

### (LOCAL) Policy Comparisons

These documents are generated by an automated process that compares the updated policy to the current policy as found in TASB records.

In this packet, you will find:

- Policies being recommended for revision (annotated)
- New policies (not annotated)
- Policies recommended for deletion (annotated in PDF; not shown in Word)

Annotations are shown as follows:

- Deletions are in a red strike-through font: deleted text.
- · Additions are in a blue font: new text.
- Blocks of text that were moved without changes are shown in green, with double underline and double strike-through formatting to distinguish the text's new placement from its original location: moved text becomes moved text.
- Revision bars appear in the right margin to show sections with changes.

**Note:** While the annotation software competently identifies simple changes, large or complicated changes — as in an extensive rewrite — may be more difficult to follow. In addition, TASB's recent changes to the policy templates to facilitate accessibility sometimes make formatting changes appear tracked, even though the text remains the same.

For further assistance in understanding policy changes, please refer to the explanatory notes in your Localized Policy Manual update packet or contact your policy consultant.

### Contact us:

School Districts and Education Service Centers, call 800-580-7529 or email policy.service@tasb.org.

Community Colleges, call 800-580-1488 or email colleges@tasb.org.

# Explanatory Notes TASB Localized Policy Manual Update 126

#### Robstown ISD

#### ATTN(NOTE) GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT THIS UPDATE

#### Please note:

Changes at Update 126 are based almost exclusively on legislation from the 89th Regular Legislative Session. Please note that documents provided in the legal framework are not adopted by the board.

Unless otherwise noted, references to legislative bills throughout these explanatory notes refer to Senate Bills (SB), House Bills (HB), or House Concurrent Resolutions (HCR) from the 89th Regular Legislative Session. All referenced bills have already gone into effect unless otherwise noted.

TASB Policy Service hosted and recorded a webinar to review the content of Update 126. That recorded webinar is available with your Update 126 materials on Policy Online.

### BE(LOCAL) BOARD MEETINGS

Several recommended revisions have been made to this policy on board meetings. SB 12 prompted new language at Meeting Place and Time indicating that board meetings will be held outside of typical work hours. Language at Notice to Members has been adjusted to reflect HB 1522, which requires board agendas to be posted for three business days, rather than 72 hours, before the meeting. This recommended revision appropriately adjusts when the notice of the meeting will be provided to board members.

At Deadline, the recommended revisions are also in response to HB 1522. We offer for your consideration language requiring that agenda items be submitted 10 calendar days before a meeting. This deadline would provide the district sufficient time to compile items and post an agenda by the statutory deadline. If the district would like to adjust the deadline, please contact your policy consultant.

SB 413 requires roll call voting, so the language at Record Vote has been revised accordingly. A paragraph in the Minutes section has been removed, as the statement is true for all district records and it is not necessary to separately address retention in this policy. Please refer to CPC(LOCAL) and your district's record retention procedures.

The <u>Legal Tips for Policy Development</u>, available in the Policy Online® Governance and Management Library (TASB login required), describe common legal concerns and best practices specific to this policy's topic.

### BED(LOCAL) BOARD MEETINGS: PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Recommended revisions comply with the SB 12 requirement that public comment occur at the beginning of board meetings.

The <u>Legal Tips for Policy Development</u>, available in the Policy Online® Governance and Management Library (TASB login required), describe common legal concerns and best practices specific to this policy's topic.

### CJ(LOCAL) CONTRACTED SERVICES

Recommended new provisions reflect that contractors may not engage in or assign instructional activities prohibited by law or diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) duties under SB 12. Violations will result in termination of the contract.

# CJA(LOCAL) CONTRACTED SERVICES: BACKGROUND CHECKS AND REQUIRED REPORTING

The subtopic name has been adjusted to Background Checks and Required Reporting to more accurately describe the contents of the legal framework at this code. No changes have been made to the local text, and the district has not been charged for this revision.

### **Explanatory Notes**

## TASB Localized Policy Manual Update 126

#### Robstown ISD

# CLE(LOCAL) BUILDINGS, GROUNDS, AND EQUIPMENT MANAGEMENT: REQUIRED DISPLAYS

The subtopic name has been adjusted to Required Displays to more accurately describe the contents of the legal framework at this code. No changes have been made to the local text, and the district has not been charged for this revision.

### CQB(LOCAL) TECHNOLOGY RESOURCES: CYBERSECURITY

Recommended revisions comply with HB 150, which moves cybersecurity training requirements from the Department of Information Resources to the Texas Cyber Command and includes details about notifications for cybersecurity incidents in addition to security breaches.

### CQD(LOCAL) TECHNOLOGY RESOURCES: ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

This new recommended policy addresses artificial intelligence training requirements based on HB 150 and HB 1500, as well as the use of artificial intelligence by district employees and students.

### CSA(LOCAL) FACILITY STANDARDS: SAFETY AND SECURITY

SB 8 from the Second Special Session prompted the inclusion of a section on Designation and Use of Private Spaces. The superintendent is directed to designate private spaces in accordance with law and to develop regulations to ensure compliance.

### CV(LOCAL) FACILITIES CONSTRUCTION

As reflected in CH(LEGAL), the competitive purchasing threshold established in law has changed from \$50,000 to \$100,000. The language at Construction Contracts is recommended for revision here to refer to the legal threshold rather than a specific dollar amount. Policy BJA(LOCAL) establishes the superintendent's delegation authority; therefore "or designee" is recommended for deletion at Project Administration.

The <u>Legal Tips for Policy Development</u>, available in the Policy Online® Governance and Management Library (TASB login required), describe common legal concerns and best practices specific to this policy's topic.

Please note: The superintendent's authority to approve construction contracts is reflected with a dollar amount in many districts' CV(LOCAL) that matched the previous competitive purchasing threshold. We have not revised the provisions reflecting the superintendent's authority to approve construction contracts. If the board wishes to update the superintendent's authority to approve contracts, please contact your policy consultant.

# DBD(LOCAL) EMPLOYMENT REQUIREMENTS AND RESTRICTIONS: CONFLICT OF INTEREST

A new recommended section on Personal Services Performed by an Administrator includes language relating to administrator work from HB 3372.

### DEC(LOCAL) COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS: LEAVES AND ABSENCES

HB 2 prompted recommended revisions to include Daily Rate of Pay under the Definitions section, as well as a section regarding Concurrent Use of Paid Leave during Family and Medical Leave for classroom teachers.

The <u>Legal Tips for Policy Development</u>, available in the Policy Online® Governance and Management Library (TASB login required), describe common legal concerns and best practices specific to this policy's topic.

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### Robstown ISD

### DFBB(LOCAL) TERM CONTRACTS: NONRENEWAL

Based on SB 12, engaging or assigning diversity, equity, and inclusion duties, as well as instructional activities prohibited by law, are recommended for inclusion in the list of reasons a term contract employee may be nonrenewed. The item related to disability and the ability to perform the essential functions of the job has been amended for clarity.

# DGBA(LOCAL) PERSONNEL-MANAGEMENT RELATIONS: EMPLOYEE COMPLAINTS/GRIEVANCES

All recommended revisions to this local policy on employee complaints stem from the applicable portions of SB 12.

The <u>Legal Tips for Policy Development</u>, available in the Policy Online® Governance and Management Library (TASB login required), describe common legal concerns and best practices specific to this policy's topic.

