

## Document Status: Draft Update - Rewritten

### Expenses

#### 5:60-E2 Exhibit - Employee Estimated Expense Approval Form

Submit to the Superintendent. Use of this form is required (1) by 2:125-E3, Resolution to Regulate Expense Reimbursements and (2) for pre-approval of expenses to be charged to a federal grant or State grant governed by the Grant Accountability and Transparency Act. Please print. PRESSPlus1

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

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

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

**Travel is grant-related\*** (specify grant): \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

Estimated Expense Report										
Departure date: _____					Return date: _____					
Auto Travel Allowance: _____ per mile										
*Grant-related travel only: Except for mileage and other transportation expenses, expense reimbursement/per diem is only allowed if on official travel status for 12 hours or more. If lodging at or below the applicable rate cannot be identified, please indicate below and attach at least three quotes for review.										
Date	Auto Mileage		Transp. Expenses	Lodging	Meals or Per Diem			Other		Daily Total
	Miles	Cost			Bkfst	Lunch	Dinner	Item	Cost	
<b>Total</b>										\$

Superintendent or Designee: \_\_\_\_\_  Approved  Denied  
 (below maximum allowable amount)  Approved in Part  
 Grant Funding Source (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Superintendent or Designee Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**School Board Action** (exceeds maximum allowable amount):  Approved  Denied  
 Approved in Part

Grant Funding Source (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Employee Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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**PRESSPlus Comments**

PRESSPlus 1. Rewritten to include requirements for the regulation of travel expenses under grants. Grant Accountability and Transparency Act (GATA), 30 ILCS 708/130. See policy 5:60 and the **PRESS** Update Memo for more information. **Issue 103, March 2020**

*ok*

# Document Status: Draft Update - Rewritten

## Expenses

### 5:60-E1 Exhibit - Employee Expense Reimbursement Form

Submit to the Superintendent. Use of this form is required by 2:125-E3, Resolution to Regulate Expense Reimbursements. Please print and attach receipts for all expenditures. PRESSPlus1

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

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

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

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

Estimated expenses attached (Completed 5:60-E2, Employee Estimated Expense Approval Form)(pre-approval is required for federal and state grants).

Approved expense advancement (voucher) attached, if applicable\* (Completed 5:60-E2, Employee Estimated Expense Approval Form.)

Actual Expense Report										
*Employees 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. For federal and State grants, employees will be reimbursed for actual and necessary expenses that exceed estimated expenses as permitted by Board policy 5:60, Expenses.										
Auto Travel Allowance: _____ per mile										
Date	Auto Mileage		Transp. Expenses	Lodging	Meals or Per Diem			Other		Daily Total
	Miles	Cost			Bkfst	Lunch   Dinner	Item	Cost		
<b>Subtotal</b>										
<b>Advances</b>										
<b>TOTAL (A negative amount indicates refund due from employee.)</b>										
									\$	

Superintendent or Designee: \_\_\_\_\_  Approved  Denied  
 (below maximum allowable amount)  Approved in Part  
 Grant Funding Source (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Superintendent or Designee Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

School Board Action (exceeds maximum allowable amount):  Approved  Denied

**Approved in Part**

**Grant Funding Source** (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Employee Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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**PRESSPlus Comments**

PRESSPlus 1. Rewritten to include requirements for the regulation of travel expenses under grants. Grant Accountability and Transparency Act (GATA), 30 ILCS 708/130. See policy 5:60 and the **PRESS Update Memo** for more information. **Issue 103, March 2020**

## Document Status: Draft Update - Rewritten

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### 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 in-house attorney. For more information, call the 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 attorney(s) or outside attorney(s)/law firms. Many districts use a combination of these services. Many districts also use multiple attorney(s)/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 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 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 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 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, **PRESS** 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 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 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 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 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 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 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/lawyersearch.asp](http://www.iardc.org/lawyersearch.asp).)
- 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 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 lawfirm'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. Rewritten to incorporate numerous style updates and corrections in response to its five-year review and **PRESS** Advisory Board feedback. **Issue 103, March 2020**



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# Document Status: Draft Update - Rewritten

## 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 (1) by 2:125-E3, Resolution to Regulate Expense Reimbursements and (2) for pre-approval of expenses to be charged to a federal grant or State grant governed by the Grant Accountability and Transparency Act. Please print. <sup>PRESSPlus1</sup>

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

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

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

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

**Travel is grant-related\*** (specify grant): \_\_\_\_\_

**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										
<i>*Grant-related travel only: Except for mileage and other transportation expenses, expense reimbursement/per diem is only allowed if on official travel status for 12 hours or more. If lodging at or below the applicable rate cannot be identified, please indicate below and attach at least three quotes for review.</i>										
Date	Auto Mileage		Transp. Expenses	Lodging	Meals or Per Diem			Other		Daily Total
	Miles	Cost			Bkfst	Lunch	Dinner	Item	Cost	
<b>Total</b>										
\$										

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

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

**School Board Action:**

- Approved       Denied
- Approved in Part    Exceeds Maximum Allowable Amount
- Grant Funding Source (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**PRESSPlus Comments**

PRESSPlus 1. Rewritten to include requirements for the regulation of travel expenses under grants. Grant Accountability and Transparency Act (GATA), 30 ILCS 708/130. See policy 2:125 and the **PRESS** Update Memo for more information. **Issue 103, March 2020**

**Document Status: Draft Update - Rewritten**

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**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. <sup>PRESSPlus1</sup>

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

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

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

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

Estimated expenses attached (Completed 2:125-E2, Board Member Estimated Expense Approval Form)(pre-approval is required for federal and State grants).

