Board of Trustee approval. This transfer of funds must be submitted to the Business Manager by Tuesday of the second week of the month.

Try to plan ahead and do not place an order, approve a check request or approve an expense reimbursement until funds are available.

Most important "PLAN AHEAD!"

# **Deposit Procedures**

- 1. Deposit slips are a triplicate form (Press hard when writing so it will go through all 3 copies.) (Your deposit slip should continue to indicate what the <u>purpose</u> of the deposit is—i.e. "fundraiser for Senior 2009", "pay for lost textbook list book title and student name", just as you have been doing. The accounting code should be included on the deposit slip.)
- 2. Deposits for any money collected should be made daily. If you cannot get to the bank during regular business hours, the deposit should be locked in a secure place in the campus office overnight.
  - a. When deposits are taken to the bank, **wait for the teller to verify the deposit** and give you the stamped deposit slip and receipt back. Verify the amount of the teller receipt before leaving the bank. Bring the pink and yellow copies of the stamped deposit slip along with the printed receipt to the Business Office. For activity accounts, please bring the pink copy and the printed receipt to the Business Office, retain the yellow copy for your records.
  - b. Cafeteria deposits should be made daily. The deposits should be marked clearly with the campus name. Wait at the bank until the teller has made the deposit, stamped the deposit slip and printed a receipt. Verify the amount of the teller receipt before leaving the bank. Attach the printed receipt from the bank to the stamped deposit slip. The food service director will collect these deposit slips weekly.
  - c. Athletic deposits are covered in a separate section.
- 3. A "*Deposit Verification Form*" must be filled out by the person receiving the money, counted again and signed by a verifier. Copies of the deposit slips should be brought to the business office along with the Deposit Verification Form no later than the next business day after the deposit is made.
- 4. When you need deposit slips, call and request them from the Business Office.

5. NSF checks are sent by the bank directly to PayTek Solutions collection agency. PayTek notifies the business office that there are returned checks. PayTek also collects the NSF checks electronically. The Business Office will notify the campus secretaries of deposits for activity funds or deposits made for fines or fees. The Food Service Director will notify the particular cafeteria of the NSF. The campus secretary or Cafeteria Managers will then notify the parent that we have a returned check from their bank. The student will be placed on a cash only basis until the NSF has been collected by ECAP. The Business Office will notify the campuses and Food Service Director when the check has been collected. If two NSF checks are received by the District from the same account, that parent will be placed on a cash basis until the end of the school year.

#### NOTE: DEPOSIT SLIPS WITH ACCOUNT NUMBER 803288 ARE FOR THE CELINA ISD OPERATING FUND.

#### DEPOSIT SLIPS WITH ACCOUNT NUMBER 803296 ARE FOR THE ACTIVITY ACCOUNT. CELINA ISD DEPOSIT VERIFICATION FORM

DATE:
ACCOUNT #:
PURPOSE OF DEPOSIT:
TEACHER/STAFF:
AMOUNT TO BE DEPOSITED:
DATE:
DEPOSIT ORIGINATO <u>R:</u>
AMOUNT VERIFIED BY:
AMOUNT OF DEPOSIT:

### <u>UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES SHOULD AN EMPLOYEE EVER</u> <u>TAKE A DEPOSIT HOME WITH THEM</u>

# **Pre-Game and Gate Ticket Sales Procedures**

### Start-Up Gate Money:

- 1. The Athletic Office will submit a check request for start-up cash made payable to a designated athletic employee.
- 2. At the end of the season all start-up gate money will be deposited back into the appropriate account.
- 3. Currency breakdown is as follows:

<u>Volleyball</u>	\$100.00 High School
	\$100.00 Jr. High
<u>Football</u>	<ul> <li>\$1,000.00 High School Varsity Ticket Booth</li> <li>\$100.00 HS Pre-game Ticket Sales</li> <li>\$700.00 Thursday JV Ticket Booth</li> <li>\$700.00 Thursday Jr. High Ticket Booth</li> </ul>
Basketball	<ul> <li>\$ 300.00 High School Gym</li> <li>\$ 300.00 HS Aux. Gym</li> <li>\$ 300.00 Jr. High Gym</li> </ul>

4. The athletic secretary will deliver the money to each Campus Administrator in charge. The administrator will verify the amount of cash received and give the athletic employee designee a receipt for the cash.

