## Board of Education Issue 120 Policy Review

## <u>Issue 120 Newsletter</u>

POLICY#	PERSON	OVERVIEW OF POLICY/CHANGES
2:120 Board Member Development	Brian	This policy summarizes required and preferred training for board members. There are no substantive changes to this policy.
2:125-E3 Resolution to Regulate Expense Reimburseme nts	Adam	The exhibit is unchanged in response to a five-year review.  This policy set limits for the amount of money school district officers and employees can be reimbursed for travel, meal, and lodging expenses.
2:150 Committees	Brian	This policy provides information about required and additional optional board committees. The policy has a single update in response to school code updates.
2:270 Discrimination and Harassment on the Basis of Race, Color, and National Origin Prohibited	Brian	This policy addresses prohibited discrimination and harassment behavior. It includes details about prohibited conduct, making a report, federal and state intervention, communication and enforcement of the policy, and the prohibition of retaliation. There are no substantive changes.
4:10 Fiscal and Business Management	Adam	This policy was updated in response to Public Act 104-261.  This policy sets forth the requirements for budgeting, preparing the tax levy, disclosing cash balances, and publishing the statement of affairs.
4:30 Revenue and Investments	Adam	This policy was updated in response to the Public Funds Investment Act.  This policy reinstates that a bank must meet certain criteria before school districts in Illinois are allowed to invest funds in the bank. Also, the policy outlines investment objects for the District.
4:80 Accounting and Audits	Adam	This policy was amended in response to Public Act 104-261.  This policy outlines the requirements of the annual audit, annual financial report, capitalization threshold, and internal controls.

4:140 Waiver of Student Fees	Adam	This policy was updated in response to Public Act 104-391.  This policy outlines the eligibility criteria, notification, and appeal process for determining the waiver of student fees.
5:10 Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Recruitment	Annetta	The policy was updated as a response to Victims' Economic Security and Safety Act (VESSA) and added by P.A. 104-171, effective January 1, 2016, prohibiting workplace discrimination and retaliation based on the employee's use of District-issued equipment to record such violence.
5:90 Abused and Neglected Child Reporting	Annetta	The policy was updated changing the term child "pornography" to child "sexual abuse material."
5:100 Staff Development Program	Chris	The updated policy outlines required professional development to ensure District 45 staff maintain strong skills and meet legal obligations. It includes mandated reporter and annual Erin's Law training, along with health, safety, cultural competency, mental health, and implicit bias training. Additional updates emphasize Title IX, anti-discrimination, crisis response, and supports for students with specific needs. Overall, the policy strengthens efforts to maintain safe, inclusive, and compliant school environments. The updates were in response to a repealed law and a renumbered one.
5:190 Teacher Qualifications	Annetta	The policy is unchanged. The Legal References and footnotes are updated in response to P.A. 104-111, effective January 1, 2026 establishing a short-term approval credential for teachers in accordance with rules developed by ISBE.
5:200 Terms and Conditions of Employment and Dismissal	Annetta	The policy and footnotes are updated in response to Nursing Mothers in Workplace Act (NMWA), amended by P.A. 104-76, effective January 1, 2026, requiring that an employee be compensated during a break to express breast milk.
5:220 Substitute Teachers	Annetta	The Legal References are updated in response to P.A. 104-198, effective January 1, 2026, requiring districts to provide all substitute personnel with training on school evacuation drills and law enforcement lockdown drills. In addition, include, at a minimum, an information packet given with district-approved materials outlining evacuation and lockdown procedures.

## **BOARD OF EDUCATION**

## 2:120 Board Member Development

The Board of Education desires that its individual members learn, understand, and practice effective governance principles. The Board is responsible for Board member orientation and development. Board members have an equal opportunity to attend State and national meetings designed to familiarize members with public school issues, governance, and legislation.

The Board President and/or Superintendent shall provide all Board members with information regarding pertinent education materials, publications, and notices of training or development.

#### Mandatory Board Member Training

Each Board member is responsible for his or her own compliance with the mandatory training laws that are described below:

- 1. Each Board member elected or appointed to fill a vacancy of at least one year's duration must complete at least four hours of professional development and leadership training in: (1) education and labor law; (2) financial oversight and accountability; (3) fiduciary responsibilities; (4) trauma-informed practices for students and staff; and (5) improving student outcomes, within the first year of his or her first term.
- 2. Each Board member must complete training on the Open Meetings Act (OMA) no later than 90 days after taking the oath of office for the first time. After completing the training, each Board member must file a copy of the certificate of completion with the Board. Training on OMA is only required once.
- 3. Each Board member must complete a training program on evaluations under the Performance Evaluation Reform Act (PERA) before participating in a vote on a tenured teacher's dismissal using the optional alternative evaluation dismissal process. This dismissal process is available after the District's PERA implementation date. PRESSPlus1

The Superintendent or designee shall maintain on the District website a log identifying the complete training and development activities of each Board member, including both mandatory and non-mandatory training.

Professional Development; Adverse Consequences of School Exclusion; Student Behavior

The Board President or Superintendent, or their designees, shall make reasonable efforts to provide ongoing professional development to Board members about the requirements of <a href="https://doi.org/10.105/llcs.5/10-22.6">105 llcs 5/10-22.6</a> and <a href="https://doi.org/10.105/llcs.5/10-20.14">105 llcs 5/10-20.14</a>, adverse consequences of school exclusion and justice-system involvement, effective classroom management strategies, culturally responsive discipline, trauma-responsive learning environments, appropriate and available supportive services for the promotion of student attendance and engagement, and developmentally appropriate disciplinary methods that promote positive and healthy school climates.

#### **Board Self-Evaluation**

The Board will conduct periodic self-evaluations with the goal of continuous improvement.

#### **New Board Member Orientation**

The orientation process for newly elected or appointed Board members includes:

- 1. The Board President or Superintendent, or their designees, shall give each new Board member a copy of or online access to the Board Policy Manual, the Board's regular meeting minutes for the past year, and other helpful information including material describing the District and explaining the Board's roles and responsibilities.
- 2. The Board President or designee shall schedule one or more special Board meetings, or schedule time during regular meetings, for Board members to become acquainted and to review Board processes and procedures.
- 3. The Board President may request a veteran Board member to mentor a new member.
- 4. All new members are encouraged to attend workshops for new members conducted by the Illinois Association of School Boards.

#### Candidates

The Superintendent or designee shall invite all current candidates for the office of Board member to attend: (1) Board meetings, except that this invitation shall not extend to any closed meetings, and (2) pre-election workshops for candidates.

#### LEGAL REF.:

5 ILCS 120/1.05 and 120/2, Open Meetings Act.

105 ILCS 5/10-16a and 5/24-16.5.

CROSS REF.: 2:80 (Board Member Oath and Conduct), 2:125 (Board Member Compensation; Expenses), 2:200 (Types of Board of Education Meetings)

Adopted: January 21, 2025

#### **PRESSPlus Comments**

PRESSPlus 1. Updated for continuous improvement. Issue 120, October 2025

## Document Status: Adopted with Additional District Edits

## **Board Member Compensation; Expenses**

## 2:125-E3 Resolution to Regulate Expense Reimbursements

WHEREAS, Section 10-20 of the School Code (105 ILCS 5/10-20) grants school boards other powers that are not inconsistent with their duties; PRESSPlus1

WHEREAS, Section 10 of the Local Government Travel Expense Control Act (50 ILCS 150/) provides that the Board of Education shall by resolution regulate the reimbursement of all travel, meal, and lodging expenses of officers and employees, including, but not limited to: (1) the types of official business for which travel, meal, and lodging expenses are allowed; (2) maximum allowable reimbursement for travel, meal, and lodging expenses; and (3) a standardized form for submission of travel, meal, and lodging expenses supported with minimum documentation;

WHEREAS, the Board regulates the types of expenses that are allowed in Board Policies 2:125, Board Member Compensation; Expenses and 5:60, Expenses;

WHEREAS, based upon the School District's budget and other financial considerations, the Superintendent has recommended to the Board a maximum allowable reimbursement amount of \$\frac{1,000.00amount}{2}\text{PRESSPlus2}\$ for Board members and District staff;

WHEREAS, the Board requires submission of appropriate standardized expense forms supported with required written minimum documentation (50 ILCS 150/10 and 20);

WHEREAS, submitted expenses that exceed the Board's maximum allowable reimbursement amount may be approved by a roll call vote at an open meeting of the Board when an emergency or other extraordinary circumstance exists (50 ILCS 150/10 and 15);

WHEREAS, all Board member expenses must be approved by a roll call vote at an open meeting of the Board (50 ILCS 150/15);

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board hereby:

- 1. Defines and sets the types of allowable expenses through Board policies 2:125, *Board Member Compensation; Expenses* and 5:60, *Expenses*.
- 2. Sets the maximum allowable reimbursement for travel, meal, and lodging expenses to an amount not to exceed \$[1,000.00amount], effective on [10/14/25date] until the Resolution is rescinded or replaced by the Board.
- 3. Supersedes its previously adopted *Resolution to Regulate Expense Reimbursements* as of the effective date in paragraph two above.
- 4. Requires use of Board exhibits 2:125-E1, Board Member Expense Reimbursement Form; 2:125-E2, Board Member Estimated Expense Approval Form; 5:60-E1, Employee Expense Reimbursement Form; and 5:60-E2, Employee Estimated Expense Approval Form.
- 5. May approve expenses that exceed the Board's maximum allowable reimbursement amount by a roll call vote at an open meeting when an emergency or other extraordinary circumstance exists.