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. For federal and State grants, board members will be reimbursed for actual and necessary expenses that exceed estimated expenses as permitted by Board policy 2:125, Board Member Compensation; Expenses.										
Auto Travel Allowance: _____ per mile										
Date	Auto Mileage		Transp. Expenses	Lodging	Meals or Per Diem			Other		Daily Total
	Miles	Cost			Bkfst	Lunch	Dinner	Item	Cost	
<b>Subtotal</b>										
<b>Advances</b>									-	
<b>TOTAL (a negative amount indicates refund due from Board member)</b>									\$	

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

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

**School Board Action:**

- Approved       Denied
- Approved in Part     Exceeds Maximum Allowable Amount

Grant Funding Source (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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**PRESSPlus Comments**

PRESSPlus 1. Rewritten to include requirements for the regulation of travel expenses under grants. Grant Accountability and Transparency Act (GATA), 30 LCS 708/130. See policy 2:125 and the **PRESS** Update Memo for more information. **Issue 103, March 2020**

## Document Status: Draft Update

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### COMMUNITY RELATIONS

#### 8:110 Public Suggestions and Concerns

The School Board is interested in receiving valid suggestions and concerns from members of the community. Any individual may make a suggestion or express a concern at by contacting any District or School office. Community members who e-mail the District or any District employee or board member are expected to abide by the standards in Board policy 6:235, Access to Electronic Networks, and should, to the extent possible, limit their communications to relevant individuals. <sup>PRESSPlus1</sup> All suggestions and/or concerns will be referred to the appropriate level staff member or District administrator who is most able to respond in a timely manner. Each concern or suggestion shall be considered on its merit.

An individual who is not satisfied may file a grievance under Board policy 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*. The Board encourages, but does not require, individuals to follow the channels of authority prior to filing a grievance. Neither this policy nor the *Uniform Grievance Procedure* create an independent right to a hearing before the Board.

#### LEGAL REF.:

115 ILCS 5/14(c-5), III. Educational Labor Relations Act.

CROSS REF.: 2:140 (Communications To and From the Board), 2:230 (Public Participation at School Board Meetings and Petitions to the Board), 2:260 (Uniform Grievance Procedure), 3:30 (Chain of Command), 6:235 (Access to Electronic Networks), 6:260 (Complaints About Curriculum, Instructional Materials and Programs)

~~ADOPTED MAY 17, 2017~~

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#### **PRESSPlus Comments**

PRESSPlus 1. The III. Educational Labor Relations Act requires employers to establish email policies in an effort to prohibit the use of its email system by outside sources. 115 ILCS 5/14(c-5), added by P.A. 101-620. Policy 6:235, *Access to Electronic Networks*, states that the district's network, which includes its email system, is not a public forum for general use. Further, acceptable uses of the network by any party are limited to uses in support of education and/or research or for legitimate school business purposes. However, see policy 6:235 at footnote 6, available at **PRESS** Online by logging in at [www.iasb.com](http://www.iasb.com), for a discussion of potential liability under the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution if the district wants to "block" specific third parties based on message content. Including this statement also discourages school community members from engaging in the disruptive practice of mass *cc'ing* district staff who have no involvement in a particular issue. **Issue 103, March 2020**

## Document Status: Draft Update

### COMMUNITY RELATIONS

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#### 8:10 Connection with the Community

##### Public Relations

The Board President is the official spokesperson for the School Board. The Superintendent is the District's chief spokesperson. The Superintendent or designee shall plan and implement a District public relations program that will:

- Develop community understanding of school operation.
- Gather community attitudes and desires for the District.
- Secure adequate financial support for a sound educational program.
- Help the community feel a more direct responsibility for the quality of education provided by their schools.
- Earn the community's good will, respect, and confidence.
- Promote a genuine spirit of cooperation between the school and the community.
- Keep the news media accurately informed.
- Coordinate with the District Safety Coordinator to provide accurate and timely information to the appropriate individuals during an emergency.

The public relations program should include:

1. Regular news releases concerning District programs, policies, activities, and special event management for distribution by, for example, posting on the District website, using social media platforms, PRESSPlus1 e.g., Facebook, Twitter, etc., or sending to the news media.
2. News conferences and interviews, as requested or needed. The Board President and Superintendent will coordinate their respective media relations efforts. Individuals may speak for the District only with prior approval from the Superintendent.
3. Publications having a high quality of editorial content and effective format. All publications shall identify the District, school, department, or classroom and shall include the name of the Superintendent, the Building Principal, and/or the author and the publication date, and
4. Other efforts that highlight the District's programs and activities.

##### Community Engagement

Community engagement is a process that the Board uses to actively involve diverse citizens in dialogue, deliberation, and collaborative thinking around common interests for the District's schools.

The Board, in consultation with the Superintendent, determines the purpose(s) and objective(s) of any community engagement initiative.

For each community engagement initiative:

1. ~~The Board will;~~
  - a. ~~Commit to the determined purpose(s) and objective(s), and~~
  - b. ~~Provide information about the expected nature of the public's involvement;~~
2. ~~The Superintendent or designee will;~~
  - a. ~~Identify the effective tools and tactics that will advance the Board's purpose(s) and objective(s).~~
  - b. ~~The Superintendent will: (1) a) At least annually, prepare a report for the of each community engagement initiative, and/or (2)~~
  - c. ~~Prepare a final report of the each community engagement initiative.~~

The Board will periodically: (1) review whether its community engagement initiative(s) are achieving the identified purpose(s) and objective(s); (2) consider what, if any, modifications would improve effectiveness; and (3) determine whether to continue individual initiatives.

The Board will periodically: (1) review whether its community engagement initiatives are achieving the identified purpose(s) and

objective(s), (2) consider what, if any, modifications would improve effectiveness, and (3) determine whether to continue individual initiatives.