### DH(LOCAL) EMPLOYEE STANDARDS OF CONDUCT

The recommended revision to the text at Weapons Prohibited – Exceptions reflects changes under SB 706 regarding reciprocity with a handgun license from another state. Sections on Prohibited Classroom Instruction or Activities; Prohibited Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Duties; and Social Transitioning are recommended for inclusion pursuant to SB 12. At Relationships with Students, the recommended revision addresses the requirement under SB 571 regarding notice of suspected misconduct by an educator or district service provider.

The <u>Legal Tips for Policy Development</u>, available in the Policy Online® Governance and Management Library (TASB login required), describe common legal concerns and best practices specific to this policy's topic.

### EEP(LOCAL) INSTRUCTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS: LESSON PLANS

This new local policy includes recommended language from SB 12 on instructional plans and course syllabi.

### EFA(LOCAL) INSTRUCTIONAL RESOURCES: INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

In accordance with SB 12, a section on Parent Request for Instructional Material Review is recommended for inclusion. The policy requires the superintendent to develop administrative regulations to ensure that parents or guardians can request review of instructional materials individually or through a petition process with other parents.

The <u>Legal Tips for Policy Development</u>, available in the Policy Online® Governance and Management Library (TASB login required), describe common legal concerns and best practices specific to this policy's topic.

### EHBAF(LOCAL) SPECIAL EDUCATION: VIDEO/AUDIO MONITORING

The enclosed revisions are recommended to update language regarding special education classrooms in accordance with HB 2 and to update the timeframe for reporting suspected misconduct or child abuse as required by SB 571.

## EIA(LOCAL) ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT: GRADING/PROGRESS REPORTS TO PARENTS

Recommended revisions reflect the SB 12 requirement that each parent of a student be afforded the opportunity for at least two in-person conferences with the student's teacher per year. At Academic Dishon-

## **Explanatory Notes**

## TASB Localized Policy Manual Update 126

#### Robstown ISD

esty, language is recommended that indicates the use of artificial intelligence without permission constitutes academic dishonesty.

### FA(LOCAL) PARENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

This new local policy is recommended for inclusion in the district's manual to address the SB 12 requirement to establish a parent portal on the district's website, through which parents may submit comments to administrators or the board.

### FEF(LOCAL) ATTENDANCE: RELEASED TIME

This local policy is recommended for inclusion in the district's manual to reflect SB 1049 requirements regarding released time courses.

### FFAC(LOCAL) WELLNESS AND HEALTH SERVICES: MEDICAL TREATMENT

A recommended revision at Medication Provided by Parent has been made due to SB 920, which now allows school employees, including nurses, to administer nonprescription medication in accordance with legal requirements.

At Epinephrine, references to "epinephrine auto-injector" have been updated to "epinephrine delivery system" in accordance with SB 1619.

The <u>Legal Tips for Policy Development</u>, available in the Policy Online® Governance and Management Library (TASB login required), describe common legal concerns and best practices specific to this policy's topic.

### FFB(LOCAL) STUDENT WELFARE: CRISIS INTERVENTION

As required by HB 2, a provision is recommended for inclusion addressing the required notification that must be provided to teaching staff when a threat is made against the campus.

### FFF(LOCAL) STUDENT WELFARE: STUDENT SAFETY

HB 2 prompted recommended revisions to this local policy regarding notifying a parent of a student with whom an employee or service provider is alleged to have engaged in misconduct.

### FFG(LOCAL) STUDENT WELFARE: CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

A recommended change at Reporting Child Abuse or Neglect reflects that SB 571 requires reporting within 24 hours of learning of the facts giving rise to suspicion of abuse or neglect of a child. The revision to item 1 at Making a Report also comes from SB 571.

The <u>Legal Tips for Policy Development</u>, available in the Policy Online® Governance and Management Library (TASB login required), describe common legal concerns and best practices specific to this policy's topic.

## FNG(LOCAL) STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES: STUDENT AND PARENT COMPLAINTS/GRIEVANCES

Substantial revisions to this student and parent complaint policy are recommended to reflect requirements in SB 12 and other legal requirements reflected in the legal framework at this code.

The <u>Legal Tips for Policy Development</u>, available in the Policy Online® Governance and Management Library (TASB login required), describe common legal concerns and best practices specific to this policy's topic.

# Explanatory Notes TASB Localized Policy Manual Update 126

### Robstown ISD

### FO(LOCAL)

#### STUDENT DISCIPLINE

Minor edits are recommended to the language regarding Video and Audio Monitoring that make such monitoring permissive and clarify what should happen when video and audio recording equipment is in use.

### GF(LOCAL)

### **PUBLIC COMPLAINTS**

All recommended revisions to this local policy on public complaints stem from the applicable portions of SB 12.

The <u>Legal Tips for Policy Development</u>, available in the Policy Online® Governance and Management Library (TASB login required), describe common legal concerns and best practices specific to this policy's topic.

### GKA(LOCAL)

### COMMUNITY RELATIONS: CONDUCT ON SCHOOL PREMISES

Language regarding handguns is recommended for revision due to SB 706.

The <u>Legal Tips for Policy Development</u>, available in the Policy Online® Governance and Management Library (TASB login required), describe common legal concerns and best practices specific to this policy's topic.

### TASB RECOMMENDATION

**BOARD MEETINGS** 

BE (LOCAL)

Meeting Place and Time

Board meetings shall be held during a time that is outside of typical work hours. [See FA(LEGAL)]

The notice for a Board meeting shall reflect the date, time, and location of the meeting.

Regular Meetings

Regular meetings of the Board shall normally be held on the second Monday of each month at 6:00 p.m. When determined necessary and for the convenience of Board members, the Board President may change the date, time, or location of a regular meeting with proper notice.

Special or Emergency Meetings The Board President shall call special meetings at the Board President's discretion or on request by two members of the Board.

The Board President shall call an emergency meeting when it is determined by the Board President or two members of the Board that an emergency or urgent public necessity, as defined by law, warrants the meeting.

Agenda

Deadline

The deadline for submitting items for inclusion on the agenda is the fourth 10th calendar day before regular meetings and the fourth 10th calendar day before special meetings.

Preparation

In consultation with the Board President, the Superintendent shall prepare the agenda for all Board meetings. Any Board member may request that a subject be included on the agenda for a meeting, and the Superintendent shall include on the preliminary agenda of the meeting all topics that have been timely submitted by a Board member.

Before the official agenda is finalized for any meeting, the Superintendent shall consult the Board President to ensure that the agenda and the topics included meet with the Board President's approval. In reviewing the preliminary agenda, the Board President shall ensure that any topics the Board or individual Board members have requested to be addressed are either on that agenda or scheduled for deliberation at an appropriate time in the near future. The Board President shall not have authority to remove from the agenda a subject requested by a Board member without that Board member's specific authorization.

**Notice to Members** 

Members of the Board shall be given notice of regular and special meetings at least 72 hours three business days prior to the scheduled timedate of the meeting and at least one hour prior to the time of an emergency meeting.

**Closed Meeting** 

Notice of all meetings shall provide for the possibility of a closed meeting during an open meeting, in accordance with law.

DATE ISSUED: <u>12/18/2024</u>10/29/2025 <u>LDU 2024.04</u>UPDATE 126 BE(LOCAL)-A

Adopted: 11/20/2024

**BOARD MEETINGS** 

BE (LOCAL)

The Board may conduct a closed meeting when the agenda subject is one that may properly be discussed in closed meeting. [See BEC]

Order of Business

The order of business for regular Board meetings shall be as set out in the agenda accompanying the notice of the meeting. At the meeting, the order in which posted agenda items are taken may be changed by consensus of Board members.

