

## *Document Status: 5-Year-Review - Needs Review*

### OPERATIONAL SERVICES

#### **4:120 Food Services**

Good nutrition shall be promoted in the District's meal programs and in other food and beverages that are sold to students during the school day. The Superintendent shall manage a food service program that complies with this policy and is in alignment with School Board policy 6:50, *School Wellness*.

Food or beverage items sold to students as part of a reimbursable meal under federal law must follow the nutrition standards specified in the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture rules that implement the National School Lunch and Child Nutrition Acts. Schools being reimbursed for meals under these laws are *participating schools*.

The food service program in participating schools shall comply with the nutrition standards specified in the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture's *Smart Snacks rules* when it offers competitive foods to students on the school campus during the school day. *Competitive foods* are all food and beverages that are offered by any person, organization or entity for sale to students on the school campus during the school day that are not reimbursed under programs authorized by federal law. The food service programs in participating schools shall also comply with any applicable mandates in the Illinois State Board of Education's School Food Service rules implementing these federal laws and the Ill. School Breakfast and Lunch Program Act.

All revenue from the sale of any food or beverages sold in competition with the School Breakfast Program or National School Lunch Program to students in food service areas during the meal period shall accrue to the nonprofit school lunch program account.

#### LEGAL REF.:

Russell B. National School Lunch Act, 42 U.S.C. §1751 et seq.

Child Nutrition Act of 1966, 42 U.S.C. §1771 et seq.

7 C.F.R. Parts 210 (National School Lunch Program) and 220 (School Breakfast Program).

105 ILCS 125/, School Breakfast and Lunch Program Act.

23 Ill.Admin.Code Part 305, School Food Service.

CROSS REF.: 4:130 (Free and Reduced-Price Food Services), 6:50 (School Wellness)

ADOPTED: March 19, 2015

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## *Document Status: District Use Only*

### SCHOOL DISTRICT ORGANIZATION

#### **1:30 School District Philosophy**

The School District, in an active partnership with parents and community, will promote excellence in a caring environment in which all students learn and grow. This partnership aims to empower all students to develop strong self-respect and to become responsible learners and decision-makers. The School District is committed to developing and using a visionary and innovative curriculum, a knowledgeable and dedicated staff, and sound fiscal and management practices.

#### Beliefs

- Educating our children in a safe and caring environment is our top priority.
- Continuous school improvement is the key to meeting the changing needs of students.
- We must foster, in all students, pride in oneself, respect for others, and motivation to learn.
- Our employees are valuable assets.
- We must recognize our parents, guardians and community members, and their involvement, as being essential to our success.
- Effective communication at all levels is vital to school success.
- We must strive for conduct that reflects and instills high ethical standards.
- We must be excellent managers of our financial and physical resources.

#### Mission Statement

Our reason for being is to partner with the community in continually developing well-rounded and productive members of our society by giving children a high quality education while using public funds responsibly, effectively, and efficiently.

#### Mission: "A Great Place To Learn"

**Illini Central School District #189 strives for a future of excellence and lifelong learning by promoting a cooperative, positive, and safe learning environment that ensures that each child's education is the heart of the school operation.**

#### Vision:

**For our students to achieve their potential, Illini Central will fulfill our mission by providing:**

- **a safe and encouraging learning environment**
- **instruction and experiences that foster academic success, lifelong learning, and career awareness**
- **great educators and opportunities for professional growth and development**
- **a mutually beneficial partnership with the community**

CROSS REF: 2:10 (School District Governance), 3:10 (Goals and Objectives), 6:10 (Educational Philosophy and Objectives)

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# Document Status: Draft Update

## School Board Meeting Procedure

### 2:220-E1 Exhibit - Board Treatment of Closed Meeting Verbatim Recordings and Minutes

The following procedures govern the verbatim audio recordings and minutes of School Board meetings that are closed to the public.

Actor	Action
<p><i>Before any Board meeting:</i></p> <p>Superintendent or designee</p>	<p>Arranges to have an audio recording device <u>with adequate storage capacity</u> <del>with extra recording tapes</del> <u>PRESSPlus1</u> and a back-up audio recording device in the Board meeting room during every Board meeting regardless of whether a closed meeting is scheduled.</p> <p>The Board may close a portion of a public meeting without prior notice; it cannot, however, have a closed meeting unless it can record the session.</p>
<p><i>Before a closed meeting:</i></p> <p>Board President or presiding officer (<u>#3 and #4 may be delegated to the Board Secretary or Recording Secretary</u>)</p>	<p>On the closed meeting date: (1) convenes an open meeting, (2) requests a motion to adjourn into closed meeting making sure the reason for the meeting is identified in the motion, (3) takes a roll call vote, (4) <u>ensures</u> <del>asks</del> that the minutes record the vote of each member present and the reason for the closed meeting with a citation to the specific exception contained in the Open Meetings Act authorizing the closed meeting (5 ILCS 120/2a), and (5) adjourns the open meeting.</p>
<p><i>Before a closed meeting:</i></p> <p>Superintendent or Board Secretary</p>	<p>Immediately before a closed meeting, tests and activates the audio recording device.</p>
<p><i>During a closed meeting:</i></p> <p>Board President or presiding officer</p>	<p>Convenes the closed meeting stating:</p> <p>Seeing a quorum of the Board of Education gathered today, ___ date, at ___ o'clock, at ___ location, for the purpose of holding a closed meeting in order to confidentially discuss ___, I call the meeting to order. In order to record who is present, I request that each individual state his or her name and position with the District.</p> <p>Limits discussion to the topics that were included in the motion to go into a closed meeting.</p> <p>The failure to immediately call a person out-of-order who strays from the purposes included in the motion may result in an appearance of acquiescence. This responsibility to call a person out-of-order falls on</p>



	<p>each Board member in the event of the President's failure.</p> <p>Once the closed meeting is finished, announces a return to an open meeting or adjournment, and states the time.</p>
<p><i>After a closed meeting:</i></p> <p>Superintendent, Recording Secretary, or Board Secretary</p>	<p><b>For Verbatim Recordings:</b></p> <p>Takes possession of the audio recording of the closed meeting and labels it with identification information, specifically the date and items discussed.</p> <p>Adds the identification information contained on the audio recording's label to a cumulative list of closed meeting recordings.</p> <p>As soon as possible, puts the recording of the closed meeting in the previously identified secure location for storing recordings of closed meetings.</p> <p>Upon request of a Board member:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Provides access to the verbatim recordings minutes at a reasonable time and place without disrupting District operations;</li> <li>2. Supervises the access to the closed session minutes or delegates it to one of the following individuals in the District: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. The Recording Secretary,</li> <li>b. The Superintendent or designated administrator, or</li> <li>c. Any elected Board member; and</li> </ol> </li> <li>3. Logs the access to the recordings in 2:220-E7, <i>Access to Closed Meeting Minutes and Verbatim Recordings</i>.</li> </ol> <p><b>For Closed Meeting Minutes:</b></p> <p>Prepares written closed meeting minutes that include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The date, time, and place of the closed meeting</li> <li>• The Board members present and absent</li> <li>• A summary of discussion on all matters proposed or discussed</li> <li>• The time the closed meeting was adjourned</li> </ul> <p>Upon request of a Board member:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Provides access to the closed session minutes at a reasonable time and place without disrupting District operations;</li> <li>2. Supervises the access to the closed session minutes or delegates it to one of the following individuals in the District: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. The Recording Secretary,</li> <li>b. The Superintendent or designated administrator, or</li> <li>c. Any elected Board member; and</li> </ol> </li> </ol>

	3. Logs the access in 2:220-E7, <i>Access to Closed Meeting Minutes and Verbatim Recordings</i> .
<i>After a closed meeting:</i> School Board	Approves the previous closed meeting minutes at the next open meeting.
<i>In preparation for the semi-annual review.</i> <a href="#">PRESSPlus2</a> Superintendent or designee	<p><u>Every six months</u>, prepares a recommendation concerning the continued need for confidential treatment of <u>all of the Board's</u> closed meeting minutes; includes this recommendation in the packet for the meeting in which the Board will conduct its semi-annual review.</p> <p>This step is in preparation of the Board's meeting to decide whether the need for confidential treatment of specific closed meeting minutes continues to exist.</p> <p>If the Board wants to discuss closed meeting minutes in closed session, places "review of unreleased closed meeting minutes" on a closed meeting agenda.</p> <p>Places "result of Board's review of unreleased closed meeting minutes" on a subsequent open meeting agenda.</p>
<i>In preparation for the semi-annual review.</i> Individual Board members	<p>Before the meetings in which the Board will conduct its semi-annual review, examines the material supplied by the Superintendent.</p> <p>Individual Board members should consider: (1) the Superintendent's recommendation, (2) the recommendation of the attorney representing the District, (3) other Board members' opinions, (4) the minutes themselves, and/or (5) whether the minutes would be exempted from public disclosure under the Illinois Freedom of Information Act.</p>
<i>During the semi-annual review.</i> School Board	<p>During an open meeting, decides whether the need for confidential treatment of specific closed meeting minutes continues to exist.</p> <p>The Board may have an earlier meeting in closed session to discuss the continued need for confidential treatment.</p> <p>During the semi-annual review, the Board decides in open session whether: (1) the need for confidentiality still exists as to all or part of closed meeting minutes, or (2) the minutes or portions thereof no longer require confidential treatment and are available for public inspection.</p>
<i>After the semi-annual review.</i> Superintendent or designee	Re-labels and re-files closed meeting minutes as appropriate.
<i>Monthly, beginning July</i>	Adds "destruction of closed meeting audio recording" as an agenda

2005: Board President	item to an upcoming open meeting.
Monthly, beginning July 2005: School Board	Approves the destruction of particular closed meeting recording(s) that are at least 18 months old and for which approved minutes of the closed meeting already exist.

LEGAL REF.:

5 ILCS 120/, Open Meetings Act<sup>1 et seq.</sup>

~~DATED: December 15, 2016~~

### **PRESSPlus Comments**

PRESSPlus 1. Updated for continuous improvement in response to a 5-year review. **Issue 108, November 2021**

PRESSPlus 2. Required by 5 ILCS 120/2.06(d), amended by P.A. 102-653. *Semi-annual* means every six months, or as soon after as is practicable, taking into account the nature and meeting schedule of the board. **Issue 108, November 2021**



# Document Status: Draft Update

## School Board Meeting Procedure

### 2:220-E2 Exhibit - Motion to Adjourn to Closed Meeting

#### Motion to Adjourn to Closed Meeting

Date:	Time:
Location:	

A motion was made by \_\_\_\_\_, and seconded by \_\_\_\_\_, to adjourn to closed meeting to discuss:

- The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the District or legal counsel for the District, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee or against legal counsel for the District to determine its validity. However, a meeting to consider an increase in compensation to a specific employee of a public body that is subject to the Local Government Wage Increase Transparency Act may not be closed and shall be open to the public and posted and held in accordance with this Act. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1) **amended by P.A. 99-646.**

- Collective negotiating matters between the District and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2).

- The selection of a person to fill a public office, including a vacancy in a public office, when the District is given power to appoint under law or ordinance, or the discipline, performance or removal of the occupant of a public office, when the District is given power to remove the occupant under law or ordinance. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(3).

- Evidence or testimony presented in open hearing, or in closed hearing where authorized by law, to a quasi-adjudicative body, as defined in the Open Meetings Act, provided that the body prepares and makes available for public inspection a written decision with its determinative reasoning. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(4).

Γ Evidence or testimony presented to the Board regarding denial of admission to school events or property pursuant to 105 ILCS 5/24-24, provided that the Board prepares and makes available for public inspection a written decision setting forth its determinative reasoning. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(4.5), added by P.A. 103-311. [PRESSPlus1](#)

- The purchase or lease of real property for the use of the District, including meetings held for the purpose of discussing whether a particular parcel should be acquired. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(5).

- The setting of a price for sale or lease of property owned by the District. 5ILCS 120/2(c)(6).

- The sale or purchase of securities, investments, or investment contracts. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(7).
- Security procedures, school building safety and security, and the use of personnel and equipment to respond to an actual, a threatened, or a reasonably potential danger to the safety of employees, students, staff, the public, or public property. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(8), amended by P.A. 99-235.
- Student disciplinary cases. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(9).
- The placement of individual students in special education programs and other matters relating to individual students. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(10).
- Litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular District has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the District finds that an action is probable or imminent, in which case the basis for the finding shall be recorded and entered into the closed meeting minutes. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11).
- The establishment of reserves or settlement of claims as provided in the Local Government and Governmental Employees Tort Immunity Act, if otherwise the disposition of a claim or potential claim might be prejudiced, or the review or discussion of claims, loss or risk management information, records, data, advice or communications from or with respect to any insurer of the District or any intergovernmental risk management association or self insurance pool of which the District is a member. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(12).
- Self-evaluation, practices and procedures or professional ethics, when meeting with a representative of a statewide association of which the District is a member. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(16).
- Discussion of minutes of meetings lawfully closed, whether for purposes of approval by the body of the minutes or semi-annual review of the minutes as mandated by Section 2.06. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(21).
- Meetings between internal or external auditors and governmental audit committees, finance committees, and their equivalents, when the discussion involves internal control weaknesses, identification of potential fraud risk areas, known or suspected frauds, and fraud interviews conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards of the United States of America. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(29).

**Closed Meeting Roll Call:**

"Yeas"	"Nays"
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**Motion:**  Carried  Failed

~~ADOPTED: December 15, 2016~~

**PRESSPlus Comments**

PRESSPlus 1. Updated in response to the Open Meetings Act (OMA), 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(4.5), added by P.A. 103-311. **Issue 113, October 2023**

# Document Status: Draft Update

## School Board Meeting Procedure

### 2:220-E5 Exhibit - Semi-Annual Review of Closed Meeting Minutes

#### Logging and Review Process

Step 1. The Board Secretary or Recording Secretary maintains a log of the closed meeting minutes that are unavailable for public inspection. The meeting minutes are logged according to the reason the Board held the closed meeting. 2:220-E6, *Log of Closed Meeting Minutes*.

Step 2. The Board meets in closed session to review the log of unreleased closed meeting minutes. The Board or Recording Secretary brings a copy of all unreleased closed meeting minutes and, if requested, allows Board members to review the actual minutes. The Board identifies which closed meeting minutes or portions thereof no longer need confidential treatment. Use *Report Following the Board's Semi-Annual Review of Closed Meeting Minutes*, below.