6. Must approve its members' expenses by a roll call vote at an open meeting.

Attested by: Board President

Attested by: Board Secretary

Adopted: October 14, 2025

### **PRESSPlus Comments**

PRESSPlus 1. Rewritten for PRESS Plus in response to a PRESS five-year review. PRESS Editors have a quality assurance goal to ensure that a review of each piece of the 1500+ page IASB PRESS Policy Reference Manual occurs once every five years. A redlined version showing the changes made is available at PRESS Online by logging in at www.iasb.com. **Issue 119, June 2025** 

PRESSPlus 2. The maximum allowable reimbursement for travel, meal, and lodging expenses should be filled in, based upon a district's financial resources and other considerations important to the local district. Enter the amount adopted by the Board, and use the Save Status "Adopted with Additional District Edits." The amount entered will also be added to list item number 2, below.

For more information, see policy 2:125, *Board Member Compensation; Expenses*, and its footnotes, available at PRESS Online by logging in at www.iasb.com. Consult the board attorney about how often the board should adopt or revisit its resolution. **Issue 119, June 2025** 

## **BOARD OF EDUCATION**

### 2:150 Committees

The Board of Education may establish committees to assist with the Board's governance function and, in some situations, to comply with State law requirements. These committees are known as Board committees and report directly to the Board. Committee members may include both Board members and non-Board members depending on the committee's purpose. The Board President makes all Board committee appointments unless specifically stated otherwise. Board committee meetings shall comply with the Open Meetings Act. A Board committee may not take final action on behalf of the Board - it may only make recommendations to the Board.

## **Special Board Committees**

A special committee may be created for specific purposes or to investigate special issues. A special committee is automatically dissolved after presenting its final report to the Board or at the Board's discretion.

### **Standing Board Committees**

A standing committee is created for an indefinite term although its members will fluctuate. Standing committees are:

- 1. Parent-Teacher Advisory Committee. This committee assists in the development of student behavior policy and procedure, and provides information and recommendations to the Board. Its members are parents/guardians and teachers, and may include persons whose expertise or experience is needed. The committee reviews such issues as administering medication in the schools, reciprocal reporting between the School District and local law enforcement agencies regarding criminal and civil PRESSPlus1 offenses committed by students, student behavior, disruptive classroom behavior, school bus safety procedures, and the dissemination of student conduct information.
- 2. Behavioral Interventions Committee. This committee develops and monitors procedures for using behavioral interventions in accordance with Board policy 7:230, *Misconduct by Students* with Disabilities, and provides information and recommendations to the Board. At the Board President's discretion, the Parent-Teacher Advisory Committee shall perform the duties assigned to the Behavioral Interventions Committee.

Nothing in this policy limits the authority of the Superintendent or designee to create and use committees that report to him or her or to other staff members.

#### LEGAL REF .:

5 ILCS 120/, Open Meetings Act.

105 ILCS 5/10-20.14 and 5/14-8.05.

CROSS REF.: 2:110 (Qualifications, Term, and Duties of Board Officers), 2:200 (Types of Board of Education Meetings), 2:240 (Board Policy Development), 7:190 (Student Behavior), 7:230 (Misconduct by Students with Disabilities)

## **PRESSPlus Comments**

PRESSPlus 1. Updated in response to 105 ILCS 5/10-20.14, amended by P.A. 104-430. **Issue 120, October 2025** 

## **BOARD OF EDUCATION**

# 2:270 Discrimination and Harassment on the Basis of Race, Color, and National Origin Prohibited

Discrimination and harassment on the basis of race, color, or national origin negatively affect a student's ability to learn and an employee's ability to work. Providing an educational and workplace environment free from such discrimination and harassment is an important District goal. The District does not discriminate on the basis of actual or perceived race, color, or national origin in any of its education programs or activities, and it complies with federal and State non-discrimination laws.

### **Examples of Prohibited Conduct**

Examples of conduct that may constitute discrimination on the basis of race, color, or national origin include: disciplining students more harshly and frequently because of their race, color, or national origin; denying students access to high-rigor academic courses, extracurricular activities, or other educational opportunities based on their race, color, or national origin; denying language services or other educational opportunities to English learners; and assigning students special education services based on a student's race, color, or national origin.

Harassment is a form of prohibited discrimination. Examples of conduct that may constitute harassment on the basis of race, color, or national origin include: the use of racial, ethnic or ancestral slurs or stereotypes; taunts; name-calling; offensive or derogatory remarks about a person's actual or perceived race, color, or national origin; the display of racially-offensive symbols; racially-motivated physical threats and attacks; or other hateful conduct.

## Making a Report or Complaint; Investigation Process

Individuals are encouraged to promptly report claims or incidents essential of discrimination or harassment based on race, color, or national origin to the Nondiscrimination Coordinator, a Complaint Manager, or any employee with whom the student is comfortable speaking. Reports under this policy will be processed under Board policy 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*.

Any District employee who receives a report or complaint of discrimination or harassment must promptly forward the report or complaint to the Nondiscrimination Coordinator or a Complaint Manager. Any employee who fails to promptly comply may be disciplined, up to and including discharge.

Reports and complaints of discrimination or harassment will be confidential to the greatest extent practicable, subject to the District's duty to investigate and maintain an educational environment that is productive, respectful, and free of unlawful discrimination, including harassment.

This policy does not impair or otherwise diminish the existing rights of unionized employees to request an exclusive bargaining representative to be present during any investigatory interviews, nor does this policy diminish any rights available under an applicable collective bargaining agreement, including, but not limited to, a grievance procedure.

#### Federal and State Agencies

If the District fails to take necessary corrective action to stop harassment based on race, color, or national origin, further relief may be available through the III. Dept. of Human Rights (IDHR) or the U.S. Dept. of Education's Office for Civil Rights. To contact IDHR, go to: <a href="https://dhr.illinois.gov/about-us/contact-idhr.html">https://dhr.illinois.gov/about-us/contact-idhr.html</a> or call (312) 814-6200 (Chicago) or (217) 785-5100 (Springfield).

#### Prevention and Response Program

The Superintendent or designee shall establish a prevention and response program to respond to complaints of discrimination based on race, color, and national origin, including harassment, and retaliation. The program shall include procedures for responding to complaints which:

- 1. Reduce or remove, to the extent practicable, barriers to reporting discrimination, harassment, and retaliation;
- 2. Permit any person who reports or is the victim of an incident of alleged discrimination, harassment, or retaliation to be accompanied when making a report by a support individual of the person's choice who complies with the District's policies and rules;
- 3. Permit anonymous reporting, except that an anonymous report may not be the sole basis of any disciplinary action;
- 4. Offer remedial interventions or take such disciplinary action as may be appropriate on a caseby-case basis;
- 5. Offer, but do not require or unduly influence, a person who reports or is the victim of an incident of harassment or retaliation the option to resolve allegations directly with the accused; and
- 6. Protects a person who reports or is the victim of an incident of harassment or retaliation from suffering adverse consequences as a result of a report of, investigation of, or a response to the incident.

#### Policy Posting and Distribution

This policy shall be posted on the District's website. The Superintendent shall annually inform staff members of this policy by posting it in a prominent and accessible location such as the District website, employee handbook, staff intranet site, and/or in other areas where policies and rules of conduct are made available to staff. The Superintendent shall annually inform students and their parents/guardians of this policy by posting it on the District's website and including an age-appropriate summary of the policy in the student handbook(s).

#### **Enforcement**

Any District employee who is determined, after an investigation, to have engaged in conduct prohibited by this policy will be subject to remedial action and/or disciplinary action, up to and including discharge.

Any District student who is determined, after an investigation, to have engaged in conduct prohibited by this policy will be subject to remedial action and/or disciplinary action, including but not limited to, suspension and expulsion consistent with Board policy 7:190, *Student Behavior*.

Any third party who is determined, after an investigation, to have engaged in conduct prohibited by this policy will be addressed in accordance with the authority of the Board in the context of the relationship of the third party to the District, e.g., vendor, parent, invitee, etc. Any person making a knowingly false accusation regarding prohibited conduct will likewise be subject to remedial and/or disciplinary action.

#### Retaliation Prohibited

Retaliation against any person for bringing complaints, participating in the complaint process, or otherwise providing information about discrimination or harassment based on race, color, or national origin is prohibited (see Board policy 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*).

Individuals should report allegations of retaliation to the Building Principal, an administrator, the Nondiscrimination Coordinator, and/or a Complaint Manager.