Rules of Order

The Board shall observe the parliamentary procedures as found in *Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised*, except as otherwise provided in Board procedural rules or by law. Procedural rules may be suspended at any Board meeting by majority vote of the members present.

**Voting**Record Vote

Voting on any item shall be by voice a record vote or by show of hands or roll call, as directed by the Board President. Any member may abstain from voting on an item, and a member's vote or failure to vote shall be recorded upon that member's request in the minutes. [See BDAA(LOCAL) for the Board President's voting rights]

Consent Agenda

When the agenda is prepared, the Board President shall determine items, if any, that qualify to be placed on the consent agenda. A consent agenda shall include items of a routine and/or recurring nature grouped together under one action item. For each item listed as part of a consent agenda, the Board shall be furnished with background material. All such items shall be acted upon by one vote without separate discussion, unless a Board member requests that an item be withdrawn for individual consideration. The remaining items shall be adopted under a single motion and vote.

Minutes

Board action shall be carefully recorded by the Board Secretary or clerk; when approved, these minutes shall serve as the legal record of official Board actions. The written minutes of all meetings shall be approved by vote of the Board and signed by the Board President and the Board Secretary.

The official minutes of the Board shall be retained on file in the office of the Superintendent and shall be available for examination during regular office hours. [See CPC regarding retention of records.]

Discussions and Limitation

Discussions shall be addressed to the Board President and then the entire membership. Discussion shall be directed solely to the business currently under deliberation, and the Board President shall halt discussion that does not apply to the business before the Board.

The Board President shall also halt discussion if the Board has agreed to a time limitation for discussion of an item, and that time

DATE ISSUED: 42/18/2024 10/29/2025 LDU 2024.04 UPDATE 126 BE(LOCAL)-A Adopted: 11/20/2024

**BOARD MEETINGS** 

BE (LOCAL)

limit has expired. Aside from these limitations, the Board President shall not interfere with debate so long as members wish to address themselves to an item under consideration.

**CURRENT POLICY** 

**BOARD MEETINGS** 

BE (LOCAL)

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DATE ISSUED: 12/18/2024

LDU 2024.04 BE(LOCAL)-A Adopted: 11/20/2024

### **CURRENT POLICY**

**BOARD MEETINGS** 

BE (LOCAL)

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Rules of Order

The Board shall observe the parliamentary procedures as found in *Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised*, except as otherwise provided in Board procedural rules or by law. Procedural rules may be suspended at any Board meeting by majority vote of the members present.

Voting

Voting shall be by voice vote or show of hands, as directed by the Board President. Any member may abstain from voting, and a member's vote or failure to vote shall be recorded upon that member's request. [See BDAA(LOCAL) for the Board President's voting rights]

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Discussions shall be addressed to the Board President and then the entire membership. Discussion shall be directed solely to the business currently under deliberation, and the Board President shall halt discussion that does not apply to the business before the Board.

The Board President shall also halt discussion if the Board has agreed to a time limitation for discussion of an item, and that time limit has expired. Aside from these limitations, the Board President shall not interfere with debate so long as members wish to address themselves to an item under consideration.

DATE ISSUED: 12/18/2024 LDU 2024.04 BE(LOCAL)-A Adopted: 11/20/2024

### TASB RECOMMENDATION

BOARD MEETINGS
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

BED (LOCAL)

Limit on Participation Audience participation at a Board meeting is limited to the portion of the meeting designated to receive public comment in accordance with this policy. At all other times during a Board meeting, the audience shall not enter into discussion or debate on matters being considered by the Board, unless requested by the presiding officer.

**Public Comment** 

Public comment shall occur at the beginning of the meeting. [See FA]

Regular Meetings

At regular Board meetings, the Board shall permit public comment, regardless of whether the topic is an item on the agenda posted with notice of the meeting.

Special Meetings

At all other Board meetings, public comment shall be limited to items on the agenda posted with notice of the meeting.

Procedures

Individuals who wish to participate during the portion of the meeting designated for public comment shall sign up with the presiding officer or designee before the meeting begins as specified in the Board's procedures on public comment and shall indicate the agenda item or topic on which they wish to address the Board.

Public comment shall occur at the beginning of the meeting.

Except as permitted by this policy and the Board's procedures on public comment, an individual's comments to the Board shall not exceed three minutes per meeting.

Meeting Management When necessary for effective meeting management or to accommodate large numbers of individuals wishing to address the Board, the presiding officer may make adjustments to public comment procedures, including adjusting when public comment will occur during the meeting, reordering agenda items, deferring public comment on nonagenda items, continuing agenda items to a later meeting, providing expanded opportunity for public comment, or establishing an overall time limit for public comment and adjustingadjust the time allotted to each speaker. However, no individual shall be given less than one minute to make comments.

Board's Response

Specific factual information or recitation of existing policy may be furnished in response to inquiries, but the Board shall not deliberate or decide regarding any subject that is not included on the agenda posted with notice of the meeting.

Complaints and Concerns

The presiding officer or designee shall determine whether an individual addressing the Board has attempted to solve a matter administratively through resolution channels established by policy. If not, the individual shall be referred to the appropriate policy to seek resolution:

DATE ISSUED: 41/20/2019 10/29/2025 UPDATE 414 126 BED(LOCAL)-A

Adopted:

# BOARD MEETINGS PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

BED (LOCAL)

- Employee complaints: DGBA
- · Student or parent complaints: FNG
- Public complaints: GF

### Disruption

The Board shall not tolerate disruption of the meeting by members of the audience. If, after at least one warning from the presiding officer, any individual continues to disrupt the meeting by his or her words or actions, the presiding officer may request assistance from law enforcement officials to have the individual removed from the meeting.

BOARD MEETINGS
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

BED (LOCAL)

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Specific factual information or recitation of existing policy may be furnished in response to inquiries, but the Board shall not deliberate or decide regarding any subject that is not included on the agenda posted with notice of the meeting.

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The presiding officer or designee shall determine whether an individual addressing the Board has attempted to solve a matter administratively through resolution channels established by policy. If not, the individual shall be referred to the appropriate policy to seek resolution:

Employee complaints: DGBA

Student or parent complaints: FNG

DATE ISSUED: 11/20/2019

UPDATE 114 BED(LOCAL)-A

### **CURRENT POLICY**

BOARD MEETINGS PUBLIC PARTICIPATION BED (LOCAL)

Public complaints: GF

### **Disruption**

The Board shall not tolerate disruption of the meeting by members of the audience. If, after at least one warning from the presiding officer, any individual continues to disrupt the meeting by his or her words or actions, the presiding officer may request assistance from law enforcement officials to have the individual removed from the meeting.

**DATE ISSUED: 11/20/2019** 

UPDATE 114 BED(LOCAL)-A ADOPTED:

### TASB RECOMMENDATION

### CONTRACTED SERVICES

CJ (LOCAL)

Employment Assistance Prohibited No District employee shall assist a contractor or agent of the District or of any other school district in obtaining a new job if the employee knows, or has probable cause to believe, that the contractor or agent engaged in sexual misconduct regarding a minor or student in violation of the law. Routine transmission of an administrative file does not violate this prohibition.

No District contractor or agent shall assist an employee, contractor, or agent of the District or of any other school district in obtaining a new job if the contractor or agent knows, or has probable cause to believe, that the individual engaged in sexual misconduct regarding a minor or student in violation of the law. Routine transmission of an administrative or personnel file does not violate this prohibition.

