



**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
LYONS TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 204**

**Room 103-104
100 South Brainard Avenue
La Grange, Illinois 60525
Monday, December 1, 2025 - 6:30 PM**

AGENDA

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

IV. STRATEGIC PLAN

A. Strategic Plan Goal Four Update (Family & Community Partnerships) 2

V. POLICY

A. PRESS 120 Policy Review 26

VI. HUMAN RESOURCES

A. Stipend Committee Recommendations 129

VII. FINANCE

A. Bond and Interest Supplemental Levy 130

B. Discussion Regarding Real Estate Broker/Consultant Services

VIII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

IX. ADJOURNMENT

**BY ORDER OF
TIM ALBORES
LYONS TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 204
100 SOUTH BRAINARD AVENUE
LA GRANGE, IL 60525**



LYONS TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL District 204

Dr. Brian Waterman, Superintendent

Ph: 708-579-6451 E: BWaterman@LTHS.net
North Campus 100 S. Brainard Ave., LaGrange, IL 60525
South Campus 4900 S. Willow Springs Ave., Western Springs, IL 60558

TO: District #204 Board of Education
FROM: Dr. Brian Waterman, Superintendent
DATE: Monday, December 1, 2025
RE: Strategic Plan Goal Four Update

During the December 1 Committee of the Whole Meeting, the leadership team will share an update regarding Goal Four (Family and Community Partnerships) of the strategic plan. The update will include a brief overview of the strategic plan scorecard, as well as 2025-26 Key Tasks and Priorities for this goal. In addition to the overview, we will highlight specific areas within Goal Four related to the District's efforts to promote high school readiness by fostering communication and collaboration with our associate districts. Specifically, we will share information related to the 8th-to-9th grade transition process that begins each year in November.

Within this packet of materials, you will find the slide deck and accompanying materials that will be utilized during Monday evening's presentation. Please note that all of the information for each of the five strategic plan goals is also posted on the [LTHS Strategic Plan Website](#).

Recommendation

No action is required. This item is informational.





LYONS TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 204

Community Relations 1st Semester Recap

2025-26 School Year

Website / Email

Principal Communications to Parents/Guardians

Coordinate weekly distribution of relevant information, click [here](#) to view

Quarterly Superintendent Communications

Overview of District updates, click [here](#) to view

Facility Assessment and Long-Term Plan

Keep current communications/website for community

Internal Communications

- CLT monthly newsletter coordination among departments/distribution to staff.
- Assist in HR related initiatives

Modify Website based on Community Feedback

Update to continue to enhance the user experience.

Events

Promotion of Various Events

LTCAC meetings, Freshmen Experience Day, Homecoming, Hispanic Heritage, etc.



Social Media

Creation and Distribution to Platforms

- Posts on Facebook - 96 posts since 8/18/25
- Twitter / X - 101 posts since 8/18/25
- Developed videos for larger events (back to school, Blue Ribbon, Homecoming, etc.)

Alumni Relations

Alumni Newsletter

Designed and emailed for the first time went digital vs printed copy to 16,850 contacts. 64% open rate and click rate 22%. [View Fall 2025 Publication.](#)

Alumni Reunion for Homecoming

Planned and hosted 300 Alumni at the Corral. To view recap video, click [here](#).

Hall of Fame

Induced 2 new members during Homecoming.



HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE



Grace Hou Ovnik
Class of 1988



HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE



Don Kuhl
Class of 1963





LYONS TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 204

Community Relations 1st Semester Recap 2025-26 School Year

Community Communications

District Calendar

Coordinated among departments and created print copy and [online version](#).

Community Postcard

Designed and deployed a postcard to 29,898 households within District.

Fine Arts Calendar

Designed and mailed to 29,345 households within District; click [here](#)

9th Grade Transitions Document

Developed as a [valuable resource](#) for families as they transition to LTHS.

Video Series

Continued with Year 4 of Excellence, Innovation and Empowerment video series with course highlights, student spotlights, Superintendent updates, etc. Shooting footage and producing over 50 videos this school year.

