



# Oak Park Elementary School District 97

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**TO: Members, Board of Education  
Dr. Albert Roberts, Superintendent**

**FROM: Policy Committee – James Gates, Amy Felton and Chris Jasculca**

**RE: Adoption of Policies**

**DATE: April 10, 2012**

During its meeting on March 13, 2012, the District 97 Board of Education conducted a first reading of the following policies:

- Policy 2440 – Summer School
- Policy 5200 – Attendance
- Policy 8500 – Food Services

In response to the questions and comments submitted by the board members via e-mail and at the meeting on March 13, revisions were made to policies 2440 (Summer School) and 8500 (Food Services). These revisions include:

- Policy 2440 (Summer School) – A board member commented that inclusion of the phrase “and fees may be charged to cover the expenses incurred” in the second paragraph of the policy that reads “The District may require students who do not meet District standards in reading, language arts, and/or mathematics to attend its summer school program” gives the impression that fees might only be charged to the families of students who are enrolled in summer school for remediation. Based on feedback from the board, the phrase was moved to the end of the first sentence of paragraph one so that the policy aligns with the district’s current practices regarding summer school—more specifically, its practice of charging fees for programs such as School Daze. As a result of this revision, this sentence was changed from:

The District may offer a summer school program which provides for remedial and/or enrichment instruction at the elementary and middle school levels.

to:

The District may offer a summer school program which provides for remedial and/or enrichment instruction at the elementary and middle school levels; **and fees may be charged to cover the expenses incurred.**

- Policy 8500 (Food Services) – A board member commented that the language about the school breakfast program featured in the fifth paragraph does not align with the policy’s other language about the program. Based on feedback from the board, the fifth paragraph was changed from:

**The school will not have a school breakfast program because the costs of implementing and operating a program would not be covered by the expense reimbursement. The District shall petition its regional superintendent by February 15th of each year to request the exemption.** The petition includes all legitimate costs associated with implementing and operating the school breakfast

program. The regional superintendent shall convene a public hearing to hear testimony from the District and interested community members.

to:

**If a school will not provide a school breakfast program because the costs of implementing and operating it would not be covered by the expense reimbursement, the District shall petition its regional superintendent by February 15 of each year to request the exemption.** The petition includes all legitimate costs associated with implementing and operating the school breakfast program. The regional superintendent shall convene a public hearing to hear testimony from the District and interested community members.

In addition to these revisions, the board recommended revising the fourth paragraph in Policy 5410 (Promotion, Placement and Retention) from:

Students who are not meeting grade level expectations in these basic areas will be identified early in the school year, then parents and guardians will be notified by mail of their student's non-promotion status. **To be reconsidered for promotion, these students will be required to complete an appropriate remedial program that may include modified classroom instruction, before/after school classes, and summer school.** Some improvement in knowledge and skills must be achieved for promotion.

to:

Students who are not meeting grade level expectations in these basic areas will be identified early in the school year, then parents and guardians will be notified by mail of their student's non-promotion status. **To be reconsidered for promotion, these students will be required to complete an appropriate remedial program that may include modified classroom instruction, before/after school classes, and/or other interventions.** Some improvement in knowledge and skills must be achieved for promotion.

This recommended revision, which is being presented to the board tonight for a first reading under separate cover, is based on the district's decision to change its summer school program from one that is mandatory for students who do not meet the standards in certain subject areas to one that offers students the opportunity to participate in the program based on a set of criteria that includes grades, assessments and teacher recommendations.

Attached are the policies that are being presented tonight for adoption. The recommended changes to policies 2440 (Summer School) and 8500 (Food Services) that are referenced above are featured in bold text. There were no additional revisions to policy 5200 (Attendance), so the changes in bold text on this policy are the ones that were presented to the board for a first reading on March 13, 2012. All of these policies have been made available for review by the general public via the Policies/Publications page (<http://www.op97.k12.il.us/boe/policies.html>) on the district's Web site.

Attachments:

- Policy 2440 – Summer School
- Policy 5200 – Attendance
- Policy 8500 – Food Services