### Football Pre-game Ticket Sales:

- 1. Pre-game sales begin on Tuesday and end Friday at noon.
- 2. The campus is responsible for counting and signing off on the number of tickets delivered by the Athletic Office.

- 3. The campus will balance their individual Ticket Sales Report verifying that the number of tickets sold balances with the amount of money collected. They will then sign off on their Ticket Sales Report.
- 4. The Athletic Department will pick up the remaining tickets and money from each campus. They will review the sales report (counting and verifying the number of tickets returned and the money collected) and deposit the money.
- 5. The deposit slip will have the Celina team, game date and opponent on it and will be dropped off at the Business Office by 4:00 on Friday.
- 6. When Celina is away, the remaining tickets along with a copy of the Pre-Game report and deposit slip, will be placed in an envelope and returned to the opponent's administrative offices.

# Gate Sales:

### Football:

- 1. At the end of the High School, JV and Jr. High games, the administrator in charge will balance the sales report and lock the gate money in a secure cabinet until it can be delivered to the Athletic Office on the next business day.
- 2. Friday morning the Athletic Department will count and verify the number of tickets sold/returned along with the money collected from the sub varsity games and deposit the money.
- 3. The deposit slip will have the Celina team, game date and opponent on it and dropped off at the Business Office by 4:00pm that day.
- 4. The administrator in charge and Assistant Superintendent will balance Varsity Game gate money the night of the game. The money will be placed in locked zipper bags and deposited in the night deposit drawer at Independent Bank of Celina.
- 5. Monday morning the Athletic Department will pick up the zipper bags from Independent Bank and verify the Ticket Sales Report. The number of tickets sold/returned along with the money collected will be verified and then deposited.
- 6. The deposit slip will have the Celina team, game date and opponent on it and will be dropped off at the Business Office by 4:00pm that day.
- 7. The Athletic Department will complete the game report and request payment for officials, security and ½ gate proceeds to opposing school.

#### Basketball/Volleyball:

- 1. Gate sales at the end of each game whether High School or Jr. High will be kept in a locked cabinet or safe until it can be delivered to the Athletic Office on the next business day by the administrator in charge.
- 2. The Athletic Office will count and deposit the money in the appropriate account. The deposit slip will include the level and number of games played, the opponent and the date played. The deposit slip will be dropped off at the Business Office by 4:00pm that day.

#### Student Passes:

Athletic, Band, Drill Team, and Cheerleading students will need to be issued passes to enter Home football games.

#### DISTRICT PASSES, SENIOR CITIZENS PASSES AND COACHES ASSOCIATION PASSES WILL BE ALLOWED ENTRANCE TO GAMES IN ACCORDANCE WITH DISTRICT 10-3A MINUTES.

## **Student Activities**

## <u>Fundraisers:</u>

- 1. The Campus Administrator must approve all fundraisers, before making a commitment to do any fundraisers.
- 2. Only 1 fundraiser per semester is allowed. (*The only exception to this is the Junior Class for Prom Expenses.*)
- 3. Preferably fundraisers need to be for non-taxable sales such as food items (not candles, cards, stationary, gift items etc.) or for services such as car washes, bake sales, etc.
- 4. Fundraisers or purchases for club members such as t-shirts, award jackets, candle sales, card sales, stationary or other gift item sales must either be purchased from a vendor here in the state of Texas and sales tax must be on the invoice or a "Designation of Tax Free Sale Date" form must be filled out prior to the fundraiser.
- 5. The following policy for accepting checks and collecting bad checks has been established: For a check to be an acceptable form of payment it must include your current, full and accurate name, address, and telephone number. In the event the check is returned for non-payment, the business office will notify the secretary of each campus to not accept a check payment for the remainder of the school year. In the event the check is returned for non-payment, the face value may be recovered electronically along with a state allowed recovery fee. In the event the check is returned for non-payment, checks may no longer be an acceptable form of payment for the remainder of the school year. Alternative forms of payment may be used instead of a check payment (cash, money order or cashiers check.

## Concession Stands:

## Football, Volleyball and Basketball:

At the end of each game the Administrator in charge should collect and count the cash, fill out a deposit verification slip and secure it either on campus or at the night deposit at Independent Bank. The following business day the sponsor for the activity is responsible for counting the money, having the deposit verified and depositing the money. The pink copy of the deposit slip, along with a copy of the deposit verification must be in the Business Office by 4:00 pm that day. Any invoices for purchases relating to items sold in the concession stand, must be entered through the Requisition System, within one week of the receipt of invoice.

## UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES SHOULD ANY SPONSOR OR PARENT TAKE HOME CONCESSION STAND CASH.

### Deposits:

- Money must be deposited the same day it is collected. If money cannot be deposited, it should be left on campus in the office security cabinet. A sponsor should never take money home or have a student take money to the bank for deposit.
- 2. The sponsor and student officer should count the money and turn it in to the campus office with a deposit verification form signed by both.
- 3. The bank account number for Activities is 803296. They should be handled by the same procedures in the Deposit Section.

#### Scholarship Check Requests and Deposits:

- 1. Scholarship checks are always made payable to the college on behalf of the student. (Student's social security number is needed)
- 2. To cut a scholarship check from the student activity account we will need the following things.
  - a. A check request by the counselor through the requisition process
  - b. Proof of full-time enrollment
  - c. College's complete name and address
  - d. Student's name and social security number
- 3. Check requests must be <u>turned in 2 weeks prior to needing a check.</u> (Please make a copy for your records.)
- 4. Checks will be mailed to the college.
- 5. Deposits will be made to the appropriate activity fund following deposit guidelines.

#### Expenditures:

- 1. Purchase Order/check request forms must be signed by:
  - a. The organization's student officer
  - b. The sponsor of the organization
- 2. Forms should be submitted to the campus and follow the same guidelines for district requisition and check requests.

\*\*\*All check requests with a payee as and individual, must be accompanied by a W-9 to be approved for payment (referees, judges, etc.)

Make sure that you indicate in the "Special Handling Instructions" the dated the check is needed, if you will pick up the check, or if you would like it mailed.

All check requests must be submitted to campus office personnel 2 weeks prior to needing the check. This allows for approval and any unforeseen problems. Please allow extra time for check to arrive by US Mail.

Checks are run every Thursday. <u>Check request must have completed the approval</u> <u>route and documentation in the accounts payable office Wednesday prior to</u> <u>check runs. Checks will not be released from the Business Office without proper</u> <u>documentation. Please plan ahead.</u>

#### Account Reconciliation:

- 1. A copy of your transactions will be sent to the campus administrator to distribute to the individual sponsors.
- 2. Accounts need to be reconciled with your records monthly. (*I would* highly recommend you keep a spread sheet on both student activity and general fund accounts you are responsible for.)

## **New Student Activity Groups**

- 1. A teacher must be designated as the group sponsor.
- 2. Select an "official" name for the group.
- 3. Write a brief constitution describing the qualifications for belonging to the organization, election of officers, and purpose.
- 4. Submit to the Superintendent for School Board approval.
- 5. Once approved the Business Office will assign an Activity Account number.
- 6. Elect officers and function as usual.

## **Cafeteria Start-up Money and Deposits**

- 1. Two weeks prior to needing money, the Food Service Director will submit a check request for cafeteria start-up cash. Make a copy for your records. (*Please specify the breakdown of currency for each cafeteria.*)
- 2. Please follow check request procedures listed previously.
- 3. The Business Office will notify the Food Service Director when the money is ready to be picked up. The Food Service Director will verify the cash received and deliver the money to each campus. The Cafeteria Managers will then sign-off on the amount of cash received. The Food Service Director will return the Cafeteria Managers receipt to the Business Office.
- 4. Each Cafeteria Manager will make daily deposits. The deposits should be marked clearly with the campus name. Wait at the bank until the teller has made the deposit and has stamped the deposit slip and printed a receipt. Verify the amount of the teller receipt before leaving the bank. Attach the printed receipt from the bank to the stamped deposit slip. If the Cafeteria Manager cannot deposit the money before the end of the business day, the deposit should be taken to the campus office and locked in a secure place. Cafeteria personnel should not under any circumstances take the deposit home. The Food Service Director will collect these deposit slips weekly.
- 5. Each day the Cafeteria Manager will take the start-up cash to the campus office to be locked in a secure place overnight.
- 6. At the end of the school year, the start-up cash will be re-deposited as a separate deposit. The deposit slip should be noted *"start-up cash" along with the campus name*.

