

**IASB POLICY REFERENCE MANUAL
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School Board

Powers and Duties of the School Board; Indemnification

The major powers and duties of the School Board include, but are not limited to:

1. Organizing the Board after each consolidated election by electing officers and establishing its regular meeting schedule and, thereafter, taking action during lawfully called meetings to faithfully fulfill the Board's responsibilities in accordance with State and federal law. **1**
2. Formulating, adopting, and modifying Board policies, at its sole discretion, subject only to mandatory collective bargaining agreements and State and federal law. **2**
3. Employing a Superintendent and other personnel, making employment decisions, dismissing personnel, and establishing an equal employment opportunity policy that prohibits unlawful discrimination. **3**
4. Directing, through policy, the Superintendent, in his or her charge of the District's administration. **4**
5. Approving the annual budget, tax levies, major expenditures, payment of obligations, annual audit, and other aspects of the District's financial operation; and making available a statement of financial affairs as provided in State law. **5**
6. Entering contracts using the public bidding procedure when required. **6**
7. Providing, constructing, controlling, and maintaining adequate physical facilities; making school buildings available for use as civil defense shelters; and establishing a resource conservation policy. **7**
8. Establishing an equal educational opportunities policy that prohibits unlawful discrimination. **8**
9. Approving the curriculum, textbooks, and educational services. **9**

1 State law controls this policy's content. School board powers listed in the School Code are not exclusive, meaning that a board may exercise "all other powers not inconsistent with this Act that may be requisite or proper for the maintenance, operation, and development of any school or schools under the jurisdiction of the board," (105 ILCS 5/10-20). This policy's intent is to list the *major* statutory powers and duties – not all of them. See also 105 ILCS 5/10-20.5 and 5/10-21.

For power/duty #1, see 105 ILCS 5/10-16 and 5/10-16.5; and policies 2:80, *Board Member Oath and Conduct*, and 2:210, *Organizational School Board Meeting*. Boards that elect officers for 1-year terms and/or hold organizational meetings yearly, should use the following rather than the default text:

1. Annually organizing the Board by electing officers and establishing its regular meeting schedule and, thereafter, taking action during lawfully called meetings to faithfully fulfill the Board's responsibilities in accordance with Board policy and State and federal law.

2 105 ILCS 5/10-20.5 and policy 2:240, *Board Policy Development*. 5/10-21 and 115 ILCS 5/1 *et seq.* (Illinois Educational Labor Relations Act).

3 105 ILCS 5/10-21.4 (employing superintendent); 5/10-20.7 and 5/10-21.1 (teachers); 5/10-21.9 (criminal history records checks); 5/10-22.34 (non-certificated personnel); 5/10-22.4 (dismissing teachers for cause); and 5/10-23.5 and 5/24-12 (reduction in force). See the policies in the **PRESS Policy Reference Manual** Sections 3, General School Administration, and 5, Personnel.

4 105 ILCS 5/10-16.7.

5 105 ILCS 5/10-20.19 and 5/17-1 *et seq.* See policies in the **PRESS Policy Reference Manual** Section 4, Operational Services.

6 105 ILCS 5/10-20.21. See policy 4:60, *Purchases and Contracts*.

7 For the first clause, see 105 ILCS 5/10-20.6, 5/10-20.12, 5/10-22.10, 5/10-22.35A, and 5/10-22.36; and policy 4:150, *Facility Management and Building Programs*. For the second clause, see 105 ILCS 5/10-22.35. For the third clause, see 105 ILCS 5/10-20.19c; and policy 4:70, *Resource Conservation*.

8 Many civil rights laws guarantee equal educational opportunities; see policy 7:10, *Equal Educational Opportunities*.

10. Evaluating the educational program and approving School Improvement and District Improvement Plans. **10**
11. Presenting the District report card and School report card(s) to parents/guardians and the community; these documents report District, School, and student performance. **11**
12. Establishing and supporting student discipline policies designed to maintain an environment conducive to learning, including deciding individual student suspension or expulsion cases brought before it. **12**
13. Establishing attendance units within the District and assigning students to the schools. **13**
14. Establishing the school year. **14**
15. Requiring a moment of silence to recognize veterans during any type of school event held at a District school on November 11. **15**
16. Providing student transportation services pursuant to State law. **16**
17. Entering into joint agreements with other boards to establish cooperative educational programs or provide educational facilities. **17**
18. Complying with requirements in the Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act. Specifically, each individual Board member must, if an allegation is raised to the member during an open or closed Board meeting that a student is an abused child as defined in the Act, direct or cause the Board to direct the Superintendent or other equivalent school administrator to comply with the Act's requirements concerning the reporting of child abuse. **18**
19. Communicating the schools' activities and operations to the community and representing the needs and desires of the community in educational matters. **19**

Indemnification **20**

To the extent allowed by law, the Board shall defend, indemnify, and hold harmless School Board members, employees, volunteer personnel (pursuant to 105 ILCS 5/10-22.34, 10-22.34a and 10-22.34b), mentors of certified staff (pursuant to 105 ILCS 5/2-3.53a, 2-3.53b, and 105 ILCS 5/21A-5 et. seq.), and student teachers who, in the course of discharging their official duties imposed or

⁹ 105 ILCS 5/10-20.8. See policies in Section 6, Instruction.

¹⁰ 105 ILCS 5/2-3.25d and 105 ILCS 5/27-1. See policies 6:10, *Educational Philosophy and Objectives*; and 6:15, *School Accountability*.

¹¹ 105 ILCS 5/10-17a. This statute details the requirements for *presenting* the district report card and school report card(s), including presenting them at a regular school board meeting and posting them on the district's website.

¹² 105 ILCS 5/10-22.6. See policies 7:190, *Student Discipline*; 7:200, *Suspension Procedures*; and 7:210, *Expulsion Procedures*.

¹³ 105 ILCS 5/10-21.3 and 5/10-22.5. See policy 7:30, *Student Assignment and Intra-District Transfer*.

¹⁴ 105 ILCS 5/10-19 and 23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.420. See policy 6:20, *School Year Calendar and Day*.

¹⁵ Recognizing veterans on Nov. 11 is required by 105 ILCS 5/10-20.46.

¹⁶ 105 ILCS 5/10-22.22. See policy 4:110, *Transportation*.

¹⁷ 105 ILCS 5/10-22.31a. See policy 1:20, *District Organization, Operations, and Cooperative Agreements*.

¹⁸ 325 ILCS 5/4. *Abuse and neglect* are defined in 325 ILCS 5/3; for a disabled adult student see 20 ILCS1305/1-17(b).

¹⁹ See policy 8:10, *Connection with the Community*.

²⁰ 105 ILCS 5/10-20.20 (duty to indemnify) and 5/10-22.3 (duty to insure against loss or liability). These statutes identify the same individuals for protection except that the indemnification statute includes mentors of certified staff members. See policy 4:100, *Insurance Management*.

Public officials or employees who are sued or incur loss because of the performance of their duties imposed or authorized by law on behalf of the public entity are entitled to indemnification. McQuillan on Municipal Corporations §12.137 (3rd ed.). Public employees who must defend themselves in actions based upon the performance of official duties are entitled to indemnification. Wayne Twsp Bd of Auditors v. Ludwig, 507 N.E.2d 199 (Ill. App. 2d, 1987). The public's interest is served by indemnifying public officials and employees in the performance of their official duties in order to recruit and retain qualified public employees and officials.

authorized by law, are sued as parties in a legal proceeding. Nothing herein, however, shall be construed as obligating the Board to defend, indemnify, or hold harmless any person who engages in criminal activity, official misconduct, fraud, intentional or willful and wanton misconduct, or acts beyond the authority properly vested in the individual.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/2-3.25d, 5/10, 5/17-1, and 5/27-1.
115 ILCS 5/
325 ILCS 5/4.

CROSS REF.: 1:10 (School District Legal Status), 1:20 (District Organization, Operations, and Cooperative Agreements), 2:10 (School District Governance), 2:80 (Board Member Oath and Conduct), 2:140 (Communications To and From the Board), 2:210 (Organizational School Board Meeting), 2:240 (Board Policy Development), 4:60 (Purchases and Contracts), 4:70 (Resource Conservation), 4:100 (Insurance Management), 4:110 (Transportation), 4:150 (Facility Management and Building Programs), 5:10 (Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Recruitment), 5:90 (Abused and Neglected Child Reporting), 6:10 (Educational Philosophy and Objectives), 6:15 (School Accountability), 6:20 (School Year Calendar and Day), 7:10 (Equal Educational Opportunities), 7:30 (Student Assignment and Intra-District Transfer), 7:190 (Student Discipline), 7:200 (Suspension Procedures), 7:210 (Expulsion Procedures), 8:10 (Connection with the Community), 8:30 (Visitors to and Conduct on School Property)

School Board

Board Member Qualifications 1

A School Board member must be, on the date of election or appointment, a United States citizen, at least 18 years of age, a resident of Illinois and the District for at least one year immediately preceding the election, and a registered voter.

Reasons making an individual ineligible for Board membership include holding an incompatible office and certain types of State or federal employment. ² A child sex offender, as defined in State law, is ineligible for School Board membership. ³

LEGAL REF.: Ill. Constitution, Art. 2, ¶ 1; Art. 4, ¶ 2(e); Art. 6, ¶ 13(b).
105 ILCS 5/10-3 and 5/10-10.

CROSS REF.: 2:30 (School Board Elections), 2:70 (Vacancies on the School Board - Filling Vacancies)

¹ State law controls this policy's content. Election qualifications are found in 105 ILCS 5/10-3 and 5/10-10. Except for possible residency requirements, there are no general eligibility qualifications for appointment to a board; this sample policy, however, applies the election qualifications to appointments. This is possible because the board controls the appointment process. See policy 2:70, *Vacancies on the School Board - Filling Vacancies*.

Boards may describe additional residency requirements, if any, in the following optional sentence: "On the date of election or appointment, Board members must also meet the following residential requirement: [*insert*]."

105 ILCS 5/10-10 allows a board to appoint a student to the board to serve in an advisory capacity for a term the board determines. The student may not vote or attend any closed board meeting. A board that desires to appoint a student member may include this paragraph at the end of this policy, adding the manner the student member is selected as appropriate:

The Board will annually appoint a student member to serve in an advisory capacity. The student member will not have any voting privileges and may not attend executive sessions of the Board.

² Prohibitions on simultaneously holding more than one public office, known as the doctrine of incompatibility of offices, arise from the constitutional concept of separation of offices. Appellate decisions have held that incompatibility arises if the duties of one office would necessarily prevent the office holder from faithfully performing all the duties of the other office. Express statutory prohibitions involving a school board member and another office are rare but do exist. For example, a school trustee may not also be a board member (105 ILCS 5/10-3 and 5/10-10). Dual office holding is discussed in the Ill. Council of School Attorneys' publications, *Answers to FAQs, Conflict of Interest and Incompatible Offices*, www.iasb.com/law/conflict.cfm, and *Answers to FAQs, Vacancies on the Board of Education*, www.iasb.com/law/vacancies.cfm.

³ 105 ILCS 5/10-3 and 5/10-10. The definition of child sex offender is found in 720 ILCS 5/11-9.3 and is contained in administrative procedure 8:30-AP, *Definition of Child Sex Offender*.

School Board

Board Member Term of Office ¹

The term of office for a School Board member begins immediately after both of the following occur:

1. The election authority canvasses the votes and declares the winner(s); this occurs within 21 days after the consolidated election held on the first Tuesday in April in odd-numbered years.
2. The successful candidate takes the oath of office as provided in Board policy 2:80, *Board Member Oath and Conduct*. ²

The term ends 4 years later when the successor assumes office. ³

LEGAL REF.: 10 ILCS 5/2A-1.1, 5/22-17, and 5/22-18.
105 ILCS 5/10-10, 5/10-16, and 5/10-16.5.

CROSS REF.: 2:30 (School District Elections), 2:80 (Board Member Oath and Conduct), 2:210 (Organizational School Board Meeting)

¹ State or federal law controls this policy's content.

² The oath requirement is mandated by 105 ILCS 5/10-16.5.

³ All local canvassing boards were abolished in 2006. The appropriate *election authority* (county clerk or election commission, if one was established under Article 6A of the Election Code) canvasses the vote for school district elections (10 ILCS 5/1-8). The election authority is responsible for school board member elections (10 ILCS 5/1-3(8)). Any provision in the School Code to the contrary is superseded and ineffective.

The election authority must canvass the vote within 21 days after the election (10 ILCS 5/22-17 and 5/22-18). Within 28 days after the consolidated election, boards must hold an organizational meeting to elect electing officers and fix a time and place for the regular meetings (105 ILCS 5/10-16).

The board, by resolution, may submit the question of increasing the term to 6 years to the district's voters (105 ILCS 5/9-5).

School Board

Board Member Removal from Office ¹

If a majority of the School Board determines that a Board member has willfully failed to perform his or her official duties, it may request the Regional Superintendent to remove such member from office. ²

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/3-15.5.

CROSS REF.: 2:70 (Vacancies on the School Board - Filling Vacancies)

¹ State or federal law controls this policy's content.

² Neither the voters nor the board has the authority to recall or remove a board member from office. The Regional Superintendent has the power to remove any board member from office for willful failure to perform official duties (105 ILCS 5/3-15.5). The "majority of the board" requirement in this policy has no legal significance other than being standard operating procedure. The Regional Superintendent may act on his or her initiative.

Use this alternative for districts in suburban Cook County: replace "Regional Superintendent" with "appropriate Intermediate Service Center." The Ill. Gen. Assembly abolished the Regional Office of Education for Suburban Cook County and transferred its duties and powers to Intermediate Service Centers.

A *quo warranto* action is a rarely used method to remove a board member from office. This type of lawsuit is generally used to remove someone who holds office unlawfully, among other things (735 ILCS 5/18-101). These actions are generally brought by the Ill. Atty. Gen. (AG) or the appropriate State's Attorney. If neither of them brings the suit, it may be brought by a plaintiff after (1) he or she requests the AG and State's Attorney to bring a quo warranto lawsuit, (2) they fail to do it, and (3) the circuit court with jurisdiction grants permission for the plaintiff to file the lawsuit (see the Niekamp case below). After receiving a court's permission to bring the suit, a plaintiff must post a bond when filing the proceeding. If the lawsuit is unsuccessful, the plaintiff must pay the defendant's attorney fees and costs. Depending upon the violation, the law allows the court to impose a \$25,000 fine or remove the board member from office. Notable cases involving quo warranto actions against school board members in Illinois include:

1. Ballard v. Niekamp, 961 N.E.2d 288 (Ill. App. 4, 2011) (affirming the ousting of a school board member for holding an incompatible office; the fellow school board members brought a quo warranto action asking the court to remove him from the school board).
2. Parker v. Lyons, et al., 2012 IL App (3d) 110140-U (potential school board candidate had two felony convictions; the trial court allowed the State's quo warranto action barring him from running for the school board); People ex rel. Lyons v. Parker, 940 F.Supp.2d 832 (Ill. 2012) (petition for leave to appeal denied); Parker v. Illinois, 133 S.Ct. 1828 (2013) (petition for writ of certiorari to the Appellate Court of Illinois, Third District, denied).

School Board

Board Member Oath and Conduct

Each School Board member, before taking his or her seat on the Board, shall take the following oath of office: ¹

I, (name), do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully discharge the duties of the office of member of the Board of Education (or Board of School Directors, as the case may be) of (*name of School District*), in accordance with the Constitution of the United States, the Constitution of the State of Illinois, and the laws of the State of Illinois, to the best of my ability.

I further swear (or affirm) that:

I shall respect taxpayer interests by serving as a faithful protector of the School District's assets;

I shall encourage and respect the free expression of opinion by my fellow Board members and others who seek a hearing before the Board, while respecting the privacy of students and employees;

I shall recognize that a Board member has no legal authority as an individual and that decisions can be made only by a majority vote at a public Board meeting; and

I shall abide by majority decisions of the Board, while retaining the right to seek changes in such decisions through ethical and constructive channels.

The Board President will administer the oath in an open Board meeting; in the absence of the President, the Vice President will administer the oath. If neither is available, the Board member with the longest service on the Board will administer the oath. ²

The Board adopts the Illinois Association of School Boards' *Code of Conduct for Members of School Boards*. ³ A copy of the *Code* shall be displayed in the regular Board meeting room.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/10-16.5.

CROSS REF.: 1:30 (School District Philosophy), 2:20 (Powers and Duties of the School Board; Indemnification), 2:50 (Board Member Term of Office), 2:100 (Board Member Conflict of Interest), 2:105 (Ethics and Gift Ban), 2:210 (Organizational School Board Meeting)

¹ Although the policy is not required by State or federal law, each board member, before taking his or her seat on the board, must take an oath in substantially the form given in the statute as reprinted in this sample policy (105 ILCS 5/10-16.5). This policy contains the verbatim oath because many of its provisions have policy implications. However, if a board prefers to remove the oath from the policy, it should replace the first sentence with this alternative:

Each Board member, before taking his or her seat on the Board, shall take the oath of office as prescribed in Section 10-16.5 of the School Code.

² Optional - State law allows the board to determine how the oath is administered (105 ILCS 5/10-16.5). Use the following alternative if a board does not want anyone to administer the oath:

Each Board member who is taking office shall read the oath during an open meeting and swear or affirm to follow it as indicated in the oath.

³ Although national and state associations have developed codes of conduct, each board may find it helpful, as part of its self-evaluation process, to consider what behavior members expect from each other. The resulting ethics statement may serve as an important step in new member orientation. For IASB resources, see:

www.iasb.com/training/sch_bd_resources.cfm and www.iasb.com/training/schoolboardgovernancebooklet.pdf.

School Board

Types of School Board Meetings ¹

General

For all meetings of the School Board and its committees, the Superintendent or designee shall satisfy all notice and posting requirements contained herein as well as in the Open Meetings Act. This shall include mailing meeting notifications to news media that have officially requested them and to others as approved by the Board. ² Unless otherwise specified, all meetings are held in the District's main office. ³ Board policy 2:220, *School Board Meeting Procedure*, governs meeting quorum requirements.

The Superintendent is designated on behalf of the Board and each Board committee to receive the training on compliance with the Open Meetings Act that is required by Section 1.05(a) of that Act. The Superintendent may identify other employees to receive the training. ⁴ Each Board member must complete a course of training on the Open Meetings Act as required by Section 1.05(b) or (c) of that Act. ⁵

Regular Meetings

The Board announces the time and place for its regular meetings at the beginning of each fiscal year. ⁶ The Superintendent shall prepare and make available the calendar of regular Board meetings. The regular meeting calendar may be changed with 10 days' notice in accordance with State law. ⁷

¹ State law controls this policy's content. The provisions of the Open Meetings Act (OMA) do not apply to collective bargaining negotiations and grievance arbitrations as provided in 115 ILCS 5/18.

² 5 ILCS 120/2.02. These responsibilities may be given to anyone.

³ State law only requires that meetings be held in a location convenient and open to the public and no open meeting is allowed to be held on a legal holiday unless the regular meeting day falls on that holiday (5 ILCS 120/2.01). According to an Ill. Atty. Gen. Public Access Counselor Opinion, a board may not meet in a private residence because it would not be convenient and open to the public (PAO 12-8). A board meeting 26 miles away from its regular location, while open to the public, was inconvenient because "the public, as a practical matter, would be deterred from attending it" (PAO 13-14). Any person may record an open meeting (5 ILCS 120/2.05). See policy 2:220, *School Board Meeting Procedure*.

⁴ Each board must designate at least one employee or member to receive training on compliance with OMA (5 ILCS 120/1.05). Revise this paragraph if the board designates other individual(s) to receive the training. A list of designated individual(s) must be submitted to the Attorney General's Public Access Counselor. The designated individual(s) must successfully complete an electronic training curriculum administered by the Attorney General's Public Access Counselor within 30 days after that designation, and thereafter must successfully complete an annual training program. The OMA does not specify duties for the designated individuals who receive the training but presumably they would assist the board in its OMA compliance efforts.

⁵ 5 ILCS 120/1.05(b) applies to training administered by the Attorney General's office; 1.05(c) applies to training administered by IASB. Board members elected or appointed after 1-1-2012 must complete the training not later than 90 days after taking the oath of office. Even before this law, compliance with the OMA has always been considered a shared responsibility of board members. Failing to complete the OMA training does not affect the validity of an action taken by the board nor is it considered a criminal violation (5 ILCS 120/1.05(b) and 120/4. However, a person found to have violated any other provisions of the OMA is guilty of a Class C misdemeanor punishable by a \$1500 fine or 30 days in jail (5 ILCS 120/4.

⁶ The OMA and the School Code have different provisions regarding the establishment of a regular meeting schedule. The OMA requires each public body to prepare and make available a regular meeting schedule at the beginning of each calendar or fiscal year (5 ILCS 120/2.03). The School Code states that this task is accomplished during the organizational meeting. By *announcing* the schedule at the beginning of each calendar or fiscal year and by *fixing* the schedule at the organizational meeting, a board can implement both laws. Note that the phrase in this sample policy, "at the beginning of each fiscal year," can be changed to "at the beginning of each calendar year."

A meeting agenda shall be posted at the District's main office and the Board's meeting room, or other location where the meeting is to be held, at least 48 hours before the meeting. **8**

Closed Meetings **9**

The Board and Board committees may meet in a closed meeting to consider the following subjects:

1. The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1). **10**
2. Collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2).
3. The selection of a person to fill a public office, as defined in the Open Meetings Act, including a vacancy in a public office, when the public body is given power to appoint under law or ordinance, or the discipline, performance or removal of the occupant of a public office, when the public body is given power to remove the occupant under law or ordinance. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(3).
4. Evidence or testimony presented in open hearing, or in closed hearing where specifically authorized by law, to a quasi-adjudicative body, as defined in the Open Meetings Act, provided that the body prepares and makes available for public inspection a written decision setting forth its determinative reasoning. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(4).
5. The purchase or lease of real property for the use of the public body, including meetings held for the purpose of discussing whether a particular parcel should be acquired. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(5).
6. The setting of a price for sale or lease of property owned by the public body. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(6).
7. The sale or purchase of securities, investments, or investment contracts. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(7).
8. Security procedures and the use of personnel and equipment to respond to an actual, a threatened, or a reasonably potential danger to the safety of employees, students, staff, the public, or public property. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(8).

⁷ Regular meeting dates may be changed by giving at least 10 days' notice in a newspaper of general circulation and posting a notice at the district's main office (5 ILCS 120/2.03). Districts with a population of less than 500, in which no newspaper is published, may give the 10 days' notice by posting a notice in at least 3 prominent places within the district, in addition to posting a notice at the district's main office (Id.). Notice shall also be given to those news media having filed an annual request to receive notifications (Id.).

⁸ 5 ILCS 120/2.02(a). The posting location may need modification to comply with the law's requirement that the agenda be posted at the district's main office. For agenda requirements, see policy 2:220, *School Board Meeting Procedure*.

OMA also requires that "any required notice and agenda be *continuously available* for public viewing during the entire 48-hour period preceding the meeting." Emphasis added, 5 ILCS 120/2.02(c). The requirement for *continuously available* is satisfied if the district posts any required notice and agenda on its website. However, to comply with the legislative intent, posting on the district website does not replace the posting described in this sentence. See Rep. Pihos remarks reported in *New open-meetings law; is hard-copy posting of agendas still required?*, Sept. 2012, Illinois Bar Journal.

For districts that do not post board meeting agendas on a website (because they do not have a website maintained by a fulltime staff member), add the following sentence:

The agenda shall be continuously available for public review during the entire 48-hour period preceding the meeting.

If a notice or agenda is not continuously available for the full 48-hour period due to actions outside of the district's control, the lack of availability does not invalidate any meeting or action taken.

⁹ The reasons for closed meetings are frequently addressed in court decisions and Attorney General opinions; only a few of these decisions/opinions are mentioned in the footnotes.

¹⁰ According to a Public Access Counselor opinion, "The exception is not intended to allow private discussion of fiscal matters, notwithstanding that they may directly or indirectly impact the employees of the public body," (PAO 12-11).

9. Student disciplinary cases. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(9).
10. The placement of individual students in special education programs and other matters relating to individual students. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(10).
11. Litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent, in which case the basis for the finding shall be recorded and entered into the minutes of the closed meeting. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11).
12. The establishment of reserves or settlement of claims as provided in the Local Governmental and Governmental Employees Tort Immunity Act, if otherwise the disposition of a claim or potential claim might be prejudiced, or the review or discussion of claims, loss or risk management information, records, data, advice or communications from or with respect to any insurer of the public body or any intergovernmental risk management association or self insurance pool of which the public body is a member. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(12).
13. Self evaluation, practices and procedures or professional ethics, when meeting with a representative of a statewide association of which the public body is a member. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(16). ¹¹
14. Discussion of minutes of meetings lawfully closed under the Open Meetings Act, whether for purposes of approval by the body of the minutes or semi-annual review of the minutes as mandated by Section 2.06. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(21).
15. Meetings between internal or external auditors and governmental audit committees, finance committees, and their equivalents, when the discussion involves internal control weaknesses, identification of potential fraud risk areas, known or suspected frauds, and fraud interviews conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards of the United States of America. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(29).

The Board may hold a closed meeting, or close a portion of a meeting, by a majority vote of a quorum, taken at an open meeting. The vote of each Board member present, and the reason for the closed meeting, will be publicly disclosed at the time of the meeting and clearly stated in the motion and the meeting minutes. ¹²

A single motion calling for a series of closed meetings may be adopted when such meetings will involve the same particular matters and are scheduled to be held within 3 months of the vote. ¹³

No final Board action will be taken at a closed meeting. ¹⁴

Reconvened or Rescheduled Meetings

A meeting may be rescheduled or reconvened. Public notice of a rescheduled or reconvened meeting shall be given in the same manner as that for a special meeting, except that no public notice is required when the original meeting is open to the public and: (1) is to be reconvened within 24 hours,

¹¹ IASB field services directors are available to facilitate a board self-evaluation.

¹² 5 ILCS 120/2a. Provided the open meeting was properly noticed, no additional notice is required to close the meeting. A motion to close a meeting can be as simple as, "I move that the Board hold [go into] a closed session to discuss [state one of the closed meeting grounds with reference to the specific section authorizing the closed meeting]."

The adequacy of a motion to go into closed session was discussed in Henry v. Anderson and Champaign Community Unit School Dist. No. 4, 827 N.E.2d 522 (Ill.App.4, 2005). A statutory citation is not required in the motion to go into closed session, but the OMA does require a reference to the specific exception. The *litigation* exception is tricky. If the litigation has been filed and is pending, the motion to go into closed session need only state that the board will discuss litigation that has been filed and is pending. If the litigation has not been filed, the board must: (1) find that the litigation is probable or imminent, and (2) record and enter into the minutes the basis for that finding.

¹³ Id.

¹⁴ 5 ILCS 120/2(e). See also PAOs 13-03 and 13-07.

or (2) an announcement of the time and place of the reconvened meeting was made at the original meeting and there is no change in the agenda. **15**

Special Meetings

Special meetings may be called by the President or by any 3 members of the Board by giving notice thereof, in writing, stating the time, place, and purpose of the meeting to remaining Board members by mail at least 48 hours before the meeting, or by personal service at least 24 hours before the meeting. **16**

Public notice of a special meeting is given by posting a notice at the District's main office at least 48 hours before the meeting and by notifying the news media that have filed a written request for notice. A meeting agenda shall accompany the notice. **17**

All matters discussed by the Board at any special meeting must be related to a subject on the meeting agenda. **18**

Emergency Meetings

Public notice of emergency meetings shall be given as soon as practical, but in any event, before the meeting to news media that have filed a written request for notice. **19**

Posting on the District Website **20**

In addition to the other notices specified in this policy, the Superintendent or designee shall post the following on the District website: (1) the annual schedule of regular meetings, which shall remain posted until the Board approves a new schedule of regular meetings; (2) a public notice of all Board meetings; and (3) the agenda for each meeting which shall remain posted until the meeting is concluded.

15 5 ILCS 120/2.02.

16 105 ILCS 5/10-16 (2 members of a board of directors; 105 ILCS 5/10-6). Lawyers disagree whether 3 members may call a special meeting without violating the OMA, although there is general agreement that no violation occurs if 3 members call a special meeting while they are participating in a lawful board committee meeting with the matter on the agenda.

17 5 ILCS 120/2.02. News media that gave the board an address or telephone number within the district's territorial jurisdiction must be given notice in the same manner as given board members.

OMA requires that "any required notice and agenda be *continuously available* for public viewing during the entire 48-hour period preceding the meeting." Emphasis added, 5 ILCS 120/2.02(c). The requirement for *continuously available* is satisfied if the district posts any required notice and agenda on its website. Posting on the district website does not replace the posting described in this paragraph. See f/n 8.

For districts that do not post board meeting notices and agendas on a website (because they do not have a website maintained by a fulltime staff member), add the following sentence:

The notice and agenda shall be continuously available for public review during the entire 48-hour period preceding the meeting.

18 Lawyers disagree whether the Open Meetings Act mandates this restriction, i.e., whether it restricts board *discussions* to items related to an item on the special meeting agenda. The Act limits board *action* to items on the agenda (5 ILCS 120/2.02(c); it states that the validity of any action taken "which is germane to a subject on the agenda shall not be affected by other errors or omissions in the agenda," (5 ILCS 120/2.02(a). For agenda requirements, see policy 2:220, *School Board Meeting Procedure*.

19 5 ILCS 120/2.02(a).

20 Required *only if* the district has a website that is maintained by a full-time staff member; if not, this section may be omitted (5 ILCS 120/2.02). Note that 5 ILCS 120/2.02(b) requires that a notice of *all* meetings be posted on the district website, but only notices of *regular* meetings must remain posted until the *regular* meeting is concluded. As this is an obvious oversight, it is wise to leave the notice of every meeting on the website until after the meeting occurred. The agenda must remain on the district website until the meeting is concluded (Id.).

LEGAL REF.: 5 ILCS 120/, Open Meeting Act.
5 ILCS 140/, Freedom of Information Act.
105 ILCS 5/10-6 and 5/10-16.