[See also DC for prohibitions relating to employees.]

Prohibited Classroom Instruction or Activities A District contractor is prohibited from intentionally or knowingly engaging in or assigning to another individual instruction, guidance, activities, or programming prohibited by law [see EMB(LE-GAL)]. Violation of this policy shall result in termination of the contract. A District contractor shall be permitted to appeal this action in accordance with GF(LOCAL).

Prohibition on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

A contract is subject to termination if the District contractor intentionally or knowingly:

- Engages in diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) duties.
- Assigns to another individual DEI duties.

A District contractor shall be permitted to appeal this action in accordance with GF(LOCAL).

[See BT(LEGAL)]

DATE ISSUED: 210/16/2017/29/2025 UPDATE 107/126 CJ(LOCAL)-A ADOPTED: Adopted:

### **CONTRACTED SERVICES**

CJ (LOCAL)

### Employment Assistance Prohibited

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No District contractor or agent shall assist an employee, contractor, or agent of the District or of any other school district in obtaining a new job if the contractor or agent knows, or has probable cause to believe, that the individual engaged in sexual misconduct regarding a minor or student in violation of the law. Routine transmission of an administrative or personnel file does not violate this prohibition.

[See also DC for prohibitions relating to employees]

DATE ISSUED: 2/16/2017

UPDATE 107 CJ(LOCAL)-A ADOPTED:

### TASB RECOMMENDATION

CONTRACTED SERVICES

CRIMINAL HISTORYBACKGROUND CHECKS AND REQUIRED REPORTING

CJA (LOCAL)

### **Emergencies**

In an emergency due to a health or safety concern, a reasonably unforeseeable situation, or other exigent circumstance, the District employee who is in charge of the facility shall be authorized to determine whether an employee of a contracting or subcontracting entity who does not have the required criminal history record information (CHRI) review or who has a disqualifying conviction will be permitted to enter a District facility.

If allowed to enter the facility, the employee of the contracting or subcontracting entity shall be accompanied by a District employee at all times.

### **CURRENT POLICY**

CONTRACTED SERVICES CRIMINAL HISTORY

CJA (LOCAL)

### **Emergencies**

In an emergency due to a health or safety concern, a reasonably unforeseeable situation, or other exigent circumstance, the District employee who is in charge of the facility shall be authorized to determine whether an employee of a contracting or subcontracting entity who does not have the required criminal history record information (CHRI) review or who has a disqualifying conviction will be permitted to enter a District facility.

If allowed to enter the facility, the employee of the contracting or subcontracting entity shall be accompanied by a District employee at all times.

### TASB RECOMMENDATION

BUILDINGS, GROUNDS, AND EQUIPMENT MANAGEMENT FLAGREQUIRED DISPLAYS

CLE (LOCAL)

The U.S. and Texas flags shall be prominently displayed in each classroom to which a student is assigned during the time that the pledges of allegiance to those flags are recited.

DATE ISSUED: **7**10/<del>12/2016</del>29/2025 UPDATE <del>105</del>126 CLE(LOCAL)-A

ADOPTED: Adopted:

### CURRENT POLICY BUILDINGS, GROUNDS, AND EQUIPMENT MANAGEMENT FLAG DISPLAYS

CLE (LOCAL)

The U.S. and Texas flags shall be prominently displayed in each classroom to which a student is assigned during the time that the pledges of allegiance to those flags are recited.

DATE ISSUED: 7/12/2016

UPDATE 105 CLE(LOCAL)-A ADOPTED:

### TASB RECOMMENDATION

# TECHNOLOGY RESOURCES CYBERSECURITY

CQB (LOCAL)

Plan

The District shall develop a cybersecurity plan to secure the District's cyberinfrastructure against a cyberattack or any other cybersecurity incidents, determine cybersecurity risk, and implement appropriate mitigation planning.

Coordinator

The Superintendent shall designate a cybersecurity coordinator. The cybersecurity coordinator shall serve as the liaison between the District and the Texas Education Agency in cybersecurity matters.

**Training** 

The Board delegates to the Superintendent the authority to:

- 1. Determine the cybersecurity training program to be used in the District:
- Verify and report compliance with training requirements in accordance with guidance from the Department of Information Resources Texas Cyber Command; and
- Remove access to the District's computer systems and databases for noncompliance with training requirements as appropriate.

The District shall complete periodic audits to ensure compliance with the cybersecurity training requirements.

Security Breach and Cybersecurity Incident Notifications Upon discovering or receiving notification of a breach of system security or a security cybersecurity incident, as defined by law, the District shall disclose the breach or incident to affected persons or entities and provide any other notices in accordance with the time frames established by law. The District shall give notice by using one or more of the following methods:

- Written notice.
- Email, if the District has email addresses for the affected persons.
- 3. Conspicuous posting on the District's websites.
- Publication through broadcast media.

The District shall disclose a breach or incident involving sensitive, protected, or confidential student information as required by law.

# TECHNOLOGY RESOURCES CYBERSECURITY

CQB (LOCAL)

### Plan

The District shall develop a cybersecurity plan to secure the District's cyberinfrastructure against a cyberattack or any other cybersecurity incidents, determine cybersecurity risk, and implement appropriate mitigation planning.

#### Coordinator

The Superintendent shall designate a cybersecurity coordinator. The cybersecurity coordinator shall serve as the liaison between the District and the Texas Education Agency in cybersecurity matters.

### **Training**

The Board delegates to the Superintendent the authority to:

- Determine the cybersecurity training program to be used in the District;
- Verify and report compliance with training requirements in accordance with guidance from the Department of Information Resources; and
- Remove access to the District's computer systems and databases for noncompliance with training requirements as appropriate.

The District shall complete periodic audits to ensure compliance with the cybersecurity training requirements.

# Security Breach Notifications

Upon discovering or receiving notification of a breach of system security or a security incident, as defined by law, the District shall disclose the breach or incident to affected persons or entities in accordance with the time frames established by law. The District shall give notice by using one or more of the following methods:

- Written notice.
- 2. Email, if the District has email addresses for the affected persons.
- 3. Conspicuous posting on the District's websites.
- 4. Publication through broadcast media.

The District shall disclose a breach or incident involving sensitive, protected, or confidential student information as required by law.

### TASB RECOMMENDATION

TECHNOLOGY RESOURCES		CQD
ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE		(LOCAL)

### **Training**

The Board delegates to the Superintendent the authority to:

- 1. Determine the artificial intelligence (AI) training program to be used in the District;
- Verify and report compliance with training requirements in accordance with guidance from the Department of Information Resources; and
- Remove access to the District's computer systems and databases for noncompliance with training requirements as appropriate.

The District shall complete periodic audits to ensure compliance with the Al training requirements.

#### **Use in District**

Employees and students shall be permitted to explore AI and implement its use in and out of the classroom in accordance with policy and administrative regulations. The use of AI shall only be as a support tool to enhance student outcomes and shall never take the place of teacher and student decision-making. Any use of AI must comply with law, policy, and administrative regulations relating to student and employee privacy and data security.

