

Policy Committee Meeting

December 3, 2025

5:00 pm

Unit Office Board Room

1. Call to Order/Roll Call
2. Approve minutes from June 2025
3. Visitor, Teacher, & Support Staff Considerations
4. Review IASB PRESS Policy October 2025 Updates:
 - Section 2:
2:20-E, 2:120, 2:150, 2:150-AP2:250-E2, 2:270, 2:270-AP
 - Section 3:
3:10, 3:50, 3:60, 3:60-E
 - Section 4:
4:10, 4:30, 4:60-AP2, **4:60-AP2 E**, 4:70-AP, 4:80, 4:110, 4:110-AP3, 4:140, 4:140-AP,
4:150, 4:160, 4:170, 4:170-AP1, 4:170-AP2, 4:175-AP1, 4:190, 4:190-AP1, 4:190-AP2
 - Section 5:
5:10, 5:10-AP, 5:20, 5:90, 5:100, 5:120, 5:120-AP2, 5:185, 5:190, 5:200, 5:220, 5:220-AP,
5:280, 5:300
 - Section 6:
6:20, 6:40, 6:60, 6:60-AP1, 6:60-AP2, 6:60-AP3, 6:130, 6:135, 6:135-AP, 6:140, 6:160,
6:210, 6:220, 6:235, 6:240, 6:260, 6:260-AP, 6:270, 6:280, 6:300, 6:300-E2, 6:300-E3,
6:310, 6:310-E, 6:315, 6:320
 - Section 7:
7:10, 7:70, 7:130, 7:140, **7:150, 7:150-AP, 7:150-AP E**, 7:180, 7:190, 7:190-E3,
7:190-AP3, 7:190-AP6, 7:190-AP7, 7:250, 7:255-AP1, 7:290, 7:290-AP, 7:310, 7:315,
7:340, 7:340-AP1, 7:340-AP1 E1
 - Section 8:
8:30, 8:30-AP, 8:95-AP, 8:100
5. Other Policy Considerations
6. Adjournment

Policy Committee Meeting (Notes)

December 3, 2025

5:00 pm

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1. Call to Order/Roll Call
2. Approve minutes from June 2025

Action: Motion to approve the minutes from the June 2025 Policy Committee meeting.

3. Visitor, Teacher, & Support Staff Considerations

4. Review IASB PRESS Policy October 2025 Updates:

Section 2:

2:20-E, 2:120, 2:150, 2:150-AP, 2:250-E2, 2:270, 2:270-AP

Section 3:

3:10, 3:50, 3:60, 3:60-E

Section 4:

4:10, 4:30, 4:60-AP2, **4:60-AP2 E**, 4:70-AP, 4:80, 4:110, 4:110-AP3, 4:140, 4:140-AP, 4:150, 4:160, 4:170, 4:170-AP1, 4:170-AP2, 4:175-AP1, 4:190, 4:190-AP1, 4:190-AP2

Section 5:

5:10, 5:10-AP, 5:20, 5:90, 5:100, 5:120, 5:120-AP2, 5:185, 5:190, 5:200, 5:220, 5:220-AP, 5:280, 5:300

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6:20, 6:40, 6:60, 6:60-AP1, **6:60-AP1 E1**, 6:60-AP2, 6:60-AP3, 6:130, 6:135, 6:135-AP, 6:140, 6:160, 6:210, 6:220, 6:235, 6:240, 6:260, 6:260-AP, 6:270, 6:280, 6:300, 6:300-E2, 6:300-E3, 6:310, 6:310-E, 6:315, 6:320

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7:10, 7:70, 7:130, 7:140, **7:150, 7:150-AP, 7:150-AP E**, 7:180, 7:190, 7:190-E3, **7:190-AP3**, 7:190-AP6, 7:190-AP7, 7:250, 7:255-AP1, 7:290, 7:290-AP, 7:310, 7:315, 7:340, 7:340-AP1, 7:340-AP1 E1

Section 8:

8:30, 8:30-AP, 8:95-AP, 8:100

5. Other Policy Considerations
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Policy Committee Meeting (Notes)

December 3, 2025

Immigration and Law Enforcement

Policies Renamed, Rewritten, or New: 7:150, 7:150-AP, 7:150-AP E

The new law (Public Act 104-288) makes it illegal for Illinois schools to deny a child a free public education because of their immigration status. This law puts into state law what the U.S. Supreme Court decided in Plyler v. Doe (1982).

By July 1, 2026, all school districts must adopt a policy and set of procedures to handle requests from government or law enforcement agencies in a way that protects students' rights. The Illinois Association of School Boards (IASB) has updated its sample policies (7:150 and 7:150-AP) and created a new record-keeping form (7:150-AP, E) to help districts comply.

Another related law (Public Act 104-353) now requires that school counseling services support all students, regardless of citizenship or immigration status.