Step 3. At least semi-annually (every six months, or as soon after as is practicable, taking into account the nature and meeting schedule of the Board), in an open meeting, the Board takes action to release for public inspection those minutes, or portions thereof, no longer needing confidential treatment. Use *Action to Accept*, below. Closed meeting minutes will not be released for public inspection if confidential treatment is needed to protect the public interest or the privacy of an individual, including: (1) student disciplinary cases or other matters relating to an individual student, and (2) personnel files and employees' and Board members' personal information. 5 ILCS 120/2.06(d), amended by P.A. 102-653, PRESSPlus1

Step 4. The Board or Recording Secretary: (1) updates the log of unreleased closed meeting minutes to remove any minutes that the Board made available for public inspection; (2) makes a notation on any applicable closed meeting minutes of the Board's action to release it or a portion of it for public inspection; (3) continues to log new closed meeting minutes that the Board has not released for public inspection (2:220-E6, *Log of Closed Meeting Minutes*), and (4) maintains logs for access to closed session minutes pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2.06(e), ~~amended by P.A. 99-515~~.

#### Report Following the Board's Semi-Annual Review of Closed Meeting Minutes

The School Board met on \_\_\_\_\_ in closed session to conduct its semi-annual review of closed meeting minutes that have not been released for public inspection.

The closed meeting minutes, or portions thereof, from the following dates no longer require confidential treatment: *(insert closed meeting dates)*




The need for confidentiality still exists as to all remaining closed meeting minutes to protect an individual's privacy or the District's interests.

Action to Accept the Board's Semi-Annual Review of Closed Meeting Minutes

Open meeting date:
Motion to approve the Board's semi-annual review of unreleased closed meeting minutes and to release for public inspection those minutes, or portions thereof, that the Board identified as no longer needing confidential treatment made by:
Motion seconded by:
Action: <input type="checkbox"/> Passed <input type="checkbox"/> Failed

DATED: ~~December 15, 2016~~

**PRESSPlus Comments**

PRESSPlus 1. For the sake of brevity and to align with the closed meeting exception in 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(21) that continues to refer to a public body's *semi-annual* review of its closed session minutes, this exhibit use the term *semi-annual*, even though that term was removed from 5 ILCS 120/2.06(d). **Issue 108, November 2021**

# Document Status: Draft Update

## School Board Meeting Procedure

### 2:220-E6 Exhibit - Log of Closed Meeting Minutes

The purpose of this log is to facilitate the Board's semi-annual review of closed meeting minutes. Semi-annual means every six months, or as soon after as is practicable, taking into account the nature and meeting schedule of the board. 5 ILCS 120/2.06(d), amended by P.A. 102-653. [PRESSPlus1](#)  
See 2:220-E5, *Semi-Annual Review of Closed Meeting Minutes*.

The Board Secretary or Recording Secretary shall maintain a list of closed meeting minutes, arranged according to the reason for the closed meeting, that have not been released for public inspection.

Closed Session Held to Discuss:	Dates of Closed Sessions		
Specific employee(s) or District legal counsel; however, a meeting to consider an increase in compensation to a specific employee of a public body that is subject to the Local Government Wage Increase Transparency Act may not be closed and shall be open to the public and posted and held in accordance with [the Open Meetings Act]. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1) <u>amended by P.A. 99-646.</u>			
Collective negotiating matters or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2).			
Selection of a person to fill a vacancy on the Board. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(3).			
Evidence or testimony presented in a hearing where authorized by law. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(4).			
<u>Evidence or testimony presented to the Board regarding denial of admission to school events or property pursuant to 105 ILCS 5/24-24, provided that the Board prepares and makes available for public inspection a written decision setting forth its determinative reasoning. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(4.5), added by P.A. 103-311.</u> <a href="#">PRESSPlus2</a>			
Purchase or lease of real property. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(5).			

Setting of a price for sale or lease of District property. 5ILCS 120/2(c)(6).				
Sale or purchase of securities, investments, or investment contracts. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(7).				
Security procedures and the use of personnel and equipment to respond to an actual, a threatened, or a reasonably potential danger. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(8).				
Student disciplinary cases. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(9). <i>Minutes of meetings held for this reason shall never be released to protect the individual student's privacy.</i>				
Any matter involving an individual student. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(10). <i>Minutes of meetings held for this reason shall never be released to protect the individual student's privacy.</i>				
Litigation, when an action against, affecting, or on behalf of the District has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the Board finds that an action is probable or imminent. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11).				
Establishment of reserves or settlement of claims as provided in the Local Government and Governmental Employees Tort Immunity Act or discussion of claims, loss or risk management information, records, data, advice or communications from or with respect to any insurer of the District or any intergovernmental risk management association or self insurance pool. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(12).				
Self-evaluation, practices and procedures or professional ethics, when meeting with an IASB representative. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(16).				
Minutes of meetings lawfully closed, whether for purposes of approval or semi-annual review. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(21).				
Meetings between internal or external auditors and governmental audit committees, finance committees, and their equivalents, when the discussion involves internal control weaknesses, identification of potential fraud risk areas, known or suspected frauds, and fraud interviews conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards of the United States of America. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(29).				



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DATED: ~~December 15, 2016~~

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**PRESSPlus Comments**

PRESSPlus 1. For the sake of brevity and to align with the closed meeting exception in 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(21) that continues to refer to a public body's *semi-annual* review of its closed session minutes, this exhibit use the term *semi-annual*, even though that term was removed from 5 ILCS 120/2.06(d). **Issue 108, November 2021**

PRESSPlus 2. Updated in response to the Open Meetings Act (OMA), 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(4.5), added by P.A. 103-311. **Issue 113, October 2023**

## Document Status: Draft Update

### SCHOOL BOARD

#### 2:260 Uniform Grievance Procedure

A student, parent/guardian, employee, or community member should notify any District Complaint Manager if he or she believes that the School Board, its employees, or its agents have violated his or her rights guaranteed by the State or federal Constitution, State or federal statute, or Board policy, or has ~~ve~~ a complaint regarding any one of the following:

1. Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C. §12101 et seq.
2. ~~Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, 20 U.S.C. §1681 et seq., excluding Title IX sexual harassment complaints governed by Board policy 2:265, Title IX Grievance Procedure~~ PRESSPlus1
3. Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 U.S.C. §791 et seq.
4. Discrimination and/or harassment on the basis of race, color, or national origin prohibited by the Illinois Human Rights Act, 775 ILCS 5/; Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 U.S.C. §2000d et seq.; and/or Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 U.S.C. §2000e et seq. (see Board policy 2:270, *Discrimination and Harassment on the Basis of Race, Color, and National Origin Prohibited*)
5. Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 U.S.C. §2000e et seq. (see also number 4, above, for discrimination and/or harassment on the basis of race, color, or national origin)
6. Sexual harassment prohibited by the State Officials and Employees Ethics Act, 5 ILCS 430/70-5(a); Illinois Human Rights Act, 775 ILCS 5/; and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 U.S.C. §2000e et seq. (Title IX sexual harassment complaints are addressed under Board policy 2:265, *Title IX Grievance Procedure*)
7. Breastfeeding accommodations for students, 105 ILCS 5/10-20.60
8. Bullying, 105 ILCS 5/27-23.7
9. Misuse of funds received for services to improve educational opportunities for educationally disadvantaged or deprived children
10. Curriculum, instructional materials, and/or programs
11. Victims' Economic Security and Safety Act, 820 ILCS 180/
12. Illinois Equal Pay Act of 2003, 820 ILCS 112/
13. Provision of services to homeless students
14. Illinois Whistleblower Act, 740 ILCS 174/
15. Misuse of genetic information prohibited by the Illinois Genetic Information Privacy Act, 410 ILCS 513/; and Titles I and II of the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act, 42 U.S.C. §2000ff et seq.
16. Employee Credit Privacy Act, 820 ILCS 70/.

The Complaint Manager will first attempt to resolve complaints without resorting to this grievance procedure. If a formal complaint is filed under this policy, the Complaint Manager will address the complaint promptly and equitably. A student and/or parent/guardian filing a complaint under this policy

may forgo any informal suggestions and/or attempts to resolve it and may proceed directly to this grievance procedure. The Complaint Manager will not require a student or parent/guardian complaining of any form of harassment to attempt to resolve allegations directly with the accused (or the accused's parent(s)/guardian(s)); this includes mediation.

#### Right to Pursue Other Remedies Not Impaired

The right of a person to prompt and equitable resolution of a complaint filed under this policy shall not be impaired by the person's pursuit of other remedies, e.g., criminal complaints, civil actions, etc. Use of this grievance procedure is not a prerequisite to the pursuit of other remedies and use of this grievance procedure does not extend any filing deadline related to the pursuit of other remedies. If a person is pursuing another remedy subject to a complaint under this policy, the District will continue with a simultaneous investigation under this policy.

#### Deadlines

All deadlines under this policy may be extended by the Complaint Manager as he or she deems appropriate. As used in this policy, *school business days* means days on which the District's main office is open.

#### Filing a Complaint

A person (hereinafter Complainant) who wishes to avail him or herself of this grievance procedure may do so by filing a complaint with any District Complaint Manager. The Complainant shall not be required to file a complaint with a particular Complaint Manager and may request a Complaint Manager of the same gender. The Complaint Manager may request the Complainant to provide a written statement regarding the nature of the complaint or require a meeting with a student's parent(s)/guardian(s). The Complaint Manager shall assist the Complainant as needed.

For any complaint alleging bullying and/or cyberbullying of students, the Complaint Manager or designee shall process and review the complaint according to under Board policy 7:180, *Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment*, in addition to any response required by this policy.

For any complaint alleging sex discrimination that, if true, would implicate Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (20 U.S.C. §1681 et seq.), the Title IX Coordinator or designee [PRESSPlus2](#) shall process and review the complaint under Board policy 2:265, *Title IX Grievance Procedure*.

For any complaint alleging harassment on the basis of race, color, or national origin, the Nondiscrimination Coordinator or a Complaint Manager or designee shall process and review the complaint under Board policy 2:270, *Discrimination and Harassment on the Basis of Race, Color, and National Origin Prohibited*, in addition to any response required by this policy.

For any complaint alleging sexual harassment or other violation of Board policy 5:20, *Workplace Harassment Prohibited*, the Nondiscrimination Coordinator or a Complaint Manager or designee shall process and review the complaint according to that policy, in addition to any response required by this policy, and shall consider whether an investigation under Board policy 5:120, *Employee Ethics: Code of Professional Conduct; and Conflict of Interest*, [PRESSPlus3](#) should be initiated.

#### Investigation Process

The Complaint Manager will investigate the complaint or appoint a qualified person to undertake the investigation on his or her behalf. The Complaint Manager shall ensure both parties have an equal



opportunity to present evidence during an investigation. ~~If the Complainant is a student under 18 years of age, the Complaint Manager will notify his or her parents/guardians that they may attend any investigatory meetings in which their child is involved.~~ [PRESSPlus4](#) The complaint and identity of the Complainant will not be disclosed except: (1) as required by law, this policy, or any collective bargaining agreement, (2) as necessary to fully investigate the complaint, or (3) as authorized by the Complainant.

The identity of any student witnesses will not be disclosed except: (1) as required by law, this policy, or any collective bargaining agreement, (2) as necessary to fully investigate the complaint, or (3) as authorized by the parent/guardian of the student witness, or by the student if the student is 18 years of age or older.

The Complaint Manager will inform, at regular intervals, the person(s) filing a complaint under this policy about the status of the investigation. Within 30 school business days after the date the complaint was filed, the Complaint Manager shall file a written report of his or her findings with the Superintendent. The Complaint Manager may request an extension of time from the Superintendent.

The Superintendent will keep the Board informed of all complaints.

If a complaint contains allegations involving the Superintendent or Board member(s), the written report shall be filed directly with the Board, which will make a decision in accordance with paragraph four of the following section of this policy.

#### Decision and Appeal

Within five school business days after receiving the Complaint Manager's report, the Superintendent shall ~~mail~~ provide his or her written decision to the Complainant and the accused ~~by registered mail, return receipt requested, and/or personal delivery.~~ [PRESSPlus5](#) as well as to the Complaint Manager. All decisions shall be based upon the *preponderance of evidence* standard.

Within 10 school business days after receiving the Superintendent's decision, the Complainant or the accused may appeal the decision to the Board by making a written request to the Complaint Manager. The Complaint Manager shall promptly forward all materials relative to the complaint and appeal to the Board.

Within 30 school business days after an appeal of the Superintendent's decision, the Board shall affirm, reverse, or amend the Superintendent's decision or direct the Superintendent to gather additional information. Within five school business days after the Board's decision, the Superintendent shall inform the Complainant and the accused of the Board's action.

For complaints containing allegations involving the Superintendent or Board member(s), within 30 school business days after receiving the Complaint Manager's or outside investigator's report, the Board shall ~~mail~~ provide its written decision to the Complainant and the accused, ~~by registered mail, return receipt requested, and/or personal delivery~~ as well as to the Complaint Manager.

This policy shall not be construed to create an independent right to a hearing before the Superintendent or Board. The failure to strictly follow the timelines in this grievance procedure shall not prejudice any party.

#### Appointing a Nondiscrimination Coordinator and Complaint Managers [PRESSPlus6](#)

The Superintendent shall appoint a Nondiscrimination Coordinator to manage the District's efforts to provide equal opportunity employment and educational opportunities and prohibit the harassment of

employees, students, and others.

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

The Superintendent shall appoint at least one Complaint Manager to administer this policy. If possible, the Superintendent will appoint two Complaint Managers, each of a different gender. The District's Nondiscrimination Coordinator may be appointed as one of the Complaint Managers.

The Superintendent shall insert into this policy and keep current the names, office addresses, email addresses and telephone numbers of the Nondiscrimination Coordinator and the Complaint Managers. The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that students, parents/guardians, employees, and members of the community are informed of the contact information for the District's Nondiscrimination Coordinator and Complaint Managers on an annual basis.

