

# Agenda of Board Workshop Meeting

## The Board of Trustees Ector County Independent School District

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A Board Workshop Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Ector County Independent School District will be held August 11, 2020, beginning at 6:00 PM Administration Building Board Room, 802 N. Sam Houston, Odessa, TX 79761.

ECISD is taking steps to protect against the spread of COVID-19 with staff and in our community. All are required to stop at the front desk, have your temperature taken, and answer screening questions prior to accessing building. Visitors are **required** to wear face mask. The subjects to be discussed or considered are listed below. Items do not have to be taken in the same order as shown on this meeting notice.

1. Call to Order - Roll Call
2. Verification of Compliance with Open Meeting Law - this is to certify that the provisions of Section 551.001 of the Texas Government code have been met in connection with public notice of this meeting.
3. Opening Remarks by Superintendent
4. Public Comment
5. Action Items
  - A. Discussion of and Request for Approval of Plans for Early Childhood and College, Career, and Military Readiness
  - B. Discussion of and Request for Approval of 40% Campus Hybrid Instruction for 9th - 12th Grade Students Waiver
  - C. Discussion of and Request for Approval to Submit a Waiver to Texas Education Agency to Extend the Start of the 2020-2021 School Year Beyond the Four-Week Limit
  - D. Discussion of and Request for Approval of Resolution to Delegate to the Superintendent the Authority to Submit Waiver Requests on Behalf of the District
  - E. Discussion of and Request for Approval of the Revised 2020-2021 Student Code of Conduct
  - F. Discussion of and Request for Approval to Enter into the Operation Connectivity Interlocal Acquisition Agreement with Region 4 and to Ratify the Superintendent's Signing of the Agreement
6. Report/Discussion Items
  - A. Presentation of Broadband Update
  - B. Discussion of ECISD's Opening of School Plans
7. Possible Request for Approval to Move to Closed Meeting - Personnel Matters - Section 551.074 of the Texas Government Code [Board will deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of public officer or employee of the District or hear a complaint or charge against an officer or employee.]
8. Closing Remarks by Superintendent

## 9. Adjournment

If, during the course of the meeting, discussion of any item on the agenda should be held in a closed meeting, the board will conduct a closed meeting in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, Government Code, Chapter 551, Subchapter D and E or Texas Government Code section 418.183(f). Before any closed meeting is convened, the presiding officer will publicly identify the section or sections of the Act authorizing the closed meeting. All final votes, actions, or decisions will be taken in open meeting. [See BEC(LEGAL)]

The notice for this meeting was posted in compliance with the Texas Open Meeting Act on: Friday, August 7, 2020 by 6:00 p.m.

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For the Board of Trustees



## Ector County Independent School District

### Action Page

**TO:** Board of Trustees  
**FROM:** Dr. Lilia Náñez, Associate Superintendent of Curriculum & Instruction  
**SUBJECT: DISCUSSION OF AND REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF PLANS FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD AND COLLEGE, CAREER AND MILITARY READINESS**  
**DATE:** August 11, 2020

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#### **TEC, 11.185 Early Childhood Literacy and Mathematics and CCMR Proficiency Plans**

The board of trustees for each school district shall adopt and post on the district's website an early childhood literacy and mathematics and CCMR proficiency plan that sets specific annual goals for the following five school years to reach quantifiable goals for student performance.

Each plan must:

1. Identify annual goals for students in each group evaluated under the closing the gaps domain.
2. Include annual goals for aggregate student growth.
3. Provide targeted professional development for teachers.
4. Be reviewed annually by the board of trustees during a public meeting.

A school district shall post the annual report on the district's website.

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Administrative Recommendation:

Approval of plans for early childhood and CCMR

GOAL 1 Increase the percentage of 3rd grade students that score meets grade level or above on STAAR Reading from 34% to 54% by August 2024														
TARGETS	ALL	AA	AI	A	H	PI	TR	W	ED	SE	FSE	EL	CE	NCE
Baseline	34%	18%	0%*	74%*	33%	10%*	40%	40%	27%	9%				
Aug-20	37%	21%	3%	77%	36%	13%	43%	43%	30%	12%				
Aug-21	40%	24%	6%	80%	39%	16%	46%	46%	33%	15%				
Aug-22	44%	28%	10%	84%	43%	20%	50%	50%	37%	19%				
Aug-23	48%	32%	14%	88%	47%	24%	54%	54%	41%	23%				
Aug-24	53%	37%	19%	93%	52%	29%	59%	59%	47%	28%				

GPM 1.1 Increase Phonological Awareness Overall Measure for Pre K students from 47% to 66% by 2024														
TARGETS	ALL	AA	AI	A	H	PI	TR	W	ED	SE	FSE	EL	CE	NCE
Baseline	47%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A					
Aug-20	50%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A					
Aug-21	53%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A					
Aug-22	57%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A					
Aug-23	61%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A					
Aug-24	66%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A					

The percentage of Kindergarten students will increase overall Istation scores from 53% to 72% by 2024.

GPM 1.2														
TARGETS	ALL	AA	AI	A	H	PI	TR	W	ED	SE	FSE	EL	CE	NCE
Baseline	53%	52%	N/A	N/A	51%	N/A	N/A	53%	40%	21%*	N/A	20%	N/A	N/A
Aug-20	56%	55%	N/A	N/A	54%	N/A	N/A	56%	43%	24%	N/A	23%	N/A	N/A
Aug-21	59%	58%	N/A	N/A	57%	N/A	N/A	59%	46%	27%	N/A	26%	N/A	N/A
Aug-22	63%	62%	N/A	N/A	61%	N/A	N/A	63%	50%	31%	N/A	30%	N/A	N/A
Aug-23	67%	66%	N/A	N/A	65%	N/A	N/A	67%	54%	35%	N/A	34%	N/A	N/A
Aug-24	72%	71%	N/A	N/A	70%	N/A	N/A	72%	59%	40%	N/A	39%	N/A	N/A

GPM 1.3 The percentage of 1st through 3rd grade students on grade level or above in Istation will increase from 50% to 69% by 2024.														
TARGETS	ALL	AA	AI	A	H	PI	TR	W	ED	SE	FSE	EL	CE	NCE
Baseline	50%	49%	N/A	N/A	46%	N/A	N/A	49%	42%	53%	N/A	15%	N/A	N/A
Aug-20	53%	52%	N/A	N/A	49%	N/A	N/A	52%	45%	56%	N/A	18%	N/A	N/A
Aug-21	56%	55%	N/A	N/A	52%	N/A	N/A	55%	48%	59%	N/A	21%	N/A	N/A
Aug-22	60%	59%	N/A	N/A	56%	N/A	N/A	59%	52%	63%	N/A	25%	N/A	N/A
Aug-23	64%	63%	N/A	N/A	60%	N/A	N/A	63%	56%	67%	N/A	29%	N/A	N/A
Aug-24	69%	68%	N/A	N/A	65%	N/A	N/A	68%	61%	72%	N/A	34%	N/A	N/A

\*-Just below 25 students

**GOAL 2** Increase the percentage of 3rd grade students that score meets grade level or above on STAAR Math from 34% to 54% by August 2024

TARGETS	ALL	AA	AI	A	H	PI	TR	W	ED	SE	FSE	EL	CE	NCE
Baseline	34%	18%	50%*	70%*	33%	30%*	43%	39%	28%	11%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Aug-20	37%	21%	53	73%	36%	33	46	42%	31%	14%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Aug-21	40%	24%	56	76%	39%	36	49	45%	34%	17%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Aug-22	44%	28%	60	80%	44%	40	53	49%	38%	21%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Aug-23	48%	32%	64	84%	48%	44	57	53%	43%	25%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Aug-24	53%	37%	69	89%	53%	49	62	58%	47%	30%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

**GPM 2.1** Increase Overall Measure for Pre K students in Math from 63% to 82% by August 2024

TARGETS	ALL	AA	AI	A	H	PI	TR	W	ED	SE	FSE	EL	CE	NCE
Baseline	63%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Aug-20	66%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Aug-21	69%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Aug-22	73%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Aug-23	77%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Aug-24	82%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

**GPM 2.2** The percentage of Kindergarten students will increase overall w/Imagine Math Benchmark Scores from

TARGETS	ALL	AA	AI	A	H	PI	TR	W	ED	SE	FSE	EL	CE	NCE
Baseline	17%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Aug-20	20%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Aug-21	23%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Aug-22	27%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Aug-23	31%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Aug-24	36%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

**GPM 2.3** The percentage of students in 1st-3rd grade will increase overall w/Imagine Benchmark Math scores from 44

TARGETS	ALL	AA	AI	A	H	PI	TR	W	ED	SE	FSE	EL	CE	NCE
Baseline	44%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Aug-20	47%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Aug-21	50%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Aug-22	54%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Aug-23	58%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Aug-24	63%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

**GOAL 3 Increase the percentage of students meeting one or more College, Career, Military Readiness indicators from 56% to 71% by August 2024.**

TARGETS	ALL	AA	AI	A	H	PI	TR	W	ED	SE	FSE	EL	CE	NCE
Baseline	56%	39%	41%	90%	54%	n/a	43%	63%	47%	60%	n/a	42%	n/a	n/a
Aug-20	59%	42%	44%	93%	57%	n/a	46%	66%	50%	63%		45%		
Aug-21	62%	45%	47%	96%	60%	n/a	49%	69%	53%	66%		48%		
Aug-22	65%	48%	50%	99%	63%	n/a	52%	72%	56%	69%		51%		
Aug 2023	68%	51%	53%	100%	66%	n/a	55%	75%	59%	72%		54%		
Aug 2024	71%	54%	56%	100%	69%	n/a	58%	78%	62%	75%		57%		

**GPM 3.1 Increase the number of students earning industry-recognized certifications from 7% to 22% by August 2024.**

TARGETS	ALL	AA	AI	A	H	PI	TR	W	ED	SE	FSE	EL	CE	NCE
Baseline	7%	6%	9%	0%	9%	n/a	7%	6%	8%	10%	n/a	11%	n/a	n/a
Aug-20	10%	9%	12%	3%	12%		10%	9%	11%	13%		14%		
Aug-21	13%	12%	15%	6%	15%		13%	12%	14%	16%		17%		
Aug-22	16%	15%	18%	9%	18%		16%	15%	17%	19%		20%		
Aug-23	19%	18%	21%	12%	21%		19%	18%	20%	22%		23%		
Aug-24	22%	21%	24%	15%	24%		22%	21%	23%	25%		26%		

**GPM 3.2 Increase the number of students successfully completing the TSIA from 39% to 54% by August 2024**

TARGETS	ALL	AA	AI	A	H	PI	TR	W	ED	SE	FSE	EL	CE	NCE
Baseline	39%	26%	36%	84%	37%	n/a	36%	45%	28%	13%	n/a	22%	n/a	n/a
Aug-20	42%	29%	39%	87%	40%		39%	48%	31%	16%		25%		
Aug-21	45%	32%	42%	90%	43%		42%	51%	34%	19%		28%		
Aug-22	48%	35%	45%	93%	46%		45%	54%	37%	22%		31%		
Aug-23	51%	38%	48%	96%	49%		48%	57%	40%	25%		34%		
Aug-24	54%	41%	51%	99%	52%		51%	60%	43%	28%		37%		

**GPM 3.3 Increase the percentage of students completing dual credit courses from 25% to 40% by August 2024**

TARGETS	ALL	AA	AI	A	H	PI	TR	W	ED	SE	FSE	EL	CE	NCE
Baseline	25%	16%	27%	52%	23%	n/a	14%	32%	17%	9%	n/a	4%	n/a	n/a
Aug-20	28%	19%	30%	55%	26%		17%	35%	20%	12%		7%		
Aug-21	31%	22%	33%	58%	29%		20%	38%	23%	15%		10%		
Aug-22	34%	25%	36%	61%	32%		23%	41%	26%	18%		13%		
Aug-23	37%	28%	39%	64%	35%		26%	44%	29%	21%		16%		
Aug-24	40%	31%	42%	67%	38%		29%	47%	32%	24%		19%		



## Ector County Independent School District

### Action Page

**TO:** Board of Trustees

**FROM:** Dr. Lilia Náñez, Associate Superintendent of Curriculum & Instruction

**SUBJECT: DISCUSSION OF AND REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF 40% CAMPUS HYBRID INSTRUCTION FOR 9<sup>TH</sup>-12<sup>TH</sup> GRADE STUDENTS WAIVER**

**DATE:** August 11, 2020

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For students in grades 9-12, school systems may establish a less-than-daily on-campus attendance schedule as the sole offering for students in one or more high school campuses. This will enable the district to reduce the number of individuals on a campus at any one time and increase the total number of students served in an on-campus setting. In the event there is not a daily on-campus attendance option in one or more of these grade levels, the LEA must ensure that on-campus attendance is offered as part of the hybrid schedule at least 40% of the days in each grading cycle (typically 6-or 9-weeks periods). Any LEA that pursues this hybrid option while not providing a daily on-campus offering for students who otherwise wish to attend on campus may do so after submitting a waiver request to TEA. All waivers will be conditionally approved upon receipt but may be subject to further review by TEA.

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Administrative Recommendation:

Approval of the Request for 40% Campus Hybrid Instruction for 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grade Students Waiver.



# REQUEST FOR 40% CAMPUS HYBRID INSTRUCTION FOR 9<sup>TH</sup>-12<sup>TH</sup> GRADE STUDENTS

## SECTION I: Requirements

For students in grades 9-12, school systems may establish a less-than-daily on-campus attendance schedule as the sole offering for students in one or more high school campuses of the LEA in order to reduce the number of individuals on a campus at any one time and increase the total number of students served in an on-campus setting in the LEA. In the event there is not a daily on-campus attendance option in one or more of these grade levels, the LEA must ensure that on-campus attendance is offered as part of the hybrid schedule at least 40% of the days in each grading cycle (typically 6-or 9-weeks periods). Any LEA that pursues this hybrid option while not providing a daily on-campus offering for students who otherwise wish to attend on campus may do so after submitting a waiver request to TEA. All waivers will be conditionally approved upon receipt but may be subject to further review by TEA.

## SECTION II: Request

**District Name:** Ector County ISD

**First Day School:** 8/12/20

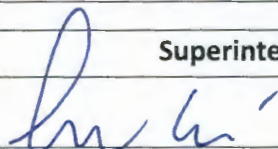
**Explain the hybrid schedule(s) for the eligible students:**

9th through 12 grade students have two options for 2020-2021. One is the hybrid model where students alternate days between on campus and remote learning scheduled through an A/B schedule. The second option is remote learning five days a week. The hybrid model enables campus administration to assign students and teachers to an A/B schedule.

Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week 1	"A" F to F "B" remote	"A" remote "B" F to F	"A" F to F "B" remote	"A" remote "B" F to F	"A" F to F "B" remote
Week 2	"B" F to F "A" remote	"B" remote "A" F to F	"B" F to F "A" remote	"B" remote "A" F to F	"B" F to F "A" remote

The district will honor and serve the students who choose remote learning five days a week. Students without internet access will be encouraged to attend school five days a week. Remote learning will include asynchronous and synchronous instruction and will follow the 7 period schedule to enable teachers to engage with remote learners daily.

## SECTION III: Signature

District Name	Board Approval Date
Ector County ISD	8/11/20
Superintendent Name	Superintendent Signature
Dr. Scott Muri	

Submit completed request forms to: [waivers@tea.texas.gov](mailto:waivers@tea.texas.gov)

**Request must be submitted no later than  
two weeks prior to the first day of on-campus instruction**



## Ector County Independent School District

### Action Page

**TO:** Board of Trustees

**FROM:** Dr. Stephanie Howard, Deputy Superintendent

**SUBJECT:** **DISCUSSION OF AND REQUEST FOR APPROVAL TO SUBMIT A WAIVER TO TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY TO EXTEND THE START OF THE 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR BEYOND THE FOUR – WEEK LIMIT**

**DATE:** August 11, 2020

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The Texas Education Agency allowed a four-week transition period to the start of the year. We are currently phasing students who chose in-person learning into the school buildings through August 28.

School districts may submit a waiver for up to four additional weeks of transition for a maximum eight-week transition period. This flexibility is provided as districts respond to the local context in their communities. Administration is asking for approval of the waiver for a maximum of up to four more weeks which would allow the transition period to extend through October 6, 2020 if needed. Board approval would allow the District to extend for one week, two, three, or the full four additional weeks without needing a special meeting. Decisions on the necessity to extend the transition period would be made in cooperation with our local agencies related to the number of active cases and the positivity rates of those being tested.

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Administrative Recommendation:

Approval to Submit a Waiver to TEA to Extend the Start of the 2020-2021 School Year Beyond the Four-Week Limit



# REQUEST TO EXTEND THE START OF THE 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR TRANSITION BEYOND THE FOUR-WEEK LIMIT

## SECTION I: Requirements

If a school system believes it is best for the health and safety of students and staff to continue to restrict access to on-campus instruction beyond the first four weeks of their 2020-21 instructional calendar, they must submit a board approved waiver request to TEA to extend that transition window, up to four additional weeks. The board must take action to authorize this waiver by specific vote, and cannot otherwise delegate the waiver application to the superintendent. The waiver application must include an indication as to the local public health conditions that the LEA believes would warrant a faster end to the transition period. Teachers, staff, and parents should be consulted about the transition plan before the waiver is submitted. During this transition period, LEAs are still required to allow all students to access on-campus instruction who come from households without internet access or appropriate remote learning devices. During the extended period being requested with this waiver, at least some on-campus instruction must be provided each day. The procedures used by the LEA to limit access to on-campus attendance during this period should be clearly communicated to families in advance.