#### LEGAL REF.:

42 U.S.C. §2000d, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; 34 C.F.R. Part 100.

42 U.S.C. §2000e et seq., Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; 29 C.F.R. Part 1601.

105 ILCS 5/22-95 (final citation pending).

775 ILCS 5/1-101 et seq., Illinois Human Rights Act.

CROSS REF.: 2:260 (Uniform Grievance Procedure), 5:10 (Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Recruitment), 5:20 (Workplace Harassment Prohibited), 5:90 (Abused and Neglected Child Reporting), 5:120 (Employee Ethics; Code of Professional Conduct; and Conflict of Interest), 7:10 (Equal Educational Opportunities), 7:20 (Harassment of Students Prohibited), 7:180 (Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment), 7:190 (Student Behavior), 7:240 (Conduct Code for Participants in Extracurricular Activities)

Adopted: June 17, 2024

#### **PRESSPlus Comments**

PRESSPlus 1. Updated for continuous improvement. Issue 120, October 2025

## **OPERATIONAL SERVICES**

## 4:10 Fiscal and Business Management

The Superintendent is responsible for the School District's fiscal and business management. This responsibility includes annually preparing and presenting the District's statement of affairs to the Board of Education and publishing it byefore PRESSPlus1 December 1 as required by State law.

The Superintendent shall ensure the efficient and cost-effective operation of the District's business management using computers, computer software, data management, communication systems, and electronic networks, including electronic mail, the Internet, and security systems. Each person using the District's electronic network shall complete an *Authorization for Access to the District's Electronic Network*.

#### **Budget Planning**

The District's fiscal year is from July 1 until June 30. The Superintendent shall present to the Board, at a Board meeting in August, a tentative budget with appropriate explanation. This budget shall represent the culmination of an ongoing process of planning for the fiscal support needed for the District's educational program. The District's budget shall be entered upon the III. State Board of Education's (ISBE) *School District Budget Form*. To the extent possible, the tentative budget shall be balanced as defined by ISBE guidelines. The Superintendent shall complete a tentative deficit reduction plan if one is required by ISBE guidelines.

#### **Preliminary Adoption Procedures**

After receiving the Superintendent's proposed budget, the Board sets the date, place, and time for:

- 1. A public hearing on the proposed budget, and
- 2. The proposed budget to be available to the public for inspection.

The Board Secretary shall arrange to publish a notice in a local newspaper stating the date, place, and time of the proposed budget's availability for public inspection and the public hearing. The proposed budget shall be available for public inspection at least 30 days before the time of the budget hearing.

At the public hearing, the proposed budget shall be reviewed, including the cash reserve balance of all funds held by the District related to its operational levy and, if applicable, any obligations secured by those funds, and the public shall be invited to comment, question, or advise the Board.

#### Final Adoption Procedures

The Board adopts a budget before the end of the first quarter of each fiscal year, September 30, or by such alternative procedure as State law may define. To the extent possible, the budget shall be balanced as defined by ISBE; if not balanced, the Board will adopt a deficit reduction plan to balance the District's budget within three years according to ISBE requirements.

The Board adopts the budget by roll call vote. The budget resolution shall be incorporated into the meeting's official minutes. Board members' names voting *yea* and *nay* shall be recorded in the minutes.

The Superintendent or designee shall perform each of the following:

- 1. Post the District's final annual budget, itemized by receipts and expenditures, on the District's Internet website; notify parents/guardians that it is posted and provide the website's address.
- 2. File a certified copy of the budget resolution and an estimate of revenues by source anticipated to be received in the following fiscal year, certified by the District's Chief Fiscal Officer, with the County Clerk within 30 days of the budget's adoption.
- 3. Ensure disclosure to the public of the cash reserve balance of all funds held by the district related to its operational levy and, if applicable, any obligations secured by those funds, at the public hearing at which the Board certifies its operational levy.
- 4. Present a written report that includes the annual average expenditures of the District's operational funds for the previous three fiscal years at or before the board meeting at which the Board adopts its levy. In the event the District's combined cash reserve balance of its operational funds is more than 2.5 times the annual average expenditures of those funds for the previous three fiscal years, the Board will adopt and file with ISBE a reserve reduction plan by December 31.
- 5. Make all preparations necessary for the Board to timely file its Certificate of Tax Levy, including preparations to comply with the Truth in Taxation Act; file the Certificate of Tax Levy with the County Clerk on or before the last Tuesday in December. The Certificate lists the amount of property tax money to be provided for the various funds in the budget.
- 6. Submit the annual budget, a deficit reduction plan if one is required by ISBE guidelines, and other financial information to ISBE according to its requirements.

Any amendments to the budget or Certificate of Tax Levy shall be made as provided in the School Code and Truth in Taxation Act.

### **Budget Amendments**

The Board may amend the budget by the same procedure as provided for in the original adoption.

#### <u>Implementation</u>

The Superintendent or designee shall implement the District's budget and provide the Board with a monthly financial report that includes all deficit fund balances. The amount budgeted as the expenditure in each fund is the maximum amount that may be expended for that category, except when a transfer of funds is authorized by the Board.

The Board shall act on all interfund loans, interfund transfers, transfers within funds, and transfers from the working cash fund or abatements of it, if one exists.

#### LEGAL REF.:

<u>105 ILCS 5/10-17</u>, <u>5/10-22.33</u>, <u>5/17-1</u>, <u>5/17-1.2</u>, <u>5/17-1.3</u>, <u>5/17-1.10</u>, <u>5/17-2A</u>, <u>5/17-3.2</u>, <u>5/17-11</u>, <u>5/20-5</u>, <u>5/20-8</u>, and <u>5/20-10</u>.

35 ILCS 200/18-55 et seq., Truth in Taxation Law.

#### 23 III.Admin.Code Part 100.

CROSS REF.: 4:20 (Fund Balances), 4:40 (Incurring Debt), 4:60 (Purchases and Contracts), 6:235 (Access to Electronic Networks)

Adopted: December 18, 2023

#### **PRESSPlus Comments**

PRESSPlus 1. Updated in response to 105 ILCS 5/10-17, amended by P.A. 104-261, eff. 1-1-26. No later than December 1 each year, a school board must make its statement of affairs available to the public by posting it on the district's website and publishing it in a newspaper of general circulation. See sample exhibit 2:250-E2, *Immediately Available District Public Records and Web-Posted Reports and Records*, available at PRESS Online by logging in at www.iasb.com. **Issue 120**, **October 2025** 

## **OPERATIONAL SERVICES**

#### 4:30 Revenue and Investments

#### Revenue

The Superintendent or designee is responsible for making all claims for property tax revenue, State Aid, special State funds for specific programs, federal funds, and categorical grants.

#### <u>Investments</u>

The Superintendent shall either appoint a Chief Investment Officer or serve as one. The Chief Investment Officer shall invest money that is not required for current operations, in accordance with this policy and State law.

The Chief Investment Officer and Superintendent shall use the standard of prudence when making investment decisions. They shall use the judgment and care, under circumstances then prevailing, that persons of prudence, discretion, and intelligence exercise in the management of their own affairs, not for speculation, but for investment, considering the safety of their capital as well as its probable income.

## **Investment Objectives**

The objectives for the School District's investment activities are:

- Safety of Principal Every investment is made with safety as the primary and over-riding concern. Each investment transaction shall ensure that capital loss, whether from credit or market risk, is avoided.
- Liquidity The investment portfolio shall provide sufficient liquidity to pay District obligations as they become due. In this regard, the maturity and marketability of investments shall be considered.
- 3. Rate of Return The highest return on investments is sought, consistent with the preservation of principal and prudent investment principles.
- 4. Diversification The investment portfolio is diversified as to materials and investments, as appropriate to the nature, purpose, and amount of the funds.

#### Authorized Investments

The Chief Investment Officer may invest District funds in any investment as authorized in 30 ILCS 235/2, and Acts amendatory thereto.

Except as provided herein, investments may be made only in banks, savings banks, savings and loan associations, or credit unions that are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or other approved share insurer.

The Chief Investment Officer and Superintendent shall regularly consider material, relevant, and decision-useful sustainability factors in evaluating investment decisions, within the bounds of financial and fiduciary prudence. Such factors include, but are not limited to: (1) corporate governance and leadership factors, (2) environmental factors, (3) social capital factors, (4) human capital factors, and 4:30

(5) business model and innovation factors, as provided under the III. Sustainable Investing Act, <u>30</u> ILCS 238/.

## Selection of Depositories, Investment Managers, Dealers, and Brokers

The Chief Investment Officer shall establish a list of authorized depositories, investment managers, dealers and brokers based upon the creditworthiness, reputation, minimum capital requirements, qualifications under State law, as well as a long history of dealing with public fund entities. The Board will review and approve the list at least annually.

In order to be an authorized depository, each institution must submit copies of the last two sworn statements of resources and liabilities or reports of examination that the institution is required to furnish to the appropriate State or federal agency. Each institution designated as a depository shall, while acting as such depository, furnish the District with a copy of all statements of resources and liabilities or all reports of examination that it is required to furnish to the appropriate State or federal agency.