District Operations and Safety

Policies Renamed, Rewritten, or New: 4:60-AP2 E

During the first half of the 104th General Assembly, the legislature passed laws impacting school district operations and safety:

- **Financial transparency:** Districts must post their Statement of Affairs and Annual Financial Report online and file the audit with ISBE by October 15 each year.
- **Student support:** Districts must post ISBE materials about the ABLE account program for students with disabilities.
- **Threat reporting:** Principals must immediately contact law enforcement about any gun threat at school and notify the student's parents if a student made the threat.
- **Bank deposits:** Districts cannot deposit funds in banks that violate the Illinois Community Reinvestment Act.
- **Service contracts:** Emergency contracts for third-party non-instructional services are restricted and can only be renewed a limited number of times.
- **Publications:** Districts no longer have to use recycled newsprint for student newspapers.
- **Transportation:** Activity buses may be used for career-related trips, and starting July 1, 2031, new school buses must have seat belts (though use is not required).
- **Student equity:** Schools cannot penalize students for unpaid fees or balances, and prior rules allowing grades or diplomas to be withheld for unpaid fees have been removed.
- **Building standards:** The 2024 International Building Code applies to school projects with design contracts signed after January 1, 2025.
- **Air quality:** ISBE now hosts resources on school indoor air quality.
- **Safety training:** All substitute staff must be trained on evacuation and lockdown drills.
- **Emergency procedures:** Districts must create procedures for hazardous substance releases by July 1, 2027, following state guidance.

- **Terminology update:** State law now uses the term child sexual abuse material instead of child pornography.
- **Threat assessment:** ISBE must give districts updated guidance on threat assessments, and districts must revise their procedures accordingly.

Personnel Issues

Note: Policies have ONLY been updated in this section

There have been a number of legal updates related to personnel issues:

- **Evaluations:** Student growth is no longer a required part of teacher, principal, or assistant principal evaluations.
- **Anti-racism training:** Districts can use the Illinois Department of Human Rights' Racism Free Schools Law model training to meet employee training requirements.
- **Workplace protections:** Employers cannot discriminate against employees who use work-issued devices to record incidents of domestic or gender-based violence.
- **Nursing breaks:** Employees must be paid their regular rate for reasonable break time used to express breast milk.
- **Employee rights:** Protections have been expanded for workers engaged in joint actions (concerted activities), especially related to terminations or settlement agreements.
- **Child protection language:** The term child pornography has been replaced with child sexual abuse material in laws on reporting child abuse or neglect.
- **Grooming law:** The definition of grooming now specifies it applies to someone at least five years older than the child or in a position of trust or authority.
- **Military funeral leave:** Employers must allow paid leave for employees participating in military funeral honors.
- **Short-term teacher approval:** ISBE can now issue short-term teaching approvals under new state rules.
- **School bus permits:** The Secretary of State can issue restricted bus permits for small vehicles used for curriculum-related student transport.
- **Training flexibility:** The law no longer specifies the number of training hours required for staff who handle complaints under the Ensuring Success in School Law.

Curriculum

Policies Renamed: 6:60-AP1 E1

The Illinois General Assembly and the U.S. Supreme Court made several major changes affecting curriculum and instruction.

Legislative Changes

- Public Act 104-391 reorganizes and rennumbers many curriculum sections in the School Code and creates a School Code Mandate Reduction Council to recommend ways to reduce unfunded mandates. This law also makes some updates to what must be taught in schools.
- **Gifted education:** References to State funding for gifted programs were removed.
- **Accelerated placement:** From 2023–2027, students who meet or exceed state standards in ELA, math, or science must automatically be placed in the next most rigorous course.

- **Dual language programs:** Districts are now authorized to create or expand dual language education programs.
- **Artificial intelligence:** ISBE must issue statewide guidance on the use of AI in K–12 education by July 1, 2026.
- **Financial aid graduation requirement:** Each district must name a staff contact to assist with FAFSA and related graduation requirements.
- **College partnerships:** Rules were updated for agreements between districts and out-of-state colleges or universities.
- **High school credit for middle school students:** Students in grades 7–8 can earn high school credit only if they pass both the course and the same end-of-course exam given at the high school.

Court Decision

In *Mahmoud v. Taylor*, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that a district likely violated parents' First Amendment rights by refusing to let them opt their children out of lessons using LGBTQ-inclusive books. Districts should consult legal counsel when handling parent objections to curriculum content.

Student Behavior, Mental Health, and Attendance

Policies Renamed and Rewritten: 7:190-AP3

After an investigation exposed schools ticketing students for minor misbehavior, Public Act 104-430 made it illegal to fine, ticket, or cite students for school-based disciplinary issues or municipal code violations that occur during school hours or on school transportation.

- Schools also cannot refer students to law enforcement to be fined for truancy.
- Districts with School Resource Officers (SROs) must, by July 1, 2026, have a written Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with law enforcement that includes data collection and reporting requirements to ISBE beginning in 2027-2028.
- Parent-teacher advisory committees must update their reciprocal reporting guidelines to include both criminal and civil student offenses.

Other Related Laws

- **Commemorative holidays:** Schools may now choose whether to observe the holidays listed in the law (no longer mandatory).
- **Homeless student data:** Districts must report annually to ISBE on the number of homeless students and related spending.
- **Work-based learning:** Approved work-based experiences can count toward instructional hours, starting in the 2026-2027 school year.
- **Cyberbullying:** The definition now includes posting or sharing unauthorized digital replicas of others.
- **Suicide prevention:** Employee ID cards for staff working with grades 6–12 must include contact information for suicide prevention resources.

Student Records

Starting July 1, 2026, Public Act 104-356 updates the definition of a student's permanent record to include a summary of performance for students who received special education services. It also allows

the Illinois Department of Human Services to access student records without consent when evaluating eligibility for Medicaid waiver benefits. The goal is to make it easier for students with disabilities to apply for state or federal benefits later on.