

**ROBINSON COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 2**  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY MANUAL**  
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## **Students**

### **Equal Educational Opportunities**

Equal educational and extracurricular opportunities shall be available for all students without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, ancestry, age, religious beliefs, physical or mental disability, status as homeless, or actual or potential marital or parental status, including pregnancy. Further, the District will not knowingly enter into agreements with any entity or any individual that discriminates against students on the basis of sex or any other protected status, except that the District remains viewpoint neutral when gaining access to school facilities under Board Policy 8:20, *Community Use of School Facilities*. Any student may file a discrimination grievance by using the Uniform Grievance Procedure.

### **Sex Equity**

No student shall, on the basis of sex, or sexual orientation, be denied equal access to programs, activities, services, or benefits or be limited in the exercise of any right, privilege, advantage, or denied equal access to educational and extracurricular programs and activities.

Any student may file a sex equity complaint by using the Uniform Grievance Procedure. A student may appeal the Board of Education's resolution of the complaint to the Regional Superintendent of Schools (pursuant to 105 ILCS 5/3-10 of The School Code) and, thereafter, to the State Superintendent of Education (pursuant to 105 ILCS 5/2-3.8 of The School Code).

### **Administrative Implementation**

The Superintendent shall appoint a Nondiscrimination Coordinator. The Superintendent and Building Principal shall use reasonable measures to inform staff members and students of this policy and grievance procedure.

LEGAL REF.: McKinney Homeless Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. § 11431 et seq. (only if the District receives Title I funds)

Title IX, 20 U.S.C. § 1681; et seq.; 34 C.F.R. Part 106.

Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 U.S.C. § 791 et seq.

Religious Freedom Restoration Act, 775 ILCS 35/5.

Ill. Constitution, Art. I, § 18.

Good News Club v. Milford Central Schools, S.Ct. 2093 (2001)

105 ILCS 5/10-1 et. seq.

775 ILCS 5/1-101 et seq.

23 Ill. Admin. Code §§ 1.240-and Part 200.

CROSS REF.: 2:260 (Uniform Grievance Procedure), 6:220 (Instructional Materials Selection and Adoption) 7:20 (Harassment of Students Prohibited), 7:130 (Student Rights and Responsibilities), 7:330 (Student use of Buildings – Equal Access) 8:20 (Community Use of School Facilities)

ADOPTED: November 16, 2009

## **Students**

### **Harassment of Students Prohibited**

No person, including a District employee or agent, or student, shall harass, intimidate or bully another student based upon a student's race, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, ancestry, age, religion, creed, physical or mental disability, status as homeless, or actual or potential marital or parental status, including pregnancy. The District will not tolerate harassing, intimidating conduct, or bullying whether verbal, physical, 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, causing psychological harm, threatening or causing physical harm, or wearing or possessing items depicting or implying hatred or prejudice of one of the characteristics stated above.

Complaints of harassment, intimidation or bullying are handled according to the provisions on sexual harassment, below. The Superintendent shall use reasonable measures to inform staff members and students that the District will not tolerate harassment, intimidation or bullying by including this policy in the appropriate handbooks.

### **Sexual Harassment Prohibited**

Sexual harassment of students is prohibited. 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 engages in other verbal or physical conduct 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.

Students who believe they are victims of sexual harassment or have witnessed sexual harassment are encouraged to discuss the matter with the student Nondiscrimination Coordinator, Building Principal, Assistant Building Principal, Dean of Students, or a Complaint Manager. Students 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 one student was sexually harassed by another student shall be referred to the Building Principal, Assistant Building Principal, or Dean of Students for appropriate action.

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

*Nondiscrimination Coordinator:*

Name                    Troy Hickey, RHS Principal  
Address                2000 North Cross Street  
Telephone No.        618-544-9510x112

*Complaint Managers:*

Name	Sue Catt, NMS Principal	
Address	400 West Rustic	
Telephone No.	618-544-8618	
Name	Kevin McConnell, LGS Principal	Jason Stark, WES Principal
Address	301 East Poplar	507 West Condit
Telephone No.	618-544-3315	618-544-2233

The Superintendent shall use reasonable measures to inform staff members and students that the District will not tolerate sexual harassment, such as by including this policy in the appropriate handbooks.

Any District employee who is determined, after an investigation, to have engaged in sexual harassment will be subject to disciplinary action up to and including discharge. Any District student who is determined, after an investigation, to have engaged in sexual harassment 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 sexual harassment will likewise be subject to disciplinary action up to and including discharge, with regard to employees, or suspension and expulsion, with regard to students.

LEGAL REF.: Title IX of the Educational Amendments, 20 U.S.C. § 1681 et seq.  
34 C.F.R. Part 106.  
105 ILCS 5/10-22.5 and 5/27-23.7  
23 Ill. Admin. Code § 200.10 et seq.  
David v. Monroe County Board of Education 119 S. Ct. 1661 (1999)  
Franklin v. Gwinnett Co. Public Schools, 112 S.Ct. 1028 (1992).  
Gebster v. Lago Vista Independent School District, 118 S.Ct. 1989 (1998)  
West v. Derby Unified School District No. 260, 206 F.3d 1358 (10<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2000)

CROSS REF.: 2:260 (Uniform Grievance Procedure), 5:20 (Sexual Harassment), 7:10 (Equal Educational opportunities) 7:190 (Student Discipline)

ADOPTED: August 16, 2010

## **Student Assignment**

The Building Principal shall assign students to classes.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/10-21.3 and 10-22.5.

CROSS REF.: 6:30

ADOPTED: June 21, 1999

## Students

### **Nonpublic School Students, Including Parochial and Home-Schooled Students**

#### Part-Time Attendance

The District accepts nonpublic school students, including parochial and home-schooled students, who live within the District for part-time attendance in the District's regular education program on a space-available basis. Requests for part-time attendance must be submitted to the principal of the school in the school attendance area where the student resides. All requests for attendance in the following school year must be submitted before May 1.

Students accepted for partial enrollment must comply with all discipline and attendance requirements established by the school. A private school student may attend any co-curricular activity associated with a District class in which he or she is enrolled. The parent(s)/guardian(s) of a student accepted for part-time attendance is responsible for all fees, pro-rated on the basis of a percentage of full-time fees. Transportation to and/or from school is provided to non-public school students on regular bus routes to or from a point on the route nearest or most easily accessible to the non-public school or student's home. This transportation shall be on the same basis as the District provides transportation for its full-time students. Transportation on other than established bus routes shall be the responsibility of the parent(s)/guardian(s).

#### Students With a Disability

The District will accept for part-time attendance those students with disabilities who live within the District and are enrolled in non-public schools. Requests must be submitted by the student's parent(s)/guardian(s). Special educational services shall be provided to such students as soon as possible after identification, evaluation, and placement procedures provided by State law, but no later than the beginning of the next school semester following the completion of such procedures. Transportation for such students shall be provided only if required in the child's individualized educational program on the basis of the child's disabling condition or as the special education program location may require.

Nonpublic school students, regardless of whether they attend a District school part-time, will not be allowed to participate in any extracurricular activities.

#### Assignment When Enrolling Full-Time in a District School

Grade placement by, and academic credits earned at, a nonpublic school will be accepted if the school has a Certificate of Nonpublic School Recognition from the Illinois State Board of Education, or, if outside Illinois, if the school is accredited by the state agency governing education.

A student who, after receiving instruction in a non-recognized or non-accredited school, enrolls in the District will: (1) be assigned to a grade level according to academic proficiency, and/or (2) be awarded academic credits from the District if the student demonstrates appropriate academic proficiency to the school administration. Any portion of a student's transcript relating to such instruction will not be considered for placement on the honor roll or computation in class rank.

Recognition of grade placement and academic credits awarded by a nonpublic school is at the sole discretion of the District. All school and class assignments will be made according to Board of Education policy 7:30, Student Assignment, as well as administrative procedures implementing this policy.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/10-20.24 and 5/14-6.01.

CROSS REF.: 4:110 (Transportation), 6:140 (Title I Programs), 6:190 (Extracurricular and Co-Curricular Activities), 7:30 (Student Assignment), 7:300 (Extracurricular Athletics)

ADOPTED: August 16, 2010

7:40

## **School Admissions and Student Transfers from Non-District Schools**

### Age

To be eligible for admission, a child must be 5 years old on or before September 1 of that school term. A child entering first grade must be 6 years of age on or before September 1 of that school term. Based upon an assessment of the child's readiness, a child will be allowed to attend first grade if he or she attended a non-public preschool, continued his or her education at that school through kindergarten, was taught in kindergarten by an appropriately certified teacher, and will be 6 years old on or before December 31. A child with exceptional needs who qualifies for special education services is eligible for admission at 3 years of age.

Parents/guardians may request early admission for a child. The Superintendent or designee shall assess the child's readiness to attend school and make the decision accordingly.

### Admission Procedure

All students must register for school each year on the dates and at the place designated by the Superintendent.

Parents/guardians of students enrolling in the District for the first time must present:

1. A certified copy of the student's birth certificate. If a birth certificate is not presented, the Superintendent or designee shall notify in writing the person enrolling the student that within 30 days he or she must provide a certified copy of the student's birth certificate. When a certified copy of the birth certificate is presented, the school shall promptly make a copy for its records, place the copy in the student's temporary record, and return the original to the person enrolling the child. If a person enrolling a student fails to provide a certified copy of the student's birth certificate, the Superintendent or designee shall immediately notify the local law enforcement agency and shall also notify the person enrolling the student in writing that, unless he or she complies within 10 days, the case will be referred to the local law enforcement authority for investigation. If compliance is not obtained within that 10-day period, the Superintendent or designee shall so refer the case. The Superintendent or designee shall immediately report to the local law enforcement authority any material received pursuant to this paragraph that appears inaccurate or suspicious in form or content.
2. Proof of residence, as required by Board policy 7:60, *Residence*.
3. Proof of disease immunization or detection and the required physical examination, as required by State law and Board policy 7:100, *Health, Eye, and Dental Examinations: Immunizations, and Exclusion of Students*.

### Homeless Children

Any homeless child shall be immediately admitted, even if the child or child's parent/guardian is unable to produce records normally required for enrollment. Board policy 6:140, *Education of Homeless Children*, and its implementing administrative procedure, govern the enrollment of homeless children.

### Student Transfers To and From Non-District Schools

A student may transfer into or out of the District according to State law and procedures developed by the Superintendent. A student seeking to transfer into the District must serve the entire term of any suspension or expulsion, imposed for any reason by any public or private school, in this or any other state, before being admitted into the School District.

### Foreign Students

The District accepts foreign exchange students with a J-1 visa and who reside within the District as participants in an exchange program sponsored by organizations screened by administration. Exchange students on a J-1 visa are not required to pay tuition.

Privately sponsored exchange students on an F-1 visa may be enrolled if an adult resident of the District has temporary guardianship and the student lives in the home of that guardian. Exchange students on an F-1 visa are required to pay tuition at the established District rate. F-1 visa student admission is limited to high schools and attendance may not exceed 12 months.

The School Board may limit the number of exchange students admitted in any given year. Exchange students must comply with District immunization requirements. Once admitted, exchange students become subject to all District policies and regulations governing students.

