

Sharon Williams, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

To: RIMSD 41 Board of Education
From: Dr. Sharon Williams
Date: August 11, 2026
Re: PRESS Policy First Reading - Issue 122 | 7:325 Policy Update

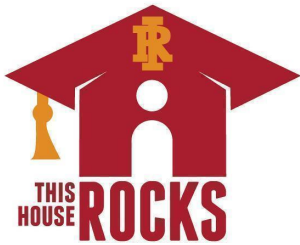
The Board of Education reviews policies in two readings: the first to discuss the policies and make changes as necessary, and the second to finalize any changes and adopt new policies. The following policies are presented for the Board's first reading. The policies have been modified due to changes in the law, legal references, and a review to ensure policies are up to date. The PRESS 122 and policy 7:325 update documentation is attached for this agenda item.

Policy 7:325 Student Fundraising Activities has been reviewed, and an amendment to the student fundraising reporting process is recommended. The current policy, adopted September 12, 2023, includes district specific language requiring an annual fundraising financial report to be provided to the Board of Education by July 1. The recommended change moves the reporting deadline to September 30 to allow sufficient time for all fundraising information to be finalized following the close of the fiscal year.

In PRESS 122, the most substantive policy revision is Policy 7:330, Student Use of Buildings – Equal Access, which has been rewritten to align with the federal Equal Access Act. The revised policy clarifies requirements for providing equal access to school facilities for eligible noncurriculum-related student groups and includes corresponding updates to the related exhibit.

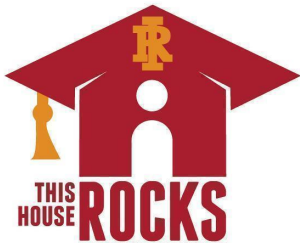
Additional updates to Policies 6:70, 6:80, and 7:130 incorporate recent legal developments regarding religious expression and parental rights in public schools. These revisions reflect new case law and federal guidance concerning student religious expression, curriculum opt-out requests based on religious objections, and equal access protections. These changes are primarily intended to ensure district policies remain consistent with current legal requirements rather than to significantly alter district practice.

Overall, PRESS Issue 122 consists largely of five-year review updates and housekeeping revisions, with only a limited number of substantive policy changes requiring Board attention.



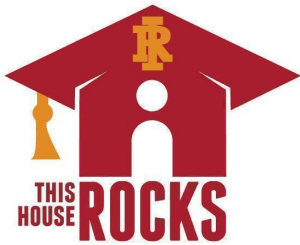
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Policy Number and Title	Revision Descriptions
2:70-E, Checklist for Filling Board Vacancies by Appointment	The exhibit is updated to correct obsolete links to IASB's website and for continuous improvement.
2:120-E3, Resolution to Appoint a Delegate to the Illinois Association of School Boards Delegate Assembly	NEW. A new exhibit is created to assist boards with annually appointing a delegate to the IASB Delegate Assembly (DA) and defining the delegate's authority to act on the board's behalf at the DA.
2:220-E1, Board Treatment of Closed Meeting Verbatim Recordings and Minutes	The exhibit is updated in response to a five-year review.
2:220-E3, Closed Meeting Minutes	The exhibit is updated in response to a five-year review.
2:220-E5, Semi-Annual Review of Closed Meeting Minutes	The exhibit is updated in response to a five-year review.
2:220-E8, School Board Records Maintenance Requirements and FAQs	The exhibit is updated in response to a five-year review.
2:230, Public Participation at School Board Meetings and Petitions to the Board	The policy, Legal References, Cross References, and footnotes are updated in response to a five-year review.
3:70, Succession of Authority	The policy is unchanged. The footnotes are updated in response to a five-year review.
4:110-AP2, Bus Driver Communication Devices; Pre- Trip and Post-Trip Inspection; and Bus Driving Comments	The procedure is updated in response to a five-year review. Notice requirements for bus driving comments are clarified.
4:170-AP1, E1, Accident or Injury Form	The exhibit is updated in response to a five-year review.