## SECTION II: Request

**District Name:** Ector County Independent School District

**First Day of School:** 8/12/20

**Total Additional Weeks Requested (beyond the initial four weeks for transition):** 4

**Explain what local public health conditions that would cause you to end the transition period faster, so that all students have access to on-campus instruction. As an example: the most recent weekly count of COVID-19 cases is lower than the prior week in the county, and test positivity rate in the county is under 10%.**

We will evaluate current case counts looking for a downward trend, hospitalization capacity, and monitor the positivity rate looking for it to be below 10% cumulatively and/or over the past week.

## SECTION III: Attestation/Signatures

District Name	Board Approval Date
Ector County Independent School District	8/11/20

Board President Name	Superintendent Name
Delma Abalos	Dr. Scott Muri
Board President Signature	Superintendent Signature

*With the submission of this form, the district attests that teachers, staff, and parents were consulted about the transition plan before the waiver was submitted.*

Submit completed request forms to: [waivers@tea.texas.gov](mailto:waivers@tea.texas.gov)

**Request must be submitted prior to the end of the initial four-week transition**



## Ector County Independent School District

### Action Page

**TO:** Board of Trustees

**FROM:** Dr. Scott Muri, Superintendent of Schools

**SUBJECT: DISCUSSION OF AND REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION TO DELEGATE TO THE SUPERINTENDENT THE AUTHORITY TO SUBMIT WAIVER REQUESTS ON BEHALF OF THE DISTRICT**

**DATE:** August 11, 2020

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TASB Legal has suggested Districts consider the aforementioned Resolution due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

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Administrative Recommendation:

Approval of Resolution to Delegate to the Superintendent the Authority to Submit Waiver Request on behalf of the District as presented.

## **Resolution of the Board Regarding Delegation to Superintendent for Waivers**

WHEREAS, the U.S. Government has declared a national emergency and the State of Texas has declared a statewide disaster regarding the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic;

WHEREAS, on March 19, 2020, the Texas Governor issued Executive Order No. GA-08 relating to COVID-19 preparedness and mitigation and through this action and in accordance with Guidelines from the President ordered the temporary closure of all Texas school districts;

WHEREAS, Texas Education Code 11.151 gives the Board of Trustees the exclusive power and duty to govern and oversee the management of the public schools of the District;

WHEREAS, Texas Education Code 7.056 permits a District to apply to the Commissioner of Education for a waiver of a requirement, restriction, or prohibition imposed by the Education Code or rule of the State Board of Education or Commissioner;

WHEREAS, TEA has indicated that it will accept a waiver request made pursuant to Texas Education Code 7.056 by a Superintendent, if the Board of Trustees has delegated general operational authority or waiver-specific authority to the Superintendent;

WHEREAS, TEA recommends that if the Board delegates authority to the Superintendent to request waivers from the Commissioner, that the Board ratify the waiver request at a future Board meeting to ensure compliance with Texas Education Code Chapter 11 and Section 7.056;

WHEREAS, the Board finds there is a need for the District to maintain efficient, effective, and consistent District operations during the period of the disaster declaration under these circumstances, which may include the need to request available waivers under state and federal law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of the Ector County Independent School District makes the following delegation to the Superintendent:

- The authority to pursue any necessary and available waivers from TEA without future action of the Board; and
- In the event other waivers are needed, the Superintendent is authorized to submit other waiver requests in accordance with guidance from national, state, or local authorities or agencies.

The Board shall ratify any waiver requests made by the Superintendent under this authority at a future Board meeting.

The authority granted by this resolution shall apply until the District resumes full operations at the direction of the Superintendent or the Board takes further action.

Adopted this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2020 by the Board of Trustees.

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Delma Abalos, President

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Steve Brown, Secretary



## Ector County Independent School District

### Action Page

**TO:** Board of Trustees

**FROM:** Dr. Stephanie Howard, Deputy Superintendent

**SUBJECT:** **DISCUSSION OF AND REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF THE REVISED 2020-2021 STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT**

**DATE:** August 11, 2020

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The Board of Trustees are asked to approve the Revised ECISD 2020-2021 *Student Code of Conduct*. To maximize the amount of time students are in class, the length of mandatory DAEP placements was reduced within the *Student Code of Conduct* and paired with restorative supports. Language regarding 'student attitude' was removed as a factor in determining student consequences.

For your reference, revisions are on pages 11, 19, 20, 22, and 35.

Administrative Recommendation:

Approval of the Revised ECISD 2020-2021 ECISD Student Code of Conduct.



# **Student Code of Conduct**

**2020-2021 School Year**

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## **Student Code of Conduct**

### **Accessibility**

If you have difficulty accessing the information in this document because of disability, please contact the appropriate campus principal.

### **Purpose**

The Student Code of Conduct (“Code”) is the district’s response to the requirements of Chapter 37 of the Texas Education Code.

The Code provides methods and options for managing students in the classroom and on school grounds, disciplining students, and preventing and intervening in student discipline problems.

The law requires the district to define misconduct that may—or must—result in a range of specific disciplinary consequences including removal from a regular classroom or campus, out-of-school suspension, placement in a disciplinary alternative education program (DAEP), placement in a juvenile justice alternative education program (JJAEP), or expulsion from school.

The Student Code of Conduct has been adopted by the Ector County Independent School District (ECISD) Board of Trustees and was developed with the advice of the district-level committee. This Code provides information to parents and students regarding standards of conduct, consequences of misconduct, and procedures for administering discipline. It remains in effect during summer school and at all school-related events and activities outside the school year until an updated version adopted by the board becomes effective for the next school year.

In accordance with state law, the Code shall be posted at each school campus or shall be available for review at the office of the campus principal. Additionally, the Code shall be available at the office of the campus behavior coordinator and posted on the district’s website at [www.ectorcountysisd.org](http://www.ectorcountysisd.org). Parents shall be notified of any conduct violation that may result in a student being suspended, placed in a DAEP or JJAEP, expelled, or taken into custody by a law enforcement under Chapter 37 of the Education Code.

Because the Student Code of Conduct is adopted by the district’s board of trustees, it has the force of policy; therefore, in case of conflict between the Code and the Student Handbook, the Code shall prevail.

**Please note:** The discipline of students with disabilities who are eligible for services under federal law (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973) is subject to the provisions of those laws.

## **School District Authority and Jurisdiction**

School rules and the authority of the district to administer discipline apply whenever the interest of the district is involved, on or off school grounds, in conjunction with or independent of classes and school-sponsored activities.

The district has disciplinary authority over a student:

- During the regular school day and while the student is going to and from school or a school-sponsored or school-related activity on district transportation;
- During lunch periods in which a student is allowed to leave campus;
- While the student is in attendance at any school-related activity, regardless of time or location;
- For any school-related misconduct, regardless of time or location;
- When retaliation against a school employee, board member, or volunteer occurs or is threatened, regardless of time or location;
- When a student engages in cyberbullying, as provided by Education Code 37.0832;
- When criminal mischief is committed on or off school property or at a school-related event;
- For certain offenses committed within 300 feet of school property as measured from any point on the school's real property boundary line;
- For certain offenses committed while on school property or while attending a school-sponsored or school-related activity of another district in Texas;
- When the student commits a felony, as provided by Education Code 37.006 or 37.0081; and
- When the student is required to register as a sex offender.

## **Campus Behavior Coordinator**

As required by law, a person at each campus must be designated to serve as the campus behavior coordinator. The designated person may be the principal of the campus or any other campus administrator selected by the principal. The campus behavior coordinator is primarily responsible for maintaining student discipline. The district shall post on its website and in the Student Handbook, for each campus, the email address and telephone number of the person serving as campus behavior coordinator. Contact information may be found at the campus webpage and ([Click here for digital copy of Student Handbook](#)). Parents may contact the campus for the name of a current person serving as a campus behavior coordinator.

## **Threat Assessment and Safe and Supportive School Team**

The campus behavior coordinator or other appropriate administrator will work closely with the campus threat assessment safe and supportive school team to implement the district's threat assessment policy and procedures, as required by law, and shall take appropriate disciplinary action in accordance with the Code of Conduct.

## **Searches**

District officials may conduct searches of students, their belongings, and their vehicles in accordance with state and federal law and district policy. Searches of students shall be conducted in a reasonable and nondiscriminatory manner. Refer to the district's policies at FNF(LEGAL) and FNF(LOCAL) for more information regarding investigations and searches.

The district has the right to search a vehicle driven to school by a student and parked on school property whenever there is reasonable suspicion to believe it contains articles or materials prohibited by the district.

Desks, lockers, district-provided technology, and similar items are the property of the district and are provided for student use as a matter of convenience. District property is subject to search or inspection at any time without notice.

## **Reporting Crimes**

The principal or campus behavior coordinator and other school administrators as appropriate shall report crimes as required by law and shall call local law enforcement when an administrator suspects that a crime has been committed on campus.

## **Security Personnel**

To ensure sufficient security and protection of students, staff, and property, the board employs police officers, school resource officers (SROs), and/or security personnel. In accordance with law, the board has coordinated with the campus behavior coordinator and other district employees to ensure appropriate law enforcement duties are assigned to security staff. The law enforcement duties of district peace officers are listed in policy CKE(LOCAL). The law enforcement duties of school resource officers are as outlined in TEC 37.081, as well as the Texas Code of Criminal Procedures.

## **“Parent” Defined**

Throughout the Code of Conduct and related discipline policies, the term “parent” includes a parent, legal guardian, or other person having lawful control of the child.

## **Participating in Graduation Activities**

The district has the right to limit a student's participation in graduation activities for violating the district's Code.

Participation might include a speaking role, as established by district policy and procedures.

Students eligible to give the opening and closing remarks at graduation shall be

notified by the campus principal. Notwithstanding any other eligibility requirements, in order to be considered as an eligible student to give the opening or closing remarks, a student shall not have engaged in any misconduct in violation of the district's Code resulting in an out-of-school suspension, removal to a DAEP, or expulsion during the semester immediately preceding graduation.

The valedictorian and salutatorian may also have speaking roles at graduation. No student shall be eligible to have such a speaking role if he or she engaged in any misconduct in violation of the district's Code resulting in an out-of-school suspension, removal to a DAEP, or expulsion during the semester immediately preceding graduation.

See **DAEP—Restrictions During Placement** on page 22, for information regarding student assigned to DAEP at the time of graduation.

### **Unauthorized Persons**

In accordance with Education Code 37.105, a school administrator, school resource officer (SRO), or district police officer shall have the authority to refuse entry or eject a person from district property if the person refuses to leave peaceably on request and:

- The person poses a substantial risk of harm to any person; or
- The person behaves in a manner that is inappropriate for a school setting, and the person persists in the behavior after being given a verbal warning that the behavior is inappropriate and may result in refusal of entry or ejection.

Appeals regarding refusal of entry or ejection from district property may be filed in accordance with policies FNG(LOCAL) or GF(LOCAL), as appropriate. However, the timelines for the district's grievance procedures shall be adjusted as necessary to permit the person to address the board in person within 90 days, unless the complaint is resolved before a board hearing.

### **Standards for Student Conduct**

Each student is expected to:

- Demonstrate courtesy, even when others do not.
- Behave in a responsible manner, always exercising self-discipline.
- Attend all classes, regularly and on time.
- Prepare for each class; take appropriate materials and assignments to class.
- Meet district and campus standards of grooming and dress.
- Obey all campus and classroom rules.
- Respect the rights and privileges of students, teachers, and other district staff and volunteers.
- Respect the property of others, including district property and facilities.

- Cooperate with and assist the school staff in maintaining safety, order, and discipline.
- Adhere to the requirements of the Student Code of Conduct.

## **General Conduct Violations**

The categories of conduct below are prohibited at school, in vehicles owned or operated by the district, and at all school-related activities, but the list does not include the most severe offenses. In the subsequent sections on Out-of-School Suspension, DAEP Placement, Placement and/or Expulsion for Certain Offenses, and Expulsion, certain offenses that require or permit specific consequences are listed. Any offense, however, may be severe enough to result in Removal from the Regular Educational Setting as detailed in that section.

### **Disregard for Authority**

Students shall not:

- Fail to comply with directives given by school personnel (insubordination).
- Leave school grounds or school-sponsored events without permission.
- Disobey rules for conduct in district vehicles.
- Refuse to accept discipline management techniques assigned by a teacher or principal.

### **Mistreatment of Others**

Students shall not:

- Use profanity or vulgar language or make obscene gestures.
- Fight or scuffle. (For assault, see **DAEP Placement and Expulsion**.)
- Threaten a district student, employee, or volunteer, including off school property, if the conduct causes a substantial disruption to the educational environment.
- Engage in bullying, cyberbullying, harassment, or making hit lists. (See glossary for all four terms.)
- Release or threaten to release intimate visual material of a minor or a student who is 18 years of age or older without the student's consent.
- Engage in conduct that constitutes sexual or gender-based harassment or sexual abuse, whether by word, gesture, or any other conduct, directed toward another person, including a district student, employee, board member, or volunteer.
- Engage in conduct that constitutes dating violence. (See glossary.)
- Engage in inappropriate or indecent exposure of private body parts.
- Participate in hazing. (See glossary.)
- Cause an individual to act through the use of or threat of force (coercion).
- Commit extortion or blackmail (obtaining money or an object of value from an unwilling person).

- Engage in inappropriate verbal, physical, or sexual conduct directed toward another person, including a district student, employee, or volunteer.
- Record the voice or image of another without the prior consent of the individual being recorded or in any way that disrupts the educational environment or invades the privacy of others.

### **Property Offenses**

Students shall not:

- Damage or vandalize property owned by others. (For felony criminal mischief, see **DAEP Placement and Expulsion**.)
- Deface or damage school property—including textbooks, technology and electronic resources, lockers, furniture, and other equipment—with graffiti or by other means.
- Steal from students, staff, or the school.
- Commit or assist in a robbery or theft, even if it does not constitute a felony according to the Penal Code. (For felony robbery, aggravated robbery, and theft, see **DAEP Placement and Expulsion**.)

### **Possession of Prohibited Items**

Students shall not possess or use:

- Fireworks of any kind, smoke or stink bombs, or any other pyrotechnic device;
- A razor, box cutter, chain, or any other object used in a way that threatens or inflicts bodily injury to another person;
- A “look-alike” weapon that is intended to be used as a weapon or could reasonably be perceived as a weapon;
- An air gun or BB gun;
- Ammunition;
- A location-restricted knife;
- A club;
- A firearm;
- A stun gun;
- A pocketknife or any other small knife;
- Mace or pepper spray;
- Pornographic material;
- Tobacco products; cigarettes; e-cigarettes; and any component, part, or accessory for an e-cigarette device;
- Matches or a lighter;
- A laser pointer for other than an approved use; or
- Any articles not generally considered to be weapons, including school supplies, when the principal or designee determines that a danger exists.

Note: For weapons and firearms, see **DAEP Placement and Expulsion**. In many circumstances, possession of these items is punishable by mandatory expulsion

under federal or state law.

### **Possession of Telecommunications or Other Electronic Devices**

Students shall not:

- Use a telecommunications device, including a cellular telephone, or other electronic device in violation of district or campus rules.

### **Illegal, Prescription, and Over-the-Counter Drugs**

Students shall not:

- Possess, use, give, or sell alcohol or an illegal drug. (Also see **DAEP Placement and Expulsion** for mandatory and permissive consequences under state law.)
- Possess or sell seeds or pieces of marijuana in less than a usable amount. Possess, use, give, or sell paraphernalia related to any prohibited substance. (See glossary for “paraphernalia.”)
- Possess, use, abuse, or sell look-alike drugs or attempt to pass items off as drugs or contraband.
- Abuse the student’s own prescription drug, give a prescription drug to another student, or possess or be under the influence of another person’s prescription drug on school property or at a school-related event. (See glossary for “abuse.”)
- Abuse over-the-counter drugs. (See glossary for “abuse.”). Be under the influence of prescription or over-the-counter drugs that cause impairment of the physical or mental faculties. (See glossary for “under the influence.”)
- Have or take prescription drugs or over-the-counter drugs at school other than as provided by district policy.

### **Misuse of Technology Resources and the Internet**

Students shall not:

- Violate policies, rules, or agreements signed by the student or the student’s parent regarding the use of technology resources.
- Attempt to access or circumvent passwords or other security-related information of the district, students, or employees or upload or create computer viruses, including off school property if the conduct causes a substantial disruption to the educational environment.
- Attempt to alter, destroy, or disable district technology resources including, but not limited to, computers and related equipment, district data, the data of others, or other networks connected to the district’s system, including off school property if the conduct causes a substantial disruption to the educational environment.
- Use the Internet or other electronic communications to threaten or harass district students, employees, board members, or volunteers, including off

school property if the conduct causes a substantial disruption to the educational environment or infringes on the rights of another student at school.

