

Date: April 25, 2025
To: MCUSD Board of Education
Re: Policy Update: PRESS Plus Issue 118
From: PJ Caposey, Superintendent

Summary and Recommendations for PRESS 118 - An Executive Summary

- Total of **28 policies** to be reviewed
 - **Policies being updated:** 2:260, 2:265, **4:15, 4:80, 4:120**, 5:10, 5:20, **5:60**, 5:100, 6:150, 6:235, **6:310**, 7:10, 7:20, **7:60**, 7:70, 7:180, 7:185, 7:190, 7:200, 7:210, 7:250, 7:255, **7:270, 7:310, 7:315, 7:340, and 8:30.**
 - The policies in **bold** above represent those with no/minor changes and/or were simply reviewed as part of a 5-year review process or with only footnote updates, etc.
 - FYI: See the screenshot to the right regarding Title IX which is from Issue 118's executive memo. Title IX guidance and policy has been in flux for the past 5+ years.

Title IX Reversion to 2020 Regulations

On January 9, 2025, in the case State of Tennessee v. Cardona, the U.S. District Court in the Eastern District of Kentucky (Court) struck down the 2024 Title IX sex discrimination regulations that went into effect August 1, 2024. The result of this ruling was to restore the 2020 Title IX regulations issued during the first Trump administration. On February 4, 2025, the U.S. Dept. of Education's Office for Civil Rights issued a *Dear Colleague* letter in which it confirmed the 2020 Title IX regulations are in effect and advised schools to immediately reevaluate open Title IX investigations initiated under the 2024 regulations to ensure consistency with the requirements of the 2020 Title IX regulations.

In response to these legal developments, the following **PRESS** materials are updated:

2:250-E2, Immediately Available District Public Records and Web-Posted Reports and Records
2:260, Uniform Grievance Procedure
2:265, Title IX Grievance Procedure – **REWRITTEN**
2:265-AP1, Title IX Response – **REWRITTEN**
2:265-AP2, Formal Title IX Complaint Grievance Process – **REWRITTEN**
2:265-AP3, Title IX Coordinator – **DELETED**
2:265-E, Title IX Glossary of Terms – **REWRITTEN**
5:10, Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Recruitment
5:20, Workplace Harassment Prohibited
5:100, Staff Development Program
7:10, Equal Educational Opportunities
7:10-AP1, Accommodating Transgender, Nonbinary, or Gender Nonconforming Students
7:10-AP2, Accommodating Breastfeeding Students
7:20, Harassment of Students Prohibited
7:180, Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment
7:185, Teen Dating Violence Prohibited
7:190-E2, Student Handbook Checklist

The following policy updates call for further review:

Policy	Description of Change	Recommendation
<i>Title IX Related Policy Changes</i>		
2:260	Uniform grievance policy minor updates regarding complaints	Approve as presented
2:265	Entire Title IX grievance procedure rewritten to follow Trump era guidance on Title IX	Approve as presented
5:10	Deletes language pertaining to a Nondiscrimination Coordinator also being the Title IX Coordinator, now separate assignments	Approve as presented
5:20	Removes references to Nondiscrimination/Title IX Coordinator being the same person	Approve as presented
5:100	Footnotes on Title IX updates, also minor changes to what mandated training teachers have each year	Approve as presented
7:10	Updates references to Nondiscrimination/Title IX Coordinator being the same person	Approve as presented
7:20	Updates references to Nondiscrimination/Title IX Coordinator being the same person	Approve as presented
7:180	Updates references to a Title IX Coordinator	Approve as presented
7:185	Updates references to a Title IX Coordinator	Approve as presented
<i>All Other Policy Updates</i>		
6:150	Updates requirements passed by law for home instruction for students missing school for pregnancy/parenting related issues	Approve as presented
6:235	Voluntary addition which would have the district create an AI plan, AI use guidelines, compliance with State/Federal laws, district to provide training to students/staff, etc	Do not approve at this time, discuss internally with stakeholders
7:70	Includes new language about why a student can be excused from school (being a parent, victim of domestic/sexual violence, etc)	Approve as presented
7:190	Includes sexting as a prohibited student behavior, prohibits corporal punishment	Approve as presented
7:200	Passing of 105 ILCS 5/10-22.6 sets new rules for suspension and expulsion hearings. Allows for student to have representative and/or support person present.	Approve as presented
7:210	Passing of 105 ILCS 5/10-22.6 sets new rules for suspension and expulsion hearings. Allows for student to have representative and/or support person present.	Approve as presented

7:250	105 ILCS 5/26A-35 mandates district will identify a Domestic or Sexual Violence and Parenting Resource Personnel	Approve as presented
7:255	NEW due to 105 ILCS 5/26A-35. Protections for Students who are parents, expectant parents, or victims of domestic/sexual violence.	Approve

On the Horizon: This was a note on what to be prepared for in upcoming issues from PRESS Plus.

Progress Report - The contents of this table frequently change.	
Topics	Our Response
<p>Governor Supports Cell Phone Ban Legislation</p> <p>During his State on the State Address to the Ill. General Assembly on February 19, 2025, Governor Pritzker announced his support for legislation that would require school boards to adopt policies banning the use of cell phones during instructional time, with certain exceptions. IASB is monitoring the relevant bills on this topic as the spring legislative session progresses.</p>	<p>If new legislation goes into effect, affected PRESS materials, including sample policy 7:190, <i>Student Behavior</i>, will be updated in the fall.</p>
<p>Presidential Executive Orders Address K-12 Issues, including Potential Immigration Enforcement in Schools</p> <p>Since taking office, the President has issued many Executive Orders (EOs), directing various federal agencies to implement his administration's policy priorities. Several of the EOs may impact K-12 schools, including an EO directed at dismantling the U.S. Dept. of Education and others addressing gender classification, diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts, and immigration enforcement. IASB continues to monitor the actions of the new federal administration, including the U.S. Dept. of Education, for lasting impacts on PRESS materials. Districts with specific questions on the local impacts of these actions should contact their board attorneys for guidance.</p> <p>Regarding the issue of immigration, the new administration announced a change to a previous federal policy which had limited immigration enforcement authorities from conducting activities at protected areas such as schools. In response to this development, the Ill. School Board of Education issued non-regulatory guidance indicating that districts should work with their board attorneys to develop procedures to follow should immigration authorities seek to gain access to their schools or other records. The Ill. Council of School Attorneys (ICSA) has also updated its guidance document, <i>Guidelines for Interviews of Students at School by Law Enforcement Authorities</i>, to address these issues. The ICSA Guidelines, which are referred to in sample administrative procedure 7:150-AP, <i>Agency and Police Interviews</i>, are available at: www.iasb.com/policy-services-and-school-law/guidance-and-resources/guidelines-for-interviews-of-students/.</p>	<p>No PRESS materials are affected at this time.</p>
<p>Cook County Issues Guidance for School Districts on Paid Leave Ordinance</p> <p>The Cook County Paid Leave Ordinance (Ordinance) became effective for certain school districts within Cook County on 1-1-25. Many districts in Cook County are exempt from the Ordinance because the home-rule municipality in which they are located took official action to opt out from the Ordinance. On 1-10-25, the Cook County Commission on Human Rights issued Paid Leave Guidance for School Districts for those districts affected. Given the scope and complexity of the Ordinance and its implementing regulations, impacted districts should work with their board attorneys to ensure the proper policy and/or procedures are in place.</p>	<p>No PRESS materials are affected.</p>