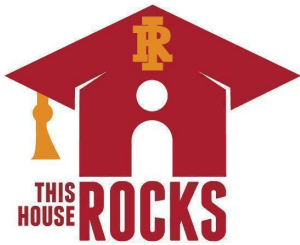
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Policy Number and Title	Revision Descriptions
4:170-AP1, E2, Memo to Staff Members Regarding Contacts By Media About a Crisis	The exhibit is updated in response to a five-year review.
4:170-AP2, Routine Communications Concerning Safety and Security	The procedure is updated in response to: 1. 105 ILCS 5/27-240(a)(5), renumbered by P.A. 104-391; The renaming of 6:235-E4, <i>Online Safety Resources</i> ; and Continuous improvement.
4:170-AP4, National Terrorism Advisory System	The procedure is updated in response to a five-year review.
4:175, Convicted Sex Offender; Screening; Notifications	The policy is unchanged. The footnotes are updated in response to a five-year review.
4:180-AP1, School Action Steps for Pandemic Influenza or Other Virus/Disease	The procedure is updated in response to a five-year review.
5:20-AP, Sample Questions and Considerations for Conducting the Internal Harassment in the Workplace Investigation	The procedure is updated in response to a five-year review.
5:40, Communicable and Chronic Infectious Disease	The policy, Legal References, and footnotes are updated in response to a five- year review.
5:40-AP, Communicable and Chronic Infectious Disease	The procedure is updated in response to a five-year review.
5:70, Religious Holidays	The Legal References and footnotes are updated in response to a five-year review.



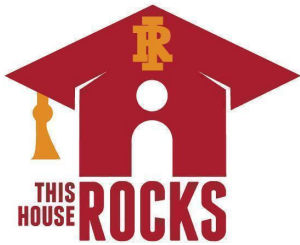
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Policy Number and Title	Revision Descriptions
5:100-AP, Staff Development Program	REFORMATTED. The procedure is updated in response to a five-year review
5:110, Recognition for Service	The policy is unchanged. The footnote is updated in response to a five-year review.
5:130-AP, Email Retention	The procedure is updated in response to a five-year review.
5:140, Solicitations By or From Staff	The policy is unchanged. The footnote is updated in response to a five-year review.
5:185-AP, Resource Guide for Family and Medical Leave	The procedure is updated in response to a five-year review.
5:220-E, Unsatisfactory Performance Report for Substitute Teachers	The exhibit is updated in response to a five-year review.
5:240, Suspension	The policy and footnotes are updated in response to a five-year review. The policy is updated with minor style changes.
5:270-E, Notice of Employment	The exhibit is updated in response to a five-year review.
6:60-AP1, E2, Resources for Biking and Walking Safety Education	The exhibit is updated in response to 105 ILCS 5/27-110, renumbered by P.A. 104-391, and for continuous improvement.
6:70, Teaching About Religions	The Legal References and footnotes are updated in response to <u>Mahmoud v. Taylor</u> , addressing opt-out from curriculum based on parent religious objections. The Legal References are also updated with a minor style change.



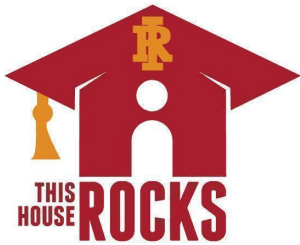
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Policy Number and Title	Revision Descriptions
	The footnotes are also updated in response to the U.S. Dept. of Education's <i>Guidance on Constitutionally Protected Prayer and Religious Expression in Public Elementary and Secondary Schools</i> (2026), and for continuous improvement.
6:70-AP, Teaching About Religions	The procedure is updated in response to <u>Mahmoud v. Taylor</u> , addressing opt-out from curriculum based on parent religious objections.
6:80, Teaching About Controversial Issues	The Legal References, Cross References, and footnotes are updated in response to <u>Mahmoud v. Taylor</u> , addressing opt-out from curriculum based on parent religious objections. The footnotes are also updated in response to <u>Kluge v. Brownsburg Cmty. Sch. Corp.</u> , 150 F.4th 792, 813 (7th Cir. 2025), leaving unsettled the issue of whether a district's accommodation of a teacher's religious objection to calling students by their preferred names and pronouns was an undue hardship.
6:120-AP4, Care of Students with Diabetes	The procedure is updated to correct an obsolete link to IASB's website, and for continuous improvement.
6:190, Extracurricular and Co-Curricular Activities	The policy and footnotes are updated to align with the changes made to 7:330, <i>Student Use of Buildings – Equal Access</i> , and for continuous improvement.
6:235-E4, Keeping Yourself and Your Kids Safe on Social Networks <u>Online Safety Resources</u>	RENAMED & REWRITTEN. The exhibit is renamed and rewritten in response to a five-year review.
7:30, Student Assignment and Intra-District Transfer	The policy and footnotes are updated in response to a five-year review. Minor style updates are made to the policy.
7:60-AP1, Challenging a Student's Residence Status	The procedure is updated in response to a five-year review.