CROSS REF.: 2:110 (Qualifications, Term, and Duties of Board Officers), 8:110 (Public Suggestions and Complaints)

~~ADOPTED October 21, 2015~~

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### **PRESSPlus Comments**

PRESSPlus 1. Updated in response to a five-year review. Minor changes are made to align with present-day social media platform usage patterns along with other changes for continuous improvement.

District social media accounts are likely either *limited public forms* or *public forums*. See the footnotes, available at **PRESS** Online by logging in at [www.iasb.com](http://www.iasb.com), for information regarding *Knight First Amendment Inst. at Columbia Univ. v. Trump*, 302 F.Supp.3d 541 (S.D.N.Y. 2018). **Issue 103, March 2020**

# Document Status: Draft Update

## STUDENTS

*th*  
Do we want to designate 2 hours at a particular time of day?

### 7:90 Release During School Hours

For safety and security reasons, a prior written or oral consent of a student's custodial parent/guardian is required before a student is released during school hours: (1) at any time before the regular dismissal time or at any time before school is otherwise officially closed, and/or (2) to any person other than a custodial parent/guardian.

#### Early Dismissal Announcement

The Superintendent or designee shall make reasonable efforts to issue an announcement whenever it is necessary to close school early due to inclement weather or other reason.

#### Voting<sup>Q1</sup>

The Superintendent or designee shall specify the hours during which students who are entitled to vote at a primary, general, or special election, or any election at which propositions are submitted to a popular vote in Illinois, may be absent from school for a period of two hours to vote. Students are entitled to be absent from school to vote beginning the 15th day before the primary, general, or special election, or any election at which propositions are submitted to a popular vote in Illinois, or on the day of such election.

#### LEGAL REF.:

10 ILCS 5/7-42(b) and 5/17-15(b). Election Code.

CROSS REF.: 4:170 (Safety)

~~ADOPTED September 20, 2016~~

### Questions and Answers:

\*\*\*Required Question 1. 10 ILCS 5/7-42 and 10 ILCS 5/17-15, amended by P.A. 101-624, eff. 6-1-20, provide that beginning on the 15th day before a primary, general, or special election or on the day of any such election, any student who is eligible to vote is entitled to be absent for two hours during the school day to vote. Districts may specify the hours during which eligible students may be absent from their schools. See the footnotes of sample policy 7:90, available at **PRESS** Online by logging in at [www.iasb.com](http://www.iasb.com), for more information.

Including this subhead aligns with best practice and serves several policy functions and purposes: ensuring legal compliance, directing or authorizing the superintendent or staff members, and/or providing information. However, including this information in policy is not required.

Has the Board adopted the Voting subhead?

Yes (default)

No (IASB will remove the Voting subhead and the Legal Reference to it from this policy, and the references to it from policy 7:70)



## Document Status: Draft Update

### STUDENTS

#### 7:70 Attendance and Truancy

##### Compulsory School Attendance

This policy applies to individuals who have custody or control of a child: (a) between the ages of six (on or before September 1) and 17 years (unless the child has graduated from high school), or (b) who is enrolled in any of grades kindergarten through 12 in the public school regardless of age. Subject to specific requirements in State law, the following children are not required to attend public school: (1) any child attending a private school (including a home school) or parochial school, (2) any child who is physically or mentally unable to attend school (including a pregnant student suffering medical complications as certified by her physician), (3) any child lawfully and necessarily employed, (4) any child over 12 and under 14 years of age while in confirmation classes, (5) any child absent because his or her religion forbids secular activity on a particular day, and (6) any child 16 years of age or older who is employed and is enrolled in a graduation incentives program.

The parent/guardian of a student who is enrolled must authorize all absences from school and notify the school in advance or at the time of the student's absence. A valid cause for absence includes illness, observance of a religious holiday, death in the immediate family, family emergency, other situations beyond the control of the student as determined by the Board, voting pursuant to policy 7:90, Release During School Hours (10 ILCS 5/7-42 and 5/17-15), PRESSPlus1 other circumstances that cause reasonable concern to the parent/guardian for the student's mental, emotional, or physical safety or health or safety, PRESSPlus2 or other reason as approved by the Superintendent or designee.

##### Absenteeism and Truancy Program

The Superintendent or designee shall manage an absenteeism and truancy program in accordance with the School Code and Board policy. The program shall include but not be limited to:

1. A protocol for excusing a student from attendance who is necessarily and lawfully employed. The Superintendent or designee is authorized to determine when the student's absence is justified.
2. A protocol for excusing a student in grades 6 through 12 from attendance to sound *Taps* at a military honors funeral held in Illinois for a deceased veteran.
3. A protocol for excusing a student from attendance on a particular day(s) or at a particular time of day when his/her parent/guardian is an active duty member of the uniformed services and has been called to duty for, is on leave from, or has immediately returned from deployment to a combat zone or combat-support postings.
4. A process to telephone, within two hours after the first class, the parents/guardians of students in grade 8 or below who are absent without prior parent/guardian notification.
5. A process to identify and track students who are truants, chronic or habitual truants, or truant minors as defined in the School Code, Section 105 ILCS 5/26-2a.
6. A description of diagnostic procedures for identifying the cause(s) of a student's unexcused absenteeism, including interviews with the student, his or her parent(s)/guardian(s), and staff members or other people who may have information about the reasons for the student's attendance problem.
7. The identification of supportive services that may be offered to truant, chronically truant, or chronically absent students, including parent-teacher conferences, student and/or family counseling, or information about community agency services. See Board policy 6:110, *Programs for Students At Risk of Academic Failure and/or Dropping Out of School and Graduation Incentives Program*.
8. A process for a 17 year old resident to participate in the District's various programs and resources for truants. The student must provide documentation of his/her dropout status for the previous 6 months. A request from an individual 19 years of age or older to re-enroll after having dropped out of school is handled according to provisions in 7:50, *School Admissions and Student Transfers To and From Non-District Schools*.
9. Reasonable efforts to provide ongoing professional development to teachers, administrators, Board members, school resource officers, and staff on the appropriate and available supportive services for the promotion of student attendance and engagement.
10. A process to request the assistance and resources of outside agencies, such as, the juvenile officer of the local police department or the truant office of the appropriate Regional Office of Education, if truancy continues after supportive services have been offered.
11. A protocol for cooperating with non-District agencies including County or municipal authorities, the Regional Superintendent, truant officers, the Community Truancy Review Board, and a comprehensive community based youth