- Send, post, deliver, or possess electronic messages that are abusive, obscene, sexually oriented, threatening, harassing, damaging to another's reputation, or illegal, including cyberbullying and "sexting," either on or off school property, if the conduct causes a substantial disruption to the educational environment or infringes on the rights of another student at school.
- Use the Internet or other electronic communication to engage in or encourage illegal behavior or threaten school safety, including off school property if the conduct causes a substantial disruption to the educational environment or infringes on the rights of another student at school.

### **Safety Transgressions**

Students shall not:

- Possess published or electronic material that is designed to promote or encourage illegal behavior or that could threaten school safety.
- Engage in verbal (oral or written) exchanges that threaten the safety of another student, a school employee, or school property.
- Make false accusations or perpetrate hoaxes regarding school safety.
- Engage in any conduct that school officials might reasonably believe will substantially disrupt the school program or incite violence.
- Throw objects that can cause bodily injury or property damage.
- Discharge a fire extinguisher without valid cause.

### **Miscellaneous Offenses**

Students shall not:

- Violate dress and grooming standards as communicated in the Student Handbook.
- Cheat or copy the work of another.
- Gamble.
- Falsify records, passes, or other school-related documents.
- Engage in actions or demonstrations that substantially disrupt or materially interfere with school activities.
- Repeatedly violate other communicated campus or classroom standards of conduct.

The district may impose campus or classroom rules in addition to those found in the Code. These rules may be posted in classrooms or given to the student and may or may not constitute violations of the Code.

## **Discipline Management Techniques**

Discipline shall be designed to improve conduct and to encourage students to adhere to their responsibilities as members of the school community. Disciplinary action shall draw on the professional judgment of teachers and administrators and on a range of discipline management techniques, including restorative practices. Discipline shall be based on the seriousness of the offense, the student's age and grade level, the frequency of misbehavior, ~~the student's attitude~~, the effect of the misconduct on the school environment, and statutory requirements.

### **Students with Disabilities**

The discipline of students with disabilities is subject to applicable state and federal law in addition to the Student Code of Conduct. To the extent any conflict exists, the district shall comply with federal law. For more information regarding discipline of students with disabilities, see policy FOF(LEGAL).

In accordance with the Education Code, a student who receives special education services may not be disciplined for conduct meeting the definition of bullying, cyberbullying, harassment, or making hit lists (see glossary) until an ARD committee meeting has been held to review the conduct.

In deciding whether to order suspension, DAEP placement, or expulsion, regardless of whether the action is mandatory or discretionary, the district shall take into consideration a disability that substantially impairs the student's capacity to appreciate the wrongfulness of the student's conduct.

### **Techniques**

The following discipline management techniques may be used alone, in combination, or as part of progressive interventions for behavior prohibited by the Student Code of Conduct or by campus or classroom rules:

- Verbal correction, oral or written.
- Cooling-off time or a brief "time-out" period, in accordance with law.
- Seating changes within the classroom or vehicles owned or operated by the district.
- Temporary confiscation of items that disrupt the educational process.
- Rewards or demerits.
- Behavioral contracts.
- Counseling by teachers, school counselors, or administrative personnel.
- Parent-teacher conferences.
- Behavior coaching.
- Anger management classes.
- Mediation (victim-offender).

- Family group conferencing.
- Grade reductions for cheating, plagiarism, and as otherwise permitted by policy.
- Detention, including outside regular school hours.
- Sending the student to the office or other assigned area, or to in-school suspension.
- Assignment of school duties, such as cleaning or picking up litter.
- Withdrawal of privileges, such as participation in extracurricular activities, eligibility for seeking and holding honorary offices, or membership in school-sponsored clubs and organizations.
- Penalties identified in individual student organizations' extracurricular standards of behavior.
- Restriction or revocation of district transportation privileges.
- School-assessed and school-administered probation.
- Out-of-school suspension, as specified in the Out-of-School Suspension section of this Code.
- Placement in a DAEP, as specified in the DAEP section of this Code.
- Placement and/or expulsion in an alternative educational setting, as specified in the Placement and/or Expulsion for Certain Offenses section of this Code.
- Expulsion, as specified in the Expulsion section of this Code.
- Referral to an outside agency or legal authority for criminal prosecution in addition to disciplinary measures imposed by the district.
- Other strategies and consequences as determined by school officials.
- *Corporal punishment is prohibited in ECISD.*

### **Prohibited Aversive Techniques**

Aversive techniques are prohibited for use with students and are defined as techniques or interventions intended to reduce the reoccurrence of a behavior by intentionally inflicting significant physical or emotional discomfort or pain. Aversive techniques include:

- Using techniques designed or likely to cause physical pain by electric shock or any procedure involving pressure points or joint locks.
- Directed release of noxious, toxic, or unpleasant spray, mist, or substance near a student's face.
- Denying adequate sleep, air, food, water, shelter, bedding, physical comfort, supervision, or access to a restroom facility.
- Ridiculing or demeaning a student in a manner that adversely affects or endangers the learning or mental health of the student or constitutes verbal abuse.
- Employing a device, material, or object that immobilizes all four of a student's extremities, including prone or supine floor restraint.

- Impairing the student's breathing, including applying pressure to the student's torso or neck or placing something in, on, or over the student's mouth or nose or covering the student's face.
- Restricting the student's circulation.
- Securing the student to a stationary object while the student is standing or sitting.
- Inhibiting, reducing, or hindering the student's ability to communicate.
- Using chemical restraints.
- Using time-out in a manner that prevents the student from being able to be involved in and progress appropriately in the required curriculum or any applicable individualized education program (IEP) goals, including isolating the student by the use of physical barriers.
- Depriving the student of one or more of the student's senses, unless the technique does not cause the student discomfort or complies with the student's IEP or behavior intervention plan (BIP).

### **Notification**

The campus behavior coordinator shall promptly notify a student's parent by phone or in person of any violation that may result in in-school or out-of-school suspension, placement in a DAEP, placement in a JJAEP, or expulsion. The campus behavior coordinator shall also notify a student's parent if the student is taken into custody by a law enforcement officer under the disciplinary provisions of the Education Code. A good faith effort shall be made on the day the action was taken to provide to the student for delivery to the student's parent written notification of the disciplinary action. If the parent has not been reached by telephone or in person by 5:00 p.m. of the first business day after the day the disciplinary action was taken, the campus behavior coordinator shall send written notification by U.S. Mail. If the campus behavior coordinator is not able to provide notice to the parent, the principal or designee shall provide the notice.

Before the principal or appropriate administrator assigns a student under age 18 to detention outside regular school hours, notice shall be given to the student's parent to inform him or her of the reason for the detention and permit arrangements for necessary transportation.

### **Appeals**

Questions from parents regarding disciplinary measures should be addressed to the teacher, campus administration, or campus behavior coordinator, as appropriate. Appeals or complaints regarding the use of specific discipline management techniques should be addressed in accordance with policy FNG(LOCAL). A copy of the policy may be obtained from the principal's office, the campus behavior coordinator's office, or the central administration office, or through Policy on Line at the following address: [www.ectorcountytisd.org](http://www.ectorcountytisd.org). The district shall not delay a disciplinary consequence while a student or parent pursues a grievance.

## Removal from the School Bus

A bus driver may refer a student to the principal's office or the campus behavior coordinator's office to maintain effective discipline on the bus. The principal or campus behavior coordinator must employ additional discipline management techniques, as appropriate, which can include restricting or revoking a student's bus riding privileges.

Since the district's primary responsibility in transporting students in district vehicles is to do so as safely as possible, the operator of the vehicle must focus on driving and not have his or her attention distracted by student misbehavior. Therefore, when appropriate disciplinary management techniques fail to improve student behavior or when specific misconduct warrants immediate removal, the principal or the campus behavior coordinator may restrict or revoke a student's transportation privilege, in accordance with law.

Misconduct will be punished in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct; the privilege to ride in a district vehicle, including a school bus, may be suspended or revoked.

The consequences for misconduct on the bus will be as follows:

- First offense – the driver will have a conference with the student and change seating arrangements if necessary.
- Second offense – the driver will contact parents seeking their assistance. Further incidents will result in written referrals.
- First written referral – the Principal will have a conference with the student and parents will be contacted.
- Second written referral – the student will receive a 5-day suspension from the bus.
- Third written referral – the student will be suspended from the bus for the remainder of the semester.

After returning to the bus in the second semester, if the student receives another bus referral, the student shall be removed from the bus for the remainder of the school year.

\*In the event of initiation and/or participation in a major offense, a student may lose bus privileges for an undetermined length of time. The student may also receive other disciplinary action. Flagrant misbehavior could result in immediate removal from the bus. Restitution for any damages incurred must be made before returning to the bus.

Student must be dressed according to the dress code when riding the regular bus to and from school.

## Removal from the Regular Educational Setting

In addition to other discipline management techniques, misconduct may result in removal from the regular educational setting in the form of a routine referral or a formal removal.

### Routine Referral

A routine referral occurs when a teacher sends a student to the campus behavior coordinator's office as a discipline management technique. The campus behavior coordinator shall employ alternative discipline management techniques, including progressive interventions. A teacher or administrator may remove a student from class for a behavior that violates this Code to maintain effective discipline in the classroom.

### Formal Removal

A teacher **may** also initiate a formal removal from class if:

1. The student's behavior has been documented by the teacher as repeatedly interfering with the teacher's ability to teach his or her class or with the student's classmates' ability to learn; or
2. The behavior is so unruly, disruptive, or abusive that the teacher cannot teach, and the students in the classroom cannot learn.

Within three school days of the formal removal, the campus behavior coordinator or appropriate administrator shall schedule a conference with the student's parent, the student, the teacher who removed the student from class, and any other appropriate administrator.

At the conference, the campus behavior coordinator or appropriate administrator shall inform the student of the alleged misconduct and the proposed consequences. The student shall have an opportunity to respond to the allegations.

When a student is removed from the regular classroom by a teacher and a conference is pending, the campus behavior coordinator or other administrator may place the student in:

- Another appropriate classroom;
- In-school suspension;
- Out-of-school suspension; or
- DAEP.

A teacher or administrator **must** remove a student from class if the student engages in behavior that under the Education Code requires or permits the student to be placed in a DAEP or expelled. When removing for those reasons, the procedures in the subsequent sections on DAEP or expulsion shall be followed.

## **Returning a Student to the Classroom**

When a student has been formally removed from class by a teacher for conduct against the teacher containing the elements of assault, aggravated assault, sexual assault, aggravated sexual assault, murder, capital murder, or criminal attempt to commit murder or capital murder, the student may not be returned to the teacher's class without the teacher's consent. When a student has been formally removed by a teacher for any other conduct, the student may be returned to the teacher's class without the teacher's consent if the placement review committee determines that the teacher's class is the best or only alternative available.

## **Out-of-School Suspension**

### **Misconduct**

Students may be suspended for any behavior listed in the Code as a general conduct violation, DAEP offense, or expellable offense.

The district shall not use out-of-school suspension for students in grade 2 or below unless the conduct meets the requirements established in law.

A student below grade 3 or a student who is homeless shall not be placed in out-of-school suspension unless, while on school property or while attending a school-sponsored or school-related activity on or off school property, the student engages in:

- Conduct that contains the elements of a weapons offense, as provided in Penal Code Section 46.02 or 46.05;
- Conduct that contains the elements of assault, sexual assault, aggravated assault, or aggravated sexual assault, as provided by the Penal Code; or
- Selling, giving, or delivering to another person, or possessing, using, or being under the influence of any amount of marijuana, an alcoholic beverage, or a controlled substance or dangerous drug as defined by federal or state law.

The district shall use a positive behavior program as a disciplinary alternative for students below grade 3 who commit general conduct violations instead of suspension or placement in a DAEP. The program shall meet the requirements of law.

### **Process**

State law allows a student to be suspended for no more than three school days per behavior violation, with no limit on the number of times a student may be suspended in a semester or school year.

Before being suspended a student shall have an informal conference with the

campus behavior coordinator or appropriate administrator, who shall advise the student of the alleged misconduct. The student shall have the opportunity to respond to the allegation before the administrator makes a decision.

The campus behavior coordinator shall determine the number of days of a student's suspension, not to exceed three school days.

In deciding whether to order out-of-school suspension, the campus behavior coordinator shall take into consideration:

- Self-defense (see glossary);
- Intent or lack of intent at the time the student engaged in the conduct;
- The student's disciplinary history;
- A disability that substantially impairs the student's capacity to appreciate the wrongfulness of the student's conduct;
- A student's status in the conservatorship of the Department of Family and Protective Services (foster care); and
- A student's status as homeless.

The appropriate administrator shall determine any restrictions on participation in school-sponsored or school-related extracurricular and co-curricular activities.

## **Coursework During Suspension**

The district shall ensure a student receives access to coursework for foundation curriculum courses while the student is placed in in-school or out-of-school suspension, including at least one method of receiving this coursework that doesn't require the use of the internet.

A student removed from the regular classroom to in-school suspension or another setting, other than a DAEP, will have an opportunity to complete before the beginning of the next school year each course the student was enrolled in at the time of removal from the regular classroom. The district may provide the opportunity by any method available, including a correspondence course, another distance learning option, or summer school. The district will not charge the student for any method of completion provided by the district.

## **Disciplinary Alternative Education Program (DAEP) Placement**

The DAEP shall be provided in a setting other than the student's regular classroom. An elementary school student may not be placed in a DAEP with a student who is not an elementary school student.

For purposes of DAEP, elementary classification shall be kindergarten–grade 5 and secondary classification shall be grades 6–12.

Summer programs provided by the district shall serve students assigned to a DAEP separately from those students who are not assigned to the program.

A student who is expelled for an offense that otherwise would have resulted in a DAEP placement does not have to be placed in a DAEP in addition to the expulsion.

In deciding whether to place a student in a DAEP, regardless of whether the action is mandatory or discretionary, the campus behavior coordinator shall take into consideration:

- Self-defense (see glossary);
- Intent or lack of intent at the time the student engaged in the conduct;
- The student's disciplinary history;
- A disability that substantially impairs the student's capacity to appreciate the wrongfulness of the student's conduct;
- A student's status in the conservatorship of the Department of Family and Protective Services (foster care); and
- A student's status as homeless.

#### **Discretionary Placement: Misconduct That May Result in DAEP Placement**

A student **may** be placed in a DAEP for behaviors prohibited in the General Conduct Violations section of this Code.

#### **Misconduct Identified in State Law**

In accordance with state law, a student **may** be placed in a DAEP for any one of the following offenses:

- Engaging in bullying that encourages a student to commit or attempt to commit suicide.
- Inciting violence against a student through group bullying.
- Releasing or threatening to release intimate visual material of a minor or a student who is 18 years of age or older without the student's consent.
- Involvement in a public school fraternity, sorority, or secret society, including participating as a member or pledge, or soliciting another person to become a pledge or member of a public school fraternity, sorority, secret society, or gang. (See glossary)
- Involvement in criminal street gang activity. (See glossary)
- Any criminal mischief, including a felony.
- Assault (no bodily injury) with threat of imminent bodily injury.
- Assault by offensive or provocative physical contact.

In accordance with state law, a student **may** be placed in a DAEP if the superintendent or the superintendent's designee has reasonable belief (see glossary) that the student has engaged in conduct punishable as a felony, other than aggravated robbery or those listed as offenses in Title 5 (see glossary) of the

Penal Code, that occurs off school property and not at a school-sponsored or school-related event, if the student's presence in the regular classroom threatens the safety of other students or teachers or will be detrimental to the educational process.

The campus behavior coordinator **may**, but is not required to, place a student in a DAEP for off-campus conduct for which DAEP placement is required by state law if the administrator does not have knowledge of the conduct before the first anniversary of the date the conduct occurred.

### **Mandatory Placement: Misconduct That Requires DAEP Placement**

A student **must** be placed in a DAEP if the student:

- Engages in conduct relating to a false alarm or report (including a bomb threat) or a terroristic threat involving a public school. (See glossary)
- Commits the following offenses on school property or within 300 feet of school property as measured from any point on the school's real property boundary line, or while attending a school-sponsored or school-related activity on or off school property:
  - Engages in conduct punishable as a felony.
  - Commits an assault (see glossary) under Penal Code 22.01(a)(1).
  - Sells, gives, or delivers to another person, or possesses, uses, or is under the influence of marijuana, a controlled substance, or a dangerous drug in an amount not constituting a felony offense. A student with a valid prescription for low-THC cannabis as authorized by Chapter 487 of the Health and Safety Code does not violate this provision. (School-related felony drug offenses are addressed in the **Expulsion** section.) (See glossary for "under the influence.")
  - Sells, gives, or delivers to another person an alcoholic beverage; commits a serious act or offense while under the influence of alcohol; or possesses, uses, or is under the influence of alcohol, if the conduct is not punishable as a felony offense. (School-related felony alcohol offenses are addressed in the **Expulsion** section.)
  - Behaves in a manner that contains the elements of an offense relating to abusable volatile chemicals.
  - Behaves in a manner that contains the elements of the offense of public lewdness or indecent exposure. (See glossary)
  - Engages in conduct that contains the elements of an offense of harassment against an employee under Penal Code 42.07 (a) (1), (2), (3), or (7).
- A student who sells, gives, delivers, possesses, uses, or is under the influence of marijuana, a controlled substance (see definitions), a dangerous drug (see definitions), or an alcoholic

beverage (see definitions), if the offense is not punishable as a felony and the student is not expelled for the offense. ~~upon first offense shall be transferred to the DAEP for a period of (20) days. This twenty (20) day period shall be reduced to ten (10) days in the event the parent completes Parenting Wisely training.~~

~~Upon second offense shall be transferred to the DAEP for a period of (40) days. This (40) day period shall be reduced to (30) days in the event the parent completes Parenting Wisely training. SAS counseling services shall be made available to the student at the DAEP and continued at the home campus upon the student's release.~~

~~Upon third offense shall be expelled for (60) days and every subsequent offense will be expelled for 60 days. After the expulsion is served, the student will be returned to the home campus.~~

~~For the purpose of determining first, second and third offenses, offenses will be counted cumulatively at the middle school level (grades 6-8) and cumulatively at the high school level (grades 9-12) [See FID(LOCAL)].~~

Upon the first offense, the student shall attend DAEP for up to a period of (10) ten days and will be provided positive student behavior support.

