

Document Status: Draft Update

COMMUNITY RELATIONS

8:30 Visitors to and Conduct on School Property

The following definitions apply to this policy:

School property - District and school buildings, grounds, and parking areas; vehicles used for school purposes; and any location used for a Board of Education meeting, school athletic event, or other school-sponsored or school-sanctioned events or activities.

Visitor - Any person other than an enrolled student or District employee.

All visitors to school property are required to report to the School Building's Main Office and receive permission to remain on school property. All visitors must sign a visitors' log, show identification, and wear a visitor's badge. When leaving the school, visitors must return their badge. On those occasions when large groups of parents/guardians, friends, and/or community members are invited onto school property or when community members are attending Board meetings, visitors are not required to sign in but must follow school officials' instructions. Persons on school property without permission will be directed to leave and may be subject to criminal prosecution.

Except as provided in the next paragraph, any person wishing to confer with a staff member should contact that staff member to make an appointment. Conferences with teachers are held, to the extent possible, outside school hours or during the teacher's conference/preparation period.

Requests to access a school building, facility, and/or educational program, or to interview personnel or a student for purposes of assessing the student's special education needs, should be made at the appropriate building. Access shall be facilitated according to guidelines from the Superintendent or designee.

The School District expects mutual respect, civility, and orderly conduct among all people on school property or at a school event. No person on school property or at a school event (including visitors, students, and employees) shall perform any of the following acts:

1. Strike, injure, threaten, harass, or intimidate a staff member, Board member, sports official or coach, or any other person.

2. Behave in an unsportsmanlike manner, or use vulgar or obscene language.
3. Unless specifically permitted by State law, possess a weapon, any object that can reasonably be considered a weapon or looks like a weapon, or any dangerous device.
4. Damage or threaten to damage another's property.
5. Damage or deface school property.
6. Violate any Illinois law, or town or county ordinance.
7. Smoke or otherwise use tobacco or vape products.
8. Distribute, consume, use, possess, or be impaired by or under the influence of an alcoholic beverage, cannabis, other lawful product, or illegal drug.
9. Be present when the person's alcoholic beverage, cannabis, other lawful product, or illegal drug consumption is detectable, regardless of when and/or where the use occurred.
10. Use or possess medical cannabis, unless he or she has complied with policy 7:270, *Administering Medicines to Students*, implementing *Ashley's Law*.
11. Impede, delay, disrupt, or otherwise interfere with any school activity or function (including using cellular phones in a disruptive manner).
12. Enter upon any portion of school premises at any time for purposes other than those that are lawful and authorized by the Board.
13. Operate a motor vehicle: (a) in a risky manner, (b) in excess of 20 miles per hour, or (c) in violation of an authorized District employee's directive.
14. Engage in any risky behavior, including roller-blading, roller-skating, or skateboarding.
15. Violate other District policies or regulations, or a directive from an authorized security officer or District employee.
16. Engage in any conduct that interferes with, disrupts, or adversely affects the District or a School function.
17. Individual Board members who are interested in visiting schools or classrooms on an unofficial basis shall make the appropriate arrangements with the building administrator. In keeping with Board bylaws, such Board member visits shall not be considered to be official unless designated as such by the Board.

The Board member shall be visiting as an interested individual in a capacity similar to any parent or citizen of the community. These visits should not be considered to be inspections nor as supervisory in nature.

If, during a visit to a school or program, a Board member observes a situation or condition which causes concern, s/he should discuss the situation first with the building administrator as soon as convenient or appropriate. Such a report of discussion shall not be considered an official one from the Board. If the Board member believes the situation or condition is serious enough, s/he shall inform the Superintendent or designee, in compliance with the Board's working agreement.

Convicted Child Sex Offender

State law prohibits a child sex offender from being present on school property or loitering within 500 feet of school property when persons under the age of 18 are present, unless the offender is:

1. A parent/guardian of a student attending the school and has notified the School Building's Main Office of his or her presence at the school for the purpose of: (i) attending a conference at the school with school personnel to discuss the progress of his or her child academically or socially, (ii) participating in child review conferences in which evaluation and placement decisions may be made with respect to his or her child regarding special education services, or (iii) attending conferences to discuss other student issues concerning his or her child such as retention and promotion; or
2. Has permission to be present from the Superintendent or Superintendent's designee. If permission is granted, the Superintendent or Superintendent's designee shall provide the details of the offender's upcoming visit to the School Building's Main Office.

In all cases, the Superintendent, or designee who is a certified employee, shall supervise a child sex offender whenever the offender is in a child's vicinity.