CROSS REF.: 2:110 (Qualifications Term, and Duties of Board Officers), 2:120 (Board Member Development), 2:210 (Organizational School Board Meetings), 2:220 (School Board Meeting Procedure), 2:230 (Public Participation at School Board Meetings and Petitions to the Board), 6:235 (Access to Electronic Networks)

School Board

School Board Meeting Procedure 1

Agenda

The School Board President is responsible for focusing the Board meeting agendas on appropriate content. ² The Superintendent shall prepare agendas in consultation with the Board President. The President shall designate a portion of the agenda as a consent agenda for those items that usually do not require discussion or explanation before Board action. Upon the request of any Board member, an item will be withdrawn from the consent agenda and placed on the regular agenda for independent consideration. ³

Each Board meeting agenda shall contain the general subject matter of any item that will be the subject of final action at the meeting. ⁴ Items submitted by Board members to the Superintendent or the President shall be placed on the agenda for an upcoming meeting. ⁵ District residents may suggest inclusions for the agenda. ⁶ The Board will take final action only on items contained in the posted agenda; items not on the agenda may still be discussed. ⁷

The Superintendent shall provide a copy of the agenda, with adequate data and background information, to each Board member at least 48 hours before each meeting, except a meeting held in the event of an emergency. ⁸ The meeting agenda shall be posted in accordance with Board policy 2:200, *Types of School Board Meetings*.

The Board President shall determine the order of business at regular Board meetings. Upon consent of a majority of members present, the order of business at any meeting may be changed.

¹ State law requires boards to have a policy concerning: (1) the public's right to record meetings (5 ILCS 120/2.05), and (2) if applicable, attendance by video or audio means (5 ILCS 120/7). Boards are not mandated to have a policy on the remaining topics covered in this policy. The following items are matters of local discretion: agenda preparation and contents, process for board members to have items placed on agenda, receipt and handling of residents' requests for agenda inclusions, and order of business.

² Appropriate agenda content includes: establishing board processes, clarifying the district's purpose, delegating authority, defining operating limits, monitoring district progress, and taking legally required board action. See *IASB Foundational Principles of Effective Governance*.

³ To comply with the Open Meetings Act's mandate that minutes contain a "summary of discussion on all matters proposed, deliberated, or decided," a board should include a list of consent items in the agenda.

⁴ 5 ILCS 120/2.02(c), amended by P.A. 97-827 (eff. 1-1-2013). The Ill. Appellate Court held that the Open Meetings Act prohibits a board from voting on a matter at a regular meeting that is not on the pre-meeting published agenda (Rice v. Board of Trustees of Adams County, 762 N.E.2d 1205 (Ill.App.4, 2002)).

⁵ An alternative follows:

Any Board member may submit suggested agenda items to the Board President for his or her consideration.

⁶ See policy 2:230, *Public Participation at School Board Meetings and Petitions to the Board*. In districts governed by a board of school directors, an appointed board official must give a person requesting consideration of a matter by the board a formal written response no later than 60 days after receiving the request. The response must establish a meeting before the board or list the reasons for denying the request (105 ILCS 5/10-6).

Options follow to restrict the addition of new agenda items; the phrases between [] may be used together, separately, or eliminated.

Discussion items may be added to the agenda [at the beginning of a regular meeting] [upon unanimous approval of those Board members present].

⁷ An opinion from the Ill. Public Access Counselor found no violation of the OMA when a board removed an item from the agenda within the 48-hour notice time period (PAO 14-3). Removals inform the public that the board does not plan to proceed on the topic.

⁸ State law does not require this, except that 105 ILCS 5/10-16 requires members to receive a written notice of a special meeting that includes the meeting's purpose.

Voting Method

Unless otherwise provided by law, when a vote is taken upon any measure before the Board, with a quorum being present, a majority of the votes cast shall determine its outcome. **9** A vote of *abstain* or *present*, or a vote other than *yea* or *nay*, or a failure to vote, is counted for the purposes of determining whether a quorum is present. A vote of *abstain* or *present*, or a vote other than *yea* or *nay*, or a failure to vote, however, is not counted in determining whether a measure has been passed by the Board, unless otherwise stated in law. The sequence for casting votes is rotated. **10**

On all questions involving the expenditure of money and on all questions involving the closing of a meeting to the public, a roll call vote shall be taken and entered in the Board's minutes. An individual Board member may request that a roll call vote be taken on any other matter; the President or other presiding officer may approve or deny the request but a denial is subject to being overturned by a majority vote of the members present. **11**

9 In most situations, the failure of a member to vote has the effect of acquiescence or concurrence with the majority of votes cast. Prosser v. Village of Fox Lake, 438 N.E.2d 134 (1982); People v. Bertrand, 2012 IL App (1st) 111419 (9-28-2012). For example, a motion passes with a vote of 2 *yeas*, 1 *nay*, and 4 *abstentions*. A motion fails with a vote of 2 *yeas*, 3 *nays*, and 2 *abstentions*. A motion fails with a vote of 3 *yeas*, 3 *nays*, and one *abstain* because there is no majority. Exceptions include when a statute requires the *affirmative vote* of a majority or extra. Statutory exceptions include the following board actions:

1. Dismissing a teacher for any reason other than reduction of staff or elimination of that position requires approval by the majority of all members (105 ILCS 5/24-12).
2. Directing the sale of district real property or buildings thereon must be approved by at least 2/3 of the board members (105 ILCS 5/5-22).
3. Making or renewing a lease of school property to another school district or municipality or body politic and corporate for a term longer than 10 years, or to alter the terms of such a lease whose unexpired term exceeds 10 years, requires approval by at least 2/3 of the board's full membership (105 ILCS 5/10-22.11).
4. Leasing any building, rooms, grounds, and appurtenances to be used by the district for school or administration purposes for a term longer than 10 years, or to alter the terms of such a lease whose unexpired term exceeds 10 years, requires approval by at least 2/3 of the board's full membership (105 ILCS 5/10-22.12).
5. Obtaining personal property by lease or installment contract requires approval by an affirmative vote of at least 2/3 of the board members. *Personal property* includes computer hardware and software and all equipment, fixtures, and improvements to existing district facilities to accommodate computers (105 ILCS 5/10-22.25a).
6. Adopting a supplemental budget after a successful referendum requires approval by a majority of the full board (105 ILCS 5/17-3.2).
7. Petitioning the circuit court for an emergency election requires approval by a majority of the members (10 ILCS 5/2A-1.4).
8. Expending funds in emergency situation in the absence of required bidding requires approval by at least 3/4 of the board (105 ILCS 5/10-20.21).
9. Exchanging school building sites requires approval by at least a 2/3 majority of the board (105 ILCS 5/5-23).
10. Waiving the administrative cost cap requires approval by an affirmative vote of at least 2/3 of the board (105 ILCS 5/17-1.5).
11. Authorizing an advisory question of public policy to be placed on the ballot at the next regularly scheduled election requires approval by a majority of the board (105 ILCS 5/9-1.5).

10 Voting sequence is at the board's discretion. A board may indicate how frequently it changes the voting sequence by adding *after each vote*, *monthly*, or *annually* to the end of the sentence. All board members, including officers, may make motions and vote.

11 This paragraph's first sentence contains the requirements in 105 ILCS 5/10-7. The second sentence is optional and may be deleted or amended. Other optional provisions include:

- Option 1: Any Board member may include a written explanation of his or her vote in the District file containing individual Board member statements; the explanation will not be part of the minutes.
- Option 2: Any Board member may request that his or her vote be changed before the President announces the result.

Minutes

The Board Secretary shall keep written minutes of all Board meetings (whether open or closed), which shall be signed by the President and the Secretary. **12** The minutes include: **13**

1. The meeting's date, time, and place;
2. Board members recorded as either present or absent;
3. A summary of the discussion on all matters proposed, deliberated, or decided, and a record of any votes taken;
4. On all matters requiring a roll call vote, a record of who voted *yea* and *nay*;
5. If the meeting is adjourned to another date, the time and place of the adjourned meeting;
6. The vote of each member present when a vote is taken to hold a closed meeting or portion of a meeting, and the reason for the closed meeting with a citation to the specific exception contained in the Open Meetings Act authorizing the closed meeting;
7. A record of all motions, including individuals making and seconding motions;
8. Upon request by a Board member, a record of how he or she voted on a particular motion; **14** and
9. The type of meeting, including any notices and, if a reconvened meeting, the original meeting's date.

The minutes shall be submitted to the Board for approval or modification at its next regularly scheduled open meeting. Minutes for open meetings must be approved within 30 days after the meeting or at the second subsequent regular meeting, whichever is later. **15**

At least semi-annually in an open meeting, the Board: (1) reviews minutes from all closed meetings that are currently unavailable for public release, and (2) decides which, if any, no longer require confidential treatment and are available for public inspection. **16** The Board may meet in a prior closed session to review the minutes from closed meetings that are currently unavailable for public release. **17**

The Board's meeting minutes must be submitted to the Board Treasurer at such times as the Treasurer may require. **18**

The official minutes are in the custody of the Board Secretary. **19** Open meeting minutes are available for inspection during regular office hours within 10 days after the Board's approval; **20** they may be inspected in the District's main office, in the presence of the Secretary, the Superintendent or designee, or any Board member. Minutes from closed meetings are likewise available, but only if the

12 105 ILCS 5/10-7 and 5 ILCS 120/2.06. The minutes are the only record showing that the board took official action, including necessary prerequisites to make such action legally sufficient. A non-member recording secretary or clerk may be given these responsibilities (105 ILCS 5/10-14).

13 All items listed are required to be recorded in minutes **except** items 7-9; other items may be included at the board's discretion (5 ILCS 120/2.06 and 120/2a; 105 ILCS 5/10-7). The Ill. Public Access Counselor found a board's vague reference to a *personnel matter* insufficient to meet the requirements of #3 (PAO 13-07).

14 The intent behind this optional item is to give an individual member a means of recording his or her support or opposition to a motion that was taken by oral vote; it will record that the individual took an alternative position to that of the majority without having the minutes recite unnecessary detail.

15 Required by 5 ILCS 120/2.06(b).

16 Required by 5 ILCS 120/2.06(c). While board notes from closed sessions may be confidential under the Freedom of Information Act, they may be discoverable by the opposing party in a lawsuit. *Bobkoski v. Cary School Dist.* 26, 141 F.R.D. 88 (N.D. Ill., 1992).

The failure to strictly comply with the semi-annual review does not cause the written minutes or related verbatim record to become public, provided that the board, within 60 days of discovering its failure to strictly comply, reviews the closed session minutes and reports the result of that review in open session (5 ILCS 120/2.06).

17 5 ILCS 120/2 allows boards to discuss the confidentiality needs of closed meeting minutes in closed meetings.

18 Required by 105 ILCS 5/10-7.

19 Optional provision: "A copy of the minutes is kept in a secure location appropriate for valuables."

20 Required by 5 ILCS 120/2.06.

Board has released them for public inspection. The minutes shall not be removed from the Superintendent's office except by vote of the Board or by court order.

The Board's open meeting minutes shall be posted on the District website within 10 days after the Board approves them; the minutes will remain posted for at least 60 days. **21**

Verbatim Record of Closed Meetings

The Superintendent, or the Board Secretary when the Superintendent is absent, shall audio record all closed meetings. **22** If neither is present, the Board President or presiding officer shall assume this responsibility. After the closed meeting, the person making the audio recording shall label the recording with the date and store it in a secure location. The Superintendent shall ensure that: (1) an audio recording device and all necessary accompanying items are available to the Board for every closed meeting, and (2) a secure location for storing closed meeting audio recordings is maintained close to the Board's regular meeting location. **23**

After 18 months have passed since being made, the audio recording of a closed meeting is destroyed provided the Board approved: (1) its destruction, and (2) minutes of the particular closed meeting. **24**

Individual Board members may listen to verbatim recordings when that action is germane to their responsibilities. In the interest of encouraging free and open expression by Board members during closed meetings, the recordings of closed meetings should not be used by Board members to confirm or dispute the accuracy of recollections. **25**

Quorum and Participation by Audio or Video Means **26**

A quorum of the Board must be physically present at all Board meetings. A majority of the full membership of the Board constitutes a quorum.

Provided a quorum is physically present, a Board member may attend a meeting by video or audio conference if he or she is prevented from physically attending because of: (1) personal illness or disability, (2) employment or District business, or (3) a family or other emergency. If a member wishes to attend a meeting by video or audio means, he or she must notify the recording secretary or Superintendent at least 24 hours before the meeting unless advance notice is impractical. The recording secretary or Superintendent will inform the Board President and make appropriate arrangements. A Board member who attends a meeting by audio or video means, as provided in this policy, may participate in all aspects of the Board meeting including voting on any item.

21 Posting on the website is required *only if* the district has a website that is maintained by a full-time staff member; if not, this sentence may be omitted (5 ILCS 120/2.06(b)).

22 Boards must keep a verbatim record of their closed meetings in the form of an audio or video recording (5 ILCS 120/2.06). This sample policy uses audio recording only; a board that uses a video recording should amend this policy.

The interests of continuity, efficiency, and ease of holding someone accountable suggest that the superintendent be made responsible for making and storing the verbatim recordings. If the superintendent is not present, e.g., during discussions concerning the superintendent's contract, the tasks should be given to a board member.

23 Alternatively, use: "is maintained within the District's main office."

24 This paragraph paraphrases 5 ILCS 120/2.06(c). No notification to, or the approval of, a records commission or the State Archivist is needed if a recording is destroyed under the conditions listed.

25 This sentence is optional. Intra-board conflicts may escalate if the recording is used to confirm or dispute who-said-what.

26 5 ILCS 120/2.01 and 120/7. See also 105 ILCS 5/10-6 and 5/10-12. In order to allow attendance by video or audio means, a board must adopt a policy conforming to the restrictions in the Open Meetings Act. The statute requires the board member who wishes to attend remotely to notify the "recording secretary or clerk of the public body." The policy includes the superintendent as a possible person to receive the notice. Everything in this section is required aside from provisions on the length of notification that is given the secretary and the process for accommodating the request. Alternatively, a board may: (1) prohibit members from participating by video or audio means by omitting this section, (2) add other requirements, or (3) alter the 24 hour notification. Note that the statute does not contemplate someone either *approving* or *denying* a request, only that the request be accommodated if the notification is provided.

Rules of Order

Unless State law or Board-adopted rules apply, the Board President, as the presiding officer, will use Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised (10th Edition), as a guide when a question arises concerning procedure. ²⁷

Broadcasting and Recording Board Meetings

Any person may record or broadcast an open Board meeting. ²⁸ Special requests to facilitate recording or broadcasting an open Board meeting, such as seating, writing surfaces, lighting, and access to electrical power, should be directed to the Superintendent at least 24 hours before the meeting.

Recording meetings shall not distract or disturb Board members, other meeting participants, or members of the public. The Board President may designate a location for recording equipment, may restrict the movements of individuals who are using recording equipment, or may take such other steps as are deemed necessary to preserve decorum and facilitate the meeting.

LEGAL REF.: 5 ILCS 120/2a, 120/2.02, 120/2.05, and 120/2.06.
105 ILCS 5/10-6, 5/10-7, 5/10-12, and 5/10-16.

CROSS REF.: 2:200 (Types of School Board Meetings), 2:150 (Committees), 2:210 (Organizational School Board Meeting), 2:230 (Public Participation at School Board Meetings and Petitions to the Board)

²⁷ Boards are not required to follow any particular rules of order. Rules, however, must be in writing and available for public inspection, in order to have any legal effect (105 ILCS 5/10-20.5).

²⁸ The public's right to record meetings must be addressed in board policy (5 ILCS 120/2.05). However, a provision requiring advance notice to record a meeting is invalid (PAO 12-10).

School Board

Exhibit - Board Treatment of Closed Meeting Verbatim Records and Minutes

The following procedures govern the verbatim audio recordings and minutes of School Board meetings that are closed to the public. ¹

Actor	Action
<p><i>Before any Board meeting:</i> Superintendent or designee</p>	<p>Arranges to have an audio recording device with extra recording tapes and a back-up audio recording device in the Board meeting room during every Board meeting regardless of whether a closed meeting is scheduled. ²</p> <p>The Board may close a portion of a public meeting without prior notice; it cannot, however, have a closed meeting unless it can record the session.</p>
<p><i>Before a closed meeting:</i> Board President or presiding officer</p>	<p>On the closed meeting date: (1) convenes an open meeting, (2) requests a motion to adjourn into closed meeting making sure the reason for the meeting is identified in the motion, (3) takes a roll call vote, (4) asks that the minutes record the vote of each member present and the reason for the closed meeting with a citation to the specific exception contained in the Open Meetings Act (OMA) authorizing the closed meeting (5 ILCS 120/2a), and (5) adjourns the open meeting.</p>
<p><i>Before a closed meeting:</i> Superintendent or Board Secretary ³</p>	<p>Immediately before a closed meeting, tests and activates the audio recording device.</p>
<p><i>During a closed meeting:</i> Board President or presiding officer</p>	<p>Convenes the closed meeting stating:</p> <p>Seeing a quorum of the Board of Education gathered today, ___ date, at ___ o'clock, at ___ location, for the purpose of holding a closed meeting in order to confidentially discuss ___, I call the meeting to order. In order to record who is present, I request that each individual state his or her name and position with the District. (NOTE: this script is an example.)</p> <p>Limits discussion to the topics that were included in the motion to go into a closed meeting.</p> <p>The failure to immediately call a person out-of-order who strays</p>

¹ A verbatim record of all closed meetings in the form of an audio or video recording must be kept (5 ILCS 120/2.06). A board deciding to use a video recording should amend this board procedure to so reflect.

² A verbatim record may be made using an audio or video recording. The IASB sample policy and procedure use just audio recording on the basis that audio is less invasive than video recording. In addition, producing an audio recording is generally less challenging and less expensive than producing a video.

³ This responsibility may be given to anyone. The interests of continuity, efficiency, and ease of holding someone accountable suggest that the superintendent be made responsible for making and storing the verbatim recordings. If the superintendent is not present (e.g., during discussions concerning the superintendent's performance as part of an evaluation in his or her absence) the task should be given to the board secretary. A board may also want to discuss renting a safety deposit box at a local financial institution that only the board president and secretary have access to for placement of audio recordings concerning the superintendent's performance as part of an evaluation in the superintendent's absence.

Actor	Action
	<p>from the purposes included in the motion may result in an appearance of acquiescence. This responsibility to call a person out-of-order falls on each Board member in the event of the President’s failure. 4</p> <p>Once the closed meeting is finished, announces a return to an open meeting or adjournment, and states the time.</p>
<p><i>After a closed meeting:</i> Superintendent or Board Secretary 5</p>	<p>Takes possession of the audio recording of the closed meeting and labels it with identification information, specifically the date and items discussed.</p> <p>Adds the identification information contained on the audio recording’s label to a cumulative list of closed meeting recordings.</p> <p>As soon as possible, puts the recording of the closed meeting in the previously identified secure location for storing recordings of closed meetings.</p> <p>Prepares written closed meeting minutes that include: 6</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The date, time, and place of the closed meeting • The Board members present and absent • A summary of discussion on all matters proposed or discussed • The time the closed meeting was adjourned
<p><i>After a closed meeting:</i> School Board</p>	<p>Approves the previous closed meeting minutes at the next open meeting.</p>
<p><i>In preparation for the semi-annual review: 7</i> Superintendent or designee</p>	<p>Prepares a recommendation concerning the continued need for confidential treatment of closed meeting minutes; includes this recommendation in the packet for the meeting in which the Board will conduct its semi-annual review. 8</p> <p>This step is in preparation of the Board’s meeting to decide whether the need for confidential treatment of specific closed meeting minutes continues to exist.</p> <p>If the Board wants to discuss closed meeting minutes in closed session, places “review of unreleased closed meeting minutes” on a closed meeting agenda. 9</p> <p>Places “result of Board’s review of unreleased closed meeting minutes” as an item on a subsequent open meeting agenda.</p>
<p><i>In preparation for the semi-annual review:</i></p>	<p>Before the meeting in which the Board will conduct its semi-annual review, examines the material supplied by the Superintendent.</p>

4 A violation of the Open Meetings Act is a Class C misdemeanor (5 ILCS 120/4) punishable by a fine of up to \$1500 and imprisonment for up to 30 days (720 ILCS 5/8/3, 5-9-1).

5 See footnote 3, supra.

6 5 ILCS 120/2.06, requires that minutes contain, at a minimum, the first 3 items listed.

7 Required by 5 ILCS 120/2.06(d).

8 While not required, this is intended to assist board members during the semi-annual review of all closed meeting minutes.

9 5 ILCS 120/2 allows boards to discuss the confidentiality needs of closed meeting minutes in closed session.

Actor	Action
Individual Board members	Individual Board members should consider: (1) the Superintendent’s recommendation, (2) the recommendation of the Board Attorney, (3) other Board members’ opinions, (4) the minutes themselves, and/or (5) whether the minutes would be exempted from public disclosure under the Illinois Freedom of Information Act.
<i>During the semi-annual review:</i> School Board	The Board decides in open session whether: (1) the need for confidentiality still exists as to all or part of closed meeting minutes, or (2) the minutes or portions thereof no longer require confidential treatment and are available for public inspection. The Board may have an earlier meeting in closed session to discuss the continued need for confidential treatment.
<i>After the semi-annual review:</i> Superintendent or designee	Re-labels and re-files closed meeting minutes as appropriate.
<i>Monthly:</i> Board President	Adds “destruction of closed meeting audio recording” as an agenda item to an upcoming open meeting.
<i>Monthly:</i> School Board	Approves the destruction of particular closed meeting recording(s) that are at least 18 months old and for which approved minutes of the closed meeting already exist.

LEGAL REF.: 5 ILCS 120/1 et seq.

School Board

Public Participation at School Board Meetings and Petitions to the Board **1**

At each regular and special open meeting, members of the public and District employees may comment to or ask questions of the School Board, subject to reasonable constraints. **2**

The individuals appearing before the Board are expected to follow these guidelines: **3**

1. Address the Board only at the appropriate time as indicated on the agenda and when recognized by the Board President.
2. Identify oneself and be brief. Ordinarily, comments shall be limited to 5 minutes. In unusual circumstances, and when an individual has made a request in advance to speak for a longer period of time, the individual may be allowed to speak for more than 5 minutes.
3. Observe the Board President's decision to shorten public comment to conserve time and give the maximum number of individuals an opportunity to speak.
4. Observe the Board President's decision to determine procedural matters regarding public participation not otherwise covered in Board policy.
5. Conduct oneself with respect and civility toward others and otherwise abide by Board policy, 8:30, *Visitors to and Conduct on School Property*. **4**

1 The Open Meetings Act (OMA) and the School Code grant any person the right to address a school board during any open meeting (5 ILCS 120/2.06; 105 ILCS 5/10-6 (board of directors) and 5/10-16 (board of education). OMA requires public bodies to have rules (a policy) on public comment (Id.).

2 Prohibiting public comment and/or restricting public comment to written filings violates the mandates and overarching purpose of the OMA (Roxana CUSD No. 1 v. EPA, 998 N.E.2d 961 (Ill.App.4, 2013)).

3 State law does not provide specific rules and these guidelines may be amended. The guidelines for public comment should be reviewed with the board attorney. Restrictions on public comment during board meetings must respect free speech rights guaranteed by the First Amendment. Do not use viewpoint-based restrictions on public comment time unless approved by the board attorney. Many decisions address the tension between free speech and rules for public comment during meetings. See, for example:

Lowery v. Jefferson Co. Bd of Educ., 586 F.3d 427 (6th Cir., 2009)(upheld a rule prohibiting speakers from being frivolous, repetitive, or harassing).

Steinburg v. Chesterfield County Planning Commission, 527 F.3d 377 (4th Cir., 2008), *cert. denied* (upheld removal of a man from a public meeting for behaving in a hostile manner).

Norse v. City of Santa Cruz, 586 F.3d 697 (9th Cir. 2009)(upheld community member's removal from city council meeting after community member gave Nazi salute in presiding officer's direction).

Fairchild v. Liberty Indep. School Dist., 597 F.3d 747 (5th Cir., 2010)(upheld a policy banning discussion of personnel matters during public comment; the rationale turned, at least in part, on the Texas open meetings law).

Bach v. School Board of the City of Virginia Beach, 139 F.Supp.2d 738 (E.D.Va., 2001)(struck down a rule that prohibited personal attacks during public comments at meetings).

Mnyofu v. Rich Tp. High School Dist., 2007 WL 1308523 (N.D.Ill., 2007)(school boards may impose guidelines for running meetings to maintain effectiveness).

4 See Nuding v. Cerro Gordo Community Unit School Dist., 730 N.E.2d 96 (Ill.App. 4, 2000)(board was authorized to ban parent from attending all school events and extracurricular activities by 105 ILCS 5/24-24; the ban was based on the parent's exposing a toy gun and a pocketknife at a board meeting).

Initiating lawsuits against citizens over their uncivil public comments is tricky. Always consult the board attorney, and in some instances, a board member may need to consult his or her own private attorney. The Ill. Citizen Participation Act (CPA) (735 ILCS 110/15) provides citizens a mechanism to stop lawsuits brought against them for their public comments. The law, referred to as "anti-SLAPP legislation," prohibits public officials from suing citizens for "any act or acts in furtherance of [their] rights of petition, speech, association, or to otherwise participate in government." SLAPP means "Strategic Lawsuits Against Public Participation."

The CPA does not bar public officials from seeking relief when they can allege that (a) the citizen's comments were "not genuinely aimed at procuring favorable government action, result, or outcome," and/or (b) the citizen engaged in defamation or another intentional tort causing the public official damage (Sandholm v. Kuecker, 962 N.E.2d 418 (Ill., 2012)).

Petitions or written correspondence to the Board shall be presented to the Board in the next regular Board packet. ⁵

LEGAL REF.: 5 ILCS 120/2.06.
105 ILCS 5/10-6 and 5/10-16.

CROSS REF.: 2:220 (School Board Meeting Procedure), 8:10 (Connection with the Community), 8:30 (Visitors to and Conduct on School Property)

⁵ A board of directors must reply to a written request for consideration of a matter within 60 days from the board's receipt of the request (105 ILCS 5/10-6). Boards of education may treat petitions or correspondence according to a uniform, locally developed process.

School Board

Board Policy Development 1

The School Board governs using written policies. Written policies ensure legal compliance, establish Board processes, articulate District ends, delegate authority, and define operating limits. Board policies also provide the basis for monitoring progress toward District ends. ²

Policy Development

Anyone may propose new policies, changes to existing policies, or deletion of existing policies. Staff suggestions should be processed through the Superintendent. Suggestions from all others should be made to the Board President or the Superintendent.

A Board Policy Committee will consider all policy suggestions and provide information and recommendations to the Board. ³

The Superintendent is responsible for: (1) providing relevant policy information and data to the Board, (2) notifying those who will implement or be affected by or required to implement a proposed policy and obtaining their advice and suggestions, and (3) having policy recommendations drafted into written form for Board deliberation. The Superintendent shall seek the counsel of the Board Attorney when appropriate.

Policy Adoption and Dissemination

Policies or policy revisions will not be adopted at the Board meeting at which they are first introduced, except when: (1) appropriate for a consent agenda because no Board discussion is required, or (2) necessary or prudent in order to meet emergency or special conditions or to be legally compliant. ⁴ Further Board consideration will be given at a subsequent meeting(s) and after opportunity for community input. The adoption of a policy will serve to supersede all previously adopted policies on the same topic.

The Board policies are available for public inspection in the District's main office during regular office hours. ⁵ Copy requests should be made pursuant to Board policy 2:250, *Access to District Public Records*.

¹ State law requires this subject matter be covered by policy (105 ILCS 5/10-20.5 and 5/10-16.7). 105 ILCS 5/10-16.7 requires the board to make all employment decisions pertaining to the superintendent as well as "to direct, through policy, the superintendent in his or her charge of the administration of the school district, including, without limitation, considering the recommendations of the superintendent concerning the budget, building plans, the locations of sites, the selection, retention, and dismissal of employees, and the selection of textbooks, instructional material, and courses of study." Rather than being a laundry list of mandated written board policies, this list provides items on which boards must make decisions after considering the superintendent's recommendations. The statute also requires the "board [to] evaluate the superintendent in his or her administration of board policies and his or her stewardship of the assets of the district." Boards have broad incidental powers to adopt all necessary policies. Thomas v. Board of Education of Community Unit School Dist. 1, 453 N.E.2d 150 (Ill.App. 5, 1983).

² See the IASB's *Foundational Principles of Effective Governance*, available on line at: www.iasb.com/pdf/found_prin.pdf.

³ Optional. See policy 2:150, *Committees*.

⁴ State law does not require a first reading before a board adopts a policy. The use of a consent agenda allows a board to vote on a matter without discussion. Policies or policy revisions may be appropriate for a consent agenda when providing for legal compliance; correcting grammar, spelling or punctuation; or clarifying pre-existing policy language. A board member may make a motion to remove any item from the consent agenda to the regular agenda for discussion. See policy 2:220, *School Board Meeting Procedure*.

⁵ This sentence must be customized to include where and how policies are available, such as, through Board Policies Online or the district's website.

Board Policy Review and Monitoring

The Board will periodically review its policies for relevancy, monitor its policies for effectiveness, and consider whether any modifications are required. The Board may use an annual policy review and monitoring calendar. ⁶

Superintendent Implementation

The Board will support any reasonable interpretation of Board policy made by the Superintendent. ⁷ If reasonable minds differ, the Board will review the applicable policy and consider the need for further clarification.

In the absence of Board policy, the Superintendent is authorized to take appropriate action.

Suspension of Policies

The Board, by a majority vote of members present at any meeting, may temporarily suspend a Board policy except those provisions that are controlled by law or contract. The failure to suspend with a specific motion does not invalidate the Board action.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/10-20.5.

CROSS REF.: 2:150 (Committees), 2:250 (Access to District Public Records), 3:40 (Superintendent)

⁶ Optional.

⁷ The board delegates authority to the superintendent through written board policy. The board will not substitute its judgment for that of the superintendent when the superintendent acts reasonably and in good faith based upon his or her policy interpretation. See the IASB's *Foundational Principles of Effective Governance*, available on line at: www.iasb.com/pdf/found_prin.pdf.¹ This sample procedure must be customized to assure alignment with the district's policies, procedures, and practices. At least one employee must be designated to complete the coordinator/complaint manager responsibilities (34 C.F.R. §106.8(a); see also 29 C.F.R. §1604.11). Even small districts should strongly consider having a coordinator/complaint manager of each gender – this is an important measure to uncover sexual harassment and minimize liability exposure.

School Board

Exhibit - Written Request for District Public Records

All requests to inspect and/or to obtain a copy of a District record must be made in writing. This form is provided for convenience – its use is not required. Please submit all requests to the District’s Freedom of Information Officer. Copying fees, if any, must be paid before copies will be provided. The Freedom of Information Officer can give you an estimate of the copying fees, if any.