**Nondiscrimination Coordinator:**

Jennifer Durbin, Superintendent  
208 N. West Ave., Mason City, IL 62664  
jdurbin@illinical.org  
217/482-5180

**Title IX Coordinator:**

Cassy Carey, Principal  
208 N. West Ave., Mason City, IL 62664  
ccarey@illinical.org  
217/482-5180

**Complaint Managers:**

Jennifer Durbin, Superintendent  
208 N. West Ave., Mason City, IL 62664  
jdurbin@illinical.org  
217/482-5180

Cassy Carey, Principal  
208 N. West Ave., Mason City, IL 62664  
ccarey@illinical.org  
217/482-5180

**LEGAL REF.:**

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

20 U.S.C. §1232g, Family Education Rights Privacy Act.

20 U.S.C. §1400, The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

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

29 U.S.C. §206(d), Equal Pay Act.

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

29 U.S.C. §791 et seq., Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

29 U.S.C. §2612, Family and Medical Leave Act.

42 U.S.C. §2000d et seq., Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.  
42 U.S.C. §2000e et seq., Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.  
42 U.S.C. §2000ff et seq., Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act.  
42 U.S.C. §11431 et seq., McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act.  
42 U.S.C. §12101 et seq., Americans With Disabilities Act; 28 C.F.R. Part 35.  
105 ILCS 5/2-3.8, 5/3-10, 5/10-20, 5/10-20.5, 5/10-20.7a, 5/10-20.60, 5/10-20.69 5/10-20.75, 5/10-22.5, 5/22-19, 5/22-95 (final citation pending), 5/24-4, 5/27-1, 5/27-23.7, and 45/1-15.  
5 ILCS 415/10(a)(2), Government Severance Pay Act.  
5 ILCS 430/70-5(a), State Officials and Employees Ethics Act.  
410 ILCS 513/, III. Genetic Information Privacy Act.  
740 ILCS 174/, Whistleblower Act.  
740 ILCS 175/, III. False Claims Act.  
775 ILCS 5/, III. Human Rights Act.  
820 ILCS 70/, Employee Credit Privacy Act.  
820 ILCS 112/, Equal Pay Act of 2003.  
820 ILCS 180/, Victims' Economic Security and Safety Act; 56 Ill.Admin.Code Part 280.  
~~820 ILCS 70/, Employee Credit Privacy Act.~~  
~~820 ILCS 112/, Equal Pay Act of 2003.~~  
23 Ill.Admin.Code §§1.240, 200.40, 226.50, and 226.570.

CROSS REF.: 2:105 (Ethics and Gift Ban), 2:265 (Title IX Grievance Procedure), 2:270 (Discrimination and Harassment on the Basis of Race, Color, and National Origin Prohibited), 5:10 (Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Recruitment), 5:20 (Workplace Harassment Prohibited), 5:30 (Hiring Process and Criteria), 5:90 (Abused and Neglected Child Reporting), 6:120 (Education of Children with Disabilities), 6:140 (Education of Homeless Children), 6:170 (Title I Programs), 6:260 (Complaints About Curriculum, Instructional Materials, and Programs), 7:10 (Equal Educational Opportunities), 7:15 (Student and Family Privacy Rights), 7:20 (Harassment of Students Prohibited), 7:180 (Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment), 27:185 (Teen Dating Violence Prohibited), 7:310 (Restrictions on Publications; Elementary Schools), 7:315 (Restrictions on Publications; High Schools), 8:70 (Accommodating Individuals with Disabilities), 8:95 (Parental Involvement), 8:110 (Public Suggestions and Concerns)

Adopted: May 16, 2024

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## **PRESSPlus Comments**

PRESSPlus 1. Updated in response to final regulations implementing Title IX of the Education

Amendments of 1972 (Title IX), requiring all Title IX sex discrimination complaints to be processed using policy 2:265, *Title IX Grievance Procedure*. **Issue 116, August 2024**

PRESSPlus 2. "Title IX Coordinator or designee" is used where Title IX is implicated. In contrast, if Title IX is not implicated, "Nondiscrimination Coordinator or a Complaint Manager or designee" is used (see the last paragraph under the Filing a Complaint subhead). **Issue 116, August 2024**

PRESSPlus 3. See sample administrative procedure 5:120-AP2, *Employee Conduct Standards*, and its exhibit 5:120-AP2, E, *Expectations and Guidelines for Employee-Student Boundaries*, available at PRESS Online by logging in at [www.iasb.com](http://www.iasb.com). **Issue 116, August 2024**

PRESSPlus 4. This sentence is deleted because it is not legally required and it is not practical for districts to seek parent/guardian attendance at every investigatory meeting involving their child. **Issue 116, August 2024**

PRESSPlus 5. Using a consistent delivery method that allows the district to verify the date of receipt is a best practice, e.g., registered mail, return receipt requested, and/or personal delivery. **Issue 116, August 2024**

PRESSPlus 6. Names and contact information are required by law to be listed, and it is important that they be regularly monitored and updated.

If changes are made to the Nondiscrimination Coordinator, Complaint Manager, and/or Title IX Coordinator information, use the Save Status **Adopted with Additional District Edits**. Best practice is that throughout the board policy manual, the same individual be named as Nondiscrimination Coordinator. The Nondiscrimination and Title IX Coordinator(s) need not be the same person. If the district uses a separate Title IX Coordinator who does not also serve as the Nondiscrimination Coordinator, list the Title IX Coordinator's name and contact information separately. **IASB will use the information provided in policy 2:260 for the Nondiscrimination Coordinator and Title IX Coordinator in policies 5:10, 5:20, 7:20, and 7:180. In addition, IASB will use the Title IX Coordinator information provided in policy 2:260 for policy 2:265.**

Complaint Managers identified in individual policies may vary depending upon local district needs. Ensure that policies 2:260, 5:10, 5:20, 7:20, and 7:180 each contain the correct names and contact information for the district's Complaint Managers.

**Issue 116, August 2024**



## Document Status: Draft Update

### Free and Reduced-Price Food Services

#### **4:130-E Exhibit - Free and Reduced-Price Food Services; Meal Charge Notifications**

*On District letterhead, website, in student handbook, newsletters, bulletins, and/or calendars*

Date:

To: Students, Parents/Guardians, and Staff

Re: Eligibility and Meal Charge Notifications

The following notification is provided to all households of students [PRESSPlus1](#) at the beginning of each school year as federally required notification regarding eligibility requirements and the application process for the free and reduced-price food services that are listed in Board policy 4:130, *Free and Reduced-Price Food Services*, and 4:140, *Waiver of Student Fees*. This notification is also provided to households of students transferring to the District during the school year. For more information, see [www.fns.usda.gov/school-meals/unpaid-meal-charges](http://www.fns.usda.gov/school-meals/unpaid-meal-charges), and/or contact the Building Principal or designee.

#### Free and Reduced-Price Food Services Eligibility

When students are unable to pay for their meal services, meal charges will apply per a student's eligibility category and will be processed by the District accordingly.

A student's eligibility for free and reduced-price food services shall be determined by the income eligibility guidelines, family-size income standards, set annually by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and distributed by the Illinois State Board of Education.

#### Meal Charges for Meals Provided by the District

The Building Principal and District staff will work jointly to prevent meal charges from accumulating. Every effort to collect all funds due to the District will be made on a regular basis and before the end of the school year. Contact your Building Principal or designee about whether your charges may be carried over at the end of the school year, i.e., beyond June 30<sup>th</sup>.

Unpaid meal charges are considered delinquent debt when payment is overdue as defined by Board policy 4:45, *Insufficient Fund Checks and Debt Recovery and the Hunger-Free Students' Bill of Rights Act (105 ILCS 123/)*. The District will make reasonable efforts to collect charges classified as delinquent debt, including repeated contacts to collect the amounts and, when necessary, requesting that the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) apply for meal benefits to determine if the student qualifies for such benefits under Board policy 4:130, *Free and Reduced-Price Food Services*. The District will provide a federally reimbursable meal or snack to a student who requests one, regardless of the student's ability to pay or negative account balance.

When a student's funds are low ~~or~~ and when there is a negative balance, reminders will be provided to

the staff, students, and their parent(s)/guardian(s) at regular intervals during the school year. If a parent/guardian regularly fails to provide meal money and does not qualify for free meal benefits or refuses to apply for such benefits, the Building Principal or designee, will direct the next course of action. Continual failure to provide meal money may require the District to notify the Ill. Dept. of Children and Family Services (DCFS) and/or take legal steps to recover the unpaid meal charges.

LEGAL REF.:

Healthy Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 (P.L. 111-296).

7 C.F.R. §245.5.

105 ILCS 123/ Hunger-Free Students' Bill of Rights Act.

23 Ill.Admin.Code Part 305, School Food Service.

DATED: ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ May 18, 2017

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**PRESSPlus Comments**

PRESSPlus 1. Updated throughout in response to a PRM five-year review. Revisions are consistent with federal guidance; see U.S. Dept. of Agriculture memo, *Unpaid Meal Charges: Local Meal Charge Policies* (7-8-2016), available at: [www.fns.usda.gov/cr/unpaid-meal-charges-local-meal-charge-policies](http://www.fns.usda.gov/cr/unpaid-meal-charges-local-meal-charge-policies). **Issue 113, October 2023**



## *Document Status: Draft Update*

### 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 Law* Training

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. ~~Chronic health conditions of students,~~ [PRESSPlus1](#)
  - b. Anaphylactic reactions and management, conducted by a person with expertise on anaphylactic reactions and management;
  - c. Management of asthma, prevention of asthma symptoms, and emergency response in the school setting;
  - d. 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;
  - e. 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;
  - f. Current best practices regarding identification and treatment of attention deficit hyperactivity disorder; and
  - g. 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 ILCS 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.<sup>PRESSPlus2</sup>
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;
  - b. 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 110/3.10 (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 5/27-23.4 (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 teachers, administrators, school resource officers, and staff regarding the adverse consequences of school exclusion and justice-system involvement, effective classroom management strategies, culturally responsive discipline, 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. All high school coaching personnel, including the head and assistant coaches, and athletic directors must obtain online concussion certification by completing online concussion awareness training in accordance with 105 ILCS 25/1.15. Coaching personnel and athletic directors hired on or after 8-19-14 must be certified before their position's start date.
4. 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.
5. For school personnel who work with hazardous or toxic materials on a regular basis, training on the safe handling and use of such materials.
6. 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.
7. 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.
8. For all District staff, annual sexual harassment prevention training.
9. Title IX requirements for training in accordance with 34 C.F.R. §106.8(d) as follows (see Board policy 2:265, *Title IX Grievance Procedure*). [PRESSPlus3](#)
  - a. ~~For all District staff, training on the definition of sexual harassment, the scope of the District's education program or activity, all relevant District policies and procedures, and the necessity to promptly forward all reports of sexual harassment to the Title IX Coordinator.~~
  - b. ~~For school personnel designated as Title IX coordinators, investigators, decision makers, or informal resolution facilitators, training on the definition of sexual harassment, the scope of the District's education program or activity, how to conduct an investigation and grievance process (including hearings, appeals, and informal resolution processes, as applicable), and how to serve impartially.~~
  - c. ~~For school personnel designated as Title IX investigators, training on issues of relevance to create an investigative report that fairly summarizes relevant evidence.~~
  - d. ~~For school personnel designated as Title IX decision makers, training on issues of relevance of questions and evidence, including when questions and evidence about a complainant's sexual predisposition or prior sexual behavior are not relevant.~~
10. 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.
11. 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.

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*. [PRESSPlus4](#)

#### 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, and 5/24-5.

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 ILCS 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), 7:270 (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: May 16, 2024

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## **PRESSPlus Comments**

PRESSPlus 1. Updated in response to 105 ILCS 5/10-22.39(b-5), amended by P.A. 103-603, eff. 1-1-25, deleting “chronic health conditions of students” from the list of required staff training regarding health conditions of students. **Issue 116, August 2024**

PRESSPlus 2. Updated in response to 105 ILCS 5/10-22.39(b-20), amended by P.A. 103-603, eff. 1-1-25, requiring in-service training on the definitions of *trauma*, *trauma-responsive learning environments*, and *whole child* as set forth in 105 ILCS 5/3-11. **Issue 116, August 2024**

PRESSPlus 3. Updated in response to 34 C.F.R. §106.8(d). **Issue 116, August 2024**

PRESSPlus 4. Districts are not required to train staff on life-saving techniques, though 105 ILCS 110/3, amended by P.A. 103-608, eff. 1-1-25, requires that all teachers, administrators, and other school personnel, as determined by school officials, be provided with information about emergency procedures and life-saving techniques within 30 days after the first day of each school year. Such life-saving techniques must include the Heimlich maneuver, hands-only cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), and automated external defibrillator (AED) use. The information provided must be in accordance with standards of the American Red Cross, the American Heart Association (AHA), or another nationally recognized certifying organization. See e.g., <https://cpr.heart.org/en/cpr-courses-and-kits/hands-only-cpr/hands-only-cpr-resources>, <https://cpr.heart.org/en/training-programs/aed-implementation>, and [www.redcross.org/take-a-class/resources/learn-first-aid/adult-child-choking](http://www.redcross.org/take-a-class/resources/learn-first-aid/adult-child-choking). **Issue 116, August 2024**



## *Document Status: Draft Update*

### STUDENTS

#### **7:20 Harassment of Students Prohibited**

No person, including a School District employee, agent, or student, shall harass, intimidate, or bully a student on the basis of actual or perceived: race; color; national origin; military status; unfavorable discharge status from military service; sex; sexual orientation; gender identity; gender-related identity or expression; ancestry; age; religion; physical or mental disability; order of protection status; status of being homeless; actual or potential marital or parental status, including pregnancy; physical appearance; socioeconomic status; academic status; association with a person or group with one or more of the aforementioned actual or perceived characteristics; or any other distinguishing characteristic. The District will not tolerate harassing, intimidating conduct, or bullying whether verbal, physical, sexual, or visual, that affects the tangible benefits of education, that unreasonably interferes with a student's educational performance, or that creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive educational environment. Examples of prohibited conduct include name-calling, using derogatory slurs, stalking, sexual violence, causing psychological harm, threatening or causing physical harm, threatened or actual destruction of property, or wearing or possessing items depicting or implying hatred or prejudice of one of the characteristics stated above.

#### Sexual Harassment Prohibited

The District shall provide an educational environment free of verbal, physical, or other conduct or communications constituting harassment on the basis of sex as defined and otherwise prohibited by State and federal law. See Board policies 2:265, *Title IX Grievance Procedure*, and 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*.

#### Making a Report or Complaint

Students are encouraged to promptly report claims or incidents of bullying, intimidation, harassment, sexual harassment, or any other prohibited conduct to the Nondiscrimination Coordinator, Building Principal, Assistant Building Principal, Dean of Students, a Complaint Manager, or any employee with whom the student is comfortable speaking. A student may choose to report to an employee of the student's same gender.

Reports under this policy will be considered a report under Board policy 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*, and/or Board policy 2:265, *Title IX Grievance Procedure*. The Nondiscrimination Coordinator, Title IX Coordinator, and/or Complaint Manager or designee shall process and review the report according to the appropriate grievance procedure.

