

(LOCAL) Policy Comparison Packet

Each marked-up (LOCAL) policy in this collection reflects an automated comparison of the updated policy with its precursor, as found in the TASB Policy Service records.

The comparison is generated by an automated process that shows changes as follows.

- *Deletions* are shown in a red strike-through font: ~~deleted text~~.
- *Additions* are shown in a blue, bold font: **new text**.
- Blocks of text that have been *moved* without alteration are shown in green, with double underline and double strike-through formatting to distinguish the text's destination from its origin: ~~moved text~~ becomes moved text.
- *Revision bars* appear in the right margin, as above.

While the annotation software competently identifies simple changes, large or complicated changes—as in an extensive rewrite—may be more difficult to follow.

For further assistance in understanding changes, please refer to the explanatory notes in your Localized Policy Manual update packet or contact your policy consultant.

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION AND DATA MANAGEMENT

CQ
(LOCAL)

	<p>The Superintendent or designee shall implement, monitor, and evaluate electronic media resources for instructional and administrative purposes.</p>
<p>AVAILABILITY OF ACCESS</p> <p>LIMITED PERSONAL USE</p>	<p>Access to the District's electronic communications system, including the Internet, shall be made available to students and employees primarily for instructional and administrative purposes and in accordance with administrative regulations. Limited personal use of the system shall be permitted if the use:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Imposes no tangible cost on the District;2. Does not unduly burden the District's computer or network resources; and3. Has no adverse effect on an employee's job performance or on a student's academic performance.
<p>USE BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC</p>	<p>Access to the District's electronic communications system, including the Internet, shall be made available to members of the public, in accordance with administrative regulations. Such use shall be permitted so long as the use:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Imposes no tangible cost on the District; and2. Does not unduly burden the District's computer or network resources.
<p>ACCEPTABLE USE</p>	<p>The Superintendent or designee shall develop and implement administrative regulations, guidelines, and user agreements consistent with the purposes and mission of the District and with law and policy.</p> <p>Access to the District's electronic communications system is a privilege, not a right. All users shall be required to acknowledge receipt and understanding of all administrative regulations governing use of the system and shall agree in writing to allow monitoring of their use and to comply with such regulations and guidelines. Noncompliance may result in suspension of access or termination of privileges and other disciplinary action consistent with District policies. [See DH, FN series, FO series, and the Student Code of Conduct] Violations of law may result in criminal prosecution as well as disciplinary action by the District.</p>
<p>INTERNET SAFETY</p>	<p>The Superintendent or designee shall develop and implement an Internet safety plan to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Control students' access to inappropriate materials, as well as to materials that are harmful to minors;

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION AND DATA MANAGEMENT

CQ
(LOCAL)

2. Ensure student safety and security when using electronic communications;
3. Prevent unauthorized access, including hacking and other unlawful activities;
4. Restrict unauthorized disclosure, use, and dissemination of personally identifiable information regarding students; and
5. Educate students about cyberbullying awareness and response and about appropriate online behavior, including interacting with other individuals on social networking Web sites and in chat rooms.

FILTERING

Each District computer with Internet access shall have a filtering device or software that blocks access to visual depictions that are obscene, pornographic, inappropriate for students, or harmful to minors, as defined by the federal Children's Internet Protection Act and as determined by the Superintendent or designee.

The Superintendent or designee shall enforce the use of such filtering devices. Upon approval from the Superintendent or designee, an administrator, supervisor, or other authorized person may disable the filtering device for bona fide research or other lawful purpose.

MONITORED USE

Electronic mail transmissions and other use of the electronic communications system by students and employees shall not be considered private. Designated District staff shall be authorized to monitor such communication at any time to ensure appropriate use.

INTELLECTUAL
PROPERTY RIGHTS

Students shall retain all rights to work they create using the District's electronic communications system.

As agents of the District, employees shall have limited rights to work they create using the District's electronic communications system. The District shall retain the right to use any product created in the scope of a person's employment even when the author is no longer an employee of the District.