The above eligibility requirements of a bank to receive or hold public deposits do not apply to investments in an interest-bearing savings account, demand deposit account, interest-bearing certificate of deposit, or interest-bearing time deposit if: (1) the District initiates the investment at or through a bank located in Illinois, and (2) the invested public funds are at all times fully insured by an agency or instrumentality of the federal government.

The District shall consider a financial institution's record and current level of financial commitment to its local community when deciding whether to deposit funds in that financial institution. The District may consider factors including:

- 1. For financial institutions subject to the federal Community Reinvestment Act of 1977 (CRA), the current and historical ratings that the financial institution has received, to the extent that those ratings are publicly available, under the CRA;
- 2. For financial institutions subject to the III. Community Reinvestment Act (ICRA), the current and historical ratings that the financial institution has received, to the extent that those ratings are publicly available, under the ICRA; PRESSPlus1
- 3. Any changes in ownership, management, policies, or practices of the financial institution that may affect the level of the financial institution's commitment to its community;
- 4. The financial impact that the withdrawal or denial of District deposits might have on the financial institution;
- 5. The financial impact to the District as a result of withdrawing public funds or refusing to deposit additional public funds in the financial institution; and
- 6. Any additional burden on the District's resources that might result from ceasing to maintain deposits of public funds at the financial institution under consideration.

The District may not deposit public funds in a financial institution subject to the CRA unless the institution has a current rating of satisfactory or outstanding under the CRA. The District may not deposit public funds in a financial institution subject to the ICRA unless either: (1) the institution has a current rating of satisfactory under the ICRA at the time of deposit; or (2) the III. Dept. of Financial and Professional Regulation has not yet completed its initial examination of the institution under the ICRA. The District may not withdraw public funds from a financial institution prior to the date of maturity solely on the basis of a less than satisfactory rating under the ICRA. When investing or depositing public funds, the District may give preference to financial institutions that have a current rating of outstanding under the CRA and the ICRA.

## Collateral Requirements

All amounts deposited or invested with financial institutions in excess of any insurance limit shall be collateralized in accordance with the Public Funds Investment Act, <u>30 ILCS 235/</u>. The Superintendent or designee shall keep the Board informed of collateral agreements.

### Safekeeping and Custody Arrangements

The preferred method for safekeeping is to have securities registered in the District's name and held by a third-party custodian. Safekeeping practices should qualify for the Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 3, Deposits with Financial Institutions, Investments (including Repurchase Agreements), and Reverse Repurchase Agreements, Category I, the highest recognized safekeeping procedures.

## **Controls and Report**

The Chief Investment Officer shall establish a system of internal controls and written operational procedures to prevent losses arising from fraud, employee error, misrepresentation by third parties, or imprudent employee action.

The Chief Investment Officer shall provide a quarterly investment report to the Board. The report will: (1) assess whether the investment portfolio is meeting the District's investment objectives, (2) identify each security by class or type, book value, income earned, and market value, (3) identify those institutions providing investment services to the District, and (4) include any other relevant information. The investment portfolio's performance shall be measured by appropriate and creditable industry standards for the investment type.

The Board will determine, after receiving the Superintendent's recommendation, which fund is in most need of interest income and the Superintendent shall execute a transfer. This provision does not apply when the use of interest earned on a particular fund is restricted.

#### Ethics and Conflicts of Interest

The Board and District officials will avoid any investment transaction or practice that in appearance or fact might impair public confidence. Board members are bound by the Board policy 2:100, *Board Member Conflict of Interest*. No District employee having influence on the District's investment decisions shall:

- 1. Have any interest, directly or indirectly, in any investments in which the District is authorized to invest.
- 2. Have any interest, directly or indirectly, in the sellers, sponsors, or managers of those investments, or
- 3. Receive, in any manner, compensation of any kind from any investments in that the agency is authorized to invest.

#### LEGAL REF.:

30 ILCS 235/, Public Funds Investment Act.

30 ILCS 238/, III. Sustainable Investing Act.

105 ILCS 5/8-7, 5/10-22.44, 5/17-1, and 5/17-11.

CROSS REF.: 2:100 (Board Member Conflict of Interest), 4:10 (Fiscal and Business Management), 4:80 (Accounting and Audits)

## **PRESSPlus Comments**

PRESSPlus 1. Updated in response to the Public Funds Investment Act, 30 ILCS 235/8, amended by P.A. 104-92, eff. 1-1-26. **Issue 120, October 2025** 

## **OPERATIONAL SERVICES**

## 4:80 Accounting and Audits

The School District's accounting and audit services shall comply with the *Requirements for Accounting, Budgeting, Financial Reporting, and Auditing,* as adopted by the III. State Board of Education (ISBE), State and federal laws and regulations, and generally accepted accounting principles. Determination of liabilities and assets, prioritization of expenditures of governmental funds, and provisions for accounting disclosures shall be made in accordance with government accounting standards as directed by the auditor designated by the Board. The Superintendent or designee, in addition to other assigned financial responsibilities, shall report monthly on the District's financial performance, both income and expense, in relation to the financial plan represented in the budget.

#### **Annual Audit**

At the close of each fiscal year, the Superintendent or designee shall arrange an audit of the District funds, accounts, statements, and other financial matters. The audit shall be performed by an independent certified public accountant designated by the Board and be conducted in conformance with prescribed standards and legal requirements. A complete and detailed written audit report shall be provided to each Board member and to the Superintendent or designee. The Superintendent or designee shall annually, on or before October 15, submit an original and one copy of the audit to the Regional Superintendent of Schools. The Superintendent shall also ensure the District's auditing firm files the District's audit with ISBE annually on or before October 15. PRESSPlus1

#### Annual Financial Report

The Superintendent or designee shall annually prepare and submit the Annual Financial Report (AFR) on a timely basis using the form adopted by the ISBE. The Superintendent shall review and discuss the Annual Financial Report AFR with the Board before it is submitted, and submit one copy of the AFR to the Regional Superintendent of Schools annually on or before October 15. The Superintendent shall also ensure the District's auditing firm files the District's AFR with ISBE annually on or before October 15. PRESSPlus2

#### Inventories

The Superintendent or designee is responsible for establishing and maintaining accurate inventory records. The inventory record of supplies and equipment shall include a description of each item, quantity, location, purchase date, and cost or estimated replacement cost, unless the supplies and equipment are acquired by the District pursuant to a federal or State grant award, in which case the inventory record shall also include the information required by <u>2 C.F.R. §200.313</u>, if applicable. The Superintendent shall establish procedures for the management of property acquired by the District under grant awards that comply with federal and State law.

### Capitalization Threshold

To be considered a capital asset for financial reporting purposes, a capital item must be at or above a capitalization threshold of \$10,000 and have an estimated useful life greater than one year.

#### **Disposition of District Property**

The Superintendent or designee shall notify the Board, as necessary, of the following so that the Board may consider its disposition: (1) District personal property (property other than buildings and land) that is no longer needed for school purposes, and (2) school site, building, or other real estate that is unnecessary, unsuitable, or inconvenient. Notwithstanding the above, the Superintendent or designee may unilaterally dispose of personal property of a diminutive value. The Superintendent shall establish procedures for the disposition and, when permitted by the terms and conditions of the award, the retention of property acquired by the District under grant awards that comply with federal and State law.

#### **Taxable Fringe Benefits**

The Superintendent or designee shall: (1) require that all use of District property or equipment by employees is for the District's convenience and best interests unless it is a Board-approved fringe benefit, and (2) ensure compliance with the Internal Revenue Service regulations regarding when to report an employee's personal use of District property or equipment as taxable compensation.

#### Controls for Revolving Funds and Petty Cash

Revolving funds and the petty cash system are established in Board policy 4:50, *Payment Procedures*. The Superintendent or designee shall: (1) designate a custodian for each revolving fund and petty cash fund, (2) obtain a bond for each fund custodian, and (3) maintain the funds in compliance with this policy, State law, and ISBE rules. A check for the petty cash fund may be drawn payable to the designated petty cash custodian. Each revolving fund shall be maintained in a bank that has been approved by the Board and established in an amount approved by the Superintendent or designee consistent with the annual budget. All expenditures from these bank accounts must be directly related to the purpose for which the account was established and supported with documentation, including signed invoices or receipts. All deposits into these bank accounts must be accompanied with a clear description of their intended purpose. The Superintendent or designee shall include checks written to reimburse revolving funds on the Board's monthly listing of bills indicating the recipient and including an explanation.

#### Control Requirements for Checks

The Board must approve all bank accounts opened or established in the District's or a District school's name or with the District's Federal Employer Identification Number. All checks issued by the School District must be signed by either the Treasurer or Board President, except that checks from accounts containing student activity funds or fiduciary funds and checks from revolving accounts may be signed by their respective account custodians.

### Internal Controls

The Superintendent or designee is primarily responsible for establishing and implementing a system of internal controls for safeguarding the District's financial condition; the Board, however, will oversee these safeguards. The control objectives are to ensure efficient business and financial practices, reliable financial reporting, and compliance with State law and Board policies, and to prevent losses from fraud, waste, and abuse, as well as employee error, misrepresentation by third parties, or other imprudent employee action.