7. For a check to be an acceptable form of payment it must include the current, full and accurate name, address and telephone number. In the event the check is returned for no-payment, the face value may be recovered electronically along with a state allowed recovery fee. In the event the check is returned for non-payment, checks may no longer be an acceptable form of payment for the remained of the school year. Alternative forms of payment may be used instead of a check payment (cash, money order, cashier check or online payment (Pay Pal)). The business office will notify the Food Service Director and who will notify the cafeteria. The Cafeteria Managers will then notify the parent that we have a returned check from their bank.

# PAYROLL PROCEDURES

### PAYROLL TIME SHEETS:

All auxiliary personnel are required to maintain an accurate record of time worked by clocking in and out with the Veritime System at a time clock on their campus. Employees with multiple jobs must clock in and out for each job type at the appropriate location. **Any overtime for auxiliary personnel requires prior approval and all comp time in lieu of overtime shall be taken by the end the school year.** All clerical and aide positions salaries are based on an eight-hour day. All time sheets need to electronically approved by the cutoff date.

### PAYROLL DEDUCTIONS and/or CHANGES:

Celina ISD Cafeteria Plan year is September through August. The Cafeteria Plan Administrator is Financial Benefits Services. Each April there will be an open enrollment period for the upcoming school year. At that time each employee *must* meet with a representative from Financial Benefits Services and log in to make any insurance changes. The website to change, enroll in, or decline insurances will be open for approximately three weeks. *No changes can be made to tax sheltered deductions during the year unless there is a qualifying event.* 

Celina ISD pays \$300.00 towards **TRS Active Care premium only** per employee.

Celina ISD pays for a \$10,000.00 (adjusted by age) life insurance policy for each employee. Employees may purchase additional life insurance each year.

Employees must complete the proper paperwork for changes to be made.

- 1. Insurance Changes go online and request changes during open enrollment at www.celinaisdbenefits.com or email Payroll at scantrell@celinaisd.com with your request.
- 2. TRS Active Care changes must have a TRS Active Care application completed, signed, and dated reflecting the type of change. If you elect to tax shelter your premium, you must have a qualifying event in order to change insurance coverage. TRS Active Care must be declined each year. You should decline for your entire family due to pre-existing conditions

should the need arise for you to pick up TRS Active Care. Please contact the payroll office for forms at scantrell@celinaisd.com.

3. Personal Information Changes – complete a new "Personnel Data Sheet" for address, phone, etc. changes or email Payroll any changes.

All payroll changes/or deductions must be in Payroll by the cutoff date to be included in the current Payroll.

PAYROLL PAY PERIOD	CUTOFF DATE (Timesheets, absence from duty form. Etc.)	PAYDATE
9-01 - 9-30	September 9	September 20
10-01 - 10-31	October 14	October 18
11-01 - 11-30	November 11	November 20
12-01 - 12-31	December 9	December 20
01-01 - 01-31	January 13	January 17
02-01 - 02-28	February 10	February 20
03-01 - 03-31	March 2	March 20
04-01-04-30	April 13	April 18
05-01-05-30	May 11	May 20
06-01 - 06-30	June 8	June20
07-01 - 07-31	July 13	July 18
08-01 - 08-31	August 10	August 20

#### PAYROLL CALENDAR 2013-2014

## DIRECT DEPOSIT:

CISD now pays wages utilizing Direct Deposit or Pay Card only. Forms are available in Human Resources, Payroll, or by going to <u>https://www.celinaisd.com</u> and are to be completed with an attached voided check. If possible, please include your banks telephone number. Employees can view their payroll information through the Employee Access System. (*See Appendix C on Page 86 for instructions*)

## LEAVE ABSENT FROM DUTY:

Absences will be logged through the AESOP system at <u>https://www.aesoponline.com/login</u>. A link to this website is located on the Celina ISD website.

The State of Texas mandates five (5) days of personal leave each year which is cumulative, the district five two (2) local days with no payroll deduction and three (3) local days where the cost of the sub is deducted from your salary. <u>You must</u> <u>select the type of leave you are requesting.</u>

### Leave Request Pool:

An employee may request the establishment of a leave pool per Policy DEC(Local). To request a leave pool, the employee must request this in writing to the Superintendent. After Superintendent approval is obtained, the Human Resources Office will email district employees of the need for the leave pool. Employees may donate a maximum of five (5) *LOCAL PERSONAL DAYS PER SCHOOL YEAR*.