DISCLAIMER OF
LIABILITY

The District shall not be liable for users' inappropriate use of electronic communication resources, ~~or~~ violations of copyright restrictions or other laws, users' mistakes or negligence, and costs incurred by users. The District shall not be responsible for ensuring the accuracy, age appropriateness, or usability of any information found on the Internet.

SECURITY BREACH
NOTIFICATION

Upon discovering or receiving notification of a breach of system security, the District shall disclose the breach to affected

persons or entities in accordance with the time frames established by law.

The District shall give notice by using one or more of the following methods:

1. Written notice.
2. Electronic mail, if the District has electronic mail addresses for the affected persons.
3. Conspicuous posting on the District's Web site.

Publication through broadcast media.

EMPLOYEE STANDARDS OF CONDUCT

DH
(LOCAL)

All District employees shall perform their duties in accordance with state and federal law, District policy, and ethical standards. [See DH(EXHIBIT)]

All District employees shall recognize and respect the rights of students, parents, other employees, and members of the community and shall work cooperatively with others to serve the best interests of the District.

Employees wishing to express concern, complaints, or criticism shall do so through appropriate channels. [See DGBA]

VIOLATIONS OF
STANDARDS OF
CONDUCT

Employees shall comply with the standards of conduct set out in this policy and with any other policies, regulations, and guidelines that impose duties, requirements, or standards attendant to their status as District employees. Violation of any policies, regulations, or guidelines may result in disciplinary action, including termination of employment. [See DCD and DF series]

ELECTRONIC MEDIA

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, editorial comments posted on the Internet, and social network sites. Electronic media also includes all forms of telecommunication, such as landlines, cell phones, and Web-based applications.

USE WITH
STUDENTS

In accordance with administrative regulations, a certified or licensed employee, or any other employee designated in writing by the Superintendent or a campus principal, may use electronic media to communicate with currently enrolled students about matters within the scope of the employee's professional responsibilities. All other employees are prohibited from using electronic media to communicate directly with students who are currently enrolled in the District. The regulations shall address:

- 1. Exceptions for family and social relationships;**
- 2. The circumstances under which employees may use text messaging to communicate with students; and**
- 3. Other matters deemed appropriate by the Superintendent or designee.**

An employee shall comply with the District's requirements for records retention and destruction to the extent those requirements apply to electronic media. [See CPC]

PERSONAL USE

EMPLOYEE STANDARDS OF CONDUCT

DH
(LOCAL)

Employees shall 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 violates state or federal law or District policy, or 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.

SAFETY REQUIREMENTS	All employees shall adhere to District safety rules and regulations and shall report unsafe conditions or practices to the appropriate supervisor.
HARASSMENT OR ABUSE	<p>Employees shall not engage in prohibited harassment, including sexual harassment, of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Other employees. [See DIA]2. Students. [See FFH; see FFG regarding child abuse and neglect] <p>While acting in the course of their employment, employees shall not engage in prohibited harassment, including sexual harassment, of other persons, including Board members, vendors, contractors, volunteers, or parents.</p>
RELATIONSHIPS WITH STUDENTS	Employees shall not form romantic or other inappropriate social relationships with students. Any sexual relationship between a student and a District employee is always prohibited, even if consensual. [See FFH]
TOBACCO USE	Employees shall not use tobacco products on District premises, in District vehicles, or at school or school-related activities. [See also GKA]
ALCOHOL AND DRUGS	<p>Employees shall not manufacture, distribute, dispense, possess, use, or be under the influence of any of the following substances during working hours while at school or at school-related activities during or outside of usual working hours:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Any controlled substance or dangerous drug as defined by law, including but not limited to marijuana, any narcotic drug, hallucinogen, stimulant, depressant, amphetamine, or barbiturate.2. Alcohol or any alcoholic beverage.3. Any abusable glue, aerosol paint, or any other chemical substance for inhalation.4. Any other intoxicant, or mood-changing, mind-altering, or behavior-altering drugs.