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:**

Jennifer Durbin, Superintendent

208 N. West Ave.. Mason Citv. IL 62664

#### **Title IX Coordinator:**

Cassy Carey, Principal

208 N. West Ave.. Mason Citv. IL 62664



jdurbin@illinical.org

217/482-5180

ccarey@illinical.org

217/482-5180

**Complaint Managers:**

Jennifer Durbin, Superintendent

208 N. West Ave., Mason City, IL 62664

jdurbin@illinical.org

217/482-5180

Cassy Carey, Principal

208 N. West Ave., Mason City, IL 62664

ccarey@illinical.org

217/482-5180

The Superintendent shall use reasonable measures to inform staff members and students of this policy by including:

1. For students, age-appropriate information about the contents of this policy in the District's student handbook(s), on the District's website, and, if applicable, in any other areas where policies, rules, and standards of conduct are otherwise posted in each school.
2. For staff members, this policy in the appropriate employee handbook(s), if applicable, and/or in any other areas where policies, rules, and standards of conduct are otherwise made available to staff.

Investigation Process

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

Reports and complaints of 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.

For any report or complaint alleging sex-based [PRESSPlus1](#) harassment that, if true, would implicate Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (20 U.S.C. §1681 et seq.), the Title IX Coordinator or designee shall consider whether action under Board policy 2:265, *Title IX Grievance Procedure*, should be initiated.

For any report or complaint alleging harassment on the basis of race, color, or national origin, the Nondiscrimination Coordinator or a Complaint Manager or designee shall investigate under Board policy 2:270, *Discrimination and Harassment on the Basis of Race, Color, and National Origin Prohibited*.

For any other alleged student harassment that does not require action under Board policies 2:265, *Title IX Grievance Procedure*, or 2:270, *Discrimination and Harassment on the Basis of Race, Color, and National Origin Prohibited*, the Nondiscrimination Coordinator or a Complaint Manager or designee shall consider whether an investigation under Board policies 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*, and/or 7:190, *Student Behavior*, should be initiated, regardless of whether a written report

or complaint is filed.

### Reports That Involve Alleged Incidents of Sexual Abuse of a Child by School Personnel

An *alleged incident of sexual abuse* is an incident of sexual abuse of a child, as defined in 720 ILCS 5/11-9.1A(b), 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.

Any complaint alleging an incident of sexual abuse shall be processed and reviewed according to Board policy 5:90, *Abused and Neglected Child Reporting*. In addition to reporting the suspected abuse, the complaint shall also be processed under Board policy 2:265, *Title IX Grievance Procedure*, or Board policy 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*.

### Enforcement

Any District employee who is determined, after an investigation, to have engaged in conduct prohibited by this policy will be subject to disciplinary action up to and including discharge. 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/guardian, invitee, etc. Any District student who is determined, after an investigation, to have engaged in conduct prohibited by this policy will be subject to disciplinary action, including but not limited to, suspension and expulsion consistent with the behavior policy. Any person making a knowingly false accusation regarding prohibited conduct will likewise be subject to disciplinary action.

### Retaliation Prohibited

Retaliation against any person for bringing complaints or providing information about harassment is prohibited (see Board policies 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*, 2:265, *Title IX Grievance Procedure*, and 2:270, *Discrimination and Harassment on the Basis of Race, Color, and National Origin Prohibited*).

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

### LEGAL REF.:

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

29 U.S.C. §791 et seq., Rehabilitation Act of 1973; 34 C.F.R. Part 104.

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

105 ILCS 5/10-20.12, 5/10-22.5, 5/10-23.13, 5/27-1, and 5/27-23.7.

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

23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.240 and Part 200.

Davis v. Monroe County Bd. of Educ., 526 U.S. 629 (1999).

Franklin v. Gwinnett Co. Public Schs., 503 U.S. 60 (1992).

Gebser v. Lago Vista Independent Sch. Dist., 524 U.S. 274 (1998).

West v. Derby Unified Sch. Dist. No. 260, 206 F.3d 1358 (10th Cir. 2000).

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), 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), 7:10 (Equal Educational Opportunities), 7:180 (Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment), 7:185 (Teen Dating Violence Prohibited), 7:190 (Student Behavior), 7:240 (Conduct Code for Participants in Extracurricular Activities)

Adopted: May 16, 2024

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### **PRESSPlus Comments**

PRESSPlus 1. Updated in response to final regulations implementing Title IX. **Issue 116, August 2024**

## Document Status: Draft Update

### STUDENTS

#### 7:185 Teen Dating Violence Prohibited

Engaging in teen dating violence that takes place at school, on school property, at school-sponsored activities, or in vehicles used for school-provided transportation is prohibited. For purposes of this policy, the term *teen dating violence* occurs whenever a student who is 13 to 19 years of age uses or threatens to use physical, mental, or emotional abuse to control an individual in the dating relationship; or uses or threatens to use sexual violence in the dating relationship.

The Superintendent or designee shall develop and maintain a program to respond to incidents of teen dating violence that:

1. Fully implements and enforces each of the following Board policies:
  - a. 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*. This policy provides a method for any student, parent/guardian, employee, or community member to file a complaint if he or she believes that the School Board, its employees, or its agents have violated his or her rights under the State or federal Constitution, State or federal statute, Board policy, or various enumerated bases.
  - b. 2:265, *Title IX Grievance Procedure*. This policy prohibits any person, a District employee, agent, or student from engaging in sexual discrimination, including sex-based [PRESSPlus1](#) harassment, in violation of Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972. Prohibited conduct includes but is not limited to sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking.
  - c. 7:20, *Harassment of Students Prohibited*. This policy prohibits any person, including a District employee, agent, or student, from harassing, intimidating, or bullying a student based on the student's actual or perceived characteristics of sex; sexual orientation; gender identity; and gender-related identity or expression (this policy includes more protected statuses).
  - d. 7:180, *Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment?*. This policy prohibits students from engaging in bullying, intimidation, and harassment at school, school-related events and electronically. Prohibited conduct includes threats, stalking, physical violence, sexual harassment, sexual violence, theft, public humiliation, destruction of property, or retaliation for asserting or alleging an act of bullying.
2. Encourages anyone with information about incidents of teen dating violence to report them to any of the following individuals:
  - a. Any school staff member. School staff shall respond to incidents of teen dating violence by following the District's established procedures for the prevention, identification, investigation, and response to bullying and school violence.
  - b. The Nondiscrimination Coordinator, Building Principal, Assistant Building Principal, Dean of Students, or a Complaint Manager identified in policy 7:20, *Harassment of Students Prohibited*.



3. Incorporates age-appropriate instruction in grades 7 through 12, in accordance with the District's comprehensive health education program in Board policy 6:60, *Curriculum Content*. This includes incorporating student social and emotional development into the District's educational program as required by State law and in alignment with Board policy 6:65, *Student Social and Emotional Development*.
4. Incorporates education for school staff, as recommended by the Nondiscrimination Coordinator, Building Principal, Assistant Building Principal, Dean of Students, or a Complaint Manager.
5. Notifies students and parents/guardians of this policy.

Incorporated

by Reference:7:180-AP1, (Prevention, Identification, Investigation, and Response to Bullying)

LEGAL REF.:

105 ILCS 110/3.10.

CROSS REF.: 2:240 (Board Policy Development), 2:260 (Uniform Grievance Procedure), 2:265 (Title IX Grievance Procedure), 5:100 (Staff Development Program), 5:230 (Maintaining Student Discipline), 6:60 (Curriculum Content), 6:65 (Student Social and Emotional Development), 7:20 (Harassment of Students Prohibited), 7:180 (Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment), 7:190 (Student Behavior), 7:220 (Bus Conduct), 7:230 (Misconduct by Students with Disabilities), 7:240 (Conduct Code for Participants in Extracurricular Activities)

Adopted: October 15, 2020

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### **PRESSPlus Comments**

PRESSPlus 1. Updated in response to final regulations implementing Title IX. **Issue 116, August 2024**

## *Document Status: Draft Update - Rewritten*

### Board Attorney

#### **2:160-E Exhibit - Checklist for Selecting a Board Attorney**

The School Board selects and retains the Board Attorney(s). The Board may use this checklist for guidance when it selects and retains attorney(s) and/or law firms for legal services. This checklist is designed for the Board to use a request for proposal (RFP) process to seek outside attorneys/law firms. The Board may also select an attorney without using an RFP process and adapt this checklist. The Board may also adapt this checklist and use it for an application process, if the Board seeks an inhouse attorney. For more information, call the Ill. Association of School Board's (IASB) Office of General Counsel; see its current phone numbers at [www.iasb.com/about-us/staff/#office-general-counsel](http://www.iasb.com/about-us/staff/#office-general-counsel). [PRESSPlus1](#)

#### **☐ Determine what type of legal services the District needs.**

1. Review Board policy 2:160, *Board Attorney*. **Note:** Critically analyze whether the District's legal needs are best served by in-house attorneys or outside attorneys/law firms. Many districts use a combination of these services. Many districts also use multiple attorneys/law firms for their specialties, e.g., different law firms for bond counsel, special education, or labor law. Some boards also approve a panel of attorneys and allow the administration to choose which attorney to use.
2. Consider the following factors to analyze the type(s) of legal services needed for the District including, but are not limited to:
  - District's size;
  - Any past and current experiences with legal matters;
  - Complexity of the District's legal needs;
  - Availability of expertise; and
  - Cost of outside fees compared to internal staff expenses for an in-house arrangement.

#### **☐ Develop a list of qualifications necessary for providing quality legal services to the District.**

1. Review Board policy 4:60, *Purchases and Contracts*. **Note:** While State law exempts hiring an attorney from bidding requirements (105 ILCS 10-20.21(a)), the Board may want to review its procurement processes and align procurement for legal services to its non-bidding-related standards for purchases, e.g., avoiding favoritism, staying within the District's budget, etc.
2. Develop the list of qualifications. The major qualifications include, but are not limited to:
  - Licensed to practice law in Illinois and in good standing with the Ill. Attorney Registration and Disciplinary Commission (ARDC) (see checklist item *Conduct a reference check and other background investigations*, below)
  - Member of the District's assigned United States district court and the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals

- Substantive knowledge and experience in the legal areas matching District’s needs, e.g., bidding, civil rights, collective bargaining, education reform, employment law, Freedom of Information Act, Open Meetings Act, other records laws, special education, student rights, etc. **Note:** This list of knowledge and experience must be created by the District’s identified needs and may change from time to time.
- Experience in all aspects of contract, employment, and school law
- Experience that meets the District’s needs, including litigation experience in State and federal courts
- Membership in professional associations, such as, the Ill. Council of School Attorneys (ICSA) and education law sections of bar associations, etc.
- Demonstrated knowledge of and ability to apply professional responsibility rules
- Accessibility for the District’s identified needs, e.g., evening Board meetings, phone calls, etc.
- Ability to declare that representation of the District will be to the exclusion of all other clients having potential conflicts with the District’s interests
- When additional qualifications apply, list those qualifications for providing legal services. This may include specialties such as bond counsel, etc.

□ **Develop the RFP.**

1. Insert the list of qualifications that the Board developed.
2. Include the following information:
  - The deadline for responses to be submitted
  - The location (address or email) where responses should be sent
  - A statement that the Board is soliciting proposals from qualified lawyers and law firms to provide legal services to the School District
  - Significant information about the District (see Board policy 1:30, *School District Philosophy*, for the District’s mission statement that is specific to the community’s goals)
  - The scope of work, e.g., “The Board Attorney will provide legal advice concerning [*typical duties, specific duties, excluded duties*].”
  - Qualifications
  - Details about interviews and presentations
3. Specify what responders must include in their responses, such as the following:
  - Cover letter, complete name, address, and legal structure (if the responder is a law firm)
  - The individuals who prepared the response, including their titles
  - If different from above, the identity of and directory information for the individuals who have authority to answer questions regarding the submitted proposal
  - A proposed fee schedule, e.g., “Respondents may combine set fees and hourly fees. If hourly fees are proposed, please provide the minimum time increment for billing purposes. If a retainer agreement is proposed, please specifically describe options.”
  - A summary of the responder’s relevant experience representing public schools
  - A writing sample
  - An assurance that the responder meets the RFP’s qualifications
  - References including current or past clients

## ☐ **Announce the RFP.**

1. Title the announcement. **Note:** How and where the RFP is announced are at the Board's sole discretion. The Board may want to announce the RFP during an open meeting, post it on the District's website, mail or email it to local law firms, and/or place it in the local newspaper(s) or other legal publications. A directory of those lawyers belonging to the ICSA is on the IASB website, [www.iasb.com](http://www.iasb.com). A printed copy is available upon request. Inclusion in the directory does not represent an IASB endorsement. Some attorneys who practice school law do not belong to ICSA. Other online sources, such as the Ill. State Bar Association, also maintain directories of information about attorneys. The Board may want to title the announcement "The [*Insert District's name*] School Board Requests Proposals to Provide Legal Services."
2. Announce that the Board seeks an attorney or law firm to serve as its Board Attorney.
3. Inform the reader that the attorney or law firm selected will serve either *at will* or from the date of appointment to [*date*]. The length of the appointment is at the Board's discretion.
4. State the School District's philosophy or mission statement.
5. Insert the RFP location and contact information with the beginning date and time.
6. Tell prospective responders that completed RFPs must be returned by [*certain time and date*] to [*name and title of person receiving applications*].

## ☐ **Receive and manage responses to the RFP.**

1. Review Board policy 2:110, *Qualifications, Term, and Duties of Board Officers*. The Board President is a logical officer to accept the applications, but this task may be delegated to the Secretary or Superintendent's secretary if the Board determines that it is more convenient. Who accepts applications is at the Board's sole discretion and should be decided by the Board prior to posting the RFP announcement.
2. The Board will discuss, at an open meeting, its process to review the applications and who will contact RFP responders for an interview.
3. The designated person will contact RFP responders for interviews.