### Re-enrollment

Re-enrollment shall be denied to any individual 19 years of age or above who has dropped out of school and who could not earn sufficient credits during the normal school year(s) to graduate before his or her 21st birthday. However, at the Superintendent's or designee's discretion and depending on program availability, the individual may be enrolled in a graduation incentives program established under 105 ILCS 5/26-16 or an alternative learning opportunities program established under 105 ILCS 5/13B-1 (see 6:110, *Programs for Students at Risk of Academic Failure and/or Dropping Out of School and Graduation Incentives Program*). Before being denied re-enrollment, the District will offer the individual due process as required in cases of expulsion under policy 7:210, *Expulsion Procedures*. A person denied re-enrollment will be offered counseling and be directed to alternative educational programs, including adult education programs that lead to graduation or receipt of a GED diploma. This section does not apply to students eligible for special education under the Individuals with Disabilities in Education Improvement Act or accommodation plans under the Rehabilitation Act, Section 504.

LEGAL REF.: McKinney Homeless Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. § 11431 et seq.

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, 20 U.S.C. § 1232.

Illegal Immigrant and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996, 8 U.S.C. § 1101.

Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act, 20 U.S.C. § 1400 et seq.

Rehabilitation Act, Section 504.29 U.S.C. § 794, 105 ILCS 5/2-3.13a, 5/10-20.12, 5/10-22.5a, 5/14-1.02, 5/14-1.03a, 5/26-1, 5/26.2, 5/27-9.1, 10/8.1,45/, 325 ILCS 50/ and 55/

410 ILCS 315/2e

20 Ill.Admin.Code § 1290 et seq.

23 Ill. Admin. Code 375 et seq.

CROSS REF.: 6:30 (Organization of Instruction), 6:110 (Programs for Students At Risk of Academic Failure and/or Dropping out of School and Graduation Incentives Program) 6:140 (Education for Homeless Children), 6:310 (Credit for Alternative Courses and Programs, and Course Substitutions), 7:50 (School Admissions and Student Transfers To and From Non-District Schools), 7:60 (Residence), 7:70 (Attendance and Truancy), 7:100 (Health, Eye, and Dental Examinations; Immunizations, and Exclusion of Students), 7:340 (Student Records)

ADOPTED: August 16, 2010

## **Students**

### **Residence**

#### **Resident Students**

Only students who are residents of the District may attend a District school without a tuition charge, except as otherwise provided below or in State law. A student's residence is the same as the person who has legal custody of the student.

A person asserting legal custody over a student, who is not the child's natural or adoptive parent, shall complete a signed statement, stating: (a) that he or she has assumed and exercises legal responsibility for the child, (b) the reason the child lives with him or her, other than to receive an education in the District, and (c) that he or she exercises full control over the child regarding daily educational and medical decisions in case of emergency. If the District knows the current address of the child's natural or adoptive parent, the District shall request in writing that the person complete a signed statement or Power of Attorney stating: (a) the role and responsibility of the person with whom their child is living, and (b) that the person with whom the child is living has full control over the child regarding daily educational and medical decisions in case of emergency.

A student whose family moves out of the District during the school year will be permitted to attend school for the remainder of the year without payment of tuition.

When a student's change of residence is due to the military service obligation of the student's legal custodian, the student's residence is deemed to be unchanged for the duration of the custodian's military service obligation if the student's custodian made a written request. The District, however, is not responsible for the student's transportation to or from school.

If, at the time of enrollment, a dependent child of military personnel is housed in temporary housing located outside of the District, but will be living within the District within 60 days after the time of initial enrollment, the child is allowed to enroll, subject to the requirements of State law, and must not be charged tuition.

#### **Requests for Non-Resident Student Admission**

Non-resident students may attend District schools upon the approval of a request submitted by the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) for non-resident admission. The Superintendent may approve the request subject to the following:

1. The student will attend on a year-to-year basis. Approval for any one year is not authorization to attend a following year.
2. The student will be accepted only if there is sufficient room.
3. The student's parent(s)/guardian(s) will be charged the maximum amount of tuition as allowed by State law.

4. The student's parent(s)/guardian(s) will be responsible for transporting the student to and from school.

#### Admission of Non-Resident Students Pursuant to an Agreement or Order

Non-resident students may attend District schools tuition-free pursuant to:

1. A written agreement with an adjacent school district to provide for tuition-free attendance by a student of that district, provided both the Superintendent or designee and the adjacent district determine that the student's health and safety will be served by such attendance.
2. A written agreement with cultural exchange organizations and institutions supported by charity to provide for tuition-free attendance by foreign exchange students and non-resident pupils of charitable institutions.
3. According to an intergovernmental agreement.
4. Whenever any State or federal law or a court order mandates the acceptance of a non-resident student.

#### Homeless Children

A homeless child shall be immediately admitted, even if the child or child's parent/guardian is unable to produce records normally required to establish residency. Board policy 6:140, *Education of Homeless Children*, and its implementing administrative procedure, govern the enrollment of homeless children.

#### Challenging a Student's Residence Status

If the Superintendent or designee determines that a student attending school on a tuition-free basis is a non-resident of the District for whom tuition is required to be charged, he or she on behalf of the Board shall notify the person who enrolled the student of the tuition amount that is due. The notice shall be given by certified mail, return receipt requested. The person who enrolled the student may challenge this determination and request a hearing as provided by The School Code, 105 ILCS 5/10-20.12b.

LEGAL REF.: McKinney Homeless Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. § 11431 et seq

105 ILCS 5/10-20.12a, 5/10-20.12b, and 5/10-22.5  
105 ILCS 45/  
23 Ill. Admin. Code § 1.240  
Israel S. by Owens v. Board of Educ. of Oak Park and River Forest High School Dist. 200, 601 N.E.2d 1264(Ill. App. 1992).  
Joel R. v. Board of Education of Manheim School District 83, 686 NE2d 650 (Ill. App. 1 1997).  
Kraut v. Rachford, 366 N.E.2d 497 (Ill.App.1, 1977).

CROSS REF.: 6:15 (School Accountability containing “School Choice for Student Enrolled in a School Identified for Improvement, Corrective Action, or Restructuring”),  
6:40 (Education of Homeless Children), 7:50 (School Admissions and Student Transfers To and From Non-District Schools), 7:70 (Attendance and Truancy)

ADOPTED: January 19, 2010

## **Students**

### **Attendance and Truancy**

#### **Compulsory School Attendance**

This policy applies to individuals who have custody or control of a child: (a) between the ages of 7 and 17 years of age (unless the child has graduated from high school) or (b) who is enrolled in any of grades, kindergarten through 12, in the public school regardless of age. These individuals must cause the child to attend the District school wherein the child is assigned, except as provided herein or by State law. Subject to specific requirements in State law, the following children are not required to attend public school: (1) any child attending a private school (including a home school) or parochial school, (2) any child who is physically or mentally unable to attend school (including a pregnant student suffering medical complications as certified by her physician), (3) any child lawfully and necessarily employed, (4) any child over 12 and under 14 years of age while in confirmation classes, (5) any child absent because his or her religion forbids secular activity on a particular day, and (6) any child 16 years of age or older who is employed and is enrolled in a graduation incentives program.

The parent/guardian of a student who is enrolled must authorize all absences from school and notify the school in advance or at the time of the student's absence. A valid cause for absence includes illness, observance of a religious holiday, death in the immediate family, family emergency, other situations beyond the control of the student, other circumstances that cause reasonable concern to the parent/guardian for the student's safety or health, or other reason as approved by the Superintendent or designee.

#### **Absenteeism and Truancy Program**

The Superintendent or designee shall manage an absenteeism and truancy program in accordance with The School Code and Board policy. The program shall include but not be limited to:

1. A protocol for excusing a student from attendance who is necessarily and lawfully employed. The Superintendent or designee is authorized to determine when the student's absence is justified.
2. A process to telephone, within 2 hours after the first class, the parents/guardians of students in grade 8 or below who are absent without prior parent/guardian notification.
3. A process to identify and track students who are truants, chronic or habitual truants, or truant minors as defined in The School Code, Section 26-2a.

4. Methods for identifying the cause(s) of a student's unexcused absenteeism, including interviews with the student, his or her parent(s)/guardian(s), and staff members or other people who may have information.
5. The identification of supportive services that may be offered to truant or chronically truant students, including parent-teacher conferences, student and/or family counseling, or information about community agency services. See Board policy 6:110, *Programs for Students at Risk of Academic Failure and/or Dropping Out of School and Graduation Incentives Program*.
6. A process to request the assistance and resources of outside agencies, such as, the juvenile officer of the local police department or the truant office of the appropriate Regional office of Education, if truancy continues after supportive services have been offered.
7. A protocol for cooperating with non-District agencies including County or municipal authorities, the Regional Superintendent, truant officers, the Community Truancy Review Board, and a comprehensive community based youth service agency. Any disclosure of school student's records must be consistent with Board policy 7:340, *Student Records*, as well as State and federal law concerning school student records.
8. An acknowledgement that no punitive action, including out-of-school suspensions, expulsions, or court action, shall be taken against a chronic truant for his or her truancy unless available supportive services and other school resources have been provided to the student.
9. The criteria to determine whether a student's non-attendance is due to extraordinary circumstances shall include economic or medical necessity or family hardship and such other criteria that the Superintendent believes qualifies.
10. A process for a 17 year old resident to participate in the District's various programs and resources for truants. The student must provide documentation of his/her dropout status for the previous 6 months. A request from an individual 19 years of age or older to re-enroll after having dropped out of school is handled according to provisions in 7:50, *Students School Admissions and Student Transfers To and From Non-District Schools*.
11. A process for the temporary exclusion of a student 17 years of age or older for failing to meet minimum academic or attendance standards according to provisions in State law. A parent/guardian has the right to appeal a decision to exclude a student.

705 ILCS 405/3-33.5

23 Ill. Admin. Code §§1.242 and 1.290.

CROSS REF.: 6:110 (programs for Students at Risk of Academic Failure and/or Dropping Out of School and Graduation Incentives Program), 6:150 (Home and Hospital Instruction), 7:10 (Equal Educational Opportunities), 7:50 (School Admissions and Student Transfers To and From Non-District Schools), 7:60 (Residence), 7:80 (Release Time for Religious Instruction/Observance), 7:190 (Student Discipline), 7:340 (Student Records)

ADOPTED: January 19, 2010

## **Students**

### **Release Time for Religious Instruction/Observance**

#### **Religious Observance**

A student shall be released from school, as an excused absence, for the purpose of observing a religious holiday. The parent(s)/guardian(s) must give written notice to the District 5 days before the student's anticipated absence.

The parent(s)/guardian(s)'s written notification of the student's anticipated absence shall satisfy the District's requirement for a written excuse when the student returns to school.

The Superintendent shall develop and distribute to teachers appropriate procedures regarding student absences for a religious holiday which include a list of religious holidays on which students shall be excused from attendance, how teachers are notified of a student's impending absence, and the State law requirement that teachers provide the student an equivalent opportunity to make up any examination, study, or work requirement.

#### **Religious Instruction**

A student shall be released from school for a day or portion of a day for the purpose of religious instruction. A letter, requesting the student's absence and written by the student's parent(s)/guardian(s), must be given to the Building Principal at least 5 days before the day the student is to be absent.

LEGAL REF.: Religious Freedom Restoration Act, 775 ILCS 35/5.  
105 ILCS 5/26-1 and 5/26-2b.