service agency. Any disclosure of school student records must be consistent with Board policy 7:340, *Student Records*, as well as State and federal law concerning school student records.

12. An acknowledgement that no punitive action, including out-of-school suspensions, expulsions, or court action, shall be taken against a truant minor for his or her truancy unless available supportive services and other school resources have been provided to the student.
13. The criteria to determine whether a student's non-attendance is due to extraordinary circumstances shall include economic or medical necessity or family hardship and such other criteria that the Superintendent believes qualifies.
14. A process for the temporary exclusion of a student 17 years of age or older for failing to meet minimum attendance standards according to provisions in State law. A parent/guardian has the right to appeal a decision to exclude a student.

LEGAL REF.:

105 ILCS 5/26-1 through 16.

705 ILCS 405/3-33.5, Juvenile Court Act of 1987.

23 Ill.Admin.Code §§1.242 and 1.290.

CROSS REF.: 5:100 (Staff Development Program), 6:110 (Programs for Students At Risk of Academic Failure and/or Dropping Out of School and Graduation Incentives Program), 6:150 (Home and Hospital Instruction), 7:10 (Equal Educational Opportunities), 7:50 (School Admissions and Student Transfers To and From Non-District Schools), 7:60 (Residence), 7:80 (Release Time for Religious Instruction/Observance), 7:90 (Release During School Hours), 7:190 (Student Behavior), 7:340 (Student Records)

Adopted: May 15, 2019

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**PRESSPlus Comments**

PRESSPlus 1. 10 ILCS 5/7-42 and 10 ILCS 5/17-15, amended by P.A. 101-624, eff. 6-1-20, provide that beginning on the 15th day before a primary, general, or special election or on the day of any such election, any student who is eligible to vote is entitled to be absent for two hours during the school day to vote. See policy 7:90 for more information. If the Board does not adopt the Voting subheading in policy 7:90 (see the Questions Window in the Draft Update for policy 7:90), IASB will remove this phrase and the Cross Reference to policy 7:90. **Issue 103, March 2020**

PRESSPlus 2. 105 ILCS 5//26-2a, amended by P.A. 100-810, amended valid causes for absences to include a student's mental, emotional, or physical health or safety. **Issue 103, March 2020**

# Document Status: Draft Update

ok

## INSTRUCTION

### 6:280 Grading and Promotion

The administration and professional staff shall establish a system of grading and reporting academic achievement to students and their parents and guardians. The system shall also determine when promotion and graduation requirements are met. The decision to promote a student to the next grade level shall be based on successful completion of the curriculum, attendance, and performance on the standardized tests required by the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) PRESSPlus1 and/or other assessments. A student shall not be promoted based upon age or any other social reason not related to academic performance. The administration shall determine remedial assistance for a student who is not promoted.

Every teacher shall maintain an evaluation record for each student in the teacher's classroom. The final grade assigned by the teacher cannot be changed by a District administrator without notifying the teacher. Reasons for changing a student's final grade include:

- A miscalculation of test scores;
- A technical error in assigning a particular grade or score;
- The teacher agrees to allow the student to do extra work that may impact the grade;
- An inappropriate grading system used to determine the grade; or
- An inappropriate grade based on an appropriate grading system.

Should a grade change be made, the administrator making the change must sign the changed record.

#### LEGAL REF.:

105 ILCS 5/2-3.64a-5, 5/10-20.9a, 5/10-21.8, and 5/27-27.

CROSS REF.: 6:110 (Programs for Students At Risk of Academic Failure and/or Dropping Out of School and Graduation Incentives Program), 6:300 (Graduation Requirements), 6:340 (Student Testing and Assessment Program), 7:50 (School Admissions and Student Transfers To and From Non-District Schools)

~~ADOPTED December 17, 2014~~

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#### PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. Starting in 2019, PARCC was no longer used by the Ill. State Board of Education as the State assessment and accountability measure. **Issue 103, March 2020**

## Document Status: Draft Update

ok

### INSTRUCTION

#### **6:135 Accelerated Placement Program**

The District provides an Accelerated Placement Program (APP). The APP advances the District's goal of providing educational programs with opportunities for each student to develop to his or her maximum potential. The APP provides an educational setting with curriculum options usually reserved for students who are older or in higher grades than the student participating in the APP. APP options include, but may not be limited to: (a) accelerating a student in a single subject; (b) other grade-level acceleration; and (c) early entrance to kindergarten or first grade. Participation in the APP is open to all students who demonstrate high ability and who may benefit from accelerated placement. It is not limited to students who have been identified as gifted and talented. Eligibility to participate in the District's APP shall not be conditioned upon the protected classifications identified in Board policy 7:10, *Equal Educational Opportunities*, or any factor other than the student's identification as an accelerated learner.