A student shall only use AI tools with teacher permission and shall be expected to produce original work and properly credit sources, including AI tools used in creating the work. Students who use AI tools to deceptively harm, bully, or harass others shall be disciplined in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct and policy. [See EIA(LOCAL), FFH, FFI, and the FO series]

#### TASB RECOMMENDATION

FACILITY STANDARDS SAFETY AND SECURITY CSA (LOCAL)

### Building Access Control

Audits of building access control shall include weekly inspections of instructional facilities during school hours to certify all exterior doors are, by default, set to closed, latched, and locked status and cannot be opened from the outside without a key.

The Superintendent shall ensure that the findings of the weekly inspections are:

- 1. Reported to the District safety and security committee; and
- 2. Reported to the campus principal or lead administrator of the instructional facility to ensure awareness of any deficiencies identified.

The campus principal or lead administrator shall assign appropriate staff to take action to reduce the likelihood of similar deficiencies in the future.

The results of the weekly reports shall be kept for review as part of the required safety and security audit.

The District's building access control procedures shall not be interpreted as discouraging parents or guardians who have been properly verified as authorized visitors from visiting their student's campus. [See GKC]

# Designation and Use of Private Spaces

The Board shall ensure that the Superintendent, or appropriate staff as determined by the Superintendent, designates private spaces in accordance with law.

The Superintendent shall develop administrative regulations to ensure compliance with law and policy regarding the use of private spaces in District facilities.

DATE ISSUED: 41/21/2023 10/29/2025 UPDATE 422 126 CSA(LOCAL)-A

Adopted: 1/22/2024

FACILITY STANDARDS SAFETY AND SECURITY CSA (LOCAL)

### Building Access Control

Audits of building access control shall include weekly inspections of instructional facilities during school hours to certify all exterior doors are, by default, set to closed, latched, and locked status and cannot be opened from the outside without a key.

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DATE ISSUED: 11/21/2023

UPDATE 122 CSA(LOCAL)-A Adopted: 1/22/2024

## TASB RECOMMENDATION

Robstown ISD 178909

### **FACILITIES CONSTRUCTION**

CV (LOCAL)

### Compliance with Law

The Superintendent shall establish procedures that ensure that all school facilities within the District comply with applicable laws and local building codes.

# Construction Contracts

Prior to advertising, the Board shall determine the project delivery/contract award method to be used for each construction contract valued at or above \$50,000 the competitive purchasing threshold established in law. To assist the Board, the Superintendent shall recommend the project delivery/contract award method that he or she determines provides the best value to the District. [See CV series generally and CBB(LEGAL) for requirements if federal funds are involved.]

For construction contracts valued at or above \$50,000, the Superintendent shall also submit the resulting contract to the Board for approval. Lesser expenditures for construction and construction-related materials or services shall be at the discretion of the Superintendent and consistent with law and policy. [See also CH and CBB(LEGAL)]

#### Note:

For provisions regarding delegation of authority for construction contracts in the event of a catastrophe, emergency, or natural disaster affecting the District, see CH(LOCAL).

### Change Orders

Change orders permitted by law shall be approved by the Board or its designee prior to any changes being made in the approved plans or the actual construction of the facility.

### Project Administration

All construction projects shall be administered by the Superintendent-or-designee.

The Superintendent shall keep the Board informed concerning construction projects and also shall provide information to the general public.

### **Final Payment**

The District shall not make final payments for construction or the supervision of construction until the work has been completed and the Board has accepted the work.

### **FACILITIES CONSTRUCTION**

CV (LOCAL)

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### TASB RECOMMENDATION

# EMPLOYMENT REQUIREMENTS AND RESTRICTIONS CONFLICT OF INTEREST

DBD (LOCAL)

Note:

For conflicts of interest and gifts and gratuities related to federal grants and awards, see CB and CBB.

Disclosure— General Disclosure— General Standard An employee shall disclose to his or her immediate supervisor a personal financial interest, a business interest, or any other obligation or relationship that in any way creates a potential conflict of interest with the proper discharge of assigned duties and responsibilities or with the best interest of the District.

### Specific Disclosures

Substantial Interest

The Superintendent shall file an affidavit with the Board President disclosing a substantial interest, as defined by Local Government Code 171.002, in any business or real property that the Superintendent or any of his or her relatives in the first degree may have.

Any other employee who is in a position to affect a financial decision involving any business entity or real property in which the employee has a substantial interest, as defined by Local Government Code 171.002, shall file an affidavit with the Superintendent; however, the employee shall not be required to file an affidavit for the substantial interest of a relative.

Interest in Property

The Superintendent shall be required to file an affidavit disclosing interest in property in accordance with Government Code 553.002.

Annual Financial Management Report The Superintendent, as the executive officer of the District, shall provide to the District in a timely manner information necessary for the District's annual financial management report.

[See BBFA]

Gifts

An employee shall not accept or solicit any gift, favor, service, or other benefit that could reasonably be construed to influence the employee's discharge of assigned duties and responsibilities. [See CAA, CB, and CBB]

**Endorsements** 

An employee shall not recommend, endorse, or require students to purchase any product, material, or service in which the employee has a financial interest or that is sold by a company that employs or retains the District employee during nonschool hours. No employee shall require students to purchase a specific brand of school supplies if other brands are equal and suitable for the intended instructional purpose.

Sales

An employee shall not use his or her position with the District to attempt to sell products or services.

DATE ISSUED: 10/<del>22/2015</del>29/2025 UPDATE <del>103</del>126 DBD(LOCAL)-A Adopted:

# EMPLOYMENT REQUIREMENTS AND RESTRICTIONS CONFLICT OF INTEREST

DBD (LOCAL)

Nonschool Employment

An employee shall disclose in writing to his or her immediate supervisor any outside employment that in any way creates a potential conflict of interest with the proper discharge of assigned duties and responsibilities or with the best interest of the District.

Private Tutoring

An employee shall disclose in writing to his or her immediate supervisor any private tutoring of District students for pay.

Personal Services Performed by an Administrator

An administrator, as defined in law, shall not receive any financial benefit for the performance of personal services except as permitted by and in accordance with law.

An administrator, other than a Superintendent or an assistant superintendent, who wishes to seek Board approval to perform personal services permitted by law shall submit that request to the Superintendent in accordance with administrative regulations.

# CURRENT POLICY EMPLOYMENT REQUIREMENTS AND RESTRICTIONS CONFLICT OF INTEREST

DBD (LOCAL)

Note:

For conflicts of interest and gifts and gratuities related to federal grants and awards, see CB and CBB.

# Disclosure—General Standard

An employee shall disclose to his or her immediate supervisor a personal financial interest, a business interest, or any other obligation or relationship that in any way creates a potential conflict of interest with the proper discharge of assigned duties and responsibilities or with the best interest of the District.

### **Specific Disclosures**

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[See BBFA]

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### **Endorsements**

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Sales

An employee shall not use his or her position with the District to attempt to sell products or services.

# CURRENT POLICY EMPLOYMENT REQUIREMENTS AND RESTRICTIONS CONFLICT OF INTEREST

DBD (LOCAL)

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and responsibilities or with the best interest of the District.

**Private Tutoring** 

An employee shall disclose in writing to his or her immediate su-

pervisor any private tutoring of District students for pay.

DATE ISSUED: 10/22/2015

UPDATE 103 DBD(LOCAL)-A ADOPTED:

### TASB RECOMMENDATION

### COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS LEAVES AND ABSENCES

DEC (LOCAL)

### Leave Administration

The Superintendent shall develop administrative regulations addressing employee leaves and absences to implement the provisions of this policy.