Upon second offense, the student shall be transferred to DAEP for a period of (20) twenty days and will be provided positive student behavior support.

Upon the third offense, the student shall be transferred to DAEP for a period of (30) days and will be provided positive student behavior support.

After the DAEP placement has been completed, the student will return to their home campus.

For determining the length of placement, cumulative offenses will only be counted for the current school year.

- Engages in expellable conduct and is between six and nine years of age.
- Commits a federal firearms violation and is younger than six years of age.
- Engages in conduct that contains the elements of the offense of retaliation against any school employee or volunteer on or off school property. (Committing retaliation in combination with another expellable offense is addressed in the **Expulsion** section of this Code.)
- Engages in conduct punishable as aggravated robbery or a felony listed under Title 5 (see glossary) of the Penal Code when the conduct occurs off school property and not at a school-sponsored or school-related event and:

- The student receives deferred prosecution (see glossary),
- A court or jury finds that the student has engaged in delinquent conduct (see glossary), or
- The superintendent or designee has a reasonable belief (see glossary) that the student engaged in the conduct.

## **Sexual Assault and Campus Assignments**

If a student has been convicted of continuous sexual abuse of a young child or children, or convicted of or placed on deferred adjudication for sexual assault or aggravated sexual assault against another student on the same campus, and if the victim's parent or another person with the authority to act on behalf of the victim requests that the board transfer the offending student to another campus, the offending student shall be transferred to another campus in the district. If there is no other campus in the district serving the grade level of the offending student, the offending student shall be transferred to a DAEP.

### **Process**

Removals to a DAEP shall be made by the campus behavior coordinator.

### **Conference**

When a student is removed from class for a DAEP offense, the campus behavior coordinator or appropriate administrator shall schedule a conference within three school days with the student's parent, the student, and the teacher, in the case of a teacher removal.

At the conference, the campus behavior coordinator or appropriate administrator shall inform the student, orally or in writing, of the reasons for the removal and shall give the student an explanation of the basis for the removal and an opportunity to respond to the reasons for the removal.

Following valid attempts to require attendance, the district may hold the conference and make a placement decision regardless of whether the student or the student's parents attend the conference.

### **Consideration of Mitigating Factors**

In deciding whether to place a student in a DAEP, regardless of whether the action is mandatory or discretionary, the campus behavior coordinator shall take into consideration:

- Self-defense (see glossary);
- Intent or lack of intent at the time the student engaged in the conduct,
- The student's disciplinary history;

- A disability that substantially impairs the student's capacity to appreciate the wrongfulness of the student's conduct;
- A student's status in the conservatorship of the Department of Family and Protective Services (foster care); or
- A student's status as homeless.

### **Placement Order**

After the conference, if the student is placed in the DAEP, the campus behavior coordinator shall write a placement order. A copy of the DAEP placement order shall be sent to the student and the student's parent.

Not later than the second business day after the conference, the board's designee shall deliver to the juvenile court a copy of the placement order and all information required by Section 52.04 of the Family Code.

If the student is placed in the DAEP and the length of placement is inconsistent with the guidelines included in this Code, the placement order shall give notice of the inconsistency.

### **Coursework Notice**

The parent or guardian of a student placed in DAEP shall be given written notice of the student's opportunity to complete a foundation curriculum course in which the student was enrolled at the time of removal and which is required for graduation, at no cost to the student. The notice shall include information regarding all methods available for completing the coursework.

### **Length of Placement**

The campus behavior coordinator shall determine the duration of a student's placement in a DAEP.

The duration of a student's placement shall be determined case-by-case based on the seriousness of the offense, the student's age and grade level, the frequency of misconduct, ~~the student's attitude~~, and statutory requirements.

The maximum period of DAEP placement shall be one calendar year, except as provided below.

Unless otherwise specified in the placement order, days absent from a DAEP shall not count toward fulfilling the total number of days required in a student's DAEP placement order.

The district shall administer the required pre- and post-assessments for students assigned to DAEP for a period of 90 days or longer in accordance with established district administrative procedures for administering other diagnostic or benchmark assessments.

### ***Exceeds One Year***

Placement in a DAEP may exceed one year when a review by the district determines that the student is a threat to the safety of other students or to district employees.

The statutory limitations on the length of a DAEP placement do not apply to a placement resulting from the board's decision to place a student who engaged in the sexual assault of another student so that the students are not assigned to the same campus.

### ***Exceeds School Year***

Students who commit offenses requiring placement in a DAEP at the end of one school year may be required to continue that placement at the start of the next school year to complete the assigned term of placement.

For placement in a DAEP to extend beyond the end of the school year, the campus behavior coordinator or the board's designee must determine that:

- The student's presence in the regular classroom or campus presents a danger of physical harm to the student or others; or
- The student has engaged in serious or persistent misbehavior (see glossary) that violates the district's Code.

### ***Exceeds 60 Days***

For placement in a DAEP to extend beyond 60 days or the end of the next grading period, whichever is sooner, a student's parent shall be given notice and the opportunity to participate in a proceeding before the board or the board's designee.

### **Appeals**

Questions from parents regarding disciplinary measures should be addressed to the campus administration.

Student or parent appeals regarding a student's placement in a DAEP should be addressed in accordance with policy FNG(LOCAL). A copy of this policy may be obtained from the principal's office, the campus behavior coordinator's office, the central administration office, or through Policy On Line at the following address: [www.ectorcountysd.org](http://www.ectorcountysd.org).

Appeals shall begin with the campus principal or designee.

The district shall not delay disciplinary consequences pending the outcome of an appeal. The decision to place a student in a DAEP cannot be appealed beyond the board.

## **Restrictions During Placement**

State law prohibits a student placed in a DAEP for reasons specified in state law from attending or participating in school-sponsored or school-related extracurricular activities.

The district may provide transportation to students placed at the Alternative Education Center (AEC). Transportation may be revoked when conduct on the bus warrants removal from the bus for the duration of the placement.

For seniors who are eligible to graduate and are assigned to a DAEP at the time of graduation, the last day of placement in the program shall be the last instructional day, and the student shall be allowed to participate in the graduation ceremony and related graduation activities unless otherwise specified in the DAEP placement order.

## **Placement Review**

A student placed in a DAEP shall be provided a review of his or her status, including academic status, by the campus behavior coordinator or the board's designee at intervals not to exceed 120 days. In the case of a high school student, the student's progress toward graduation and the student's graduation plan shall also be reviewed. At the review, the student or the student's parent shall be given the opportunity to present arguments for the student's return to the regular classroom or campus. The student may not be returned to the classroom of a teacher who removed the student without that teacher's consent.

## **Additional Misconduct**

If during the term of placement in a DAEP the student engages in additional misconduct for which placement in a DAEP or expulsion is required or permitted, additional proceedings may be conducted, and the campus behavior coordinator may enter an additional disciplinary order as a result of those proceedings.

## **Notice of Criminal Proceedings**

When a student is placed in a DAEP for certain offenses, the office of the prosecuting attorney shall notify the district if:

- Prosecution of a student's case was refused for lack of prosecutorial merit or insufficient evidence and no formal proceedings, deferred adjudication (see glossary), or deferred prosecution will be initiated; or
- The court or jury found a student not guilty, or made a finding that the student did not engage in delinquent conduct or conduct indicating a need for supervision, and the case was dismissed with prejudice.

If a student was placed in a DAEP for such conduct, on receiving the notice from the prosecutor, the superintendent or designee shall review the student's placement and schedule a review with the student's parent not later than the third day after the superintendent or designee receives notice from the prosecutor. The student may not be returned to the regular classroom pending the review.

After reviewing the notice and receiving information from the student's parent, the superintendent or designee may continue the student's placement if there is reason to believe that the presence of the student in the regular classroom threatens the safety of other students or teachers.

The student or the student's parent may appeal the superintendent's decision to the board. The student may not be returned to the regular classroom pending the appeal. In the case of an appeal, the board shall, at the next scheduled meeting, review the notice from the prosecutor and receive information from the student, the student's parent, and the superintendent or designee, and confirm or reverse the decision of the superintendent or designee. The board shall make a record of the proceedings.

If the board confirms the decision of the superintendent or designee, the student and the student's parent may appeal to the Commissioner of Education. The student may not be returned to the regular classroom pending the appeal.

### **Withdrawal During Process**

When a student violates the district's Code in a way that requires or permits the student to be placed in a DAEP and the student withdraws from the district before a placement order is completed, the campus behavior coordinator may complete the proceedings and issue a placement order. If the student then re-enrolls in the district during the same or a subsequent school year, the district may enforce the order at that time, less any period of the placement that has been served by the student during enrollment in another district. If the campus behavior coordinator or the board fails to issue a placement order after the student withdraws, the next district in which the student enrolls may complete the proceedings and issue a placement order.

### **Newly Enrolled Students**

ECISD shall continue the DAEP placement of a student including Student Transfers, who enroll in the district and who is currently completing DAEP assignments with an open- enrollment charter school or another Texas district at the time of enrollment in ECISD. The student will be placed into the District's DAEP to complete the term of their DAEP placement provided the basis for the placement is also a reason for DAEP placement in ECISD. If the enrolling student's DAEP placement period exceeds district policy, ECISD shall alter the period of placement so that the total placement allocation does not violate the receiving district's policy.

A newly enrolled student with a DAEP placement from a district in another state shall be placed as any other newly enrolled student if the behavior committed is a reason for DAEP placement in the receiving district.

If the student was placed in a DAEP by a school district in another state for a period that exceeds one year, this district, by state law, shall reduce the period of the placement so that the total placement does not exceed one year. After a review, however, the placement may be extended beyond a year if the district determines that the student is a threat to the safety of other students or employees or the extended placement is in the best interest of the student.

### **Emergency Placement Procedure**

When an emergency placement is necessary because the student's behavior is so unruly, disruptive, or abusive that it seriously interferes with classroom or school operations, the student shall be given oral notice of the reason for the action. Not later than the tenth day after the date of the placement, the student shall be given the appropriate conference required for assignment to a DAEP.

### **Transition Services**

In accordance with law and district procedures, campus staff shall provide transition services to a student returning to the regular classroom from an alternative education program, including a DAEP. [See policy FOCA(LEGAL) for more information.]

### **Placement and/or Expulsion for Certain Offenses**

This section includes two categories of offenses for which the Education Code provides unique procedures and specific consequences.

#### **Registered Sex Offenders**

Upon receiving notification in accordance with state law that a student is currently required to register as a sex offender, the district must remove the student from the regular classroom and determine appropriate placement unless the court orders JJAEP placement.

If the student is under any form of court supervision, including probation, community supervision, or parole, the placement shall be in either DAEP or JJAEP for at least one semester.

If the student is not under any form of court supervision, the placement may be in DAEP or JJAEP for one semester or the placement may be in a regular classroom. The placement may not be in the regular classroom if the board or its designee determines that the student's presence:

- Threatens the safety of other students or teachers,

- Will be detrimental to the educational process, or
- Is not in the best interests of the district's students.

### **Review Committee**

At the end of the first semester of a student's placement in an alternative educational setting and before the beginning of each school year for which the student remains in an alternative placement, the district shall convene a committee, in accordance with state law, to review the student's placement. The committee shall recommend whether the student should return to the regular classroom or remain in the placement. Absent a special finding, the board or its designee must follow the committee's recommendation.

The placement review of a student with a disability who receives special education services must be made by the ARD committee.

### **Newly Enrolled Student**

If a student enrolls in the district during a mandatory placement as a registered sex offender, the district may count any time already spent by the student in a placement or may require an additional semester in an alternative placement without conducting a review of the placement.

### **Appeal**

A student or the student's parent may appeal the placement by requesting a conference between the board or its designee, the student, and the student's parent. The conference is limited to the factual question of whether the student is required to register as a sex offender. Any decision of the board or its designee under this section is final and may not be appealed.

### **Certain Felonies**

Regardless of whether placement or expulsion is required or permitted by one of the reasons in the **DAEP Placement** or **Expulsion** sections, in accordance with Education Code 37.0081, a student may be expelled and placed in either DAEP or JJAEP if the board or campus behavior coordinator makes certain findings and the following circumstances exist in relation to aggravated robbery or a felony offense under Title 5 (see glossary) of the Penal Code. The student must:

- Have received deferred prosecution for conduct defined as aggravated robbery or a Title 5 felony offense;
  - Have been found by a court or jury to have engaged in delinquent conduct for conduct defined as aggravated robbery or a Title 5 felony offense;
  - Have been charged with engaging in conduct defined as aggravated robbery or a Title 5 felony offense;
  - Have been referred to a juvenile court for allegedly engaging in delinquent conduct for conduct defined as aggravated robbery or a Title 5 felony offense;
- or

- Have received probation or deferred adjudication or have been arrested for, charged with, or convicted of aggravated robbery or a Title 5 felony offense.

The district may expel the student and order placement under these circumstances regardless of:

- The date on which the student's conduct occurred,
- The location at which the conduct occurred,
- Whether the conduct occurred while the student was enrolled in the district, or
- Whether the student has successfully completed any court disposition requirements imposed in connection with the conduct.

### **Hearing and Required Findings**

The student must first have a hearing before the board or its designee, who must determine that in addition to the circumstances above that allow for the expulsion, the student's presence in the regular classroom:

- Threatens the safety of other students or teachers,
- Will be detrimental to the educational process, or
- Is not in the best interest of the district's students.

Any decision of the board or the board's designee under this section is final and may not be appealed.

### **Length of Placement**

The student is subject to the placement until:

- The student graduates from high school,
- The charges are dismissed or reduced to a misdemeanor offense, or
- The student completes the term of the placement or is assigned to another program.

### **Placement Review**

A student placed in a DAEP or JJAEP under these circumstances is entitled to a review of his or her status, including academic status, by the campus behavior coordinator or board's designee at intervals not to exceed 120 days. In the case of a high school student, the student's progress toward graduation and the student's graduation plan shall also be reviewed. At the review, the student or the student's parent shall have the opportunity to present arguments for the student's return to the regular classroom or campus.

### **Newly Enrolled Students**

A student who enrolls in the district before completing a placement under this section

from another school district must complete the term of the placement.

## **Expulsion**

In deciding whether to order expulsion, regardless of whether the action is mandatory or discretionary, the campus behavior coordinator shall take into consideration:

- Self-defense (see glossary);
- Intent or lack of intent at the time the student engaged in the conduct,
- The student's disciplinary history;
- A disability that substantially impairs the student's capacity to appreciate the wrongfulness of the student's conduct;
- A student's status in the conservatorship of the Department of Family and Protective Services (foster care); and
- A student's status as homeless.

## **Discretionary Expulsion: Misconduct That May Result in Expulsion**

Some of the following types of misconduct may result in mandatory placement in a DAEP, whether or not a student is expelled. (See **DAEP Placement**)

### **Any Location**

A student **may** be expelled for:

- Engaging in bullying that encourages a student to commit or attempt to commit suicide.
- Inciting violence against a student through group bullying.
- Releasing or threatening to release intimate visual material of a minor or a student who is 18 years of age or older without the student's consent.
- Conduct that contains the elements of assault under Penal Code 22.01(a)(1) in retaliation against a school employee or volunteer.
- Criminal mischief, if punishable as a felony.
- Engaging in conduct that contains the elements of one of the following offenses against another student:
  - Aggravated assault.
  - Sexual assault.
  - Aggravated sexual assault.
  - Murder.
  - Capital murder.
  - Criminal attempt to commit murder or capital murder.
  - Aggravated robbery.
- Breach of computer security. (See glossary)
- Engaging in conduct relating to a false alarm or report (including a bomb threat) or a terroristic threat involving a public school.