Name of individual(s) requesting District records	Email address
Address	Telephone number
City	Date of request
State	Zip

Please check if this request of records is being made for a commercial purpose. Section 2 of the Freedom of Information Act states: “*Commercial purpose* means the use of any part of a public record or records, or information derived from public records, in any form for sale, resale, or solicitation or advertisement for sales or services. For purposes of this definition, requests made by news media and non-profit, scientific, or academic organizations shall not be considered to be made for a *commercial purpose* when the principal purpose of the request is (i) to access and disseminate information concerning news and current or passing events, (ii) for articles of opinion or features of interest to the public, or (iii) for the purpose of academic, scientific, or public research or education.” Section 3.1 states: “It is a violation of this Act for a person to knowingly obtain a public record for a commercial purpose without disclosing that it is for a commercial purpose, if requested to do so by the public body.”

Please check if a fee waiver or reduction is being requested. Section 6 of the Freedom of Information Act states: “Documents shall be furnished without charge or at a reduced charge, as determined by the public body, if the person requesting the documents states the specific purpose for the request and indicates that a waiver or reduction of the fee is in the public interest. Waiver or reduction of the fee is in the public interest if the principal purpose of the request is to access and disseminate information regarding the health, safety and welfare or the legal rights of the general public and is not for the principal purpose of personal or commercial benefit.”

Please indicate your reason for requesting a fee waiver: _____

Check if you are requesting:

Record description (Please be specific)	Electronic Copy	Inspection	Copy

School Board

Administrative Procedure - Nondiscrimination Coordinator and Complaint Manager 1

The Nondiscrimination Coordinator directs the District's compliance with federal and State laws governing discrimination and harassment in the workplace. The Complaint Manager administers the complaint process in Board policy 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*.

Superintendent Responsibilities

- A. Appoints individuals to serve as a Nondiscrimination Coordinator and Complaint Manager whose skill set suggest they could effectively fulfill the responsibilities identified in this procedure. One individual may serve in both capacities. The Superintendent may serve in either capacity. If possible, at least 2 Complaint Managers are appointed, one of each gender.
- B. Identifies individuals to supervise the performance of the Nondiscrimination Coordinator and Complaint Manager. The supervisor must understand the responsibilities of each role and have authority to take action. If possible, a different individual is assigned to supervise each role as a control measure, e.g., the Human Resources Manager supervises the Nondiscrimination Coordinator's performance and the Superintendent supervises the Complaint Manager's performance.
- C. Requires each Nondiscrimination Coordinator and/or Complaint Manager to possess or obtain:
 1. In-depth knowledge of Board policies as well as rules and conduct codes for students and employees.
 2. General knowledge of State and federal laws concerning equal employment and educational opportunities.
 3. Ability to:
 - a. Communicate effectively, both orally and in writing, and to establish rapport with others;
 - b. Plan, implement, evaluate, and report activities conducted;
 - c. Be both consistent and flexible as circumstances warrant; and
 - d. Analyze, clarify, and mediate differences of opinion.
- D. Facilitates the effective performance of the Nondiscrimination Coordinator and Complaint Managers by:
 1. Providing them with clear expectations concerning their roles and responsibilities.
 2. Communicating to employees and students their functions and responsibilities.
 3. Providing them resources and professional development opportunities.
 4. Providing them access to the Board Attorney for legal advice concerning their responsibilities.

Nondiscrimination Coordinator Responsibilities

- A. Directs the District's efforts to provide equal employment and educational opportunities and prohibit the harassment of employees, students, and others. Manages compliance with Board policies 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*; 5:10, *Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Recruitment*; 5:20, *Workplace Harassment Prohibited*; and 7:20, *Harassment of Students Prohibited*.

¹ This sample procedure must be customized to assure alignment with the district's policies, procedures, and practices. At least one employee must be designated to complete the coordinator/complaint manager responsibilities (34 C.F.R. §106.8(a); see also 29 C.F.R. §1604.11). Even small districts should strongly consider having a coordinator/complaint manager of each gender – this is an important measure to uncover sexual harassment and minimize liability exposure.

- B. Develops and manages a program that will fully inform all employees and students about the District's commitment to equal employment and educational opportunities and a harassment-free environment. A component of this program is to inform employees and students about Board policies and administrative procedures.
- C. Provides ongoing consultation, technical assistance, and information services regarding compliance requirements and programs.
- D. Assists the Human Resources Manager with monitoring compliance with the recordkeeping and notice requirements contained in federal and State laws concerning discrimination and harassment in schools and the workplace.
- E. Maintains grievance and compliance records and files.
- F. Makes recommendations for action by appropriate decision makers.
- G. Establishes a positive climate for nondiscrimination compliance efforts. This effort includes encouraging individuals to come forward with suggestions and complaints.

Complaint Manager Responsibilities

- A. Implements and administers the grievance process contained in Board policy 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*.
- B. Manages complaints alleging a violation of any Board policy or procedure listed in the next section.
- C. Assists complainants and potential complainants by, among other things, providing consultation and information to them.
- D. Attempts to resolve complaints without resorting to the formal grievance process provided in Board policy 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*.
- E. Informs potential complainants, complainants, and witnesses that the District prohibits any form of retaliation against anyone who, in good faith, brings a complaint or provides information to the individual investigating a complaint.
- F. Receives formal complaints and notifies relevant individuals of the ensuing process.
- G. Investigates complaints or appoints a qualified individual to undertake the investigation on his or her behalf. Each complaint shall be investigated promptly, thoroughly, and impartially, and as confidentially as possible.
- H. For each formal complaint, prepares a comprehensive written report describing the: (a) complaint, (b) investigation, and (c) findings and recommendations. Provides the report to the Superintendent or School Board if the Superintendent is an alleged responsible party.
- I. Receives a request from a complainant to appeal the Superintendent's resolution of the complaint and promptly forwards all relevant material to the Board.
- J. Monitors compliance with all requirements and time-lines specified in Board policy 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*.

Applicable Policies and Procedures

Section 2

2:260 Uniform Grievance Procedure

2:260-AP2 Administrative Procedure - Nondiscrimination Coordinator and Complaint Manager

Section 5

5:10 Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Recruitment

5:20 Workplace Harassment Prohibited

5:20-AP Administrative Procedure - Sample Questions for Conducting the Internal Sexual Harassment in the Workplace Investigation

Section 6

- 6:120 Education of Children with Disabilities
- 6:140 Education of Homeless Children
- 6:140-AP Administrative Procedure - Education of Homeless Children
- 6:170 Title I Programs
- 6:260 Complaints About Curriculum, Instructional Materials, and Programs

Section 7 - Students

- 7:10 Equal Educational Opportunities
- 7:10-AP Accommodating Transgender Students or Gender Non-Conforming Students; Supports and Inclusion
- 7:20 Harassment of Students Prohibited
- 7:20-AP Administrative Procedure - Harassment of Students Prohibited
- 7:180 Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment
- 7:190 Student Discipline

Section 8 - Community Relations

- 8:70 Accommodating Individuals with Disabilities
- 8:110 Public Suggestions and Concerns

Resources

U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, www.eeoc.gov.

“Enforcement Guidance and Related Documents,” U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, www.eeoc.gov/policy/guidance.html.

“Sexual Harassment: It's Not Academic” U.S. Dept. of Education, Office for Civil Rights, www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/ocrshpam.html.

“Frequently Asked Questions about Sexual Harassment,” U.S. Dept. of Education, Office for Civil Rights, www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/qa-sex.html.

“Sexual Harassment Guidance: Harassment of Students by School Employees, Other Students, or Third Parties,” Office for Civil Rights, www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/shguide.html.

“Q&A Regarding Title IX Procedural Requirements,” U.S. Dept. of Justice, www.justice.gov/crt/about/cor/coord/TitleIXQandA.php.

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Operational Services

Incurring Debt ¹

The Superintendent shall provide early notice to the School Board of the District's need to borrow money. The Superintendent or designee shall prepare all documents and notices necessary for the Board, at its discretion, to: (1) issue State Aid Anticipation Certificates,² tax anticipation warrants,³ working cash fund bonds,⁴ bonds,⁵ notes,⁶ and other evidence of indebtedness,⁷ or (2) establish a line of credit with a bank or other financial institution. ⁸ The Superintendent shall notify the State Board of Education before the District issues any form of long-term or short-term debt that will result in outstanding debt that exceeds 75% of the debt limit specified in State law. ⁹

LEGAL REF.: 30 ILCS 305/2 and 352/1 et seq.
50 ILCS 420/
105 ILCS 5/17-16, 5/17-17, 5/18-18, and 5/19-1 et seq.

CROSS REF.: 4:10 (Fiscal and Business Management)

¹ State law controls this policy's content. School districts are subject to a statutory debt limitation (105 ILCS 5/19-1(a); other provisions in 5/19-1 contain exceptions. Not all forms of indebtedness are subject to the statutory debt limitations. Before incurring any debt, the board must be certain that the debt will be within the district's debt limitation.

² 50 ILCS 420/1 et seq. and 105 ILCS 5/18-18.

³ 105 ILCS 5/17-16.

⁴ 105 ILCS 5/20-2, 5/20-4, and 5/20-5; 30 ILCS 305/2.

⁵ 105 ILCS 5/19-1 et seq.

⁶ 50 ILCS 420/0.01 et seq. A district may borrow money and issue bonds for the purposes stated in 105 ILCS 5/19-3, provided the board properly adopted an election referendum and subsequently the voters approved the proposition (10 ILCS 5/28-2). Districts have the authority to issue bonds for certain purposes without a referendum, e.g., School Fire Prevention and Safety Bonds, Working Cash Fund Bonds, Funding Bonds, and Insurance Reserve Bonds.

⁷ Other types of indebtedness include funding bonds and refunding bonds (105 ILCS 5/19-1 et seq.).

⁸ 105 ILCS 5/17-17.

⁹ 105 ILCS 5/19-1.

Operational Services

Administrative Procedure - Insufficient Fund Checks

The following will occur whenever any individual writes a check to the District that is not honored upon presentation to the respective bank or other depository institution for any reason:

1. The Superintendent or designee will contact the individual by telephone as soon as the check is returned to the District. The individual will be asked to pay the returned check and the \$25.00 returned check fee.
2. If the amount due is not paid after initial contact, the Superintendent or designee will send a letter by certified mail, return receipt requested, demanding payment within 30 days of mailing the letter, and shall include notice of liability for the costs and expenses. A written demand is necessary to become eligible for any costs and expenses in excess of the \$25.00 collection fee (810 ILCS 5/3-806).
3. If the amount due is not paid within 30 days of mailing the demand letter, the Superintendent or designee will contact the Board Attorney for further collection action.

Operational Services

Use of Credit and Procurement Cards ¹

The Superintendent and employees designated by the Superintendent are authorized to use District credit and procurement cards to simplify the acquisition, receipt, and payment of purchases and travel expenses incurred on the District's behalf. Credit and procurement cards shall only be used for those expenses that are for the District's benefit and serve a valid and proper public purpose; they shall not be used for personal purchases. Cardholders are responsible for exercising due care and judgment and for acting in the District's best interests.

The Superintendent or designee shall manage the use of District credit and procurement cards by employees. It is the Board's responsibility, through the audit and approval process, to determine whether District credit and procurement card use by the Superintendent is appropriate.

In addition to the other limitations contained in this and other Board policies, District credit and procurement cards are governed by the following restrictions: ²

1. Credit and/or procurement cards may only be used to pay certain job-related expenses or to make purchases on behalf of the Board or District or any student activity fund, or for purposes that would otherwise be addressed through a conventional revolving fund. ³
2. The Superintendent or designee shall instruct the issuing bank to block the cards' use at unapproved merchants.
3. Each cardholder, other than the Superintendent, may charge no more than \$500 in a single purchase and no more than \$1000 within a given month without prior authorization from the Superintendent. ⁴
4. The Superintendent or designee must approve the use of a District credit or procurement card whenever such use is by telephone, fax, and the Internet. Permission shall be withheld when the use violates any Board policy, is from a vendor whose reputation has not been verified, or would be more expensive than if another available payment method were used.

¹ If district employees or board members are issued credit and/or procurement cards, an ISBE rule requires this subject matter to be covered in policy and specifies its content (23 Ill.Admin.Code §100.70(d)). Add the following optional new paragraph if the district issues credit cards to board members:

The District may from time-to-time issue and/or authorize Board members to use District credit cards to simplify the payment of actual and necessary expenses as authorized in Board policy 2:125, *Board Member Expenses*. The Board will determine whether a Board member's use of a District credit card is appropriate through the expense approval process and the annual audit. All other components of this policy apply to a Board Member's use of a District credit card.

² The policy's restrictions, numbered 1-10, correspond to the items that ISBE requires to be covered. Each item may be customized as long as the following items are covered as per 23 Ill.Admin.Code §100.70(d):

1. Identifies the allowable types of purchases;
2. Provides for the issuing bank to block the cards' use at unapproved merchants;
3. Limits the amount a cardholder can charge in a single purchase or within a given month;
4. Provides specific guidelines on purchases via telephone, fax, and the Internet;
5. Indicates the consequences for unauthorized purchases;
6. Requires cardholders to sign a statement affirming that they are familiar with the board's credit card policy;
7. Requires review and approval of purchases by someone other than the cardholder or user;
8. Requires submission of original receipts to document purchases; and
9. Forbids the use of a card to make purchases in a manner contrary to the requirements of Section 10-20.21 of the School Code [105 ILCS 5/10-20.21].
10. Indicates how financial or material rewards or rebates are to be accounted for and treated.

³ This limitation is from the introductory sentence in 23 Ill.Admin.Code §100.70(d).

⁴ The dollar caps are at the local board's discretion. An alternative follows: "The Superintendent shall limit the amount each cardholder may charge in a single purchase or within a given month and inform the issuing bank of these limitations."

5. The consequences for unauthorized purchases include, but are not limited to, reimbursing the District for the purchase amount, loss of cardholding privileges, and, if made by an employee, discipline up to and including discharge.
6. All cardholders must sign a statement affirming that they are familiar with this policy. ⁵
7. The Superintendent shall implement a process whereby all purchases using a District credit or procurement card are reviewed and approved by someone other than the cardholder or someone under the cardholder's supervision.
8. Cardholders must submit the original, itemized receipt to document all purchases.
9. No individual may use a District credit or procurement card to make purchases in a manner contrary to State law, including, but not limited to, the bidding and other purchasing requirements in 105 ILCS 5/10-20.21, or any Board policy.
10. The Superintendent or designee shall account for any financial or material reward or rebate offered by the company or institution issuing the District credit or procurement card and shall ensure that it is used for the District's benefit.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/10-20.21.
23 Ill.Admin.Code §100.70(d).

CROSS REF.: 4:50 (Payment Procedures), 4:60 (Purchases and Contracts), 4:80 (Accounting and Audits), 4:90 (Activity Funds)

⁵ See Exhibit 4:55-E, *Cardholder's Statement Affirming Familiarity with Requirements for Using District Credit and/or Procurement Cards*.

Operational Services

Administrative Procedure - Controls for the Use of District Credit and Procurement Cards

This procedure implements, and is subject to, Board policy 4:55, *Use of Credit and Procurement Cards*. The business office shall oversee the following controls:

Issue District credit and/or procurement cards to only authorized individuals.

1. Require prior authorization before issuing a card to any individual.
2. Have cardholders sign 4:55-E, *Cardholder's Statement Affirming Familiarity with Requirements for Using District Credit and/or Procurement Cards*.
3. Instruct cardholders:
 - a. In the proper use of cards, and;
 - b. How to document purchases, including the need to: (a) present an itemized receipt in addition to a credit or procurement card receipt for each item, (b) indicate the date, purpose, and nature of the charge on the receipt, and (c) identify the names of individuals for whom expenditures were incurred on the receipt.

Monitor that credit and/or procurement cards are being used for appropriate purchases.

1. Prohibit the use of District credit or procurement cards for personal expenses. Two problems prevent personal use pending later reimbursement – there is no guarantee of reimbursement and the practice is a *de facto* loan available only to certain employees.
2. Do not use cards that allow cash advances or cash back from purchases.
3. Establish reasonable credit limits for each purchase, transaction, and/or the balance total on each card. Reduce the limits on existing cards if necessary. Require prior authorization for purchases above these limits.
4. When a card is used for “emergency purposes,” require that the user clearly document the emergency situation that justified the need.
5. Block certain types of vendors or purchases using Merchant Category Codes – these categorize businesses by the products or services they provide. Request that the card issuer prohibit charges from dry cleaners, health or beauty spas, liquor stores, race tracks, casinos, churches, physicians, and other merchant categories the District will never use.
6. Perform scheduled and random analyses of individual cardholders. This includes examining the continued need for the card and the nature of purchases being made.
7. Perform scheduled and random analyses to determine whether Board policy is being followed.

Safeguard District credit and procurement cards.

1. Keep all cards in a secure location.
2. Issue cards only for the time period that they are needed.
3. Issue cards in the names of specific individuals to help maintain accountability.
4. Prohibit a card's use by anyone other than the individual to whom a card is issued.
5. Develop and follow procedures to cancel cards when lost or stolen and when individuals leave employment.
6. Cancel existing cards that are not needed or accounted for.
7. Review and update master credit card lists annually.

Monitor credit and/or procurement card statements.

1. Review statements and watch for suspicious activity, such as, unusual destinations or items, purchases from a vendor whose reputation has not been verified, or purchases that would have been less expensive if another available payment method had been used.
2. Have billing statements broken down by individual user.
3. Have a reconciliation process and timetable. This includes:
 - a. Reconciling credit card statements to itemized receipts and invoices;
 - b. Examining the documentation supporting purchases to ensure charges are authorized and reasonable;
 - c. Delegating approval, verification, and payment of bills to different individuals; and
 - d. Requiring someone other than the cardholder or an individual supervised by the cardholder to review and approve transactions.
4. In exceptional circumstances when the Superintendent approved a charge that would otherwise be disallowed, maintain a record documenting the Superintendent’s approval as well as all other pertinent information about the charge.
5. Review all uses of a card via telephone, fax, and the Internet to be sure they were approved by the Superintendent or designee.
6. Establish a way of recouping inappropriate charges.
7. Do not use automatic payment deductions to pay credit or procurement card bills.
8. Pay bills on time to avoid paying fees and late charges.
9. Appropriately follow up on any discrepancies.
10. Verify that the items purchased were actually received.
11. Account for any financial or material reward or rebate offered by the company or institution issuing the District credit or procurement card and verify that it was used for the District’s benefit.

The following District employees will be issued District credit and/or procurement cards. ¹ Other District employees may use a District credit and/or procurement card after receiving specific authorization from the Superintendent.

Employment Position	Authorized Use and Other Limitations
Superintendent	Actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of the Superintendent’s duties. Expenses related to professional development.
Transportation Director	Expenses for maintaining and fueling District vehicles.
Assistant Superintendents	Actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of the job duties. Expenses related to professional development.
Building Principals	Purchases of materials and supplies for his or her building that must be made quickly and/or are too small to process through the regular procedure. Expenses from student activity funds for educational, recreational, or cultural purposes. Expenses related to professional development.

¹ This optional table must be customized to align with the district’s practices.

Operational Services

Purchases and Contracts ¹

The Superintendent shall manage the District's purchases and contracts in accordance with State law, the standards set forth in this policy, and other applicable School Board policies.

Standards for Purchasing and Contracting

All purchases and contracts shall be entered into in accordance with State law. The Board Attorney shall be consulted as needed regarding the legal requirements for purchases or contracts. All contracts shall be approved or authorized by the Board.

All purchases and contracts should support a recognized District function or purpose as well as provide for good quality products and services at the lowest cost, with consideration for service, reliability, and delivery promptness, and in compliance with State law. ² No purchase or contract shall be made or entered into as a result of favoritism, extravagance, fraud, or corruption.

Adoption of the annual budget authorizes the Superintendent or designee to purchase budgeted supplies, equipment, and services, provided that State law is followed. Purchases of items outside budget parameters require prior Board approval, except in an emergency. ³

When presenting a contract or purchase for Board approval, the Superintendent or designee shall ensure that it complies with applicable State law, including but not limited to, those specified below:

1. Supplies, materials, or work involving an expenditure in excess of \$25,000 must comply with the State law bidding procedure, 105 ILCS 5/10-20.21, unless specifically exempted. ⁴
2. Construction, lease, or purchase of school buildings must comply with State law and Board policy 4:150, *Facility Management and Building Programs*.
3. Guaranteed energy savings must comply with 105 ILCS 5/19b-1 et seq.
4. Third party non-instructional services must comply with 105 ILCS 5/10-22.34c. ⁵
5. Goods and services that are intended to generate revenue and other remunerations for the District in excess of \$1,000, including without limitation vending machine contracts, sports

¹ State law controls this policy's content. 105 ILCS 10-20.21 contains bidding plus other requirements. Other laws also govern district contracts. For example, the Prevailing Wage Act requires, among other things, that a district specify in all contracts for public works that the prevailing wage rate must be paid (820 ILCS 130/). When a district awards work to a contractor without a public bid, contract, or project specification, the district must provide the contractor with written notice on the purchase order or a separate document indicating that not less than the prevailing rate of wages shall be paid to all laborers, workers, and mechanics performing work on the project. In addition, the district must notify all contractors of any rate changes by the Dept. of Labor. The law allows a district to discharge this duty by including the following language in all contracts: "Any prevailing rate of wages as they are revised by the Dept. of Labor shall apply to this contract. You are notified that any rate changes to the prevailing wage rate are available on the Dept.'s official website." (820 ILCS 130/4, amended by P.A. 97-964, eff. 1-1-13, and see 4:60-E, *Notice to Contractors* for sample language).

² This end statement should be amended according to local board discretion.

³ An optional addition follows: "Notwithstanding the above, the Superintendent shall not commit to any single, non-customary purchase or expenditure, excluding personnel, of greater than \$ _____ without prior Board approval." This optional provision's intent is to provide an internal control as well as to keep the board involved when the district is making a large purchase or expenditure, e.g., copiers, computers, textbooks, or something that might not happen every year. It is intended to cover purchases/expenditures regardless of whether they were previously budgeted.

⁴ See 4:60-API, *Purchases*, for bidding exemptions and the requirements for electronic bid opening. A board may set a lower bidding threshold by policy but should first seek its attorney's advice because such action may expand a board's vulnerability to a bidding challenge.

⁵ Concerning collective bargaining requirements, see McLean Co. Unit Dist. 5 v. AFSCME & IELRB, 2014 Ill.App. (4th), No. 4-13-0294 (6-4-2014)(good faith bargaining on the decision to subcontract requires notice of the consideration of the subcontract before it is finalized; meeting with the union to provide an opportunity to discuss and explain the decision; providing information to the union; and giving consideration to any counterproposal the union makes).

and other attire, class rings, and photographic services, must comply with 105 ILCS 5/10-20.21. The Superintendent or designee shall keep a record of: (1) each vendor, product, or service provided, (2) the actual net revenue and non-monetary remuneration from each contract or agreement, and (3) how the revenue was used and to whom the non-monetary remuneration was distributed. The Superintendent or designee shall report this information to the Board by completing the necessary forms that must be attached to the District's annual budget. ⁶

6. The purchase of paper and paper products must comply with 105 ILCS 5/10-20.19c and Board policy 4:70, *Resource Conservation*. ⁷
7. Each contractor with the District is bound by each of the following:
 - a. In accordance with 105 ILCS 5/10-21.9(f): (1) prohibit any of its employees who is or was found guilty of a criminal offense listed in 105 ILCS 5/21B-80 to have direct, daily contact at a District school or school-related activity with one or more student(s); and (2) require each of its employees who will have direct, daily contact with student(s) to cooperate during the District's fingerprint-based criminal history records check on him or her. ⁸
 - b. In accordance with 105 ILCS 5/24-5: (1) concerning each employee who begins providing services in the District after June 16, 2014, provide the District with evidence of physical fitness to perform the duties assigned and freedom from communicable disease if the employee will have direct, daily contact with one or more student(s); and (2) require any new or existing employee who has and will have direct, daily contact with one or more student(s) to complete additional health examinations as required by the District and be subject to additional health examinations, including tuberculosis screening, as required by the Illinois Department of Public Health rules or order of a local health official. ⁹

The Superintendent or designee shall: (1) execute the reporting and website posting mandates in State law concerning District contracts, and (2) monitor the discharge of contracts, contractors' performances, and the quality and value of services or products being provided. ¹⁰

⁶ 105 ILCS 5/10-20.21(b-5).

⁷ 105 ILCS 5/10-20.19c.

⁸ The implementation process is in 4:60-AP3, Administrative Procedure - *Criminal History Records Check of Contractor Employees*.

⁹ P.A. 98-716, effective 7-16-2014, expanded the scope of 105 ILCS 5/24-5 by adding a definition of *employee* that includes contractors' employees for whom a criminal history records check is required. As of Aug. 2014, the Ill. Dept. of Public Health does not require school employees to be screened for tuberculosis other than workers in child day care and preschool settings (77 Ill.Admin.Code §696.140(a)(3)). Before requesting a contractor's employee for a health examination, contact the board attorney concerning this action's legality under other personnel laws, including the Americans with Disabilities Act.

¹⁰ This is an optional provision. The numerous reporting and website posting mandates are in 2:250-E2, *Immediately Available District Public Records and Web-Posted Reports and Records*. As an alternative to the policy's default language, a board may insert the underscored:

The Superintendent or designee shall: (1) execute the reporting and website posting mandates in State law concerning District contracts and maintain a status report for monthly presentation to the Board, and (2) monitor the discharge of contracts, contractors' performances, and the quality and value of services or products being provided.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/10-20.19c, 5/10-20.21, 5/10-21.9, 5/10-22.34c, 5/19b-1 et seq., and
5/24-5.
820 ILCS 130/.

CROSS REF.: 2:100 (Board Member Conflict of Interest), 4:70 (Resource Conservation), 4:150
(Facility Management and Building Programs), 4:175 (Convicted Child Sex
Offender; Criminal Background Check and/or Screening; Notifications)

Operational Services

Administrative Procedure - Purchases

The Board Attorney should be consulted, as needed, regarding the legal requirements presented by this administrative procedure as well as before a contract is presented to the Board. ¹

Requirements for Purchases and Contracts

- A. Each of the following requirements describes the type of purchase and/or contract to which it applies; requirements in Sections B and C may also apply to a specific purchase or contract.
1. All purchases of goods or services must be made through the use of contracts or purchase orders, except for those purchases made from petty cash funds or the Imprest Fund, or as otherwise specifically authorized by the Superintendent.
 2. Illinois Use Tax Act compliance (105 ILCS 5/10-20.21(b) and 35 ILCS 105):
 - a. Persons bidding for and awarded a contract, and all affiliates of the person, must collect and remit Illinois Use Tax on all sales of tangible personal property into the State of Illinois in accordance with the provision of the Illinois Use Tax Act.
 - b. All bids and contracts must include: (1) a certification that the bidder or contractor is not barred from bidding for or entering into a contract, and (2) an acknowledgment that the Board may declare the contract void if the certification is false.
 3. All entities seeking to enter into a contract with the District must provide written certification to the District that it will provide a drug free workplace by complying with the Illinois Drug Free Workplace Act, 30 ILCS 580. All contractors must comply with the notification mandates and other requirements in the Illinois Drug Free Workplace Act, 30 ILCS 580. "Contractor" is defined in the Drug Free Workplace Act as "a corporation, partnership, or other entity with 25 or more employees at the time of letting the contract, or a department, division, or unit thereof, directly responsible for the specific performance under a contract of \$5,000 or more."
 4. Before soliciting bids or awarding a contract for supplies, materials, equipment, or services, a certified education purchasing contract that is already available through a State education purchasing entity (as defined in the Education Purchasing Program, Article 28A of the School Code), may be considered as a bid. 105 ILCS 5/10-20.21(d).
 5. All contracts must include provisions required by State or federal law, as applicable. Topics commonly requiring a provision include equal opportunity employment, prevailing wage, minimum wage, and performance bond.
 6. The procurement of architectural, engineering, and land surveying services is governed by the Local Government Professional Services Selection Act, 50 ILCS 510/, implemented by 2:170-AP, *Administrative Procedure - Qualified Based Selection*.
 7. A list must be posted on the District's website, if any, of all contracts in excess of \$25,000 and any contract with an exclusive bargaining representative. 105 ILCS 5/10-20.44.
 8. Each contractor with the District must comply with 105 ILCS 5/10-21.9(f) and agree to: (a) not allow any of its employees to have direct, daily contact with one or more students if the employee was found guilty of any offense in that law; (b) require each of its employees who will have direct, daily contact with one or more student(s) to cooperate during the District's fingerprint-based criminal history records check on him or her; and (c) reimburse the District

¹ Many legal problems will be avoided by early and frequent consultation with the board attorney.

for the cost of the fingerprint-based criminal history records check that the District obtains on each employee of a contractor who will have direct, daily contact with a student(s). See 4:60-AP3, *Criminal History Records Check of Contractor Employees*.