Celebration of "Blue Ribbon" Rating

Coordinated messaging internally and externally with website promotion, social media and video creation.



Media Relations

Press Releases

Wrote and distributed 8 celebratory releases

Media Inquiries

Liaison between media and District





LYONS TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 204

Community Relations 1st Semester Recap 2025-26 School Year

Community Relations Department

GOALS

PARTNER WITH FAMILIES AND THE COMMUNITY TO SUPPORT AND EXPAND LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL STUDENTS

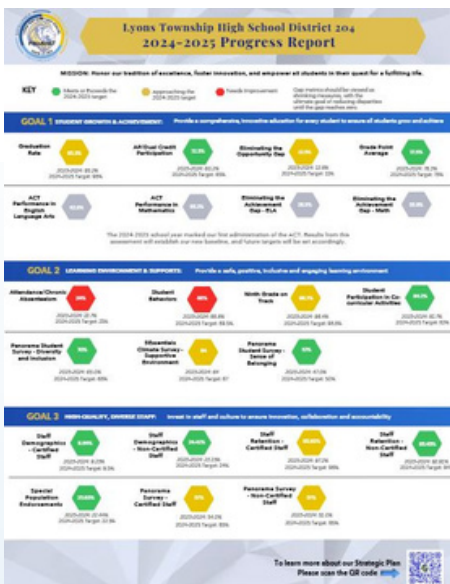
INVESTIGATE OTHER SCHOOLS' MEANS OF COMMUNICATING WITH COMMUNITIES

Progress Report

Created progress report based on goal deliverables.

STRATEGIES

- BUILD CONFIDENCE AND ENGAGEMENT WITH FAMILIES AND THE COMMUNITIES THROUGH IMPROVED COMMUNICATION, COLLABORATION AND TRANSPARENCY.
- PARTNER WITH THE COMMUNITY TO OFFER LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES TO EXPOSE STUDENTS TO POTENTIAL CAREER PATHWAYS AND COMMUNITY SERVICES.
- PROMOTE HIGH SCHOOL READINESS BY FOSTERING COMMUNICATION AND COLLABORATION WITH OUR ASSOCIATE DISTRICTS.





LYONS TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 204

Community Relations 1st Semester Recap

2025-26 School Year

Community Relations Department

INSPRA AWARDS

ILLINOIS CHAPTER OF THE NATIONAL SCHOOL PUBLIC RELATIONS ASSOCIATION

*10 State Awards for
Communication Efforts*

Winning Entries Include:

1. Lyons Township High School Website in Website category selected for Award of Excellence
2. Student Spotlight Featuring London Muscolino in Video (Series) category selected for an Award of Excellence
3. Fine Arts Calendar in Special Purpose Publication category selected for Award of Excellence
4. Parent Teacher Council Calendar in the Calendar category has been selected for an Award of Excellence
5. Jack & Brady: Best Buddies Video in the Video (Singular) category selected for Award of Merit
6. "By The Numbers" in Marketing Materials category selected for an Award of Merit
7. Spring Alumni Newsletter in Newsletter category selected for an Award of Merit
8. LTHS Social Media in the Social Media category selected for an Honorable Mention
9. Transition Guide - A Guide For Incoming Freshman Class of 2029 in the Handbook or Guide category selected for an Award of Excellence
10. Postcard Series selected for Award of Excellence



Mary Lin Muscolino
Community Relations Coordinator

Bridget Machalinski
Website and Electronic
Communications Specialist

Jennifer Pasko
Community Relations
Alumni Department



LYONS TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 204

Community Relations 1st Semester Recap 2025-26 School Year

Metrics

WEBSITE

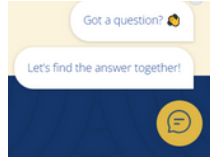
Overall Site Users: 66k active users (57k new users)
453,775 total page views