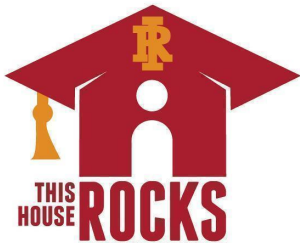
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Policy Number and Title	Revision Descriptions
7:60-AP2, Establishing Student Residency	The procedure is updated in response to a five-year review.
7:60-AP2, E1, Letter of Residence from Landlord in Lieu of Lease	The exhibit is updated in response to a five-year review.
7:60-AP2, E2, Letters of Residence to Be Used When the Person Seeking to Enroll a Student Is Living with a District Resident	The exhibit is updated in response to a five-year review.
7:60-AP2, E3, Evidence of Non-Parent's Custody, Control, and Responsibility of a Student	The exhibit is updated in response to a five-year review.
7:80, Release Time for Religious Instruction/ Observance	The policy is unchanged. The footnotes are updated in response to a five-year review.
7:130, Student Rights and Responsibilities	The Legal References are updated to include the Equal Access Act, Every Student Succeeds Act, <u>Kennedy v. Bremerton Sch. Dist.</u>, and for continuous improvement. The footnotes are updated in response to: U.S. Dept. of Education <i>Guidance on Constitutionally Protected Prayer and Religious Expression in Public Elementary and Secondary Schools</i> (2026); <u>Kennedy v. Bremerton Sch. Dist.</u>, addressing, in part, a student's ability to voluntarily pray alongside a staff member; The Equal Access Act, 20 US.C. §4071(a), requiring districts to give certain non-curriculum related student groups access to district facilities for meetings as a condition of federal funding.



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Policy Number and Title	Revision Descriptions
7:190-E1, Aggressive Behavior Reporting Letter and Form	The exhibit is updated in response to a five-year review.
7:190-E4, Acknowledgment of Receiving Student Behavior Policy and Student Conduct Code	The exhibit is updated in response to a five-year review.
7:200-E1, Short Term Out-of-School Suspension (1-3 Days) Reporting Form	The exhibit is updated in response to a five-year review.
7:240-API, Code of Conduct for Extracurricular Activities	The procedure is updated in response to a five-year review.
7:330, Student Use of Buildings – Equal Access	REWRITTEN. The policy is rewritten for the reasons stated in the Equal Access Act bundle, above.
7:330-E, Application for to <u>Establish Non-curriculum Related</u> Student Groups <u>That Are Not</u> School Sponsored to <u>and</u> Request <u>for</u> Free Use of School Premises for Meetings	RENAMED. The exhibit is updated for the same reasons as 7:330, <i>Student Use of Buildings – Equal Access</i> , above.
8:10, Connection with the Community	The policy is unchanged. The footnotes are updated with a link to resources on best practices for school board member social media use, and for continuous improvement.
8:70, Accommodating Individuals with Disabilities	The policy, Legal References, and footnotes are updated in response to a five- year review.



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7:325 Student Fundraising Activities	The policy has been revised to have the annual reporting deadline to be September 30.
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