9. Each contractor with the District must comply with 105 ILCS 5/24-5, amended by P.A. 98-716 (eff. 7-16-2014) and agree: (a) concerning each employee who begins providing services in the District after June 16, 2014 who will have direct, daily contact with one or more student(s), to provide the District with evidence of physical fitness to perform the duties assigned and freedom from communicable disease; and (b) to require any new or existing employee who has and will have direct, daily contact with one or more student(s) to complete additional health examinations as required by the District and be subject to additional health examinations, including tuberculosis screening, as required by the Illinois Department of Public Health rules or order of a local health official.
- B. To the extent feasible, the following govern all purchases and/or the award of contracts for supplies, materials, or work, and/or contracts with private carriers for transporting students, involving: (a) an expenditure of \$25,000 or less, or (b) in an emergency, an expenditure in excess of \$25,000, provided such expenditure is approved by three-quarters of the Board. See 105 ILCS 5/10-20.21 (3/4s of the Board must approve an emergency expenditure in excess of \$25,000 when the bidding process is not used) and 5/29-6.1 (time limitations for transportation contracts).
 1. Telephone quotations, verbal quotations, or catalog prices are used to purchase materials that are needed urgently, or small quantity orders.
 2. Written quotations are used to purchase materials or services when time requirements allow. Whenever possible, quotations should be received from at least 2 competitors. The Superintendent or designee may negotiate with vendors at any time, including after receiving quotations.
 - C. The following govern all purchases and/or the award of contracts involving an expenditure in excess of \$25,000 for supplies and materials or work. 105 ILCS 5/10-20.21(a).
 1. Contracts are awarded to the lowest responsible bidder, considering conformity with specifications, terms of delivery, quality and serviceability, except contracts or purchases for:
 - a. Services of individuals possessing a high degree of professional skill where the ability or fitness of the individual plays an important part;
 - b. Printing of finance committee reports and departmental reports;
 - c. Printing or engraving of bonds, tax warrants, and other evidences of indebtedness;
 - d. Purchase of perishable foods and perishable beverages;
 - e. Materials and work that have been awarded to the lowest responsible bidder after due advertisement, but due to unforeseen revisions, not the fault of the contractor for materials and work, must be revised causing expenditures not in excess of 10% of the contract price;
 - f. Maintenance or servicing of, or provision of repair parts for, equipment which are made with the manufacturer or authorized service agent of that equipment where the provision of parts, maintenance, or servicing can best be performed by the manufacturer or authorized service agent;
 - g. Use, purchase, delivery, movement, or installation of data processing equipment, software, or services and telecommunications and interconnect equipment, software, and services;
 - h. Duplicating machines and supplies;
 - i. Natural gas when the cost is less than that offered by a public utility;
 - j. Equipment previously owned by some entity other than the District itself;

- k. Repair, maintenance, remodeling, renovation, or construction, or a single project involving an expenditure not to exceed \$50,000 and not involving a change or increase in the size, type, or extent of an existing facility;
 - l. Goods or services procured from another governmental agency;
 - m. Goods or services that are economically procurable from only one source, such as for the purchase of magazines, books, periodicals, pamphlets and reports, and for utility services such as water, light, heat, telephone, or telegraph; ²
 - n. Emergency expenditures when such an emergency expenditure is approved by three-quarters of the members of the Board;
 - o. Goods procured through an education master contract, as defined in the Education Purchasing Program, Article 28A of the School Code; and
 - p. Providing for the transportation of students, which contracts must be advertised in the same manner as competitive bids and awarded by first considering the bidder(s) most able to provide safety and comfort for the students, stability of service, and any other factors set forth in the request for proposal regarding quality of service, and then price.
2. Competitive bidding process:
- a. An invitation for bids is advertised, where possible, by public notice at least 10 days before the bid date in a newspaper published in the District, or if no newspaper is published in the District, in a newspaper of general circulation in the area of the District. 105 ILCS 5/10-20.21(a).
 - b. The following information should be included in the advertisement for bids:
 - 1) A description of the materials, supplies, or work involved;
 - 2) Completion or delivery date requirements;
 - 3) Requirements for bids, bonds, and/or deposits;
 - 4) Requirements for performance, labor, and material payment bonds;
 - 5) Date, time, and place of the bid opening;
 - 6) The approximate time period between the opening of bids and the award of the contract; and
 - 7) Any other useful information.
 - c. If specifications are available, the advertisement for bids describes where they may be obtained and/or inspected.
 - d. All bids must be sealed by the bidder. 105 ILCS 5/10-20.21(a).
 - e. A Board member or District employee opens the bids at a public bid opening at which time the contents are announced. 105 ILCS 5/10-20.21(a). With the exception of bids for construction purposes, bids may be communicated, accepted, and opened electronically. The following safeguards apply to an electronic bid opening (105 ILCS 5/10-20.21):
 - 1) On the date and time of a bid opening, the primary person conducting the electronic bid process shall log onto a specified database using a unique username and password previously assigned to the bidder to allow access to the bidder's specific bid project number.
 - 2) The specified electronic database must be on a network that: (i) is in a secure environment behind a firewall; (ii) has specific encryption tools; (iii) maintains specific intrusion detection systems; (iv) has redundant systems architecture with

² See Tarsitano v. Tsp. H.S. Dist. No. 211, 896 N.E.2d 359 (Ill.App.1.,2008)(holding that school districts may enter into contracts for utility services, such as "water, light, heat, telephone or telegraph," without using the competitive bidding process).

data storage back-up, whether by compact disc or tape; and (v) maintains a disaster recovery plan.

- f. Each bidder is given at least 3 days' notice of the time and place of the bid opening. 105 ILCS 5/10-20.21(a).
 - g. Conduct that promotes deception and collusion during the bidding process is prohibited and may violate the Ill. Criminal Code, 720 ILCS 5/33E-1 et seq. Examples include interference with public contracting, bid-rigging, and acquisition or disclosure of bidding information by a public official.
3. Following the opening of bids, the Superintendent (and Board Attorney, if needed) determines the lowest responsible bidder and verifies the bidders' qualifications. Contracts are awarded at a properly called open meeting of the Board. If the Superintendent recommends a bidder other than the lowest bidder, the Superintendent must provide the Board with the factual basis for the recommendation in writing. The Board, if it accepts a bid from a bidder other than the lowest, records the factual basis for its decision in its minutes. A contract arises only when the Board votes to accept a bid, although written notice of the award will later be given to the successful bidder.
 4. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the District is relieved from bidding when making joint purchases with other public entities in compliance with the Governmental Joint Purchasing Act (30 ILCS 525/0.01).

LEGAL REF.: 30 ILCS 580/, Ill. Drug Free Workplace Act.
50 ILCS 510/, Local Government Professional Services Selection Act.
105 ILCS 5/10-20.21 and 5/10-20.44.

Operational Services

Administrative Procedure - Resource Conservation 1

Definitions

De-inked stock - Paper that has been processed to remove inks, clays, coatings, binders, and other contaminants.

High grade printing and writing papers - Includes offset-printing paper, duplicator paper, writing paper (stationery), tablet paper, office paper, note pads, xerographic paper, envelopes, form bond including computer paper and carbonless forms, book papers, bond papers, ledger paper, book stock, and cotton fiber papers.

Paper and paper products - High-grade printing and writing papers, tissue products, newsprint, unbleached packaging, and recycled paperboard.

Postconsumer material - Only those products generated by a business or consumer, that have served their intended end uses, and that have been separated or diverted from solid waste; wastes generated during the production of an end product are excluded. Postconsumer material includes:

- Paper, paperboard, and fibrous waste from retail stores, office buildings, homes and so forth, after the waste has passed through its end usage as a consumer item, including used corrugated boxes, old newspapers, mixed-waste paper, tabulating cards, and used cordage; and
- All paper, paperboard, and fibrous wastes that are diverted or separated from the municipal waste stream.

Recovered paper material - Paper waste generated after the completion of the papermaking process, such as postconsumer material, envelope cuttings, bindery trimmings, printing waste, cutting and other converting waste, butt rolls, and mill wrappers, obsolete inventories, and rejected unused stock. "Recovered paper material," however, does not include fibrous waste generated during the manufacturing process such as fibers recovered from waste water or trimmings of paper machine rolls (mill broke), or fibrous by-products of harvesting, extraction or woodcutting processes, or forest residues such as bark. Recovered paper material includes:

- Postconsumer material;
- Dry paper and paperboard waste generated after completion of the papermaking process (that is, those manufacturing operations up to and including the cutting and trimming of the paper machine reel into smaller rolls or rough sheets), including envelope cuttings, bindery trimmings, and other paper and paperboard waste resulting from printing, cutting, forming and other converting operations, or from bag, box, and carton manufacturing, and butt rolls, mill wrappers, and rejected unused stock; and
- Finished paper and paperboard from obsolete inventories of paper and paperboard manufacturers, merchants, wholesalers, dealers, printers, converters or others.

Recycled paperboard - Includes paperboard products, folding cartons and pad backings.

Tissue products - Includes toilet tissue, paper towels, paper napkins, facial tissue, paper doilies, industrial wipers, paper bags, and brown papers. These products shall also be unscented and shall not be colored.

Unbleached packaging - Includes corrugated and fiber storage boxes.

¹ With the exception of activities listed under "Solid Waste Reduction," these procedures re-state State law (105 ILCS 5/10-20.19c).

Procurement Procedures and Specifications for Products and Supplies

Procurement procedures and specifications for products and supplies shall be periodically reviewed to ensure that the District is: (a) purchasing products and supplies that are reusable, durable, or made from or contain recycled materials, if economically and practically feasible, and (b) giving preference to products and supplies containing the highest amount of recycled material and that are consistent with the effective use of the product or supply, if economically and practically feasible.

Recycled Paper and Paper Products Purchases

I. Whenever economically and practically feasible, recycled paper and paper products shall be purchased according to the following minimum percentages of the District's total dollar value of paper and paper products:

Beginning July 1, 2014	50%
Beginning July 1, 2020	75%

All paper purchased for publishing student newspapers must be recycled newsprint. Paper and paper products purchased from private sector vendors pursuant to printing contracts are exempted from this requirement.

II. Wherever economically and practically feasible, recycled paper and paper products shall contain postconsumer or recovered paper materials as follows:

- Recycled high grade printing and writing paper shall contain at least 50% recovered paper material and shall consist of the following percentages of deinked stock or postconsumer material on the dates listed:
Beginning July 1, 2014 50%
- Recycled tissue products shall contain at least 45% postconsumer material.
- Recycled newsprint shall contain at least 80% postconsumer material.
- Recycled unbleached packaging shall contain at least 55% postconsumer material.
- Recycled paperboard shall contain at least 95% postconsumer material.

These regulations do not apply to art materials, nor to any newspapers, magazines, textbooks, library books or other copyrighted publications that are purchased or used by the District or any school or attendance center within the District, or that are sold in any school supply store operated by or within any such school or attendance center.

Solid Waste Reduction ²

The Superintendent will appoint a team of interested individuals representing various District departments to direct the District's efforts to achieve, before July 1, 2020, at least a 50% reduction in the amount of solid waste that the District generates. The team shall:

1. Periodically review methods and procedures to reduce solid waste generated by academic, administrative, and other institutional functions. These procedures must be designed to, when economically and practically feasible, recycle the District's waste stream, including without limitation landscape waste, computer paper, and white office paper.
2. Identify indicators to monitor the District's progress toward achieving the solid waste reduction goal. As necessary, the procedures and methods shall be adjusted and refined.
3. Make periodic progress reports to the Superintendent or designee.

The team shall devise and oversee methods for making the following activities part of the District culture:

1. Staff members actively pursue waste reduction and prevention activities. Examples include:

² This section contains several of the many ways a district may comply with 105 ILCS 5/10-20.19c. State law contains the goal stated in the first sentence but does not mandate its achievement. State law requires the periodic review of procedures to reduce solid waste. The activities #1-6 listed in the last paragraph are only ideas and should be customized.

- a. Printing and copying individual documents on both sides of the page.
 - b. Setting computer software for default two-sided printing including word processing, spreadsheets, electronic mail, and others.
 - c. Printing or copying only the pages needed.
 - d. Routing memos and newsletters.
 - e. Providing trays to collect and reuse one-sided paper.
 - f. Reducing unwanted mail and eliminate excess mailings.
2. Staff members and students seek to reuse or recycle materials to divert them from the waste stream whenever possible.
 3. A training plan instructs staff members and students in waste reduction and recycling practices.
 4. The District's solid waste reduction program is publicized and its benefits are emphasized, including cost savings by lowering supply acquisition and disposal costs.
 5. An incentive program to reduce solid waste exists, e.g., through school recognition programs.
 6. Staff and students are encouraged to be innovative and suggest improvements to procedures and practices.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/10-20.19c.

Operational Services

Activity Funds ¹

The School Board, upon the Superintendent or designee's recommendation, establishes student activity funds to be managed by student organizations under the guidance and direction of a staff member for educational, recreational, or cultural purposes. ²

The Superintendent or designee shall be responsible for supervising student activity funds in accordance with Board policy, 4:80, *Accounting and Audits*; State law; and the Illinois State Board of Education rules for student activity funds. The Board will appoint a treasurer for each fund to serve as the fund's sole custodian and be bonded in accordance with the School Code. ³ The treasurer shall have all of the responsibilities specific to the treasurer listed in the Illinois State Board of Education rules for school activity funds, including the authority to make loans between activity funds. ⁴

Unless otherwise instructed by the Board, a student activity fund's balance will carry over to the next fiscal year. An account containing student activity funds that is inactive for 12 consecutive months shall be closed and its funds transferred to another student activity fund or authorized fund with a similar purpose. ⁵

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/8-2 and 5/10-20.19.
 23 Ill.Admin.Code §§100.20 and 100.80.

CROSS REF.: 4:80 (*Accounting and Audits*), 7:325 (*Student Fund-Raising Activities*)

¹ State law controls this policy's content. See 105 ILCS 5/10-20.19 and 23 Ill.Admin.Code §100.80. ISBE's rules in Part 125 (Student Activity Funds and Convenience Accounts) were in effect only through 6-30-08 after which they were replaced by Part 100. The rules in Part 100 do not provide for "convenience accounts." Another policy, 7:325, *Student Fund-Raising Activities*, contains the elements required by State law for a policy on student fund-raising activities.

² Student activity funds are established to account for money used to support the activities of student organizations and clubs, e.g., homeroom, yearbook, class year, choral or band group, class projects, student clubs, student council, and student-sponsored bookstore (23 Ill.Admin.Code §100.20). The funds are under the school board's control giving it a fiduciary responsibility to safeguard them along with district assets.

³ 105 ILCS 5/8-2. A board's insurance carrier can assist the board with obtaining bonds for these individuals.

⁴ ISBE's rule permits the activity fund treasurer to make loans between funds "if and as authorized by the board's policy," (23 Ill.Admin.Code §100.80). A board that does not want to allow loans between activity funds should choose one of these alternatives:

Alternative 1: The treasurer shall have all of the authority and responsibilities specific to the treasurer listed in the Illinois State Board of Education rules for school activity funds, except that the treasurer is not authorized to make loans between activity funds.

Alternative 2: The treasurer shall have all of the authority and responsibilities specific to the treasurer listed in the Illinois State Board of Education rules for school activity funds, except that the treasurer must have the Board's approval before making a loan between activity funds.

⁵ The authority for this paragraph's first sentence is 23 Ill.Admin.Code §100.80(c); the second sentence is up to the local board's discretion. The following option may be inserted after the first sentence: "However, money remaining in the any Senior Class fund after graduation will automatically transfer to the next year's class."

Operational Services

Administrative Procedure - School Bus Post-Accident Checklist

Driver Post-Accident Procedures

1. The first consideration is whether it is safer to evacuate the students or to have them remain on the bus. 23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.510(1)(1).
2. Immediately notify the pre-designated emergency and police services, and administer first aid. As soon as possible, notify the District or transportation office.
3. When notifying the District or transportation office, give the following information:
 - Seriousness of the accident
 - Location and time of incident
 - Bus number and route number
 - School
 - Number of students on board
 - Extent of any injuries
 - Weather/road conditions
 - Any other pertinent information
4. Never leave your vehicle, either to check traffic or set out reflectors, when children are on board. Stay with the children until help arrives. Do not release any student, even to parents, unless instructed to do so by the District or transportation office.
5. Set out reflectors, flares, flags, etc. only when the safety of all children is secure.
6. Stay vigilant for the continued safety of everyone at the scene and:
 - Never** attempt to direct traffic.
 - Never** move the vehicle before the police arrive, unless absolutely necessary to avoid a traffic hazard.
 - Never** discuss liability or fault, or sign anything until someone from the District or transportation office arrives.
 - Never** move an injured person unless the person's life is in jeopardy.
7. If your vehicle strikes an animal (pet), continue until it is safe to stop, keeping in mind that the sight of an injured pet could upset the children on the bus. Park the vehicle and radio or call the District or transportation office with the information. The office will notify the proper authorities.
8. The District or transportation office, when notifying the school, may suggest that personnel follow-up with students to minimize trauma or emotional after-effects.

Information Gathering

While at the accident scene the driver and/or transportation supervisor shall:

1. Obtain the name and age of every passenger on the bus.
2. Obtain the name and address of all witnesses.
3. Regarding other vehicles involved in the accident, obtain the:
 - Other drivers' names
 - Other drivers' license numbers
 - Other drivers' addresses and phone numbers
 - Make, model, year, and license plate numbers of other involved vehicles
 - Other drivers' insurance carrier information
 - Name, address, and phone numbers of passengers in other involved vehicles

District or Transportation Office Responsibilities

1. Confirm that police and emergency services as appropriate were notified. An ambulance need not be called to the accident scene unless there are obvious injuries or complaints.
2. Send a transportation supervisor to the accident scene to assist the bus driver.
3. Arrange for the parents of children on the bus to be contacted.
4. Arrange alternate transportation for the children.
5. Contact the District's insurance carrier as soon as possible and follow its instructions.
6. Help the bus driver complete accident report forms, including insurance forms. Complete ISBE's *School Bus Accident Report*, www.isbe.net/funding/pdf/50-26_school_bus_accident.pdf, and forward to the Regional Superintendent immediately after any accident.
7. Obtain any accident reports completed by third parties, including police reports.

Post-Accident Alcohol and Drug Testing

1. This section's provisions are required by 49 C.F.R. §382.303. For drug and alcohol testing requirements, see policy 5:285, *Drug and Alcohol Testing for School Bus and Commercial Vehicle Drivers*; and administrative procedure 5:285-AP, *Drug and Alcohol Testing for School Bus and Commercial Vehicle Drivers*.
2. School bus drivers shall be provided the necessary post-accident alcohol and drug testing information, procedures, and instructions before operating a bus.
3. As soon as practicable after an accident involving a school bus, the driver shall be tested for alcohol and controlled substances if:
 - a. The accident involved the loss of human life;
 - b. The driver receives a citation for a moving traffic violation arising from the accident; or
 - c. A law enforcement officer directs that such a test be given. 625 ILCS 5/6-516.
4. If a required alcohol test is **not** administered:
 - a. Within 2 hours, the District must prepare and maintain a file or record stating why the test was not properly administered.
 - b. Within 8 hours, the District shall cease attempts to administer an alcohol test and shall prepare the same record.
5. If a required controlled substance test is **not** administered within 32 hours, the District shall cease attempts to administer the test, and shall prepare and maintain a file or record stating why the test was not properly administered.
6. No driver required to take a post-accident alcohol test shall use alcohol for 8 hours following the accident, or until undergoing a post-accident alcohol test.

Vehicle Inspection

Following an accident, each damaged bus component must be inspected before the bus is returned to service. 625 ILCS 5/13-109.

Operational Services

Exhibit - Letter to Parents/Guardians About Preventing and Reducing Incidences of Sexting

On District letterhead

Re: Preventing and Reducing Incidences of Sexting

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s):

Many parents are unfamiliar with *sexting*. It is generally defined as sending, sharing, viewing, receiving or possessing *indecent visual depictions* of oneself or another person using a cell phone. A student will be disciplined for sexting at school.

Discussing sexting and its legal and social consequences with your children may prevent and reduce incidences of it at school and elsewhere. A recent survey revealed that about 20 percent of teen boys and girls have sent sext messages. It can cause enormous emotional pain for the students involved, often with legal implications. The following talking points from the American Academy of Pediatrics may help start the discussion:

- Introduce the issue as soon as a child is old enough to have a cell phone. Even if the issue hasn't directly impacted your school building's community, ask "have you heard of sexting?" "Tell me what you think it is." Learn what your child's understanding is and add an age appropriate explanation. For more information about starting age appropriate discussions, see *The New Problem of Sexting* subhead on the American Academy of Pediatrics website at: www.aap.org/advocacy/releases/june09socialmedia.htm.
- Make sure children of all ages understand that the District's student discipline policy prohibits sexting at school, and that it is further punishable in Illinois through the Juvenile Court Act and The Criminal Code of 2012.
- Collect cell phones at gatherings of tweens and teens. Experts have noted that peer pressure can play a major role in sexting, with attendance at parties being a major contributing factor.
- Monitor the media for stories about sexting that illustrate the consequences for both senders and receivers of these images. Ask "Have you seen this story?" "What did you think about it?" "What would you do if you were this child?"
- Rehearse ways your child can respond if asked to participate in sexting.

For more information on sexting and how to talk to your children about it, please see the following links:

www.aap.org/advocacy/releases/june09socialmedia.htm;
www.education.com/magazine/article/child-sexting-parents/;
www.athinline.org.

Sincerely,

Superintendent

General Personnel

Administrative Procedure - Workplace Accommodations for Nursing Mothers ¹

The School District accommodates mothers who choose to continue breastfeeding after returning to work. An employee who is a nursing mother may take reasonable unpaid breaks each day to express breast milk or breastfeed her infant. The employee's supervisor shall help the employee arrange a break schedule accommodating the nursing mother while minimizing disruption. The break time must, if possible, run concurrently with any break time already provided to the employee.

Each Building Principal or chief administrator in another District building shall identify a private room or space where, if a request is made, an employee may express milk or breastfeed her infant. The private space must: (1) be in close proximity to the work area and be other than a bathroom, and (2) be free from intrusion from coworkers and the public, and (3) include an electrical outlet for the use of an electric breast pump.

Supervisors should consider ways to accommodate an employee's needs with minimal disruption of the school environment. If possible, supervisors will ensure that employees are aware of these workplace accommodations prior to maternity leave.

¹ This procedure contains language appropriate for a personnel handbook. Its content is controlled by the laws described below; they must be read together so that the greatest protections of each are granted to the employee. Each accommodation listed in this procedure is required except for the provision regarding an electrical outlet.

The Right to Breastfeed Act provides that a "mother may breastfeed her baby in any location, public or private, where the mother is otherwise authorized to be, irrespective of whether the nipple of the mother's breast is uncovered during or incidental to the breastfeeding," (740 ILCS 137/). The Act allows a woman who was denied the right to breastfeed in a public or private location, other than a private residence or place of worship, to bring an action to enjoin future denials and, if she prevails, is awarded reasonable attorney's fees and litigation expenses.

The Nursing Mothers in the Workplace Act, 820 ILCS 260/, requires employers to make reasonable efforts to provide a location, in close proximity to the work area, other than a toilet stall, where an employee can express her milk in privacy.

The Fair Labor Standards Act, 29 U.S.C. §207(r), added by P.L. 111-148, requires employers to provide a reasonable unpaid break time "for an employee to express breast milk for her nursing child for 1 year after the child's birth each time such employee has need to express the milk." It also requires an employer to provide "a place, other than a bathroom, that is shielded from view and free from intrusion from coworkers and the public, which may be used by an employee to express breast milk." The federal law entitlement to a break applies to only those employees who are covered by overtime pay requirements. State law, as described above, covers all employees. For more information on the federal law requirements, see the U.S. Dept. of Labor's factsheet, "Break Time for Nursing Mothers under the FLSA,"

www.dol.gov/whd/regs/compliance/whdfs73.pdf.

General Personnel

Hiring Process and Criteria ¹

The District hires the most qualified personnel consistent with budget and staffing requirements and in compliance with School Board policy on equal employment opportunity and minority recruitment. ² The Superintendent is responsible for recruiting personnel and making hiring recommendations to the Board. ³ If the Superintendent's recommendation is rejected, the Superintendent must submit another. ⁴ No individual will be employed who has been convicted of a criminal offense listed in Section 5/21B-80 of the School Code. ⁵

All applicants must complete a District application in order to be considered for employment. ⁶

Job Descriptions

The Superintendent shall develop and maintain a current comprehensive job description for each position or job category; however, a provision in a collective bargaining agreement or individual contract will control in the event of a conflict. ⁷

¹ State or federal law controls this policy's content. This policy contains an item on which impact bargaining may be required. Any policy that impacts upon wages, hours, and terms and conditions of employment, is subject to collective bargaining upon request by the employee representative, even if the policy involves an inherent managerial right.

² See policy 5:10, *Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Recruitment*. Districts may not classify a job as either a *male* or *female* job (29 C.F.R. §1604.5, 34 C.F.R. §106.55).

³ Boards must consider the superintendent's recommendations concerning, among other things, "the selection, retention, and dismissal of employees," 105 ILCS 5/10-16.7. The board may want to use this alternative sentence:

All personnel decisions are made by the Board, but only on the recommendation of the Superintendent.

Subject to an applicable collective bargaining agreement in effect on June 13, 2011, a board that fills a "new or vacant teaching position" must select a candidate based on: (1) certifications, (2) qualifications, (3) merit and ability (including performance evaluation, if available), and (4) relevant experience (105 ILCS 5/24-1.5). The statute does not define "new or vacant teaching positions." The requirement does not apply to filling vacant positions under 105 ILCS 5/24-12, amended by P.A. 98-648 (reduction in force and recall). Consult the board attorney about these issues.

⁴ An additional optional sentence follows:

The Superintendent may select personnel on a short-term basis for a specific project or emergency condition before the Board's approval.

⁵ 105 ILCS 5/10-21.9(c), amended by P.A. 97-607.

⁶ Any person who applies for employment as a teacher, principal, superintendent, or other certificated employee who willfully makes a false statement on his or her application for employment, material to his or her qualifications for employment, which he or she does not believe to be true, is guilty of a Class A misdemeanor (105 ILCS 5/22-6.5). District employment applications must contain a statement to this effect (Id.).

Each employment application for a certificated position must state the following (Id.):

Failure to provide requested employment or employer history which is material to the applicant's qualifications for employment or the provision of statements which the applicant does not believe to be true may be a Class A misdemeanor.

⁷ Job descriptions will become the basis for categorizing a teacher into one or more positions that the teacher is qualified to hold for reduction in force (RIF) dismissal and recall purposes (105 ILCS 5/24-12(b)). A board should consult with its attorney to review its current list of job descriptions and discuss the district's specific responsibilities.

A job description is evidence of a position's *essential functions* (29 C.F.R. §1630.2(n)). The Americans with Disabilities Act protects individuals who have a disability and are qualified, with reasonable accommodation, to perform the *essential functions* of the job (42 U.S.C. §12101, amended by the ADA Amendments Act (ADAAA), Pub. L. 110-325). Determining which functions are essential may be critical to determining if an individual with a disability is qualified. An individual is qualified to perform a job even though he or she is unable, due to a disability, to perform tasks which are incidental to the job. Only when an individual is unable to perform the *essential functions* of a job may a district deny the individual employment opportunities (29 C.F.R. §1630.2(m)). For a particular function to be essential: (1) the employer must actually require employees in the position to perform it, and (2) the position would be *fundamentally altered* if the function were removed (Id.). Whether a particular function is essential is a factual determination.

Investigations

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that a fingerprint-based criminal history records check and a check of the Statewide Sex Offender Database and Violent Offender Against Youth Database is performed on each applicant as required by State law. **8** The Superintendent or designee shall notify an applicant if the applicant is identified in either database. **9** The School Code requires the Board President to keep a conviction record confidential and share it only with the Superintendent, Regional Superintendent, State Superintendent, State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board, any other person necessary to the hiring decision, or for purposes of clarifying the information, the Department of State Police and/or Statewide Sex Offender Database. **10**

Each newly hired employee must complete an Immigration and Naturalization Service Form as required by federal law. **11**

The District retains the right to discharge any employee whose criminal background investigation reveals a conviction for committing or attempting to commit any of the offenses outlined in Section 5/21B-80 of the School Code or who falsifies, or omits facts from, his or her employment application or other employment documents.

The Superintendent shall ensure that the District does not engage in any investigation or inquiry prohibited by law and complies with each of the following: **12**

1. The District uses an applicant's credit history or report from a consumer reporting agency only when a satisfactory credit history is an established bona fide occupational requirement of a particular position. **13**

Important: The ADAAA makes significant changes to the ADA's definition of disability that broadens the scope of coverage and overturns a series of U.S. Supreme Court decisions that made it difficult to prove that an impairment was a disability. The final regulations were by a bipartisan vote and approved on March 25, 2011. There is information about the regulations and a link to them at: www.eeoc.gov/laws/regulations/adaaa_fact_sheet.cfm. Consult the board attorney regarding how these amendments impact the district's hiring processes.

8 The policy's requirements on criminal records checks are mandated by 105 ILCS 5/10-21.9. See administrative procedure 5:30-AP2, *Investigations*, for the process and positions requiring criminal background investigation. The Statewide Sex Offender Database (a/k/a Sex Offender Registry) is available at: www.isp.state.il.us/sor. The Statewide Murderer and Violent Offender Against Youth Database is available at: www.isp.state.il.us/cmvo/.

9 *Id.*

10 105 ILCS 5/10-21.9(b). The School Code continues to define the board president's role in conducting criminal background investigations and receiving the results of these investigations, including the results for employees of district contractors (105 ILCS 5/10-21.9). Many districts delegate this task in the hiring process to a human resources department.

Use this alternative for districts in suburban Cook County: replace "Regional Superintendent" with "appropriate Intermediate Service Center." The Regional Office of Education for Suburban Cook County was abolished and its duties and powers transpired to the intermediate service center for the area by P.A. 96-893.

11 Immigration Reform and Control Act, 8 U.S.C. §1324a *et seq.* Consult with the board attorney regarding the district's rights and responsibilities under all Illinois laws if the district uses any electronic employment verification system, including *E-Verify* and/or the Basic Pilot Program (820 ILCS 55/). This statute urges employers who voluntarily use *E-Verify* (formerly known as the Basic Pilot/Employment Eligibility Verification Program) to consult the Ill. Dept. of Labor's website for current information on the accuracy of *E-Verify* and to review and understand their legal responsibilities relating to the use of any electronic employment verification systems. See f/n 2 in 5:150-AP, *Personnel Records*, for a more detailed discussion of *E-Verify* issues.

12 As an alternative to describing the prohibited investigations, a board may substitute this sentence:

The Superintendent shall ensure that the District does not engage in any investigation or inquiry prohibited by law, including without limitation, investigation into or inquiry concerning: (1) credit history or report unless a satisfactory credit history is an established bona fide occupational requirement of a particular position; (2) claim(s) made or benefit(s) received under Workers' Compensation Act; and (3) access to an employee's or applicant's social networking website, including a request for passwords to such sites.

The default policy provision and the alternative stated above – whichever is selected – may be made a prohibition rather than a duty of the superintendent; to do this, delete the stricken text as follows: "~~The Superintendent shall ensure that the District does not engage ...~~."

2. The District does not ask an applicant or applicant's previous employers about claim(s) made or benefit(s) received under the Workers' Compensation Act. **14**
3. The District does not request of an applicant or employee access in any manner to his or her social networking website, including a request for passwords to such sites. **15**
4. The District provides equal employment opportunities to all persons. See policy 5:10, *Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Recruitment*.

Physical Examinations **16**

Each new employee must furnish evidence of physical fitness to perform assigned duties and freedom from communicable disease. The physical fitness examination must be performed by a physician licensed in Illinois, or any other state, to practice medicine and surgery in any of its branches, or an advanced practice nurse who has a written collaborative agreement with a collaborating physician that authorizes the advanced practice nurse to perform health examinations, or a physician assistant who has been delegated the authority by his or her supervising physician to perform health examinations. The employee must have the physical examination performed no more than 90 days before submitting evidence of it to the District.