### **At School, Within 300 Feet, or at a School Event**

A student **may** be expelled for committing any of the following offenses on or within 300 feet of school property, as measured from any point on the school's real property boundary line, or while attending a school-sponsored or school-related activity on or off school property:

- Selling, giving, or delivering to another person, or possessing, using, or being under the influence of marijuana, a controlled substance, or a dangerous drug, if the conduct is not punishable as a felony. A student with a valid prescription for low-THC cannabis as authorized by Chapter 487 of the Health and Safety Code does not violate this provision. (See glossary for "under the influence.")
- Selling, giving, or delivering to another person, or possessing, using, or being under the influence of alcohol; or committing a serious act or offense while under the influence of alcohol, if the conduct is not punishable as a felony.

- Engaging in conduct that contains the elements of an offense relating to abusable volatile chemicals.
- Engaging in conduct that contains the elements of assault under Section 22.01(a)(1) against an employee or a volunteer.
- Engaging in deadly conduct. (See glossary)

### **Within 300 Feet of School**

A student **may** be expelled for engaging in the following conduct while within 300 feet of school property, as measured from any point on the school's real property boundary line:

- Aggravated assault, sexual assault, or aggravated sexual assault.
- Arson. (See glossary)
- Murder, capital murder, or criminal attempt to commit murder or capital murder.
- Indecency with a child, aggravated kidnapping, manslaughter, criminally negligent homicide, or aggravated robbery.
- Continuous sexual abuse of a young child or children.
- Felony drug- or alcohol-related offense.
- Unlawfully carrying on or about the student's person a handgun or a location-restricted knife, as these terms are defined by state law. (See glossary)
- Possessing, manufacturing, transporting, repairing, or selling a prohibited weapon, as defined by state law. (See glossary)
- Possession of a firearm, as defined by federal law. (See glossary)

### **Property of Another District**

A student **may** be expelled for committing any offense that is a state-mandated expellable offense if the offense is committed on the property of another district in Texas or while the student is attending a school-sponsored or school-related activity of a school in another district in Texas.

### **While in DAEP**

A student **may** be expelled for engaging in documented serious misbehavior that violates the district's Code, despite documented behavioral interventions while placed in a DAEP. For purposes of discretionary expulsion from a DAEP, serious misbehavior means:

- Deliberate violent behavior that poses a direct threat to the health or safety of others;
- Extortion, meaning the gaining of money or other property by force or threat;
- Conduct that constitutes coercion, as defined by Section 1.07, Penal Code; or
- Conduct that constitutes the offense of:
  - Public lewdness under Penal Code 21.07;
  - Indecent exposure under Penal Code 21.08;

- Criminal mischief under Penal Code 28.03;
- Hazing under Education Code 37.152; or
- Harassment under Penal Code 42.07(a)(1) of a student or district employee.

### **Mandatory Expulsion: Misconduct That Requires Expulsion**

A student **must** be expelled under federal or state law for any of the following offenses that occur on school property or while attending a school-sponsored or school-related activity on or off school property:

#### **Under Federal Law**

Bringing to school or possessing at school, including any setting that is under the district’s control or supervision for the purpose of a school activity, a firearm, as defined by federal law. (See glossary)

**Note:** Mandatory expulsion under the federal Gun Free Schools Act does not apply to a firearm that is lawfully stored inside a locked vehicle, or to firearms used in activities approved and authorized by the district when the district has adopted appropriate safeguards to ensure student safety.

#### **Under the Penal Code**

- Unlawfully carrying on or about the student’s person the following, in the manner prohibited by Penal Code 46.02:
  - A handgun, defined by state law as any firearm designed, made, or adapted to be used with one hand. (See glossary)
 

**Note:** A student may not be expelled solely on the basis of the student’s use, exhibition, or possession of a firearm that occurs at an approved target range facility that is not located on a school campus, while participating in or preparing for a school-sponsored, shooting sports competition or a shooting sports educational activity that is sponsored or supported by the Parks and Wildlife Department, or a shooting sports sanctioning organization working with the department. [See policy FNCG(LEGAL).]
  - A location-restricted knife, as defined by state law. (See glossary.)
- Possessing, manufacturing, transporting, repairing, or selling a prohibited weapon, as defined in state law. (See glossary)
- Behaving in a manner that contains elements of the following offenses under the Penal Code:
  - Aggravated assault, sexual assault, or aggravated sexual assault.
  - Arson. (See glossary)

- Murder, capital murder, or criminal attempt to commit murder or capital murder.
  - Indecency with a child.
  - Aggravated kidnapping.
  - Aggravated robbery.
  - Manslaughter.
  - Criminally negligent homicide.
  - Continuous sexual abuse of a young child or children.
  - Behavior punishable as a felony that involves selling, giving, or delivering to another person, or possessing, using, or being under the influence of marijuana, a controlled substance, a dangerous drug, or alcohol; or committing a serious act or offense while under the influence of alcohol.
- Engaging in retaliation against a school employee or volunteer combined with one of the above-listed mandatory expulsion offenses.

## **Under Age Ten**

When a student under the age of ten engages in behavior that is expellable behavior, the student shall not be expelled, but shall be placed in a DAEP. A student under age six shall not be placed in a DAEP unless the student commits a federal firearm offense.

## **Process**

If a student is believed to have committed an expellable offense, the campus behavior coordinator or other appropriate administrator shall schedule a hearing within a reasonable time. The student's parent shall be invited in writing to attend the hearing.

Until a hearing can be held, the campus behavior coordinator or other administrator may place the student in:

- Another appropriate classroom,
- In-school suspension,
- Out-of-school suspension, or
- DAEP.

## **Hearing**

A student facing expulsion shall be given a hearing with appropriate due process. The student is entitled to:

- Representation by the student's parent or another adult who can provide guidance to the student and who is not an employee of the district;
- An opportunity to testify and to present evidence and witnesses in the

- student's defense; and
- An opportunity to question the witnesses called by the district at the hearing.

After providing notice to the student and parent of the hearing, the district may hold the hearing regardless of whether the student or the student's parent attends.

The Board of Trustees delegates to the Superintendent's designee authority to conduct hearings and expel students.

### **Board Review of Expulsion**

After the due process hearing, the expelled student may request that the board review the expulsion decisions. The student or parent must submit a written request to the superintendent within seven days after receipt of the written decision. The superintendent must provide the student or parent written notice of the date, time, and place of the meeting at which the board will review the decision.

The board shall review the record of the expulsion hearing in a closed meeting unless the parent requests in writing that the matter be held in an open meeting. The board may also hear a statement from the student or parent and from the board's designee.

The board shall hear statements made by the parties at the review and shall base its decision on evidence reflected in the record and any statements made by the parties at the review. The board shall make and communicate its decision orally at the conclusion of the presentation. Consequences shall not be deferred pending the outcome of the hearing.

### **Expulsion Order**

Before ordering the expulsion, the board or campus behavior coordinator shall take into consideration:

- Self-defense (see glossary);
- Intent or lack of intent at the time the student engaged in the conduct;
- The student's disciplinary history;
- A disability that substantially impairs the student's capacity to appreciate the wrongfulness of the student's conduct;
- A student's status in the conservatorship of the Department of Family and Protective Services (foster care); and
- A student's status as homeless.

If the student is expelled, the board or its designee shall deliver to the student and the student's parent a copy of the order expelling the student.

Not later than the second business day after the hearing, the hearing officer shall deliver to the juvenile court a copy of the expulsion order and the information required by Section 52.04 of the Family Code.

If the length of the expulsion is inconsistent with the guidelines included in the Student Code of Conduct, the expulsion order shall give notice of the inconsistency.

### **Length of Expulsion**

The length of an expulsion shall be based on the seriousness of the offense, the student's age and grade level, the frequency of misbehavior, ~~the student's attitude,~~ and statutory requirements.

The duration of a student's expulsion shall be determined on a case-by-case basis. The maximum period of expulsion is one calendar year, except as provided below.

An expulsion may not exceed one year unless, after review, the district determines that:

- The student is a threat to the safety of other students or to district employees, or
- Extended expulsion is in the best interest of the student.

State and federal law require a student to be expelled from the regular classroom for a period of at least one calendar year for bringing a firearm, as defined by federal law, to school. However, the superintendent may modify the length of the expulsion on a case-by-case basis.

Students who commit offenses that require expulsion at the end of one school year may be expelled into the next school year to complete the term of expulsion.

### **Withdrawal During Process**

When a student has violated the district's Code in a way that requires or permits expulsion from the district and the student withdraws from the district before the expulsion hearing takes place, the district may conduct the hearing after sending written notice to the parent and student.

If the student then re-enrolls in the district during the same or subsequent school year, the district may enforce the expulsion order at that time, less any expulsion period that has been served by the student during enrollment in another district.

If the campus behavior coordinator or the board fails to issue an expulsion order after the student withdraws, the next district in which the student enrolls may complete the proceedings.

### **Additional Misconduct**

If during the expulsion, the student engages in additional conduct for which placement in a DAEP or expulsion is required or permitted, additional proceedings may be conducted, and the campus behavior coordinator or the board may issue an additional disciplinary order as a result of those proceedings.

### **Restrictions During Expulsion**

Expelled students are prohibited from being on school grounds or attending school-sponsored or school-related activities during the period of expulsion.

No district academic credit shall be earned for work missed during the period of expulsion unless the student is enrolled in a JJAEP or another district-approved program.

### **Newly Enrolled Students**

The district shall continue the expulsion of any newly enrolled student expelled from another Texas district or an open-enrollment charter school until the period of the expulsion is completed, provided the behavior is also a reason for expulsion in the enrolling district. If the expulsion exceeds one year, the District will reduce the period of the expulsion so that the total expulsion does not exceed one year unless the district determines that the student is a threat to the safety of others or extended placement is in the best interest of the student.

If a student expelled in another state enrolls in the district, the district may continue the expulsion under the terms of the expulsion order, may place the student in a DAEP for the period specified in the order, or may allow the student to attend regular classes if:

- The out-of-state district provides the district with a copy of the expulsion order,
- The offense resulting in the expulsion is also an expellable offense in the district in which the student is enrolling.

If a student is expelled by a district in another state for a period that exceeds one year and the district continues the expulsion or places the student in a DAEP, the district shall reduce the period of the expulsion or DAEP placement so that the entire period does not exceed one year, unless after a review it is determined that:

- The student is a threat to the safety of other students or district employees, or
- Extended placement is in the best interest of the student.

## **Emergency Expulsion Procedures**

When an emergency expulsion is necessary to protect persons or property from imminent harm, the student shall be given verbal notice of the reason for the action. Within ten days after the date of the emergency expulsion, the student shall be given appropriate due process required for a student facing expulsion.

## **DAEP Placement of Expelled Students**

The district may provide educational services to any expelled student in a DAEP; however, educational services in the DAEP must be provided if the student is less than ten years of age.

## **Transition Services**

In accordance with law and district procedures, campus staff shall provide transition services for a student returning to the regular classroom from placement in an alternative education program, including a DAEP or JJAEP. See policies FOCA(LLEGAL) and FODA(LLEGAL) for more information.

## Glossary

**Abuse** is improper or excessive use.

**Aggravated robbery** is defined in part by Penal Code 29.03(a) as when a person commits robbery and:

- Causes serious bodily injury to another;
- Uses or exhibits a deadly weapon; or
- Causes bodily injury to another person or threatens or places another person in fear of imminent bodily injury or death, if the other person is:
  - 65 years of age or older, or
  - A disabled person.

**Armor-piercing ammunition** is defined by Penal Code 46.01 as handgun ammunition used in pistols and revolvers and designed primarily for the purpose of penetrating metal or body armor.

**Arson** is defined in part by Penal Code 28.02 as:

- A crime that involves starting a fire or causing an explosion with intent to destroy or damage:
  - Any vegetation, fence, or structure on open-space land; or
  - Any building, habitation, or vehicle:
    - Knowing that it is within the limits of an incorporated city or town,
    - Knowing that it is insured against damage or destruction,
    - Knowing that it is subject to a mortgage or other security interest,
    - Knowing that it is located on property belonging to another,
    - Knowing that it has located within it property belonging to another, or
    - When the person starting the fire is reckless about whether the burning or explosion will endanger the life of some individual or the safety of the property of another.
- A crime that involves recklessly starting a fire or causing an explosion while manufacturing or attempting to manufacture a controlled substance and the fire or explosion damages any building, habitation, or vehicle; or
- A crime that involves intentionally starting a fire or causing an explosion and in so doing:
  - Recklessly damages or destroys a building belonging to another, or
  - Recklessly causes another person to suffer bodily injury or death.

**Assault** is defined in part by Penal Code §22.01(a)(1) as intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly causing bodily injury to another; §22.01(a)(2) as intentionally or knowingly threatening another with imminent bodily injury; and §22.01(a)(3) as intentionally or knowingly causing physical contact with another that can reasonably be regarded as offensive or provocative.

**Breach of Computer Security** includes knowingly accessing a computer, computer network, or computer system without the effective consent of the owner as defined in Penal Code 33.02, if the conduct involves accessing a computer, computer network, or computer system owned by or operated on behalf of a school district; and the student knowingly alters, damages, or deletes school district property or information; or commits a breach of any other computer, computer network, or computer system.

**Bullying** is defined in Section 37.0832 of the Education Code as a single significant act or a pattern of acts by one or more students directed at another student that exploits an imbalance of power and involves engaging in written or verbal expression, expression through electronic means, or physical conduct that:

- Has the effect or will have the effect of physically harming a student, damaging a student's property, or placing a student in reasonable fear of harm to the student's person or of damage to the student's property;
- Is sufficiently severe, persistent, or pervasive enough that the action or threat creates an intimidating, threatening, or abusive educational environment for a student;
- Materially and substantially disrupts the educational process or the orderly operation of a classroom or school; or
- Infringes on the rights of the victim at school.

Bullying includes cyberbullying. (See below) This state law on bullying prevention applies to:

- Bullying that occurs on or is delivered to school property or to the site of a school-sponsored or school-related activity on or off school property;
- Bullying that occurs on a publicly or privately-owned school bus or vehicle being used for transportation of students to or from school or a school-sponsored or school-related activity; and
- Cyberbullying that occurs off school property or outside of a school-sponsored or school-related activity if the cyberbullying interferes with a student's educational opportunities or substantially disrupts the orderly operation of a classroom, school, or school-sponsored or school-related activity.

**Chemical dispensing device** is defined by Penal Code 46.01 as a device designed, made, or adapted for the purpose of dispensing a substance capable of causing an adverse psychological or physiological effect on a human being. A small chemical dispenser sold commercially for personal protection is not in this category.

**Club** is defined by Penal Code 46.01 as an instrument specially designed, made, or adapted for the purpose of inflicting serious bodily injury or death. A blackjack, nightstick, mace, and tomahawk are in the same category.

**Controlled substance** means a substance, including a drug, an adulterant, and a dilutant, listed in Schedules I through V or Penalty Group 1, 1-A, 2, 2-A, 3, or 4 of the

Texas Controlled Substances Act. The term includes the aggregate weight of any mixture, solution, or other substance containing a controlled substance. The term does not include hemp, as defined by Agriculture Code 121.001, or the tetrahydrocannabinols (THC) in hemp.

**Criminal street gang** is defined by Penal Code 71.01 as three or more persons having a common identifying sign or symbol or an identifiable leadership who continuously or regularly associate in the commission of criminal activities.

**Cyberbullying** is defined by Section 37.0832 of the Education Code as bullying that is done through the use of any electronic communication device, including through the use of a cellular or other type of telephone, a computer, a camera, electronic mail, instant messaging, text messaging, a social media application, an Internet website, or any other Internet-based communication tool.

**Dangerous drug** is defined by Health and Safety Code 483.001 as a device or a drug that is unsafe for self-medication and that is not included in Schedules I through V or Penalty Groups 1 through 4 of the Texas Controlled Substances Act. The term includes a device or drug that federal law prohibits dispensing without prescription or restricts to use by or on the order of a licensed veterinarian.

**Dating violence** occurs when a person in a current or past dating relationship uses physical, sexual, verbal, or emotional abuse to harm, threaten, intimidate, or control another person in the relationship. Dating violence also occurs when a person commits these acts against a person in a marriage or dating relationship with the individual who is or was once in a marriage or dating relationship with the person committing the offense, as defined by Section 71.0021 of the Family Code.

**Deadly conduct** under Penal Code 22.05 occurs when a person recklessly engages in conduct that places another in imminent danger of serious bodily injury, such as knowingly discharging a firearm in the direction of an individual, habitation, building, or vehicle.

**Deferred adjudication** is an alternative to seeking a conviction in court that may be offered to a juvenile for delinquent conduct or conduct indicating a need for supervision.

**Deferred prosecution** may be offered to a juvenile as an alternative to seeking a conviction in court for delinquent conduct or conduct indicating a need for supervision.

**Delinquent conduct** is conduct that violates either state or federal law and is punishable by imprisonment or confinement in jail. It includes conduct that violates certain juvenile court orders, including probation orders, but does not include violations of traffic laws.

**Discretionary** means that something is left to or regulated by a local decision maker.

**E-cigarette** means an electronic cigarette or any other device that simulates smoking by using a mechanical heating element, battery, or electronic circuit to deliver nicotine or other substances to the individual inhaling from the device. The term includes any device that is manufactured, distributed, or sold as an e-cigarette, e-cigar, or e-pipe or under another product name or description and a component, part, or accessory for the device, regardless of whether the component, part, or accessory is sold separately from the device.