CROSS REF.: 7:70

ADOPTED: June 21, 1999

## **Students**

### **Release During School Hours**

For safety and security reasons, a prior written or oral consent of a student's custodial parent/guardian is required before a student is released from school: (1) at any time other than the regular dismissal times or other times when a school is officially closed, and/or (2) to any person other than the custodial parent/guardian.

### **Early Dismissal Announcement**

The Superintendent shall make reasonable efforts to issue an announcement whenever it is necessary to close school early due to inclement weather or other reason.

CROSS REF.: 4:170 (Safety)

ADOPTED: August 16, 2010

## **Students**

### **Health, Eye, and Dental Examinations; Immunizations, and Exclusion of Students**

#### **Required Health Examinations and Immunizations**

A student's parent(s)/guardian(s) shall present proof that the student received a health examination and the immunizations against, and screenings for, preventable communicable diseases, as required by the Department of Public Health, within one year prior to:

1. Entering kindergarten or the first grade;
2. Entering the sixth and ninth grades; and
3. Enrolling in an Illinois School, regardless of the student's grade (including nursery school, special education, head start programs operated by elementary or secondary schools, and students transferring into Illinois from out-of-state or out-of-country).

As required by State Law:

1. The required health examinations must be performed by a physician licensed to practice medicine in all of its branches, an advanced practice nurse who has written collaborative agreement with a collaborating physician authorizing the advanced practice nurse to perform health examinations, or a physician assistant who has been delegated the performance of health examinations by a supervising physician.
2. A diabetes screening must be included as a required part of each health examination; diabetes testing is not required.
3. Before admission and in conjunction with required physical examinations, parents/guardians of children between the ages of 6 months and 6 years must provide a statement from a physician that their child was "risk-assessed" or screened for lead poisoning.
4. The Department of Public Health will provide all female students entering sixth grade and their parents/guardians information about the link between human papilloma virus (HPV) and cervical cancer and the availability of the HPV vaccine.

Unless the student is homeless, failure to comply with the above requirements by October 15 of the current school year will result in the student's exclusion from school until the required health forms are presented to the District. New students who register mid-term shall have 30 days following registration to comply with the health examination and immunization regulations. If a medical reason prevents a student from receiving a required immunization by October 15, the student must present, by October 15, an immunization schedule and a statement of the medical reasons causing the delay. The schedule and statement of medical reasons must be signed by the physician, advanced practice nurse, physician assistant, or local health department responsible for administering the immunizations.

#### **Eye Examination**

Parents/guardians are encouraged to have their children undergo an eye examination whenever health examinations are required.

Parents/guardians of students entering kindergarten or an Illinois school for the first time shall present proof before October 15 of the current school year that the student received an eye examination within one year prior to entry of kindergarten or the school. A physician licensed to practice medicine in all of its branches or a licensed optometrist must perform the required eye examination.

If a student fails to present proof by October 15, the school may hold the student's report card until the student presents proof: (1) of a completed eye examination, or (2) that an eye examination will take place within 60 days after October 15. The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that parents/guardians are notified of this eye examination requirement in compliance with the rules of the Department of Public Health. Schools shall not exclude a student from attending school due to failure to obtain an eye examination.

#### Dental Examination

All children in kindergarten and the second and sixth grades must present proof of having been examined by a licensed dentist before May 15 of the current school year in accordance with rules adopted by the Illinois Department of Public Health.

If a child in the second or sixth grade fails to present proof by May 15, the school may hold the child's report card until the child presents proof: (1) of a completed dental examination, or (2) that a dental examination will take place within 60 days after May 15. The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that parents/guardians are notified of this dental examination requirement at least 60 days before May 15 of each school year.

#### Exemptions

In accordance with rules adopted by the Illinois Department of Public Health, a student will be exempted from this policy's requirements for:

1. Religious or medical grounds if the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) present to the Superintendent a signed statement explaining the objection,
2. Health examination or immunization requirements on medical grounds if a physician provides written verification, or
3. Eye examination requirement if the student's parents/guardians show an undue burden or a lack of access to a physician licensed to practice medicine in all of its branches who provides eye examinations or a licensed optometrist; or
4. Dental examination requirement if the student's parents/guardians show an undue burden or a lack of access to a dentist.

#### Homeless Child

Any homeless child shall be immediately admitted, even if the child or child's parent/guardian is unable to produce immunization and health records normally required for enrollment. Board policy 6:140, *Education of Homeless Children*, governs the enrollment of homeless children.

LEGAL REF.: McKinney Homeless Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. § 11431 et seq

105 ILCS 5/27-8.1.

410 ILCS 45/7.1.

77 Ill. Admin. Code Part 665

CROSS REF.: 6:30 (Organization of Instruction); 6:140 (Education of Homeless Children)  
6:180 (Extended Instructional Programs); 7:50 (School Admissions and Student  
Transfers To and From Non-District Schools)

ADOPTED: March 15, 2010

## **Community Unit School District No. 2**

### **Wellness Policy**

**Belief Statement:**

The Board of Education of Unit #2 School District is committed to providing a learning environment that supports and promotes wellness, good nutrition, and an active lifestyle and recognizes the positive relationship between good nutrition, physical activity and the capacity of students to develop and learn. The entire school environment shall be aligned with healthy school goals to positively influence students' beliefs and habits and promote health and wellness, good nutrition and regular physical activity. In addition, school staff shall be encouraged to model healthy eating and physical activity as a valuable part of daily life.

**Intent:**

The purpose of this policy is to ensure a total school environment that promotes and supports student health and wellness, helps to reduce childhood obesity and meets the requirements of the Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act of 2004 and the Illinois School Code, including, without limitation, goals for nutrition education, physical activity and other school-based activities designed to promote student wellness; nutrition guidelines for all foods available during the school day; a plan for measuring implementation including designating one or more persons charged with operational responsibility; and involving parents, students, school food service providers, the school board, school administrators, and the public in developing this policy.

**Rationale:**

A disturbing number of children are inactive and do not eat well. The result is an alarming 16% of children and adolescents are overweight – a three-fold increase since 1980. Congress passed the Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act of 2004 on June 30, 2004. Recognizing the role schools can play in health promotion; this law requires local education agencies participating in a program authorized by the National School Lunch Act or the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 to develop a local wellness policy. The objectives of the wellness policy are to improve the school nutrition environment, promote student health and reduce childhood obesity. In addition, Public Act 094-0199 amends the Illinois School Code, requiring the Illinois State Board of Education to establish a state goal that all districts have a wellness policy.

The link between nutrition and learning is well documented. Healthy eating patterns are essential for students to achieve their full academic potential, full physical and mental growth and lifelong health and well-being. Healthy eating is demonstrably linked to reduced risk for mortality and development of many chronic diseases. Schools and school communities have a responsibility to help students acquire the knowledge and skills

necessary to establish and maintain lifelong healthy eating patterns. Well planned and well-implemented wellness programs have been shown to positively influence children's health.

Schools also have a responsibility to help students establish and maintain lifelong habits of being physically active. According to the U.S. Surgeon General, regular physical activity is one of the most important things people can do to maintain and improve their physical health, mental health, and overall well-being.

Regular physical activity reduces the risk of premature death in general and of heart disease, high blood pressure, colon cancer, and diabetes.

**Goals for Nutrition Education:**

Students in preschool through grade 12 shall receive nutrition education as part of a sequential program that is coordinated within a comprehensive health education curriculum.

The program shall be designed to provide students with the knowledge and skills necessary to adopt healthy eating behaviors *and* aimed at influencing students' knowledge, attitudes and eating habits. Special emphasis should be placed on nutrition education in preschool through primary grades as eating habits are established at a young age. The curriculum shall be consistent with and incorporate relevant Illinois Learning Standards.

To maximize classroom time and to achieve positive changes in students' eating behaviors, nutrition education shall be integrated into the standards-based lesson plans of other school subjects like math, science, language arts, physical education, health, family and consumer science and social sciences.

To achieve positive changes in students' eating behaviors, it is recommended that nutrition education opportunities may be provided to students each year. It may include a combination of classroom instruction; nutrition education provided in the cafeteria; or health fairs, field trips and assemblies providing nutrition education, may include enjoyable interactive activities such as contests, promotions, taste testing, field trips and school gardens.

**Goals for Physical Activity:**

Students in preschool through grade 12 shall be encouraged to participate in daily physical education that enables them to achieve and maintain a high level of personal fitness; emphasizes self management skills including energy balance (calories in minus calories out); is consistent with state/district's standards/guidelines/framework; and is coordinated within a comprehensive health education curriculum. The curriculum shall be consistent with and incorporate relevant Illinois Learning Standards.

It is recommended that students participate in physical education. Special emphasis should be placed on promoting an active lifestyle in preschool through primary grades as health habits are established at a younger age. Accommodations shall be made for students with disabilities, 504 plans, and other limitations.

Schools shall provide a daily supervised recess period to elementary students.

Students shall be provided opportunities for physical activity through a range of before-and after- school programs including intramurals, interscholastic athletics, and physical activity clubs.

Because students should engage in a minimum of 60 minutes of physical activity a day, the physical education program shall actively engage families as partners in providing physical activity beyond the school day.

**Goals for Other School-Based Activities Designed to Promote Student Wellness:**

Parent Partnerships:

Schools shall support parents' efforts to provide a healthy diet and daily physical activity for their children. This support shall begin in elementary school and continue through middle and high school.

Parents shall be provided information to help them incorporate healthy eating and physical activity into their student's lives. This information may be provided in the form of handouts, postings on the school/district website, information provided in school/district newsletters, presentations that focus on nutrition and healthy lifestyles and any other appropriate means available for reaching parents.

Consistent School Activities and Environment – Healthy Eating:

Food providers will share information about the nutritional content of school meals and/or individually sold foods with students, family and school staff.

School meals shall be served in clean, safe and pleasant settings with adequate time provided for students to eat, at a minimum, in accordance with state and federal standards and guidelines.

All food service personnel shall have adequate pre-service training and regularly participate in professional development activities that provide strategies for providing tasty, appealing and healthy school meals; nutrition education strategies including coordination of classroom and cafeteria activities; and effective promotional techniques to encourage healthy eating habits. Food providers will attempt to involve families, students and other school personnel in choosing nutritious food and beverage selections for their local schools through surveys, committees, taste-testing and similar activities designed to provide input into the decision-making process.

Food providers will work with suppliers to obtain foods and beverages that meet the nutrition requirements of school meals and nutrition standards for those sold individually.

Food providers will work closely with school instructional staff to reinforce nutrition instruction and foster an environment where students can learn about and practice healthy eating.

Food providers shall take every measure to ensure that student access to foods and beverages on school campuses meets federal, state and local laws and guidelines.

Students, parents, school staff and community members bringing foods and beverages to school for parties/celebrations/meetings shall be encouraged to provide healthful options and shall be provided with a list of recommended food and beverage options. (See Attachment B)

School-based organizations shall be encouraged to raise funds through the sale of items other than food. (See Attachment C)

Partnerships between schools and businesses are encouraged and many commercial advertising relationships involve foods or beverages. To meet wellness objectives, it is recommended that commercial advertising relationships involve only foods and beverages that meet nutrition standards. (See Attachment A)

Schools shall take efforts to promote nutritious food and beverage choices consistent with the current Dietary Guidelines for Americans and Food Guidance System (My Pyramid) such as fruits, vegetables, low-fat dairy foods and whole grain products.