13 Employee Credit Privacy Act, 820 ILCS 70/. This Act allows inquiries into an applicant's credit history or credit report or ordering or obtaining an applicant's credit report from a consumer reporting agency when a satisfactory credit history is an *established bona fide occupational requirement* of a particular position. The Act identifies circumstances that permit a satisfactory credit history to be a job requirement, such as, the position's duties include custody of or unsupervised access to cash or marketable assets valued at \$2,500 or more.

14 Right to Privacy in the Workplace Act, 820 ILCS 55/10(a).

15 *Id.*, 820 ILCS 55/10, added by P.A. 97-875 (known as the Facebook Password Law) and amended by P.A. 98-501. The exception for a *professional account* added by P.A. 98-501 is so limited that it appears to be unavailable to school employers. A *professional account* is defined as "an account, service, or profile created, maintained, used, or accessed by a current or prospective employee for business purposes of the employer." Bracketed explanations follow the statutory language:

"Provided that the password, account information, or access sought by the employer relates to a professional account, and not a personal account, nothing in this subsection shall prohibit or restrict an employer from complying with a duty to screen employees or applicants prior to hiring"

[When read with the definition of *professional account*, it is implausible that an applicant would have an account, service, or profile for business purposes of a school employer.]

"... or to monitor or retain employee communications as required under Illinois insurance laws or federal law or by a self-regulatory organization as defined in the [Securities Exchange Act]."

[This clause appears to be inapplicable to school districts.]

The statute specifically permits an employer to: (1) maintain workplace policies governing the use of the employer's electronic equipment, including policies regarding Internet use, social networking site use, and electronic mail use; and (2) monitor usage of the employer's (district's) electronic equipment and electronic mail. The statute also states that it does *not prohibit* an employer from obtaining information about an applicant or an employee that is in the public domain or that is otherwise obtained in compliance with the statute. Finally, the statute does not apply to other types of personal technology that employees may use to communicate with students or other individuals, such as, personal email or text messages on a personal phone. Consult the board attorney about these issues.

16 105 ILCS 5/24-5, amended by P.A. 98-716. According to this statute, "[a] new or existing employee may be subject to additional health examinations, including tuberculosis screening, as required by rules adopted by the Ill. Dept. of Public Health or by order of a local public health official." As of Aug. 2014, the Ill. Dept. of Public Health does not require school employees to be screened for tuberculosis other than workers in child day care and preschool settings (77 Ill.Admin.Code §696.140(a)(3).

The last sentence of the first paragraph exceeds State law requirements and may be deleted.

Note that while examination by a spiritual leader/practitioner is sufficient for purposes of leaves, the statute does not permit an examination by a spiritual leader/practitioner for initial employment exams. This difference may present a constitutional issue; contact the board attorney for an opinion if an applicant wants to use an examination by a spiritual leader/practitioner.

Federal law limits pre-employment medical inquiries to whether the applicant is able to perform job-related functions; required medical examinations of applicants is forbidden (American with Disabilities Act [ADA], 42 U.S.C. §12112(d)(2), as amended by the ADAAA, Pub. L. 110-325); see also f/n 7 for an explanation regarding the ADAAA. Districts may condition an employment offer on taking and passing medical inquiries or physical exams, provided that all entering employees in the same classification receive the same conditional offer.

Any employee may be required to have an additional examination by a physician who is licensed in Illinois to practice medicine and surgery in all its branches, or an advanced practice nurse who has a written collaborative agreement with a collaborating physician that authorizes the advanced practice nurse to perform health examinations, or a physician assistant who has been delegated the authority by his or her supervising physician to perform health examinations, if the examination is job-related and consistent with business necessity. ¹⁷ The Board will pay the expenses of any such examination.

Orientation Program

The District's staff will provide an orientation program for new employees to acquaint them with the District's policies and procedures, the school's rules and regulations, and the responsibilities of their position. Before beginning employment, each employee must sign the *Acknowledgement of Mandated Reporter Status* form as provided in policy 5:90, *Abused and Neglected Child Reporting*.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/10-21.9 and 5/24-5.
Employee Credit Privacy Act, 820 ILCS 70/.
Right to Privacy in the Workplace Act, 820 ILCS 55/.
Americans with Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C. §12112, 29 C.F.R. Part 1630.
Immigration Reform and Control Act, 8 U.S.C. §1324a et seq.
105 ILCS 5/10-16.7, 5/10-20.7, 5/10-21.4, 5/10-21.9, 5/21B-10, 5/21B-80, 5/10-22.34, 5/10-22.34b, 5/22-6.5, and 5/24-1 et seq.
820 ILCS 55/ and 70/.
Duldulao v. St. Mary of Nazareth Hospital, 483 N.E.2d 956 (Ill.App.1, 1985), *aff'd in part and remanded* 505 N.E.2d 314 (Ill., 1987).
Kaiser v. Dixon, 468 N.E.2d 822 (Ill.App.2, 1984).
Molitor v. Chicago Title & Trust Co., 59 N.E.2d 695 (Ill.App.1, 1945).

CROSS REF.: 3:50 (Administrative Personnel Other Than the Superintendent), 4:175 (Convicted Child Sex Offender; Criminal Background Check and/or Screen; Notifications), 5:10 (Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Recruitment), 5:40 (Communicable and Chronic Infectious Disease), 5:90 (Abused and Neglected Child Reporting), 5:125 (Personal Technology and Social Media; Usage and Conduct), 5:220 (Substitute Teachers), 5:280 (Educational Support Personnel - Duties and Qualifications)

¹⁷ The State law (105 ILCS 5/24-5) allowing boards to require physicals of current employees "from time to time," has been superseded by federal law (ADA, 42 U.S.C. §12112(d)(4), as amended by the ADAAA, Pub. L. 110-325). The ADA allows medical inquiries of current employees only when they are job-related and consistent with business necessity or part of a voluntary employee wellness program (Id.). Districts may deny jobs to individuals with disabilities who pose a direct threat to the health or safety of others in the workplace, provided that a reasonable accommodation would not either eliminate the risk or reduce it to an acceptable level (42 U.S.C. §12113; 29 C.F.R. Part 1630.2(r)). See f/n 7 for an explanation regarding the ADAAA.

See the f/n 16 for a discussion of examinations by spiritual leaders/practitioners.

General Personnel

Administrative Procedure - Employee Conduct Standards 1

Professional and ethical behavior is expected of all District staff members. The standards listed below serve as a notice of expected conduct. The standards are intended to protect the health, safety, and general welfare of students and employees, ensure the community a degree of accountability within the School District, and define misconduct justifying disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal. The listed standards are not a complete list of expectations, and depending on the factual context, an employee may be disciplined for conduct that is not specifically listed. The conduct standards apply to all District employees to the extent they do not conflict with an applicable collective bargaining agreement; in the event of a conflict, the provision is severable and the applicable bargaining agreement will control. In addition, each educator must comply with 5:120-E, *Code of Ethics for Illinois Educators*, adopted by the Illinois State Board of Education (23 Ill.Admin.Code Part 22).

All school employees shall:

1. Exhibit positive examples of preparedness, punctuality, attendance, self-control, language, and appearance.
2. Exemplify honesty and integrity. Violations of this standard include, but are not limited to, falsifying, misrepresenting, omitting, or erroneously reporting the professional qualifications of oneself or another individual or information submitted in connection with job duties or during the course of an official inquiry/investigation.
3. Maintain a professional relationship with all students, both in and outside the school and attend all in-service trainings on educator ethics, teacher-student conduct, and school, employee-student conduct for all personnel (105 ILCS 5/10-22.39). Violations of this standard, include but are not limited to: (a) committing any act of child abuse or cruelty to children; (b) engaging in harassing behavior; (c) soliciting, encouraging, or consummating an inappropriate written, verbal, or physical relationship with a student; and (d) furnishing tobacco, alcohol, or illegal/unauthorized substance to any student or allowing a student under his or her supervision to consume alcohol or an illegal/unauthorized substance.
4. Maintain a safe and healthy environment, free from harassment, intimidation, bullying, hazing, substance abuse, and violence, and free from bias and discrimination. Violations of this standard include, but are not limited to: (a) using alcohol or illegal or unauthorized substances when on school property or at school-sponsored events, or whenever engaged in job responsibilities; (b) using or possessing medical cannabis in a school bus or on school

¹ This procedure is a tool to assist local consideration of employee conduct standards and should not be automatically added to the district's procedure or personnel manual. Many districts already have collective bargaining agreements and/or personnel manuals addressing conduct and misconduct. These items are subjects of mandatory collective bargaining. Moreover, an employee conduct code is most effective when it reflects local conditions and circumstances. As employee conduct rules are frequently litigated, obtaining legal advice is a necessary part of their development.

The introductory paragraph recognizes that an applicable collective bargaining agreement will supersede a conflicting provision of the procedure. It also provides coverage for those employees who are not included in a bargaining unit. **This language, however, does not relieve a district from its collective bargaining mandate because the district would still be adopting conduct rules without bargaining.** Use the following alternative when the district intends to use the conduct rules for only those employees who are not represented by an exclusive bargaining agent:

The employee conduct standards apply to only those District employees who are not represented by an exclusive bargaining representative.

Our sample policies contain many personnel conduct rules. The following policies authorize the superintendent or designee to develop and implement procedures, e.g., conduct standards: 5:120, *General Personnel - Ethics and Conduct*; and 3:40, *Superintendent*.

- grounds; 2 (c) unless specifically permitted by the Firearm Concealed Carry Act, carrying a firearm on or into any District controlled building, real property, or parking area, or any transportation vehicle paid for in whole or in part with public funds; 3 (d) failing to report suspected cases of child abuse or neglect or of gender harassment; (e) knowingly failing to report hazing to supervising educational authorities or, in the event of death or great bodily harm, to law enforcement; 4 and (f) failing to appropriately respond to a witnessed or reported incident of student-on-student bullying, harassment, hazing, or teen dating violence.
5. Comply with the Professional Testing Practices for Educators, prepared and published by the Illinois State Board of Education for educators who administer any standardized test (at www.isbe.net/assessment/pdfs/2014/isat/prof-test-prac14.pdf). This document contains numerous examples of actions that violate test security; actions that must not be part of test preparation; actions that must not occur during test administration; and actions that must be avoided when reporting test results.
 6. Honor the public trust when entrusted with public funds and property by acting with a high level of honesty, accuracy, and responsibility. Violations of this standard include, but are not limited to: (a) misusing public or school-related funds; (b) failing to account for funds collected from students or parents/guardians; (c) submitting fraudulent requests for reimbursement of expenses or for pay; (d) co-mingling District or school funds with personal funds or checking accounts; and (e) using school property without the approval of the supervising school official.
 7. Maintain integrity with students, colleagues, parents/guardians, community members, and businesses concerning business dealings and when accepting gifts and favors. Violations of this standard, include but are not limited to, soliciting students or parents/guardians to purchase supplies or services from the employee or to participate in activities that financially benefit the employee without fully disclosing the interest.
 8. Respect the confidentiality of student and personnel records, standardized test material, and other information covered by confidentiality agreements. Violations of this standard include, but are not limited to: (a) disclosing confidential information concerning student academic and disciplinary records, health and medical information, family status and/or income, and assessment/testing results, unless disclosure is required or permitted by law; and (b) disclosing confidential information restricted by State or federal law.
 9. Demonstrate conduct that follows generally recognized professional standards and attend all in-service trainings on educator ethics, teacher-student conduct, and school employee-student conduct for all personnel (105 ILCS 5/10-22.39). Unethical conduct is any conduct that impairs the employee's ability to function professionally in his or her employment position or a pattern of behavior or conduct that is detrimental to the health, welfare, discipline, or morals of students.
 10. Comply with all State and federal laws and rules regulating public schools and School Board policies, including but not limited to: 2:105 (Ethics and Gift Ban), 5:10 (Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Recruitment), 5:20 (Workplace Harassment Prohibited), 5:30 (Hiring Process and Criteria), 5:50 (Drug- and Alcohol-Free Workplace; Tobacco Prohibition), 5:60 (Expenses), 5:90 (Abused and Neglected Child Reporting), 5:100 (Staff Development Program), 5:120 (Ethics and Conduct), 5:130 (Responsibilities Concerning Internal Information), 5:140 (Solicitations By or From Staff), 5:170 (Copyright), 5:180 (Temporary Illness or Temporary Incapacity), 5:200 (Terms and Conditions of Employment and Dismissal), 5:230 (Maintaining Student Discipline), 5:280 (Duties and Qualifications),

² Compassionate Use of Medical Cannabis Pilot Program, 410 ILCS 130/30(a)(2) (3), & (4), added by P.A. 98-122).

³ Firearm Concealed Carry Act, 430 ILCS 66/65(a)(1), (2), & (8).

⁴ 720 ILCS 5/12C-50.1, added by P.A. 98-393.

5:290 (Employment Termination and Suspensions), 6:235 (Access to Electronic Networks), 7:20 (Harassment of Students Prohibited), 7:180 (Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment), 7:190 (Student Discipline), 7:340 (Student Records), and 8:30 (Visitors to and Conduct on School Property).

Conviction of any employment disqualifying criminal offense listed in Section 5/10-21.9 or 5/21B-80 of the School Code will result in dismissal.

Before disciplinary action is taken, the supervisor will conduct a fair and objective investigation to determine whether the employee violated a standard or other work rule and the extent that any violation impacts educational or operational activities, effectiveness, or efficiency. Discipline must be appropriate and reasonably related to the seriousness of the misconduct and the employee's record. Any applicable provision in a contract, bargaining agreement, or State law will control the disciplinary process.

Professional Personnel

Student Teachers ¹

The Superintendent is authorized to accept students from university-approved teacher-training programs to do student teaching in the District. No individual who has been convicted of a criminal offense listed in Section 5/21B-80 of the School Code is permitted to student teach or complete field or other clinical experience.

Before permitting an individual to student teach or participate in any field experience in the District, the Superintendent or designee shall ensure that:

1. The District performed a *complete criminal history records check* as described below; and
2. The individual furnished evidence of physical fitness to perform assigned duties and freedom from communicable disease pursuant to 105 ILCS 5/24-5. ²

A *complete criminal history records check* pursuant to 105 ILCS 5/10-21.9 shall include:

1. Fingerprint-based checks through (a) the Illinois State Police (ISP) for criminal history records information (CHRI) pursuant to the Uniform Conviction Information Act (20 ILCS 2635/1), and (b) the FBI national crime information databases pursuant to the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act (P.L. 109-248);
2. A check of the Illinois Sex Offender Registry (see the Sex Offender Community Notification Law (730 ILCS 152/101 et seq.); and
3. A check of the Illinois Murderer and Violent Offender Against Youth Registry (Murderer and Violent Offender Against Youth Community Notification Law (730 ILCS 154/75-105, amended by 97-154).

Each student teacher must provide written authorization for, and pay the costs of, his or her criminal history records check (including any applicable vendor's fees), and the Superintendent or designee will provide each student teacher with a copy of his or her report. ³

¹ State or federal law controls this policy's content. This policy contains an item on which collective bargaining may be required. Any policy that impacts upon wages, hours, and terms and conditions of employment, is subject to collective bargaining upon request by the employee representative, even if the policy involves an inherent managerial right.

This sample policy is consistent with the minimum requirements of State law. The local collective bargaining agreement may contain provisions which exceed these requirements. When a policy's subject matter is superseded by a bargaining agreement, the school board policy may state, "Please refer to the current Professional Agreement between the Classroom Teachers' Association and the Board of Education."

² The requirements for *physical fitness* and *freedom from communicable disease* apply to student teachers as of 7-16-2014 (105 ILCS 5/24-5, amended by P.A. 98-716).

³ 105 ILCS 5/10-21.9(g), amended by P.A.s 97-154 and 97-607, require a student teacher to undergo a fingerprint-based State and national criminal history records check and checks of the Statewide Sex Offender Registry and Statewide Murderer and Violent Offender Against Youth Registry prior to participating in any field experiences in the school. The statutory phrase "...prior to participating in any field experiences" involves student teaching only. For information about criminal history records checks for students doing field or clinical experience other than student teaching, see the subhead **Students Doing Field or Clinical Experience other than Student Teaching** in 4:175-API, *Criminal Offender Notification Laws; Screening*.

20 ILCS 2635/7(A) requires the student teacher's written authorization and a district to provide a copy of the reports, and 105 ILCS 5/10-21.9 requires the student teacher to pay for the costs of the criminal history records check. *LiveScan* is the recommended equipment for criminal history records checks. The language in this policy does not distinguish whether the district uses an authorized LiveScan vendor or owns or leases its own LiveScan equipment. Delete "(including applicable vendor's fees)" if the district owns or leases its own LiveScan equipment.

For more guidance and information on navigating the records laws surrounding criminal history records checks, along with a LiveScan vendor directory, see ISBE's non-regulatory guidance document, *Criminal History Records Information (CHRI) Checks for Certified and Non-certified School Personnel*, available at: www.isbe.net/pdf/guidance_chr.pdf.

Assignment

The Superintendent or designee shall be responsible for coordinating placements of all student teachers within the District. Student teachers should be assigned to supervising teachers whose qualifications are acceptable to the District and the students' respective colleges or universities. A teacher may be eligible for Continuing Professional Development Units (CPDU) for supervising a student teacher or teacher education candidate in clinical supervision. ⁴

LEGAL REF.: Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act, P.L. 109-248.
Uniform Conviction Information Act, 20 ILCS 2635/1.
105 ILCS 5/21-14(e)(3)(E)(viii), 5/10-22.34, and 5/24-5.
23 Ill.Admin.Code §25.875.

CROSS REF.: 5:190 (Teacher Qualifications), 4:175 (Convicted Child Sex Offender; Criminal Background Check and/or Screen; Notifications)

⁴ 105 ILCS 5/21-14(e)(3)(E)(viii); 23 Ill.Admin.Code §25.875.

Educational Support Personnel

Compensatory Time-Off ¹

This policy governs the use of compensatory time-off by employees who: (1) are covered by the overtime provisions of the Fair Labor Standards Act, 29 U.S.C. §201 et seq., and (2) are not represented by an exclusive bargaining representative.

Employees may be given 1-1/2 hours of compensatory time-off in lieu of cash payment for each hour of overtime worked. Other than as provided below, at no time may an employee's accumulated compensatory time-off exceed 240 hours, which represents compensation for 160 hours of overtime. ² An employee whose work regularly includes public safety, emergency response, or seasonal activities may accumulate a maximum of 480 hours of compensatory time, which represents compensation for 320 hours of overtime. ³ If an employee accrues the maximum number of compensatory time-off hours, the employee: (1) is paid for any additional overtime hours worked, at the rate of one and one-half times the employee's regular hourly rate of pay, and (2) does not accumulate compensatory time-off until the employee uses an equal amount of accrued time-off. ⁴

¹ The federal regulations implementing the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) governs the use of "comp-time" (29 C.F.R. §§553.21-553.28 and 553.50, [e-CFR Data](#)). See IASB sample policy 5:35, *Compliance with the Fair Labor Standards Act*, for discussion of the FLSA. In order for a district to offer comp-time, it must have a compensatory time-off policy or the topic must be covered in an applicable collective bargaining agreement. This policy contains an item on which collective bargaining may be required. Any policy that impacts upon wages, hours, and terms and conditions of employment, is subject to collective bargaining upon request by the employee representative, even if the policy involves an inherent managerial right. School officials should consult with the board attorney before adopting this policy.

The terms "comp-time" and "compensatory time-off" mean paid time-off that is earned and accrued by a non-exempt employee in lieu of overtime pay for over 40 hours worked in one workweek. Compensatory time-off in lieu of overtime pay must be at the premium rate of 1.5 hours of compensatory time for each hour of overtime worked (just as the monetary rate for overtime is calculated at 1.5 times the regular rate of pay). As a condition for using comp-time in lieu of overtime pay, the employer and employee must have an "agreement or understanding" before the work is performed. Further, the employee's decision to accept comp-time must be made freely. For employees represented by an exclusive bargaining agent, the agreement to use comp-time must be between the district and the bargaining agent.

For non-exempt employees who are not covered by a collective bargaining agreement, the "agreement or understanding" concerning comp-time must be between the district and employee. See exhibit 5:310-E, *Agreement to Receive Compensatory Time-Off*. If the district had a regular practice of comp-time before April 15, 1986, that is deemed an "agreement." Notice to the non-exempt employees that comp-time will be given in lieu of overtime pay for overtime through bulletin board notices is sufficient to constitute an "agreement or understanding," provided that the decision to accept compensatory time-off is made freely.

² This sample policy contains the maximum hours that the FLSA allows an employee to accumulate. It is a ceiling that an employee may hit several times, but never go over without using some of the time-off. A school board may forfeit flexibility and set this ceiling lower.

³ "Seasonal activities" include activities during periods of significantly increased demand, that are of a regular and recurring nature. A seasonal activity is not limited strictly to those operations that are very susceptible to changes in the weather. However, mere periods of short but intense activity do not make an employee's job seasonal. However, the 480-hour accrual limit will not apply to office personnel or other employees who may perform such seasonal activities only in emergency situations, even if they spend substantially all of their time in a particular workweek engaged in such activities.

⁴ The FLSA permits a board to require that employees reduce their accumulated compensatory time or face having their supervisor schedule the compensatory time-off for them. Christensen et al. v. Harris County et al., 529 U.S. 576, 120 S.Ct. 1655, 146 L.Ed.2d 621 (2000). Such an optional provisions follows:

Notwithstanding the above and to avoid hardship to the District, an employee's supervisor may require the employee to reduce accumulated compensatory time, or schedule the compensatory time-off for the employee, so that the employee does not accumulate more than 75 hours of compensatory time, which represents compensation for 50 hours of overtime.

An employee who has accrued compensatory time-off shall be permitted to use such time in at least half-day components provided such requests do not unduly disrupt the District's operations. ⁵ The employee's supervisor must approve a request to use compensatory time-off.

Upon termination of employment, an employee will be paid for unused compensatory time at the higher of:

1. The average regular rate received by such employee during the last three years of employment; or
2. The final regular rate received by such employee.

Compensatory time-off is time during which the employee is not working and is, therefore, not counted as "hours worked" for purposes of overtime compensation.

Implementation

The Superintendent or designee shall implement this policy in accordance with the FLSA. In the event of a conflict between the policy and the FLSA, the latter shall control.

LEGAL REF.: Fair Labor Standards Act, 29 U.S.C. §201 et seq.; 29 C.F.R. Part 553.

CROSS REF.: 5:35 (Compliance with the Fair Labor Standards Act), 5:185 (Family and Medical Leave), 5:270 (Employment At-Will, Compensation, and Assignment)

⁵ Optional.

Educational Support Personnel

Exhibit - Agreement to Receive Compensatory Time-Off

The School Board has a policy of granting compensatory time-off to non-exempt employees in lieu of overtime pay for time worked in excess of 40 hours in any workweek. I have either received a copy of the policy or been told where it may be found or downloaded. I understand that:

1. I must obtain my supervisor’s express authorization to work overtime before working in excess of 40 hours in any workweek.
2. I will earn compensatory time-off at a rate of not less than one and one-half (1.5) hours for each one hour of overtime worked.
3. I will be allowed to use accrued compensatory time-off within a reasonable period after making a request to use it, provided that my absence would not unduly disrupt operations considering factors like emergency requirements for staff and the availability of qualified substitute staff.
4. My supervisor may require that I use my accrued compensatory time-off within a certain time period, may prohibit my use of accrued compensatory time-off on certain days, may require that I cash out my compensatory time-off after a particular time period, and may otherwise limit my use of compensatory time-off.

I agree to receive compensatory time-off in lieu of overtime pay for time worked in excess of 40 hours in any workweek, and I accept this as a condition of my employment.

Employee Signature

Date

Supervisor Signature (or designee)

Date

Educational Support Personnel

Sick Days, Vacation, Holidays, and Leaves ¹

Each of the provisions in this policy applies to all educational support personnel to the extent that it does not conflict with an applicable collective bargaining agreement or individual employment contract or benefit plan; in the event of a conflict, such provision is severable and the applicable bargaining agreement or individual agreement will control.

Sick and Bereavement Leave ²

Full or part-time educational support personnel who work at least 600 hours per year receive 10 paid sick leave days per year. Part-time employees who work at least half-time are entitled to sick days on the same basis as full-time employees, but the pay will be based on the employee's average number of part-time hours per week. Unused sick leave shall accumulate to a maximum of 180 days, including the leave of the current year. ³

¹ State or federal law controls this policy's content. This policy contains an item on which collective bargaining may be required. Any policy that impacts upon wages, hours, and terms and conditions of employment, is subject to collective bargaining upon request by the employee representative, even if the policy involves an inherent managerial right.

This policy is consistent with the minimum requirements of State law. The local collective bargaining agreement may contain provisions that exceed these requirements. The introductory paragraph recognizes that an applicable collective bargaining agreement or individual employment contract will supersede a conflicting provision of the policy. Alternatively, if the policy's subject matter is superseded by a bargaining agreement, the board policy may state, "Please refer to the current [*insert name of educational support CBA*]."

Districts must coordinate leaves provided by State law and the local bargaining agreement with the leave granted by the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA), 29 U.S.C. §2612, amended by Sec. 565 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010 (P.L. 111-84). The FMLA grants eligible employees 12 weeks unpaid leave each year for: (1) the birth and first-year care of a child, (2) the adoption or foster placement of a child, (3) the serious health condition of an employee's spouse, parent, or child, (4) the employee's own serious health condition, (5) the existence of any qualifying exigency arising out of the fact that the employee's spouse, son, daughter, or parent is on (or has been notified of an impending call to) *covered active duty* in the Armed Forces, and (6) to care for the employee's spouse, child, parent, or next of kin who is a covered servicemember with a serious injury or illness. The definition of *covered servicemember* includes a veteran "who is undergoing medical treatment, recuperation, or therapy for a serious injury or illness" if the veteran was a member of the Armed Forces "at any time during the period of 5 years preceding the date on which the veteran undergoes that medical treatment, recuperation, or therapy." Districts are permitted to count paid leave (granted by State law or board policy) taken for an FMLA purpose against an employee's FMLA entitlement (29 C.F.R. §825.207). See policy 5:185, *Family and Medical Leave*.

A plethora of State laws grant leaves to employees of the State and municipalities, but are not applicable to school districts, including the Employee Blood Donation Leave Act (820 ILCS 149/), Local Government Disaster Service Volunteer Act (50 ILCS 122/), Organ Donor Leave Act (5 ILCS 327/), and Civil Air Patrol Leave Act (820 ILCS 148/).

² This section contains the minimum benefits provided by 105 ILCS 5/24-6. Each specified number of days in this section is the statutory minimum. The School Code does not address whether an employee's 10 paid sick leave days are available upon employment, accrued over months, or after working for a certain period of time, e.g., one year. Before adopting this policy or applying its provisions, the district should examine any applicable bargaining agreements. Strict accounting of unused sick days is important to avoid:

1. Employees accumulating sick time on a full-time basis when they are truly working part-time hours;
2. Inconsistent treatment; and
3. Inaccurate reporting to IMRF (credit is given for full day unused sick days upon retirement) (40 ILCS 5/7-139(a)(8)).

³ As this policy is consistent with the minimum requirements of State law, this provision on the maximum number of sick days that may be accumulated is based on the minimum number required as stated in 105 ILCS 5/24-6. The number may be increased to meet or exceed the number IMRF will recognize for retirement credit purposes. The following alternative does this: "Unused sick leave shall accumulate to the maximum number of days that IMRF will recognize for retirement credit purposes."

Insert the following sentence if a board wants to comply with the IMRF's requirement that public bodies have a written plan allowing eligible employees to convert their eligible accumulated sick leave to service credit upon their retirement (40 ILCS 5/7-139(a)(8)); see also IMRF General Memorandum #555 at www.imrf.org/pubs/er_pubs/gen_memos/2007_gm/gm_555.pdf.

Sick leave is defined in State law as personal illness, 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 3 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) an advanced practice nurse who has a written collaborative agreement with a collaborating physician that authorizes the advanced practice nurse to perform health examinations, (4) a 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 3 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. ⁴

Vacation ⁵

Twelve-month employees shall be eligible for paid vacation days according to the following schedule:

<u>Length of Employment</u>		<u>Monthly Accumulation</u>	<u>Maximum Vacation Leave Earned Per Year</u>
<u>From:</u>	<u>To:</u>		
Beginning of year 2	End of year 5	0.83 Days	10 Days per year
Beginning of year 6	End of year 15	1.25 Days	15 Days per year
Beginning of year 16	End of year	1.67 Days	20 Days per year

Part-time employees who work at least half-time are entitled to vacation days on the same basis as full-time employees, but the pay will be based on the employee’s average number of part-time hours per week during the last vacation accrual year. The Superintendent will determine the procedure for requesting vacation.

Vacation days earned in one fiscal year must be used by the end 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. ⁶

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. The local collective bargaining agreement may contain this written plan. If it does, the board policy can refer to the agreement.

Please refer to the current [*insert name of CBA or use a generic reference, e.g., ‘agreement between the bargaining representative and the School Board’*] for the District’s written plan allowing eligible employees to convert eligible accumulated sick leave to service credit upon an employee’s retirement under the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund.

If a district maintains two separate sick leave plans, one for employees under a collective bargaining agreement, and one for non-unionized employees, insert both options.

If either or both options are chosen, add 40 ILCS 5/7-139 to the Legal References.

If the board does not have a written sick leave plan for purposes of IMRF sick leave to service credit conversion or does not wish to include it in the policy, do not include any of the options or add the citation to the Legal Reference.

⁴ 105 ILCS 5/24-6.

⁵ State law does not require districts to give employees vacations.

⁶ Required by 820 ILCS 115/5.

Holidays ⁷

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 holiday listed below, District employees will not be required to work on:

New Year's Day	Labor Day
Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday	Columbus Day
Abraham Lincoln's Birthday	Veteran's Day
Casimir Pulaski's Birthday	Thanksgiving Day
Memorial Day	Christmas Day
Independence Day	

A holiday will not cause a deduction from an employee's time or compensation. 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 ⁸

Full-time educational support personnel have one paid personal leave day per year. The use of a personal day 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 and/or institute training days.
6. Personal leave may not be used when the employee's absence would create an undue hardship.