### **Definitions**

The term "immediate family" is defined as:

### Immediate Family

- 1. Spouse.
- 2 Son or daughter, including a biological, adopted, or foster child, a son- or daughter-in-law, a stepchild, a legal ward, or a child for whom the employee stands in loco parentis.
- 3. Parent, stepparent, parent-in-law, or other individual who stands in loco parentis to the employee.
- Sibling, stepsibling, and sibling-in-law. 4.
- 5. Grandparent and grandchild.
- Any person residing in the employee's household at the time 6. of illness or death.

For purposes of the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA), the definitions of spouse, parent, son or daughter, and next of kin are found in DECA(LEGAL).

### Family Emergency

The term "family emergency" shall be limited to disasters and lifethreatening situations involving the employee or a member of the employee's immediate family.

### Leave Day

A "leave day" for purposes of earning, using, or recording leave shall mean the number of hours per day equivalent to the employee's usual assignment, whether full-time or part-time.

#### School Year

A "school year" for purposes of earning, using, or recording leave shall mean the term of the employee's annual employment as set by the District for the employee's usual assignment, whether fulltime or part-time.

### Daily Rate of Pay

The "daily rate" of a contract employee, including a teacher, school counselor, or librarian, shall be computed by dividing the employee's annual salary by the number of duty days in the employee's contract year.

### Catastrophic Illness or Injury

A catastrophic illness or injury is a severe condition or combination of conditions affecting the mental or physical health of the employee or a member of the employee's immediate family that requires the services of a licensed practitioner for a prolonged period Adopted:

DATE ISSUED: **12/18/2024**10/29/2025 LDU 2024.04 UPDATE 126 DEC(LOCAL)-X

11/20/2024

DEC (LOCAL)

of time and that forces the employee to exhaust all leave time earned by that employee and to lose compensation from the District. Such conditions typically require prolonged hospitalization or recovery or are expected to result in disability or death. Conditions relating to pregnancy or childbirth shall be considered catastrophic if they meet the requirements of this paragraph.

Note:

For District contribution to employee insurance during leave, see CRD(LOCAL).

### Availability

The District shall make state personal leave and local leave for the current year available for use at the beginning of the school year.

### State Leave Proration

If an employee separates from employment with the District before his or her last duty day of the school year or begins employment after the first duty day of the school year, state personal leave shall be prorated based on the actual time employed.

If an employee separates from employment before the last duty day of the school year, the employee's final paycheck shall be reduced for state personal leave the employee used beyond his or her pro rata entitlement for the school year.

#### **Medical Certification**

An employee shall submit medical certification of the need for leave if:

- The employee is absent more than three consecutive workdays because of personal illness or illness in the immediate family;
- The District requires medical certification due to a questionable pattern of absences or when deemed necessary by the supervisor or Superintendent; or
- The employee requests FMLA leave for the employee's serious health condition; a serious health condition of the employee's spouse, parent, or child; or for military caregiver leave.

In each case, medical certification shall be made by a health-care provider as defined by the FMLA. [See DECA(LEGAL)]

#### State Personal Leave

The Board requires employees to differentiate the manner in which state personal leave is used.

DATE ISSUED: 12/18/2024 10/29/2025 LDU 2024.04 UPDATE 126 DEC(LOCAL)-X Adopted: 11/20/2024

DEC (LOCAL)

Nondiscretionary

Use

Nondiscretionary use of leave shall be for the same reasons and in the same manner as state sick leave accumulated before May 30,

1995. [See DEC(LEGAL)]

Nondiscretionary use includes leave related to the birth or placement of a child and taken within the first year after the child's birth,

adoption, or foster placement.

Discretionary Use

Discretionary use of leave is at the individual employee's discre-

tion, subject to limitations set out below.

Request for Leave In deciding whether to approve or deny a request for discretionary use of state personal leave, the supervisor shall not seek or consider the reasons for which an employee requests to use leave. The supervisor shall, however, consider the duration of the requested absence in conjunction with the effect of the employee's absence on the educational program and District operations, as well as the availability of substitutes.

Discretionary use of state personal leave shall not exceed five con-

secutive workdays.

Local Leave Each employee shall earn five paid local leave days per school

year in accordance with administrative regulations.

Local leave shall accumulate to a maximum of 60 leave days.

Local leave shall be used according to the terms and conditions of

state personal leave. [See State Personal Leave, above]

Bereavement Leave A full-time employee shall be granted three days of bereavement

leave, per occurrence, upon the death of a member of the employee's immediate family. Such leave shall be taken with no loss

of pay or other paid leave.

Extended Sick Leave After all available paid leave days and any applicable compen-

satory time have been exhausted, an employee shall be granted in a school year a maximum of 20 leave days of extended sick leave to be used only for the employee's own catastrophic illness or in-

jury, including pregnancy-related illness or injury.

A written request for extended sick leave must be accompanied by

medical certification of the illness or injury.

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DEC (LOCAL)

For professional employees, the District shall deduct \$90 for each day of extended sick leave taken, whether or not a substitute is employed. For all other employees, the District shall deduct \$45 for each day of extended sick leave taken.

#### Sick Leave Pool

An employee who has exhausted all paid leave as well as any applicable compensatory time and who suffers from a catastrophic illness or injury may request the establishment of a sick leave pool, to which District employees may donate local leave for use by the eligible employee.

The pool shall cease to exist when the employee no longer needs leave for the purpose requested, uses the maximum number of days allowed under a pool, or exhausts all leave days donated to the sick leave pool.

The Superintendent shall develop regulations for the implementation of the sick leave pool that address the following:

- 1. Procedures to request the establishment of a sick leave pool;
- 2. The maximum number of days an employee may donate to a sick leave pool:
- 3. The maximum number of days per school year an eligible employee may receive from a sick leave pool; and
- 4. The return of unused days to donors.

### Appeal

An employee may appeal a decision regarding the establishment or implementation of the District's sick leave pool in accordance with DGBA(LOCAL), beginning with the Superintendent or appropriate administrator.

### Mental Health Leave

A District peace officer who experiences a traumatic event in the scope of employment shall be granted a maximum of five days of mental health leave per traumatic event. Such leave shall be provided in accordance with administrative regulations and shall not be deducted from the employee's pay or leave balance.

The Superintendent shall develop regulations regarding mental health leave that address the following:

 Circumstances or reasons under which an eligible employee may use mental health leave;

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DEC (LOCAL)

- 2. Procedures for requesting mental health leave and maintaining the anonymity of the requester;
- 3. The administrator authorized to approve requests for mental health leave; and
- 4. Other procedures deemed necessary for administering this provision.

### Quarantine Leave

A District peace officer shall be granted quarantine leave when ordered by the local health authority or the peace officer's supervisor to quarantine or isolate due to possible or known exposure to a communicable disease while on duty. Such leave shall be provided in accordance with administrative regulations and shall not be deducted from the employee's pay or leave balance.

The Superintendent shall develop regulations regarding quarantine leave that address the following:

- Continuation of all employment benefits and compensation for the duration of the leave;
- 2. Reimbursement for reasonable costs related to the quarantine; and
- 3. Other procedures deemed necessary for administering this provision.

Line of Duty Illness or Injury Leave of Absence Following a leave of absence with full pay as required by law, the District shall not extend the leave of absence for a police officer's line of duty illness or injury. In accordance with law, the police officer may use accumulated leave.

### Family and Medical Leave

The District shall make FMLA leave available to employees in accordance with DECA(LEGAL) and the following provisions.

Concurrent Use of Paid Leave

FMLA leave shall run concurrently with applicable paid leave and compensatory time, as applicable, except as provided below.