## ☐ **Develop interview questions if the Board interviews attorneys or law firms.**

1. Interview questions are at the Board's discretion.
2. A prospective attorney or law firm to fill the Board Attorney position may raise other specific issues that the Board will want to cover during an interview.
3. The following non-exhaustive list of interview questions may help the Board tailor its questions toward finding an attorney or law firm with an approach to the role of the Board Attorney that the Board desires:
  - What do you see as your role as Board Attorney?
  - How many other school districts do you currently represent?
  - What kind of legal services do you provide to your school clients? Please explain how your other experience is relevant to this position.
  - How many years of experience does your firm (or, the attorney) have? How long have you been practicing law? How long have you been representing school districts?
  - What methods will you use to ensure all members of the Board, which is your client, remain informed? See the discussion about the *Ill. Professional Rules of Conduct* in f/n 2 of sample policy 2:160, *Board Attorney*.
  - How would you manage a situation in which the Board feels strongly about its position but



you believe that position is not legally supportable? The *Ill. Rules of Professional Conduct*, at [www.illinoiscourts.gov/supremecourt/rules/art\\_viii/default\\_new.asp](http://www.illinoiscourts.gov/supremecourt/rules/art_viii/default_new.asp), require attorneys to represent the Board in its capacity as the governing body for the District. The responders should be discussing these rules, specifically Rule 1.7 (Conflict of Interest: Current Clients) and Rule 1.13 (Organization as Client), among others, in their answers to this question. See also, sample policy 2:160, *Board Attorney*.

- How would you manage a situation in which the Board's interest may be or become adverse to one or more of its members? See the discussion about the *Ill. Professional Rules of Conduct* in f/n 2 of sample policy 2:160, *Board Attorney*.
- How would you manage a situation in which the Board and Superintendent are in conflict? How about a divided Board? See the discussion about the *Ill. Professional Rules of Conduct* in f/n 2 of sample policy 2:160, *Board Attorney*.
- If the Board did something that you had advised against, could you still defend the Board's action? See the discussion about the *Ill. Professional Rules of Conduct* in f/n 2 of sample policy 2:160, *Board Attorney*.
- Will you try to shape Board decisions or do you have a whatever the Board decides philosophy? See the discussion about the *Ill. Professional Rules of Conduct* in f/n 2 of sample policy 2:160, *Board Attorney*.
- Do you give clients specific recommendations or do you advise them of the available options and let the client decide? See the discussion about the *Ill. Professional Rules of Conduct* in f/n 2 of sample policy 2:160, *Board Attorney*.
- Do you provide your school Board clients with any updating services gratis?
- How do you keep your Board clients apprised of litigation and other legal matters you are handling for them?
- Will you be handling this business personally, i.e., will you delegate to your associates or partners?
- Can anyone else in your firm handle our inquiries when you are unavailable?
- How do you keep current on school law?
- When do you tell your school clients to contact you regarding a matter with possible legal repercussions?
- Have you represented a school district in a matter involving the rights of disabled students? ...involving disabled employees? ... involving a student expulsion? ... involving a teacher dismissal? ... involving an employee's contract or dismissal? ... involving a building contract or bidding matter? ... Can you tell us about that case?
- How do you bill? How are you to be paid? Please explain your rates and/or fees. The subject of billing should cover whether the attorney or law firm prepares a budget for representation and its method for billing in detail, including the date and time, what work was performed, and who worked on the project, along with expenses.
- Did you bring a written agreement for legal services, engagement letter, or a retainer agreement? If yes, please review it for us now. If not, please explain the options for a written agreement for legal services, engagement letter, or a retainer agreement.

▮ **Develop an interview protocol.** Interviews may occur in closed session pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1).

1. The Board President will lead the Board as it interviews responders to its RFP. See 105 ILCS 5/10-13 stating that the Board President presides at all meetings and Board policy 2:110, *Qualifications, Term, and Duties of Board Officers*.

2. The Board may also want to consider allowing an equal amount of time for each interview.
3. Discuss the following items with each responder during the interview:
  - Introduce Board members to the responder
  - Describe the Board's interview process, selection process, and ask the responder if he or she has questions about the Board's process for selecting its attorney
  - Describe the District's philosophy or mission statement
  - Describe the Board Attorney position by reviewing the RFP
  - Begin asking the interview questions (see *Develop interview questions*, above)
  - Ask the responder whether he or she has any questions for the Board
  - Thank the responder and inform him or her when the Board expects to make its decision and how the responder will be contacted regarding the Board's decision

**☐ Conduct a reference check and other background investigation(s).**

1. The Board President may perform this check or direct the Superintendent to:
  - Check the ARDC's master roll of attorneys as "Authorized to Practice Law" (To do this, enter the attorney's name into the ARDC's registration and public disciplinary records database at: [www.iardc.org/Lawyer/Search](http://www.iardc.org/Lawyer/Search).)
  - Click on the attorney's name to review whether any disciplinary actions are pending or resolved; current and prior actions will appear at the bottom of the screen
  - If disciplinary actions are listed, ask the attorney or law firm for more information
2. There are other online attorney review services available. These services may be overly subjective and/or the attorney may have control over the content in these services. Always check with the ARDC.
3. Call references provided by the responder.

**☐ Enter into a written agreement or engagement letter with the selected attorney or law firm.**

1. All *agreements for legal services* should be in writing. At minimum, the agreement should provide the fee arrangement and the scope of services. *Agreements for legal services* and individual billing statements from the Board Attorney are subject to disclosure pursuant to a Freedom of Information Act request (PAO 14-02).
2. Discuss the fee arrangements with the responder and decide:
  - Whether to enter into a fee arrangement and/or a retainer agreement (**Note:** Attorneys typically bill by a pre-determined percentage of the hour, e.g., in one-tenth of an hour increments. Many districts enter into a retainer agreement for legal services or an engagement letter that requires them to pay the attorney a pre-determined fee every month. In return, the attorney provides a pre-determined amount of legal services whenever the district needs him or her. Districts find this useful because (1) they can budget for legal expenses, (2) legal advice is available up to the pre-determined amount for lower fees, and (3) this arrangement often provides for an enhanced, long-term relationship with the attorney.)
  - The appropriate scope of services
3. Review the written contract or memorialized relationship (*agreement for legal services or engagement letter*) for these provisions:

- Fee arrangement
- Scope of services
- Which attorneys will be providing legal services
- A statement that the Board controls all legal decisions
- A statement that the attorney and his or her law firm have no conflicts of interest or, if a conflict exists, that the Board understands the conflict and waives it
- Board's right to terminate the services of the attorney and law firm at any time for any reason

4. Approve the *agreement for legal services or engagement letter* during an open Board meeting.

▮ **Announce the appointment to District staff and community.**

1. The contents of the announcement and length of time it is displayed are at the Board's sole discretion.
2. The Board may want to consider announcing during an open meeting. See Board policy 8:10, *Connection with the Community*.
3. The Board may want to include the following information in its announcement:
  - The Board appointed [attorney's name or law firm name] as the Board Attorney
  - The appointment will begin on [date] for [length of time]
  - The Board previously established qualifications for the Board Attorney in a careful and thoughtful manner, e.g., "[Attorney or lawfirm's name] meets these qualifications and has demonstrated the willingness to accept its duties and responsibilities. [Attorney or law firm's name] brings a clear understanding of the demands and expectations of the Board Attorney position along with a constructive attitude toward the challenge."

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**PRESSPlus Comments**

PRESSPlus 1. This Board exhibit is **Rewritten** for PRESS Plus Issue 115. Minor updates were made to the **PRESS** sample, including a corrected link to the Ill. Attorney Registration and Disciplinary Commission. A redlined version showing the changes made is available at **PRESS** Online by logging in at [www.iasb.com](http://www.iasb.com). **Issue 115, June 2024**



# Document Status: Draft Update - Rewritten

## School Board Meeting Procedure

### 2:220-E3 Exhibit - Closed Meeting Minutes

#### Closed Meeting Minutes

*Items in bold are required by 5 ILCS 120/2.06(a)(1)-(3). Non-bolded items align with best practices.*

<b>Date:</b>	<b>Time:</b>
<b>Location:</b>	
Name of person(s) taking and recording the minutes:	
Name of person presiding:	
<b>Members in attendance:</b>  1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7.	<b>Members absent:</b>  1. 2. 3.
<b>Summary of the discussion on all matters (as specified in the vote to close the meeting):</b>  <b>Basis for the finding that litigation is probable or imminent, if applicable (5 ILCS 120/2(c) (11)):</b>  Time of adjournment or return to open meeting:	
<p><i>The Board of Education, during its semi-annual review of closed session minutes, has decided these minutes no longer need confidential treatment. <u>Semi-annual means every six months, or as soon after as is practicable, taking into account the nature and meeting schedule of the board.</u> 5 ILCS 120/2.06(d), amended by P.A. 102-653. <a href="#">PRESSPlus1</a></i></p>	
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>These minutes are available for public inspection as of: _____ .</b>  (Date)	



DATED: September 21, 2017

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### **PRESSPlus Comments**

PRESSPlus 1. For the sake of brevity and to align with the closed meeting exception in 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(21) that continues to refer to a public body's *semi-annual* review of its closed session minutes, this exhibit use the term *semi-annual*, even though that term was removed from 5 ILCS 120/2.06(d). **Issue 108, November 2021**

## *Document Status: Draft Update - Rewritten*

### School Board Meeting Procedure

#### **2:220-E8 Exhibit - School Board Records Maintenance Requirements and FAQs**

##### Open Meetings Act [PRESSPlus1](#)

The Open Meetings Act (OMA) requires public bodies to “keep written minutes of all their meetings, whether open or closed, and a verbatim record of all their closed meetings in the form of an audio or video recording.” 5 ILCS 120/2.06(a). Minutes must include, but are not limited to: (1) the date, time, and place of the meeting; (2) the members of the public body recorded as either present or absent and whether the members were physically present or present by means of video or audio conference; and (3) a summary of discussion on all matters proposed, deliberated, or decided, and record of any votes taken. Id.

The remainder of Section 2.06 addresses the approval of open meeting minutes, the treatment of verbatim recordings of closed meetings, the semi-annual review of closed meeting minutes, the confidential nature of closed meeting minutes, and the right of persons to address public officials under rules established and recorded by the public body. The requirements of Section 2.06, as well as OMA requirements pertaining to Board agendas, are included in policy 2:220, *School Board Meeting Procedure*.

Exhibit 2:220-E3, *Closed Meeting Minutes*, provides a sample template for keeping closed meeting minutes that incorporates the requirements of Section 2.06 of OMA. It also includes an area to designate if the Board has determined, pursuant to Section 2.06(d), that the closed meeting minutes no longer need confidential treatment.

Exhibit 2:220-E4, *Open Meeting Minutes*, contains a protocol for open meeting minutes that incorporates the requirements of Section 2.06 of OMA. It also provides a sample template for keeping open meeting minutes.

Exhibit 2:220-E5, *Semi-Annual Review of Closed Meeting Minutes*, contains a process for implementing the semi-annual review of closed meeting minutes, and exhibit 2:220-E6, *Log of Closed Meeting Minutes*, is designed to facilitate this semi-annual review (every six months, or as soon after as is practicable, taking into account the nature and meeting schedule of the Board). 5 ILCS 120/2.06(d), amended by P.A. 102-653.

Exhibit 2:220-E9, *Requirements for No Physical Presence of Quorum and Participation by Audio or Video During Disaster Declaration*, contains a process for compliance with 105 ILCS 120/7(e), added by P.A. 101-640, when a board is meeting without a physical quorum present at the meeting location during a disaster declaration related to public health concerns.

##### Local Records Act

The Local Records Act (LRA) provides that public records, including “any book, paper, map, photograph, digitized electronic material, or other official documentary material, regardless of physical form or characteristics, made, produced, executed or received by any agency or officer pursuant to law or in connections with the transaction of public business and preserved or appropriate for

preservation by such agency or officer” must be preserved unless the State Local Records Commission has given permission to destroy those records. 50 ILCS 205/3 and 7. Board records, including agendas, meeting packets and meeting minutes, fall into this definition.

Public bodies located in Cook County must work with the Local Records Commission of Cook County to determine how long they must retain public records. Public bodies located outside of Cook County must work with the Downstate Local Records Commission to determine how long they must retain public records.

Policy 2:250, *Access to District Public Records*, contains a subhead entitled **Preserving Public Records** which provides as follows:

Public records, including email messages, shall be preserved and cataloged if: (1) they are evidence of the District’s organization, function, policies, procedures, or activities, (2) they contain informational data appropriate for preservation, (3) their retention is required by State or federal law, or (4) they are subject to a retention request by the Board Attorney (e.g., a litigation hold), District auditor, or other individual authorized by the School Board or State or federal law to make such a request. Unless its retention is required as described in items numbered 3 or 4 above, a public record, as defined by the Illinois Local Records Act, may be destroyed when authorized by the Local Records Commission.

See the sample policy, 2:220, *School Board Meeting Procedure*, for all relevant footnotes. Also see administrative procedure 2:250-AP2, *Protocols for Record Preservation and Development of Retention Schedules*, for recommendations regarding school district records retention protocols and links to web-based record management resources.