The District's system of internal controls shall include the following:

- 1. All financial transactions must be properly authorized and documented.
- 2. Financial records and data must be accurate and complete.
- 3. Accounts payable must be accurate and punctual.
- 4. District assets must be protected from loss or misuse.

- 5. Incompatible duties should be segregated, if possible.
- 6. Accounting records must be periodically reconciled.
- 7. Equipment and supplies must be safeguarded.
- 8. Staff members with financial or business responsibilities must be properly trained and supervised, and must perform their responsibilities with utmost care and competence.
- 9. Any unnecessary weaknesses or financial risks must be promptly corrected.

The Superintendent or designee shall annually audit the District's financial and business operations for compliance with established internal controls and provide the results to the Board. The Board may from time-to-time engage a third-party to audit internal controls in addition to the annual audit.

#### LEGAL REF.:

2 C.F.R. §200 et seq.

30 ILCS 708/, Grant Accountability and Transparency Act; implemented by 44 III.Admin.Code 7000 et seq.

<u>105 ILCS 5/2-3.27, 5/2-3.28, 5/3-7, 5/3-15.1, 5/5-22, 5/10-21.4, 5/10-20.19, 5/10-22.8,</u> and <u>5/17-1</u> *et seg.* 

#### 23 III.Admin.Code Part 100.

CROSS REF.: 4:10 (Fiscal and Business Management), 4:50 (Payment Procedures), 4:55 (Use of Credit and Procurement Cards), 4:90 (Student Activity and Fiduciary Funds)

Adopted: July 15, 2025

#### **PRESSPlus Comments**

PRESSPlus 1. Optional. Inclusion of this sentence supports the auditor's compliance with its filing requirement under 105 ILCS 5/3-7, amended by P.A. 104-261, eff. 1-1-26. **Issue 120, October 2025** 

PRESSPlus 2. Optional. Inclusion of this sentence supports the auditor's compliance with its filing requirement under 105 ILCS 5/3-7, amended by P.A. 104-261, eff. 1-1-26. **Issue 120, October 2025** 

## **OPERATIONAL SERVICES**

#### 4:140 Waiver of Student Fees

The Superintendent or designee will recommend to the Board of Education a schedule of fees, if any, to be charged students for the use of textbooks, consumable materials, extracurricular activities, and other school student fees. Students must also pay fines for the loss of or damage to school books or other school-owned materials.

Fees for textbooks, other instructional materials, as well as fines for the loss or damage of school property are waived for students who meet the eligibility criteria for a waiver as described in this policy. In order that no student is denied educational services or academic credit due to the inability of parents/guardians to pay fees and fines, the following fees are also waived for students who meet the eligibility criteria for a waiver: athletic participation fees, lock fees, towel fees, shop fees, laboratory fees, and registration fees.

#### Notification

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that a notice of waiver applicability is provided to parents/guardians with every bill for fees and/or fines, and that applications for waivers are widely available and distributed according to State law and ISBE rule and that provisions for assisting parents/guardians in completing the application are available.

#### Eligibility Criteria

A student shall be eligible for a fee and fine waiver when:

- 1. The student currently lives in a household that meets the same income guidelines, with the same limits based on household size, that are used for the federal free meals program;
- 2. The student's parents/guardians are veterans or active-duty military personnel with income at or below 200% of the federal poverty line; or
- 3. The student is homeless, as defined in the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. §11434a).

The Superintendent or designee will give additional consideration when one or more of the following factors are present:

- Illness in the family;
- Unusual expenses such as fire, flood, storm damage, etc.;
- Unemployment;
- Emergency situations;
- When one or more of the parents/guardians are involved in a work stoppage.

#### Verification

The Superintendent or designee shall establish a process for determining a student's eligibility for a

waiver of fees and fines in accordance with State law requirements.

If a student receiving a waiver is found to be no longer eligible during the school year, the Superintendent or designee shall notify the student's parent/guardian and charge the student a prorated amount based upon the number of school days remaining in the school year.

### **Determination and Appeal**

Within 30 calendar days after the receipt of a waiver request, the Superintendent or designee shall mail a notice to the parent/guardian whenever a waiver request is denied. The denial notice shall include: (1) the reason for the denial, (2) the process and timelines for making an appeal, and (3) a statement that the parent/guardian may reapply for a waiver any time during the school year if circumstances change. If the denial is appealed, the District shall follow the procedures for the resolution of appeals as provided in the Illinois State Board of Education rule on waiver of fees.

#### LEGAL REF.:

42 U.S.C. §11434a, McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act.

105 ILCS 5/10-20.13, 5/10-22.25, and 5/27-24.2815, and 5/28-19.2 PRESSPlus1

23 III.Admin.Code §1.245 [may contain unenforceable provisions].

CROSS REF.: 4:130 (Free and Reduced-Price Food Services), 6:140 (Education of Homeless Children)

Adopted: March 6, 2023

#### **PRESSPlus Comments**

PRESSPlus 1. The Legal References are updated in response to P.A. 104-391. **Issue 120, October 2025** 

## **General Personnel**

## 5:10 Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Recruitment

The School District shall provide equal employment opportunities to all persons regardless of their race; color; creed; religion; national origin; sex; sexual orientation; age; ancestry; marital status; arrest record; military status; order of protection status; unfavorable military discharge; citizenship status provided the individual is authorized to work in the United States; work authorization status; use of lawful products while not at work; being a victim of domestic violence, sexual violence, gender violence, or any other crime of violence or use of District-issued equipment to record such types of violence; PRESSPlus1 genetic information; physical or mental handicap or disability, if otherwise able to perform the essential functions of the job with reasonable accommodation; pregnancy, childbirth, or related medical conditions; reproductive health decisions; credit history, unless a satisfactory credit history is an established bona fide occupational requirement of a particular position; conviction record, unless authorized by law; family responsibilities; or other legally protected categories. No one will be penalized solely for their status as a registered qualifying patient or a registered designated caregiver for purposes of the Compassionate Use of Medical Cannabis Program Act, 410 ILCS 130/.

Persons who believe they have not received equal employment opportunities should report their claims to the Nondiscrimination Coordinator and/or a Complaint Manager under Board policy 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*, or in the case of denial of equal employment opportunities on the basis of race, color, or national origin, Board policy 2:270, *Discrimination and Harassment on the Basis of Race, Color, and National Origin Prohibited.* These individuals are listed below. No employee or applicant will be discriminated or retaliated against because they: (1) requested, attempted to request, used, or attempted to use a reasonable accommodation as allowed by the Illinois Human Rights Act, or (2) initiated a complaint, was a witness, supplied information, or otherwise participated in an investigation or proceeding involving an alleged violation of this policy or State or federal laws, rules or regulations, provided the employee or applicant did not make a knowingly false accusation nor provide knowingly false information.

### Administrative Implementation

The Superintendent shall appoint a Nondiscrimination Coordinator for personnel who shall be responsible for coordinating the District's nondiscrimination efforts. The Nondiscrimination Coordinator may be the Superintendent or a Complaint Manager under Board policy 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*.

The Superintendent shall appoint a Title IX Coordinator to coordinate the District's efforts to comply with Title IX.

The Superintendent shall insert into this policy the names, office addresses, email addresses, and telephone numbers of the District's current Nondiscrimination Coordinator, Title IX Coordinator, and Complaint Managers.

#### Nondiscrimination Coordinator Title IX Coordinator

Dr. Annetta Spychalski

Dr. Annetta Spychalski

Dr. Annetta Spychalski

255 W. Vermont St. Villa Park, IL 60181

aspychalski@d45.org

aspychalski@d45.org

630-516-7899

630-516-7899

## **Complaint Manager**

## **Complaint Manager**

Dr. Brian Graber

Ms. Christine Arado

255 W. Vermont St. Villa Park. IL 60181 255 W. Vermont St. Villa Park. IL 60181

bgraber@d45.org

carado@d45.org

630-516-7326 630-516-7327

The Superintendent shall also use reasonable measures to inform staff members and applicants that the District is an equal opportunity employer, such as, by posting required notices and including this policy in the appropriate handbooks.

## Minority Recruitment

The District will attempt to recruit and hire minority employees. The implementation of this policy may include advertising openings in minority publications, participating in minority job fairs, and recruiting at colleges and universities with significant minority enrollments. This policy, however, does not require or permit the District to give preferential treatment or special rights based on a protected status without evidence of past discrimination.

#### LEGAL REF .:

<u>8 U.S.C. §1324a</u> et seq., Immigration Reform and Control Act.