Nutrition education shall be provided periodically by trained staff members. It is recommended that staff involved in nutrition education complete a minimum of one hour of nutrition education in-service training per school year. Preparation and professional development shall provide basic knowledge of nutrition along with activities, instructional techniques and strategies designed to change students' attitudes and behavior.

All foods and beverages made available on campus shall comply with the federal, state and local food safety and sanitation regulations.

For the safety and security of food, access to any area involved in storage, preparation or service of food on the school campus shall be limited to authorized personnel.

*Consistent School Safety Prevention, Activities and Environment – Physical Activity:*

Physical education shall be provided by trained and well-supported staff that is certified by the state to teach physical education. All physical education teachers shall regularly participate in continuing education activities that impart the knowledge and skills needed to effectively promote enjoyable lifelong healthy eating and physical activity among students.

The physical education program will attest closely coordinated with the other components of the overall school health program. Physical education topics shall be

integrated within other curricular areas. In particular, the benefits of being physically active shall be linked with instruction about human growth, development, and physiology in science classes and with instruction about personal health behaviors in health education class.

Schools are encouraged to limit extended periods of inactivity. When activities such as mandatory testing make it necessary for students to be inactive for long periods of time, it is recommended that schools give students periodic breaks during which they are encouraged to stand and be moderately active.

Schools are encouraged to develop community partnership with other child-serving organizations such as park districts and YMCA's to provide students with opportunities to be active.

Schools are encouraged to provide student and community access to and promote use of the school's physical activity facilities outside of the normal school day.

Physical activity facilities and equipment on school grounds shall be safe.

Schools are encouraged to work with the community to create a community environment that is safe and supportive of students walking or biking to school.

*Food or Physical Activity as a Reward or Punishment:*

School personnel shall be encouraged to use nonfood incentives or rewards with students and shall not withhold food from students as punishment. (See Attachment D)

**NUTRITION GUIDELINES FOR ALL FOODS AND BEVERAGES AVAILABLE ON SCHOOL CAMPUSES DURING THE SCHOOL DAY**

Food providers shall offer a variety of age-appropriate, appealing foods and beverage choices and employ food preparation, purchasing and meal planning practices consistent with the current Dietary Guidelines for Americans.

Nutritious and appealing foods and beverages, such as fruits, vegetables, low-fat dairy foods and whole grain products, shall be encouraged wherever food is sold or otherwise offered at school.

*Guidelines for School Meals:*

School meals served shall be consistent with the recommendations of the Dietary Guidelines for Americans and/or shall meet, at a minimum, the nutrition requirements and regulations for the National School Lunch Program and/or School Breakfast Program and all applicable state and local laws and regulations.

*Measuring Implementation & Community Involvement:*

The District Superintendent shall be charged with the operational responsibility for ensuring that each school meets the local wellness policy requirements.

The District Superintendent shall appoint a district wellness team/council that includes parents, students, and representatives of the school food authority, the school board, school administrators, and the public to oversee development, implementation and evaluation of the wellness policy. In addition, it is recommended that the District Superintendent also appoints teachers (including pre-school – grade 12, family and

consumer science, physical education and health educators) and health professionals (school nurse, physician, dietitian, etc.) as members of the team/council.

The terms of District Wellness Team/Council Members shall be staggered for continuity.

The appointed District Wellness Team/Council shall be responsible for:

1. creating and maintaining bylaws for operation;
2. assessment of the current school environment;
3. development of a wellness policy;
4. presenting the wellness policy to the school board for approval;
5. measuring the implementation of the wellness policy; and
6. Recommending revision of the policy, as necessary.

The principal of each campus shall be responsible for implementation of the local wellness policy and shall appoint a school-based evaluation team to develop and implement an annual evaluation plan.

The school-based evaluation team shall evaluate policy implementation and identify areas for improvement. The evaluation team shall report their findings to the campus principal and develop with him/her a plan of action for improvement, as needed.

The wellness team/council shall hear reports from each campus group annually.

Before the end of each school year the wellness team/council shall recommend to the district superintendent any revisions to the policy it deems necessary.

The wellness team/council shall report to the superintendent and school board annually on the progress of the wellness team/council and the status of compliance by the campuses.

**Community Unit School District No. 2  
Attachment A**

Food or Beverage	Healthier US School Challenge Nutrition Standards* These criteria focus on decreasing fat and added sugar, increasing nutrient density, and moderating portion size.
Fruits and Non-fried Vegetables	Fruits and vegetables may be fresh, frozen, canned or dried, and they must be found in the Food Buying Guide for Child Nutrition Programs. <a href="http://schoolmeals.nal.usda.gov/FBG/2003FBC/%20Section%202.pdf">http://schoolmeals.nal.usda.gov/FBG/2003FBC/%20Section%202.pdf</a>
	Examples of products that cannot be sold/served as a fruit or vegetable include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• snack-type foods made from vegetables or fruits, such as potato chips, and banana chips;</li> <li>• Pickle relish, jam, jelly; and</li> <li>• Tomato catsup and chili sauce</li> </ul>
Approved Beverages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Flavored or plain reduced fat (2%), low-fat (1%), skim/non-fat fluid milk meeting State and Local standards for pasteurized fluid milk and/or USDA approved alternative dairy beverages;</li> <li>• 100% full-strength fruit and vegetable juices; and</li> <li>• Water (non-flavored, non-sweetened, and non-carbonated)</li> </ul>
Any Other Individual Food Sales/Service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Calories from total fat</b> must be at or below 35%**, excluding nuts, seeds, and nut butters. This is determined by dividing the calories from total fat by the total calories and multiplying by 100. If calories from fat are not available, multiply the grams of fat by 9 to equal calories from fat.</li> <li>• <b>Calories from saturated fat</b> must be at or below 10%. This is determined by dividing the calories from saturated fat by the total calories and multiplying by 100. If calories from saturated fat are not available, multiply grams of saturated fat by 9 to equal calories from saturated fat.</li> <li>• <b>Total sugar</b> must be at or below 35% by weight. This is determined by dividing the grams of total sugar by the gram weight of the product and multiplying by 100. This includes both naturally occurring and added sugars. This limit does not include fruits and vegetables or flavored milk as defined above.</li> <li>• <b>Portion size</b> for a la carte sales in the school cafeteria is not to exceed the serving size of the food served in the National School Lunch Program/School Breakfast Program; or vending sales the item package or container is not to exceed 200 calories.</li> </ul>

There are no USDA approved alternative dairy beverages at this time. Public Law 108-265 (Child Nutrition Program Reauthorization) authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to establish nutritionally equivalent non-dairy beverages by July 1, 2005. Please check with the Illinois State Board of Education for clarification.

\*The above Nutrition Standards are criteria for sales/service of a la carte and/or vended items from the United States Department of Agriculture's Healthier US School Challenge. Please be aware that these criteria are only meant to apply to individually sold foods and that foods sold as part of a reimbursable school meal may not necessarily meet these criteria although menus meet the nutrition standards set by the US Department of Agriculture for school meals. Local policy makers may wish to modify the standards but should be aware that this may make schools ineligible to meet the criteria for the *Healthier US School Challenge*.

\*\*The Dietary Guidelines for Americans 2005 recommend a total fat intake of 20 to 35% for school-age children.

## Community Unit School District No. 2 Attachment B

### *Healthful Food and Beverage Options for School Functions\*:*

At any school function (parties, celebrations, meetings, etc.) healthful food options should be made available to promote student, staff and community wellness. Examples of nutritious food and beverages that are consistent with the Dietary Guidelines for Americans are listed below:

- Raw vegetable sticks/slices with low-fat dressing or yogurt dip
- Fresh fruit wedges – cantaloupe, honey dew, watermelon, pineapple, oranges, tangelos, etc.
- Sliced fruit – nectarines, peaches, kiwi, star fruit, plums, pears, mangos, apples, etc.
- Fruit salad
- Cereal and low-fat milk
- 100% fruit or vegetable juice
- Frozen fruit pops with fruit juice or fruit as the first ingredient
- Dried fruits – raisins, cranberries, apples, apricots
- Single serving applesauce or canned fruit in juice
- Celery sticks
- Fruit smoothies made with fat-free or low-fat milk
- Fruits and nuts
- Nuts and soy nuts (not coconut or palm nuts)
- Lean meats and reduced fat cheese sandwiches (use light or reduced fat mayonnaise in chicken/tuna salads)
- Cereals, nuts, pretzels
- Pretzels or reduced fat crackers
- Baked chips with salsa or low-fat dip (ranch, onion, bean, etc.)
- Low-fat muffins (small or mini), granola bars and cookies (graham crackers, fig bars)
- Mini bagels with whipped light or fat-free cream cheese
- Pasta salad
- Bread sticks with marinara
- Fat-free or low-fat flavored yogurt & fruit parfaits
- Fat-free or low-fat pudding cups
- Fat-free or low-fat milk and milk products (string cheese, single-serving cottage cheese, cheese cubes)
- Flavored soy milk fortified with calcium
- Pure ice cold water

\*This list is not all inclusive and is meant only to provide parents and school staff with guidance for healthier food and beverage choices. Not all food and beverage items on this list will necessarily meet district nutrient standards (Attachment A) as items vary in sugar, fat and calorie content from brand to brand. However, all of the items in the list are believed to be consistent with the intent of the wellness policy to promote student health and reduce childhood obesity.

**Community Unit School District No. 2  
Attachment C**

*Fundraising Ideas:*

- Raffle
- Candles
- Book Sale
- Cookbook
- \*Car wash
- \*Walkathons
- Student artwork
- Stuffed animals
- Stadium pillows
- School photo ID
- Educational games
- Holiday decorations
- Shopping donation programs
- School mascot temporary tattoos
- Faculty and/or student talent show
- Teacher/student sports competition
- Auction of donated goods and services
- Balloon bouquets for special occasions
- Bottled water with the schools own label
- Refillable water bottle with the school logo
- Glow in the dark novelties (popular at dances)
- Greeting cards, especially designed by students
- School calendars with all the important school dates on them
- Party bags for kids' birthday parties filled with non-food novelties
- Sale of flowers and balloons for the family to purchase for student graduates
- School spirit items – tee-shirts, sweatshirts, sweatpants, lanyards, pennants, bracelets and caps
- Growing and/or selling flowers and plants for holidays such as Valentine's Day and Mother's Day

\*These fundraisers have the added benefit of promoting physical activity for students.

**Community Unit School District No. 2  
Attachment D**

*Classroom Rewards:*

- A smile
- Going first
- Verbal praise
- Sit by friends
- Teaching the class
- Helping the teacher
- Enjoy class outdoors
- A field trip for the class
- Choosing a class activity
- Walk with a teacher during lunch
- Eat lunch outdoors with the class
- Each lunch with a teacher or principal
- Extra credit or class participation points
- Taking care of the class animal for a day
- Have lunch or breakfast in the classroom
- A photo recognition board in a prominent location in the school
- A note from the teacher to the student commending his or her achievement
- A phone call, email, or letter sent home to parents or guardians commending a child's accomplishment
- Recognition of a child's achievement on the school-wide morning announcements or school website
- Ribbon, certificate in recognition of achievement or a sticker with an affirming message (e.g. "Great job")
- Take a trip to the treasure box (filled with: stickers, temporary tattoos, pencils, pens, highlighters, sidewalk chalk, notepads, erasers, bookmarks, etc.)