Open Meeting Minutes

Are we required to approve them?	Must they be semi-annually reviewed?	May we release them to the public?	May we destroy them?
<p>Yes, within 30 days or at the next subsequent meeting, whichever is later.</p> <p><i>A public body shall approve the minutes of its open meeting within 30 days after that meeting or at the public body’s second subsequent regular meeting, whichever is later. 5 ILCS 120/2.06(b).</i></p>	<p>No.</p> <p>Unlike the closed meeting requirement, OMA does not contain semi-annual review requirements for open meeting minutes.</p>	<p>Yes, must within 10 days after minutes are approved.</p> <p><i>The minutes of meetings open to the public shall be available for public inspection within 10 days after the approval of such minutes by the public body. Beginning July 1, 2006, at the time it complies with other requirements of this subsection, a public body that has a website that the full-time staff of the public body maintains shall post the minutes of a regular meeting of its governing body open to the public</i></p>	<p>No.</p> <p>There is no OMA provision permitting the destruction of open meeting minutes, and <b>they must be preserved unless the State Local Records Commission has given permission to destroy them.</b></p> <p>If a public body would like to destroy open meeting minutes, then it must comply with the LRA and work with its Local Records Commission. It is highly unlikely, however, that the Local Records</p>

		<p><i>on the public body's website within 10 days after the approval of the minutes by the public body. Beginning July 1, 2006, any minutes of meetings open to the public posted on the public body's website shall remain posted on the website for at least 60 days after their initial posting. 5 ILCS 120/2.06(b).</i></p>	<p>Commission would approve of their destruction.</p>
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**Open Meeting Verbatim Recordings**

<b>Are we required to approve them?</b>	<b>Must they be semi-annually reviewed?</b>	<b>May we release them to the public?</b>	<b>May we destroy them?</b>
<p>No.</p> <p>OMA does not require public bodies to approve verbatim recordings of open meetings.</p>	<p>No.</p> <p>Unlike the closed meeting requirement, OMA does not require public bodies to keep verbatim recordings of open meetings, <i>unless</i> the public body is meeting without the physical presence of a quorum during a disaster declaration related to public health concerns. 5 ILCS 120/7(e). OMA does not contain semi-annual review requirements for open meeting verbatim recordings.</p>	<p>Yes.</p> <p>Unlike the closed meeting requirement, OMA does not require public bodies to keep verbatim recordings of open meetings, <i>unless</i> the public body is meeting without the physical presence of a quorum during a disaster declaration related to public health concerns. 5 ILCS 120/7(e). If a public body makes verbatim recordings of open meetings, then such recordings are subject to public disclosure pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act. 5 ILCS 140/.</p>	<p>Open meeting verbatim recordings made of meetings held without the physical presence of a quorum of a public body during a disaster declaration related to public health concerns may be destroyed after 18 months if prerequisites are met. (See <a href="#">Closed Meeting Verbatim Recordings</a> subhead, below).</p> <p><i>[P]ublic bodies holding open meetings under this subsection (e) must also keep a verbatim record of all their meetings in the form of an audio or video recording. Verbatim records made under this paragraph (9) shall be made available to the public under, and are otherwise subject to, the provisions of Section 2.06. 5 ILCS 120/7(e)(9).</i></p>



			In all other cases, if a public body would like to destroy open meeting verbatim recordings, then it must comply with the LRA and work with its Local Records Commission.
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Closed Meeting Minutes

<b>Are we required to approve them?</b>	<b>Must they be semi-annually reviewed?</b>	<b>May we release them to the public?</b>	<b>May we destroy them?</b>
<p>Yes.</p> <p>OMA does not directly state public bodies are required to approve closed meeting minutes, nor does it set a time frame for such approval. However, OMA Section 2.06(d) requires public bodies to meet at least semi-annually to "review minutes of all closed meetings." 5 ILCS 120/2.06(d).</p> <p>Moreover, OMA Section 2.06(c) specifically allows the destruction of closed meeting verbatim recordings only if certain conditions are met, one of which is that "the public body approves minutes of the closed meeting that meet the written minutes requirements of subsection (a) of this Section." 5 ILCS 120/2.06(c)(2). Both of these tasks would be difficult to achieve if closed meeting minutes were not first approved.</p> <p>One practice is to approve closed meeting minutes within the same time frame that open meeting minutes are</p>	<p>Yes.</p> <p><i>Each public body shall periodically meet to review all existing minutes of all prior closed meetings (this includes records from all time that the board has been in existence). Meetings to review minutes shall occur every 6 months, or as soon thereafter as is practicable, taking into account the nature and meeting schedule of the public body. At such meetings a determination shall be made, and reported in an open session that (1) the need for confidentiality still exists as to all or part of those minutes or (2) that the minutes or portions thereof no longer require confidential treatment and are available for public inspection.</i> 5 ILCS 120/2.06(d), amended by P.A. 102-653.</p>	<p>Yes, if prerequisites are met.</p> <p><i>Minutes of meetings closed to the public shall be available only after the public body determines that it is no longer necessary to protect the public interest or the privacy of an individual by keeping them confidential.</i> 5 ILCS 120/2.06(f).</p>	<p>No.</p> <p>There is no OMA provision permitting the destruction of closed meeting minutes, and <b>they must be preserved unless the State Local Records Commission has given permission to destroy them.</b></p> <p>In addition:</p> <p><i>No minutes of meetings closed to the public shall be removed from the public body's main office or official storage location, except by vote of the public body or by court order.</i> 5 ILCS 120/2.06(f).</p> <p>If a public body would like to destroy closed meeting minutes, then it must comply with the LRA and work with its Local Records Commission. It is highly unlikely, however, that the Local Records Commission would approve of their destruction.</p>

approved – within 30 days of the meeting or at the next subsequent meeting, whichever is later.		
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**Closed Meeting Verbatim Recordings**

<b>Are we required to approve them?</b>	<b>Must they be semi-annually reviewed?</b>	<b>May we release them to the public?</b>	<b>May we destroy them?</b>
<p>No.</p> <p>OMA does not require approval of closed meeting verbatim recordings.</p>	<p>No.</p> <p>OMA does not require semi-annual review of closed meeting verbatim recordings.</p>	<p>Possibly but unlikely.</p> <p><i>Unless the public body has made a determination that the verbatim recording no longer requires confidential treatment or otherwise consents to disclosure, the verbatim record of a meeting closed to the public shall not be open for public inspection or subject to discovery in any administrative or judicial proceeding other than one brought to enforce this Act. 5 ILCS 120/2.06(e).</i></p> <p>But see <u>Kodish v. Oakbrook Terrace Fire Protection Dist.</u> (235 F.R.D. 447 (N.D. Ill. 2006), where a federal district court ordered that closed meeting verbatim recordings be disclosed to the Plaintiff in discovery because his primary claim was brought under federal law.</p>	<p>Yes, after 18 months if prerequisites are met.</p> <p><i>The verbatim record may be destroyed without notification to or the approval of a records commission or the State Archivist under the Local Records Act or the State Records Act no less than 18 months after the completion of the meeting recorded but only after: 1.) the public body approves the destruction of a particular recording; and 2.) the public body approves minutes of the closed meeting that meet the written minutes requirements of subsection (a) of this Section. 5 ILCS 120/2.06(c).</i></p> <p>In addition:</p> <p><i>No verbatim recordings shall be recorded or removed from the public body's main office or official storage location, except by vote of the public body or by court order. 5 ILCS 120/2.06(e).</i></p>

PRESSPlus 1. This Board exhibit is rewritten for PRESS Plus subscribers. A redlined version showing the changes made is available at **PRESS** Online by logging in at [www.iasb.com](http://www.iasb.com). **Issue 108, November 2021**

## *Document Status: Draft Update - Rewritten*

### SCHOOL BOARD

#### **2:265 Title IX Grievance Procedure**

Discrimination on the basis of sex, including sex-based harassment, affects a student's ability to learn and an employee's ability to work. [PRESSPlus1](#) Providing an educational and workplace environment free from discrimination on the basis of sex is an important District goal.

The District does not discriminate on the basis of sex and prohibits sex discrimination in any education program or activity that it operates, as required by Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX) and its implementing regulations (34 C.F.R. Part 106), including against applicants for employment, students, parents/guardians, employees, and third parties. [PRESSPlus2](#)

#### Title IX Sex Discrimination Prohibited

Sex discrimination as defined in Title IX (Title IX Sex Discrimination) is prohibited. A District employee, agent, or student violates this prohibition whenever that person engages in conduct on the basis of sex that causes another person to be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity operated by the District. Title IX Sex Discrimination includes discrimination on the basis of sex stereotypes, sex characteristics, pregnancy or related conditions, sexual orientation, and/or gender identity.

Sex-based harassment is a form of Title IX Sex Discrimination. Sex-based harassment occurs whenever a person engages in conduct on the basis of sex that satisfies one or more of the following:

1. A District employee, agent, or other person authorized by the District to provide an aid, benefit, or service under the District's education program or activity explicitly or impliedly conditions the provision of an aid, benefit, or service on a person's participation in unwelcome sexual conduct; or
2. Unwelcome sex-based conduct that, based on the totality of the circumstances, is subjectively and objectively offensive and is so severe or pervasive that it limits or denies a person's ability to participate in or benefit from the District's education program or activity; or
3. Sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, or stalking as defined in 34 C.F.R. §106.2.

#### Definitions from 34 C.F.R. §106.2 [PRESSPlus3](#)

*Complainant* means: (1) a student or employee who is alleged to have been subjected to conduct that could constitute Title IX Sex Discrimination; or (2) a person other than a student or employee who is alleged to have been subjected to conduct that could constitute Title IX Sex Discrimination and who was participating or attempting to participate in the District's education program or activity at the time of the alleged Title IX Sex Discrimination. [PRESSPlus4](#)

*Complaint* means an oral or written request to the District that objectively can be understood as a request for the District to investigate and make a determination about alleged discrimination under Title IX.



*Respondent* means a person who is alleged to have violated the District's prohibition on Title IX Sex Discrimination.

*Retaliation* means intimidation, threats, coercion, or discrimination against any person by the District, a student, or an employee or other person authorized by the District to provide aid, benefit, or service under the District's education program or activity, for the purpose of interfering with any right or privilege secured by Title IX or its regulations, or because the person has reported information, made a Complaint, or participated or refused to participate in any manner in an investigation, proceeding, or hearing under the Title IX regulations.

### Making a Report

A person who wishes to make a report under this policy may make a report to the Title IX Coordinator, Nondiscrimination Coordinator, Building Principal, Assistant Building Principal, Dean of Students, [PRESSPlus5](#) a Complaint Manager, or any employee with whom the person is comfortable speaking.

School employees who receive information about conduct that reasonably may constitute Sex Discrimination under this policy shall promptly forward the report or information to the Title IX Coordinator. An employee who fails to promptly make or forward a report or information may be disciplined, up to and including discharge.

The Superintendent shall insert into this policy and keep current the name, office address, email address, and telephone number of the Title IX Coordinator. [PRESSPlus6](#)

### **Title IX Coordinator:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
Email

\_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone

### Processing and Reviewing a Report or Complaint

Upon receipt of a report of conduct that reasonably may constitute Title IX Sex Discrimination, the Title IX Coordinator and/or designee shall offer and coordinate supportive measures, as appropriate, for a Complainant.

Further, the Title IX Coordinator will analyze the report to identify and determine whether there is another or an additional appropriate method(s) for processing and reviewing it. For any report received, the Title IX Coordinator shall review Board policies 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*; 7:185, *Teen Dating Violence Prohibited*; and 7:190, *Student Behavior*, to determine if the allegations in the report require further action under those policies.

Reports of alleged Title IX Sex Discrimination will be confidential to the greatest extent practicable,

subject to the District's duty to investigate and maintain an educational program or activity that is productive, respectful, and free of Title IX Sex Discrimination.

#### Title IX Complaint Grievance Process

The Superintendent or designee shall implement procedures to ensure the prompt and equitable resolution of all Complaints according to a grievance process that fully complies with 34 C.F.R. §106.45. See the District's Title IX Complaint Grievance Process (Grievance Process) under administrative procedure 2:265-AP2, *Formal Title IX Complaint Grievance Process*.

When a Complaint is filed, the Title IX Coordinator will investigate it and make a determination regarding the outcome of the Complaint, or appoint a qualified person(s) to undertake the investigation and make a determination regarding the outcome of the Complaint.

#### Enforcement

Any District employee who is determined, at the conclusion of the Grievance Process, to have engaged in Title IX Sex Discrimination will be subject to disciplinary action up to and including discharge. Any third party who is determined, at the conclusion of the Grievance Process, to have engaged in Title IX Sex Discrimination 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/guardian, invitee, etc. Any District student who is determined, at the conclusion of the Grievance Process, to have engaged in Title IX Sex Discrimination will be subject to disciplinary action, including, but not limited to, suspension and expulsion consistent with student behavior policies. Any person making a knowingly false accusation regarding Title IX Sex Discrimination will likewise be subject to disciplinary action.

This policy does not increase or diminish the ability of the District or the parties to exercise any other rights under existing law.

#### Retaliation Prohibited

The District prohibits any form of retaliation, including peer retaliation, in its education program or activity. Any person should report claims of retaliation using this Board policy 2:265, *Title IX Grievance Procedure*.

A student, employee, or other person authorized by the District to provide aid, benefit, or service under the District's education program or activity who retaliates against others for reporting or complaining of violations of this policy or for participating in any manner under this policy will be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including discharge, with regard to employees, or suspension and expulsion, with regard to students.

#### LEGAL REF.:

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

Davis v. Monroe County Bd. of Educ., 526 U.S. 629 (1999).

Gebser v. Lago Vista Independent Sch. Dist., 524 U.S. 274 (1998).

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), 5:100 (Staff Development Program), 5:120 (Employee Ethics; Code of Professional Conduct; and Conflict of Interest), 5:200 (Terms and Conditions of Employment and Dismissal), 5:240

(Suspension), 5:290 (Employment Termination and Suspension), 6:60 (Curriculum Content), 6:65 (Student Social and Emotional Development), 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), 7:190 (Student Behavior)

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## **PRESSPlus Comments**

PRESSPlus 1. Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX) (20 U.S.C. §1681 et seq.) requires this subject matter to be covered by policy and controls this policy's content.

The U.S. Dept. of Education released final regulations implementing Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX), effective 8-1-24. Compared to the previous Title IX regulations, the new 2024 Title IX regulations:

- Expand the breadth of Title IX grievance procedures to require that they be used to address all Title IX sex discrimination complaints, not just complaints of sexual harassment.
- Clarify that the scope of Title IX sex discrimination includes discrimination on the basis of sex stereotypes, sex characteristics, pregnancy or related conditions, sexual orientation, and/or gender identity.
- Allow districts the flexibility to use a single investigator/decisionmaker template, so that the same individual who investigates a Title IX complaint may also make a decision regarding the complaint.

See Issue 116 Update Memo and the footnote information in Rewritten PRESS sample policy 2:265, *Title IX Grievance Procedure*, available at PRESS Online by logging in at [www.iasb.com](http://www.iasb.com), for more information. **Issue 116, August 2024**

PRESSPlus 2. A district must prominently display its Title IX notice of nondiscrimination on its website and in each handbook, catalog, announcement, bulletin, and application form made available to students, applicants for employment, parents/guardians, employees, and collective bargaining units. 34 C.F.R. §106.8(c)(2)(i). The notice must state that nondiscrimination extends to any program or activity operated by the district, including employment; that inquiries about the application of Title IX and its regulations may be referred to the district's Title IX Coordinator, to the U.S. Dept. of Education's Office for Civil Rights, or both; the name or title, office address, email address, and telephone number of the district's Title IX Coordinator; how to locate the district's nondiscrimination policy and grievance procedures; how to report information about conduct that may constitute sex discrimination under Title IX; and how to make a complaint of sex discrimination. 34 C.F.R. §106.8(c)(1)(i). See the Notice of Nondiscrimination subhead of sample administrative procedure 2:265-AP1, *Title IX Response*, for a sample notice of nondiscrimination and nondiscrimination statement meeting the minimum requirements of Title IX regulations. The sample administrative procedure is available at PRESS Online by logging in at [www.iasb.com](http://www.iasb.com). **Issue 116, August 2024**

PRESSPlus 3. If the district uses sample exhibit 2:265-E, *Title IX Glossary of Terms*, or a similar document, the definitions of these terms within it should match the definitions used in this policy. Sample exhibit 2:265-E is available at PRESS Online by logging in at [www.iasb.com](http://www.iasb.com). **Issue 116, August 2024**

PRESSPlus 4. The 2024 Title IX regulations shift the focus of the analysis from "whether the participation or attempted participation occurred at the time the complaint was filed" (as required under the 2020 Title IX regulations) to "the time of the alleged sex discrimination." 89 Fed. Reg. 33483. **Issue 116, August 2024**

PRESSPlus 5. If the title(s) Assistant Building Principal and/or Dean of Students do not apply, enter Edit Mode, strike the non-applicable title(s), and save the policy as **Adopted with Additional District Edits**.  
**Issue 116, August 2024**

PRESSPlus 6. Title IX regulations require districts to designate and authorize at least one employee to coordinate its efforts to comply with Title IX and to refer to that employee as the *Title IX Coordinator*. 34 C.F.R. §106.8(a). If a district has more than one Title IX Coordinator, it must designate one of its Title IX Coordinators to retain ultimate oversight to ensure the district's consistent compliance with its responsibilities under Title IX and its implementing regulations. 34 C.F.R. §106.8(a)(1). The Title IX Coordinator with ultimate oversight should be listed in this policy.