20 U.S.C. §1681 et seq., Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; 34 C.F.R. Part 106.

29 U.S.C. §206(d), Equal Pay Act.

29 U.S.C. §218d, Fair Labor Standards Act.

29 U.S.C. §621 et seq., Age Discrimination in Employment Act.

29 U.S.C. §701 et seq., Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

38 U.S.C. §4301 et seq., Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (1994).

42 U.S.C. §1981 et seq., Civil Rights Act of 1991.

42 U.S.C. §2000d et seg., Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; 34 C.F.R. Part 100.

42 U.S.C. §2000e et seq., Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; 29 C.F.R. Part 1601.

42 U.S.C. §2000ff et seq., Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008.

42 U.S.C. §2000gg et seq., Pregnant Workers Fairness Act; 29 C.F.R. Part 1636.

42 U.S.C. §2000e(k), Pregnancy Discrimination Act.

42 U.S.C. §12111 et seq., Americans with Disabilities Act, Title I.

III. Constitution, Art. I, §§17, 18, and 19.

105 ILCS 5/10-20.7, 5/10-20.7a, 5/10-21.1, 5/10-22.4, 5/10-23.5, 5/22-19, 5/24-4, 5/24-4.1, and 5/24-

<u>7</u>.

5:10

410 ILCS 130/40, Compassionate Use of Medical Cannabis Program Act.

410 ILCS 513/25, Genetic Information Privacy Act.

740 ILCS 174/, III. Whistleblower Act.

775 ILCS 5/1-103, 5/2-101, 5/2-102, 5/2-103, 5/2-103.1, 5/2-104(D) and 5/6-101, III. Human Rights Act.

775 ILCS 35/, Religious Freedom Restoration Act.

820 ILCS 55/10, Right to Privacy in the Workplace Act.

820 ILCS 70/, Employee Credit Privacy Act.

820 ILCS 75/, Job Opportunities for Qualified Applicants Act.

820 LCS 112/, III. Equal Pay Act of 2003.

820 ILCS 180/30 and 180/33, Victims' Economic Security and Safety Act.

820 ILCS 260/, Nursing Mothers in the Workplace Act.

CROSS REF.: 2:260 (Uniform Grievance Procedure), 2:265 (Title IX Grievance Procedure), 2:270 (Discrimination and Harassment on the Basis of Race, Color, and National Origin Prohibited), 5:20 (Workplace Harassment Prohibited), 5:30 (Hiring Process and Criteria), 5:40 (Communicable and Chronic Infectious Disease), 5:50 (Drug- and Alcohol-Free Workplace; E-Cigarette, Tobacco, and Cannabis Prohibition), 5:70 (Religious Holidays), 5:180 (Temporary Illness or Temporary Incapacity), 5:200 (Terms and Conditions of Employment and Dismissal), 5:250 (Leaves of Absence), 5:270 (Employment At-Will, Compensation, and Assignment), 5:300 (Schedules and Employment Year), 5:330 (Sick Days, Vacation, Holidays, and Leaves), 7:10 (Equal Educational Opportunities), 7:180 (Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment), 8:70 (Accommodating Individuals with Disabilities)

Adopted: August 5, 2025

#### **PRESSPlus Comments**

PRESSPlus 1. Updated in response to the Victims' Economic Security and Safety Act (VESSA), 820 ILCS 180/33, added by P.A. 104-171, eff. 1-1-26. **Issue 120, October 2025** 

## **General Personnel**

## 5:90 Abused and Neglected Child Reporting

Any District employee who suspects or receives knowledge that a student may be an abused or neglected child shall immediately report or cause a report to be made to the III. Dept. of Children and Family Services (DCFS) on its Child Abuse Hotline 1-800-25-ABUSE (1-800-252-2873) (within Illinois); 1-217-524-2606 (outside of Illinois); or 1-800-358-5117 (TTY). Any District employee who believes a student is in immediate danger of harm, shall first call 911. The employee shall also promptly notify the Superintendent or Building Principal that a report has been made. The Superintendent or Building Principal shall immediately coordinate any necessary notifications to the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) with DCFS, the applicable school resource officer (SRO), and/or local law enforcement.

Negligent failure to report occurs when a District employee personally observes an instance of suspected child abuse or neglect and reasonably believes, in his or her professional or official capacity, that the instance constitutes an act of child abuse or neglect under the Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act (ANCRA) and he or she, without willful intent, fails to immediately report or cause a report to be made of the suspected abuse or neglect to DCFS.

Any District employee who discovers child <u>sexual abuse material pernography</u> on electronic and information technology equipment, as defined in 325 ILCS 5/4.5(a), shall immediately report it to local law enforcement, the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children's CyberTipline 1-800-THE-LOST (1-800-843-5678) or online at <u>report.cybertip.org/</u> or <u>www.missingkids.org</u>. The Superintendent or Building Principal shall also be promptly notified of the discovery and that a report has been made.

Any District employee who observes any act of hazing that does bodily harm to a student must report that act to the Building Principal, Superintendent, or designee who will investigate and take appropriate action. If the hazing results in death or great bodily harm, the employee must first make the report to law enforcement and then to the Superintendent or Building Principal. Hazing is defined as any intentional, knowing, or reckless act directed to or required of a student for the purpose of being initiated into, affiliating with, holding office in, or maintaining membership in any group, organization, club, or athletic team whose members are or include other students.

#### Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act (ANCRA), School Code, and Erin's Law Training

The Superintendent or designee shall provide staff development opportunities for District employees in the detection, reporting, and prevention of child abuse and neglect.

#### All District employees shall:

- 1. Before beginning employment, sign the *Acknowledgement of Mandated Reporter Status* form provided by DCFS. The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that the signed forms are retained.
- 2. Complete mandated reporter training as required by law within three months of initial employment and at least every three years after that date.

3. Complete an annual evidence-informed training related to child sexual abuse, grooming behaviors (including *sexual misconduct* as defined in *Faith's Law*), and boundary violations as required by law and policy 5:100, *Staff Development Program*.

## Alleged Incidents of Sexual Abuse; Investigations

An alleged incident of sexual abuse is an incident of sexual abuse of a child, as defined in <u>720 ILCS</u> <u>5/11-9.1A</u>, that is alleged to have been perpetrated by school personnel, including a school vendor or volunteer, that occurred: on school grounds during a school activity; or outside of school grounds or not during a school activity.

If a District employee reports an alleged incident of sexual abuse to DCFS and DCFS accepts the report for investigation, DCFS will refer the matter to the local Children's Advocacy Center (CAC). The Superintendent or designee will implement procedures to coordinate with the CAC.

DCFS and/or the appropriate law enforcement agency will inform the District when its investigation is complete or has been suspended, as well as the outcome of its investigation. The existence of a DCFS and/or law enforcement investigation will not preclude the District from conducting its own parallel investigation into the alleged incident of sexual abuse in accordance with Board policy 7:20, *Harassment of Students Prohibited*.

## Special Superintendent Responsibilities

The Superintendent shall execute the requirements in Board policy 5:150, *Personnel Records*, whenever another school district requests a reference concerning an applicant who is or was a District employee and was the subject of a report made by a District employee to DCFS.

When the Superintendent has reasonable cause to believe that a license holder (1) committed an intentional act of abuse or neglect with the result of making a child an abused child or a neglected child under ANCRA or an act of sexual misconduct under *Faith's Law*, and (2) that act resulted in the license holder's dismissal or resignation from the District, the Superintendent shall notify the State Superintendent and the Regional Superintendent in writing, providing the III. Educator Identification Number as well as a brief description of the misconduct alleged. The Superintendent must make the report within 30 days of the dismissal or resignation and mail a copy of the notification to the license holder.

The Superintendent shall develop procedures for notifying a student's parents/guardians when a District employee, contractor, or agent is alleged to have engaged in sexual misconduct with the student as defined in *Faith's Law*. The Superintendent shall also develop procedures for notifying the student's parents/guardians when the Board takes action relating to the employment of the employee, contractor, or agent following the investigation of sexual misconduct. Notification shall not occur when the employee, contractor, or agent alleged to have engaged in sexual misconduct is the student's parent/guardian, and/or when the student is at least 18 years of age or emancipated.

The Superintendent shall execute the recordkeeping requirements of Faith's Law.

### Special Board of Education Member Responsibilities

Each individual Board member must, if an allegation is raised to the member during an open or closed Board meeting that a student is an abused child as defined in ANCRA, direct or cause the Board to direct the Superintendent or other equivalent school administrator to comply with ANCRA's requirements concerning the reporting of child abuse.

If the Board determines that any District employee, other than an employee licensed under <u>105 ILCS</u> 5.90

<u>5/21B</u>, has willfully or negligently failed to report an instance of suspected child abuse or neglect as required by ANCRA, the Board may dismiss that employee immediately.

When the Board learns that a licensed teacher was convicted of any felony, it must promptly report it to the State agencies listed in Board policy 2:20, *Powers and Duties of the Board of Education; Indemnification*.