**Explosive weapon** is defined by Penal Code 46.01 as any explosive or incendiary bomb, grenade, rocket, or mine and its delivery mechanism that is designed, made, or adapted for the purpose of inflicting serious bodily injury, death, or substantial property damage, or for the principal purpose of causing such a loud report as to cause undue public alarm or terror.

**False alarm or report** under Penal Code 42.06 occurs when a person knowingly initiates, communicates, or circulates a report of a present, past, or future bombing, fire, offense, or other emergency that he or she knows is false or baseless and that would ordinarily:

- Cause action by an official or volunteer agency organized to deal with emergencies;
- Place a person in fear of imminent serious bodily injury; or
- Prevent or interrupt the occupation of a building, room, or place of assembly.

**Firearm** is defined by federal law (18 U.S.C. 921(a)) as:

- Any weapon (including a starter gun) that will, is designed to, or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive;
- The frame or receiver of any such weapon;
- Any firearm muffler or firearm weapon; or
- Any destructive device, such as any explosive, incendiary or poison gas bomb, or grenade.

Such term does not include an antique firearm.

**Firearm silencer** is defined by Penal Code 46.01 as any device designed, made, or adapted to muffle the report of a firearm.

**Graffiti** includes markings with paint, an indelible pen or marker, or an etching or engraving device on tangible property without the effective consent of the owner. The markings may include inscriptions, slogans, drawings, or paintings.

**Handgun** is defined by Penal Code 46.01 as any firearm that is designed, made, or adapted to be fired with one hand.

**Harassment** includes:

- Conduct that meets the definition established in district policies DIA(LOCAL) and FFH(LOCAL);
- Conduct that threatens to cause harm or bodily injury to another person, including a district student, employee, board member, or volunteer; is sexually intimidating; causes physical damage to the property of another student; subjects another student to physical confinement or restraint; or maliciously and substantially harms another student's physical or emotional health or safety, as defined in Section 37.001(b)(2) of the Education Code; or
- Conduct that is punishable as a crime under Penal Code 42.07, including the following types of conduct if carried out with the internet to harass, annoy, alarm, abuse, torment, or embarrass another:
  - Initiating communication and, in the course of the communication, making a comment, request, suggestion, or proposal that is obscene, as defined by law;
  - Threatening, in a manner reasonably likely to alarm the person receiving the threat, to inflict bodily injury on the person or to commit a felony against the person, a member of the person's family or household, or the person's property;
  - Conveying, in a manner reasonably likely to alarm the person receiving the report, a false report, which is known by the conveyor to be false, that another person has suffered death or serious bodily injury; and
  - Sending repeated electronic communications in a manner reasonably likely to harass, annoy, alarm, abuse, torment, embarrass, or offend another.

**Hazing** is defined by Section 37.151 of the Education Code as an intentional, knowing, or reckless act, on or off campus, by one person alone or acting with others, directed against a student for the purpose of pledging, initiation into, affiliation with, holding office in, or maintaining membership in a student organization if the act meets the elements in Education Code 37.151, including:

- Any type of physical brutality;
- An activity that subjects the student to an unreasonable risk of harm or that adversely affects the student's mental or physical health, such as sleep deprivation, exposure to the elements, confinement to small spaces, calisthenics, or consumption of food, liquids, drugs, or other substances;
- An activity that induces, causes, or requires the student to perform a duty or task that violates the Penal Code; and
- Coercing a student to consume a drug or alcoholic beverage in an amount that would lead a reasonable person to believe the student is intoxicated.

**Hit list** is defined in Section 37.001(b)(3) of the Education Code as a list of people targeted to be harmed, using a firearm, a knife, or any other object to be used with intent to cause bodily harm.

**Improvised explosive device** is defined by Penal Code 46.01 as a completed and operational bomb designed to cause serious bodily injury, death, or substantial

property damage that is fabricated in an improvised manner using nonmilitary components.

**Indecent exposure** is defined by Penal Code 21.08 as an offense that occurs when a person exposes the person's anus or any part of the person's genitals with intent to arouse or gratify the sexual desire of any person, and is reckless about whether another is present who will be offended or alarmed by the act.

**Intimate visual material** is defined by Civil Practices and Remedies Code 98B.001 and Penal Code 21.16 as visual material that depicts a person with the person's intimate parts exposed or engaged in sexual conduct. "Visual material" means any film, photograph, video tape, negative, or slide of any photographic reproduction or any other physical medium that allows an image to be displayed on a computer or other video screen and any image transmitted to a computer or other video screen.

**Location-restricted knife** is defined by Penal Code 46.01 as a knife with a blade over five and one-half inches.

**Knuckles** means any instrument consisting of finger rings or guards made of a hard substance and designed or adapted for inflicting serious bodily injury or death by striking a person with a fist enclosed in the knuckles.

**Look-alike weapon** means an item that resembles a weapon but is not intended to be used to cause serious bodily injury.

**Machine gun** as defined by Penal Code 46.01 is any firearm that is capable of shooting more than two shots automatically, without manual reloading, by a single function of the trigger.

**Mandatory** means that something is obligatory or required because of an authority.

**Paraphernalia** are devices that can be used for inhaling, ingesting, injecting, or otherwise introducing a controlled substance into a human body.

**Possession** means to have an item on one's person or in one's personal property, including, but not limited to, clothing, purse, or backpack; a private vehicle used for transportation to or from school or school-related activities, including, but not limited, to an automobile, truck, motorcycle, or bicycle; telecommunications or electronic devices; or any school property used by the student, including, but not limited to, a locker or desk.

**Prohibited weapon** under Penal Code 46.05(a) means:

- The following items unless registered with the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives or otherwise not subject to that registration requirement or unless the item is classified as a curio or relic by the U.S.

Department of Justice:

- An explosive weapon;
- A machine gun;
- A short-barrel firearm;
- Armor-piercing ammunition;
- A chemical dispensing device;
- A zip gun;
- A tire deflation device;
- An improvised explosive device; or
- A firearm silencer, unless classified as a curio or relic by the U.S. Department of Justice or the actor otherwise possesses, manufactures, transports, repairs, or sells the firearm silencer in compliance with federal law.

**Public Lewdness** is defined by Penal Code 21.07 as an offense that occurs when a person knowingly engages in an act of sexual intercourse, deviate sexual intercourse, or sexual contact in a public place or, if not in a public place, is reckless about whether another is present who will be offended or alarmed by the act.

**Public school fraternity, sorority, secret society, or gang** means an organization composed wholly or in part of students that seeks to perpetuate itself by taking additional members from the students enrolled in school based on a decision of its membership rather than on the free choice of a qualified student. Educational organizations listed in Section 37.121(d) of the Education Code are excepted from this definition.

**Reasonable belief** is that which an ordinary person of average intelligence and sound mind would believe Chapter 37 requires certain disciplinary decisions when the superintendent or designee has a reasonable belief that a student engaged in conduct punishable as a felony offense. Informing such a reasonable belief, the superintendent or designee may use all available information, including the notice of a student's arrest under Article 15.27 of the Code of Criminal Procedure.

**Self-defense** is the use of force against another to the degree a person reasonably believes the force is immediately necessary to protect himself or herself.

**Serious misbehavior** means:

- Deliberate violent behavior that poses a direct threat to the health or safety of others;
- Extortion, meaning the gaining of money or other property by force or threat;
- Conduct that constitutes coercion, as defined by Section 1.07, Penal Code; or
- 4. Conduct that constitutes the offense of:
  - Public lewdness under Penal Code 21.07;
  - Indecent exposure under Penal Code 21.08;
  - Criminal mischief under Penal Code 28.03;
  - Hazing under Education Code 37.152; or
  - Harassment under Penal Code 42.07(a)(1) of a student or district

employee.

**Serious or persistent misbehavior** includes, but is not limited to:

- Behavior that is grounds for permissible expulsion or mandatory DAEP placement.
- Behavior identified by the district as grounds for discretionary DAEP placement.
- Actions or demonstrations that substantially disrupt or materially interfere with school activities.
- Refusal to attempt or complete school work as assigned.
- Insubordination.
- Profanity, vulgar language, or obscene gestures.
- Leaving school grounds without permission.
- Falsification of records, passes, or other school-related documents.
- Refusal to accept discipline assigned by the teacher or principal.

**Short-barrel firearm** is defined by Penal Code 46.01 as a rifle with a barrel length of less than 16 inches or a shotgun with a barrel length of less than 18 inches, or any weapon made from a rifle or shotgun that, as altered, has an overall length of less than 26 inches.

**Terroristic threat** is defined by Penal Code 22.07 as a threat of violence to any person or property with intent to:

- Cause a reaction of any type by an official or volunteer agency organized to deal with emergencies;
- Place any person in fear of imminent serious bodily injury;
- Prevent or interrupt the occupation or use of a building; room, place of assembly, or place to which the public has access; place of employment or occupation; aircraft, automobile, or other form of conveyance; or other public place;
- Cause impairment or interruption of public communications; public transportation; public water, gas, or power supply; or other public service;
- Place the public or a substantial group of the public in fear of serious bodily injury; or
- Influence the conduct or activities of a branch or agency of the federal government, the state, or a political subdivision of the state (including the district).

**Tire deflation device** is defined in part by Penal Code 46.01 as a device, including a caltrop or spike strip, that, when driven over, impedes or stops the movement of a wheeled vehicle by puncturing one or more of the vehicle's tires.

**Title 5 felonies** are those crimes listed in Title 5 of the Penal Code that typically involve injury to a person and may include:

- Murder, manslaughter, or homicide under Sections 19.02, – .05;
- Kidnapping under Section 20.03;

- Trafficking of persons under Section 20A.02;
- Smuggling or continuous smuggling of persons under Sections 20.05 – .06;
- Assault under Section 22.01;
- Aggravated assault under Section 22.02;
- Sexual assault under Section 22.011;
- Aggravated sexual assault under Section 22.021;
- Unlawful restraint under Section 20.02;
- Continuous sexual abuse of a young child or children under Section 21.02;
- Bestiality under Section 21.09;
- Improper relationship between educator and student under Section 21.12;
- Voyeurism under Section 21.17;
- Indecency with a child under Section 21.11;
- Invasive visual recording under Section 21.15;
- Disclosure or promotion of intimate visual material under Section 21.16;
- Sexual coercion under Section 21.18;
- Injury to a child, an elderly person, or a disabled person of any age under Section 22.04;
- Abandoning or endangering a child under Section 22.041;
- Deadly conduct under Section 22.05;
- Terroristic threat under Section 22.07;
- Aiding a person to commit suicide under Section 22.08; and
- Tampering with a consumer product under Section 22.

[See FOC(EXHIBIT).]

**Under the influence** means lacking the normal use of mental or physical faculties. Impairment of a person’s physical or mental faculties may be evidenced by a pattern of abnormal or erratic behavior, the presence of physical symptoms of drug or alcohol use, or by admission. A student “under the influence” need not be legally intoxicated to trigger disciplinary action.

**Use** means voluntarily introducing into one’s body, by any means, a prohibited substance.

**Zip gun** is defined by Penal Code 46.01 as a device or combination of devices, not originally a firearm, but adapted to expel a projectile through a smooth-bore or rifled-bore barrel by using the energy generated by an explosion or burning substance.



## Ector County Independent School District

### Action Page

**TO:** Board of Trustees

**FROM:** Dr. Kellie Wilks, Chief Technology Officer

**SUBJECT: DISCUSSION OF AND REQUEST FOR APPROVAL TO ENTER INTO THE OPERATION CONNECTIVITY INTERLOCAL ACQUISITION AGREEMENT WITH REGION 4 AND TO RATIFY THE SUPERINTENDENT'S SIGNING OF THE AGREEMENT**

**DATE:** August 11, 2020

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Request approval to enter into the Operation Connectivity Interlocal Acquisition Agreement for Region 4 to take advantage of the Operation Connectivity bulk order program and the matching funds.

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Administrative Recommendation:

Approval to enter into the Operation Connectivity Interlocal Acquisition Agreement with Region 4 and to Ratify the Superintendent's Signing of the Agreement.

## OPERATION CONNECTIVITY INTERLOCAL ACQUISITION AGREEMENT

*Entered between Region 4 Education Service Center ("Region 4") and Local Education Agency ("LEA")  
pursuant to Tex. Gov't Code, Chapter 791.*

**Local education agency name:** ECTOR COUNTY ISD, (068901)

**County district number:** 68901

**Point of contact:** KELLIE WILKS

**Date:** July 29th, 2020

This Operation Connectivity Interlocal Acquisition Agreement ("Agreement") contains key information and terms regarding your LEA's participation in the Operation Connectivity bulk purchase process. The following addendums are incorporated into this Agreement:

1. State Funding Allocation Methodology Addendum (*attached*)
2. EDGAR Certification Addendum (*attached - to be executed by Region 4*)
3. Grant Program Guidelines (*attached*)
4. LEA Order Logistics Confirmation (*separate document*)
5. Additional Quantity Request (*separate document*)

Due the urgency required to maintain our position within our vendors' supply chain, **please submit the completed and signed copy of this Agreement [as well as your Additional Quantity Request Addendum] through DocuSign by COB Tuesday, August 4, 2020.** Should your LEA not be able to provide signed approval of this Agreement by this date, your order will unfortunately have to be cancelled, and this Agreement will automatically terminate without further action by the parties.

Below you will find your LEA's allocated quantities per provider / OEM ("Vendor") and model. These quantities are based on two inputs: 1) your LEA's requested quantities as included in your LEA's bulk order survey / form, 2) the total dollar value for which the state funding program is able to cover 50% of your LEA hotspot / device costs, as based on the state's allocation methodology (see State Funding Allocation Methodology Addendum).

**Any change to the quantities allocated below must be requested by emailing [customerservice@teabulkorder.com](mailto:customerservice@teabulkorder.com) with your revisions.** We will then review requested revisions and send you an updated Agreement. Please note that allocated quantities can only be decreased. Any proposed revisions to increase quantities for any Vendor or model will be rejected.

For quantity needs above what the state has allocated your LEA [capped at your LEA's *remaining quantity* as listed in your Additional Quantity Request Addendum], please include this in your LEA's Additional Quantity Request Addendum. If your submitted Additional Quantity Request Addendum is accepted, it will become a binding part of the Agreement. Your Additional Quantity Request Form must be submitted by Tuesday, August 4, 2020. Failure to submit by the deadline will result in your Additional Quantity Request Addendum being rejected.

### Mobile broadband hotspots:

Vendor	AT&T	T-Mobile	Verizon
Data limit	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited
Hotspot type	Category 4	Category 4	Category 4
Contract length	1 year	1 year	1 year
Warranty length	1 year	1 year	1 year

Device costs/unit	\$60	\$0	\$60
Monthly rate/unit	\$15	\$15	\$10
Asset tagging cost/unit	\$0	\$0	\$5
Custom CIPA filtering enablement monthly rate/unit	\$0	\$0	\$2
Total 1-year hotspot costs/unit	\$240	\$180	\$209
Original LEA quantity request (through bulk order survey)	0	0	1000
<b>Allocated quantity</b>	0	0	1000
<b>Total hotspot order costs</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$209000</b>
<b>LEA portion of hotspot order costs</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$104500</b>

Learning devices:

	Middle & elementary laptops			High school laptops		Chromebooks		iPad
Vendor	Dell	HP	Lenovo	Dell	HP	Dell	HP	Apple
Model number	3190	9ru44ut	100e	3410	PB11x360	3100 Chrome	1A764UT	iPad 7 <sup>th</sup> Generation
CPU processor	Celeron 4120	Celeron 4020	Celeron	I3	Pentium 5030	N/A	N/A	N/A
RAM	4 GB	4 GB	4 GB	4 GB	8 GB	4 GB	4 GB	N/A
Hard drive size	64 GB	64 GB	64 GB	500 GB	128 GB	16 GB	32 GB	32 GB
Screen size	11.6"	11.6"	11.6"	14"	11.6"	11.6"	11.6"	10.2"
Wi-Fi protocol	Standard	Standard	Standard	Standard	Standard	Standard	Standard	Standard
Touch Screen	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Convert to tablet	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	No	Yes
External keyboard (Y/N)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Y
Warranty	1 year on-site	1 year mail in	1 year mail in	1 year on-site	1 year mail in	1 year on-site	1 year mail in	N/A
Additional features	Windows 10, custom tagging	Windows 10, custom tagging	Windows 10, custom tagging	Windows 10, custom tagging	Windows 10, custom tagging	Google license, custom tagging	Google license, custom tagging	iPadOS, custom engraving
Price	\$237	\$266	\$205	\$323	\$369	\$228	\$237	\$386
Original LEA quantity request (through bulk order survey)	0	0	0	0	0	6507	0	5825
<b>Allocated quantity</b>	0	0	0	0	0	6507	0	5825
<b>Total device order costs</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$1483596</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$2248450</b>
<b>LEA portion of device order costs</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$741798</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$1124225</b>

Total costs:

Total hotspot order costs	\$209000
Total device order costs	\$3732046
LEA portion of hotspot order costs	\$104500
LEA portion of device order costs	\$1866023
<b>Total order costs (hotspots and devices)</b>	<b>\$3941046</b>
<b>Total LEA portion of order costs (hotspots and devices)</b>	<b>\$1970523</b>

Payment terms:

Payment for your LEA's portion of the order costs will be due immediately upon receipt of the order invoice that your LEA will be receiving via email. Please note that payment is required before hotspots / devices will be asset tagged and shipped to your LEA. Specific payment instructions will be provided with your issued invoice.