Consistent with how Nondiscrimination Coordinators and Complaint Managers are listed in PRESS sample policies, this policy requires the Title IX Coordinator's name, office address, email address, and telephone number to be listed. It is important for updated names and contact information to be inserted into this policy and regularly monitored.

A district's Nondiscrimination Coordinator often also serves as its Title IX Coordinator. See policy 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*.

**IASB will insert the Title IX Coordinator listed in the board's adopted policy 2:260 into policy 2:265.** Ensure that the name and contact information listed in policy 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*, is correct. **Issue 116, August 2024**



## *Document Status: Review and Monitoring*

### SCHOOL BOARD

#### **2:70 Vacancies on the School Board - Filling Vacancies**

##### Vacancy [PRESSPlus1](#)

Elective office of a School Board member becomes vacant before the term's expiration when any of the following occurs:

1. Death of the incumbent,
2. Resignation in writing filed with the Secretary of the Board,
3. Legal disability,
4. Conviction of a felony, bribery, perjury, or other infamous crime or of any offense involving a violation of official oath or of a violent crime against a child,
5. Removal from office,
6. The decision of a competent tribunal declaring his or her election void,
7. Ceasing to be an inhabitant of the District or a particular area from which he or she was elected, if the residential requirements contained in the School Code are violated,
8. An illegal conflict of interest, or
9. Acceptance of a second public office that is incompatible with Board membership.

##### Filling Vacancies

Whenever a vacancy occurs, the remaining members shall notify the Regional Superintendent of Schools of that vacancy within five days after its occurrence and shall fill the vacancy until the next regular board election, at which election a successor shall be elected to serve the remainder of the unexpired term. However, if the vacancy occurs with less than 868 days remaining in the term or less than 88 days before the next regularly scheduled election, the person so appointed shall serve the remainder of the unexpired term, and no election to fill the vacancy shall be held. Members appointed by the remaining members of the Board to fill vacancies shall meet any residential requirements as specified in the School Code. The Board shall fill the vacancy within 60 days after it occurred by a public vote at a meeting of the Board.

Immediately following a vacancy on the Board, the Board will publicize it and accept résumés from District residents who are interested in filling the vacancy. After reviewing the applications, the Board may invite the prospective candidates for personal interviews to be conducted during duly scheduled meetings.

LEGAL REF.:

105 ILCS 5/10-10 and 5/10-11.

CROSS REF.: 2:40 (Board Member Qualifications), 2:60 (Board Member Removal from Office), 2:120 (Board Member Development)

Adopted: December 19, 2019

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## **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](http://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 115, June 2024**

## *Document Status: Review and Monitoring*

### SCHOOL BOARD

#### **2:125 Board Member Compensation; Expenses**

##### Board Member Compensation Prohibited [PRESSPlus1](#)

School Board members provide volunteer service to the community and may not receive compensation for services, except that a Board member serving as the Board Secretary may be paid an amount up to the statutory limit if the Board so provides.

##### Roll Call Vote

All Board member expense requests for travel, meals, and/or lodging must be approved by roll call vote at an open meeting of the Board.

##### Regulation of School District Expenses

The Board regulates the reimbursement of all travel, meal, and lodging expenses in the District by resolution. No later than approval of the annual budget and when necessary, the Superintendent will recommend a maximum allowable reimbursement amount for expenses to be included in the resolution. The recommended amount should be based upon the District's budget and other financial considerations.

Money shall not be advanced or reimbursed, or purchase orders issued for: (1) the expenses of any person except the Board member, (2) anyone's personal expenses, or (3) entertainment expenses. Entertainment includes, but is not limited to, shows, amusements, theaters, circuses, sporting events, or any other place of public or private entertainment or amusement, unless the entertainment is ancillary to the purpose of the program or event.

##### Exceeding the Maximum Allowable Reimbursement Amount(s)

All requests for expense advancements, reimbursements, and/or purchase orders that exceed the maximum allowable reimbursement amount set by the Board may only be approved by it when:

1. The Board's resolution to regulate expenses allows for such approval;
2. An emergency or other extraordinary circumstance exists; and
3. The request is approved by a roll call vote at an open Board meeting.

##### Advancements

The Board may advance to its members actual and necessary expenses to be incurred while attending:

1. Meetings sponsored by the Illinois State Board of Education or by the Regional Superintendent of Schools;
2. County or regional meetings and the annual meeting sponsored by any school board association complying with Article 23 of the School Code; and

### 3. Meetings sponsored by a national organization in the field of public school education.

Expense advancement requests must be submitted to the Superintendent or designee on the Board's standardized estimated expense approval form. After spending expense advancements, Board members must use the Board's standardized expense reimbursement form and submit to the Superintendent: (a) the itemized, signed advancement voucher that was issued, and (b) the amount of actual expenses by attaching receipts. A Board member must return to the District any portion of an expense advancement not used. If an expense advancement is not requested, expense reimbursements may be issued by the Board to its members for the activities listed in numbers one through three, above, along with registration fees or tuition for a course(s) that allowed compliance with the mandatory trainings described in policy 2:120, *Board Member Development* and other professional development opportunities that are encouraged by the School Code (see the **Reimbursements and Purchase Orders** subhead, below). Expense advancements and vouchers shall be presented to the Board in its regular bill process.

#### Reimbursements and Purchase Orders

Expense reimbursement is not guaranteed and, when possible, Board members should seek pre-approval of expenses by providing an estimation of expenses on the Board's standardized estimated expense approval form, except in situations when the expense is diminutive. When pre-approval is not sought, Board members must seek reimbursement on the Board's standardized expense reimbursement form. Expense reimbursements and purchase orders shall be presented to the Board in its regular bill process.

#### Credit and Procurement Cards

Credit and procurement cards shall not be issued to Board members.

#### Standardized Expense Form(s) Required

All requests for expense advancement, reimbursement, and/or purchase orders in the District must be submitted on the appropriate itemized, signed standardized form(s). The form(s) must show the following information:

1. The amount of the estimated or actual expense, with attached receipts for actual incurred expenses.
2. The name and office of the Board member who is requesting the expense advancement or reimbursement. Receipts from group functions must include the names, offices, and job titles of all participants.
3. The date(s) of the official business on which the expense advancement or reimbursement will be or was expended.
4. The nature of the official business conducted when the expense advancement or reimbursement will be or was expended.

#### Types of Official Business for Expense Advancements, Reimbursements, and Purchase Orders

1. Registration. When possible, registration fees will be paid by the District in advance.
2. Travel. The least expensive method of travel will be used, providing that no hardship will be caused to the Board member. Board members will be reimbursed for:
  - a. Air travel at the coach or economy class commercial airline rate. First class or business class air travel will be reimbursed only if emergency circumstances warrant. The emergency circumstances must be explained on the expense form and Board approval of



- the additional expense is required. Fees for the first checked bag will be reimbursed. Copies of airline tickets and baggage receipts must be attached to the expense form.
- b. Rail or bus travel at actual cost. Rail or bus travel costs may not exceed the cost of coach airfare. Copies of tickets must be attached to the expense form to substantiate amounts.
  - c. Use of personal automobiles at the standard mileage rate approved by the Internal Revenue Service for income tax purposes. The reimbursement may not exceed the cost of coach airfare. Mileage for use of personal automobiles in trips to and from transportation terminals will also be reimbursed. Toll charges and parking costs will be reimbursed.
  - d. Automobile rental costs when the vehicle's use is warranted. The circumstances for such use must be explained on the expense form.
  - e. Taxis, airport limousines, ride sharing or other local transportation costs.
3. Meals. Meals charged to the School District should represent mid-fare selections for the hotel/meeting facility or general area, consistent with the maximum allowable reimbursement amount set by the Board. Tips are included with meal charges. Expense forms must explain the meal charges incurred. Alcoholic beverages will not be reimbursed.
  4. Lodging. Board members should request conference rate or mid-fare room accommodations. A single room rate will be reimbursed. Board members should pay personal expenses at checkout. If that is impossible, deductions for the charges should be made on the expense form.
  5. Miscellaneous Expenses. Board members may seek reimbursement for other expenses incurred while attending a meeting sponsored by organizations described herein by fully describing the expenses on the expense form, attaching receipts.

#### Additional Requirements for Travel Expenses Charged to Federal and State Grants

All Board member expenses for travel charged to a federal grant or State grant governed by the Grant Accountability and Transparency Act (30 ILCS 708/) must comply with Board policy 5:60, *Expenses*, and its implementing procedures. Travel expenses include costs for transportation, lodging, meals, and related items.

#### LEGAL REF.:

105 ILCS 5/10-20 and 5/10-22.32.

30 ILCS 708/, Government Accountability and Transparency Act.

50 ILCS 150/, Local Government Travel Expense Control Act.

CROSS REF.: 2:100 (Board Member Conflict of Interest), 2:120 (Board Member Development), 2:240 (Board Policy Development), 4:50 (Payment Procedures), 4:55 (Use of Credit and Procurement Cards), 5:60 (Expenses)

Adopted: June 18, 2020

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#### **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](http://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 115, June 2024**

# Document Status: Review and Monitoring

## Board Member Compensation; Expenses

### 2:125-E1 Exhibit - Board Member Expense Reimbursement Form

Submit to the Superintendent, who will include this request in the monthly list of bills presented to the School Board. Please print and attach receipts for all expenditures. Use of this form is required by 2:125-E3, Resolution to Regulate Expense Reimbursements. Please print. [PRESSPlus1](#)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title/Office: \_\_\_\_\_

Travel Destination: \_\_\_\_\_ Purpose: \_\_\_\_\_

Departure Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Return Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Receipts attached Request Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved expense advancement (voucher) attached, if applicable\* (Completed 2:125-E2, Board Member Estimated Expense Approval Form.)

Actual Expense Report									
* Board members will be reimbursed for actual and necessary expenses that exceed the amount advanced, but must refund any expense advancement that exceeds the actual and necessary expenses incurred. (105 ILCS 5/10-22.32)									
Auto Travel Allowance: _____ per mile									
Date	Mileage		Comm. Travel Expenses	Lodging	Meals			Other ItemCost	Daily Total
	Miles	Cost			Bkfst	Lunch	Dinner		
<b>Subtotal</b>									
<b>Advances</b>									-
<b>TOTAL (a negative amount indicates refund due from Board member)</b>									<b>\$</b>

Submitting Board Member's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Superintendent Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**School Board Action:**  **Approved**  **Denied**

**Approved in Part**  **Exceeds Maximum Allowable Amount**

~~DATED: December 15, 2016~~

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### **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:

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**Issue 115, June 2024**



# Document Status: Review and Monitoring

## Board Member Compensation; Expenses

### 2:125-E2 Exhibit - Board Member Estimated Expense Approval Form

Submit to the Superintendent, who will include this request in the monthly list of bills presented to the School Board. Use of this form is required by 2:125-E3, Resolution to Regulate Expense Reimbursements. Please print: [PRESSPlus1](#)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title/Office: \_\_\_\_\_

Travel Destination: \_\_\_\_\_ Purpose: \_\_\_\_\_

Departure Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Return Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Estimated Expenses Approval Requested** (50 ILCS 150/20)

**Purchase Order Requested** Purchase Order #: \_\_\_\_\_

**Expense Advancement Voucher Requested** (105 ILCS 5/10-22.32)

Voucher Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Estimated Expense Report

Auto Travel Allowance: \_\_\_\_\_ per mile

Date	Mileage		Comm. Travel Expense	Lodging	Meals		
	Miles	Cost			Bkfst	Lunch	Dinner

<b>Total</b>							

Submitting Board Member's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Superintendent Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**School Board Action:**  **Approved**  **Denied**

**Approved in Part**  **Exceeds Maximum Allowable Amount**

~~DATED: December 15, 2016~~

**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:

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**Issue 115, June 2024**

## *Document Status: Review and Monitoring*

### SCHOOL BOARD

#### **2:160 Board Attorney**

The School Board may retain legal services with one or more attorneys or law firms to be the Board Attorney(s). The Board Attorney represents the Board in its capacity as the governing body for the School District. The Board Attorney serves on a retainer or other fee arrangement as determined in advance. The Board Attorney will provide services as described in the agreement for legal services or as memorialized by an engagement letter. The District will only pay for legal services that are provided in accordance with the agreement for legal services, as memorialized by an engagement letter, or that are otherwise authorized by this policy or a majority of the Board. [PRESSPlus1](#)

The Superintendent, his or her designee, and Board President, are each authorized to confer with and/or seek the legal advice of the Board Attorney. The Board may also authorize a specific Board member to confer with the Board Attorney on its behalf.

The Superintendent may authorize the Board Attorney to represent the District in any legal matter until the Board has an opportunity to be informed of and/or consider the matter. The Board retains the right to consult with or employ other attorneys and to terminate the service of any attorney.

CROSS REF.: 4:60 (Purchases and Contracts)

Adopted: June 18, 2020

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#### **PRESSPlus Comments**

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**Issue 115, June 2024**



## *Document Status: Review and Monitoring*

### OPERATIONAL SERVICES

#### **4:15 Identity Protection**

The collection, storage, use, and disclosure of social security numbers by the School District shall be consistent with State and federal laws. The goals for managing the District's collection, storage, use, and disclosure of social security numbers are to: [PRESSPlus1](#)

1. Limit all activities involving social security numbers to those circumstances that are authorized by State or federal law.
2. Protect each social security number collected or maintained by the District from unauthorized disclosure.