Average Engagement Time per user:
1min 53sec

Top Pages Visited: Top 10 on right

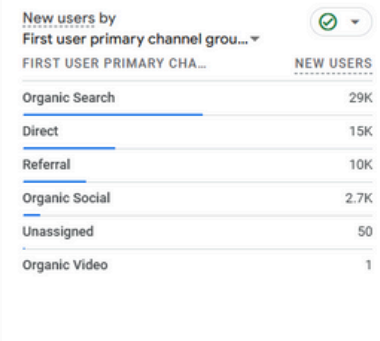
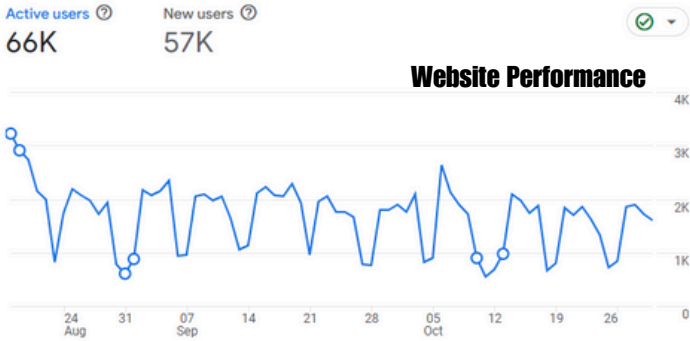
Top cities: Chicago, La Grange, Western Springs, La Grange Park, Brookfield

ChatAI Box: Launched with 1,934 inquiries on site since launch at start of the school year



Data: 1st day of school-present: 8/18/25-10/30/25

| Page title and screen class | Views | Active users | Views per active user | Average engagement time per active user |
|---|--------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|---|
| Total | 352,352 100% of total | 65,912 100% of total | 5.35 Avg 0% | 1m 53s Avg 0% |
| 1 Home - Lyons Township High School District 204 | 91,564 (25.99%) | 36,094 (54.76%) | 2.54 | 45s |
| 2 Calendar - Lyons Township High School District 204 | 17,708 (5.03%) | 6,990 (10.61%) | 2.53 | 1m 03s |
| 3 Search Results - Lyons Township High School District 204 | 12,749 (3.62%) | 5,636 (8.55%) | 2.26 | 40s |
| 4 Faculty/Staff Directory - Lyons Township High School District 204 | 10,019 (2.84%) | 3,510 (5.33%) | 2.85 | 1m 05s |
| 5 Bell Schedule - Lyons Township High School District 204 | 8,332 (2.36%) | 2,724 (4.13%) | 3.06 | 50s |
| 6 Athletics - Lyons Township High School District 204 | 8,028 (2.28%) | 4,825 (7.32%) | 1.66 | 38s |
| 7 Schedules - Lyons Township High School District 204 | 7,625 (2.16%) | 4,343 (6.59%) | 1.76 | 16s |
| 8 Login - Lyons Township High School District 204 | 7,337 (2.08%) | 2,481 (3.76%) | 2.96 | 50s |
| 9 Homecoming 2025: A NIGHT IN PARIS - Lyons Township High School District 204 | 7,041 (2%) | 3,905 (5.92%) | 1.80 | 49s |
| 10 Parents - Lyons Township High School District 204 | 6,819 (1.94%) | 2,243 (3.4%) | 3.04 | 36s |



SOCIAL MEDIA

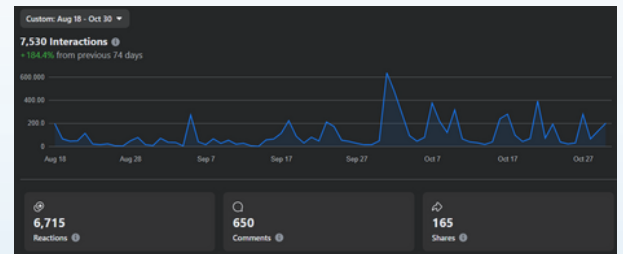
Total Facebook Fans: 4,353
504,760 views
7,530 reactions (165 shares)
11,580 3 sec+ video views