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 Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund in accordance with 105 ILCS 5/24-6.3. ⁹

Other Leaves

Educational support personnel receive the following leaves on the same terms and conditions granted professional personnel in Board policy 5:250, *Leaves of Absence*:

1. Leaves for Service in the Military and General Assembly. ¹⁰

⁷ Holidays are listed in 105 ILCS 5/24-2. For information on the waiver process, see 2:20-E, *Waiver and Modification Request Resource Guide*.

A State-mandated school holiday on *Good Friday* is unconstitutional according to *Metzl v. Leininger*, 57 F.3d 618 (7th Cir. 1995). Closing school on religious holidays may be permissible for those districts able to demonstrate that remaining open would be a waste of educational resources because of widespread absenteeism. Also, districts may be able to close school on Good Friday by adopting a *spring holiday* rationale or ensuring that it falls within spring break. School districts should discuss their options, including the collective bargaining implications, with their board attorney.

⁸ State law does not address personal leave.

⁹ Required by 105 ILCS 5/24-6.3. A similar leave exists for an elected trustee for the Ill. Teachers' Retirement System. See 5:250, *Professional Personnel - Leaves of Absence*.

¹⁰ Military leave is governed by: The School Code (105 ILCS 5/10-20.7b, 5/24-13, and 5/24-13.1); the Military Leave of Absence Act (5 ILCS 325/ added mandatory leave for "other training or duty required by the United States Armed Forces" and to require the public employer to make-up the difference between military pay and regular compensation); Service Member's Employment Tenure Act (330 ILCS 60/4); Public Employee Armed Services Rights Act (5 ILCS 330/4); National Guard Employment Rights (20 ILCS 1805/30.20); and Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (38 U.S.C. §4301).

2. School Visitation Leave. **11**
3. Leaves for Victims of Domestic or Sexual Violence. **12**

LEGAL REF.: 20 ILCS 1805/30.1 et seq.
105 ILCS 5/10-20.7b, 5/24-2, and 5/24-6.
820 ILCS 147 and 180/1 et seq.

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

Granting General Assembly leave to ESPs is optional.

11 820 ILCS 147/. See policy 5:250, *Leaves of Absence*, and administrative procedure 5:250-AP, *School Visitation Leave*.

12 Required by Victims' Economic Security and Safety Act, 820 ILCS 180/, and 56 Ill.Admin.Code §280. Important information about this leave is discussed in the footnotes in policy 5:250, *Professional Personnel - Leaves of Absence*.

Instruction

Exhibit - Special Education Required Notice and Consent Forms

Below is the URL to ISBE's updated *Special Education Required Notice and Consent Forms and Instructions*. The forms are the official versions of the State-required forms and were updated in January 2008 to bring Illinois into compliance with IDEA 2004 and 23 Illinois Administrative Code Part 226. ISBE added three new forms: *Parent/Guardian Notification of Individualized Education Program Amendment*, *Parent/Guardian Excusal of an Individualized Education Program Team Member*, and *Delegation of Rights to Make Educational Decisions*. Each form contains useful instructions to understand the purpose and use of each form. The URL also provides access to each form in languages other than English.

www.isbe.net/spec-ed/html/consent.htm

Instruction

Administrative Procedure - Access to Classrooms and Personnel

Access to classrooms and personnel is permitted in limited situations by Section 105 ILCS 5/14-8.02(g-5). Guidelines follow:

1. These guidelines apply to access requested by the parent/guardian of a student receiving special education services or being evaluated for eligibility, an independent educational evaluator, or a qualified professional retained by or on behalf of a parent/guardian or child. A *qualified professional* means “an individual who holds credentials to evaluate the child in the domain or domains for which an evaluation is sought or an intern working under the direct supervision of a qualified professional, including a master’s or doctoral degree candidate.” These individuals are referred to in this procedure as *visitors*.
2. Visitors will be afforded reasonable access to educational facilities, personnel, classrooms, and buildings and to the child. To minimize disruption, reasonable access means that the parent(s)/guardian(s) or qualified professional retained by or on behalf of a parent/guardian or child is allowed access once per school quarter for up to one hour or one class period. ¹ A visitor may request the authorized administrator to grant longer or additional observations based on individual circumstances and provide any supporting documentation in support of such a request. A professional evaluator can request longer or additional observations in his or her initial request. The administrator may grant, deny, or modify the request, and the administrator’s decision shall be final.
3. Visitors must comply with:
 - a. School safety, security, and visitation policies at all times.
 - b. Applicable privacy laws, including those laws protecting the confidentiality of education records such as the federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act and the Illinois School Student Records Act.
 - c. Board policy 8:30, *Visitors to and Conduct on School Property*. Visitors may not disrupt the educational process.
4. If the visitor is a parent/guardian, he or she will be afforded reasonable access as described above for the purpose of:
 - a. Observing his or her child in the child’s current educational placement, services, or program, or
 - b. Visiting an educational placement or program proposed for the child by the IEP team.
5. If the visitor is an independent educational evaluator or a qualified professional retained by or on behalf of a parent or child, he or she must be afforded reasonable access of sufficient duration and scope for the purpose of conducting an evaluation of the child, the child’s performance, the child’s current educational program, placement, services, or environment, or any educational program, placement, services, or environment proposed for the child, including interviews of educational personnel, child observations, assessments, tests, or assessments of the child’s educational program, services, or placement or of any educational program proposed by the IEP team, services, or placement. If one or more interviews of school personnel are part of the evaluation, the interviews must be conducted at a mutually

¹ State law is silent on the frequency and length of access. These provisions may be omitted or changed. If the frequency or length of access is limited, the procedure should allow a visitor to request longer or additional access (as in the next sentence).

agreed upon time, date, and place that do not interfere with the school employee's school duties. The Building Principal or designee may limit interviews to personnel having information relevant to the child's current educational services, program, or placement or to a proposed educational service, program, or placement.

6. Prior to visiting a school, school building, or school facility, a visitor must complete 6:120-AP2, E1, *Request to Access Classroom(s) or Personnel for Special Education Evaluation and/or Observation Purposes*. This form serves to:
 - a. Inform the Building Principal or designee in writing of the proposed visit(s), the purpose, and the duration, and
 - b. Identify requested dates/times for the visit(s) to facilitate scheduling.
7. The student's parent/guardian must consent in writing to the student being interviewed by the named evaluator as part of a visit. The parent/guardian will grant this consent by completing 6:120-AP2, E1, *Request to Access Classroom(s) or Personnel for Special Education Evaluation and/or Observation Purposes*.
8. The student's parent/guardian, or the student, if he or she is over the age of 18, must execute an Authorization to Release Student Record Information before an independent educational evaluator or a qualified professional retained by or on behalf of a parent/guardian or child will be given access to student school records or to personnel who would likely release such records during discussions about the student. If a student is over the age of 12 and the records contain mental health and/or developmental disability information, the student must also be requested to sign the Authorization to Release information before any observation by or disclosure of school student records or information to a visitor.
9. The visitor must acknowledge, before the visit, that he or she is obligated to honor students' confidentiality rights and refrain from any re-disclosure of such records. The visitor will provide this acknowledgment and agreement by completing 6:120-AP2, E1, *Request to Access Classroom(s) or Personnel for Special Education Evaluation and/or Observation Purposes*.
10. The Building Principal or designee will attempt to arrange the visit(s) at times that are mutually agreeable. The Building Principal or designee will accompany any visitor for the duration of the visit, including during any interviews of staff members.
11. If the visitor is a professional retained by the parent/guardian, the visitor must provide identification and credentials before the visit.
12. This procedure applies to any public school facility, building, or program and to any facility, building, or program supported in whole or in part by public funds. The student's case manager or other District designee must facilitate such visit(s) when the student attends a program outside of the School District, such as at a private day program or residential program, provided it is supported in whole or in part by public funds.

Instruction

Exhibit - Request to Access Classroom(s) or Personnel for Special Education Evaluation and/or Observation Purposes

Student name: _____ DOB: _____

School attending: _____ Grade: _____

The following information must be completed by individuals requesting to access a school building, facility, and/or educational programs or to interview District personnel or the student named above for the purpose of assessing the student’s special education needs. Please complete this form and return it to the Building Principal or Program Director where the student is enrolled. He or she will contact you to coordinate your visit:

Parent/Guardian *(Complete this section if the person making the request is the parent/guardian.)*

Name: _____ Title: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

I am the parent/guardian of the above-named student and wish to observe my child in the following classroom/settings: _____
for the purpose of: _____

I am the parent/guardian of the above-named student and wish to observe the following classroom/settings which have been recommended for my child: _____
_____ for the purpose of: _____

Observations are limited to one hour or one class period per school quarter.

Parent’s Independent Evaluator or Other Qualified Professional *(Complete this section if the person making the request is not the parent/guardian.)*

Name: _____ Agency/Company: _____

Phone: _____ Email address: _____

Address: _____

My professional training and/or licensure or certification, if applicable, is (check all that apply):

- Teacher, certified in the areas of: _____ Illinois certified? Y N
- Clinical Psychologist School Psychologist
- Licensed Clinical Social Worker Licensed Social Worker
- School Social Worker Occupational Therapist
- Physical Therapist Speech/Language Pathologist
- Audiologist Psychiatrist
- Registered Nurse Certified School Nurse
- Other qualified professional (list credentials): _____

I have been requested by the above named student’s parent/guardian to conduct an evaluation of the student for the purpose of: _____

As part of this evaluation, I am requesting the following for the length of time noted (check all that apply):

Observation of student in the following classroom(s)/setting(s): _____
_____ Duration: _____

Opportunity to interview the following personnel believed to work with the student: _____

Duration: _____

- Opportunity to interview the student.
- I will need more than one hour or one class period for my visit for the following reason(s): _____

- Student records, as noted in the attached, signed Authorization to Release Student Record Information.

Acknowledgement *(To be completed by the person making the access request.)*

I understand that the School District will allow me reasonable access to the school, school facilities, or educational programs or individual(s) I have requested as related to the purpose of my visit. I have been provided with a copy of 6:120-AP2, *Access to Classrooms and Personnel*, and agree to comply with its terms and conditions. I further understand that during my visit, I must honor all students' confidentiality rights and refrain from any re-disclosure of such records.

Individual Requesting Access Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian Verification *(Must be completed whenever an independent evaluator or other qualified professional requests access.)*

I, _____, am the parent/guardian of the above-named student, and I confirm that I have requested an evaluation of my child by the individual named herein, for the stated purpose(s). If requested above, I consent to my child being interviewed by the named evaluator as part of this visit understanding that the District has not conducted a background check on the evaluator. I have no reason to believe the evaluator poses a safety risk to my child or others. I further understand and agree that it is my responsibility to notify the School District in writing if I end my working relationship with the named evaluator prior to the completion of the tasks outlined herein and that the School District otherwise will work with the evaluator to provide reasonable access to the school, school building, school facility, personnel, or my child at mutually agreed upon times and in a manner that is least disruptive to the school setting or my child's academic program.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Instruction

Exhibit - Application for a Diploma for Veterans of WW II, the Korean Conflict, or the Vietnam Conflict

Complete and submit to the Superintendent.

Please print:

_____			_____		
Name			Phone		
_____			_____		
Address			Birth Date		
_____			_____		
City		State	Zip		

The applicant is requesting a high school diploma and attests that he or she meets the following criteria as established by School Board policy:

1. Served in the U.S. Armed Forces during World War II or the Korean Conflict.

Please check one or more of the following:

- WW II: December 7, 1941 - September 2, 1945
- Korean Conflict: June 25, 1950 - July 27, 1953
- Vietnam Conflict: historians generally date U.S. Armed Forces involvement from late 1961-1975

2. Left high school in order to serve in the U.S. Armed Forces.
3. Resided within an area currently within the School District at the time he or she withdrew from high school.
4. Has not received a high school diploma or a GED (high school equivalency).

Applicant's Signature

Date

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Students

Harassment of Students Prohibited ¹

Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment Prohibited

No person, including a District employee or agent, or student, shall harass, intimidate, or bully a student on the basis of actual or perceived: race; color; national origin; military status; unfavorable discharge status from military service; sex; sexual orientation; gender identity; gender-related identity or expression; ancestry; age; religion; physical or mental disability; order of protection status; status of being homeless; actual or potential marital or parental status, including pregnancy; association with a person or group with one or more of the aforementioned actual or perceived characteristics; or any other distinguishing characteristic. The District will not tolerate harassing, intimidating conduct, or bullying whether verbal, physical, sexual, or visual, that affects the tangible benefits of education, that unreasonably interferes with a student's educational performance, or that creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive educational environment. Examples of prohibited conduct include name-calling, using derogatory slurs, stalking, sexual violence, causing psychological harm, threatening or causing physical harm, threatened or actual destruction of property, or wearing or possessing items depicting or implying hatred or prejudice of one of the characteristics stated above. ²

¹ State or federal law requires this subject matter be covered by policy and controls this policy's content. Each district must have a policy on bullying (105 ILCS 5/27-23.7, amended by P.A. 98-669); see 7:180, *Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment*.

This policy's list of protected classifications is identical to the list in 7:180, *Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment*. The protected classifications are found in 105 ILCS 5/27-23.7(a); 775 ILCS 5/1-103; and 23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.240.

The list of protected classifications in sample policy 7:10, *Equal Educational Opportunities*, is different – it does not contain the classifications that are exclusively identified in the bullying statute (105 ILCS 5/27-23.7).

The Ill. Human Rights Act and an ISBE rule prohibit schools from discriminating against students on the basis of *sexual orientation* and *gender identity* (775 ILCS 5/5-101(11); 23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.240). *Sexual orientation* is defined as the “actual or perceived heterosexuality, homosexuality, bisexuality, or gender related identity, whether or not traditionally associated with the person's designated sex at birth,” (775 ILCS 5/1-103(O-1)). *Gender identity* is included in the definition of sexual orientation in the Act. The Act permits schools to maintain single-sex facilities that are distinctly private in nature, e.g., restrooms and locker rooms (775 ILCS 5/5-103). 775 ILCS 5/1-102(A), added *order of protection status* to its list of protected categories. The Ill. Human Rights Act's jurisdiction is specifically limited to: (1) failing to enroll an individual, (2) denying access to facilities, goods, or services, or (3) failing to take corrective action to stop severe or pervasive harassment of an individual (775 ILCS 5/5-102.2).

² This list of examples of prohibited conduct is optional. While hate speech is not specifically mentioned in this paragraph, any hate speech used to harass or intimidate is banned. Hate speech without accompanying misconduct may be prohibited in response to actual incidences when hate speech interfered with the educational environment. *West v. Derby Unified Sch. Dist.*, 206 F.3d 1358 (10th Cir. 2000).

Sexual Harassment Prohibited

Sexual harassment of students is prohibited. ³ Any person, including a district employee or agent, or student, engages in sexual harassment whenever he or she makes sexual advances, requests sexual favors, and/or engages in other verbal or physical conduct, including sexual violence, of a sexual or sex-based nature, imposed on the basis of sex, that:

1. Denies or limits the provision of educational aid, benefits, services, or treatment; or that makes such conduct a condition of a student's academic status; or
2. Has the purpose or effect of:
 - a. Substantially interfering with a student's educational environment;
 - b. Creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive educational environment;
 - c. Depriving a student of educational aid, benefits, services, or treatment; or
 - d. Making submission to or rejection of such conduct the basis for academic decisions affecting a student.

The terms *intimidating*, *hostile*, and *offensive* include conduct that has the effect of humiliation, embarrassment, or discomfort. Examples of sexual harassment include touching, crude jokes or pictures, discussions of sexual experiences, teasing related to sexual characteristics, and spreading rumors related to a person's alleged sexual activities. The term *sexual violence* includes a number of different acts. Examples of sexual violence include, but are not limited to, rape, sexual assault, sexual battery, sexual abuse, and sexual coercion.

Making a Complaint: Enforcement

Students are encouraged to report claims or incidences of bullying, harassment, sexual harassment, or any other prohibited conduct to the Nondiscrimination Coordinator, Building Principal, Assistant Building Principal, Dean of Students, or a Complaint Manager. A student may choose to report to a person of the student's same sex. Complaints will be kept confidential to the extent possible given the need to investigate. Students who make good faith complaints will not be disciplined.

An allegation that a student was a victim of any prohibited conduct perpetrated by another student shall be referred to the Building Principal, Assistant Building Principal, or Dean of Students for appropriate action.

³ Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in any educational program or activity receiving federal financial assistance (20 U.S.C. §1681). For purposes of Title IX, sexual harassment of students includes acts of sexual violence. Consult the board attorney to ensure the non-discrimination coordinator and complaint managers are trained to appropriately respond to allegations of discrimination based upon sexual violence under Title IX's sexual harassment umbrella. Several guidance documents highlight appropriate responses to sexual violence under Title IX. See f/n 3 in policy 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure* for a listing and links to these documents.

The sample policy's definition of *sexual harassment* does not distinguish between *welcome* and *unwelcome* behaviors - each is prohibited if it has a result described in sub-paragraph 1 or 2. See Mary M. v. North Lawrence Community School Corp., 131 F.3d 1220 (7th Cir., 1997) (An eighth grade student did not need to show that a school employee's sexual advances were *unwelcome* in order to prove sexual harassment.).

School districts are liable for damage awards for an employee's sexual harassment of a student in limited situations. Liability occurs only when a district official who, at a minimum, has authority to institute corrective action, has actual notice of and is deliberately indifferent to the employee's misconduct. Gebser v. Lago Vista Independent School District, 118 S.Ct. 1989 (1998). Schools are liable in student-to-student sexual harassment cases when school agents are deliberately indifferent to sexual harassment, of which they have actual knowledge, that is so severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive that it can be said to deprive the victims of access to the educational opportunities or benefits provided by the school. Davis v. Monroe County Board of Education, 119 S.Ct. 1661 (1999). The Ill. Dept. of Human Rights now has jurisdiction over allegations that a school failed to take corrective action to stop severe or pervasive harassment of an individual based upon a protected category (775 ILCS 5/5-102.2).

The Superintendent shall insert into this policy the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of the District's current Nondiscrimination Coordinator and Complaint Managers. **4** At least one of these individuals will be female, and at least one will be male.

Nondiscrimination Coordinator:

Name

Address

Email

Telephone

Complaint Managers:

_____ Name	_____ Name
_____ Address	_____ Address
_____ Email	_____ Email
_____ Telephone	_____ Telephone

The Superintendent shall use reasonable measures to inform staff members and students of this policy, such as, by including it in the appropriate handbooks. **5**

Any District employee who is determined, after an investigation, to have engaged in conduct prohibited by this policy will be subject to disciplinary action up to and including discharge. Any District student who is determined, after an investigation, to have engaged in conduct prohibited by this policy will be subject to disciplinary action, including but not limited to, suspension and expulsion consistent with the discipline policy. Any person making a knowingly false accusation regarding prohibited conduct will likewise be subject to disciplinary action up to and including discharge, with regard to employees, or suspension and expulsion, with regard to students.

4 Title IX regulations require districts to identify the person, address, and telephone number of the individual responsible for coordinating the district's compliance efforts. Each district must communicate its bullying policy to students and their parents/guardians (105 ILCS 5/27-23.7); see 7:180, *Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment*.

5 In addition to notifying students of the Uniform Grievance Procedure, a district must notify them of the person(s) designated to coordinate the district's compliance with Title IX (34 C.F.R. Part 106.8(a)). A comprehensive student handbook can provide required notices, along with other important information to recipients. The handbook can be developed by the building principal, but should be reviewed and approved by the superintendent and school board.

- LEGAL REF.: 20 U.S.C. §1681 et seq., Title IX of the Educational Amendments.
34 C.F.R. Part 106.
105 ILCS 5/10-20.12, 10-22.5, 5/27-1, and 5/27-23.7.
775 ILCS 5/1-101 et seq., Illinois Human Rights Act.
23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.240 and Part 200.
Davis v. Monroe County Board of Education, 119 S.Ct. 1661 (1999).
Franklin v. Gwinnett Co. Public Schools, 112 S.Ct. 1028 (1992).
Gebser v. Lago Vista Independent School District, 118 S.Ct. 1989 (1998).
West v. Derby Unified School District No. 260, 206 F.3d 1358 (10th Cir., 2000).
- CROSS REF.: 2:260 (Uniform Grievance Procedure), 5:20 (Workplace Harassment Prohibited),
7:10 (Equal Educational Opportunities), 7:180 (Prevention of and Response to
Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment), 7:185 (Teen Dating Violence
Prohibited), 7:190 (Student Discipline), 7:240 (Conduct Code for Participants in
Extracurricular Activities)

Students

Administrative Procedure - Accommodating Transgender Students or Gender Non-Conforming Students

This procedure's accommodation and support guidelines advance the District's goals of (1) providing all students equal access to a safe, non-hostile learning environment, and (2) implementing risk management controls in a developing and unsettled area of the law in which the federal Office of Civil Rights and Department of Justice have issued guidance.

While there is no mandate requiring procedures for accommodating transgender students or gender non-conforming students, this procedure guides school officials through the: (1) application of State and federal anti-discrimination laws to this student population, and (2) common needs in which transgender or gender non-conforming students may request accommodations and support at school. This procedure applies to all school activities, school-provided transportation, and school-sponsored events regardless of where they occur.

The Building Principal, Nondiscrimination Coordinator, and/or Complaint Manager, with input from others as appropriate, will implement this procedure. They will work with each transgender or gender non-conforming student, and as appropriate with the student's parent(s)/guardian(s), to manage a student's accommodations and supports on a case-by-case basis. The Board Attorney will be consulted concerning legal compliance.

Gender-Based Discrimination Is Prohibited

School districts must provide equal educational opportunities to transgender students and gender non-conforming students. Under State law, *sex discrimination* extends to claims of discrimination based on *sexual orientation* and *gender identity*. 775 ILCS 5/5-101(11); 23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.240. The Ill. Human Rights Act defines *sexual orientation* as the "actual or perceived heterosexuality, homosexuality, bisexuality, or gender related identity, whether or not traditionally associated with the person's designated sex at birth." 775 ILCS 5/1-103(O-1). The Act permits schools to maintain single-sex facilities that are distinctly private in nature, e.g., restrooms and locker rooms. 775 ILCS 5/5-103.

Federal law prohibits exclusion and discrimination on the basis of *sex*. 20 U.S.C. §1681(a), Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972. According to the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights (OCR) and the U.S. Department of Justice, Title IX protects lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender students, from gender discrimination.

School Board policy 7:10, *Equal Educational Opportunities*, recognizes the legal requirements described above. This procedure's guidance on accommodating transgender students or gender non-conforming students is based on OCR pronouncements. See the last section, **Resources**.

Gender-Based Bullying and/or Harassment Is Prohibited

The laws prohibiting gender discrimination require the District to protect transgender students and gender non-conforming students from bullying and harassment by other students. According to the federal Office of Civil Rights, a school district is responsible for damages suffered by a student who was the victim of protected-class harassment: (1) that is severe, pervasive, or persistent; (2) about which school officials knew or should have known; and (3) that interferes with or limits a student's participation in or benefit from services, activities, or opportunities offered by the school.

The School Code prohibits bullying on the basis of actual or perceived sexual orientation, gender-related identity or expression, and/or association with a person or group with one of the aforementioned actual or perceived characteristics. 105 ILCS 5/27-23.7(a). The Board policy on bullying and the District's suite of bullying prevention materials must be used to address and resolve

peer bullying and harassment of transgender or gender non-conforming students. See 7:180, *Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment*.

Terminology and Definitions

The District uses the following terms and definitions when discussing accommodations for a transgender student or gender non-conforming student (from the *Arcadia Resolution Agreement*, 7-24-2013, www.justice.gov/crt/about/edu/documents/arcadiaagree.pdf). NOTE: Definitions are not intended to label students, but rather to assist with understanding.

Gender-based discrimination is a form of sex discrimination, and refers to differential treatment or harassment of a student based on the student's sex, including gender identity, gender expression, and non-conformity with gender stereotypes, that results in the denial or limitation of education services, benefits, or opportunities. Conduct may constitute gender-based discrimination regardless of the actual or perceived sex, gender identity, or sexual orientation of the persons experiencing or engaging in the conduct.

Sex assigned at birth and assigned sex refers to the gender designation listed on one's original birth certificate.

Gender expression refers to external cues that one uses to represent or communicate one's gender to others, such as behavior, clothing, hairstyles, activities, voice, mannerisms, or body characteristics.

Gender identity refers to one's internal sense of gender, which may be different from one's assigned sex, and which is consistently and uniformly asserted, or for which there is other evidence that the gender identity is sincerely held as part of the student's core identity.

Transgender describes an individual whose gender identity is different from the individual's assigned sex. *Transgender boy* and *transgender male* refer to an individual assigned the female sex at birth who has a male gender identity. An individual can express or assert a transgender gender identity in a variety of ways, which may but do not always include specific medical treatments or procedures. Medical treatments or procedures are not considered a prerequisite for one's recognition as transgender. For purposes of this procedure, a *transgender student* is a student who consistently and uniformly asserts a gender identity different from the student's assigned sex, or for whom there is documented legal or medical evidence that the gender identity is sincerely held as part of the student's core identity.

Gender transition refers to the experience by which a transgender person goes from living and identifying as one's assigned sex to living and identifying as the sex consistent with one's gender identity. A gender transition often includes a *social transition*, during which an individual begins to live and identify as the sex consistent with the individual's gender identity, with or without certain medical treatments or procedures.

Gender stereotypes refers to stereotypical notions of masculinity and femininity, including expectations of how boys or girls represent or communicate one's gender to others, such as behavior, clothing, hairstyles, activities, voice, mannerisms, or body characteristics.

Gender non-conformity refers to one's gender expression, gender characteristics, or gender identity that does not conform to gender stereotypes.

Facilities refers to facilities and accommodations used by students at school or during school-sponsored activities and trips, and include, but are not limited to, restrooms, locker rooms, and overnight facilities.

Relevant Board Policies for Accommodations, Supports, and Inclusion of Transgender or Gender Non-Conforming Students

2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*, contains the process for an individual to seek resolution of a complaint. A student may use this policy to complain about bullying. The District Complaint Manager shall address the complaint promptly and equitably.

- 6:65, *Student Social and Emotional Development*, requires that social and emotional learning be incorporated into the District's curriculum and other educational programs.
- 7:10, *Equal Educational Opportunities*, requires that equal educational and extracurricular opportunities be available to all students without regard to, among other protected statuses, sex, sexual orientation, and gender identity.
- 7:20, *Harassment of Students Prohibited*, prohibits any person from harassing, intimidating, or bullying a student based on an actual or perceived characteristic that is identified in the policy including, among other protected statuses, sex, sexual orientation, and gender identity.
- 7:130, *Student Rights and Responsibilities*, recognizes that all students are entitled to rights protected by the U.S. and Illinois Constitutions and laws for persons of their age and maturity in a school setting.
- 7:160, *Student Appearance*, prohibits students from dressing or grooming in such a way as to disrupt the educational process, interfere with a positive teaching/learning climate, or compromise reasonable standards of health, safety, and decency.
- 7:180, *Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment*, contains the comprehensive structure for the District's bullying prevention program.
- 7:250, *Student Support Services*, directs the Superintendent to develop protocols for responding to students' social, emotional, or mental health problems that impact learning.
- 7:330, *Student Use of Buildings - Equal Access*, grants student-initiated groups or clubs the free use of school premises for their meetings, under specified conditions.
- 7:340, *Student Records*, contains the comprehensive structure for managing school student records, keeping them confidential, and providing access as allowed or required.

Common Needs for Transgender or Gender Non-Conforming Students; Accommodations and Supports

The goal of an accommodation is to allow a transgender or gender non-conforming student to equally participate in educational and extracurricular opportunities. The right of transgender students to accommodations is generally found in legislation (Illinois Human Rights Act and Title IX) but has not been fully interpreted by the courts. Determining appropriate accommodations is difficult because school officials must balance the rights of transgender or gender non-conforming students to freedom from discrimination and freedom of expression with the rights of other students to freedoms of religion and expression. The Board Attorney is an indispensable member of the team that will identify accommodations for a specific student.

This list is not exhaustive, and each student's request must be managed on a case-by-case basis. A particular student may not be interested in an accommodation for each item listed. Seek the Board Attorney's advice concerning the scope and extent of accommodations.

1. Gender transition
2. Names and pronouns
3. School student records
4. Student privacy and confidentiality
5. Access to gender-segregated areas (e.g. locker rooms and restrooms)
6. Sports and physical education classes - participation in competitive athletic activities and contact sports is resolved pursuant to IHSA policy #34, *Policy and School Recommendations for Transgender Participation*, www.ihsa.org/AbouttheIHSA/ConstitutionBylawsPolicies.aspx
7. Dress codes
8. Gender segregation in other areas (e.g., class discussions and field trips)

Training for School Staff Members

When and where appropriate, professional development for staff members should include opportunities to gain a better understanding of equal educational opportunity laws, gender identity, gender expression, and gender diversity; the development of gender identity in children and adolescents; developmentally appropriate strategies for communicating with students and parents/guardians about issues related to gender identity; gender-affirming approaches to ensuring the safety and support of transgender students and gender non-conforming students; developmentally appropriate strategies for preventing and intervening in bullying incidents; and Board policies regarding bullying, discrimination, and student privacy.

Resources

Dealing with Legal Matters Surrounding Students' Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity, published by the National School Board Association and other participating organizations, April 2013, at www.nsba.org/sites/default/files/reports/Dealing%20with%20Legal%20Matters%20Surrounding%20Students%E2%80%99%20Sexual%20Orientation%20and%20Gender%20Identity.pdf.

Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, *Guidance for Massachusetts Public Schools Creating a Safe and Supportive School Environment Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Gender Identity* (undated), at www.doe.mass.edu/ssce/GenderIdentity.pdf.

OCR Dear Colleague Letter, harassment and bullying (2010), at www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/letters/colleague-201010.html.

OCR Guidance on Responsibilities of Schools to Address Sexual Violence, Other Forms of Sex Discrimination (2014) at www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/guidance-issued-responsibilities-schools-address-sexual-violence-other-forms-sex.

OCR and DOJ Consent Decrees and Resolution Agreements:

www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/investigations/05115901.html (Anoka-Hennepin School District, MN, 3-5-2012).

www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/investigations/09111031.html (Tehachapi Unified School District, CA, 7-7-2011).

www.justice.gov/crt/about/edu/documents/arcadiaagree.pdf (Arcadia Unified School District, CA, 7-24-2013).

