

Policies, Procedures, and Forms Under Review – June 2025

SECOND READING:

566 - Student Suicide Prevention, Intervention, and Postvention. Policy 566 has not been updated since 2007. The District Mental Health Counselor, Sheena Jones, compiled a Booklet for Schools containing Protocols for Suicide Prevention and Intervention. Per Idaho Code 33-136(3)(a), "Each public school district shall adopt a policy on student suicide prevention. Such policy shall, at a minimum, address procedures relating to suicide prevention, intervention, and postvention. As used in this paragraph, "postvention" means counseling or other social care given to students after another student's suicide or attempted suicide." The proposed policy directs that school staff will follow the accompanying procedures for suicide prevention, intervention, and postvention.

566P - Student Suicide Prevention, Intervention, and Postvention Procedure.

569 - School Wellness. We are updating this policy to reduce some duplication within the policy and to remove information on the sale and marketing of food and beverages within the school during the school day (so-called "competitive foods") to the new Guidelines for Food and Beverage Sales policy included with this set (new policy 774). This policy is adapted from both the Idaho sample policy and the Alliance for a Healthier Generation Model Wellness Policy. Upon review, however, some of the guidelines overlap. Therefore, we are removing some of the duplicative guidelines (identified in the existing policy as optional language). The section on competitive foods is moved to new policy 774. We also deleted the confidentiality language in the Free and Reduced Price Meals section as that is included in policy 770. The PSD Child Nutrition Department has a state review during the 2025-26 school year. A school wellness committee was asked to review this policy as required under federal regulation prior to its approval by the board. Edits received from committee members are included in this draft.

576 – Field Trips. Policy 576 had a first reading in February 2025 and a second reading in March 2025, which was tabled. The earlier readings of the 576 Field Trip Policy included procedures and numerous forms that the schools could use to assist with the implementation of the field trip policy. Additionally, in the April 2025 Board Meeting, a supplemental field trip policy #576.5 was proposed to account for student travel organized by district employees using outside services. This 576.5 addendum was also tabled for further refinement. This month, June 2025, we are only bringing the original field trip policy forward for review so an improved plan for regular field trips can be implemented during the 2025-26 school year. The 576.5 travel policy with third-party organizations can be addressed at a later date.

576P – Field Trip Procedures. The 576 Procedures are attached for board knowledge.

770 - Food and Nutrition Services. This policy is being updated to include the requirement that procurement of food and nutrition services contracts (such as with a

private food service agency) must follow all state and federal regulations, including the Buy American requirement in USDA regulations. With the 2024 update of the child nutrition regulations, the Buy American requirement applies to all types of procurement (i.e., both informal and formal). We have also included requirements for the qualifications of food service staff under USDA regulations. We clarified in the recordkeeping section that the district will maintain all types of documents and records as required under USDA regulations. We also renamed the confidentiality section to clarify that the confidentiality provisions apply to free and reduced-price food services. We also added cross-references to other policies.

772 - Nutrition Standards. This NEW policy sets forth, in general terms, the nutrition standards required by the National School Lunch Program, the National School Breakfast Program, the Summer Food Service Program (if offered), and the Healthy and Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010. In April 2024, the USDA issued an amended final rule that updates some of these standards. While most of the standards need not be implemented by districts until the 2025-26 school year, we are including those updated standards here so we will be prepared to implement the new standards next school year. We have also included the record-keeping requirements associated with the nutrition standards in the policy.

774 - Guidelines for Food and Beverage Sales. This NEW policy includes information taken from the School Wellness policy, as noted above. We have also updated some of this language. For example, we have made some language optional. We have also updated the paragraph on exemptions from fundraising requirements and have added an optional vending machine section.

FIRST READING:

262P – Board Meeting Rules of Order and Procedure. This policy is updated to reflect 2025 amendments to Idaho Code §§33-510 and 74-204(4). The amendment to Idaho Code §33510 removed the limitation on public comment at board meetings to items listed on the meeting agenda; therefore, that language has been removed. Also included is the requirement for the board to hear public comments, if offered by the public in accordance with the board's rules, prior to taking action on an agenda item, which was inadvertently left out of the original procedure. The second addition to this policy relates to consent agendas, which the legislature clarified by its amendment to Idaho Code §74-204(4). The amendment appears to codify what most districts and other public entities were already doing with consent agendas.

276 – Access to Public Records. The legislature again amended the public records law this year to more fully address public records requests from residents and non-residents. The amendments this year allow public entities to have separate fee schedules for residents and nonresidents, and lengthened the amount of time for response for residents and nonresidents. The timeframes remain the same for residents, but for non-residents, the initial response time is now 21 days, and the

extended response deadline is now 35 days (not working days, as it is for residents). In addition, public records requests now are required to include an affirmation under oath that the person is a resident, so that public entities can determine which timelines and fees apply.

276F3 – Public Records Request Form. Consistent with the updates to policy 276, we are updating the public records request form to include the updated timelines for response and the affirmation that the requester is an Idaho resident.