Total Twitter / X Followers: 1,699
57.2k impressions
4.75 engagements (likes/shares)
36 reposts
1.3k video views

X Performance



Facebook Performance





LYONS TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 204

Community Relations 1st Semester Recap

2025-26 School Year

Metrics

EMAIL

Weekly Principal Communications to Parents/Guardians

Average 5,934 opens (83.97%) and 5.53% click rate

Quarterly Superintendent Communications

Average 4,848 opens (71.80%) and 2.10% click rate

Board Briefs

Average 4,625 opens (68.20%) and 1.86% click rate

CLT Newsletters

Average 538 opens (67%) and 13.30% click rate

[View full email statistics here.](#)

[View Communications from Principal, Superintendent and District here.](#)

all emails have
link to previously sent

all emails can
be translated



Dear LT Community,

As we close the first quarter of the 2025–26 school year, we are reminded once again of all that makes Lyons Township High School such a special place. Our students continue to excel in academic, athletic, and extracurricular pursuits, supported by the dedication of our staff and the partnership of our parents and guardians.

The highlights below capture just a few examples of the outstanding work taking place across LT as we continue our journey into the second quarter.



Dear LTHS Parents/Guardians,

It is hard to believe that Friday is October 31 and that we have just over four weeks until Thanksgiving break and eight weeks left in the semester. I would like to start by thanking our LTHS families for your participation in Parent/Teacher conferences; our partnership with families is so important and we appreciate the opportunity to partner in support of your students.

LYONS TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL



Strategic Plan Goal Four Update December 1, 2025



#WeAreLT

Goal Four: Family and Community Partnerships

Partner with families and the community to support and expand learning opportunities for all students.

Build confidence and engagement with families and the communities through improved communication, collaboration and transparency.

Promote high school readiness by fostering communication and collaboration with our associate districts.

Partner with the community to offer learning opportunities to expose students to potential career pathways and community services.



| <u>Goal Metric</u> | <u>Summary</u> | Baseline (2021-22) | Current (24-25) | Life of Plan Target |
|---|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Principal Message Open Rate | Average yearly percentage of recipients who open the Weekly Principal Message | 70.5% | 78.8% | 82% |
| Board Briefs Open Rate | Average yearly percentage of recipients who open monthly Board Briefs | 60.7% | 65.4% | 70% |
| Participation Rate - 5Essentials Survey | Yearly percentage of families who participate in the 5Essentials survey | 9.2% | 26% | 35% |
| Participation Rate - Parent/Teacher Conf | Percent of students whose families participate in P/T Conferences | 34% | 26.2% | 30% |
| Freshman Preparedness Survey | The percentage of freshman who self-reported they felt well prepared for the transition to high school during the spring of their freshman year | 83.1% | 87.5% | 90% |
| Freshman to Sophomore College Persistence | Percentage of LT graduates who enrolled in college and returned for a 2nd year (NSC) | 94% (Class of '20) | 94% (Class of '23) | 95% |
| 6-Year College Graduation Rate | The percentage of LTHS graduates who earn a college degree within 6 years of high school graduation | 65% (Class of '16) | 63% (Class of '19) | 65% |



Goal Four: Family and Community Partnerships

Partner with families and the community to support and expand learning opportunities for all students.

Strategy 1: Build Confidence and Engagement with Families and Communities Through Improved Communication, Collaboration, and Transparency

Communication Tools & Platforms

- Launch a mobile app for mass communication (Explore ParentSquare as an alternative to FinalSite).
- Improve district-wide messaging through email, text, social media, and robocalls.
- Develop a “Why Choose LT” promotional one-pager to support district branding.
- Strengthen internal communication strategies and staff voice initiatives.

Translation & Accessibility

- Expand translation and interpretation services for families.
- Investigate Infinite Campus and other tools for built-in translation features.
- Benchmark translation practices from other districts.
- Promote the accessibility of the district website and ensure families are aware of its multilingual capabilities.
- Develop infrastructure to support multilingual communication with families and students.

