

Executive Summary: PRESS 120 Second Reading

Introduction

PRESS, which stands for Policy Reference Education Subscription Service, is a policy service provided by the Illinois Association of School Boards (IASB). It provides school districts with an "encyclopedia" of sample board policies, administrative procedures, and exhibits. The board and district staff use these materials as a reference to help develop and update their own local policies.

The first reading of these policies took place at the Board of Education regular meeting on December 5, 2025.

Policies with Notable Changes

This is the first reading of the policy changes recommended in PRESS Issue 120. The following policies have important language changes and should be reviewed by the Board.

PRESS 120 Policy Update		
Policy	Description of Change	Recommendation
2:120 Board Member Development	Makes student growth an optional, rather than a required, component of teacher evaluations	Approve as presented
2:150 Committees	Requires the Parent-Teacher Advisory Committee's guidelines for reciprocal reporting to address civil and criminal offenses committed by students	Approve as presented
2:270 Discrimination and Harassment on the Basis of Race, Color, and National Origin Prohibited	Provides the website for the IDHR Racism Free School training program.	Approve as presented
3:60 Administrative Responsibility of the Building Principal	Requires administrators to immediately notify law enforcement upon receiving a report of a threat of gun violence on school grounds and the parent/guardian if the threat is from a student	Approve as presented
4:10 Fiscal and Business Management	Changes the deadline for publishing the District's statement of affairs to "by December 1"	Approve as presented
4:30 Revenue and Investments	Amends deposit requirements for financial institutions subject to the Illinois Community Reinvestment Act	Approve as presented
4:80 Accounting and Audits	Requires the school district to submit the AFR to the regional superintendent and the audit firm to submit the AFR to ISBE by October 15th	Approve as presented
5:10 Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Recruitment	Adds the prohibition of discrimination and retaliation based on an employee's use of employer-issued equipment to record domestic violence, sexual violence, gender violence, or any other crime of violence committed against the employee or a family or household member of the employee	Approve as presented
5:90 Abused and Neglected Child Reporting	Changes the term <i>child pornography</i> to <i>child sexual abuse material</i> and defines <i>electronic and information technology equipment</i>	Approve as presented
5:100 Staff Development Program	Updated legal reference	Approve as presented
5:200 Terms and Conditions of Employment and Dismissal	Now requires the District to compensate nursing mothers for reasonable time needed to express breast milk according to provisions in State and federal law	Approve as presented
5:300 Schedules and Employment Year	Now requires the District to compensate nursing mothers for reasonable time needed to express breast milk according to provisions in State and federal law	Approve as presented

6:20 School Year Calendar and Day	Makes studying and honoring commemorative holidays optional	Approve as presented
6:40 Curriculum Development	Updates requirements for single-gender classes and activities	Approve as presented
6:60 Curriculum Content	Requires drug and alcohol abuse prevention education; changes internet safety education in grades pk-12 to online safety in grades 3-8 beginning in the 2027-28 school year; repeals the requirement to teach character education; moves instruction on the voting process to civics education for grades 6-8; replaces parts of the comprehensive health education program; requires abduction education in all school; requires CPR and AED instruction at the high school; requires a unit of media literacy and internet safety at the high school; and repeals the requirement for students to view a film on the Congressional Medal of Honor	Approve as presented
6:130 Program for the Gifted	Removes references to State funding for gifted programs and related requirements	Approve as presented
6:315 High School Credit for Students in Grade 7 or 8	Expands the ability of students in grade 7 or 8 to obtaining high school course credit	Approve as presented
7:70 Attendance and Truancy	Requires an approval process for chronically absent or truant students to attend specific activities including provisions for making up missed coursework that do not penalize students	Approve as presented
7:150 Agency and Law Enforcement Requests	Policy is renamed and rewritten, requiring districts to establish procedures regarding agency and law enforcement requests at school	Approve as presented
7:180 Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment	Expands the bullying definition to prohibit posting or distributing sexually explicit images, and expands the cyberbullying definition to prohibit posting or distributing an unauthorized digital replica	Approve as presented
7:190 Student Behavior	Requires parent/guardian notification when a student allegedly threatens firearm violence	Approve as presented
7:290 Suicide and Depression Awareness and Prevention	Requires education for students on mental health and illness, and requires districts to include suicide prevention helpline information on employee ID cards for employees serving in grades 6-12	Approve as presented

Policies with Minor, Non-Substantive Changes

The following policies contain minor updates, also known as technical corrections. These will most likely not require discussion by the Board.

PRESS 120 Policy Update		
Policy	Description of Change	Recommendation
5:280 Duties and Qualifications	Technical corrections	Approve as presented
6:160 English Learners	Technical correction	Approve as presented
6:220 Bring Your Own Technology (BYOT) Program; Responsible Use and Conduct	Technical corrections	Approve as presented
6:300 Graduation Requirements	Technical corrections	Approve as presented
6:310 High School Credit for Non-District Experiences; Course Substitutions; Re-Entering Students	Technical corrections	Approve as presented
8:30 Visitors to and Conduct on School Property	Technical correction	Approve as presented

Policies with No Content Changes

There are no content changes to the following policies. They are listed because footnotes, legal references, and/or cross references, which are not included in our policy manual, have been updated in response to changes in various laws.

- 3:10 Goals and Objectives
- 3:50 Administrative Personnel Other Than the Superintendent
- 4:110 Transportation
- 4:140 Waiver of Fees
- 4:150 Facility Management and Building Programs
- 4:170 Safety
- 4:190 Targeted School Violence Prevention Program
- 5:20 Workplace Harassment Prohibited
- 5:120 Employee Ethics; Code of Professional Conduct; and Conflict of Interest
- 5:185 Family and Medical Leave
- 5:190 Teacher Qualifications
- 5:220 Substitute Teachers
- 6:135 Accelerated Placement Program
- 6:140 Education of Homeless Children
- 6:210 Instructional Materials
- 6:235 Access to Electronic Networks
- 6:240 Field Trips
- 6:260 Complaints About Curriculum, Instructional Materials, and Programs
- 6:270 Guidance and Counseling Program
- 6:280 Grading and Promotion
- 6:320 High School Credit for Proficiency
- 7:10 Equal Educational Opportunities
- 7:130 Student Rights and Responsibilities
- 7:140 Search and Seizure
- 7:250 Student Support Services
- 7:310 Restrictions on Publications; Elementary Schools
- 7:315 Restrictions on Publications; High Schools
- 7:340 Student Records
- 8:100 Relations with Other Organizations and Agencies

Recommendation

I recommend the Board of Education consider the approval of all of the policy change recommendations in PRESS 120 as presented.