#### LEGAL REF.:

20 U.S.C. §7926, Elementary and Secondary Education Act.

105 ILCS 5/10-21.9, 5/10-23.13, 5/21B-85, 5/22-85.5, and 5/22-85.10.

20 ILCS 1305/1-1 et seq., Department of Human Services Act.

325 ILCS 5/, Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act.

720 ILCS 5/12C-50.1, Criminal Code of 2012.

CROSS REF.: 2:20 (Powers and Duties of the Board of Education; Indemnification), 3:40 (Superintendent), 3:50 (Administrative Personnel Other Than the Superintendent), 3:60 (Administrative Responsibility of the Building Principal), 4:60 (Purchases and Contracts), 4:165 (Awareness and Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse and Grooming Behaviors), 5:20 (Workplace Harassment Prohibited), 5:30 (Hiring Process and Criteria), 5:100 (Staff Development Program), 5:120 (Employee Ethics; Code of Professional Conduct; and Conflict of Interest), 5:150 (Personnel Records), 5:200 (Terms and Conditions of Employment and Dismissal), 5:290 (Employment Termination and Suspensions), 6:120 (Education of Children with Disabilities), 6:250 (Community Resource Persons and Volunteers), 7:20 (Harassment of Students Prohibited), 7:150 (Agency and Law Enforcement Requests Police Interviews)

Adopted: January 21, 2025

#### **PRESSPlus Comments**

PRESSPlus 1. Updated in response to 325 ILCS 5/4.5, amended by P.A. 104-245, eff. 1-1-26. **Issue 120, October 2025** 

## **General Personnel**

## 5:100 Staff Development Program

The Superintendent or designee shall implement a staff development program. The goal of the program shall be to update and improve the skills and knowledge of staff members in order to achieve and maintain a high level of job performance and satisfaction. Additionally, the development program for licensed staff members shall be designed to effectuate any School Improvement Plans so that student learning objectives meet or exceed goals established by the District and State.

## Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act (ANCRA) and Erin's LawTraining

The staff development program shall include the Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act (ANCRA) mandated reporter training and training on the awareness and prevention of child sexual abuse and grooming behaviors (*Erin's Law*) as follows (see Board policies 4:165, *Awareness and Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse and Grooming Behaviors*, and 5:90, *Abused and Neglected Child Reporting*):

- 1. Within three months of employment, each staff member must complete mandated reporter training from a provider or agency with expertise in recognizing and reporting child abuse. Mandated reporter training must be completed again at least every three years.
- 2. By January 31 of every year, all school personnel must complete evidence-informed training on preventing, reporting, and responding to child sexual abuse, grooming behaviors (including sexual misconduct as defined in Faith's Law), and boundary violations.

#### In-Service Training Requirements

The staff development program shall provide, at a minimum, within six months of employment and renewed at least once every five years thereafter (unless required more frequently by other State or federal law), the in-service training of all District staff who work with pupils on:

- 1. Health conditions of students, including but not limited to training on:
  - a. Anaphylactic reactions and management, conducted by a person with expertise on anaphylactic reactions and management;
  - b. Management of asthma, prevention of asthma symptoms, and emergency response in the school setting;
  - c. The basics of seizure recognition and first aid and emergency protocols, consistent with best practice guidelines issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention;
  - d. The basics of diabetes care, how to identify when a diabetic student needs immediate or emergency medical attention, and whom to contact in case of emergency;
  - e. Current best practices regarding identification and treatment of attention deficit hyperactivity disorder; and
  - f. How to respond to an incident involving life-threatening bleeding, including use of a school's trauma bleeding control kit, if applicable.
- 2. Social-emotional learning. Training may include providing education to all school personnel about the content of the Illinois Social and Emotional Learning Standards, how they apply to

- everyday school interactions, and examples of how social emotional learning can be integrated into instructional practices across all grades and subjects.
- 3. Developing cultural competency, including but not limited to understanding and reducing implicit bias, including *implicit racial bias* as defined in 105 LCS 5/10-20.61 (implicit bias training).
- 4. Identifying warning signs of mental illness, trauma, and suicidal behavior in youth, along with appropriate intervention and referral techniques, including resources and guidelines as outlined in 105 ILCS 5/2-3.166 (Ann Marie's Law) and the definitions of trauma, trauma-responsive learning environments, and whole child as set forth in 105 ILCS 5/3-11.
- 5. Domestic and sexual violence and the needs of expectant and parenting youth, conducted by persons with expertise in domestic and sexual violence and the needs of expectant and parenting youth. Training shall include, but is not limited to:
  - a. Communicating with and listening to youth victims of domestic or sexual violence and expectant and parenting youth;
  - Connecting youth victims of domestic or sexual violence and expectant and parenting youth to appropriate in-school services and other agencies, programs, and services as needed;
  - c. Implementing the District's policies and procedures regarding such youth, including confidentiality; and
  - d. Procedures for responding to incidents of teen dating violence that take place at school, on school grounds, at school-sponsored activities, or in vehicles used for school-provided transportation as outlined in 105 ILCS <u>110/3.105/27-240 PRESSPlus1</u> (see Board policy 7:185, *Teen Dating Violence Prohibited*).
- 6. Protections and accommodations for students, including but not limited to training on:
  - a. The federal Americans with Disabilities Act as it pertains to the school environment; and
  - b. Homelessness.
- 7. Educator ethics and responding to child sexual abuse and grooming behavior (see Board policy 5:120, *Employee Ethics; Code of Professional Conduct; and Conflict of Interest*); including but not limited to training on:
  - a. Teacher-student conduct;
  - b. School employee-student conduct; and
  - c. Evidence-informed training on preventing, recognizing, reporting, and responding to child sexual abuse and grooming as outlined in 105 ILCS 5/10-23.13 (*Erin's Law*).
- 8. Effective instruction in violence prevention and conflict resolution, conducted in accordance with the requirements of 105 ILCS 5/27-11523.4 PRESSPlus2 (violence prevention and conflict resolution education).

#### Additional Training Requirements

In addition, the staff development program shall include each of the following:

- 1. Ongoing professional development for all school personnel and school resource officers on the requirements of 105 ILCS 5/10-22.6 and 5/10-20.14, the adverse consequences of school exclusion and justice-system involvement, effective classroom management strategies, culturally responsive discipline, trauma-responsive learning environments as defined in 105 ILCS 5/3-11(b), the appropriate and available supportive services for the promotion of student attendance and engagement, and developmentally appropriate disciplinary methods that promote positive and healthy school climates.
- 2. Annual continuing education and/or training opportunities (professional standards) for school nutrition program directors, managers, and staff. Each school food authority's director shall

- document compliance with this requirement by the end of each school year and maintain documentation for a three-year period.
- 3. The following individuals must complete concussion training as specified in the Youth Sports Concussion Safety Act: coaches and assistant coaches (whether volunteer or employee) of an interscholastic athletic activity; nurses, licensed and/or non-licensed healthcare professionals serving on the Concussion Oversight Team; athletic trainers; game officials of an interscholastic athletic activity; and physicians serving on the Concussion Oversight Team.
- 4. For school personnel who work with hazardous or toxic materials on a regular basis, training on the safe handling and use of such materials.
- 5. For delegated care aides performing services in connection with a student's seizure action plan, training in accordance with 105 ILCS 150/, the Seizure Smart School Act.
- 6. For delegated care aides performing services in connection with a student's diabetes care plan, training in accordance with 105 ILCS 145/, the Care of Students with Diabetes Act.
- 7. For all District staff, annual sexual harassment prevention training.
- 8. Title IX requirements for training in accordance with <u>34 C.F.R. Part 106</u> (see Board policy 2:265, *Title IX Grievance Procedure*).
- 9. Training for all District employees on the prevention of discrimination and harassment based on race, color, and national origin in school as part of new employee training and at least once every two years.
- 10. Training for at least one designated employee at each school about the Prioritization of Urgency of Need for Services (PUNS) database and steps required to register students for it.
- 11. Training in accordance with 105 ILCS 5/26A for at least one staff member in each school designated as a resource for students who are parents, expectant parents, or victims of domestic or sexual violence, and for any employees whose duties include the resolution of complaints of violations of 105 ILCS 5/26A (see Board policy 7:255, Students who are Parents, Expectant Parents, or Victims of Domestic or Sexual Violence).

The Superintendent shall develop protocols for administering youth suicide awareness and prevention education to staff consistent with Board policy 7:290, *Suicide and Depression Awareness and Prevention*.

#### LEGAL REF.:

20 U.S.C. §1681 et seq., Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972; 34 C.F.R. Part 106.

42 U.S.C. §1758b, Pub. L. 111-296, Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010; 7 C.F.R. Parts 210 and 235.

105 ILCS 5/2-3.62, 5/2-3.166, 5/3-11, 5/10-20.17a, 5/10-20.61, 5/10-22.6(c-5), 5/10-22.39, 5/10-23.12, 5/10-23.13, 5/22-80(h), 5/22-95, 5/22-115, 5/24-5, and 5/26A.