The Superintendent or designee shall implement an APP that includes:

1. Decision-making processes that are fair, equitable, and involve multiple individuals, e.g. District administrators, teachers, and school support personnel, and a student's parent(s)/guardian(s);
2. Notification processes that notify a student's parent(s)/guardian(s) of a decision affecting a student's participation in the APP; and
3. Assessment processes that include multiple valid, reliable indicators.
4. Parent/Guardian consent will be required for assessment for APP, and to implement an APP.

The Superintendent or designee shall annually notify the community, parent(s)/guardian(s), students, and school personnel about the APP, the process for referring a student for possible evaluation for accelerated placement, and the methods used to determine whether a student is eligible for accelerated placement. Notification may: (a) include varied communication methods, such as student handbooks and District or school websites; and (b) be provided in multiple languages, as appropriate.

#### LEGAL REF.:

105 ILCS 5/14A.

23 Ill.Admin.Code Part 227, Gifted Education, PRESSPlus1

CROSS REF.: 6:10 (Educational Philosophy and Objectives), 6:130 (Program for the Gifted), 7:10 (Equal Educational Opportunities), 7:50 (School Admissions and Student Transfers To and From Non-District Schools)

Adopted: August 15, 2018

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#### **PRESSPlus Comments**

PRESSPlus 1. III. State Board of Education (ISBE) rules require this policy to be posted on the district website, if available. 23 Ill.Admin.Code §227.60(a). ISBE rules also require districts to annually report, by July 31, demographic information regarding students participating in accelerated placement. 23 Ill.Admin.Code §227.60(c). **Issue 103, March 2020**

ok

## Document Status: Draft Update

### General Personnel

#### 5:60 Expenses

The Board regulates the reimbursement of all travel, meal, and lodging expenses by resolution. Money shall not be advanced or reimbursed, or purchase orders issued for: (1) the expenses of any person except the employee, (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. The District is not responsible for losses due to an employee's own negligence, losses due to normal wear, or losses due to theft, unless the theft was a result of the District's negligence. Employees must submit the appropriate itemized, signed, standardized form(s) to support any requests for expense advancements, reimbursements, or purchase orders that show the following:

1. The amount of the estimated or actual expense, with attached receipts for actual incurred expenses.
2. The name and title of the employee 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, reimbursement, or purchase order will be or was expended.
4. The nature of the official business conducted when the expense advancement, reimbursement, or purchase order will be or was expended.

#### Advancements

The Superintendent may advance expenses to teachers and other licensed employees for the anticipated actual and necessary expenses to be incurred while attending meetings that are related to their duties and will contribute to their professional development, provided they fall below the maximum allowed in the Board's expense regulations.

Expense advancement requests must be submitted to the Superintendent or designee on the District's standardized estimated expense approval form for employees. After spending expense advancements, employees must use the District'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. Any portion of an expense advancement not used must be returned to the District. Expense advancements and vouchers shall be presented to the Board in its regular bill process.

#### Reimbursements and Purchase Orders

Expense reimbursements and purchase orders may be issued by the Superintendent or designee to employees, along with other expenses necessary for the performance of their duties, provided the expenses fall below the maximum allowed in the Board's expense regulations.

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

#### Use of Credit and Procurement Cards

Credit and procurement card usage is governed by policy 4:55, *Use of Credit and Procurement Cards*.

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

All requests for expense advancements, reimbursements, and purchase orders exceeding the maximum allowed in the Board's expense regulations may only be approved 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.

#### Registration

When possible, registration fees will be paid by the District in advance.

### Travel

The least expensive method of travel will be used, provided that no hardship will be caused to the employee. Employees will be reimbursed for:

1. 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.<sup>Q1</sup>
2. 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.
3. 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.
4. Automobile rental costs when the vehicle's use is warranted. The circumstances for such use must be explained on the expense form.
5. Taxis, airport limousines, ride sharing services, or other local transportation costs.

### Meals

Meals charged to the District should represent mid-fare selections for the hotel/meeting facility or general area. Tips are included with meal charges. Expense forms must explain the meal charges incurred. Alcoholic beverages will not be reimbursed.

### Lodging

Employees should request conference rate or mid-fare room accommodations. A single room rate will be reimbursed. Employees should pay personal expenses at checkout. If that is impossible, deductions for the charges should be made on the expense form.

### Miscellaneous Expenses

Employees 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<sup>PRESSPlus1</sup>

All grant-related travel expenses must be pre-approved by the Superintendent or designee.

Expenses for travel, including expenses for transportation, lodging, meals, and related items incurred by employees and charged to a federal grant or State grant governed by the Grant Accountability and Transparency Act (30 ILCS 708/) must also meet the following requirements:

1. The participation of the employee is necessary to the award, and the costs are specifically related to the award.
2. Expenses must be permissible under the terms and conditions of the award.
3. Expenses must be reasonable and consistent with this policy.
4. The Board does not reimburse actual expenses or pay a per diem allowance unless the employee is on official travel status for more than 12 hours. However, employees remain eligible for mileage reimbursement (minus regular commuting mileage/costs) and other transportation expenses if on travel status less than 12 hours.
5. Expenses may be charged based on an actual cost basis or on a per diem basis in lieu of actual costs incurred; however, only one method may be applied per trip.
6. Commercial airfare costs in excess of the least expensive coach or economy class are prohibited except when such accommodations would: (1) require circuitous routing; (2) require travel during unreasonable hours; (3) excessively prolong travel; (4) result in additional costs that would offset transportation savings; or (5) offer accommodations not reasonably adequate for the traveler's medical needs. Qualifying circumstances must be explained on the expense form, and Board approval of the additional expense is required.
7. Per diem rates and actual reimbursement amounts for mileage, meals, and lodging may not exceed the rates established by the Governor's Travel Control Board or federal travel regulations, whichever is less. These limits do not apply when: (1) an employee stays in the lowest-priced room available at or near a hotel where a conference or seminar is located or in accommodations arranged by the conference/seminar organization, or (2) lodging at or below the established rate is unavailable. In those cases, the employee will be reimbursed for actual lodging expenses with prior approval, but in no case will the reimbursement exceed 300% of the applicable maximum per diem rate. If a conference fee includes a meal, the meal or per diem allowance will be reduced by the actual value of the meal or the applicable meal allowance.

whichever is less.