Community Events & Outreach

- Continue to host regular community engagement events (e.g., EL BPAC, Community Collective, Sankofa, Building Inclusive Community Conference).
- Expand communication outreach to residents not directly connected to LT using:
 - A district-wide household mailing list.
 - Increased e-News subscriptions.
 - Monthly Superintendent webinars and quarterly update messages.

Content Creation & Promotion

- Continue producing video content under:
 - Excellence-Innovation-Empowerment series
 - Student Spotlights
 - Strategic Plan features
 - End-of-year celebration videos and postcards

Goal Four: Family and Community Partnerships

Partner with families and the community to support and expand learning opportunities for all students.

Strategy 2: Partner with the Community to Offer Learning Opportunities and Career Pathways

Course Development

- Education General, Entrepreneurship/Entrepreneurial Studies, Computer Programming/Programmer General, and Airline/Professional Pilot/Aviation have been approved, as of 2023-24.
- During the 2025-26 school year, work will be completed to receive approval for Radio Broadcasting Technology/Technician, Cooking and Related Culinary Arts, Apparel and Textile/Fashion, Engineering Technology General, Cosmetology, Health Sciences, and Automotive Technology.

Internships & Business Partnerships

- Formalize a system to create student internships aligned with career pathways.
- Establish and grow partnerships with local businesses and organizations.
- Develop a centralized online resource for students to access internship and career opportunities.

Community Engagement

- Promote partnership opportunities to local businesses and stakeholders.
- Acknowledge and showcase community partners (e.g., guest speakers, Incubator judges).
- Increase visibility of career pathway programs in the community to raise awareness and participation.

Cross-Agency Collaboration

- Collaborate with DAOES and LADSE to expand access to career pathway opportunities for all students.

Goal Four: Family and Community Partnerships

Partner with families and the community to support and expand learning opportunities for all students.

Strategy 3: Promote High School Readiness Through Communication and Collaboration with Associate Schools

Readiness Resources

- Continued evolution and refinement of guide outlining high school readiness skills by content area and learner dispositions/attributes for use during 8th-to-9th grade placement and for associate school programming use.

Transition Support

- Celebrate Spring 2025 Freshman Preparedness Survey Results
- Strengthen 8th-to-9th grade transition events, including:
 - Future Freshman Night
 - FED
 - Kickoff
 - Associate School RoadShow
 - District Leadership Team Articulation Event

Promote High School Readiness by Fostering Communication and Collaboration with our Associate Schools.

- Development and communication of 1-pager document that articulates high school readiness skills by content area, to be utilized during the 2024-25 placement process.
- Development of 1-pager that articulates learner dispositions;
- Celebrate data collected from Spring 2023 Freshman Preparedness Survey;
- Enhance special events (FED, Kickoff, Future Freshman Night, Associate School RoadShow) to improve 8th to 9th Grade Transition Process.
- Enhance RISE Program
- 8th Grade Math Placement articulation with Associate Schools
- Elective Video Series for transition process