**References:**

1. Prevalence of Overweight among Children and Adolescents: United States, National Center for Health Statistics.  
[www.cdc.gov/nchs/products/pubs/pubd/hestats/overwght99.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/products/pubs/pubd/hestats/overwght99.htm)
2. Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act of 2004 (Public Law 108-265, Sec. 204). <http://thomas.loc.gov/bss>
3. Public Act 094-0199. [www.ilga.gov/legislation/publicacts/fulltext.asp?Name+094+-0199](http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/publicacts/fulltext.asp?Name+094+-0199)
4. Illinois School Code, [www.ilga.gov/legislation](http://www.ilga.gov/legislation)
  - a. Daily Physical Ed Requirements – Section 27-6 of the School Code (105 ILCS 5/27-6)
  - b. Rules for Comprehensive Health Education – (23 Ill. Adm. Code 253) issued pursuant to the Critical Health Problems and Comprehensive Health Education Act (105 ILCS 110).
5. Illinois Learning Standards, Illinois State Board of Education, 1997.  
[www.isbe.state.il.us/ils](http://www.isbe.state.il.us/ils)
6. Nutrition services: An essential component of comprehensive school health programs – Joint Position of the American Dietetic Association, Society for Nutrition Education, and the American School Food Service Association, Journal of Nutrition Education 35:2, 2003.
7. Executive Summary, Shape of the Nation 2001. National Association of Sports and Physical Education (NASPE) 2001.  
[www.aahperd.org/naspe/pdf\\_files/shape\\_nation.pdf](http://www.aahperd.org/naspe/pdf_files/shape_nation.pdf)
8. Dietary Guidelines for Americans 2005, Department of Health and Human Services and Department of Agriculture, 2005. [www.health.gov/dietaryguidelines](http://www.health.gov/dietaryguidelines)
9. Fit, Healthy and Ready to Learn, National association of State Boards of Education, 2000.
10. MyPyramid.gov, United States Department of Agriculture, [www.mypyramid.gov](http://www.mypyramid.gov)
11. Minimum School Meals Requirements – section 9 (f) (I), 17 (a) of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1758 (f) (I), 1766 (a) 0
12. Minimum School Meals Requirements – subsections (a) and (b) of section 10 of the Child Nutrition Act (42 U.S.C. 1779)
13. Illinois School Food Service – Ill. Adm. Code Section 305

**Resources for Policy Development:**

- Fit, Healthy and Ready to Learn, national Association of State Boards of Education, 2000. [www.nasbe.org/HealthSchools/index.html](http://www.nasbe.org/HealthSchools/index.html)
- Healthier US School Challenge, United States Department of Agriculture.  
[www.fns.usda.gov/tn/HealthierUS/criteria\\_instructions.pdf](http://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/HealthierUS/criteria_instructions.pdf)
- Mercedes Independent School District Student Nutrition/Wellness Plan.2004.  
[www.mercedes.k12.tx.us/menus/Nutrition%20PolicyR10-8-04.pdf](http://www.mercedes.k12.tx.us/menus/Nutrition%20PolicyR10-8-04.pdf)

- Model Local School Wellness Policies on Physical Activity and Nutrition, National Alliance for Nutrition and Activity, 2005  
[www.schoolwellnesspolicies.org/WellnessPolicies.html](http://www.schoolwellnesspolicies.org/WellnessPolicies.html)
- School Nutrition Association Local Wellness Policy Guidelines, School Nutrition Association. 2005. [www.schoolnutrition.org/Index.aspx?id+1075](http://www.schoolnutrition.org/Index.aspx?id+1075)

## **Students**

### **Student Rights and Responsibilities**

All students are entitled to enjoy the rights protected by the Federal and State Constitutions and laws for persons of their age and maturity in a school setting. Students should exercise these rights reasonably and avoid violating the rights of others. Students who violate the rights of others or violate District policies or rules will be subject to disciplinary measures.

LEGAL REF.: 20 U.S.C. §7904.

105 ILCS 20/5

Tinker v. Des Moines Independent School District, 89 S.Ct. 733 (1969).

CROSS REF.: 7:140 (Search and Seizure), 7:150 (Agency and Police Interviews), 7:160 (Student Appearance), 7:190 (Student Discipline)

ADOPTED: June 18, 2007

## **Students**

### **Search and Seizure**

To maintain order and security in the schools, school authorities are authorized to conduct reasonable searches of school property and equipment, as well as of students and their personal effects. "School authorities" includes school liaison police officers.

#### **School Property and Equipment as well as Personal Effects Left There by Students**

School authorities may inspect and search school property and equipment owned or controlled by the school (such as lockers, desks, and parking lots), as well as personal effects left there by a student, without notice to or the consent of the student. Students have no reasonable expectation of privacy in these places or areas or in their personal effects left there. This paragraph applies to student vehicles parked on school property. In addition, Building Principals shall require each high school student, in return for the privilege of parking on school property, to consent in writing to school searches of his or her vehicle, and personal effects therein, without notice and without suspicion of wrongdoing.

The Superintendent may request the assistance of law enforcement officials to conduct inspections and searches of lockers, desks, parking lots, and other school property and equipment for illegal drugs, weapons, or other illegal or dangerous substances or materials, including searches conducted through the use of specially trained dogs.

#### **Students**

School authorities may search a student and/or the student's personal effects in the student's possession (such as purses, wallets, knapsacks, book bags, lunch boxes, etc.) when there is a reasonable ground for suspecting that the search will produce evidence the particular student has violated or is violating either the law or the District's student conduct rules. The search itself must be conducted in a manner that is reasonably related to its objectives and not excessively intrusive in light of the student's age and sex, and the nature of the infraction.

When feasible, the search should be conducted as follows:

- outside the view of others, including students;
- in the presence of a school administrator or adult witness; and
- By a certificated employee or liaison police officer of the same sex as the student.

Immediately following a search, a written report shall be made by the school authority who conducted the search, and given to the Superintendent.

In any circumstance when school officials have reason to believe a student is under the influence of alcohol or has imbibed alcoholic beverage and alcohol is present in the student's system, a portable alcohol device test may be administered by a school administrator trained in the use of the alcohol device. Before any breath test is administered, the school administrator proposing to administer the test shall:

1. Record in writing his or her findings supporting his or her reason to believe the student should be tested; and
2. Seek and obtain approval to administer the test from another administrator at the level of building principal or higher.

No breath test shall be administered on a random basis and no test shall be administered without reasonable suspicion. Reasonable suspicion exists when school officials reasonably infer from all the circumstances that the student has imbibed alcohol beverage. School officials must have identified specific articulated facts which, when taken with their natural inferences, make the use of the breath test reasonable. If a student fails a breath test, school officials shall promptly notify the student's parents. Any disciplinary result shall be consistent with District policies, rules and regulations governing student use of alcohol and shall be consistent with District disciplinary policies, rules, regulations and procedures.

#### Seizure of Property

If a search produces evidence that the student has violated or is violating either the law or the District's policies or rules, such evidence may be seized and impounded by school authorities, and disciplinary action may be taken. When appropriate, such evidence may be transferred to law enforcement authorities.

LEGAL REF.: Veronia School District 47J v. Acton, 115 S.Ct. 2386 (1995).

T.L.O. v. New Jersey, 105 S.Ct. 733 (1985).

Cornfield v. Consolidated High School Dist. No. 230, 991 F.2d 1316 (7th Cir. 1993).

People v. Dilworth, 661 N.E.2d 310 (Ill. 1996), *cert. denied*, 116 S. Ct. 1692 (1996).

People v. Pruitt, 662 N.E. 2d 540 (1st Dist. Ill. 1996), *app. denied*, 667 N.E. 2d 1061 (Ill. App. 1st Dist. 1996).

105 ILCS 5/10-20.14, 5/10-22.6, and 5/10-22.10a.

T.L.O.v. New Jersey, 105 S.Ct. 733 (1985).

CROSS REF.: 7:130, (Student Rights and Responsibilities), 7:150 (Agency and Police Interviews), 7:190 (Student Discipline)

ADOPTED: September 20, 2004

## **Students**

### **Agency and Police Interviews**

All requests by agency or police officials to interview a student shall be handled according to procedures developed by the Superintendent.

LEGAL REF.: 325 ILCS 5/1 et seq.  
705 ILCS 80/1 et seq.

CROSS REF.: 7:130, 7:140 (Search and Seizure), 7:190 (Student Discipline)

ADOPTED: June 21, 1999

## **Students**

### **Student Appearance**

A Students' appearance including dress and grooming, must not disrupt the educational process, interfere with the maintenance of a positive teaching/learning climate, or compromise reasonable standards of health, safety, and decency. Procedures for handling students who dress or groom inappropriately will be developed by the Superintendent and included in the Student Handbook.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/10-22.25b.

Tinker v. Des Moines Independent School District, 89 S.Ct. 733 (1969)

CROSS REF.: 7:130 (Student Rights and Responsibilities), 7:165 (School Uniform), 7:190 (Student Discipline)

ADOPTED: August 16, 2010

## **Students**

### **Vandalism**

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

LEGAL REF.: 740 ILCS 115/

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

ADOPTED: January 19, 2010

## **Juvenile Sex Offender**

Pursuant to the juvenile sex offender act, the Robinson Chief of Police will notify the school Superintendent regarding the enrollment of a registered sex offender in the District. The Robinson Chief of Police will also notify the School Superintendent of the offender's probationary status or treatment status, if known.

### **WRITTEN NOTICE**

If deemed necessary to protect students, staff or other individuals, the district may provide written notice that a particular student is on the juvenile sex offender registry. The notice will be provided by sending a letter to the parents/guardians of students whose health and safety may need to be protected. The notice will identify the student and will contain the following cautionary statement: *The information contained in this notice was received from the Robinson Chief of Police. The District is not able to guarantee the completeness and accuracy of the registry information.* The information contained in this notice was received from the Robinson Chief of Police. The District is not able to guarantee the completeness and accuracy of the registry information.

### **EXEMPTION FROM CIVIL LIABILITY**

School district personnel do not have duty to inquire, investigate or disclose any information regarding registered sex offenders enrolled in the district, nor will school district personnel be held liable for failure to disclose any information regarding registered sex offenders to any person or entity. School District personnel who, acting without malice or criminal intent, obtain or disseminate information under the Juvenile Sex Offender Act are immune from civil liability for any damages claimed as a result of such disclosures made or received.

### **PENALTIES FOR MISUSE OF INFORMATION**

School district personnel will not use information obtained pursuant to the Juvenile Sex Offender Act to commit a crime or to cause physical harm to any person or damage to property.

### **SPECIAL EDUCATION**

An Individual Education Program (IEP) team will take appropriate action when dealing with a juvenile sex offender in these situations:

1. The student has a valid IEP
2. The district determines that an evaluation is necessary to determine whether the student qualifies for special education and relation services
3. The parent/guardian requests that the student be evaluated for special education and related services

### ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES

If the Superintendent or Designee becomes aware that a juvenile sex offender is enrolled in a district school, the Superintendent or designee will take the following action:

1. Request information regarding the student's juvenile record and any information regarding the offense committed, adjudication, probationary status and treatment status from the department of law enforcement and/or the Superintendent of public instruction.
2. Convene a meeting to determine what administrative action, if any, should be taken; the sole purpose of any such administrative action will be to protect the health and safety of all students.
3. The meeting will include individuals deemed necessary by the Superintendent or designee, including but not limited to, the juvenile's teacher(s), school counselor, probation officer, and other individuals whose expertise may assist the principal in determining the safety risk posed by the juvenile. The Superintendent may also seek input from the juvenile and/or his or her parent/guardian. Among other administrative actions discussed, the members of the meeting may discuss whether written notice to other parents/guardians that a particular student is on the juvenile sex offender registry is warranted. The meeting will occur as soon as possible, but in no case more than five (5) school days from when the Superintendent or designee first becomes aware that a juvenile sex offender is enrolled in a district school.