8. Employees must use the least expensive compact car available when using a rental car for travel, unless an exception is approved. The Board does not reimburse employees for collision damage waiver or theft insurance.
9. The Board will reimburse travel expenses not chargeable to an award from other District funds consistent with this policy.

LEGAL REF.:

2 C.F.R. §200.474.

30 ILCS 708/130. Grant Accountability and Transparency Act.

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

105 ILCS 5/10-22.32.

820 ILCS 115/9.5, Ill. Wage Payment and Collection Act.

CROSS REF.: 2:125 (Board Member Compensation; Expenses), 2:240 (Board Policy Development), 4:50 (Payment Procedures), 4:55 (Use of Credit and Procurement Cards)

Adopted: May 15, 2019

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### Questions and Answers:

\*\*\*Required Question 1. This optional language reflects the standard for expenses permitted for federal and State grants. 41 C.F.R. §301-12.2.

Does the Board reimburse baggage fees?

Yes (default)

No (IASB will remove the sentence regarding checked bag reimbursement and the text "and baggage receipts.")

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### PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. Required by the Grant Accountability and Transparency Act, 30 ILCS 708/130. Boards are required to follow this subhead and 5:60-AP (available at PRESS Online by logging in at [www.iasb.com](http://www.iasb.com)) when they use grant money to reimburse employee travel expenses charged to federal pass-through grants and State grants covered by GATA.

Federal travel regulations state that requests for authorization for actual expense reimbursement should be made *in advance* of travel. 2 C.F.R. §301-11.302. 5:60-E2, *Board Member Estimated Expense Approval Form*, can be used as a form for pre-approval. See the footnotes of policy 5:60, available at **PRESS** Online by logging in at [www.iasb.com](http://www.iasb.com), and the **PRESS** Update Memo for more information.

**Issue 103, March 2020**

## Document Status: Draft Update

### Educational Support Personnel

#### 5:280 Duties and Qualifications

All support staff: (1) must meet qualifications specified in job descriptions, (2) must be able to perform the essential tasks listed and/or assigned, and (3) are subject to Board policies as they may be changed from time-to-time at the Board's sole discretion.

##### Paraprofessionals

Paraprofessionals provide supervised instructional support. Service as a paraprofessional requires an educator license with stipulations endorsed for a paraprofessional educator unless a specific exemption is authorized by the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE).

Individuals with only non-instructional duties (e.g., providing technical support for computers, providing personal care services, or performing clerical duties) are not paraprofessionals; and the requirements in this section do not apply. In addition, individuals completing their clinical experiences and/or student teaching do not need to comply with this section, provided their service otherwise complies with ISBE rules.

##### Noncertificated and Unlicensed Personnel Working with Students and Performing Non-Instructional Duties

Noncertificated and unlicensed personnel performing non-instructional duties may be used:

1. For supervising study halls, long distance teaching reception areas used incident to instructional programs transmitted by electronic media (e.g., computers, video, and audio), detention and discipline areas, and school-sponsored extracurricular activities;
2. As supervisors, chaperones, or sponsors for non-academic school activities; or
3. For non-teaching duties not requiring instructional judgment or student evaluation.

Nothing in this policy prevents a noncertificated person from serving as a guest lecturer or resource person under a certificated teacher's direction and with the administration's approval.

##### Coaches and Athletic Trainers

Athletic coaches and trainers shall have the qualifications required by any association in which the School District maintains a membership. Regardless of whether the athletic activity is governed by an association, the Superintendent or designee shall ensure that each athletic coach: (1) is knowledgeable regarding coaching principles, (2) has first aid training, and (3) is a trained Automatic External Defibrillator user according to rules adopted by the Illinois Department of Public Health. Anyone performing athletic training services shall be licensed under the Illinois Athletic Trainers Practice Act.

##### Bus Drivers

All school bus drivers must have a valid school bus driver permit. The Superintendent or designee shall inform the Illinois Secretary of State, within 30 days of being informed by a school bus driver, that the bus driver permit holder has been called to active duty. New bus drivers and bus drivers who are returning from a lapse in their employment are subject to the requirements contained in Board policy 5:30, *Hiring Process and Criteria* and Board policy 5:285, *Drug and Alcohol Testing for School Bus and Commercial Vehicle Drivers*.

##### LEGAL REF.:

34 C.F.R. §§200.58 and 200.59, PRESSPlus1

105 ILCS 5/10-22.34, 5/10-22.34a, and 5/10-22.34b.

625 ILCS 5/6-104 and 5/6-106.1.

23 Ill.Admin.Code §§1.280, 1.630, and 25.510.

CROSS REF.: 4:110 (Transportation), 4:170 (Safety), 5:30 (Hiring Process and Criteria), 5:35 (Compliance with the Fair Labor Standards Act), 5:285 (Drug and Alcohol Testing for School Bus and Commercial Vehicle Drivers), 6:250 (Community Resource Persons and Volunteers)



**PRESSPlus Comments**

PRESSPlus 1. The Legal References are updated in response to amended III. State Board of Education rules governing educator licensure. **Issue 103, March 2020**

ok

## Document Status: Draft Update

### General Personnel

#### 5:150 Personnel Records

The Superintendent or designee shall manage a process for responding to inquiries by a prospective employer concerning a current or former employee's job performance. The Superintendent shall execute the requirements in the Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act whenever another school district asks for a reference concerning an applicant who is or was a District employee and was the subject of a report made by a District employee to DCFS.