EMPLOYEE STANDARDS OF CONDUCT

DH
(LOCAL)

	<p>An employee need not be legally intoxicated to be considered “under the influence” of a controlled substance.</p>
EXCEPTIONS	<p>An employee who manufactures, possesses, or dispenses a substance listed above as part of the employee’s job responsibilities, or who uses a drug authorized by a licensed physician prescribed for the employee’s personal use shall not be considered to have violated this policy.</p>
NOTICE	<p>Each employee shall be given a copy of the District’s notice regarding drug-free schools. [See DI(EXHIBIT)]</p> <p>A copy of this policy, a purpose of which is to eliminate drug abuse from the workplace, shall be provided to each employee at the beginning of each year or upon employment.</p>
ARRESTS, INDICTMENTS, CONVICTIONS, AND OTHER ADJUDICATIONS	<p>An employee shall 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 the employee for any felony, any offense involving moral turpitude, and any of the other offenses as indicated below:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Crimes involving school property or funds;2. 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;3. Crimes that occur wholly or in part on school property or at a school-sponsored activity; or4. Crimes involving moral turpitude, which include:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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;• Felony possession, transfer, sale, distribution, or conspiracy to possess, transfer, sell, or distribute any controlled substance defined in Chapter 481 of the Health and Safety Code;• Acts constituting public intoxication, operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of alcohol, or disorderly conduct, if any two or more acts are committed within any 12-month period; or• Acts constituting abuse under the Texas Family Code.

EMPLOYEE STANDARDS OF CONDUCT

DH
(LOCAL)

DRESS AND
GROOMING

The dress and grooming of District employees shall be clean, neat, in a manner appropriate for their assignments, and in accordance with any additional standards established by their supervisors and approved by the Superintendent.

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT
RETENTION AND PROMOTION

EIE
(LOCAL)

CURRICULUM
MASTERY

Promotion and course credit shall be based on mastery of the curriculum. Expectations and standards for promotion shall be established for each grade level, content area, and course and shall be coordinated with compensatory/accelerated services. [See EHBC]

STANDARDS FOR
MASTERY

In addition to the factors in law that must be considered for promotion, mastery shall be determined as follows:

1. Course assignments and unit evaluation shall be used to determine student grades in a subject. An average of 70 or higher shall be considered a passing grade.
2. Mastery of the skills necessary for success at the next level shall be validated by assessments that may either be incorporated into unit or final examinations or may be administered separately. Mastery of at least 70 percent of the objectives shall be required.

GRADES 1–8

In grades 1–8, promotion to the next grade level shall be based on an overall average of 70 on a scale of 100 based on course-level, grade-level standards (essential knowledge and skills) for all subject areas, a grade of 70 or above in English/language arts and in mathematics, and a grade of 70 or above in either science or social studies.

GRADES 9–12

Grade-level advancement for students in grades 9–12 shall be earned by course credits. [See EI]

STUDENTS WITH
DISABILITIES

Promotion standards and appropriate assessment and acceleration options, as established by individualized education programs (IEP) or grade-level classification of students eligible for special education, shall be determined by the ARD committee.

LIMITED ENGLISH
~~PROFICIENT~~ ~~PROFICIENT~~
~~STUDENTS~~

In assessing students of limited English proficiency for mastery of the essential knowledge and skills, the District shall be flexible in determining methods to allow the students to demonstrate knowledge or competency independent of their English language skills in the following ways:

1. Assessment in the primary language.
2. Assessment using ESL methodologies.
3. Assessment with multiple varied instruments. [See EHBE]

ACCELERATED
INSTRUCTION FOR
GRADES 3–8

If a student in grades 3–8 fails to demonstrate proficiency on a state-mandated assessment, the student shall be provided accelerated instruction in accordance with state law. Additionally, students in grades 5 and 8 shall be subject to all provisions of GRADE ADVANCEMENT TESTING below.