LEGAL REF.: The Juvenile Court Act of 1987 and the Juvenile Justice Reform Provisions of 1998  
705 ILCS 405/5-101 *et. seq.*

ADOPTED: December 17, 2007

## **Students**

### **Student Discipline**

#### **Prohibited Student Conduct**

The school administration is authorized to discipline students for gross disobedience or misconduct, including, but not limited to, the following:

1. Using, possessing, distributing, purchasing, or selling tobacco materials.
2. Using, possessing, distributing, purchasing, or selling alcoholic beverages. Students who are under the influence of an alcoholic beverage are not permitted to attend school or school functions and are treated as though they had alcohol in their possession.
3. Using, possessing, distributing, purchasing, or selling:
  - a.) Any illegal drug, controlled substance, or cannabis (including marijuana and hashish)
  - b.) Any anabolic steroid unless being administered in accordance with a physician's or licensed practitioner's prescription.
  - c.) Any performance-enhancing substance on the Illinois High School Association's most current banned substance list unless administered in accordance with a physician's or licensed practitioner's prescription.
  - d.) Any prescription drug when not prescribed for the student by a licensed physician or when used in a manner inconsistent with the prescription or prescribing physician's instructions.
  - e.) Any inhalant, regardless of whether it contains an illegal drug or controlled substance: (a) that a student believes is, or represents to be capable of, causing intoxication, hallucination, excitement, or dulling of the brain or nervous system; or (b) about which the student engaged in behavior that would lead a reasonable person to believe that the student intended the inhalant to cause intoxication, hallucination, excitement, or dulling of the brain or nervous system. The prohibition in this section does not apply to a student's use of asthma or other legally prescribed inhalant medications.
  - f.) "Look alike" or counterfeit drugs, including a substance not containing an illegal drug or controlled substance, but one: (a) that a student believes to be, or represents to be, an illegal drug or controlled substance; or (b) about which a student engaged in behavior that would lead a reasonable person to believe that the student expressly or impliedly represented to be an illegal drug or controlled substance.

- g.) Drug paraphernalia, including devices that are or can be used to: (a) ingest, inhale, or inject cannabis or controlled substances into the body; and (b) grow, process, store, or conceal cannabis or controlled substances.

Students who are under the influence are not permitted to attend school or school functions and are treated as though they had the prohibited substance, as applicable, in their possession.

4. Using, possessing, controlling, or transferring a “weapon” as that term is defined in the *Weapons* section of this policy, or violating the *Weapons* section of this policy.
5. Using or possessing an electronic paging device. Using a cellular telephone, video recording device, personal digital assistant (PDA), or other electronic device in any manner that disrupts the educational environment or violates the rights of others, including using the device to take photographs in locker rooms or bathrooms, cheat, or otherwise violate student conduct rules. Unless otherwise banned under this policy or by the Building Principal, all electronic devices must be kept powered-off and out of sight during the regular school day unless: (a) the supervising teacher grants permission; (b) use of the device is provided in a student’s IEP; or (c) it is needed in an emergency that threatens the safety of students, staff or other individuals.
6. Using or possessing a laser pointer unless under a staff member’s direct supervision and in the context of instruction.
7. Disobeying rules of student conduct or directives from staff members or school officials. Examples of disobeying staff directives include refusing a District staff member’s request to stop, present school identification, or submit to a search.
8. Engaging in academic dishonesty, including cheating, intentionally plagiarizing, wrongfully giving or receiving help during an academic examination, and wrongfully obtaining test copies or scores.
9. Engaging in hazing or any kind of aggressive behavior that does physical or psychological harm to another or any urging of other students to engage in such conduct. Prohibited conduct includes any use of violence, force, noise, coercion, threats, intimidation, fear, harassment, bullying, hazing, or other comparable conduct.

10. Causing or attempting to cause damage to, or stealing or attempting to steal, school property or another person's personal property.
11. Being absent without a recognized excuse; State law and Board policy on truancy control will be used with chronic and habitual truants.
12. Being involved with any public school fraternity, sorority, or secret society, by
  - a. being a member;
  - b. promising to join;
  - c. pledging to become a member; or
  - d. soliciting any other person to join, promise to join, or be pledged to become a member.
13. Being involved in gangs or gang-related activities, including displaying gang symbols or paraphernalia.
14. Violating any criminal law, including but not limited to, assault, battery, arson, theft, gambling, eavesdropping, and hazing.
15. Engaging in any activity, on or off campus, that interferes with, disrupts, or adversely affects the school environment, school operations, or an educational function, including but not limited to, conduct that may reasonably be considered to: (a) be a threat or an attempted intimidation of a staff member, or (b) endanger the health or safety of students, staff, or school property.

For purposes of this policy, the term "possession" includes having control, custody, or care, currently or in the past, of an object or substance, including situations where the item is: (a) on the student's person; (b) contained in another item belonging to, or under the control of, the student, such as in the student's clothing, backpack, or automobile; (c) in a school's student locker, desk, or other school property; or (d) at any location on school property or at a school-sponsored event.

Efforts, including the use of early intervention and progressive discipline, shall be made to deter students, while at school or a school-related event, from engaging in aggressive behavior that may reasonably produce physical or physiological harm to someone else. The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that the parent/guardian of a student who engages in aggressive behavior is notified of the incident. The failure to provide such notification does not limit the Board's authority to impose discipline, including suspension or expulsion, for such behavior.

No disciplinary action shall be taken against any student that is based totally or in part on the refusal of the student's parent/guardian to administer or consent to the administration of psychotropic or psycho-stimulant medication to the student.

The grounds for disciplinary action, including those described more thoroughly later in this policy, apply whenever the student's conduct is reasonably related to school or school activities, including, but not limited to:

1. On, or within sight of, school grounds before, during, or after school hours or at any time ;
2. Off school grounds at a school-sponsored activity or event, or any activity or event that bears a reasonable relationship to school;
3. Traveling to or from school or a school activity, function or event; or
4. Anywhere, if the conduct interferes with, disrupts, or adversely affects the school environment, school operations, or an educational function, including but not limited to conduct that may reasonably be considered to: (a) be a threat or an attempted intimidation of a staff member; or (b) endanger the health or safety of students, staff, or school property.

### Disciplinary Measures

Disciplinary measures may include:

1. Disciplinary conference.
2. Withholding of privileges.
3. Seizure of contraband.
4. Suspension from school and all school activities for up to 10 days provided that appropriate procedures are followed. A suspended student is prohibited from being on school grounds.
5. Suspension of bus riding privileges, provided that appropriate procedures are followed.
6. Expulsion from school and all school-sponsored activities and events for a definite time period not to exceed 2 calendar years, provided that the appropriate procedures are followed. An expelled student is prohibited from being on school grounds.
7. Notifying juvenile authorities or other law enforcement whenever the conduct involves illegal drugs (controlled substances), “look-alikes”, alcohol, or weapons.
8. Notification of parent(s)/guardian(s).
9. Temporary removal from the classroom.
10. In-school suspension for a period not to exceed 5 school days. The Building Principal or designee shall ensure that the student is properly supervised.
11. After school study or Saturday study, provided the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) have been notified. If transportation arrangements cannot be agreed upon, an alternative disciplinary measure must be used. The student must be supervised by the detaining teacher or the Building Principal or designee.
12. Community service with local public and nonprofit agencies that enhance community efforts to meet human, educational, environmental, or public safety needs. The District will not provide transportation. School administration shall use this option only as an alternative to another disciplinary measure giving the student and/or parent/guardian the choice.

A student who is subject to suspension or expulsion may be eligible for transfer to an alternative school program.

Corporal punishment shall not be used. Corporal punishment is defined as slapping, paddling, or prolonged maintenance of students in physically painful positions, or intentional infliction of bodily harm. Corporal punishment does not include reasonable force as needed to maintain safety for students, staff, or other persons, or for the purpose of self-defense or the defense of property.

### Weapons

A student who is determined to have brought one of the following objects to school, any school-sponsored activity or event, or any activity or event that bears a reasonable relationship to school shall be expelled for a period of at least one calendar year, but no more than 2 calendar years:

1. A firearm, meaning any gun, rifle, shotgun, or weapon as defined by Section 921 of Title 18 of the United States Code (18 U.S.C. §921), firearm as defined in Section 1.1 of the Firearm Owners Identification Card Act (430 ILCS 65/), or firearm as defined in Section 24-1 of the Criminal Code of 1961 (720 ILCS 5/24-1).
2. A knife, brass knuckles, or other knuckle weapon regardless of its composition, a Billy club, or any other object if used or attempted to be used to cause bodily harm, including “look a-likes” of any firearm as defined above.

The expulsion requirement under either paragraph 1 or 2 above may be modified by the Superintendent, and the Superintendent’s determination may be modified by the Board on a case-by-case basis. The Superintendent or designee may grant an exception to this policy, upon the prior request of an adult supervisor, for students in theatre, cooking, ROTC, martial arts, and similar programs, whether or not school-sponsored, provided the item is not equipped, nor intended, to do bodily harm.

### Required Notices

A school staff member shall immediately notify the office of the Building Principal in the event that he or she (1) observes any person in possession of a firearm on or around school grounds, however, such action may be delayed if immediate notice would endanger students under his or her supervision, (2) observes or has reason to suspect that any person on school grounds is or was involved in a drug-related incident, or (3) observes a battery committed against any staff member. Upon receiving such a report, the Building Principal or designee shall immediately notify the local law enforcement agency, State Police, and any involved student’s parent/guardian. “School grounds” includes modes of transportation to school activities and any public way within 1000 feet of the school, as well as school property itself.

### Delegation of Authority

Each teacher, and any other school personnel when students are under his or her charge, is authorized to impose any disciplinary measure, other than suspension, expulsion, corporal punishment or in-school suspension, that is appropriate and in accordance with the policies and rules on student

discipline. Teachers, other certificated educational employees and other persons providing a related service for or with respect to a student, may use reasonable force as needed to maintain safety for other students, school personnel, or other persons, or for the purpose of self-defense or defense of property. Teachers may temporarily remove students from a classroom for disruptive behavior.

The Superintendent, Building Principal, Assistant Building Principal, or Dean of Students is authorized to impose the same disciplinary measures as teachers and may suspend students guilty of gross disobedience or misconduct from school (including all school functions) and from riding the school bus, up to 10 consecutive school days, provided the appropriate procedures are followed. The Board may suspend a student from riding the bus in excess of 10 days for safety reasons.

#### Student Handbook

The Superintendent, with input from the parent-teacher advisory committee, shall prepare disciplinary rules implementing the District's disciplinary policies. These disciplinary rules shall be presented annually to the Board for its review and approval.

A student handbook, including the District disciplinary policies and rules, shall be distributed to the students' parents/guardians within 15 days of the beginning of the school year or a student's enrollment.