The Superintendent is responsible for ensuring that the District complies with the Identity Protection Act, 5 ILCS 179/. Compliance measures shall include each of the following:

1. All employees having access to social security numbers in the course of performing their duties shall be trained to protect the confidentiality of social security numbers. Training should include instructions on the proper handling of information containing social security numbers from the time of collection through the destruction of the information.
2. Only employees who are required to use or handle information or documents that contain social security numbers shall have access to such information or documents.
3. Social security numbers requested from an individual shall be provided in a manner that makes the social security number easily redacted if the record is required to be released as part of a public records request.
4. When collecting a social security number or upon request by an individual, a statement of the purpose(s) for which the District is collecting and using the social security number shall be provided. The stated reason for collection of the social security number must be relevant to the documented purpose.
5. All employees must be advised of this policy's existence and a copy of the policy must be made available to each employee. The policy must also be made available to any member of the public, upon request.
6. If this policy is amended, employees will be advised of the existence of the amended policy and a copy of the amended policy will be made available to each employee.

No District employee shall collect, store, use, or disclose an individual's social security number unless specifically authorized by the Superintendent. This policy shall not be interpreted as a guarantee of the confidentiality of social security numbers and/or other personal information. The District will use best efforts to comply with this policy, but this policy should not be construed to convey any rights to protection of information not otherwise afforded by law.

#### Treatment of Personally Identifiable Information Under Grant Awards

The Superintendent ensures that the District takes reasonable measures to safeguard: (1) *protected personally identifiable information*, (2) other information that a federal awarding agency, pass-through



agency or State awarding agency designates as sensitive, such as *personally identifiable information* (PII) and (3) information that the District considers to be sensitive consistent with applicable laws regarding privacy and confidentiality (collectively, *sensitive information*), when administering federal grant awards and State grant awards governed by the Grant Accountability and Transparency Act (30 ILCS 708/).

The Superintendent shall establish procedures for the identification, handling, storage, access, disposal and overall confidentiality of sensitive information. The Superintendent shall ensure that employees and contractors responsible for the administration of a federal or State award for the District receive regular training in the safeguarding of sensitive information. Employees mishandling sensitive information are subject to discipline, up to and including dismissal.

**LEGAL REF.:**

2 C.F.R. §200.303(e).

5 ILCS 179/, Identity Protection Act.

30 ILCS 708/, Grant Accountability and Transparency Act

50 ILCS 205/3, Local Records Act.

105 ILCS 10/, Illinois School Student Records Act.

CROSS REF: 2:250 (Access to District Public Records), 5:150 (Personnel Records), 7:340 (Student Records)

Adopted: December 19, 2019

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**PRESSPlus Comments**

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**Issue 115, June 2024**

## *Document Status: Review and Monitoring*

### 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 Ill. 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, 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. [PRESSPlus1](#)

#### Annual Audit

At the close of each fiscal year, the Superintendent 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. The Superintendent shall annually, on or before October 15, submit an original and one copy of the audit to the Regional Superintendent of Schools.

#### Annual Financial Report

The Superintendent or designee shall annually prepare and submit the Annual Financial Report on a timely basis using the form adopted by the ISBE. The Superintendent shall review and discuss the Annual Financial Report with the Board before it is submitted.

#### 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 2 C.F.R. §200.313, 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 \$5,000 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 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 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. Bank accounts for revolving funds are limited to a maximum balance of \$5,000.00. 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. The Treasurer signs all checks, except imprest fund checks. Imprest fund checks must be signed by two of the following individuals: Treasurer, Bookkeeper, Building Principals, Superintendent, Director of Transportation.

#### Internal Controls

The Superintendent 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 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 Ill.Admin.Code 7000 et seq.

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, and 5/17-1 et

seq.

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: December 19, 2019

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### **PRESSPlus Comments**

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**Issue 115, June 2024**



## *Document Status: Review and Monitoring*

### General Personnel

#### **5:180 Temporary Illness or Temporary Incapacity**

A temporary illness or temporary incapacity is an illness or other capacity of ill-being that renders an employee physically or mentally unable to perform assigned duties. During such a period, the employee can use accumulated sick leave benefits. However, income received from other sources (worker's compensation, District-paid insurance programs, etc.) will be deducted from the District's compensation liability to the employee. The School Board's intent is that in no case will the employee, who is temporarily disabled, receive more than 100 percent of their gross salary. [PRESSPlus1](#)

Those insurance plans privately purchased by the employee and to which the District does not contribute, are not applicable to this policy.

If illness, incapacity, or any other condition causes an employee to be absent in one school year, after exhaustion of all available leave, for more than 90 consecutive work days, such absence may be considered a permanent disability and the Board may begin dismissal proceedings subject to State and federal law, including the Americans with Disabilities Act. The Superintendent may recommend this paragraph's use when circumstances strongly suggest that the employee returned to work intermittently in order to avoid this paragraph's application. This paragraph shall not be considered a limitation on the Board's authority to take any action concerning an employee that is authorized by State and federal law.

Any employee may be required to have an examination, at the District's expense, by a physician who is licensed in Illinois to practice medicine and surgery in all its branches, a licensed advanced practice registered nurse, or a licensed physician assistant if the examination is job-related and consistent with business necessity.

#### LEGAL REF.:

42 U.S.C. §12101 et seq., Americans with Disabilities Act.

105 ILCS 5/10-22.4, 5/24-12, and 5/24-13.

Elder v. School Dist. No.127 1/2, 60 Ill.App.2d 56 (1st Dist. 1965).

School District No. 151 v. ISBE, 154 Ill.App.3d 375 (1st Dist. 1987).

CROSS REF.:5:30 (Hiring Process and Criteria), 5:40 (Communicable and Chronic Infectious Disease), 5:185 (Family and Medical Leave), 5:250 (Leaves of Absence), 5:330 (Sick Days, Vacation, Holidays, and Leaves)

Adopted: August 15, 2019

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## *Document Status: Review and Monitoring*

### Educational Support Personnel

#### **5:290 Employment Termination and Suspensions**

##### Resignation and Retirement [PRESSPlus1](#)

An employee is requested to provide two weeks' notice of a resignation. A resignation notice cannot be revoked once given. An employee planning to retire should notify his or her supervisor at least two months before the retirement date.

##### Non-RIF Dismissal

The District may terminate an at-will employee at any time for any or no reason, but not for a reason prohibited by State or federal law.

Employees who are employed annually or have a contract, or who otherwise have a legitimate expectation of continued employment, may be dismissed: (1) at the end of the school year or at the end of their respective contract after being provided appropriate notice and after compliance with any applicable contractual provisions, or (2) mid-year or mid-contract provided appropriate due process procedures are provided.

The Superintendent is responsible for making dismissal recommendations to the School Board consistent with the Board's goal of having a highly qualified, high performing staff. This includes recommending a non-licensed employee for immediate dismissal for willful or negligent failure to report an instance of suspected child abuse or neglect as required by 325 ILCS 5/.

##### Reduction in Force and Recall

The Board may, as necessary or prudent, decide to decrease the number of educational support personnel or to discontinue some particular type of educational support service and, as a result of that action, dismiss or reduce the hours of one or more educational support employees. When making decisions concerning reduction in force and recall, the Board will follow Sections 10-22.34c (outsourcing non-instructional services) and 10-23.5 (procedures) of the School Code, to the extent they are applicable and not superseded by legislation or an applicable collective bargaining agreement.

##### Final Paycheck

A terminating employee's final paycheck will be adjusted for any unused, earned vacation credit. Employees are paid for all earned vacation. Terminating employees will receive their final pay on the next regular payday following the date of termination, except that an employee dismissed due to a reduction in force shall receive his or her final paycheck on or before the next regular pay date following the last day of employment.

##### Suspension

Except as provided below, the Superintendent is authorized to suspend an employee without pay as a disciplinary measure, during an investigation into allegations of misconduct or pending a dismissal

hearing whenever, in the Superintendent's judgment, the employee's presence is detrimental to the District. A disciplinary suspension shall be with pay: (1) when the employee is exempt from the overtime provisions, or (2) until an employee with an employment contract for a definite term is provided a notice and hearing according to the suspension policy for professional employees. Upon receipt of a recommendation from the Ill. Dept. Children and Family Services (DCFS) that the District remove an employee from his or her position when he or she is the subject of a pending DCFS investigation that relates to his or her employment with the District, the Board or Superintendent or designee, in consultation with the Board Attorney, will determine whether to:

1. Let the employee remain in his or her position pending the outcome of the investigation; or
2. Remove the employee as recommended, proceeding with:
  - a. A suspension with pay; or
  - b. A suspension without pay.

**LEGAL REF.:**

105 ILCS 5/10-22.34c and 5/10-23.5

5 ILCS 430 et seq., State Officials and Employees Ethics Act.

325 ILCS 5/7.4(c-10), Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act.

820 ILCS 105/4a, Minimum Wage Law.

CROSS REF.: 5:90 (Abused and Neglected Child Reporting), 5:120 (Employee Ethics; Code of Professional Conduct; and Conflict of Interest), 5:240 (Suspension), 5:270 (Employment At-Will, Compensation, and Assignment)

Adopted: December 19, 2019

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## *Document Status: Review and Monitoring*

### Educational Support Personnel

#### **5:310 Compensatory Time-Off**

This policy governs the use of compensatory time-off by employees who: (1) are covered by the overtime provisions of the Fair Labor Standards Act, 29 U.S.C. §201 et seq., and (2) are not represented by an exclusive bargaining representative. [PRESSPlus1](#)

Employees may be given 1-1/2 hours of compensatory time-off in lieu of cash payment for each hour of overtime worked. Other than as provided below, at no time may an employee's accumulated compensatory time-off exceed one weeks' worth. If an employee accrues the maximum number of compensatory time-off hours, the employee: (1) is paid for any additional overtime hours worked, at the rate of one and one-half times the employee's regular hourly rate of pay, and (2) does not accumulate compensatory time-off until the employee uses an equal amount of accrued time-off.

An employee who has accrued compensatory time-off shall be permitted to use such time in at least half-day components provided such requests do not unduly disrupt the District's operations. The employee's supervisor must approve a request to use compensatory time-off.

Upon termination of employment, an employee will be paid for unused compensatory time at the higher of:

1. The average regular rate received by such employee during the last three years of employment;  
or
2. The final regular rate received by such employee.

Compensatory time-off is time during which the employee is not working and is, therefore, not counted as "hours worked" for purposes of overtime compensation.

#### Implementation

The Superintendent or designee shall implement this policy in accordance with the FLSA. In the event of a conflict between the policy and the FLSA, the latter shall control.

#### LEGAL REF.:

Fair Labor Standards Act, 29 U.S.C. §201 et seq.; 29 C.F.R. Part 553.

CROSS REF.: 5:35 (Compliance with the Fair Labor Standards Act), 5:185 (Family and Medical Leave), 5:270 (Employment At-Will, Compensation, and Assignment)

Adopted: August 15, 2019

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## *Document Status: Review and Monitoring*

### INSTRUCTION

#### **6:110 Programs for Students At Risk of Academic Failure and/or Dropping Out of School and Graduation Incentives Program**

The Superintendent or designee shall develop, maintain, and supervise a program for students at risk of academic failure or dropping out of school. The program shall include education and support services addressing individual learning styles, career development, and social needs, and may include without limitation one or more of the following: [PRESSPlus1](#)

- Parent-teacher conferences
- Counseling services by social workers and/or guidance counselors
- Counseling services by psychologists
- Psychological testing
- Truants' alternative and optional education program
- Alternative school placement
- Community agency services
- Alternative learning opportunities program, in conformity with the Alternative Learning Opportunities Law, as it may be amended from time-to-time
- Graduation incentives program
- Remediation program

Any student who is below the age of 20 years is eligible to enroll in a graduation incentives program if he or she:

1. Is considered a dropout according to State law;
2. Has been suspended or expelled;
3. Is pregnant or is a parent;
4. Has been assessed as chemically dependent; or
5. Is enrolled in a bilingual education or English Language Learners program.

#### LEGAL REF.:

105 ILCS 5/2-3.41, 5/2-3.66, 5/10-20.9a, 5/13B, 5/26-2a, 5/26-13, 5/26-14, and 5/26-16.

CROSS REF.:6:280 (Grading and Promotion), 6:300 (Graduation Requirements), 7:70 (Attendance and Truancy)

Adopted: August 15, 2019

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## *Document Status: Review and Monitoring*

### INSTRUCTION

#### **6:150 Home and Hospital Instruction**

A student who is absent from school, or whose physician, physician assistant, or advanced practice registered nurse anticipates that the student will be absent from school, because of a medical condition may be eligible for instruction in the student's home or hospital. Eligibility shall be determined by State law and the Illinois State Board of Education rules governing (1) the continuum of placement options for students who have been identified for special education services or (2) the home and hospital instruction provisions for students who have not been identified for special education services. Appropriate educational services from qualified staff will begin no later than five school days after receiving a written statement from: (1) a physician licensed to practice medicine in all of its branches, (2) a licensed physician assistant, or (3) a licensed advanced practice registered nurse. Instructional or related services for a student receiving special education services will be determined by the student's individualized education program. [PRESSPlus1](#)

A student who is unable to attend school because of pregnancy will be provided home instruction, correspondence courses, or other courses of instruction (1) before the birth of the child when the student's physician, physician assistant, or advanced practice registered nurse indicates, in writing, that she is medically unable to attend regular classroom instruction, and (2) for up to three months after the child's birth or a miscarriage.

Periodic conferences will be held between appropriate school personnel, parent(s)/guardian(s), and hospital staff to coordinate course work and facilitate a student's return to school.

#### LEGAL REF.:

105 ILCS 5/10-19.05(e), 5/10-22.6a, 5/14-13.01, and 5/18-4.5.

23 Ill.Admin.Code §§1.520, 1.610, and 226.300.

CROSS REF.: 6:120 (Education of Children with Disabilities), 7:10 (Equal Educational Opportunity), 7:280 (Communicable and Chronic Infectious Disease)

Adopted: December 19, 2019

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## *Document Status: Review and Monitoring*

### STUDENTS

#### **7:170 Vandalism**

The School Board will seek restitution from students and their parents/guardians for vandalism or other student acts that cause damage to school property. [PRESSPlus1](#)

LEGAL REF.:

740 ILCS 115/1 et seq.

CROSS REF.:7:130 (Student Rights and Responsibilities), 7:190 (Student Behavior)

Adopted: August 15, 2019

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