Executive Order No. 11,246, 30 FR 12319, 12935, 3 CFR, 1964-1965 Comp., p. 339, (1965), as amended on July 21, 2014, prohibits discrimination by the federal government or federal contractors on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity. The Secretary of Labor was directed to prepare implementing regulations within 90 days (or by 10-19-2014).

The School Leaders Risk Management Association. *District Transgender and Gender Non-conforming Student Practice and Policy*, May 2014 (Copyright - Chicago: Brokers Risk Placement Service, Inc., 2014).

Which Way to the Restroom? Respecting the Rights of Transgender Youth in the School System. April 2012 (Copyright - National School Boards Association), Grant Bowers and Wendy Lopez, at www.nsba.org/sites/default/files/reports/Respecting%20the%20Rights%20of%20Transgender%20Youth%20and%20appendices.pdf.

Students

Administrative Procedure - Placement of Nonpublic School Students Transferring Into the District

Actor	Action
Parent(s)/guardian(s) of a nonpublic school student transferring into the District	Shall perform all school admission requirements contained in School Board policy 7:50, <i>School Admissions and Student Transfers To and From Non-District Schools</i> , and administrative procedure 7:50-AP, <i>Administrative Procedure - School Admissions and Student Transfers To and From Non-District Schools</i> .
Building Principal or designee	<p>Meets with parent(s)/guardian(s) to discuss appropriate placement.</p> <p>Inquires about the student's special interests, concerns, and goals.</p> <p>Administers a Student Home Language Survey. ISBE provides Sample Home Language Surveys that are available in English and twenty-nine other languages under the Home Language Surveys tab at: www.isbe.net/bilingual/htmls/forms-and-notifications.htm.</p> <p>Determines achievement level based on interviews, school records, achievement testing, and/or other appropriate means.</p> <p>Considers special circumstances, e.g., whether the student is: gifted, disabled, homeless, has limited English proficiency, is part of a migrant family, has special medical needs, or has other needs.</p> <p>Before making a placement decision, seeks input from appropriate school personnel.</p> <p>Awards credits and determines placement.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Course credit awarded to students transferring from a non-graded school or a school that is not recognized by the state education agency, will be given the grade of "P" for passing with no letter or numerical designation for the level of proficiency.</p> <p>Completes other enrollment procedures.</p>

Students

Exhibit - Letter of Residence from Landlord in Lieu of Lease

A person seeking to enroll a child may use this form as evidence of residency when a signed lease is unavailable – other documents will also be required to establish residency. Return this completed form, signed by your landlord, to the Building Principal. The School District reserves the right to evaluate the evidence presented; completing this form does not guarantee admission.

To be completed and signed by the individual enrolling the child and returned to the Principal. Please print.

Child School

Individual enrolling the child Home Telephone

Relationship to the child

Residence street address City Zip code

Landlord’s name Landlord’s telephone

Landlord’s address City Zip code

Signature of the individual enrolling the student Date

To be signed by your landlord to verify that you are renting this residence.

I certify that the individuals named above are living in the residence named above for the lease term of ____/____/____ through ____/____/____.

Landlord’s signature Date

WARNING: If a student is determined to be a nonresident of the District for whom tuition must be charged, the persons enrolling the student are liable for non-resident tuition from the date the student began attending a District school as a non-resident.

A person who knowingly enrolls or attempts to enroll in this School District on a tuition-free basis a student known by that person to be a nonresident of the district is guilty of a Class C misdemeanor, except in very limited situations as defined in State law (105 ILCS 5/10-20.12b(e)).

A person who knowingly or willfully presents to the School District any false information regarding the residency of a student for the purpose of enabling that student to attend any school in that district without the payment of a nonresident tuition charge is guilty of a Class C misdemeanor (105 ILCS 5/10-20.12b(f)).

Students

Exhibit - Letter of Residence to Be Used When the Person Seeking to Enroll a Student Is Living with a District Resident

A person seeking to enroll a child should use this form as evidence of residency when he or she cannot produce a lease, purchase property agreement, or other similar document – other documents will also be required to establish residency. The School District reserves the right to evaluate the evidence presented; completing this form does not guarantee admission.

To be completed by the individual enrolling the child and returned to the Principal. Please print.

Child _____ School _____

Individual enrolling the child _____ Home Telephone _____

Relationship to the child _____

Residence street address _____ City _____ Zip code _____

Signature of the individual enrolling the student _____ Date _____

To be completed and signed by the individual who is responsible for the residence. Please print.

Name of the individual who is responsible for the residence _____ Telephone _____

I am responsible for this residence by ownership, lease, or other _____

Total number of: Persons living at this residence _____ Rooms in residence _____ Bedrooms _____

State the reasons for this living arrangement, including your relationship to the individual enrolling the child:

I certify that this information is true and that the individuals named above are living in my residence.

Signature of the individual who is responsible for the residence _____ Date _____

WARNING: If a student is determined to be a nonresident of the District for whom tuition must be charged, the persons enrolling the student are liable for non-resident tuition from the date the student began attending a District school as a non-resident.

A person who knowingly enrolls or attempts to enroll in this School District on a tuition-free basis a student known by that person to be a nonresident of the district is guilty of a Class C misdemeanor, except in very limited situations as defined in State law (105 ILCS 5/10-20.12b(e)).

A person who knowingly or willfully presents to the School District any false information regarding the residency of a student for the purpose of enabling that student to attend any school in that district without the payment of a nonresident tuition charge is guilty of a Class C misdemeanor (105 ILCS 5/10-20.12b(f)).

Students

Exhibit - Evidence of Non-Parent’s Custody, Control, and Responsibility of a Student

This form establishes a child’s residency in the School District when the child is not living with a natural or adoptive parent. It must be completed by the individual who has assumed custody. Read **Important Warning** and submit this form with your signature to the Building Principal.

Student’s name _____ District attendance building _____

Name of individual completing this form *(Please print)* _____ Relationship to child _____

Please check all applicable boxes:

- The child lives with me at my residence address, as stated below, and is not living with me solely for the purpose of attending the District’s school.
- I have assumed and exercise full legal responsibility for and control of the child regarding daily educational and medical decisions, including responsibility for:
 - medical decisions and costs
 - food and clothing
 - discipline and restitution for vandalism or other crimes
 - school fees (books, bus, etc.)

At my residence the child regularly: *(Please explain any unchecked boxes)*

- Eats meals _____
- Sleeps _____
- Spends weekends and summers _____

Important Warning: The School District reserves the right to evaluate the evidence presented. Completing this form does not guarantee admission. If a student is determined to be a nonresident of the District for whom tuition must be charged, the persons enrolling the student are liable for non-resident tuition from the date the student began attending a District school as a non-resident.

A person who knowingly enrolls or attempts to enroll in this School District on a tuition-free basis a student known by that person to be a nonresident of the District is guilty of a Class C misdemeanor, except in very limited situations as defined in State law (105 ILCS 5/10-20.12b(e)).

A person who knowingly or willfully presents to the School District any false information regarding a student’s residency to enable that student to attend any school in the District without the payment of a nonresident tuition charge is guilty of a Class C misdemeanor (105 ILCS 5/10-20.12b(f)).

Date _____ Signature of individual completing this form _____

Telephone _____ Address _____

Optional: *To be completed by the natural or adoptive parent(s), if one is available.*

Please check all applicable boxes:

- I am the natural or adoptive parent of the child.
- I have willingly transferred full custody and control of, as well as responsibility for this child to: _____
- The transfer of custody is not solely for the purpose of attending the District’s schools.

Date _____ Signature of individual completing this form _____

Telephone _____ Address _____

Students

Vandalism ¹

The School Board will seek restitution from students and their parents/guardians for vandalism or other student acts that cause damage to school property. ²

LEGAL REF.: 740 ILCS 115/.

CROSS REF.: 7:130 (Student Rights and Responsibilities), 7:190 (Student Discipline)

¹ State or federal law controls this policy's content.

² The Parental Responsibility Law makes parents/guardians of unemancipated minors who are 11 through 18 years of age liable for actual damages. Parents/guardians may be liable up to \$20,000 for the first act or occurrence of a willful or malicious act. If a pattern or practice of willful or malicious acts by a minor is found by a court to exist for another separate act or occurrence, parents/guardians may be liable up to \$30,000 (740 ILCS 115/5).

Students

Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment ¹

Bullying, intimidation, and harassment diminish a student’s ability to learn and a school’s ability to educate. Preventing students from engaging in these disruptive behaviors and providing all students equal access to a safe, non-hostile learning environment are important District goals.

Bullying on the basis of actual or perceived race, color, national origin, military status, unfavorable discharge status from the military service, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender-related identity or expression, ancestry, age, religion, physical or mental disability, order of protection status, status of being homeless, or actual or potential marital or parental status, including pregnancy, association with a person or group with one or more of the aforementioned actual or perceived characteristics, or any other distinguishing characteristic **is prohibited** in each of the following situations: ²

1. During any school-sponsored education program or activity.
2. While in school, on school property, on school buses or other school vehicles, at designated school bus stops waiting for the school bus, or at school-sponsored or school-sanctioned events or activities.
3. Through the transmission of information from a school computer, a school computer network, or other similar electronic school equipment.
4. Through the transmission of information from a computer that is accessed at a nonschool-related location, activity, function, or program or from the use of technology or an electronic device that is not owned, leased, or used by the School District or school if the bullying causes a substantial disruption to the educational process or orderly operation of a school. This paragraph (item #4) applies only when a school administrator or teacher receives a report that bullying through this means has occurred; it does not require staff members to monitor any nonschool-related activity, function, or program.

Definitions from Section 27-23.7 of the School Code (105 ILCS 5/27-23.7) ³

Bullying includes *cyber-bullying* and means any severe or pervasive physical or verbal act or conduct, including communications made in writing or electronically, directed toward a student or students that has or can be reasonably predicted to have the effect of one or more of the following:

1. Placing the student or students in reasonable fear of harm to the student’s or students’ person or property;
2. Causing a substantially detrimental effect on the student’s or students’ physical or mental health;
3. Substantially interfering with the student’s or students’ academic performance; or

¹ All districts must have a policy on bullying (105 ILCS 5/27-23.7, amended by P.A.s 98-669 and 98-801 (eff. 1-1-2015)). Every 2 years, each district must review and re-evaluate this policy, make necessary and appropriate revisions, and file the updated policy with ISBE. This sample policy’s first paragraph allows a school board to consider its goals for preventing bullying and remedying its consequences; it may be amended.

In addition to a bullying prevention policy, all districts must have a policy on student discipline (105 ILCS 5/10-20.14; 23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.280). Boards must, in consultation with their parent-teacher advisory committees and other community-based organizations, address aggressive behavior, including bullying, in their student discipline policy. See 7:190, *Student Discipline*; 7:190-E1, *Aggressive Behavior Reporting Letter and Form*.

² This paragraph and its subparts 1-4 are from the bullying prevention statute (105 ILCS 5/27-23.7(a); see also 775 ILCS 5/1-103 and 23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.240). The protected statuses are mandated by the bullying prevention statute; the list of protected statuses is identical to the list in 7:20, *Harassment of Students Prohibited*.

³ All definitions are directly from 105 ILCS 5/27-23.7, amended by P.A.s 98-669 and 98-801 (eff. 1-1-2015).

4. Substantially interfering with the student's or students' ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities, or privileges provided by a school.

Cyber-bullying means bullying through the use of technology or any electronic communication, including without limitation any transfer of signs, signals, writing, images, sounds, data, or intelligence of any nature transmitted in whole or in part by a wire, radio, electromagnetic system, photo-electronic system, or photo-optical system, including without limitation electronic mail, Internet communications, instant messages, or facsimile communications. *Cyber-bullying* includes the creation of a webpage or weblog in which the creator assumes the identity of another person or the knowing impersonation of another person as the author of posted content or messages if the creation or impersonation creates any of the effects enumerated in the definition of *bullying*. *Cyber-bullying* also includes the distribution by electronic means of a communication to more than one person or the posting of material on an electronic medium that may be accessed by one or more persons if the distribution or posting creates any of the effects enumerated in the definition of *bullying*.

Restorative measures means a continuum of school-based alternatives to exclusionary discipline, such as suspensions and expulsions, that: (i) are adapted to the particular needs of the school and community, (ii) contribute to maintaining school safety, (iii) protect the integrity of a positive and productive learning climate, (iv) teach students the personal and interpersonal skills they will need to be successful in school and society, (v) serve to build and restore relationships among students, families, schools, and communities, and (vi) reduce the likelihood of future disruption by balancing accountability with an understanding of students' behavioral health needs in order to keep students in school.

School personnel means persons employed by, on contract with, or who volunteer in a school district, including without limitation school and school district administrators, teachers, school guidance counselors, school social workers, school counselors, school psychologists, school nurses, cafeteria workers, custodians, bus drivers, school resource officers, and security guards.

Bullying Prevention and Response Plan

The Superintendent or designee shall develop and maintain a bullying prevention and response plan that advances the District's goal of providing all students with a safe learning environment free of bullying and harassment. This plan must be consistent with the requirements listed below; each numbered requirement, 1-12, corresponds with the same number in the list of required policy components in 105 ILCS 5/27-23.7(b) 1-12. ⁴

1. The District uses the definition of *bullying* as provided in this policy. ⁵
2. Bullying is contrary to State law and the policy of this District. However, nothing in the District's bullying prevention and response plan is intended to infringe upon any right to exercise free expression or the free exercise of religion or religiously based views protected under the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution or under Section 3 of Article I of the Illinois Constitution.
3. Students are encouraged to immediately report bullying. A report may be made orally or in writing to the District Complaint Manager or any staff member with whom the student is

⁴ As each numbered requirement, 1-12, corresponds with the same number in 5/27-23.7(b) 1-12, there are no reference citations in footnotes. All non-statutory requirements, plus alternatives and optional provisions, are described in footnotes.

⁵ A board may augment the School Code requirement by using this alternative:

Using the definition of *bullying* as provided in this policy, the Superintendent or designee shall emphasize to the school community that: (a) the District prohibits bullying, and (b) all students should conduct themselves with a proper regard for the rights and welfare of other students. This may include a process for commending or acknowledging students for demonstrating appropriate behavior.

comfortable speaking. ⁶ Anyone, including staff members and parents/guardians, who has information about actual or threatened bullying is encouraged to report it to the District Complaint Manager or any staff member. Anonymous reports are also accepted.

Complaint Manager:

Name

Address

Email

Telephone

4. Consistent with federal and State laws and rules governing student privacy rights, the Superintendent or designee shall promptly inform the parent(s)/guardian(s) of every student involved in an alleged incident of bullying and discuss, as appropriate, the availability of social work services, counseling, school psychological services, other interventions, and restorative measures. ⁷
5. The Superintendent or designee shall promptly investigate and address reports of bullying, by, among other things:
 - a. Making all reasonable efforts to complete the investigation within 10 school days after the date the report of a bullying incident was received and taking into consideration additional relevant information received during the course of the investigation about the reported bullying incident.
 - b. Involving appropriate school support personnel and other staff persons with knowledge, experience, and training on bullying prevention, as deemed appropriate, in the investigation process.
 - c. Notifying the Building Principal or school administrator or designee of the reported incident of bullying as soon as possible after the report is received.
 - d. Consistent with federal and State laws and rules governing student privacy rights, providing parents/guardians of the students who are parties to the investigation information about the investigation and an opportunity to meet with the Building Principal or school administrator or his or her designee to discuss the investigation, the findings of the investigation, and the actions taken to address the reported incident of bullying.

The Superintendent or designee shall investigate whether a reported incident of bullying is within the permissible scope of the District’s jurisdiction and shall require that the District provide the victim with information regarding services that are available within the District and community, such as counseling, support services, and other programs. ⁸

6. The Superintendent or designee shall use interventions to address bullying, that may include, but are not limited to, school social work services, restorative measures, social-emotional skill building, counseling, school psychological services, and community-based services.

⁶ The statute requires that the policy contain the email address and telephone number for the staff person(s) responsible for receiving bullying reports. Using the district Complaint Manager or Nondiscrimination Coordinator is consistent with 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*. A board may substitute or add the Nondiscrimination Coordinator, Building Principal, or other position in this paragraph and below with the contact information. A board may also add a telephone number for making anonymous reports.

⁷ 105 ILCS 5/10-20.14 contains a similar requirement. See 7:190-E1, *Aggressive Behavior Reporting Letter and Form*.

⁸ This sentence contains requirements found in 105 ILCS 5/27-23.7(d), amended by P.A. 98-801 (eff. 1-1-2015).

7. A reprisal or retaliation against any person who reports an act of bullying **is prohibited**. A student's act of reprisal or retaliation will be treated as *bullying* for purposes of determining any consequences or other appropriate remedial actions.
8. A student will not be punished for reporting bullying or supplying information, even if the District's investigation concludes that no bullying occurred. However, knowingly making a false accusation or providing knowingly false information will be treated as *bullying* for purposes of determining any consequences or other appropriate remedial actions.
9. The District's bullying prevention and response plan must be based on the engagement of a range of school stakeholders, including students and parents/guardians.
10. The Superintendent or designee shall post this policy on the District's Internet website, if any, and include it in the student handbook, and, where applicable, post it where other policies, rules, and standards of conduct are currently posted. The policy must also be distributed annually to parents/guardians, students, and school personnel, including new employees when hired.
11. The Superintendent or designee shall assist the Board with its evaluation and assessment of this policy's outcomes and effectiveness. This process shall include, without limitation:
 - a. The frequency of victimization;
 - b. Student, staff, and family observations of safety at a school;
 - c. Identification of areas of a school where bullying occurs;
 - d. The types of bullying utilized; and
 - e. Bystander intervention or participation.

The evaluation process may use relevant data and information that the District already collects for other purposes. The Superintendent or designee must post the information developed as a result of the policy evaluation on the District's website, or if a website is not available, the information must be provided to school administrators, Board members, school personnel, parents/guardians, and students.

12. The Superintendent or designee shall fully implement the Board policies, including without limitation, the following: ⁹
 - a. 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*. A student may use this policy to complain about bullying.
 - b. 6:60, *Curriculum Content*. Bullying prevention and character instruction is provided in all grades in accordance with State law.

⁹ The statute requires that the bullying policy *be consistent with* other board policies. The list of policies may be deleted and the following alternative used: "12. The District's bullying prevention plan must be consistent with other Board policies." If a policy list is included, be sure the referenced policies were adopted locally and amend the list accordingly.

The bullying statute does not identify staff member duties regarding the prevention or response to student bullying. The following optional provision addresses staff member responsibilities and may be added as a new paragraph 13:

13. The Superintendent or designee shall fully inform staff members of the District's goal to prevent students from engaging in bullying and the measures being used to accomplish it. This includes each of the following:
 - a. Communicating the District's expectation and State law requirement that teachers and other certificated or licensed employees maintain discipline.
 - b. Establishing the expectation that staff members: (1) intervene immediately to stop a bullying incident that they witness or immediately contact building security and/or law enforcement if the incident involves a weapon or other illegal activity, (2) report bullying, whether they witness it or not, to an administrator, and (3) inform the administration of locations on school grounds where additional supervision or monitoring may be needed to prevent bullying.
 - c. Where appropriate in the staff development program, providing strategies to staff members to effectively prevent bullying and intervene when it occurs.
 - d. Establishing a process for staff members to fulfill their obligation to report alleged acts of bullying.

- c. 6:65, *Student Social and Emotional Development*. Student social and emotional development is incorporated into the District's educational program as required by State law.
- d. 6:235, *Access to Electronic Networks*. This policy states that the use of the District's electronic networks is limited to: (1) support of education and/or research, or (2) a legitimate business use.
- e. 7:20, *Harassment of Students Prohibited*. This policy prohibits *any* person from harassing, intimidating, or bullying a student based on an identified actual or perceived characteristic (the list of characteristics in 7:20 is the same as the list in this policy).
- f. 7:185, *Teen Dating Violence Prohibited*. This policy prohibits teen dating violence on school property, at school sponsored activities, and in vehicles used for school-provided transportation.
- g. 7:190, *Student Discipline*. This policy prohibits, and provides consequences for, hazing, bullying, or other aggressive behaviors, or urging other students to engage in such conduct.
- h. 7:310, *Restrictions on Publications*. This policy prohibits students from and provides consequences for: (1) accessing and/or distributing at school any written, printed, or electronic material, including material from the Internet, that will cause substantial disruption of the proper and orderly operation and discipline of the school or school activities, and (2) creating and/or distributing written, printed, or electronic material, including photographic material and blogs, that causes substantial disruption to school operations or interferes with the rights of other students or staff members.

LEGAL REF.: 405 ILCS 49/, Children's Mental Health Act.
 105 ILCS 5/10-20.14, 5/24-24, and 5/27-23.7.
 23 Ill.Admin.Code §§1.240 and §1.280.

CROSS REF.: 2:240 (Board Policy Development), 2:260 (Uniform Grievance Procedure), 4:170 (Safety), 5:230 (Maintaining Student Discipline), 6:60 (Curriculum Content), 6:65 (Student Social and Emotional Development), 6:235 (Access to Electronic Networks), 7:20 (Harassment of Students Prohibited), 7:185 (Teen Dating Violence Prohibited), 7:190 (Student Discipline), 7:220 (Bus Conduct), 7:230 (Misconduct by Students with Disabilities), 7:240 (Conduct Code for Participants in Extracurricular Activities), 7:285 (Food Allergy Management Program), 7:310 (Restrictions on Publications)

Students

Suspension Procedures ¹

The Superintendent or designee shall implement suspension procedures that provide, at a minimum, for the following: ²

1. Before a student may be suspended, the student shall be provided a conference during which the charges will be explained and the student will be given an opportunity to respond to the charges.
2. A pre-suspension conference is not required and the student can be immediately suspended when the student's presence poses a continuing danger to persons or property or an ongoing threat of disruption to the educational process. In such cases, the notice and conference shall follow as soon as practicable.
3. Any suspension shall be reported immediately to the student's parent(s)/guardian(s). A written notice of the suspension shall state the reasons for the suspension, including any school rule that was violated, and a notice to the parent(s)/guardian(s) of their right to a review of the suspension. The School Board must be given a summary of the notice, including the reason for the suspension and the suspension length.
4. Upon request of the parent(s)/guardian(s), a review of the suspension shall be conducted by the Board or a hearing officer appointed by the Board. ³ At the review, the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) may appear and discuss the suspension with the Board or its hearing officer and may be represented by counsel. After presentation of the evidence or receipt of the hearing officer's report, the Board shall take such action as it finds appropriate.

¹ State law requires districts to have a policy on student discipline (105 ILCS 5/10-20.14; 23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.280). State or federal law controls this policy's content. For information about administering student discipline, see the U.S. Dept. of Education's and the U.S. Dept. of Justice's 2014 jointly released school discipline package, *Guiding Principles*, at: www2.ed.gov/policy/gen/guid/school-discipline/faq.pdf.

Boards may authorize *by policy* the superintendent, building principal, assistant building principal, or dean of students to suspend students guilty of gross disobedience or misconduct from school, including all school functions (105 ILCS 5/10-22.6(b)). See 7:190, *Student Discipline*, for such an authorization.

² Suspension procedures are required by State law (105 ILCS 5/10-22.6(b)). The right to attend school is a property right protected by the due process clause of the U.S. Constitution. *Goss v. Lopez*, 95 S.Ct. 729 (1975). Imposing a short deprivation of this property right by suspending a student for 10 or fewer days requires only minimal due process. The student must be generally informed of the reasons for the possible suspension, and be permitted to tell his/her version of the story. Making a decision to suspend before the hearing violates the basic due process requirement that the hearing be meaningful. *Sieck v. Oak Park-River Forest High School*, 807 F.Supp. 73 (N.D. Ill., E.D., 1992).

105 ILCS 5/10-22.6(b) allows a student who is suspended in excess of 20 school days to be immediately transferred to an alternative program in the manner provided in Article 13A or 13B of the School Code. A student cannot be denied transfer because of the suspension, except in cases in which such transfer is deemed to cause a threat to the safety of students or staff in the alternative program.

Consult the board attorney for assistance if a suspension will exceed 10 consecutive school days. Subsection 10-22.6(b) uses the phrase "is suspended in excess of 20 school days" even though a 20-consecutive day suspension should be treated as an expulsion. *Goss v. Lopez*, 95 S.Ct. 729 (1975). For further discussion, see f/n 34 in policy 7:190, *Student Discipline*.

³ A board may hear student disciplinary cases in a meeting closed to the public (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(9)).

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/10-22.6(b).
Goss v. Lopez, 95 S.Ct. 729 (1975).
Sieck v. Oak Park River-Forest High School, 807 F.Supp. 73 (N.D. Ill., E.D.,
1992).

CROSS REF.: 7:130 (Student Rights and Responsibilities), 7:190 (Student Discipline)

Students

Conduct Code for Participants in Extracurricular Activities ¹

The Superintendent or designee, using input from coaches and sponsors of extracurricular activities, shall develop a conduct code for all participants in extracurricular activities consistent with School Board policy. ² The conduct code shall: (1) require participants in extracurricular activities to conduct themselves as good citizens and exemplars of their school at all times, including after school, on days when school is not in session, and whether on or off school property; (2) emphasize that hazing and bullying activities are strictly prohibited; and (3) notify participants that failure to abide by it could result in removal from the activity. ³ The conduct code shall be reviewed by the Building Principal periodically at his or her discretion and presented to the Board.

All coaches and sponsors of extracurricular activities shall annually review the rules of conduct with participants and provide participants with a copy. In addition, coaches and sponsors of interscholastic athletic programs shall provide instruction on steroid abuse prevention to students in grades 7 through 12 participating in these programs. ⁴

Extracurricular Drug and Alcohol Testing Program ⁵

The District maintains an extracurricular drug and alcohol testing program in order to foster the health, safety, and welfare of its students. Participation in extracurricular activities is a privilege and participants need to be exemplars. The program promotes healthy and drug-free participation.

Each student and his or her parent(s)/guardian(s) must consent to random drug and alcohol testing in order to participate in any extracurricular activity. Failure to sign the District's "Random Drug and Alcohol Testing Consent" form will result in non-participation.

If a test is *positive*, the student will not participate in extracurricular activities until after a *follow-up* test is requested by the Building Principal or designee and the results are reported. The Building Principal or designee will request a *follow-up* test after such an interval of time that the substance previously found would normally be eliminated from the body. If this *follow-up* test is negative, the student will be allowed to resume extracurricular activities. If a *positive* result is obtained from the *follow-up* test, or any later test, the same previous procedure shall be followed.

¹ State or federal law controls this policy's content.

² Optional:

...and the rules adopted by any association in which the School District maintains a membership.

³ In most cases involving a student's removal from an extracurricular activity, courts have ruled that participation in extracurricular programs is a privilege rather than a right. Clements v. Board of Education of Decatur Public School District No. 61, 478 N.E.2d 1209 (Ill.App.4, 1985). The deprivation of a privilege does not trigger the Constitution's due process provision. Consequently, unlike school attendance, students generally have no constitutional right to participate in extracurricular programs. See also Kevin Jordan v. O'Fallon THSD 203, 706 N.E.2d 137 (Ill.App.5, 1999). This case involved a type of "good citizen" rule in which all student-participants in extracurricular activities agreed to abide by the school's ban on alcohol and drug use. Pursuant to this rule, the school suspended a star football player who police had found intoxicated at a convenience store around 3:00 A.M. The suspension was upheld. Nevertheless, participants who violate the conduct code should be allowed to give an explanation before being removed from the activity.

⁴ 105 ILCS 5/27-23.3.

⁵ This program is optional. The U.S. Supreme Court upheld the constitutionality of a student activities drug testing policy that required all middle and high school students to consent to random urinalysis testing for drugs in order to participate in any extracurricular activity. Board of Education of Independent School Dist. No. 92 v. Earls et al., 122 S.Ct. 2559 (2002). This sample policy, as well as the procedures and forms implementing it, are based on the policy approved by the Seventh Circuit in Todd v. Rush County Schools, 133 F.3d 984 (7th Cir., 1998). Alternatively, this program may be limited to extracurricular athletic participants; if so, add the Drug and Alcohol Testing Program to policy 7:300, *Extracurricular Athletics*, and delete it from here.

The Superintendent or designee shall develop procedures to implement this policy. No student shall be expelled or suspended from school as a result of any verified positive test conducted under this program other than when independent reasonable suspicion of drug and/or alcohol usage exists. This program does not affect the District policies, practices, or rights to search or test any student who at the time exhibits cause for reasonable suspicion of drug and/or alcohol use.

Performance Enhancing Drug Testing 6

State law requires the Illinois High School Association (IHSA) to prohibit a student from participating in an athletic competition sponsored or sanctioned by IHSA unless the student has agreed, (a) not to use any performance-enhancing substances on IHSA's current banned drug list, and (b) to submit to random testing for these substances in the student's body if the student is in high school. In addition, the student's parent/guardian must sign a statement for IHSA containing specific acknowledgments including that the student, if in high school, may be subject to random performance-enhancing substance testing and that violating the laws regulating the use of performance-enhancing substances is a crime.

IHSA, with oversight from the Illinois Department of Public Health, administers a performance-enhancing substance testing program under which high school participants in athletic competition sponsored or sanctioned by IHSA are tested at multiple times throughout the athletic season for the presence in their bodies of performance-enhancing substances on the IHSA's banned drug list.

LEGAL REF.: Board of Education of Independent School Dist. No. 92 v. Earls, 122 S.Ct. 2559 (2002).
Clements v. Board of Education of Decatur, 478 N.E.2d 1209 (Ill.App.4, 1985).
Kevin Jordan v. O'Fallon THSD 203, 706 N.E.2d 137 (Ill.App.5, 1999).
Todd v. Rush County Schools, 133 F.3d 984 (7th Cir., 1998).
Veronia School Dist. 475 v. Acton, 515 U.S. 646 (1995).
105 ILCS 5/24-24, 5/27-23.3, and 25/2.

CROSS REF.: 5:280 (Duties and Qualifications), 6:190 (Extracurricular and Co-Curricular Activities), 7:180 (Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment), 7:190 (Student Discipline), 7:300 (Extracurricular Athletics)

⁶ 105 ILCS 25/2. See IHSA policy #24, *Performance Enhancing Drug Testing Policy* for its requirements, www.ihsa.org/Resources/SportsMedicine/PerformanceEnhancingDrugsSteroidEducation/IHSAPerformanceEnhancingSubstancePolicy.aspx.

Students

Administrative Procedure - Code of Conduct for Extracurricular Activities

This Code of Conduct applies to all school-sponsored activities that are neither part of an academic class nor otherwise carry credit or a grade. Sponsors shall create a roster of students who are members or participants in an extracurricular activity and maintain attendance records.

