

River Forest District 90
PRESS Policy Update Issue 106 – November 2020

Second Reading – February 16, 2021

Policy Number	Policy Description	Recommended Action
5:330	Sick Days, Vacation, Holidays, and Leaves	Recommend as presented with Edits

Section 5 - GENERAL PERSONNEL

5:330 Sick Days, Vacation, Holidays, and Leaves

Sick Days

Full-time educational support personnel who work at least 600 hours per year receive 10 paid sick leave days per year for the first three consecutive years of full-time service. Beginning the fourth year of service an employee receives 20 sick days a year. Part-time employees will receive prorated sick leave. Unused sick leave shall accumulate to a maximum of 240 days.

Any full-time educational support personnel hired after July 1, 2007 who work at least 600 hours per year receive 10 paid sick leave days per year for every consecutive year of full-time service. Unused sick leave shall accumulate to a maximum of 240 days. This policy is the District's written plan allowing eligible employees to convert eligible accumulated sick leave to service credit upon a District employee's retirement under the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund.

Sick leave is defined in State law as personal illness, or as may be deemed necessary in other cases, quarantine at home, serious illness or death in the immediate family or household, or birth, adoption, or placement for adoption. The Superintendent and/or designee shall monitor the use of sick leave.

As a condition for paying sick leave after three days absence for personal illness or 30 days for birth or as the Board or Superintendent deem necessary in other cases, the Board or Superintendent may require that the staff member provide a certificate from: (1) a physician licensed in Illinois to practice medicine and surgery in all its branches, (2) a chiropractic physician licensed under the Medical Practice Act, (3) a licensed advanced practice registered nurse, (4) a licensed physician assistant who has been delegated the authority to perform health examinations by his or her supervising physician, or (5) if the treatment is by prayer or spiritual means, a spiritual adviser or practitioner of the employee's faith. If the Board or Superintendent requires a certificate during a leave of less than three days for personal illness, the District shall pay the expenses incurred by the employee.

The use of paid sick leave for adoption or placement for adoption is limited to 30 days unless a longer leave is provided in an applicable collective bargaining agreement. The Superintendent may require that the employee provide evidence that the formal adoption process is underway.

Family and Medical Leave Act ("FMLA") leave is normally unpaid. The Board may always designate an employee's qualifying leave as *FMLA* leave. In the case of any *FMLA* leave, all policies and rules regarding the use of paid sick leave apply when paid leave is substituted for unpaid *FMLA* leave. However, any substitution of sick leave for unpaid *FMLA* leave will count against the employee's *FMLA* leave entitlement. In cases of the birth of the employee's child or the employee's adoption of a child, the employee may elect to substitute his/her accrued paid sick leave for unpaid *FMLA* leave as permitted by the *FMLA* and the *Illinois School Code*. Use of compensated *FMLA* leave shall not preclude the use of other applicable unpaid leave that will extend the employee's leave beyond twelve (12) weeks, provided that the use of *FMLA* leave shall not serve to extend such other unpaid leave.

Vacation

Full-time, twelve-month employees hired on or after July 1, 2007 shall be eligible for paid vacation days based upon the fiscal year of July 1 to June 30 according to the following schedule:

<u>Length of Employment</u>		<u>Monthly Accumulation</u>	<u>Maximum Vacation Leave Earned Per Year</u>
From initial employment	To June 30	0.83 Days	As earned up to 10 days
Beginning July 1	End of year 5	1.0 Days	12 Days per year
Beginning of year 6	End of year 10	1.25 Days	15 Days per year
Beginning of year 11	End of employment	1.67 Days	20 Days per year

Full-time twelve month employees hired prior to July 1, 2007 shall be eligible for paid vacation days according to the following schedule, except that days in the first and last year of employment shall be prorated:

<u>Length of Employment</u>	<u>Eligible Vacation Days</u>
Initial to Year 5	10
Years 6 to 10	15
Year 11 and after	20

Vacation days earned in one fiscal year must be used by November 1 of the following fiscal year; they do not accumulate. Employees resigning or whose employment is terminated are entitled to the monetary equivalent of all earned vacation.