The 8th-Grade Transition
EXPERIENCE



PRESENTATION OUTLINE

Transition Process Overview & Timeline

Major Changes & Enhancements of the Transition Process/Events

Communication Priorities

Taking the Show on the Road

Kick-Off Event - Generating Excitement about the LT Experience

Future Freshman Night - Preparing for Course Selection

Freshman Experience Day

Transition Celebrations



TRANSITION PROCESS OVERVIEW & TIMELINE

**CLASS OF
2030
LTHS 8TH GRADE
EVENTS**



**PROMOCIÓN
2030
EVENTOS DE 8. grado
ENLTHS**

| | | | |
|--------------------|--|--|-------------------------|
| NOV 12 | Class of 2030 Kick-Off | Lanzamiento de la Clase de 2030 | 12 NOV |
| JAN 14 | Class of 2030 Course Selection Virtual Meeting 7:00 PM | Selección de cursos de Clase 2030: Reunión virtual, 7:00 p.m. | 14 ENE |
| JAN 21 | Future Freshman Night | Noche de los futuros estudiantes de primer año | 21 ENE |
| JAN 22 | Placement Letter | Carta de colocación | 22 ENE |
| LATE JAN | Associate School Counselor Visits | Visitas del consejero escolar asociado | FINALES DE ENERO |
| FEB 3&5 | Private/Parochial School Night South Campus 3:30 - 5:00 PM | Noche de colegios privados o locales en la sede sur de las 3:30 p. m. a las 5:00 p. m. | 3Y5 FEB |
| FEB 12 | Final Day for Course Selection Changes | Último día para cambios de seleccion y cursos | 12 FEB |
| APRIL 15 | Multilingual Freshman Transition Event 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM | Evento de transición multilingüe para estudiantes de primer año 6:00 - 7:00 PM | 15 ABRIL |
| SPRING | 2026-27 Online Registration Process Commences | El proceso de inscripción en línea para el año 2026-27 comienza | PRIMAVERA |

In addition to the events listed, members of the LTHS administrative team, staff, and students will be visiting LT public associate schools on multiple occasions throughout the school year in order to enhance the transition process for the Class of 2030. Information that is shared with students will be sent to families following each of the visits.

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Además de los eventos enumerados, los miembros del equipo administrativo de LTHS, el personal y los estudiantes visitarán las escuelas asociadas públicas de LT en múltiples ocasiones durante todo el año escolar para mejorar el proceso de transición para la Clase de 2030. La información que se comparte con los estudiantes se enviará a las familias después de cada una de las visitas.



MAJOR CHANGES & ENHANCEMENTS OF THE TRANSITION PROCESS & EVENTS

- Small Group opportunities that allow for questions and dialogue (Road Show)
- Early focus on school spirit & opportunities
- Middle School Visits for Course Selection
- Student Voice & Involvement (Student Ambassadors)
- Feedback & Adjustments every year through Principals Articulations
- Expanding Access for Multilingual Families



Class of 2029 FUTURE FRESHMAN NIGHT
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 22, 2025 - 6:30 PM

| Section 1 | Section 2 | Section 3 | Section 4 | Section 5 |
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COMMUNICATION PRIORITIES

Partnership with Associate School Principals
Clear Communication Throughout the Process
Incoming Class Website is a Hub of Information
Special Education & ML Communication

WELCOME TO LYONS TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL!

The transition to high school is one of the most exciting times in your life! While we cannot wait to meet you in person, we hope that this website will support your transition process over the course of the next several months. Our Class of 2030 page will be a hub of information, LTHS Experience video testimonials, and LT highlights.

Please take time with your family, to read, watch, and listen. The transition to high school is a very special time and we want to do everything we can to make it the best possible experience.

We plan to release and share new content within the website as we move through the transition process!

Welcome, Class of 2030! We look forward to welcoming you into our LTHS culture!

Jan Tyrrell, Principal

Greg Gardner, Associate Principal (South Campus)

Drex Ecker, Division Chair for Counseling and Student Support Services

Bryan Radavich, Assistant Principal (Class of 2030)

IMPORTANT LINKS

[UPCOMING FUTURE FRESHMAN EVENTS](#)

[CLASS OF 2030 TRANSITION GUIDE - ENGLISH GUIDE - GUIA ESPAÑOLA](#)

[ATHLETICS PAGE](#)

[STUDENT ACTIVITIES PAGE](#)

[NOVEMBER ROAD SHOW - SLIDE DECK \(ENGLISH - SPANISH\)](#)

[ROAD SHOW HANDBOOK](#)

MESSAGES FROM DR. TYRRELL

[Welcome, LTHS Class of 2030 - October 17 Parent Communication](#)

[Bienvenidos, Clase LTHS 2030 - Comunicación para padres, 9/17/23 octubre](#)

PARENT ORGANIZATIONS

[LT BOOSTERS](#)

[PARENT TEACHER COUNCIL \(PTC\)](#)

[PTC MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION](#)



UPCOMING EVENTS

LYONS TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL
DISTRICT 204

A blue and yellow lion mascot logo with 'LT' on its chest and 'LYONS 2030' on a banner it holds.