LEA orders will be tagged and shipped in the order in which invoice payment is received. Delay in payment will result in a delay of devices to your LEAs. Any LEA whose payment has not been received by Region 4 within 3 business days from the invoice date will have their order cancelled, resulting in an automatic termination of this Agreement. LEAs must provide a completed LEA Order Logistics Confirmation by Friday, August 7, 2020. Failure to complete and provide this confirmation timely may result in the delay or cancellation of your order and termination of this Agreement.

**Matching Funds Allocation:**Funding allocation:

You will find below your LEA's state matching award. This allocation is based on two inputs, 1) your LEA's requested quantities as included in your LEA's bulk order survey/form, 2) the state's allocation methodology (see State Funding Allocation Methodology Addendum).

<b>Total state matching (hotspots and devices)</b>	<b>\$1970523</b>
--	------------------

Please note that this amount includes only the 1:1 matching of the funds that are expected to be contributed by your LEA. By executing this Agreement, your LEA is committing to pay the amounts set forth herein.

**Incorporation of Vendor Warranties and Terms/Disclaimer and Release of Region 4 Liability:**

**LEA ACKNOWLEDGES AND AGREES THAT ANY PRODUCTS OR SERVICES ACQUIRED THROUGH THIS AGREEMENT ARE SUBJECT TO ANY VENDORS' TERMS AND CONDITIONS ("VENDOR TERMS") PROVIDED SEPARATELY BY VENDOR TO LEA. THIS AGREEMENT SHALL CONTROL IN THE EVENT OF ANY CONFLICT WITH VENDOR TERMS. THE PROVISIONS OF ANY MANUFACTURER OR OTHER VENDOR WARRANTIES AND OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE VENDOR TERMS ARE HEREBY EXTENDED TO LEA. THE LEA'S EXCLUSIVE REMEDY FOR BREACH OF ANY SUCH WARRANTY OR OTHER VENDOR OBLIGATIONS RELATED TO THE PRODUCTS OR SERVICES WILL BE THE ENFORCEMENT OF ANY RIGHTS UNDER THE VENDOR TERMS, AND REGION 4 SHALL HAVE NO LIABILITY TO LEA RELATED TO SAME. THE LEA ACKNOWLEDGES AND AGREES AS A STRICT TERM OF THIS AGREEMENT THAT REGION 4 DOES NOT ASSUME BUT, RATHER, EXPRESSLY DISCLAIMS ALL WARRANTIES OR OTHER OBLIGATIONS SET FORTH IN THE VENDOR TERMS, AND REGION 4 DOES NOT MAKE AND EXPRESSLY DISCLAIMS ANY ADDITIONAL WARRANTIES, OBLIGATIONS OR LIABILITY IN CONNECTION WITH THE**

**PRODUCTS AND SERVICES. LEA HEREBY RELEASES REGION 4 FROM ALL LIABILITY RELATED TO THE VENDOR PRODUCTS AND SERVICES. LEA IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ENSURING COMPLIANCE WITH ALL APPLICABLE LAWS AND REGULATIONS, INCLUDING THOSE RELATED TO PROCUREMENT.**

**Acknowledgement of Federal Funding:**


The source of all matching funds pursuant to this Agreement are federal funds made available through the 2020-2021 Remote Learning Operation Connectivity-CV19 grant (“Grant”) awarded to Region 4. All fund matches and other obligations under this Agreement for the acquisition of products or services are subject to appropriation of funds to Region 4. As such, if Region 4 does not receive sufficient Grant funding, Region 4 may immediately terminate this Agreement without penalty or further obligation to LEA upon written notice. This Agreement is further subject to and incorporates all terms of Region 4’s Grant agreement with the TEA, including the Grant Program Guidelines issued by TEA related to the Grant, and LEA is subject to and agrees to follow any relevant terms set forth in the Grant Program Guidelines. The parties acknowledge and agree to follow all applicable federal, state and local laws, rules, ordinances and regulations related to the expenditure of the Grant funds (“Applicable Laws”). Region 4 specifically acknowledges and agrees to all applicable terms contained in the EDGAR Certification Addendum. All participating Vendors will be required to follow Applicable Laws, the applicable conditions in the Grant Program Guidelines and similarly will agree to applicable EDGAR certifications.

**Execution:**

This Agreement and the listed addendums and Vendor Terms constitute the entire agreement between the parties, and no part of the Agreement may be modified unless expressed in writing and signed by both parties. Neither party waives or relinquishes any immunity or defense that either party is entitled to by law. All payments made pursuant to this Agreement will be made from current revenues. Each party warrants that it has authority to enter into this Agreement and perform its obligations. The signatory below shall have authority to act on all matters related to this Agreement.

By signing below, the parties are binding themselves to the terms of this Agreement, subject only to any necessary approvals and actions by the parties’ governing boards. By execution of this Agreement, the LEA gives Region 4 permission to move forward with purchasing the above quantity of hotspots and devices on the LEA’s behalf.

**For LEA**

Scott Muri	Superintendent
(Printed name/title)	(Title)
	8/3/2020
(Signature)	(Date)

**For Region 4 Education Service Center**

Dr. Pamela Wells, Executive Director

DocuSigned by:

*Pamela Wells*

18066C774B3E427...

(Signature)

8/3/2020

(Date)

## **ADDENDA**

1. State Matching Allocation Methodology
2. EDGAR Certifications
3. Program Guidelines

## ADDENDUM ONE

### State Matching Allocation Methodology

#### Overview

On July 17, 2020, Governor Abbott, Lt. Governor Patrick, Speaker Bonnen, Senate Finance, and House Appropriations Committee Chairs announced eLearning funding For Texas students. The State of Texas will allocate \$200 million in Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act funding to the Texas Education Agency (TEA) for the purchase of eLearning devices and home internet solutions to enable remote learning during the COVID-19 pandemic for Texas students that lack connectivity.

The majority of the \$200 million in CARES Act funding will be allocated to LEAs through matching funds for purchases of hotspots (with data plans) and devices through a statewide bulk purchasing event. This document provides the methodology for the allocation of these CARES Act funds. Additional state dollars may be available through a reimbursement program. More details will be released as this is designed. The TEA is the passthrough agency for this grant. Region 4 Education Service Center shall serve as the grant recipient and shall conduct the bulk purchases on behalf of LEAs.

#### Funding Allocation – Bulk Purchase Matching Funds

LEAs will be eligible for fund matching of 50% of the expenditures incurred through the statewide bulk purchasing event. However, the level of LEA fund matching for purchases made through the statewide bulk purchasing event will be contingent on the number of economically disadvantaged students in the LEA.<sup>1</sup> The amount of fund matching will not exceed 50% of LEA expenditures to purchase device and/or hotspots for the number of economically disadvantaged students in the LEA. The costs associated with device and hotspot purchase volume that exceeds the number of economically disadvantaged students in an LEA will not be eligible for fund matching.<sup>2</sup>

If an LEA is purchasing a quantity of devices and/or hotspots less than the number of economically disadvantaged students, the LEA will still receive the full 50% fund matching for those expenditures.

---

<sup>1</sup> The number of economically disadvantaged students in an LEA are calculated as the PEIMS ages 3-21 low income students (eligible for free lunch, reduced price lunch, or federal aid programs), from the October 2019 fall collection, released for 2020-2021 ESSA funding formulas.

<sup>2</sup> If an LEA orders more devices and/or hotspots than they have economically disadvantaged students, the LEA will still have the opportunity to order at the bulk purchase order's discounted rates, but those expenditures will not be eligible for fund matching.

**For example (figures illustrative):**

**District A orders device volume equal to economically disadvantaged (eco dis.) enrollment**

- Enrollment: 1000 total students; **500** economically disadvantaged students
- District A is capped at 500 total devices for this program (due to percent eco dis.)
- Bulk order: **500** devices x \$200 cost per device = **\$100,000 LEA spend**
- LEA spend eligible for fund matching: up to **500** students x \$200 cost per device = up to **\$100,000**
- TEA fund matching: up to **\$50,000**
- LEA responsibility: \$50,000

**District B orders device volume greater than economically disadvantaged enrollment**

- Enrollment: 1000 total students; **500** economically disadvantaged students
- District B is capped at 500 total devices for this program (due to percent eco dis.)
- Bulk order: **750** devices x \$200 cost per device = **\$150,000 LEA spend**
- LEA spend eligible for fund matching: up to **500** students x \$200 cost per device = up to **\$100,000**
- TEA fund matching: up to **\$50,000**
- LEA responsibility: \$100,000

**District C orders device volume less than economically disadvantaged enrollment**

- Enrollment: 1000 total students; **500** economically disadvantaged students
- District C is capped at 500 total devices for this program (due to percent eco dis.)
- Bulk order: **250** devices x \$200 cost per device = **\$50,000 LEA spend**
- LEA spend eligible for fund matching: up to **250** students x \$200 cost per device = up to **\$50,000**
- TEA fund matching: up to **\$25,000**
- LEA responsibility: \$25,000

## ADDENDUM TWO

### EDGAR CERTIFICATIONS (TO BE EXECUTED BY REGION 4)

The following certifications and provisions are required and apply when the Local Education Agency (“LEA”) expends federal funds for any contract. **Accordingly, the parties agree that the following terms and conditions apply, as applicable, in all situations where Region 4 has been paid or will be paid with federal funds:**

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#### REQUIRED CONTRACT PROVISIONS FOR NON-FEDERAL ENTITY CONTRACTS UNDER FEDERAL AWARDS APPENDIX II TO 2 CFR PART 200

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**(A) Contracts for more than the simplified acquisition threshold currently set at \$250,000, which is the inflation adjusted amount determined by the Civilian Agency Acquisition Council and the Defense Acquisition Regulations Council (Councils) as authorized by 41 U.S.C. 1908, must address administrative, contractual, or legal remedies in instances where contractors violate or breach contract terms, and provide for such sanctions and penalties as appropriate.**

Pursuant to Federal Rule (A) above, when LEA expends federal funds, LEA reserves all rights and privileges under the applicable laws and regulations with respect to this procurement in the event of breach of contract by either party.

**(B) Termination for cause and for convenience by the grantee or subgrantee including the manner by which it will be effected and the basis for settlement. (All contracts in excess of \$10,000)**

Pursuant to Federal Rule (B) above, when LEA expends federal funds, LEA reserves the right to immediately terminate any agreement in excess of \$10,000 in the event of a breach or default of the agreement by Region 4 in the event Region 4 fails to: (1) meet schedules, deadlines, and/or delivery dates within the time specified in the procurement solicitation, contract, and/or a purchase order; (2) make any payments owed; or (3) otherwise perform in accordance with the contract. LEA also reserves the right to terminate the contract immediately, with written notice to Region 4, for convenience, if LEA believes, in its sole discretion that it is in the best interest of LEA to do so. Region 4 will be compensated for work performed and accepted and goods accepted by LEA as of the termination date if the contract is terminated for convenience of LEA. The Contract is not exclusive and LEA reserves the right to purchase goods and services from other vendors when it is in LEA’s best interest.

**(C) Equal Employment Opportunity. Except as otherwise provided under 41 CFR Part 60, all contracts that meet the definition of “federally assisted construction contract” in 41 CFR Part 60-1.3 must include the equal opportunity clause provided under 41 CFR 60-1.4(b), in accordance with Executive Order 11246, “Equal Employment Opportunity” (30 FR 12319, 12935, 3 CFR Part, 1964-1965 Comp., p. 339), as amended by Executive Order 11375, “Amending Executive Order 11246 Relating to Equal Employment Opportunity,” and implementing regulations at 41 CFR part 60, “Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs, Equal Employment Opportunity, Department of Labor.”**

Pursuant to Federal Rule (C) above, when LEA expends federal funds on any federally assisted construction contract, the equal opportunity clause is incorporated by reference herein.

**(D) Davis-Bacon Act, as amended (40 U.S.C. 3141-3148). When required by Federal program legislation, all prime construction contracts in excess of \$2,000 awarded by non-Federal entities must include a provision for compliance with the Davis-Bacon Act (40 U.S.C. 3141-3144, and 3146-3148) as supplemented by Department of Labor regulations (29 CFR Part 5, “Labor Standards Provisions Applicable to Contracts Covering Federally Financed and Assisted Construction”). In accordance with the statute, contractors must be required to pay wages to laborers and mechanics at a rate not less than the prevailing wages specified in a wage determination made by the Secretary of Labor. In addition, contractors must be required to pay wages not less than once a week. The non-Federal entity must place a copy of the current prevailing wage determination issued by the Department of Labor in each solicitation. The decision to award a contract or subcontract must be conditioned upon the acceptance of the wage determination. The non-Federal entity must report all suspected or reported violations to the Federal awarding agency. The contracts must also include a provision for compliance with the Copeland “Anti-Kickback” Act (40 U.S.C. 3145), as supplemented by Department of Labor regulations (29 CFR Part 3, “Contractors and Subcontractors on Public Building or Public Work Financed in Whole or in Part by Loans or Grants from the United States”). The Act provides that each contractor or**

**subrecipient must be prohibited from inducing, by any means, any person employed in the construction, completion, or repair of public work, to give up any part of the compensation to which he or she is otherwise entitled. The non-Federal entity must report all suspected or reported violations to the Federal awarding agency.**

Pursuant to Federal Rule (D) above, when LEA expends federal funds during the term of an award for all contracts and subgrants for construction or repair, Region 4 will be in compliance with all applicable Davis-Bacon Act provisions.

**(E) Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act (40 U.S.C. 3701-3708).** Where applicable, all contracts awarded by the non-Federal entity in excess of \$100,000 that involve the employment of mechanics or laborers must include a provision for compliance with 40 U.S.C. 3702 and 3704, as supplemented by Department of Labor regulations (29 CFR Part 5). Under 40 U.S.C. 3702 of the Act, each contractor must be required to compute the wages of every mechanic and laborer on the basis of a standard work week of 40 hours. Work in excess of the standard work week is permissible provided that the worker is compensated at a rate of not less than one and a half times the basic rate of pay for all hours worked in excess of 40 hours in the work week. The requirements of 40 U.S.C. 3704 are applicable to construction work and provide that no laborer or mechanic must be required to work in surroundings or under working conditions which are unsanitary, hazardous or dangerous. These requirements do not apply to the purchases of supplies or materials or articles ordinarily available on the open market, or contracts for transportation or transmission of intelligence.

Pursuant to Federal Rule (E) above, when LEA expends federal funds, Region 4 certifies that Region 4 will be in compliance with all applicable provisions of the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act during the term of an award for all contracts by LEA.

**(F) Rights to Inventions Made Under a Contract or Agreement.** If the Federal award meets the definition of “funding agreement” under 37 CFR §401.2 (a) and the recipient or subrecipient wishes to enter into a contract with a small business firm or nonprofit organization regarding the substitution of parties, assignment or performance of experimental, developmental, or research work under that “funding agreement,” the recipient or subrecipient must comply with the requirements of 37 CFR Part 401, “Rights to Inventions Made by Nonprofit Organizations and Small Business Firms Under Government Grants, Contracts and Cooperative Agreements,” and any implementing regulations issued by the awarding agency.

Pursuant to Federal Rule (F) above, when federal funds are expended by LEA, Region 4 certifies that during the term of an award for all contracts by LEA resulting from this procurement process, Region 4 agrees to comply with all applicable requirements as referenced in Federal Rule (F) above.

**(G) Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7401-7671q.) and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1251-1387), as amended—**Contracts and subgrants of amounts in excess of \$150,000 must contain a provision that requires the non-Federal award to agree to comply with all applicable standards, orders or regulations issued pursuant to the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7401-7671q) and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act as amended (33 U.S.C. 1251- 1387). Violations must be reported to the Federal awarding agency and the Regional Office of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

Pursuant to Federal Rule (G) above, when federal funds are expended by LEA, Region 4 certifies that during the term of an award for all contracts by LEA resulting from this procurement process, Region 4 agrees to comply with all applicable requirements as referenced in Federal Rule (G) above.

**(H) Debarment and Suspension (Executive Orders 12549 and 12689)—**A contract award (see 2 CFR 180.220) must not be made to parties listed on the government wide exclusions in the System for Award Management (SAM), in accordance with the OMB guidelines at 2 CFR 180 that implement Executive Orders 12549 (3 CFR part 1986 Comp., p. 189) and 12689 (3 CFR part 1989 Comp., p. 235), “Debarment and Suspension.” SAM Exclusions contains the names of parties debarred, suspended, or otherwise excluded by agencies, as well as parties declared ineligible under statutory or regulatory authority other than Executive Order 12549.

Pursuant to Federal Rule (H) above, when federal funds are expended by LEA, Region 4 certifies that during the term of an award for all contracts by LEA, Region 4 certifies that neither it nor its principals is presently debarred, suspended,

proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation by any federal department or agency.