Holidays

Unless the District has a waiver or modification of the School Code pursuant to Section 2-3.25g or 24-2(b) allowing it to schedule school on a legal school holiday listed below, District staff members who are employed for twelve months shall be entitled to the following, paid holidays:

New Year's Day	Labor Day
Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday	Columbus Day
Abraham Lincoln's Birthday or President's Day	Veteran's Day*
Casimir Pulaski's Birthday	2020 Election Day
	Thanksgiving Day and the Day after
Memorial Day	Christmas Eve
Independence Day	Christmas Day
	New Year's Eve

The day before Thanksgiving will be a half-day of work. *If Veterans' Day is a day of school attendance, then the day before Thanksgiving (if a non-attendance day for students) shall be a paid holiday.

If Christmas Day and New Year's Day fall on a Saturday or Sunday, a compensatory holiday date shall be scheduled.

The District may require educational support personnel to work on a school holiday during an emergency or for the continued operation and maintenance of facilities or property.

Personal Leave

Full-time educational support personnel have two paid personal leave days per year (based on a fiscal year of July 1 to June 30) provided, however, employees hired between January 1 and June 30 shall receive one day. The use of two personal days is subject to the following conditions:

1. Except in cases of emergency or unavoidable situations, a personal leave request should be submitted to the Building Principal 3 days before the requested date.
2. No personal leave day may be used immediately before or immediately after a holiday, or during the first and/or last 5 days of the school year, unless the Superintendent grants prior approval.
3. Personal leave may not be used in increments of less than one-half day.
4. Personal leave is subject to any necessary replacement's availability.
5. Personal leave may not be used on an in-service training day.
6. Personal leave may not be used when the employee's absence would create an undue hardship.
7. Vacation, sick leave and personal benefits shall be prorated during the first and last years of employment if necessary.
8. In the case of an unforeseen emergency, the Superintendent may, in his/her sole discretion, permit an employee to use one day of sick leave for personal reasons during the school year.

Leaves for Service in the Military and General Assembly

Educational support personnel receive military and General Assembly leaves on the same terms and conditions granted professional staff.

Bereavement Leave

Educational support personnel receive bereavement leave on the same terms and conditions granted professional staff.

School Visitation Leave

Educational support personnel receive school visitation leave on the same terms and conditions granted professional staff.

Leaves for Victims of Domestic Violence, Sexual Violence, or Gender Violence

Educational support personnel receive a leave for victims of domestic violence, sexual violence, or gender violence on the same terms and conditions granted professional staff.

Leave to Serve as a Trustee of the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund

Upon request, the Board will grant 20 days of paid leave of absence per year to a trustee of the Ill. Municipal Retirement Fund in accordance with 105 ILCS 5/24-6.3.

Unexcused Absence

An unexcused absence may be considered a breach of contract.

Child Bereavement Leave

Educational support personnel receive child bereavement leave on the same terms and conditions granted professional staff.

Leave to Serve as an Election Judge

Educational support personnel receive a leave to serve as an election judge on the same terms and conditions granted professional staff.

LEGAL REF.:

105 ILCS 5/10-20.7b, 5/24-2, and 5/24-6.

330 ILCS 61, Service Member Employment and Reemployment Rights Act.

820 ILCS 147, School Visitation Rights Act.

820 ILCS 154, Child Bereavement Leave Act.

820 ILCS 180, Victims' Economic Security and Safety Act.

School Dist 151 v. ISBE, 154 Ill.App.3d 375 (1st Dist. 1987); *Elder v. Sch. Dist. No.127 1/2*, 60 Ill.App.2d 56 (1st Dist. 1965).

CROSS REF.: 5:180 (Temporary Illness or Temporary Incapacity), 5:185 (Family and Medical Leave), 5:250 (Leaves of Absence)

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River Forest Public Schools District 90