105 ILCS 25/1.15, Interscholastic Athletic Organization Act.

105 ILCS 145/25, Care of Students with Diabetes Act

105 ILCS 150/25, Seizure Smart School Act.

105 ILCS 110/3, Critical Health Problems and Comprehensive Health Education Act.

325 ILCS 5/4, Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act.

745 LCS 49/, Good Samaritan Act.

775 ILCS 5/2-109 and 5/5A-103, III. Human Rights Act.

23 III.Admin.Code §§ 22.20, 226.800, and Part 525.

77 III.Admin.Code §527.800.

CROSS REF.: 2:265 (Title IX Grievance Procedure), 2:270 (Discrimination and Harassment on the Basis of Race, Color, and National Origin Prohibited), 3:40 (Superintendent), 3:50 (Administrative Personnel Other Than the Superintendent), 4:160 (Environmental Quality of Buildings and Grounds), 4:165 (Awareness and Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse and Grooming Behaviors), 5:20 (Workplace Harassment Prohibited), 5:90 (Abused and Neglected Child Reporting), 5:120 (Employee Ethics; Code of Professional Conduct; and Conflict of Interest), 5:250 (Leaves of Absence), 6:15 (School Accountability), 6:20 (School Year Calendar and Day), 6:50 (School Wellness), 6:160 (English Learners), 7:10 (Equal Educational Opportunities), 7:20 (Harassment of Students Prohibited), 7:180 (Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment), 7:185 (Teen Dating Violence Prohibited), 7:250 (Student Support Services), 7:255 (Students Who are Parents, Expectant Parents, or Victims of Domestic or Sexual Violence), 7:270 (Administering Medicines to Students), 7:285 (Anaphylaxis Prevention, Response, and Management Program), 7:290 (Suicide and Depression Awareness and Prevention), 7:305 (Student Athlete Concussions and Head Injuries)

Adopted: August 5, 2025

#### **PRESSPlus Comments**

PRESSPlus 1. Updated in response to 105 ILCS 5/27-240, added by P.A. 104-391, replacing the citation to 105 ILCS 110/3.10, repealed by P.A. 104-391. **Issue 120, October 2025** 

PRESSPlus 2. Updated in response to 105 ILCS 5/27-115, renumbered by P.A. 104-391. **Issue 120, October 2025** 

## **Professional Personnel**

#### 5:190 Teacher Qualifications

A teacher, as the term is used in this policy, refers to a District employee who is required to be licensed under State law. The following qualifications apply:

- 1. Each teacher must:
  - a. Have a valid Illinois Professional Educator License issued by the State Superintendent of Education with the required endorsements as provided in the School Code.
  - b. Provide the District Office with a complete official transcript of credits earned in institutions of higher education.
  - c. On or before September 1 of each year, unless otherwise provided in an applicable collective bargaining agreement, provide the District Office with an official transcript of any credits earned since the date the last transcript was filed.
  - d. Notify the Superintendent of any change in the teacher's transcript.
- 2. All teachers working in a program supported with federal funds under Title I, Part A must meet applicable State certification and licensure requirements.

#### LEGAL REF.:

20 U.S.C. §6312(e)(1)(A).

105 ILCS 5/10-20.15, 5/21B-15, 5/21B-20, 5/21B-25, 5/21B-120, PRESSPlus1 and 5/24-23.

23 III.Admin.Code §1.610 et seg., §1.705 et seg., and Part 25.

CROSS REF.: 6:170 (Title I Programs)

Adopted: December 18, 2023

#### **PRESSPlus Comments**

PRESSPlus 1. The Legal References are updated in response P.A. 104-111, eff. 1-1-26, establishing a short-term approval credential for teachers in accordance with rules developed by ISBE. **Issue 120, October 2025** 

## **Professional Personnel**

## 5:200 Terms and Conditions of Employment and Dismissal

The Board of Education delegates authority and responsibility to the Superintendent to manage the terms and conditions for the employment of professional personnel. The Superintendent shall act reasonably and comply with State and federal law as well as any applicable individual employment contract or collective bargaining agreement in effect. The Superintendent is responsible for making dismissal recommendations to the Board consistent with the Board's goal of having a highly qualified, high performing staff.

School Year and Day, Assignments and Transfers, Evaluation

Please refer to the following current agreement:

Collective Bargaining Agreement Memoranda of Understanding and Letters of Agreement Between the Board of Education School District 45, DuPage County, Villa Park, Illinois and the Villa Park Education Association.

Please also refer to:

Administrative Handbook: Compensation and Benefits Plan

Fringe Benefit Provisions for Off-Schedule Certificated Personnel

**Duty-Free Lunch** 

Teachers employed for at least four hours per day shall receive a duty-free lunch equivalent to the student lunch period, or 30 minutes, whichever is longer.

Nursing Mothers

The District accommodates employees who are nursing mothers and compensates them for reasonable time needed to express breast milk PRESSPlus1 according to provisions in State and federal law.

Salary

Teachers shall be paid according to the salaries fixed by the Board, but in no case less than the minimum salary provided by the School Code. Teachers shall be paid at least monthly on a 10- or 12-month basis.

School Social Worker Services Outside of District Employment

School social workers may not provide services outside of their District employment to any student(s) attending school in the District. School social worker has the meaning stated in 105 ILCS 5/14-1.09a.

Dismissal

The District will follow State law when dismissing a teacher.

LEGAL REF.:

29 U.S.C. §218(d), Pub. L. 117-328, Pump for Nursing Mothers Act.

42 U.S.C. §2000gg et seq., Pub. L. 117-328, Pregnant Workers Fairness Act.

<u>105 ILCS 5/10-19</u>, <u>5/10-19.05</u>, <u>5/10-20.65</u>, <u>5/14-1.09a</u>, <u>5/22-96</u>, <u>5/22.4</u>, <u>5/24-16.5</u>, <u>5/24-2</u>, <u>5/24-8</u>, <u>5/24-11</u>, <u>5/24-12</u>, <u>5/24-21</u>, <u>5/24A-1</u> through 24A-20.

820 ILCS 260/, Nursing Mothers in the Workplace Act.

23 III.Admin.Code Parts 50 (Evaluation of Educator Licensed Employees) and 51 (Dismissal of Tenured Teachers).

Cleveland Bd. of Educ. v. Loudermill, 470 U.S. 532(1985).

CROSS REF.: 5:120 (Employee Ethics; Code of Professional Conduct; and Conflict of Interest), 5:290 (Employment Termination and Suspensions), 6:20 (School Year Calendar and Day)

Adopted: August 20, 2024

#### **PRESSPlus Comments**

PRESSPlus 1. Updated in response to the Nursing Mothers in Workplace Act, 820 ILCS 260/10, amended by P.A. 104-76, eff. 1-1-26. **Issue 120, October 2025** 

## **Professional Personnel**

### 5:220 Substitute Teachers

The Superintendent may employ substitute teachers as necessary to replace teachers who are temporarily absent.

A substitute teacher must hold either a valid teaching or substitute license and may teach in the place of a licensed teacher who is under contract with the Board. There is no limit on the number of days that a substitute teacher may teach in the District during the school year, except as follows:

- 1. A substitute teacher holding a substitute license may teach for any one licensed teacher under contract with the District only for a period not to exceed 90 paid school days in any one school term
- 2. A teacher holding a Professional Educator License or Educator License with Stipulations may teach for any one licensed teacher under contract with the District only for a period not to exceed 120 paid school days.

The III. Teachers' Retirement System (TRS) limits a substitute teacher who is a TRS annuitant to substitute teaching for a period not to exceed 120 paid days or 600 paid hours in each school year through June 30, 2026, but not more than 100 paid days in the same classroom. Beginning July 1, 2026, a substitute teacher who is a TRS annuitant may substitute teach for a period not to exceed 100 paid days or 500 paid hours in any school year, unless the subject area is one where the Regional Superintendent has certified that a personnel shortage exists.

The Board of Education establishes a daily rate of pay for substitute teachers. Substitute teachers receive only monetary compensation for time worked and no other benefits.

#### **Short-Term Substitute Teachers**

A short-term substitute teacher must hold a valid short-term substitute teaching license and have completed the District's short-term substitute teacher training program. Unless otherwise permitted by law, short-term substitutes may teach no more than five consecutive school days for each licensed teacher who is under contract with the Board.

#### **Emergency Situations**

A substitute teacher may teach when no licensed teacher is under contract with the Board if the District has an emergency situation as defined in State law. During an emergency situation, a substitute teacher is limited to 30 calendar days of employment per each vacant position. The Superintendent shall notify the appropriate Regional Office of Education (ROE) within five business days after the employment of a substitute teacher in an emergency situation. The Board may continue to employ the same substitute teacher in a vacant position for 90 calendar days or until the end of the semester, whichever is greater, if, prior to the end of the then current 30-calendar-day period, the District makes a written request to the ROE for a 30-calendar-day extension and the extension is granted by the ROE.

#### LEGAL REF.:

105 ILCS 5/10-20.68, 5/21B-20(2), 5/21B-20(3), and 5/21B-20(4).

105 ILCS 128/22, School Safety Drill Act. PRESSPlus1

40 ILCS 5/16-118, III. Pension Code.

23 III.Admin.Code §1.790 (Substitute Teacher) and §25.520 (Substitute Teaching License).

CROSS REF.: 5:30 (Hiring Process and Criteria)

Adopted: December 18, 2023

#### **PRESSPlus Comments**

PRESSPlus 1. The Legal References are updated in response to P.A. 104-198, eff. 1-1-26, requiring districts to provide all substitute personnel with: (1) training on school evacuation drills and law enforcement lockdown drills, and (2) support that includes, at a minimum, the information packet given to employees with district-approved materials outlining evacuation and lockdown procedures. Maps indicating all school exits must also be prominently displayed in every classroom. **Issue 120, October 2025**