Note: See DECA(LEGAL) for provisions addressing Twelve Month ption Period

not to use paid leave concurrently with FMLA leave for an absence related to pregnancy or the birth or adoption of child.

A teacher shall notify the appropriate administrator if they choose

For purposes of an employee's entitlement to FMLA leave, the 12-month period shall begin on the first duty day of the school year.

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DEC (LOCAL)

Combined Leave for Spouses

When both spouses are employed by the District, the District shall limit FMLA leave for the birth, adoption, or placement of a child, or to care for a parent with a serious health condition, to a combined total of 12 weeks. The District shall limit military caregiver leave to a combined total of 26 weeks.

Intermittent or Reduced Schedule Leave The District shall permit use of intermittent or reduced schedule FMLA leave for the care of a newborn child or for the adoption or placement of a child with the employee.

Certification of Leave

When an employee requests leave, the employee shall provide certification, in accordance with FMLA regulations, of the need for leave.

Fitness-for-Duty Certification

In accordance with administrative regulations, when an employee takes FMLA leave due to the employee's own serious health condition, the employee shall provide, before resuming work, a fitness-for-duty certification.

Leave at the End of Semester When a teacher takes leave near the end of the semester, the District may require the teacher to continue leave until the end of the semester.

### Temporary Disability Leave

Any full-time employee whose position requires educator certification by the State Board for Educator Certification or by the District shall be eligible for temporary disability leave. The maximum length of temporary disability leave shall be 180 calendar days. [See DBB(LOCAL) for temporary disability leave placement and DEC(LEGAL) for return to active duty.]

An employee's notification of need for extended absence due to the employee's own medical condition shall be forwarded to the Superintendent as a request for temporary disability leave.

The District shall require the employee to use temporary disability leave and paid leave, including any compensatory time, concurrently with FMLA leave.

### Workers' Compensation

Note:

Workers' compensation is not a form of leave. The workers' compensation law does not require the continuation of the District's contribution to health insurance.

An absence due to a work-related injury or illness shall be designated as FMLA leave, temporary disability leave, and/or assault leave, as applicable.

DATE ISSUED: 12/18/2024 10/29/2025 LDU 2024.04 UPDATE 126 DEC(LOCAL)-X Adopted: 11/20/2024

DEC (LOCAL)

No Paid Leave Offset The District shall not permit the option for paid leave offset in conjunction with workers' compensation income benefits. [See CRE]

### Court Appearances

Absences due to compliance with a valid subpoena or for jury duty shall be fully compensated by the District and shall not be deducted from the employee's pay or leave balance.

### Payment for Accumulated Leave Upon Retirement

The following leave provisions shall apply to local leave accumulated beginning on the original effective date of this program.

An employee who retires from the District shall be eligible for payment for accumulated local leave under the following conditions:

- 1. The employee's retirement is voluntary, i.e., the employee is not being discharged or nonrenewed.
- The employee provides advance written notice of intent to retire. Contract employees must provide written notice at least 30 days before the last day of employment. Noncontract employees must provide written notice at least two weeks before the last day of employment.

The employee shall receive payment for each day of accumulated local leave at a rate of \$30 for the first 30 days and \$15 for each additional day, to a maximum of 60 days. If the employee is reemployed with the District, days for which the employee received payment shall not be available to that employee.

The rate established by the Board shall be in effect until the Board adopts a new rate. Any changes to the rate shall apply beginning with the school year following the adoption of the rate change.

### Neutral Absence Control

If an employee does not return to work after exhausting all available paid and unpaid leave, the District shall provide the employee written notice that he or she no longer has leave available for use. The District shall automatically pursue termination of an employee who has exhausted all available leave, regardless of the reason for the absence [see DF series]. The employee's eligibility for reasonable accommodations, as required by the Americans with Disabilities Act [see DAA(LEGAL)], shall be considered before termination. If terminated, the employee may apply for reemployment with the District.

COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS LEAVES AND ABSENCES

DEC (LOCAL)

### Leave Administration

The Superintendent shall develop administrative regulations addressing employee leaves and absences to implement the provisions of this policy.

### **Definitions**

The term "immediate family" is defined as:

### Immediate Family

- 1. Spouse.
- 2. Son or daughter, including a biological, adopted, or foster child, a son- or daughter-in-law, a stepchild, a legal ward, or a child for whom the employee stands in loco parentis.
- 3. Parent, stepparent, parent-in-law, or other individual who stands in loco parentis to the employee.
- 4. Sibling, stepsibling, and sibling-in-law.
- 5. Grandparent and grandchild.
- 6. Any person residing in the employee's household at the time of illness or death.

For purposes of the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA), the definitions of spouse, parent, son or daughter, and next of kin are found in DECA(LEGAL).

### Family Emergency

The term "family emergency" shall be limited to disasters and lifethreatening situations involving the employee or a member of the employee's immediate family.

### Leave Day

A "leave day" for purposes of earning, using, or recording leave shall mean the number of hours per day equivalent to the employee's usual assignment, whether full-time or part-time.

### School Year

A "school year" for purposes of earning, using, or recording leave shall mean the term of the employee's annual employment as set by the District for the employee's usual assignment, whether fulltime or part-time.

### Catastrophic Illness or Injury

A catastrophic illness or injury is a severe condition or combination of conditions affecting the mental or physical health of the employee or a member of the employee's immediate family that requires the services of a licensed practitioner for a prolonged period of time and that forces the employee to exhaust all leave time earned by that employee and to lose compensation from the District. Such conditions typically require prolonged hospitalization or recovery or are expected to result in disability or death. Conditions

DATE ISSUED: 12/18/2024 LDU 2024.04

DEC(LOCAL)-X

Adopted: 11/20/2024

# COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS LEAVES AND ABSENCES

DEC (LOCAL)

relating to pregnancy or childbirth shall be considered catastrophic if they meet the requirements of this paragraph.

Note:

For District contribution to employee insurance during leave, see CRD(LOCAL).

### Availability

The District shall make state personal leave and local leave for the current year available for use at the beginning of the school year.

# State Leave Proration

If an employee separates from employment with the District before his or her last duty day of the school year or begins employment after the first duty day of the school year, state personal leave shall be prorated based on the actual time employed.

If an employee separates from employment before the last duty day of the school year, the employee's final paycheck shall be reduced for state personal leave the employee used beyond his or her pro rata entitlement for the school year.

### **Medical Certification**

An employee shall submit medical certification of the need for leave if:

- The employee is absent more than three consecutive workdays because of personal illness or illness in the immediate family;
- The District requires medical certification due to a questionable pattern of absences or when deemed necessary by the supervisor or Superintendent; or
- The employee requests FMLA leave for the employee's serious health condition; a serious health condition of the employee's spouse, parent, or child; or for military caregiver leave.

In each case, medical certification shall be made by a health-care provider as defined by the FMLA. [See DECA(LEGAL)]

### **State Personal Leave**

The Board requires employees to differentiate the manner in which state personal leave is used.

# Nondiscretionary Use

Nondiscretionary use of leave shall be for the same reasons and in the same manner as state sick leave accumulated before May 30, 1995. [See DEC(LEGAL)]

DATE ISSUED: 12/18/2024 LDU 2024.04 DEC(LOCAL)-X Adopted: 11/20/2024

# COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS LEAVES AND ABSENCES

DEC (LOCAL)

Nondiscretionary use includes leave related to the birth or placement of a child and taken within the first year after the child's birth, adoption, or foster placement.