When requested for information about an employee by an entity other than a prospective employer, the District will only confirm position and employment dates unless the employee has submitted a written request to the Superintendent or designee.

**Please refer to the applicable collective bargaining agreement(s).**

**For those employees not covered by an applicable collective bargaining agreement(s):**

The Superintendent or designee shall manage the maintenance of personnel records in accordance with State and federal law and School Board policy. Records, as determined by the Superintendent, are retained for all employment applicants, employees, and former employees given the need for the District to document employment-related decisions, evaluate program and staff effectiveness, and comply with government recordkeeping and reporting requirements. Personnel records shall be maintained in the District's administrative office, under the Superintendent's direct supervision.

Access to personnel records is available as follows:

1. An employee will be given access to his or her personnel records according to State law and guidelines developed by the Superintendent.
2. An employee's supervisor or other management employee who has an employment or business-related reason to inspect the record is authorized to have access.
3. Anyone having the respective employee's written consent may have access.
4. Access will be granted to anyone authorized by State or federal law to have access.
5. All other requests for access to personnel information are governed by Board policy 2:250, *Access to District Public Records*.

LEGAL REF.:

325 ILCS 5/4, Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act, PRESSPlus1

745 ILCS 46/10, Employment Record Disclosure Act.

820 ILCS 40/, Personal Record Review Act.

23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.660.

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

~~ADOPTED May 17, 2017~~

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#### **PRESSPlus Comments**

PRESSPlus 1. The Legal References are updated. **Issue 103, March 2020**

## Document Status: Draft Update

### SCHOOL BOARD

#### 2:160 Board Attorney

The School Board may enter into agreements for retain legal services with one or more attorneys or law firms to be the Board Attorney(s). The Board Attorney represents the School Board in its capacity as the governing body for the School District. ~~The Board Attorney shall not represent another client if the representation involves a concurrent conflict of interest, unless permitted by the Ill. Rules of Professional Conduct adopted by the Ill. Supreme Court.~~ 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 the Board President, each are 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 legal counsel 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 School Board retains the right to consult with or employ other attorneys and to terminate the service of any attorney.

The attorney will:

1. Serve as counselor to the Board and attend Board meetings when requested by the Superintendent or Board President;
2. Represent the District in any legal matter as requested by the School Board;
3. Provide written opinions on legal questions as requested by the Superintendent or Board President;
4. Approve, prepare, or supervise the preparation of legal documents and instruments and perform such other legal duties as the School Board may request; and
5. Be available for telephone consultation.

LEGAL REF.:

Rule 1.7 (Conflict of Interest: Current Clients) and Rule 1.13 (Organization as Client) of the Ill. Rules of Professional Conduct adopted by the Ill. Supreme Court.

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

~~ADOPTED October 21, 2016~~

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#### PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. Updated in response to a five-year review and **PRESS** Advisory Board feedback. **Issue 103, March 2020**

## Document Status: Draft Update

### SCHOOL BOARD

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

##### Board Member Compensation Prohibited

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. At the start of each fiscal year 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.<sup>Q1</sup>
  - 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<sup>PRESSPlus1</sup>

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.

Local Government Travel Expense Control 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: December 14, 2016

## Questions and Answers:

\*\*\*Required Question 1. This optional language reflects the standard for expenses permitted for federal and State grants. 41 C.F.R. §301-12.2.

Does the Board reimburse baggage fees?

Yes (default)

No (IASB will remove the sentence regarding checked bag reimbursement and the text "and baggage receipts.")

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#### **PRESSPlus Comments**

PRESSPlus 1. Required by the Grant Accountability and Transparency Act (GATA), 30 ILCS 708/130, Boards are required to follow this subhead, policy 5:60's subhead Additional Requirements for Travel Expenses Charged to Federal and State Grants, and 5:60-AP (available at PRESS Online by logging in at [www.iasb.com](http://www.iasb.com)) when they use grant money to reimburse Board member travel expenses charged to federal pass-through grants and State grants covered by GATA.

Federal travel regulations state that requests for authorization for actual expense reimbursement should be made *in advance* of travel. 2 C.F.R. §301-11.302. 2:125-E2, *Board Member Estimated Expense Approval Form*, can be used as a form for pre-approval. See policy 5:60 and the **PRESS** Update Memo for more information.

**Issue 103, March 2020**

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

### COMMUNITY RELATIONS

#### 8:80 Gifts to the District

The School Board appreciates gifts from any education foundation, other entities, or individuals. All gifts must adhere to each of the following:

1. Be accepted by the Board or the Superintendent or designee. Individuals should obtain a pre-acceptance commitment before identifying the District, any school, or school program or activity as a beneficiary in any fundraising attempt, including without limitation, any Internet fundraising attempt.
2. Be given without a stated purpose or with a purpose deemed by the party with authority to accept the gift to be compatible with the Board's educational objectives and policies.
3. Be consistent with the District's mandate to provide equal educational and extracurricular opportunities to all students in the District as provided in Board policy 7:10, *Equal Educational Opportunities*. State and federal laws require the District to provide equal treatment for members of both sexes to educational programming, extracurricular activities, and athletics. This includes the distribution of athletic benefits and opportunities.
4. Permit the District to maintain resource equity among its learning centers.
5. Be viewpoint neutral. The Superintendent or designee shall manage a process for the review and approval of donations involving the incorporation of messages into or placing messages upon school property.
6. Comply with all laws applicable to the District including, without limitation, the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Prevailing Wage Act, the Health/Life Safety Code for Public Schools, and all applicable procurement and bidding requirements.