544 – Student Expulsion/Denial of Enrollment. In light of several changes to Idaho Code §33-205 in 2025, this policy is updated to include additional grounds for expulsion or denial of enrollment. In particular, districts may now expel or deny enrollment to a student who has disenrolled in lieu of discipline or who has convictions or adjudications under any of the offenses listed in Idaho Code §20-525A(5) or chapters 9 (assault and battery), 61 (rape) or 66 (sex crimes), title 18, Idaho Code. The offenses listed in Idaho Code §20-525A(5) include: administering poison with intent to kill; aggravated battery; armed robbery; arson; various types of assaults; forcible sexual penetration by use of a foreign object; felony injury to child; kidnapping; murder; rape; ritualized abuse of a child; unlawful use of a destructive bomb; voluntary manslaughter; and some drug and drug trafficking offenses. Parents and legal guardians are required to provide information regarding any of those convictions or adjudications when their child seeks to enroll in school or is already enrolled in school. Failure to provide that information is itself grounds to deny enrollment or expel a student. Other minor updates to the policy have been made, consistent with the 2025 amendments. Also added are legal references and cross-references.

648 – Health/Wellness Instruction. This policy was affected by three separate legislative amendments in 2025. The first is a new requirement to add an opt-in procedure for human sexuality instruction. The term “human sexuality” was added to the definitions in Idaho Code §33-1609. No changes were made to Idaho Code §33-1611, which provides for an opt-out procedure for “sex education,” which term is separately defined. The opt-in procedure for human sexuality instruction is mandatory and school districts are required to adopt policies and procedures to address its human sexuality instruction. The second change was the addition of a new law (Idaho Code §33-1637) requiring instruction in human growth and development. The third was an amendment to the parental rights in education law (Idaho Code §33-6001) prohibiting instruction in sexual orientation or gender identity “from kindergarten through grade 12 or in a manner that is not age-appropriate or developmentally appropriate for students in accordance with state standards.” While the statement of purpose for the bill says its purpose is to prohibit instruction on these topics from K-12, the way it is written seems to leave room for instruction if it is age appropriate and developmentally appropriate, consistent with state standards. The state health standards do not appear to specifically address sexual orientation instruction or gender identity instruction, so it is likely that any instruction is prohibited under the new law. Any questions about this

detail should be directed to the school district's legal counsel. The name of the policy is updated to include "instruction" to more fully reflect the policy's content.

648F1 – Health/Wellness Instruction: Opt-In Form. As noted above, Idaho law now requires an opt-in for students to participate in human sexuality instruction. This NEW form provides an example of what that form might look like. We have included optional language in a parent letter describing a school's human sexuality program, which can be amended to suit your district's particular needs. Also included is required language that addresses the requirement for parent/legal guardian permission, and a statement that if parents/legal guardians opt out, the school will provide alternative instruction. Parent permission must be obtained at least one week prior to the beginning of instruction.

684 – Grading. The current district policy on grading states that 1st-5th grade student achievement will be reported on a scale of 1-5, with values given to the numbers indicating the level of progress. The current policy also states that for 3rd-12th grade, student progress will be reported on the basis of A, B, C, D, and F letter grades. The updated policy lists district-wide options (traditional letter grades, numeric scale, standard-based grading system) that each school could select to inform students and parents of the learning taking place at school. Idaho Code 33-1632 on MASTERY-BASED EDUCATION, states in part, "The legislature finds that moving toward mastery-based education where students progress as they demonstrate mastery of a subject or grade level is in the best interest of Idaho students. The legislature further finds that moving from the current time-based system to a mastery-based approach will allow for more personalized and differentiated learning; create a focus on explicit, measurable, transferable learning objectives that empower students; and emphasize competencies that include application and knowledge along with skill development. The state department of education shall perform the following activities to move Idaho toward mastery-based education: Provide ongoing statewide outreach and communications to increase awareness and understanding of and promote interest in mastery-based education for teachers, administrators, parents, students, business leaders, and policymakers..." The Idaho Department of Education has a webpage devoted to Mastery Learning support for schools. <https://www.sde.idaho.gov/mastery-ed/>

912 – Display of Flags and Banners on School Property. This NEW policy reflects the requirements of a new law adopted in 2025. Idaho Code §33-143 prohibits the display of flags or banners that represent political, religious, or ideological views, including but not limited to political parties, race, gender, sexual orientation, or political ideologies on school district property such as classrooms, hallways, entryways, or sports fields. The law includes specific exemptions for various flags or banners, with these exemptions set forth in the policy.

914 – Emergency Operations. This NEW policy includes the requirement for all schools within a district to have an emergency operations plan that follows guidelines established by the Idaho School Safety and Security Advisory Board. Schools are also

required to have initial and annual training on emergency operations plans. While some schools may have such plans as part of a school climate policy, there has not previously been a statutory requirement for an emergency operations plan. Also included is optional language for a more district-wide crisis management plan, including training on such a plan. It is somewhat unclear as to which specific guidance is referenced in the new law (found at Idaho Code §33-512(16)), as a review of the school safety website reveals multiple resource documents for emergency operations planning. In any event, districts should use some of those guidelines when developing their emergency operations plans.

942 – Acceptable Use of Internet, Computer, and Network Resources. This policy is being updated to address changes made to Idaho Code §33-132 and 33-137 this legislative session. The legislature repealed Idaho Code §33-137 and placed all requirements relating to internet filtering into Idaho Code §33-132. Thus, the primary changes to the policy are in the Internet Safety for Students section of the policy. The legal references have been updated to reflect the changes to the law.