### W-4 Procedures:

The IRS requires a completed W-4 Form for Federal Income Tax to be withheld from each employee's paycheck. Every employee must have a W-4 form on file, which must have the following information:

- 1. Full name and address
- 2. Social Security Number

- 3. Single, Married, Married but withhold at higher single rate.
- 4. Total number of allowances employee wishes to claim, determining federal tax deduction from paycheck.
- 5. Additional amount, if any, employee wants withheld from each paycheck.

\*\* Please ensure that the W-4 is signed and dated. The most current form will replace any previous forms submitted.

W-4 forms can be obtained in Human Resources or online www.irs.gov.

#### Reminders...

- **1.** All issues for payroll must be submitted by Payroll Calendar cutoff dates
- **2.** Documentation not received by the cutoff date will be held until the following month.
- **3.** Proof of Jury Duty must be turned into the Payroll Office.

## **District Credit Cards**

Celina Independent School District currently has four credit cards. These cards are Citibank, Wal-Mart, Sam's Club, and Shell Oil Company.

The Citibank card may only be used for reserving employee or student hotel rooms for overnight conferences or workshops. If sponsoring a student event the card may be used to pay for lodging and meals. Prior to receiving the credit card you must have filled out a Purchase Order Request through the Requisition System and the documentation must be in the Business Office. The individual requesting the hotel must check out the credit card from the business office. The same individual who checked out the card must return it to the Business Office along with any receipts or confirmation statements. Prior to leaving for the workshop you will need to notify the Business Office you need a check for your hotel at least two weeks in advance of departure.

#### DO NOT SEND THE CARD THROUGH INTER-OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE.

The Shell Oil Company card is for use only in school owned or rented vehicles. The card must be checked out in the Business Office. Upon return the card must be returned to the Business Office along with any receipts for purchases. A purchase order must be entered for the fuel bought with the credit card from the appropriate budget code. The Transportation Department is not responsible for the expenditures on the Shell Card used for extra/co-curricular trips. The credit card may be checked out by the drivers' education teacher for purchases for the drivers' ed car. However, receipts must be kept and turned in weekly. **Under no circumstances should an employee fill up their personal automobile with the school credit card. DO NOT SEND THE CARD THROUGH INTER-OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE.** 

The Wal-Mart card may be used for purchases at any Wal-Mart. The employee must have an approved Purchase Order through the requisition system and all appropriate documentation must be in the Business Office prior to the card being checked out. The purchase must not exceed the approved Purchase Order amount. The purchase at Wal-Mart is tax exempt however; you must get a tax exempt form from the Business Office at the time you pick up the card. This form must be taken to the customer service desk where they will issue a tax

exempt card that you must present to the cashier prior to the purchase being run through the scanner. After the purchase has been made, the card and receipts and the yellow copy of the Purchase Order must be returned to the Business Office for payment processing. **DO NOT SEND THE CARD THROUGH INTER-OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE.** 

The Sam's Club cards are issued to three people per campus. The employee must have an approved Purchase Order through the Requisition System. The purchase must not exceed the approved Purchase Order amount. The employee must tell the cashier the purchase is tax exempt prior to the purchase being run through the scanner. After the purchase has been made, receipts and the yellow copy of the Purchase Order must be returned to the Business Office for payment processing.

## FAILURE TO FOLLOW THE ABOVE GUIDELINES WILL RESULT IN LOSS OF PRIVILEDGE TO USE CREDIT CARDS.

### NOTE:

Due to fraudulent use of school credit cards the CISD will no longer allow on-line purchases. All purchases must be made using current district procedures. Please reference Requisition/Purchase Order Procedures on page 56.

#### Appendix B

## Leave Pool Procedures

#### LEAVE POOL PURPOSE

The District leave pool shall be established from voluntary donations of local leave by individual employees to assist a fellow employee suffering from a catastrophic event, including pregnancy-related disability (normal pregnancy is not covered), or an employee absent because of the catastrophic event of a member of the employee's immediate family.

#### ESTABLISHMENT

An employee may receive a maximum of 20 workdays from a pool in a school year. An employee may request that a leave pool be established only after he or she has exhausted all other available paid leave.

The employee or a member of the employee's family shall address any request for the establishment of a leave pool in writing to the Superintendent. The Superintendent or designee shall then initiate the leave pool for the employee and notify District staff.

### CONTRIBUTIONS

The leave pool shall be composed of voluntary contributions for a specific individual, and donated days shall be designated to a specific pool. No staff member shall be allowed to contribute more than five of his or her available local leave days to leave pools in a school year.

