

Illinois Principal Association Handbook Changes

Section Revised	Explanation of Change	Status
Handbook §3.10 Fees, Fines, & Charges; Waiver of Student Fees Handbook §3.10 E1 Application for Fee Waiver	Illinois law now gives school districts two options with respect to school fee waiver applications. Option #1 allows a district to use students application for free meals. Previously, this was the only option available to school districts and requires schools to follow guidelines of the free meals program to determine students eligibility for a fee waiver. Option #2 now establishes a new application process to determine student's eligibility for a fee waiver. This second option is still based on the same income guidelines established by the federal meals program, but allows a district more flexibility in verifying the information in students fee waiver applications. The model policy follows new option #2. This procedure is consistent with the Illinois Association of School Board's PRESS Service.	Optional. School should assure that change matches district policy.
Handbook §9.10 E1 Athletic Code and Code of Conduct	Updated to reflect new IHSA required policy on banned substances.	Highly suggested.
Handbook §2.90 Course Alternatives and Suggestions [HS]	Adds new section on "Credit for Proficiency"	Suggested
Handbook §6.30 Student Discipline	Updates section on prohibited student conduct to include "sexting" and updates section on bullying. See, specifically, changes to "Student Prohibited Conduct" #10 and #17	Strongly suggested
Handbook §6.40 Bullying, Intimidation and Harassment	Updated to comply with State law on bullying and subsequent revisions to PRESS. Significant changes made to first four paragraphs of handbook procedure.	Required
Handbook §11.10 Student Privacy Protections	Makes minor changes regarding collecting of survey information. See, specifically, "Surveys Requesting Personal Information" #3 and #8.	Suggested
Handbook §10.20 Discipline of Students with Disabilities	Adds language in the first sentence to recognize ISBE Rules on discipline of students with disabilities.	Suggested
Handbook §7.20 [HS] Handbook §7.20 [K-8]Guidelines for Student Distribution of Non-School Sponsored Publications	Rewrites Handbook Procedure 7.20 to match changes in PRESS and creates separate handbook procedures for K-8 and High School.	Suggested
Handbook §1.130 Care of Students with Diabetes Handbook §1.130 E1 Authorization to Provide Diabetes Care	Public Act 96-1485 (effective on December 1, 2010) requires schools to notify parents of student with diabetes of care options available while at school.	Required
Handbook 1.120 Students with Food Allergies	Mandated notice to parents regarding students with food allergies.	Required

Additional Change

Truancy

A parent or guardian who knowingly and willfully permits a child to be truant may be convicted of a Class C misdemeanor, which carries a maximum penalty of thirty days in jail and/or a fine of up to \$1500.00.

A truant is a child subject to compulsory school attendance--7 years old to 17 years old--who is absent from school without valid cause for a school day or any portion of a school day. A chronic truant is a child subject to compulsory attendance laws who is absent without valid cause from school for 10 percent or more of the previous 180 regular attendance days (18 or more days). Consequences for truancy are as follows:

- May include contact by phone, mail, or home visits.

- Scheduled meetings with the Vermilion County Truancy Officer.
- The student may be referred to the County Truancy Officer to develop an intervention plan. Parents are encouraged to help develop a plan to improve the student's attendance. If the student is under seventeen years old and truant, the administrator will refer him/her to the Vermilion County Truancy Program. The Truancy Officer may petition the State Attorney's Office to bring the truant student before a judge. If the student is seventeen years old or older and is truant for 18 days of the last 180 regular school days, he/she will be removed from classes and receive no credit for that semester of classes.

Tardiness to School and Classes

Students who are tardy arriving at school must check into the office to receive a pass to classes. The first and second time a student is tardy, he/she will receive a warning. The third instance of tardy to school will result in a one hour office detention. Upon receiving a sixth tardy to school an office detention will be given and a letter will be mailed home. Beginning with the ninth tardy to school, students will be given an in-school suspension day for every third occurrence in a semester. Skipping or leaving school without permission will result in a one day in-school suspension.

If a student is tardy to any class after arriving at school, the teacher will issue consequences. The consequences require the student to make up time missed before or after school with that teacher within two days of the tardiness. If the student does not serve time with the teacher, the issue becomes a disciplinary situation and the student will serve the consequences for failure to serve a detention.

REWARDS FOR PERFECT ATTENDANCE

Semester Exam Waivers

- Students that maintain Perfect Attendance (no more than half a day absent) and receives no more than two tardies to school for the semester will qualify to waive three semester exams if he/she maintains a grade of "B" in the class to be waived.
- Students that are absent no more than one day and a half and receives no more than two tardies to school in a semester will qualify to waive two semester exams if he/she maintains a grade of "B" in the class to be waived.
- Students that are absent no more than two days and a half and receives no more than two tardies to school in a semester qualify to waive one semester exam if he/she maintains a grade of "B" in the class to be waived.

GENERAL BUILDING CONDUCT

The following general rules shall apply and failure to abide by the rules may result in discipline:

- Sunglasses, safety glasses, hats, hoods of sweatshirts, and bandanas shall not be worn in the building. Any item brought or worn to school shall be removed before entering the building and immediately placed in the student's locker.

School Dress Code / Student Appearance

Students are expected to wear clothing in a neat, clean, and well fitting manner (pants and shorts worn above the hip) while on school property and/or in attendance at school sponsored activities. Students are to use discretion in their dress and are not permitted to wear apparel that causes a substantial disruption in the school environment.

All disciplinary actions that would have resulted in a Saturday School has been changed to either an office detention or in-school suspension depending upon the severity of the action.