LEGAL REF.: Gun-Free Schools Act, 20 U.S.C. § 3351 et seq.  
Pro-Children Act of 1994, 20 U.S.C. § 6081.  
105 ILCS 5/10-20.5b, 5/10-20.14, 5/10-21.7, 5/10-21.10, 5/10-22.6, 5/10-27.1A,  
5/10-27.1B, 5/24-24, 5/26-12, and 5/31-3.  
23 Ill. Admin. Code §1.280.

CROSS REF.: 2:240 (Board Policy Development), 5:230 (Maintaining Student Discipline),  
6:110 (Programs for Students At Risk of Dropping Out of School), 7:70  
(Attendance and Truancy), 7:130 (Student Rights And Responsibilities), 7:140  
(Search And Seizure), 7:150 (police interviews), 7:160 (Student Appearance),  
7:170 (Vandalism), 7:200 (Suspension Procedures), 7:210 (Expulsion  
Procedures), 7:220 (Bus Conduct), 7:230 (Misconduct by Students with  
Disabilities), 7:240 (Conduct Code for Participants in Extracurricular Activities),  
7:270 (Administering Medicines to Students), 7:270 (Administering Medicines  
to Students), 7:310 (Restrictions on Publications and Written or Electronic  
Material), 8:30 (Visitors to and Conduct on School Property)

ADOPTED: March 15, 2010

## Students

### Suspension Procedures

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

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. A 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. A copy of a notice shall be given to the School Board.
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. 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.

LEGAL REF.: 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).  
105 ILCS 5/10-22.6(b).

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

ADOPTED: August 16, 2010

## Students

### Expulsion Procedures

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

1. Before a student may be expelled, the student and his or her parent(s)/guardian(s) shall be provided written request to appear at a hearing to determine whether the student should be expelled. The request shall be sent by registered or certified mail; return receipt requested. The request should include:
  - a. The reasons for the proposed expulsion as well as the conduct rule the student is charged with violating
  - b. The time, date, and place for the hearing
  - c. A short description of what will happen during the hearing
  - d. A statement indicating that The School Code allows the School Board to expel a student for a definite period of time not to exceed 2 calendar years, as determined on a case by case basis
  - e. A request that the student or parent(s)/guardian(s) inform the District if the student will be represented by an attorney and, if so, the attorney's name
2. Unless the student and parent(s)/guardian(s) indicate that they do not want a hearing or fail to appear at the designated time and place, the hearing will proceed. It shall be conducted by the School Board or a hearing officer appointed by it. If a hearing officer is appointed, he or she shall report to the board the evidence presented at the hearing and the Board shall take such final action as it finds appropriate.
3. During the expulsion hearing, the Board or hearing officer shall hear evidence concerning whether the student is guilty of the gross disobedience or misconduct as charged. The student and his or her parent(s)/guardian(s) may be represented by counsel, offer evidence, present witnesses, cross-examine witnesses who testified, and otherwise present reasons why the student should not be expelled. After presentation of the evidence or receipt of the hearing officer's report, the Board shall decide the issue of guilt and take such action as it finds appropriate.

LEGAL REF.: Goss v. Lopez, 95 S.Ct. 729 (1975).

105 ILCS 5/10-22.6(a).

CROSS REF.: 7:130 (Student Rights and Responsibilities), 7:190 (Student Discipline);  
7:200(Suspension Procedures), 7:230 (Misconduct by Students with Disabilities)

ADOPTED: November 16, 2009

## **Students**

### **Bus Conduct**

All students must follow the District's School Bus Safety Guidelines. The Superintendent, or any designee as permitted in The School Code, is authorized to suspend a student from riding the school bus for up to 10 consecutive school days for engaging in gross disobedience or misconduct, including but not limited to, the following:

1. Prohibited student conduct as defined in School Board Policy, 7:190, *Student Discipline*.
2. Willful injury or threat of injury to a bus driver or to another rider.
3. Willful and/or repeated defacement of the bus.
4. Repeated use of profanity.
5. Repeated willful disobedience of a directive from a bus driver or other supervisor..
6. Such other behavior as the Superintendent or designee deems to threaten the safe operation of the bus and/or its occupants.

If a student is suspended from riding the bus for gross disobedience or misconduct on a bus, the School Board may suspend the student from riding the school bus for a period of excess of 10 days for safety reasons. The District's regular suspension procedures shall be used to suspend a student's privilege to ride a school bus.

### **Electronic Recordings on School Buses**

Electronic visual and audio recordings may be used on school buses to monitor conduct and to promote and maintain a safe environment for students and employees when transportation is provided for any school related activity. Notice of electronic recordings shall be displayed on the exterior of the vehicle's entrance door and front interior bulkhead in compliance with State law and the rules of the Illinois Department of Transportation, Division of Traffic Safety.

Students are prohibited from tampering with electronic recording devices. Students who violate this policy shall be disciplined in accordance with the Board's discipline policy and shall reimburse the School District for any necessary repairs or replacement.

The content of the electronic recordings are student records and are subject to District policy and procedure concerning school student records; such recordings are exempt from the Eavesdropping Act. Only those people with a legitimate educational or administrative purpose may view and/or listen to the electronic video and/or audio recordings. If the content of electronic recording becomes the subject of a student disciplinary hearing, it will be treated like other evidence in the proceeding.

LEGAL REF.: Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, 20 U.S.C. § 1232g, 34 C.F.R. Part 99.  
105 ILCS 5/10-20.14, 5/10-22.6, and 10/1 et seq.  
720 ILCS 5/14-3m

CROSS REF.: 4:110 (Transportation), 4:170 (Safety), 7:130 (Student Rights and  
Responsibilities), 7:190 (Student Discipline), 7:200 (Suspension Procedures),  
7:340 (Student Records)

ADOPTED: August 16, 2010

## **Students**

### **Misconduct by Students with Disabilities**

#### **Behavioral Interventions**

Behavioral interventions shall be used with students with disabilities to promote and strengthen desirable behaviors and reduce identified inappropriate behaviors. The School Board will establish and maintain a committee to develop, implement, and monitor procedures on the use of behavioral interventions for children with disabilities.

#### **Discipline of Special Education Students**

The District shall comply with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004 and the Illinois State Board of Education's *Special Education* rules when disciplining special education students. No special education student shall be expelled if the student's particular act of gross disobedience/or misconduct is a manifestation of his or her disability.

LEGAL REF.: Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004, 20 U.S.C. § § 1412, 1413, 1415

Gun-Free Schools Act, 20 U.S.C. § 3351 *et seq.*

34 C.F.R. §§ 300.101, 300.530, 300.536

105 ILCS 5/10-22.6 and 5/14-8.05.

23 Ill. Admin. Code § 226.400

Honig v. Doe, 108 S.Ct. 592 (1988)

CROSS REF.: 2:150 (Committees), 6:120 (Education of Children with Disabilities), 7:130 (Student Rights and Responsibilities), 7:190 (Student Discipline), 7:200 (Suspension Procedures), 7:210 (Expulsion Procedures), 7:220 (Bus Conduct)

ADOPTED: November 16, 2009

## **Students**

### **Conduct Code for Participants in Extracurricular Activities**

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 Board policy. 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 and on days when school is not in session, and whether on and off school property, and (2) notify participants that failure to abide by it could result in removal from the activity. 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 this program.

### **Extracurricular Drug and Alcohol Testing Program**

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.

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**

State law required 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 in 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 App. 4<sup>th</sup>, 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)  
Veronica School Dist. 475 v Acton, 515 U.S. 646 (1995)  
105 ILCS 5/24-24, 5/27-23.3, 25/1.5
- CROSS REF.: 5:280 (Duties and Qualifications), 6:190 (Extracurricular and Co-Curricular Activities), 7:190 (Student Discipline), 7:300 (Extracurricular Athletics)
- ADOPTED: March 15, 2010

## **Students**

### **Student Support Services**

The following student support services may be provided by the School District:

1. Health services supervised by a qualified nurse. The Superintendent or designee may implement procedures to further a healthy school environment and prevent or reduce the spread of disease, including head lice (*Pediculus Humanus Capitis*).
2. Educational and psychological testing services and the services of a psychologist as needed. In all cases, written permission to administer a psychological examination must be obtained from the parent(s)/guardian(s). The results will be given to the parent(s)/guardian(s), with interpretation, as well as to the appropriate professional staff.
3. The services of a social worker. A student's parent(s)/guardian(s) must consent to regular or continuing services from a social worker.
4. Guidance and counseling services.

The Superintendent or designee shall develop protocols for responding to students with social, emotional, or mental health problems that impact learning ability. The District, however, assumes no liability for preventing, identifying, or treating such problems.

This policy shall be implemented in a manner consistent with State and federal laws, including the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, 42 U.S.C. § 12101 et seq.

LEGAL REF.: Children's Mental Health Act of 2003, 405 ILCS 49/1 et seq.

CROSS REF.: 6:65 (Student Social and Emotional Development), 6:270 (Guidance and Counseling Program) 7:100 (Health Examinations, Immunizations, and Exclusion of Students), 7:280 (Communicable and Chronic Infectious Diseases)

ADOPTED: August 16, 2010

## **Students**

### **Exemption from Physical Activity**

A child may be exempted from some or all physical activities when the appropriate excuses are submitted to the school by parent(s)/guardian(s) or by a person licensed under the Medical Practice Act.

Alternative activities and/or units of instruction will be provided for pupils whose physical or emotional condition, as determined by a person licensed under the Medical Practice Act, prevents their participation in the physical education courses.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/27-6.  
23 Ill. Admin. Code § 1.420(p).

CROSS REF.: 6:60

ADOPTED: June 21, 1999

## **Students**

### **Administering Medicines to Students**

Students should not take medication during school hours or during school-related activities unless it is necessary for a student's health and well-being. When a student's licensed health care provider and parent(s)/guardian(s) believe that it is necessary for the student to take a medication during school hours or school-related activities, the parent/guardian must request that the school dispense the medication to the child and otherwise follow the District's procedures on dispensing medication.

No School District employee shall administer to any student, or supervise a student's self administration of, any prescription or non-prescription medication until a completed and signed "School Medication Authorization Form" is submitted by the student's parent(s)/guardian(s). No student shall possess or consume any prescription or non-prescription medication on school grounds or at a school related function other than as provided for in this policy and its implementing procedures.

A student may possess an epinephrine auto-injector (EpiPen®) and/or medication prescribed for asthma for immediate use at the student's discretion, provided the student's parent/guardian has completed and signed a "School Medication Authorization Form." – The School District shall incur no liability, except for willful and wanton conduct, as a result of any injury arising from a student's self-administration of medication or epinephrine auto-injector or the storage of any medication by school personnel. A student's parent/guardian must indemnify and hold harmless the School District and its employees and agents, against any claims, except a claim based on willful and wanton conduct, arising out of a student's self administration of an epinephrine auto-injector and/or medication, or the storage of any medication by school personnel.

Nothing in this policy shall prohibit any school employee from providing emergency assistance to students, including administering medication.

The Building Principal shall include this policy in the Student Handbook and shall provide a copy to the parent(s)/guardian(s) of students.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/10-20.14b and 5/10-22.30

ADMIN. PROC.: 7:270-AP (Dispensing Medication), 7:270-E (School Medication Authorization Form)

ADOPTED: January 16, 2007

## **Students**

### **Orders to Forgo Life-Sustaining Treatment**

Written orders from parent(s)/guardian(s) to forgo life-sustaining treatment for their child or ward must be signed by the child's physician and given to the Building Principal or Superintendent. This policy shall be interpreted in accordance with the Illinois Health Care Surrogate Act (755 ILCS 40/1 et seq.).