Discretionary Use

Discretionary use of leave is at the individual employee's discretion, subject to limitations set out below.

Request for Leave In deciding whether to approve or deny a request for discretionary use of state personal leave, the supervisor shall not seek or consider the reasons for which an employee requests to use leave. The supervisor shall, however, consider the duration of the requested absence in conjunction with the effect of the employee's absence on the educational program and District operations, as well as the availability of substitutes.

Discretionary use of state personal leave shall not exceed five consecutive workdays.

**Local Leave** 

Each employee shall earn five paid local leave days per school year in accordance with administrative regulations.

Local leave shall accumulate to a maximum of 60 leave days.

Local leave shall be used according to the terms and conditions of state personal leave. [See State Personal Leave, above]

**Bereavement Leave** 

A full-time employee shall be granted three days of bereavement leave, per occurrence, upon the death of a member of the employee's immediate family. Such leave shall be taken with no loss of pay or other paid leave.

**Extended Sick Leave** 

After all available paid leave days and any applicable compensatory time have been exhausted, an employee shall be granted in a school year a maximum of 20 leave days of extended sick leave to be used only for the employee's own catastrophic illness or injury, including pregnancy-related illness or injury.

A written request for extended sick leave must be accompanied by medical certification of the illness or injury.

For professional employees, the District shall deduct \$90 for each day of extended sick leave taken, whether or not a substitute is employed. For all other employees, the District shall deduct \$45 for each day of extended sick leave taken.

#### Sick Leave Pool

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An employee who has exhausted all paid leave as well as any applicable compensatory time and who suffers from a catastrophic illness or injury may request the establishment of a sick leave pool, to which District employees may donate local leave for use by the eligible employee.

The pool shall cease to exist when the employee no longer needs leave for the purpose requested, uses the maximum number of days allowed under a pool, or exhausts all leave days donated to the sick leave pool.

The Superintendent shall develop regulations for the implementation of the sick leave pool that address the following:

- 1. Procedures to request the establishment of a sick leave pool;
- 2. The maximum number of days an employee may donate to a sick leave pool;
- 3. The maximum number of days per school year an eligible employee may receive from a sick leave pool; and
- 4. The return of unused days to donors.

### Appeal

An employee may appeal a decision regarding the establishment or implementation of the District's sick leave pool in accordance with DGBA(LOCAL), beginning with the Superintendent or appropriate administrator.

#### **Mental Health Leave**

A District peace officer who experiences a traumatic event in the scope of employment shall be granted a maximum of five days of mental health leave per traumatic event. Such leave shall be provided in accordance with administrative regulations and shall not be deducted from the employee's pay or leave balance.

The Superintendent shall develop regulations regarding mental health leave that address the following:

- 1. Circumstances or reasons under which an eligible employee may use mental health leave;
- 2. Procedures for requesting mental health leave and maintaining the anonymity of the requester;
- 3. The administrator authorized to approve requests for mental health leave; and
- 4. Other procedures deemed necessary for administering this provision.

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#### Quarantine Leave

A District peace officer shall be granted quarantine leave when ordered by the local health authority or the peace officer's supervisor to quarantine or isolate due to possible or known exposure to a communicable disease while on duty. Such leave shall be provided in accordance with administrative regulations and shall not be deducted from the employee's pay or leave balance.

The Superintendent shall develop regulations regarding quarantine leave that address the following:

- 1. Continuation of all employment benefits and compensation for the duration of the leave;
- 2. Reimbursement for reasonable costs related to the quarantine; and
- 3. Other procedures deemed necessary for administering this provision.

# Line of Duty Illness or Injury Leave of Absence

Following a leave of absence with full pay as required by law, the District shall not extend the leave of absence for a police officer's line of duty illness or injury. In accordance with law, the police officer may use accumulated leave.

# Family and Medical Leave

FMLA leave shall run concurrently with applicable paid leave and compensatory time, as applicable.

Note: S	ee DECA	(LEGAL)	for provisions	addressing FMLA.
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Twelve-Month Period

For purposes of an employee's entitlement to FMLA leave, the 12-month period shall begin on the first duty day of the school year.

Combined Leave for Spouses

When both spouses are employed by the District, the District shall limit FMLA leave for the birth, adoption, or placement of a child, or to care for a parent with a serious health condition, to a combined total of 12 weeks. The District shall limit military caregiver leave to a combined total of 26 weeks.

Intermittent or Reduced Schedule Leave The District shall permit use of intermittent or reduced schedule FMLA leave for the care of a newborn child or for the adoption or placement of a child with the employee.

Certification of Leave

When an employee requests leave, the employee shall provide certification, in accordance with FMLA regulations, of the need for leave.

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Fitness-for-Duty Certification

In accordance with administrative regulations, when an employee takes FMLA leave due to the employee's own serious health condition, the employee shall provide, before resuming work, a fitness-for-duty certification.

Leave at the End of Semester When a teacher takes leave near the end of the semester, the District may require the teacher to continue leave until the end of the semester.

# Temporary Disability Leave

Any full-time employee whose position requires educator certification by the State Board for Educator Certification or by the District shall be eligible for temporary disability leave. The maximum length of temporary disability leave shall be 180 calendar days. [See DBB(LOCAL) for temporary disability leave placement and DEC(LEGAL) for return to active duty.]

An employee's notification of need for extended absence due to the employee's own medical condition shall be forwarded to the Superintendent as a request for temporary disability leave.

The District shall require the employee to use temporary disability leave and paid leave, including any compensatory time, concurrently with FMLA leave.

# Workers' Compensation

Note:

Workers' compensation is not a form of leave. The workers' compensation law does not require the continuation of the District's contribution to health insurance.

An absence due to a work-related injury or illness shall be designated as FMLA leave, temporary disability leave, and/or assault leave, as applicable.

No Paid Leave Offset The District shall not permit the option for paid leave offset in conjunction with workers' compensation income benefits. [See CRE]

### **Court Appearances**

Absences due to compliance with a valid subpoena or for jury duty shall be fully compensated by the District and shall not be deducted from the employee's pay or leave balance.

### Payment for Accumulated Leave Upon Retirement

The following leave provisions shall apply to local leave accumulated beginning on the original effective date of this program.

An employee who retires from the District shall be eligible for payment for accumulated local leave under the following conditions:

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- 1. The employee's retirement is voluntary, i.e., the employee is not being discharged or nonrenewed.
- The employee provides advance written notice of intent to retire. Contract employees must provide written notice at least 30 days before the last day of employment. Noncontract employees must provide written notice at least two weeks before the last day of employment.

The employee shall receive payment for each day of accumulated local leave at a rate of \$30 for the first 30 days and \$15 for each additional day, to a maximum of 60 days. If the employee is reemployed with the District, days for which the employee received payment shall not be available to that employee.

The rate established by the Board shall be in effect until the Board adopts a new rate. Any changes to the rate shall apply beginning with the school year following the adoption of the rate change.

# Neutral Absence Control

If an employee does not return to work after exhausting all available paid and unpaid leave, the District shall provide the employee written notice that he or she no longer has leave available for use. The District shall automatically pursue termination of an employee who has exhausted all available leave, regardless of the reason for the absence [see DF series]. The employee's eligibility for reasonable accommodations, as required by the Americans with Disabilities Act [see DAA(LEGAL)], shall be considered before termination. If terminated, the employee may apply for reemployment with the District.