**(I) Byrd Anti-Lobbying Amendment (31 U.S.C. 1352)—Contractors that apply or bid for an award exceeding \$100,000 must file the required certification. Each tier certifies to the tier above that it will not and has not used Federal appropriated funds to pay any person or organization for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a member of Congress, officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a member of Congress in connection with obtaining any Federal contract, grant or any other award covered by 31 U.S.C. 1352. Each tier must also disclose any lobbying with non-Federal funds that takes place in connection with obtaining any Federal award. Such disclosures are forwarded from tier to tier up to the non-Federal award.**

Pursuant to Federal Rule (I) above, when federal funds are expended by LEA, Region 4 certifies that during the term and after the awarded term of an award for all contracts by LEA, Region 4 certifies that it is in compliance with all applicable provisions of the Byrd Anti-Lobbying Amendment (31 U.S.C. 1352). The undersigned further certifies that:

- (1) No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid for on behalf of the undersigned, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of a Federal contract, the making of a Federal grant, the making of a Federal loan, the entering into a cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of a Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement.
- (2) If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this Federal grant or cooperative agreement, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying", in accordance with its instructions.
- (3) The undersigned shall require that the language of this certification be included in the award documents for all covered sub-awards exceeding \$100,000 in Federal funds at all appropriate tiers and that all subrecipients shall certify and disclose accordingly.

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#### **RECORD RETENTION REQUIREMENTS FOR CONTRACTS INVOLVING FEDERAL FUNDS**

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When federal funds are expended by LEA for any contract, Region 4 certifies that it will comply with the record retention requirements detailed in 2 CFR § 200.333. Region 4 further certifies that it will retain all records as required by 2 CFR § 200.333 for a period of three years after grantees or subgrantees submit final expenditure reports or quarterly or annual financial reports, as applicable, and all other pending matters are closed.

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#### **CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE ENERGY POLICY AND CONSERVATION ACT**

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When LEA expends federal funds for any contract, Region 4 certifies that it will comply, as applicable, with the mandatory standards and policies relating to energy efficiency which are contained in the state energy conservation plan issued in compliance with the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6321 et seq.; 49 C.F.R. Part 18).

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#### **CERTIFICATION OF EQUAL EMPLOYMENT STATEMENT**

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It is the policy of LEA not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, limited English proficiency or handicapping conditions in its programs. Region 4 agrees not to discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment to be employed in the performance of this Contract, with respect to hire, tenure, terms, conditions and privileges of employment, or a matter directly or indirectly related to employment, because of age (except where based on a bona fide occupational qualification), sex (except where based on a bona fide occupational qualification) or race, color, religion, national origin, or ancestry. Region 4 further agrees that every subcontract entered into for the performance of this Contract shall contain a provision requiring non-discrimination in employment herein specified, binding upon each subcontractor. Breach of this covenant may be regarded as a material breach of the Contract.



ADDENDUM THREE

REQUEST FOR APPLICATION

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# Program Guidelines

# 2020-2021 Remote Learning Operation Connectivity-CV19

Authorized by Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security  
(CARES) Act, Section 5001, Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF)

Application Closing Date—5:00 p.m., Central Time  
Application due date July 23, 2020

**PROGRAM GUIDELINES**

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TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY

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**Office of Information Technology Services  
1701 North Congress Avenue  
Austin, Texas 78701**

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# Introduction to the Program Guidelines

TEA, as the pass-through entity<sup>1</sup>, is the grantee<sup>2</sup> from the U.S. Department of Education (USDE) and TEA awards subgrants to non-federal entities<sup>3</sup> such as local educational agencies (LEAs), including school districts, charter schools, and education service centers, and to a lesser degree institutions of higher education (IHEs), and nonprofit organizations (NPOs) who are the agency's subgrantees<sup>4</sup>. These guidelines apply to all subgrantees of TEA, regardless of whether referenced herein as subgrantee or grantee. For purposes of this document, TEA may use the terms grantee and subgrantee synonymously for its subrecipients.

This part of the request for application (RFA), Program Guidelines, is to be used in conjunction with the [General and Fiscal Guidelines](#) and any application instructions. The Standard Application System (SAS) consists of Application Part 1 (PDF – narrative schedules) and Application Part 2 (Excel - budget schedules) to be completed in order for the applicant to be eligible for funding.

For applicants selected for funding, all guidelines and instructions will be incorporated by reference into the Notice of Grant Award (NOGA).

## Reference to the General and Fiscal Guidelines

The Program Guidelines provide information specifically relevant to this grant program. The [General and Fiscal Guidelines](#) provide information relevant to all TEA grant programs. Throughout the Program Guidelines, cross-references are given to applicable sections of the [General and Fiscal Guidelines](#). It is critical that you review all referenced sections of the [General and Fiscal Guidelines](#) when preparing your application.

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<sup>1</sup> Pass-through entity is defined as a non-Federal entity that provides a subaward to a subrecipient to carry out part of a federal program. (2 CFR 200.74)

<sup>2</sup> Grantee is defined as the legal entity to which a grant is awarded and that is accountable to the federal government for the use of the funds provided. The term “grantee” does not include any secondary recipients, such as subgrantees and contractors that may receive funds from a grantee. (34 CFR 77)

<sup>3</sup> Non-federal entity is defined as a state, local government, Indian tribe, institution of higher education, or nonprofit organization that carries out a federal award as a recipient or subrecipient. (2 CFR 200.69)

<sup>4</sup> Subgrantee is defined by TEA to be the same as a subrecipient which is defined as a non-federal entity that receives a subaward from a pass-through entity to carry out part of a federal program; but does not include an individual that is a beneficiary of such program. (2 CFR 200.93) Subgrantee is defined in 34 CFR 77 as the legal entity to which a subgrant is awarded and that is accountable to the grantee for the use of the funds provided.

**PROGRAM GUIDELINES**

# Contact for Clarifying Information

## Program Contact

Julia Schacherl, Director  
Office of Information Technology Services [julia.schacherl@tea.texas.gov](mailto:julia.schacherl@tea.texas.gov)  
Phone: (512) 463-9745

## Funding Contact

Sarah Averill, Grant Manager, Grants Administration Division  
[sarah.averill@tea.texas.gov](mailto:sarah.averill@tea.texas.gov) Phone: (512) 463-8525

# US Department of Education and/or State Appropriations

The following is provided in compliance with the US Department of Education Appropriations Act:

Category	Amount
Total funds available for this project	\$200,000,000
Percentage to be financed with federal funds	100%
Amount of federal funds	\$200,000,000
Percentage to be financed from nonfederal sources	0%
Amount of nonfederal funds	\$0

## Grant Timeline

For all dates related to the grant, including reporting dates, see the [TEA Grant Opportunities](#) page. If a report due date falls on a weekend or holiday, the report will be due the following business day. All dates except the grant ending date may vary slightly as conditions require.

# Grant at a Glance

This section provides detailed information about the grant program.

## Program Purpose, Goals, and Objectives

The purpose of the Remote Learning Operation Connectivity-CV19 grant is to support Texas LEA purchases of eLearning devices and home internet solutions to enable the remote learning of students during the COVID-19 pandemic. Bulk purchases will require a local match, either from LEA funds or from local Coronavirus Relief Funds (CRF), as defined by TEA. This local match requirement may be waived by TEA in cases of significant hardship.

## Eligible Applicants

See the [General and Fiscal Guidelines](#), Eligibility Requirements.

Region 4 Education Service Center is the only eligible applicant for this grant.

## Shared Services Arrangement

See the [General and Fiscal Guidelines](#), Shared Services Arrangements.

Shared services arrangements (SSAs) are not allowed.

## Cost Share or Matching Requirement

See the [General and Fiscal Guidelines](#), Cost Share/Match Requirement.

There is no cost share or matching requirement imposed on Region 4 Education Service Center for this grant program. Per the Program Purpose, Goals, and Objectives stated above, LEAs who benefit from bulk purchases may be required to match, either from LEA funds or from local CRF funds.

## Supplement, Not Supplant

For supplement, not supplant guidance, see the Supplement, Not Supplant Handbook on the Grants Administration Division's [Administering a Grant](#) page.

The supplement, not supplant provision does apply to this grant program.

## Limitation of Administrative Funds

See the [General and Fiscal Guidelines](#), Administrative Costs.

NOTE: Administrative funds include **both** direct administrative costs **and** allowable indirect costs.

TEA limits the amount of funds that may be budgeted to administer this grant, including direct administrative costs and indirect costs, to no more than \$1,000,000 of the total grant awarded.

**PROGRAM GUIDELINES**

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To calculate the maximum indirect costs that can be claimed for a grant, complete the [Maximum Indirect Costs Worksheet](#), posted on the Administering a Grant page, under the Handbooks and Other Guidance section.

## Pre-Award Costs

See the [General and Fiscal Guidelines](#), Pre-Award Costs.

Pre-award costs are permitted, if requested, from May 21, 2020, to stamp-in date.

## Application Requirements and Assurances

This section identifies the two types of requirements in which applicants must comply to be eligible for funding:

- ▲ Statutory requirements (requirements defined in the authorizing statute)
- ▲ TEA program requirements (requirements defined by TEA program staff)

### Statutory Requirements

See the [General and Fiscal Guidelines](#), Statutory Requirements.

Per Section 22.0834 of the Texas Education Code (TEC), any person offered employment by any entity that contracts with TEA or receives grant funds administered by TEA (i.e., a grantee or subgrantee) is subject to the fingerprinting requirement. TEA is prohibited from awarding grant funds to any entity, including nonprofit organizations, that fails to comply with this requirement. For details, refer to the [General and Fiscal Guidelines](#), Fingerprinting Requirement.

The following requirements are defined in the statute that authorizes this program. The applicant must comply with each of these requirements in the application to be considered for funding:

1. Necessary expenditures must have been incurred due to COVID-19 pandemic, defined as actions taken to respond to the public health emergency which may include expenditures to respond directly to the emergency, or to second-order effects of the emergency.
2. Allowable costs cannot have been accounted for in the most recently approved budget as of March 27, 2020, defined as (a) the cost cannot lawfully be funded using a line item, allotment, or allocation within that budget or (b) the cost is for a substantially different use from any expected use of funds in such a line item, allotment, or allocation; without taking into account subsequent supplemental appropriations enacted or other budgetary adjustments made by that government in response to the COVID-19 public health emergency.
3. Allowable costs must be incurred May 21, 2020, through December 30, 2020, defined as when the entity has expended funds to cover the allowable cost.

### TEA Program Requirements

See the [General and Fiscal Guidelines](#), TEA Program Requirements.

In addition to the statutory requirements, TEA has established the following program requirements. The applicant must comply with each of these requirements in the application to be considered for funding:

**PROGRAM GUIDELINES**

1. Grant expenses will be to facilitate and administer the statewide bulk purchase program whereby providing a unique service to Texas LEAs to purchase eLearning devices and home internet solutions to enable the remote learning of students during the COVID-19 pandemic as described in the federal CRF guidance document as facilitating distance learning, including technological improvements, in connection with school closings to enable compliance with COVID-19 precautions.
2. Any grant funds not used in the bulk purchase program or administrative costs will be returned to TEA in a time and manner requested by TEA.
3. Grant administrative costs will be reasonable and necessary, not to exceed \$1,000,000, including indirect costs.
4. Grantee, with assistance from consultants, will negotiate the bulk procurement prices and order for the LEAs, provide shipping information to the vendors, and provide LEAs with appropriate guidance for asset tagging and inventorying of purchased equipment so that the LEA retains proper ownership and maintains documentation of the purchase.
5. TEA will make all determinations regarding apportionment of matching funds to LEAs and LEA orders, including vendors, product and service specifications and LEA financial participation. All order information will be provided by Region 4 and approved by TEA to be placed with vendors. TEA shall provide approval to Region 4 specifying any amendments to orders, including any changes to LEA recipients or LEA financial participation. Region 4 may rely on all TEA direction and approvals.
6. On behalf of TEA, Region 4 may, if needed on a temporary basis, enter into purchase agreements with vendors to procure and take title, if and as needed, of all ordered products and services. Region 4 may enter into sale, transfer or other agreements as appropriate with LEAs to transfer or assign any ownership or warranties of products and services.
7. Initial bulk orders shall be made by Region 4 to vendors as specified by TEA, and orders shall be modified as additional data is collected by TEA and Region 4 from LEAs. TEA shall provide funds to Region 4 sufficient to cover the full amount of any order placed that is not covered by funds actually received by Region 4 from LEAs not to exceed the initial total grant award of \$200,000,000. Except for the initial bulk orders, no orders shall be placed or modified by Region 4 until sufficient funds have been received from TEA and LEAs.
8. Region 4 shall not take any permanent ownership of products or services subject to this grant. Region 4 shall not be responsible for issuing asset tags on any devices. Region 4 shall not be responsible for warranting devices and shall have no liability to LEAs for any products or services procured under this grant. LEAs shall be required as a condition of participation to waive any liability against Region 4.
9. Grantee must keep records sufficient to demonstrate the amount of funds expended is in accordance with statute and these grant rules and guidelines.
10. Grantee must provide data and reporting information as required by TEA or the federal government in a time and manner requested by TEA.
11. Any grant funds requested as advanced payment must be placed in an interest-bearing account and must use the interest earned or other proceeds of these investments only to cover expenditures incurred in accordance with section 601(d) of the Social Security Act and the Guidance on eligible expenses herein.
12. Grantee must collaborate and communicate with TEA in the time and manner requested by TEA.
13. Grantee may utilize noncompetitive procurement with these federal funds as authorized by TEA.

**PROGRAM GUIDELINES****Program-Specific Assurances**

See the [General and Fiscal Guidelines](#), Provisions and Assurances.

The program-specific assurances for this grant program are listed in the Application Part 1.

**Allowable Activities and Use of Funds**

See the [Administering a Grant](#) page for general guidance on allowable activities and use of funds.

Allowable activities and use of funds for this grant may include but are not limited to the following:

**General Allowable Activities and Use of Funds**

- Payroll costs
- Professional and contracted services
- Supplies and materials
- Other operating costs that do not require specific approval
- Capital outlay
- Reasonable and necessary administrative costs, including any consulting, legal, and temporary staff expenses.
- Other costs necessary to facilitate and administer the Remote Learning Operation Connectivity-CV19 program, whereby providing a unique service to Texas LEAs to purchase eLearning devices and home internet solutions to enable the remote learning of students during the COVID-19 pandemic, at reduced prices for LEAs.

**Unallowable Activities and Use of Funds**

In general, refer to the Budgeting Cost Guidance Handbook on the [Administering a Grant](#) page for unallowable costs.

In addition, unallowable activities and use of funds for this grant may include but are not limited to the following:

- Debt service (lease-purchase)
- Student field trips
- Advisory councils
- Cost of membership in any civic or community organization
- Hosting or sponsoring of conferences
- Out-of-state travel
- Travel costs for officials such as Executive Director, Superintendent, or Board Members
- Expenses for the State share of Medicaid.
- Damages covered by insurance

## PROGRAM GUIDELINES

- ✦ Payroll or benefits expenses for employees whose work duties are not substantially dedicated to mitigating or responding to the COVID-19 public health emergency (general ESC/LEA employees)
- ✦ Expenses that have been or will be reimbursed under any federal program are not eligible uses of CRF funds
- ✦ Reimbursement to donors for donated items or services
- ✦ Workforce bonuses other than hazard pay or overtime
- ✦ Severance pay
- ✦ Legal settlements
- ✦ Revenue replacement

## Performance Measures

The applicant agrees to collect data and report on the following mandatory performance measures:

1. Number of devices, by type, ordered on behalf of and delivered directly to LEAs.
2. Average number of days for LEAs to respond and complete agreements.
3. Average number of days for LEAs to pay Region 4 for their match on the bulk order.

## Federal Grant Requirements

### Equitable Access and Participation

See the [General and Fiscal Guidelines](#), Equitable Access and Participation.

This requirement does apply to this federally funded grant program.

### Private Nonprofit School Participation

See the [General and Fiscal Guidelines](#), Private Nonprofit School Participation.

This requirement does not apply to this federally funded grant program.

### Maintenance of Effort

See the [General and Fiscal Guidelines](#), Maintenance of Effort.

This requirement does not apply to this federally funded grant program.

# Attachments

See the following sections of the [General and Fiscal Guidelines](#):

- ✦ Required Fiscal-Related Attachments
- ✦ Required Program-Related Attachments

This section describes the two types of attachments that may be required to be submitted with the application: fiscal-related attachments and program-related attachments.

### **Required Fiscal-Related Attachments**

See the [General and Fiscal Guidelines](#), Required Fiscal-Related Attachments, for a general description of fiscal-related documents that can be required as attachments to the application.

### **Required Program-Related Attachments**

See the [General and Fiscal Guidelines](#), Required Program-Related Attachments, for a general description of program-related documents that can be required as attachments to the application.

No program-related attachments are required for this grant program.



## **PRESENTATION OF BROADBAND UPDATE**

Presentation of baseline assessment data concerning broadband in Ector County. This data will include gaps in broadband access, broadband options and next steps.



## **DISCUSSION OF ECISD'S OPENING OF SCHOOL PLANS**

Superintendent Dr. Scott Muri will provide an update on ECISD's opening of school plans.