Whenever an order to forgo life-sustaining treatment is received, the Superintendent shall convene a multi-disciplinary team that includes the child's parent(s)/guardian(s) and physician, as well as school personnel designated by the Superintendent. The team shall determine specific interventions to be used by school staff members in the event the child suffers a life-threatening episode at school or a school event. The District personnel shall convey orders to forgo life-sustaining treatment to the appropriate emergency or healthcare provider.

LEGAL REF.: 755 ILCS 40/1 et seq.  
Cruzan v. Director, Missouri Department of Health, 497 U.S. 261 (1990).  
In re: C.A., a minor, 603 N.E.2d 1171 (Il. App. 1., 1992).

ADOPTED: August 16, 2010

## **Students**

### **Communicable and Chronic Infectious Disease**

A student with or carrying a communicable and/or chronic infectious disease has all rights, privileges, and services provided by law and the District's policies. The Superintendent will develop procedures for communicable and chronic infectious diseases for the Board's consideration.

LEGAL REF.:       Rehabilitation Act, Section 504, 29 U.S.C. § 794(a).  
                      Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, 20 U.S.C. § 1400 et seq.  
                      77 Ill. Admin Code 690.100 et seq.  
                      410 ILCS 315/2a.  
                      105 ILCS 5/10-21.11.

ADOPTED:         June 21, 1999

## **Students**

### **Adolescent Suicide Awareness and Prevention Programs**

The Superintendent is directed to develop and implement a comprehensive and continuing adolescent suicide awareness and prevention program. The Superintendent will attempt to develop a liaison among the District and the Illinois Suicide Prevention Strategic Planning Committee, the Illinois Suicide Prevention Coalition Alliance, and/or a community mental health agency to implement the goals and objectives of the Illinois Suicide Prevention Strategic Plan.

CROSS REF.: 6:60 (Curriculum Content)

ADOPTED: November 16, 2009

## Students

### Extracurricular Athletics

Student participation in school-sponsored extracurricular athletic activities is contingent upon the following:

1. The student must meet the academic criteria set forth in the Board policy on Extracurricular Activities.
2. The parent(s)/guardian(s) must provide written permission for the student's participation, giving the District full waiver of responsibility of the risks involved.
3. The student must present a certificate of physical fitness issued by a licensed physician, an advanced practice nurse, or a physician assistant who assures that the student's health status allows for active athletic participation.
4. The student must show proof of accident insurance coverage either by a policy purchased through the District-approved insurance plan or a parent(s)/guardian(s) written statement that the student is covered under a family insurance plan.
5. The student and his or her parent(s)/guardian(s) must provide written consent to random drug and alcohol testing pursuant to the *Extracurricular Drug and Alcohol Testing Program*.
6. The student and his or her parent(s)/guardian(s) must complete forms required by the Illinois High School Association (IHSA) concerning its performance-enhancing substance testing program, implemented in accordance with State law, before the student may participate in an athletic competition sponsored or sanctioned by IHSA.

The Superintendent or designee shall maintain the necessary records to ensure student compliance with this policy.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/10-20.30.  
23 Ill. Admin. Code § 1.530(b).

CROSS REF.: 4:170, 6:190 (Extracurricular and Co-Curricular Activities), 7:240 (Conduct Code for Participants in Extracurricular Activities), 7:330 (Student Use of Buildings-Equal Access), 7:340 (Student Records)

ADOPTED: November 16, 2009

## **Students**

### **Restrictions on Publications and Written or Electronic Material**

#### **School-Sponsored Publications and Web Sites**

School-sponsored publications, productions and web sites are part of the curriculum and are not a public forum for general student use. School authorities may edit or delete material that is inconsistent with the District's educational mission.

All school-sponsored communications shall comply with the ethics and rules of responsible journalism. Text that is libelous, obscene, vulgar, lewd, invades the privacy of others, conflicts with the basic educational mission of the school, is socially inappropriate, is inappropriate due to the maturity of the students, or is materially disruptive to the educational process will not be tolerated.

The author's name will accompany personal opinions and editorial statements. An opportunity for the expression of differing opinions from those published/produced will be provided within the same media.

#### **Non-School-Sponsored Publications and Web Sites**

Students are prohibited from accessing and/or distributing at school any written or electronic material, including material from the Internet that:

1. will cause substantial disruption of the proper and orderly operation and discipline of the school or school activities;
2. violates the rights of others, including but not limited to material that is libelous, invades the privacy of others, or infringes on a copyright;
3. is socially inappropriate or inappropriate due to maturity level of the students, including but not limited to material that is obscene, pornographic, or pervasively lewd and vulgar, or contains indecent and vulgar language;
4. is primarily intended for the immediate solicitation of funds; or
5. is distributed in kindergarten through eighth grade, and is primarily prepared by non-students unless it is being used for school purposes. Nothing herein shall be interpreted to prevent the inclusion of material from outside sources or the citation to such sources as long as the material to be distributed or accessed is primarily prepared by students.

The distribution of non-school-sponsored written material shall occur at a time and place and in a manner that will not cause disruption, be coercive, or result in the perception that the distribution or the material is endorsed by the School District.

Accessing or distributing "at school" includes accessing or distributing on school property or at school-related activities. A student engages in gross disobedience and misconduct and may be disciplined for (1) accessing or distributing forbidden material, or (2) for writing, creating, or publishing such material intended for it to be accessed or distributed at school.

Student-Created or Distributed Written or Electronic Material Including Blogs

A student engages in gross disobedience and misconduct and may be disciplined for creating and/or distributing written or electronic material, including Internet material and blogs, that causes substantial disruption to school operations or interferes with the rights of other students or staff members.

- 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)
- CROSS REF.: 6:235 (Access to Electronic Networks), 8:25 (Advertising and Distributing Materials in School Provided by Non-School Related Entities)
- ADOPTED: November 20, 2006

## **Students**

### **Student Fund-Raising Activities**

Only the following organizations may solicit students on school grounds during school hours or during any school activity to engage in fund-raising activities:

1. School-sponsored student organizations; and
2. Parent organizations and booster clubs that are recognized pursuant to policy 8:90, *Parent Organizations and Booster Clubs*.

The Superintendent's implementing procedures shall provide that:

1. Fund-raising efforts shall not conflict with instructional activities or programs
2. Fund-raising efforts must be voluntary
3. Student safety is paramount
4. For school-sponsored student organizations, a school staff member must supervise the fund raising activities and the student activity funds treasurer must safeguard the financial accounts
5. The fund-raising efforts must be to support the organization's purposes and/or activities, the general welfare, a charitable cause, or the educational experiences of students generally
6. The funds shall be used to the maximum extent possible for the designated purpose

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/10-20.19(3).

CROSS REF.: 4:90 (Student Activity Fund Management). 8:90 (Parent Organizations and Booster Clubs)

ADOPTED: October 17, 2005

## **Students**

### **Student Use of Buildings - Equal Access**

Non-curriculum related student groups may meet on school premises during non-instructional time if approved by the Building Principal.

If the meeting is student-initiated and not a part of a school sponsored activity, it must be conducted according to the following guidelines:

1. Attendance is voluntary;
2. The school will not participate in or sponsor it;
3. School employees can be present at religious meetings only in a non-participatory capacity;
4. It cannot materially and subsequently interfere with the orderly conduct of educational activities within the school;
5. Non-school persons may not direct, conduct, control, or regularly attend; and
6. The school maintains its authority to maintain order and discipline.

The Superintendent or designee shall develop administrative procedures which will implement this policy.

LEGAL REF.: Equal Access Act, 20 U.S.C. § 4071 et seq.  
Board of Education of Westside Community School Dist. v. Mergens, 110 S.Ct.  
2356 (1990).

ADOPTED: June 21, 1999

## **Students**

### **Student Records**

School student records are confidential and information from them shall not be released other than as provided by law. Any record that contains personally identifiable information or other information that would link the document to an individual student is a school student record if maintained by the District, except (1) records that are kept in the sole possession of a school staff member, are destroyed not later than the student's graduation or permanent withdrawal, and are not accessible or revealed to any other person except a temporary substitute teacher, and (2) records kept by law enforcement officials working in the school.

State and federal law grant students and parent(s)/guardian(s) certain rights, including the right to inspect, copy, and challenge school records. The information contained in school student records shall be kept current, accurate, clear and relevant. All information maintained concerning a student receiving special education services shall be directly related to the provision of services to that child. The District may release directory information as permitted by law, but a parent/guardian shall have the right to object to the release of information regarding his/her child. However, the District will comply with an *ex parte* court order requiring it to permit the U.S. Attorney General or designee to have access to a student's school records without notice to, or the consent of, the student's parent/guardian.

The Superintendent shall implement this policy with administrative procedures. The Superintendent shall also designate a *records custodian* who shall maintain student records. The Superintendent or designee shall inform staff members of this policy, and shall inform students and their parent(s)/guardian(s) of it, as well as their rights regarding student school records.

### **Student Biometric Information Collection**

The Superintendent or designee may recommend a student biometric information collection system solely for the purposes of identification and fraud prevention. Such recommendation shall be consistent with budget requirements and in compliance with State law. Biometric information means any information that is collected through an identification process for individuals based on their unique behavioral or physiological characteristics, including fingerprint, hand geometry, voice, or facial recognition or iris or retinal scans.

Before collecting student biometric information, the District shall obtain written permission from the person having legal custody or the student (if over the age of 18). Upon a student's 18<sup>th</sup> birthday, the District shall obtain written permission from the student to collect student biometric information. Failure to provide written consent to collect biometric information shall not be the basis for refusal of any services otherwise available to a student.

All collected biometric information shall be stored and transmitted in a manner that protects it from disclosure, sale, lease, or other disclosure of biometric information to another person or entity is strictly prohibited.

The District will discontinue use of a student's biometric information and destroy all collected biometric information within 30 days after: (1) the student graduates or withdraws from the School District, or (2) the District receives a written request to discontinue use of biometric information from the person having legal custody of the student or the student (if over the age of 18). Requests to discontinue using a student's biometric information shall be forwarded to the Superintendent or designee.

The Superintendent or designee shall develop procedures to implement this policy consistent with State and federal law.

- LEGAL REF.: Chicago Tribune Co. v. Chicago Bd. Of Ed., 773 N.E. 2d 674 (Ill. App. 1, 2002).  
Owasso I.S.D. No. 1-011 v. Falvo, 122 S.Ct. 934 (2002).  
Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, 20 U.S.C. § 1232g; 34 C.F.R. Part 99.  
Children's Privacy Protection and Parental Empowerment Act, ILCS 17/1 et seq  
105 ILCS 5/10-20.21b, 20.37, 20.40, 5/14-1.01 et seq. and 10/1 et seq.  
50 ILCS 205/7.  
23 Ill. Admin. Code §§ 226 and 375.
- CROSS REF.: 5:100 (Staff Development Program), 5:130 (Responsibilities Concerning Internal Information), 7:15 (Student and Family Privacy Rights)
- ADMIN PROC: 7:15-E (Notification to Parents of Family Privacy Rights), 7:340-AP (Student Records), 7:340-E (Exhibit-Notification of Rights Concerning a Student's School Records)
- ADOPTED: November 16, 2009