Exclusive Bargaining Representative Agent

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

For employees whose collective bargaining agreement does not address this subject:

Upon notifying the Building Principal's office, authorized agents of an exclusive bargaining representative will be provided reasonable access to employees in the bargaining unit they represent in accordance with State law. Such access shall be conducted in a manner that will not impede the normal operations of the District.

Enforcement

Any staff member may request identification from any person on school property; refusal to provide such information is a criminal act. The Building Principal or designee shall seek the immediate removal of any person who refuses to provide requested identification.

Any person who engages in conduct prohibited by this policy may be ejected from or denied admission to school property in accordance with State law.^{PRESSPlus1} The person is also may be subject to being denied admission to school athletic or extracurricular events or meetings for up to one calendar year in accordance with the procedures below.

Procedures to Deny Future Admission to Athletic or Extracurricular School Events or Meetings

Before any person may be denied admission to athletic or extracurricular school events or meetings as provided in this policy, the person has a right to a hearing before the Board. The Superintendent may refuse the person admission pending such hearing. The Superintendent or designee must provide the person with a hearing notice, delivered or sent by certified mail with return receipt requested, at least ten days before the Board hearing date. The hearing notice must contain:

1. The date, time, and place of the Board hearing;
2. A description of the prohibited conduct;
3. The proposed time period that admission to school events will be denied; and
4. Instructions on how to waive a hearing.

LEGAL REF.:

Nuding v. Cerro Gordo Community Unit School Dist., 313 Ill. App.3d 344 (4th Dist. 2000).

20 U.S.C. §7971 ~~84~~ et seq., Pro-Children Act of 2001 ~~1994~~.

105 ILCS 5/10-20.5, 10-20.5b, 5/10-22.10, 5/22-33, 5/24-25, and 5/27-23.7(a).

115 ILCS 5/3(c), Ill. Educational Labor Relations Act.

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

~~430 ILCS 66/~~, ~~Firearm Concealed Carry Act.~~

410 ILCS 705/, Cannabis Tax and Regulation Act.

430 ILCS 66/, Firearm Concealed Carry Act.

720 ILCS 5/11-9.3, 5/21-1, 5/21-1.2, 5/21-3, 5/21-5, 5/21-5.5, 5/21-9, and 5/21-11.

CROSS REF.: 2:200 (Types of Board of Education Meetings), 2:230 (Public Participation at Board of Education Meetings and Petitions to the Board), 4:170 (Safety), 5:50 (Drug- and Alcohol-Free Workplace; E-Cigarette, Tobacco, and Cannabis Prohibition), 6:120 (Education of Children with Disabilities), 6:250 (Community Resource Persons and Volunteers), 7:190 (Student Behavior), 7:270 (Administering Medicines to Students), 8:20 (Community Use of School Facilities)

PRESSPlus Comments

[PRESSPlus 1](#). Updated in response to PRESS Advisory Board member feedback requesting clarification on the authority of boards to enforce conduct rules under 105 ILCS 5/10-20.5 and under various criminal trespass statutes. Applicable criminal trespass laws include: 720 ILCS 5/21-1 (criminal damage to property); 5/21-1.2 (institutional vandalism); 5/21-3 (criminal trespass to real property); 5/21-5 (criminal trespass to State supported land); 5/21-5.5 (criminal trespass to a safe school zone); 5/21-9 (criminal trespass to a place of public amusement); 5/21-11 (distributing or delivering written or printed solicitation on school property). **Issue 113, October 2023**

[PRESSPlus 2](#). Updated in response to PRESS Advisory Board member feedback requesting clarification that the scope of subhead **Procedures to Deny Future Admission to Athletic or Extracurricular School Events or Meetings** is limited, as specified in the new subhead title, to topics set forth in 105 ILCS 5/24-24.

If a violator is a student, the hearing should be held in a closed meeting. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(9). Otherwise, a hearing regarding denial of admission to *school events or property* pursuant to 105 ILCS 5/24-24 may take place in an open meeting or in a closed meeting so long as 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. Note: while 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(4.5), added by P.A. 103-311, refers to *school events or property*, 105 ILCS 5/24-24 only authorizes boards to deny admission to athletic and extracurricular *events*. The term *events* is arguably broader than *property* as school events may take place offsite; consult the board attorney for guidance.

Some boards prefer an open meeting hearing to make it publicly known what alleged conduct could result in someone being denied admission to athletic or extracurricular events, while others prefer a closed meeting hearing so as not to provide a public platform to someone alleged to have engaged in prohibited conduct. Consult the board attorney to determine the best approach for the district and to ensure alignment with local practices and conditions.

Consult the board attorney if the district would like to deny an individual admission to board meetings. **Issue 113, October 2023**