### CONFIDENTIALITY

All contributions to leave pools shall be voluntary and confidential donations. Employees violating this provision shall be considered in violation of District policy and the standards of ethics outlined at DH(EXHIBIT) and shall be subject to disciplinary action in accordance with DH(LOCAL).

#### CESSATION

The leave pool ceases to exist when the employee returns to work or when each voluntary donation reaches the maximum contribution and the leave pool is exhausted. Unused leave pool days shall revert to the donors in increments of no less than one-half days. No general pool shall remain in existence.

#### Appendix C

#### VIEW PAYROLL INFORMATION THROUGH THE EMPLOYEE ACCESS SYSTEM

#### STEP 1: Go to www.celinaisd.com

STEP 2: On the Celina ISD Home page select FOR STAFF>EMPLOYEE RESOURCES

Endmaining Excellence ISD Celina ISD is rated "Recognized" by the Texas Education Agency	Home Contact Us A-Z Index 205 South Colorado Celina, Texas 75009 Phone: 469.742.9100 Fax: 972.382.3607
Athletics Campuses For Parents For Staff for Students For the Communi Aesop Sub/Absence Link Employee Resources Faculty E-Mail Instructional Technology Website Staff Curriculum Resources Technology Transportation Department Veritme Good evening! Today is Thursday July 10, 2013	ty PARENT PORTAL @celinaisd on Twitter

STEP 3: The next screen you'll see is the Employee Resources page. Select **TXEIS EMPLOYEE ACCESS** 

Employee Resources	Employee Forms
2012-2013 Employee Handbook	Change of Address
Celina ISD Employment Policies	Direct Deposit Payroll Form
Employee Acceptable Use Policy	Direct Deposit Payrol Form-Spanish
CSCOPE	
Eduphoria	
Gradebook	
Financial Benefits Services (dental, vision, etc)	
TRS ActiveCare (Blue Access for Members)	
Medco (Prescription Drug Plan)	
Flex Plan (NBS Benefits)	
Txeis Employee Access	

You'll be linked to the Employee Access login screen.

STEP 4: If you already have an Employee Access account SKIP TO STEP 7. If you are a new user you will need to create an account.

STEP 5: To create your account, select the "New User" button.

2.00

	Employee Access
	User Name:
	re Solutions Password:
Tor the Comm	Educational County District: 043903 unity Login
	New User Forgot Password

The following screen will appear.

nployee Access > New User	-
ease enter your social secur	ity #, date of birth, and zip and click Retrieve.
ease enter your social secur Social Security #	ity #, date of birth, and zip and click Retrieve. (no dashes)

STEP 6: Enter your information on this screen and click **"Retrieve".** You'll then be asked to create your own personal login and password.

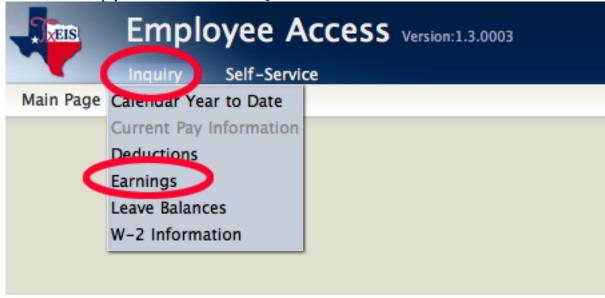
Please enter the security in	formation and click the save button.
User Name	
Password	
Password Verification	
Work E-mail	
Work E-mail Verification	
Home E-mail	
Home E-mail Verification	
Hint Question	
Hint Answer	

STEP 7: If you have already created your Employee Access account, enter your User Name and Password and select Login.



STEP 8: Once you have accessed the system the following screen will appear.

Empl	oyee Access Version:1.3.0003
Inquiry	Self-Service
Inquiry	Self-Service
	Empl Inquiry



STEP 9: To view payroll information Select INQUIRY>EARNINGS

STEP 10: Select the **Pay Date** from the drop down box.



**OTHER SERVICES AVAILABLE THROUGH EMPLOYEE ACCESS SYSTEM:** To change your password, select **SELF-SERVICE>CHANGE PASSWORD**.



To change your address, select SELF-SERVICE>DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Emp	loyee Access Version:1.3.0003
	Self-Service
Inquiry > Calendar Ye	a Change Password
<	Demographic Information
Please select a calenda	Payroll Information

To view W-2 Information, select INQUIRY>W-2 INFORMATION