The District will provide equal treatment to all individuals and entities seeking to donate money or a gift. Upon acceptance, all gifts become the District's property. The acceptance of a gift is not an endorsement by the Board, District, or school of any product, service, activity, or program. The method of recognition is determined by the party accepting the gift.

#### LEGAL REF.:

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

105 ILCS 5/16-1.

23 Ill.Admin.Code §200.40.

CROSS REF.: 4:60 (Purchases and Contracts), 4:150 (Facility Management and Building Programs), 6:10 (Educational Philosophy and Objectives), 6:210 (Instructional Materials), 7:10 (Equal Educational Opportunities)

~~ADOPTED: October 21, 2015~~

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

### STUDENTS

#### 7:325 Student Fundraising Activities

No individual or organization is allowed to ask students to participate in fundraising activities while the students are on school grounds during school hours or during any school activity. Exceptions are:

1. School-sponsored student organizations; and
2. Parent organizations and booster clubs that are recognized pursuant to policy 8:90, *Parent Organizations and Booster Clubs*.

The Superintendent or designee shall manage student fundraising activities in alignment with the following directives:

1. Fundraising efforts shall not conflict with instructional activities or programs.
2. For any school that participates in the School Breakfast Program or the National School Lunch Program, fundraising activities involving the sale of food and beverage items to students during the school day while on the school campus must comply with the Ill. State Board of Education rules concerning the sale of competitive food and beverage items.
3. Participation in fundraising efforts must be voluntary.
4. Student safety must be paramount.
5. For school-sponsored student organizations, a school staff member must supervise the fundraising activities and the student activity funds treasurer must safeguard the financial accounts.
6. The fundraising efforts must be to support the organization's purposes and/or activities, the general welfare, a charitable cause, or the educational experiences of students generally.
7. The funds shall be used to the maximum extent possible for the designated purpose.
8. Any fundraising efforts that solicit donor messages for incorporation into school property (e.g., tiles or bricks) or placement upon school property (e.g., posters or placards) must:
  - a. Develop viewpoint neutral guidelines for the creation of messages;
  - b. Inform potential donors that all messages are subject to review and approval, and that messages that do not meet the established guidelines must be resubmitted or the donation will be returned; and
  - c. Place a disclaimer on all fundraising information and near the completed donor messages that all messages are "solely the expression of the individual donors and not an endorsement by the District of any message's content."

#### LEGAL REF.:

105 ILCS 5/10-20.19(3).

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

CROSS REF.: 4:90 (Activity Funds), 4:120 (Food Services), 8:80 (Gifts to the District), 8:90 (Parent Organizations and Booster Clubs)

~~ADOPTED October 21, 2018~~



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

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### STUDENTS

#### **7:130 Student Rights and Responsibilities**

All students are entitled to enjoy the rights protected by the U.S. and Illinois Constitutions and laws for persons of their age and maturity in a school setting. Students should exercise these rights reasonably and avoid violating the rights of others. Students who violate the rights of others or violate District policies or rules will be subject to disciplinary measures.

Students may, during the school day, during noninstructional time, voluntarily engage in individually or collectively initiated, non-disruptive prayer or religious-based meetings that, consistent with the Free Exercise and Establishment Clauses of the U.S. and Illinois Constitutions, are not sponsored, promoted, or endorsed in any manner by the school or any school employee. *Noninstructional time* means time set aside by a school before actual classroom instruction begins or after actual classroom instruction ends.

#### LEGAL REF.:

20 U.S.C. §7904.

105 ILCS 20/5.

Tinker v. Des Moines Independent School District, 89 S.Ct. 733 (1969).

CROSS REF.: 7:140 (Search and Seizure), 7:150 (Agency and Police Interviews), 7:160 (Student Appearance), 7:190 (Student Behavior), 7:330 (Student Use of Buildings - Equal Access)

~~ADOPTED December 16, 2016~~

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

### OPERATIONAL SERVICES

#### **4:50 Payment Procedures**

The Treasurer, with the assistance of the bookkeeper, shall prepare a list of all due and payable bills, indicating vendor name and amount, and shall present it to the School Board in advance of the Board's first regular monthly meeting or, if necessary, a special meeting. These bills shall be reviewed by the School Board, after which they may be approved for payment by School Board order. Approval of all bills shall be given by a roll call vote and the votes shall be recorded in the minutes. The Treasurer shall pay the bills after receiving a School Board order or pertinent portions of the Board minutes, even if the minutes are unapproved, provided the order or minutes are signed by the Board President and Secretary, or a majority of the Board.

The Treasurer, with the assistance of the bookkeeper, is authorized, without further Board approval, to pay Social Security taxes, wages, pension contributions, utility bills, and other recurring bills. These disbursements shall be included in the listing of bills presented to the School Board.

Revolving funds for school cafeterias, athletics, petty cash, or similar purposes may be used, provided such funds are maintained in accordance with Board policy 4:80, *Accounting and Audits*, and remain in the custody of an employee who is properly bonded according to State law.

#### LEGAL REF.:

105 ILCS 5/8-16, 5/10-7, and 5/10-20.19.

23 Ill.Admin.Code §100.70.

CROSS REF.: 4:55 (Use of Credit and Procurement Cards), 4:60 (Purchases and Contracts), 4:80 (Accounting and Audits)

~~ADOPTED October 24, 2015~~

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