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT
RETENTION AND PROMOTION

EIE
(LOCAL)

**GRADE
ADVANCEMENT
TESTING**

~~STUDENT SUCCESS
INITIATIVE~~

DEFINITION OF
'PARENT'

In addition to local standards for mastery and promotion, students in grades 5 and 8 must meet the passing standard on an applicable assessment instrument in the subjects required under state law in order to be promoted to the next grade.

For purposes of this policy and decisions related to **grade advancement requirements**~~the student success initiative~~, a student's "parent" shall be defined to include either of the student's parents or guardians; a person designated by the parent, by means of a Power of Attorney **or an authorization agreement as provided in Section 34 of the Family Code**, to have responsibility for the student in all school-related matters ~~[(see FD)];~~ a surrogate parent acting on behalf of a student with a disability; a person designated by the parent or guardian to serve on the grade placement committee (GPC) for all purposes; or in the event that a parent, guardian, or designee cannot be located, a person designated by the Superintendent or designee to act on behalf of the student. [See EIE(LEGAL)]

NO ALTERNATE
ASSESSMENT
INSTRUMENT

The District shall use only the statewide assessment instrument for the third testing opportunity.

STANDARDS FOR
PROMOTION UPON
APPEAL

If a parent initiates an appeal of his or her child's retention following the student's failure to demonstrate proficiency after the third testing opportunity, the GPC shall review all facts and circumstances in accordance with law. ~~and shall apply the following standards in deciding to promote or retain the student:~~

- ~~1. Evidence of satisfactory student performance, including grades, portfolios, work samples, local assessments, previous state assessments, or individual reading or mathematics diagnostic tests or inventories, as appropriate;~~
- ~~2. Improvement in student test performance over the three testing opportunities;~~
- ~~3. Extenuating circumstances that may have adversely affected the student's participation in instruction, required assessments, or accelerated instruction; and~~
- ~~4. Consideration of whether a student was not enrolled in a Texas public school for part of the school year.~~

The student shall not be promoted unless:

1. All members of the GPC agree that the student is likely to perform on grade level if given additional accelerated instruction during the following school year in accordance with the educational plan developed by the GPC; and

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT
RETENTION AND PROMOTION

EIE
(LOCAL)

2. The student ~~has completed required~~~~completes~~ accelerated instruction in the subject area for which the student failed to demonstrate proficiency ~~before placement in the next grade level.~~

Whether the GPC decides to promote or to retain a student in this manner, the committee shall determine an accelerated instruction plan for the student for the following school year, providing for ~~in-~~~~terim~~~~interim~~ reports to the student's parent and opportunities for the parent to consult with the teacher or principal as needed. The principal or designee shall monitor the student's progress during the following school year to ensure that he or she is progressing in accordance with the plan.

TRANSFER
STUDENTS

When a student transfers into the District having failed to demonstrate proficiency on applicable assessment instruments after two testing opportunities, a GPC shall convene for that student. The GPC shall review any available records of decisions regarding testing and accelerated instruction from the previous district and determine an accelerated instruction plan for the student.

If a parent initiates an appeal for promotion when a student transfers into the District having failed to demonstrate proficiency after three testing opportunities, the GPC shall review any available records of decisions regarding testing, accelerated instruction, retention, or promotion from the previous district and issue a decision in accordance with the District's standards for promotion.

ASSIGNMENT OF
RETAINED STUDENTS

In the event a student is not promoted to the next grade level, the District shall assign the student nevertheless to an age-appropriate campus, unless:

1. The student's parent requests that the student be assigned to the same or a similar campus setting; or
2. The student's GPC determines that it would be in the student's best interest to be assigned to the same or a similar campus setting. Criteria to be considered for this decision may include:
 - a. Recommendations from the student's teachers.
 - b. Observed social and emotional development of the student.

This provision shall apply only when:

1. A student who is 12 years old is retained in grade 5; or when
2. A student who is 15 years old is retained in grade 8.

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT
RETENTION AND PROMOTION

EIE
(LOCAL)

REDUCING STUDENT
RETENTION

The District shall establish procedures designed to reduce retaining students at a grade level, with the ultimate goal being elimination of the practice of retaining students. [See EHBC]