The goal of the extracurricular program is to provide opportunities for students to pursue interests and develop life skills beyond the classroom. An additional goal of the athletic program is to develop the physical skills of student athletes, which will allow them to compete to the best of their ability within the School Board policies and the by-laws of any association of which the school is a member.

Members must conduct themselves at all times, including after school and on days school is not in session, as good citizens and exemplars of their school - they must behave in ways that are consistent with good sportsmanship, leadership, and appropriate moral conduct. They are expected to demonstrate good citizenship and exemplary conduct in the classroom, in the community, and during all facets of the activity.

The Code of Conduct below describes the expectations and goals of the extracurricular and athletic programs. This Code does not contain a complete list of inappropriate behaviors for students in extracurricular activities and athletics. This Code of Conduct will be enforced 365 days a year, 24 hours a day. A student may be excluded from activities or competition while the school is conducting an investigation regarding that student's conduct.

Students and their parents/guardians are encouraged to seek assistance from the student assistance program regarding alcohol or other drug problems. Family-referrals or self-referrals will be taken into consideration in determining consequences for Code of Conduct violations.

Code of Conduct

A student participating in an activity or athletic program will be subject to disciplinary action if he or she violates this Code of Conduct for Extracurricular Activities. Violations will be treated cumulatively, with disciplinary penalties increasing with subsequent violations.

The student shall not:

1. Violate the District's policies or procedures on student discipline;
2. Use a beverage containing alcohol (except for religious purposes);
3. Use tobacco in any form;
4. Use, possess, buy, sell, barter, or distribute any illegal substance (including mood-altering and performance enhancing drugs or chemicals) or paraphernalia;
5. Use, possess, buy, sell, barter, or distribute any object that is or could be considered a weapon or any item that is a *look alike* weapon. This prohibition does not prohibit legal use of weapons in cooking and in sports, such as archery, martial arts practice, target shooting, hunting, and skeet;
6. Attend a party or other gathering and/or ride in a vehicle where alcoholic beverages and/or controlled substances are being consumed by minors;
7. Act in an unsportsmanlike manner;
8. Vandalize or steal;
9. Haze or bully other students;
10. Violate the written rules for the activity or sport;
11. Behave in a manner that is detrimental to the good of the group or school;

12. Be insubordinate or disrespectful toward the activity's sponsors or team's coaching staff;
13. Falsify any information contained on any permit or permission form required by the activity or sport.

Hazing and bullying activities are strictly forbidden at any time and in any location. *Hazing* is any humiliating or dangerous activity expected of a student to belong to a team or group, regardless of his or her willingness to participate. (Adapted from the definition of *hazing* adopted by the National Federation of State High School Associations.) *Bullying* is any physical or verbal act or conduct that has or can be reasonably predicted to place a student in reasonable fear of harm; cause a detrimental effect on a student's physical or mental health; interfere with a student's academic performance; or interfere with a student's ability to participate in or benefit from school activities. (Adapted from the definition of *bullying* included in the Board policy 7:180, *Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment*.)

Due Process Procedures

Students who are accused of violating the Code of Conduct for Extracurricular Activities are entitled to the following due process:

1. The student should be advised of the disciplinary infraction with which he or she is being charged.
2. The student shall be entitled to a hearing before an appropriate administrator.
3. The student will be able to respond to any charges leveled against him or her.
4. The student may provide any additional information he or she wishes for the administrator to consider.
5. The administrator, with the help of other staff members if needed, may interview material witnesses or others with evidence concerning the case.
6. If the administrator finds, after reviewing the evidence, that the violation occurred, he or she will impose sanctions on the student, as follows:
 - a. Sanctions for violations other than drug and alcohol will be based on the nature of the offense and the number of offenses, and may include suspension from all activities or sports for one of the time periods described below:
 - A specified period of time or percentage of events, competitions, or practices
 - The remainder of the season or for the next season
 - The remainder of the student's high school career
 - b. Sanctions for alcohol and other drug violations will be based on the following:

First violation

- Use, possession, buying, selling, bartering, or distributing: A suspension of one third of the total number of performances, activities, or competitions or the remainder of the season, whichever is shorter. This penalty will be reduced if the student successfully completes a school-approved chemical awareness program.
- Attendance at a party or riding in a vehicle where alcoholic beverages and/or controlled substances are being consumed: A suspension of one sixth of the total number of performances, activities or competitions, or the remainder of the season, whichever is shorter.
- The student will be required to practice with the group, regardless of the violation (unless suspended or expelled from school).

Second violation

- Use, possession, buying, selling, bartering, or distributing: A suspension of 12 weeks or 1 season, including suspension from all performances, activities, or competitions

during this period. To participate again in any activities, the student must successfully participate in and complete a school-approved alcohol and other drug abuse assessment and follow all recommendations from that assessment.

- Attendance at a party or riding in a vehicle where alcoholic beverages and/or controlled substances are being consumed: A suspension of one third of the season and all extracurricular group performances, activities, or competitions during this period.
- The student may be required to practice with the group (unless suspended or expelled from school).

Third violation

- Use, possession, buying, selling, bartering, or distributing: A suspension from extracurricular activities for the remainder of the student's high school career.
- Attendance at a party or riding in a vehicle where alcoholic beverages and/or controlled substances are being consumed: A suspension of one calendar year from the date of the suspension, including all extracurricular activities during this period.

7. The administrator will make a written report of his or her decision and rationale. The student may appeal the decision to the Building Principal.

All students remain subject to the Board's student discipline policy and/or the school's student handbook and the disciplinary measures listed in them.

Students

Administrative Procedure - Extracurricular Drug and Alcohol Testing Program

Testing Procedures

1. The Building Principal or designee shall, from time-to-time throughout the school year, randomly select extracurricular participants for drug and alcohol testing. Testing may occur on any day, Monday through Saturday. Names will be drawn from a pool of all student participants. Each student participant may be tested at any time during the year.
2. No student will be given advance notice or early warning of the testing.
3. Drug and/or alcohol testing may be performed by breath alcohol testing and/or urinalysis. Upon being selected for breath alcohol testing, a student must provide an adequate amount of breath so that the measuring device can measure any alcohol concentration in the breath. Upon being selected for a urinalysis test, the student shall provide a sample of "fresh" urine according to the quality control standards and policy of the laboratory conducting the urinalysis.
4. A staff member will accompany the student until he or she produces an adequate urine specimen. If unable to produce a specimen, the student will be given up to 24 ounces of fluid. If unable to produce a specimen within 2 hours, the student will be taken to the Building Principal's office and told he or she is ineligible for participation in any extracurricular activity. In addition, the parent(s)/guardian(s) will be telephoned and informed the student is unable to produce a sample for the testing procedure and he or she must be tested at a later date in order to be eligible.
5. All specimens registering below 90.5 degrees or above 99.8 degrees Fahrenheit will be invalid. The head strip on each specimen bottle indicates the validity of the urine specimen by temperature. If a specimen is invalid, the student must provide another specimen.
6. A student will be ineligible for all extracurricular activities for the remainder of the school year if he or she tampers or cheats during the collection. This will be reported to the parent(s)/guardian(s).
7. Immediately after the specimen is taken, the student may return to class with an admit slip or pass with the time he or she left the collection site.
8. Each specimen is given to the laboratory for testing for alcohol, controlled substances (that may include all drugs listed as controlled substances under Illinois law), and "performance enhancing" drugs, such as steroids.

Chain of Custody

1. The laboratory will provide training and direction to appropriate staff members, set up the collection environment, guarantee specimens, and supervise the chain of custody. To maintain anonymity, the student will be assigned a number.
2. The Building Principal or designee will escort students to the collection site. No student is allowed to go to his or her locker. The Building Principal or designee should minimize classroom interruptions. Student participants may be summoned after school, perhaps during practice time.
3. Before a student's urine is tested by the laboratory, he or she must sign any form that may be required by the testing laboratory. If a student chooses, he or she may notify the administrator that he or she is taking a prescription medication.
4. A sanitized kit containing a specimen bottle will be given to each student. The bottle will remain in the student's possession until a seal is placed upon the bottle and the student signs that the specimen is sealed. The seal may be broken only by the lab testing the specimen.

5. If the seal is tampered with or broken, after leaving the student's possession and prior to arriving at the lab, the specimen is invalid. The student will remain eligible for extracurricular activities subsequent to a retest.
6. The supervisor obtaining the urine specimen will be of the same gender as the student. Students will be instructed to remove all outerwear and wash their hands in the presence of the supervisor before entering the restroom stall. The stall door will be closed while the student provides a urine specimen. The supervisor will wait outside the restroom stall. The student will have 2 minutes to produce a urine specimen. The commode will contain a blue dye so the water cannot be used to dilute the sample. The faucets in the restrooms will be shut off.
7. After it is sealed, the specimen will be transported to the testing laboratory by lab personnel. The testing laboratory will report the results to the Building Principal or designee.
8. In order to maintain confidentiality, the student's name will not be on the urine specimen container. Instead, the student's random identification number will appear on the container.

Test Results

1. The Building Principal or designee will be notified of a student testing "positive" (i.e., if the test shows that drug residues are in the student's system after using at least 2 different types of analyses). The Building Principal or designee will notify the student and his or her parent(s)/guardian(s). The student or his or her parent(s)/guardian(s) may submit any documented prescription or explanation of a "positive" test result.
2. In addition, the student or parent(s)/guardian(s) may request that the urine specimen be tested again by a certified laboratory at their cost.
3. If the test is verified "positive," the Building Principal or designee will meet with the student and his or her parent(s)/guardian(s). The student and parent(s)/guardian(s) will be given the names of counseling and assistance agencies. The student may not participate in extracurricular activities until a "follow-up" test is requested by the Building Principal or designee and the results are "negative."
4. A "follow up" test will be requested by the Building Principal or designee after such an interval of time that the substance previously found would normally be eliminated from the body. If this "follow up" test is negative, the student will be allowed to resume extracurricular activities. If a "positive" result is obtained from the "follow up" test, or any later test, the previous procedure shall be repeated. In addition, the School District reserves the right to continue testing at any time during the remaining school year any participating student who had a verified "positive" test.
5. Information on a verified "positive" test result will be shared on a need-to-know basis with the student's coach or sponsor. The results of "negative" tests will be kept confidential.
6. Drug testing result sheets will be returned to the Building Principal or designee identifying students by number and not by name. Names will not be kept in open files or on any computer. Result sheets will be locked and secured in a location to which only the Building Principal or designee has access.

Financial Responsibility

1. Under this policy, the School District will pay for all initial random drug tests and all initial "follow up" drug tests. Once a student has a verified "positive" test result and has subsequently tested negative from a "follow up" test, any future "follow up" drug test that must be conducted will be paid for by the student's parent(s)/guardian(s).
2. A request for another test of a "positive" urine specimen is the financial responsibility of the student's parent(s)/guardian(s).

3. Counseling and subsequent treatment by non-school agencies is the financial responsibility of the student's parent(s)/guardian(s).

Confidentiality

Under this drug testing program, no staff, coach, or sponsor shall divulge any information to anyone about a particular student or disposition of the student involved, other than in response to a legal subpoena.

Other Rules

Apart from this drug testing program, the Illinois High School Association as well as each activity's coaching staff or sponsor may have their own training rules and requirements. Coaches and sponsors have the necessary authority to enforce those rules. Any student-participant who violates a team or activity rule or requirement is subject to the consequences as defined in those rules and requirements.

Students

Administrative Procedure - Protocol for Responding to Students with Social, Emotional, or Mental Health Problems ¹

Student Support Committee

Each Building Principal shall annually appoint a building-level Student Support Committee that shall have the tasks described in this Administrative Procedure. Committee members must be school staff members who are qualified by professional licensing or experience to address issues concerning students who may have social, emotional, or mental health problems. As needed on a case-by-case basis, the Student Support Committee may request the involvement of the Building Principal, relevant teachers, and the parents/guardians. Records produced and shared among Committee members may be subject to laws governing student records. Confidential information given by a student to a therapist is governed by the Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities Confidentiality Act, 740 ILCS 110/.

Children's Mental Health Partnership's Plan and Annual Progress Reports

The Illinois Children's Mental Health Partnership (ICMHP) monitors the implementation of its statewide Children's Mental Health Plan (CMH Plan). The CMH Plan is a statewide strategic blueprint or *roadmap* to promote and improve the children's mental health system and covers a range of recommendations and strategies necessary to reforming the children's mental health system in Illinois. Every year, the ICMHP must submit an annual progress report to the Governor for approval. The Student Support Committee will monitor the annual CMH Plan (available at www.icmhp.org/aboutus/ICMHP_Strategic_Plan.pdf and updated at www.icmhp.org/aboutus/strategicplan.html) and decide how to implement its recommendations and strategies as appropriate within the resources available in the District.

Referrals

Staff members should refer a student suspected of having social, emotional, or mental health problems to the building-level Student Support Committee. The Student Support Committee will review information about a referred student, including prior interventions, and suggest appropriate steps for referral and follow-up. The Student Support Committee may offer strategies to a referred student's classroom teachers and parents/guardians about ways they can manage, address, and/or enhance the student's social and emotional development and mental health. In addition, the Student Support Committee may recommend coordinated educational, social work, school counseling, and/or student assistance services within the school as well as referrals to outside agencies.

Referrals under this procedure are unrelated to the special education evaluation process and do not trigger the District's timeline for evaluations. However, the use of these procedures shall not circumvent the special education process. See Administrative Procedure 6:120-AP, *Special Education Procedures Assuring the Implementation of Comprehensive Programming for Children with Disabilities*.

¹ The Children's Mental Health Act of 2003, 405 ILCS 49/, requires districts to have a protocol for responding to children with social, emotional, or mental health problems, or a combination of such problems, that impact learning ability. The complexity and scope of such a protocol will vary from district to district. At minimum, the superintendent should consider including the first 3 sections of this sample procedure.

The Children's Mental Health Act also requires every district to have a policy for incorporating social and emotional development into the district's educational program. See IASB sample policy 6:65, *Student Social and Emotional Development*.

School Counseling, Social Work, and Psychological Services

The Student Support Committee may request school counselors, social workers, psychologists, and school nurses to provide support and consultation to teachers and school staff about strategies to promote the social and emotional development and mental health of all students. They may also be requested to provide screening and early detection approaches to identify students with social, emotional, and mental health problems.

Written permission from the parent/guardian is required for any on-going social work and psychological services. *On-going* is defined as more than 5 contacts in which the student received these services. Written consent may be obtained through an IEP or other designated form. That consent does not entitle parents/guardians to know the contents of all that is discussed. School counselors, social workers, and psychologists will inform parents/guardians of all issues that pose a health and/or safety risk; they will inform the Building Principal of any health or safety risks that are present in the school.

Psycho-Educational Groups ²

As appropriate, the Student Support Committee may recommend that a student participate in a variety of psycho-educational groups. These groups are typically led by school counselors, social workers, or psychologists, but are not structured as therapeutic services. Groups are designed to help students better understand issues and develop strategies to manage issues of concern to them that may, if not addressed, interfere significantly with the students' educational progress or school adjustment. Groups have a written curriculum that guides discussion over a set period of time, generally 5 weeks. A student may participate in a group without parent/guardian permission for one such time period; subsequent enrollment in the same group requires parent/guardian permission.

Students in a group who present significant concern and for whom therapeutic services must be considered will be referred to the social workers, psychologists, or school counselors for individual consultation. (See above description of these services.)

School and Community Linkages

When possible, the Student Support Committee shall seek to establish linkages and partnerships with diverse community organizations with the goal of providing a coordinated, collaborative early intervention social and emotional development and mental health support system for students that is integrated with community mental health agencies and organizations and other child-serving agencies and systems.

LEGAL REF.: Children's Mental Health Act of 2003, 405 ILCS 49/.

² Omit this section if the school does not have a psycho-educational program in place.

Students

Administrative Procedure - Managing Students with Communicable or Infectious Diseases

If a student’s communicable or infectious disease affects his or her ability to participate in the District’s educational programs, he or she shall be treated as a *disabled person* under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, unless the student has already qualified for and is receiving services through an IEP under the Individuals with Disabilities in Education Act. For students with an IEP, the District’s Administrative Procedure, 6:120-AP1, *Special Education Procedures Assuring the Implementation of Comprehensive Programming for Children with Disabilities*, must also be followed and they will control whenever there is a conflict with these procedures.

Rules and guidance from the ISBE and IDPH should be consulted and supersede these procedures. Guidance documents and important information include:

1. *Communicable Disease Guide*, revised 2002, available at www.idph.state.il.us/health/infect/comm_disease_guide.pdf.
2. *Management of Chronic Infectious Diseases in Schoolchildren*, revised in 2003 by ISBE and IDPH, available at www.isbe.net/spec-ed/pdfs/chronic_diseases.pdf.
3. The Department of Public Health Powers and Duties Law of the Civil Administrative Code of Illinois and the Department of Professional Regulation Law of the Civil Administrative Code both expanded the statutory authority of the governor and the IDPH to respond to significant threats to the public health.

Managing Students with Communicable or Infectious Diseases

Actor	Action
Parents/Guardians	Notifies the Building Principal where their child is enrolled if their child has a communicative or infectious disease. A communicative or infectious disease includes Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS), AIDS-Related Complex (ARC), and Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV). See Exhibit 7:280-E2, <i>Reporting and Exclusion Requirements for Common Communicable Diseases</i> , for a list of communicative or infectious diseases.
Building Principal or designee	Upon having knowledge of a known or suspected case or carrier of a communicable disease: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Notifies the <i>local health authority</i> as required by 77 Ill.Admin.Code §690.200. The <i>local health authority</i> is a full-time official health department, as recognized by the Department of Public Health, having jurisdiction over a particular area, including city, village, township, and county boards of health. If there is not a local health authority recognized by the Department, the local health authority is the Department (77 Ill.Admin.Code §690.10). See also Exhibit 7:280-E2, <i>Reporting and Exclusion Requirements for Common Communicable Diseases</i>, identifying the diseases for which there is mandatory reporting. Note: The Communicable Disease Report Act, 745 ILCS 45, grants immunity from slander or libel to persons who in good faith make such reports.

Actor	Action
	<p>b. Follows directions for temporarily excluding a student from school according to the local health authority direction and 77 Ill.Admin.Code 690.</p> <p>Keeps the school open where a student with a communicable disease attended, except in the event of an emergency (77 Ill.Admin.Code §690.30(c)(1).</p>
District staff	<p>Observes all rules of the IDPH regarding communicable and chronic infectious disease. See the Legal References for a list of these rules.</p> <p>Collects and maintains the student’s medical information in a manner that ensures the strictest confidentiality and in accordance with federal and State laws regarding student records.</p>
Superintendent or designee	<p>Confirms that all required and appropriate notices are made.</p> <p>Convenes the Communicable and Chronic Infectious Disease Review Team. This Superintendent committee is composed of the District’s medical advisor, a school nurse, the Building Principal, and the Superintendent or designee (see 2:150-AP, <i>Superintendent Committees</i>).</p>
Communicable and Chronic Infectious Disease Review Team	<p>Arranges a meeting with the student’s parent(s)/guardian(s), personal physician, local health authorities, as well as persons with knowledge of the placement options available. The purpose of the meeting is to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Determine when an excluded student will return to school. This determination shall be based on whether the student poses a high risk of transmission of a communicable and chronic infectious disease to other students and staff. A student suspected of being infected with a disease for which isolation is required shall be refused admittance while acute symptoms are present (77 Ill.Admin.Code §690.30(c)(3). b. Perform a pre-placement evaluation (34 C.F.R. §104.35). See 7:280-E1, <i>Placement of School Children with Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS)</i>, published by the U.S. Dept. of Education Office for Civil Rights. c. Make a placement decision based on the pre-placement evaluation. The placement decision shall include any needed related services (34 C.F.R. §104.35). d. If there is a reason to believe that the student may have a disability requiring special education and related services, the child shall be referred for a special education evaluation. Referrals may also be made, at any time, by any concerned person, including but not limited to School District personnel, the child’s parent(s)/guardian(s), a community service agency employee, a professional having knowledge of a child’s problems, a child, or an ISBE employee. See the District’s <i>Special Education Procedures Assuring the Implementation of Comprehensive Programming for Children with Disabilities</i> (23 Ill.Admin.Code §226.110). <p>Reports the meeting results to the Superintendent.</p>
Superintendent or designee	<p>Notifies the student’s parents/guardians when an excluded student can return to school and of the placement decision. If the student will not</p>

Actor	Action
	attend school, every reasonable effort shall be made to provide the student with an adequate alternative education. State regulations and school policy regarding homebound instruction shall apply.
Communicable and Chronic Infectious Disease Review Team	At least annually while a student has a contagious or infectious disease, arranges a meeting with the student's parent(s)/guardian(s), personal physician, local health authorities, as well as persons with knowledge of the placement options available, to review the student's education placement and the provision of related services.

Managing a Student with a Communicable or Infectious Disease Who Demonstrates Behavior that Could Result In Infecting Other Students or Staff Members

Actor	Action
Parents/Guardians or any staff member	Notifies the Building Principal if a student with a communicable or infectious disease shows a lack of control of bodily secretions, has open sores that cannot be covered, or demonstrates behavior (e.g., biting) that could result in direct inoculation of potentially infected body fluids into the bloodstream.
Building Principal	Immediately notifies the Superintendent of the above.
Superintendent or designee	Upon being notified that a student is demonstrating behavior that could spread his or her disease, convenes the Communicable and Chronic Infectious Disease Review Team. If appropriate, notifies parents of students of possible exposure if their student may have been exposed to a communicable or infectious disease due to behaviors exhibited by a student having such a disease.
Communicable and Chronic Infectious Disease Review Team	Arranges a meeting with the student's parent(s)/guardian(s), personal physician, local health authorities, as well as persons with knowledge of the placement options available. The purpose of this meeting is to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Determine whether the student's temporary removal from the classroom is appropriate because the student poses a high risk of transmitting a communicable and chronic infectious disease or whether another response exists to reduce the risk of transmission. A student suspected of being infected with a disease for which isolation is required shall be refused admittance while acute symptoms are present (77 Ill.Admin.Code §690.30(c)(3). b. Perform a pre-placement evaluation if the student will continue to attend school (34 C.F.R. §104.35). c. Make a placement decision based on the pre-placement evaluation. The placement decision shall include any needed related services (34 C.F.R. §104.35). If the student will continue to attend school, determine the student's appropriate educational placement. The team shall also determine if the student needs related services or placement outside the regular classroom. Reports the meeting's results to the Superintendent.
Superintendent or	Notifies the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) whether the student will attend school. If the student will not attend school or participate in school

Actor	Action
Designee	activities with other students, every reasonable effort shall be made to provide the student with an adequate alternative education; however, an individual student's IEP will control. State regulations and school policy regarding homebound instruction apply.
Communicable and Chronic Infectious Disease Review Team	At least once a month while a student is removed from normal school attendance, arranges a meeting with the student's parent(s)/guardian(s), personal physician, local health authorities, as well as persons with knowledge of the placement options available, to review the removal and to determine whether the condition precipitating the removal has changed.

General Post-Evaluation Procedures

Actor	Action
Parents/Guardians	May appeal their child's exclusion from school or educational placement to the School Board within 10 days of being notified of the action.
Parents/Guardians	When their child returns to school after an absence due to a communicable and chronic infectious disease, present a certificate from a physician licensed in Illinois stating that the child qualifies for re-admission to school under the rules of the IDPH that regulate periods of incubation, communicability, quarantine, and reporting.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/10-21.11 and 10/1 et seq.
410 ILCS 315/
23 Ill.Admin.Code Part 226.
77 Ill.Admin.Code Parts 665, 690, 693, 695, 696, and 697.
34 C.F.R. §§104.34 and 104.35.
Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, 42 U.S.C. §12101 et seq.
Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), 20 U.S.C. §1232g.
Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 504, 29 U.S.C. §701 et seq.

CROSS REF.: 2:150 (Committees), 5:40 (Communicable and Chronic Infectious Disease)

Students

Administrative Procedure - Guidelines for Student Distribution of Non-School Sponsored Publications

A student or group of students seeking to distribute more than 10 copies of the same material on one or more days to students must comply with the following guidelines:

1. The student(s) must notify the Building Principal of the intent to distribute, in writing, at least 24 hours before distributing the material. No prior approval of the material is required.
2. The material may be distributed at times and locations selected by the Building Principal, such as, before the beginning or ending of classes at a central location inside the building.
3. The Building Principal may impose additional requirements whenever necessary to prevent disruption, congestion, or the perception that the material is school-endorsed.
4. Distribution must be done in an orderly and peaceful manner, and may not be coercive.
5. The distribution must be conducted in a manner that does not cause additional work for school personnel. Students who distribute material are responsible for cleaning up any materials left on school grounds.
6. Students must not distribute material that:
 - a. Will cause substantial disruption of the proper and orderly operation and discipline of the school or school activities;
 - b. Violates the rights of others, including but not limited to, material that is libelous, invades the privacy of others, or infringes on a copyright;
 - c. Is socially inappropriate or inappropriate due to the students' maturity level, including but not limited to, material that is obscene, pornographic, or pervasively lewd and vulgar, contains indecent and vulgar language, or *sexting* as defined by School Board policy and Student Handbooks; ¹
 - d. Is reasonably viewed as promoting illegal drug use; or
 - e. Is primarily prepared by non-students and distributed in elementary and/or middle schools.
7. A student may use School Board policy 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*, to resolve a complaint.
8. Whenever these guidelines require written notification, the appropriate administrator may assist the student in preparing such notification.

A student or group of students seeking to distribute 10 or fewer copies of the same publication on one or more days to students must distribute such material at times and places and in a manner that will not cause substantial disruption of the proper and orderly operation and discipline of the school or school activities and in compliance with paragraphs 4, 5, 6, and 7.

¹ Be sure that the definition for *sexting* in this procedure aligns with other definitions used throughout the board's policy manual. For an example of a definition, see sample administrative procedure 7:190-AP5, *Student Handbook-Electronic Devices*. There, sexting encompasses the term *indecent visual depiction* as defined by 705 ILCS405/3-40. It defines indecent visual depiction as a depiction or portrayal in any pose, posture, or setting involving a lewd exhibition of the buttocks, or if such person is a female, a fully or partially developed breast of the person. A district may create or have another definition of sexting that may or may not encompass the statutory term indecent visual depiction.

LEGAL REF.: Hazelwood v. Kuhlmeier, 108 S.Ct. 562 (1988).
Hedges v. Wauconda Community Unit School Dist. No. 118, 9 F.3d 1295 (7th Cir.
1993).
Tinker v. Des Moines Indep. Cmty. Sch. Dist., 89 S.Ct. 733 (1969).

Community Relations

Administrative Procedure - Advertising and Distributing Materials in Schools Provided by Non-School Related Entities

Requests from Community, Educational, Charitable, Recreational, or Other Organizations

Actor	Action
Community, Educational, Charitable, Recreational, or Other Organizations	<p>Direct to the Building Principal all requests to advertise events pertinent to students’ interests or involvement.</p> <p>Specifically describe the material or literature proposed to be displayed, distributed, or included in the school’s website.</p> <p>Request specific dates for the material to be posted or distributed.</p>
Building Principal	<p>Refers all materials to the Superintendent or designee for screening to ensure compliance with the District’s policy and procedures.</p> <p>Note: An administrator in the central office enhances coordination and ensures that all buildings in the district are operating uniformly. For districts that wish to leave the screening of materials to building principals, replace: “Superintendent or designee” in the next row with “Building Principal” and delete this row.</p>
Superintendent or designee	<p>Screens all material before distributing or posting it to ensure compliance with the District’s policy and procedures, including that all material and literature be student-oriented and have the sponsoring organization’s name prominently displayed.</p> <p>Rejects all requests to post or distribute material or literature that would: (a) disrupt the educational process, (b) violate the rights or invade the privacy of others, (c) infringe on a trademark or copyright, or (d) be defamatory, obscene, vulgar, or indecent.</p> <p>Note: Consult the Board Attorney. Allowing one organization to distribute non-religious materials at school, but prohibiting the distribution of religious materials by another, may negate indemnification for school administrators and the district. See <u>Morgan v. Swanson</u>, -- F.3d -- (5th Cir., 2014) (granting -after several years of reversals, remands, and procedural motions-qualified immunity to an elementary school principal who allowed parents to distribute non-religious materials but prohibited another parent from distributing religious materials during an in-class winter party).</p> <p>Determines the appropriate location for posting the material and/or distributing it, provided that any distribution by staff is done without discussion.</p> <p>Informs the organization whether its request is accepted or rejected.</p> <p>Removes all materials that are out-of-date from the building and/or website.</p>

Community, Educational, Charitable, Recreational, or Other Organizations	Have the material or posters delivered to the school. The school will not make copies. Provide in electronic format any information that the Building Principal agreed to publish on the school's website.
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Requests from Commercial Companies to Advertise and/or Distribute Material

Actor	Action
Commercial Companies	Direct to the Superintendent all requests to advertise on school grounds or in school publications. Specifically identify the requested location for advertisements, i.e.: (a) athletic field fence, (b) athletic, theater, or music programs, and/or (c) scoreboards. Prominently display the company's name on all advertising. Provide a copy of the proposed advertisement to the Superintendent.
Superintendent	Screens all proposed ads to ensure that they will not: (a) disrupt the educational process, (b) violate the rights or invade the privacy of others, (c) infringe on a trademark or copyright, or (d) be defamatory, obscene, vulgar, or indecent. May approve a commercial request related to graduation, class pictures, or class rings. For all other commercial requests, makes a dispositional recommendation during an open School Board meeting. After the Board's decision, takes all appropriate steps.
School Board	From time-to-time, by Board resolution, determines minimum fees for advertising space. All fees are subject to negotiation and Board approval. Current minimum fees are: Athletic field fences \$ _____ Athletic, theater, or music programs \$ _____ Scoreboards \$ _____

Community Relations

Relations with Other Organizations and Agencies

The District shall cooperate with other organizations and agencies, including but not limited to:

- County Health Department
- Law enforcement agencies
- Fire authorities
- Planning authorities
- Zoning authorities
- Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA), local organizations for civil defense, and other appropriate disaster relief organizations concerned with civil defense ¹
- Other school districts

CROSS REF.: 1:20 (District Organization, Operations, and Cooperative Agreements), 4:170 (Safety), 5:90 (Abused and Neglected Child Reporting), 7:150 (Agency and Police Interviews)

¹ 105 ILCS 5/10-22.35.