

Document Status: Review and Monitoring

OPERATIONAL SERVICES

4:180 Pandemic Preparedness; Management; and Recovery

The School Board recognizes that the District will play an essential role along with the local health department and emergency management agencies in protecting the public's health and safety in the event of a disease outbreak, epidemic, or pandemic. [PRESSPlus1](#)

To prepare the School District community for a disease outbreak, epidemic, or pandemic, the Superintendent or designee shall: (1) learn and understand how the roles that the federal, State, and local government play during a disease outbreak, epidemic, or pandemic; (2) form a planning team consisting of appropriate District personnel and community members to identify priorities and oversee the development and implementation of a comprehensive school action plan; and (3) distribute and communicate details regarding the final plan among staff, students, and community. School personnel will adopt administrative procedures necessary to implement this policy.

Emergency School Closing

In the case of a disease outbreak, epidemic, or pandemic, the Governor may declare a disaster due to a public health emergency that may affect any decision for an emergency school closing. Decisions for an emergency school closing will be made by the Superintendent in consultation with and, if necessary, at the direction of the Governor, Ill. Dept. of Public Health, District's local health department, emergency management agencies, and/or appropriate Intermediate Service Center.

During an emergency school closing, the Board President and the Superintendent may, to the extent the emergency situation allows, examine existing Board policies pursuant to Policy 2:240, *Board Policy Development*, and recommend to the Board for consideration any needed amendments or suspensions to address mandates that the District may not be able to accomplish or implement due to a pandemic.

Board Meeting Procedure; No Physical Presence of Quorum and Participation by Audio or Video

A disaster declaration related to a public health emergency may affect the Board's ability to meet in person and generate a quorum of members who are physically present at the location of a meeting. Policy 2:220, *School Board Meeting Procedure*, governs Board meetings by video or audio conference without the physical presence of a quorum.

Payment of Employee Salaries During Emergency School Closures

The Superintendent shall consult with the Board to determine the extent to which continued payment of salaries and benefits will be made to the District's employees, pursuant to Board policies 3:40, *Superintendent*, 3:50, *Administrative Personnel Other Than the Superintendent*, 5:35, *Compliance with the Fair Labor Standards Act*, 5:200, *Terms and Conditions of Employment and Dismissal*, and 5:270, *Employment At-Will, Compensation, and Assignment*, and consistent with: (1) applicable laws, regulations, federal or State or local emergency declarations, executive orders, and agency directives; (2) collective bargaining agreements and any bargaining obligations; and (3) the terms of any grant under which an employee is being paid.

Suspension of In-Person Instruction; Remote and/or Blended Remote Learning Day Plan(s)

When the Governor declares a disaster due to a public health emergency pursuant to [20 ILCS 3305/7](#), and the State Superintendent of Education declares a requirement for the District to use *Remote Learning Days* or *Blended Remote Learning Days*, the Superintendent or designee is responsible for directing the implementation of a remote learning platform for students, either used with a traditional schedule in which students are physically present at school (hybrid model) or in which all instruction is provided to students remotely (remote learning). This Remote and/or Blended Remote Learning Day Plan (Plan):

1. Recommends to the Board for consideration any suspensions or amendments to curriculum-related policies to reduce any Board-required graduation or other instructional requirements in excess of minimum curricular requirements specified in School Code that the District may not be able to provide due to the pandemic;
2. Implements the requirements of [105 ILCS 5/10-30](#) by adapting into a Plan the District's e-learning program implemented pursuant to [105 ILCS 5/10-20.56](#); and
3. Ensures a plan for periodic review of and/or amendments to the Plan when needed and/or required by statute, regulation, or State guidance.

Screening Protocols

Parents and guardians will be required to perform a daily temperature check and health screening for their child(ren) each morning before school and report this information to school staff members if requested. School personnel may perform temperature checks and health screenings for students as school personnel determine necessary in the sole discretion of school personnel. If a student is found to have a fever (higher than 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit) or exhibits any other sign of illness while at school, he/she must be picked up from school immediately and will be excluded from school for a period of time determined in consultation with the Illinois State Board of Education and the Illinois Department of Public Health.

Restricted Visitors

Visitors will not be allowed to enter school buildings except in exigent circumstances. In no case will a visitor be allowed to enter a school building if he/she exhibits signs of illness as determined in the sole discretion of school personnel.

Face Masks

Students and adults present at school must wear face masks in compliance with the Plan, including on school buses. If a student refuses to wear a mask or otherwise engages in conduct that compromises the safety of others, his/her parent/guardian will be notified immediately and discipline may result, up to and including expulsion from school.

Conclusion

The Superintendent or designee will continue to monitor available data including local case counts, hospital readiness, and trends over time. The Superintendent shall also have the authority to make changes to the administrative procedures based on emergent and exigent changing conditions, subject to notice of the Board of Education.

LEGAL REF.:

[105 ILCS 5/10-16.7](#), [5/10-20.5](#), [5/10-20.56](#), and [5/10-30](#).

[5 ILCS 120/2.01](#) and [120/7\(e\)](#), Open Meetings Act.

[20 ILCS 2305/2\(b\)](#), Ill. Dept. of Public Health Act (Part 1).

[20 ILCS 3305/](#), Ill. Emergency Management Agency Act.

[115 ILCS 5/](#), Ill. Educational Labor Relations Act.

CROSS REF.: 1:20 (District Organization, Operations, and Cooperative Agreements), 2:20 (Powers and Duties of the School Board; Indemnification), 2:220 (School Board Meeting Procedure), 2:240 (Board Policy Development), 3:40 (Superintendent), 3:50 (Administrative Personnel Other Than the Superintendent), 3:70 (Succession of Authority), 4:170 (Safety), 5:35 (Compliance with the Fair Labor Standards Act), 5:200 (Terms and Conditions of Employment and Dismissal), 5:270 (Employment At-Will, Compensation, and Assignment), 6:20 (School Year Calendar and Day), 6:60 (Curriculum Content), 6:300 (Graduation Requirements), 7:90 (Release During School Hours), 8:100 (Relations with Other Organizations and Agencies)

Adopted: August 10, 2022

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. This policy is suggested to be reviewed by the Board. According to policy 2:240, *Board Policy Development*, "[t]he Board will periodically review its policies for relevancy, monitor its policies for effectiveness, and consider whether any modifications are required." IASB suggests that each policy in the Board's policy manual be reviewed at a minimum of every five years. As part of the review, the Board may choose to:

- Compare the adopted version to the current PRESS sample (available at PRESS Online by logging in at www.iasb.com), discussing any differences and/or options noted in the footnotes to determine whether local changes are necessary
- Update the policy language due to changes in local conditions
- Make no changes, but update the adoption date to reflect that the policy has been reviewed and re-adopted

Issue 119, June 2025