TRANSITIONS

A Guide for Incoming Freshman Class of 2030

Two photos: one of cheerleaders in white uniforms and another of students in a hallway.

Achieve
Excellence
Empower
Employment

LYONS TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL
ROAD SHOW 2025

AN EXPANSIVE ELECTIVE PROGRAM OFFERING COURSES IN APPLIED TECH, ART, BUSINESS, FAMILY CONSUMER SCIENCES, MUSIC, AND WORLD LANGUAGES

34 ATHLETIC TEAMS WITH MULTIPLE LEVELS

STUDENT ACTIVITIES: OVER 130 CLUBS, TEAMS, PERFORMANCE GROUPS, AND INTRAMURAL SPORTS

A poster for the Road Show 2025 featuring a lion mascot, a large number '19', and the text 'CLASS OF 2030 UPCOMING EVENT KICK-OFF EVENT' and 'WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 8:30 PM - 8:00 PM'. It also includes QR codes for 'VIRTUAL TOUR' and 'ROAD SHOW FEEDBACK' and social media handles for @LTHS, @LTHS_ATHLETICS, and @LTHS2030_LTHS_ATHLETICS. A 'Stay Connected!' banner is at the bottom.

Stay Connected!

@LTHS 2030
@LTHS_ATHLETICS
@LTHS2030_LTHS_ATHLETICS

PHYSICAL WELFARE



SCIENCE



TAKING THE SHOW ON THE ROAD

Two-event model, each tailored to the time of the year

November Road Show

- Focus: The introduction of the LT Experience
- Student speakers involved in clubs, athletics, and leadership
- Answers questions and prepares students for the Kick-Off Event

January Road Show

- Focus: Elective curriculum, pathways, long-term opportunities
- Students from our elective capstone courses
- Prepares students for Future Freshman Night and course registration



KICK-OFF EVENT

Focus: The LT Experience and showcase all LT has to offer, from co-curricular activities and athletics, to course offerings, academics, and facilities.

- Admin “Welcome Address” moved from January to November
 - Musical performance
 - Sophomore students present on their transition to LT
- Co-curricular Fair moved from January to November
- South Campus tours
- There is something for everyone



FUTURE FRESHMAN NIGHT - PREPARING FOR COURSE SELECTION

- Focus on Course Selection
- “Choose Your Own Adventure” Breakout Sessions
 - First Time LT Families
 - Course Selection Q&A
 - AP & Dual Credit Courses - What are they and why should I take them?
 - Special Education Process and Supports
 - Spanish Presentation
- Immersive Elective Fair in Fieldhouse



FRESHMAN EXPERIENCE DAY

Primary goal: Meet your people (Counselors, AP, teachers, etc.)

- Major enhancements
 - Moved to a day of staff attendance
 - Students meet their teacher and walk their schedule
 - Maintained tradition that students were at the heart of the event
 - Spirit Training
 - Community Building Circles
 - Over 250 student leaders!



23



TRANSITION CELEBRATIONS

- Freshman on Track
- Parent/Guardian Feedback
- Student Feedback
- Enhanced Relationships & Collaboration w/ Middle School Teams
- 8th Grade Class Summer Articulation



QUESTIONS



WE ARE LT



#WeAreLT



**LYONS TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL
District 204**

Dr. Brian Waterman, Superintendent
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North Campus 100 S. Brainard Ave., LaGrange, IL 60525
South Campus 4900 S. Willow Springs Ave., Western Springs, IL 60558

TO: District #204 Board of Education
FROM: Dr. Brian Waterman, Superintendent
DATE: November 17, 2025
RE: PRESS 120 Updates

The District maintains its policies through the PRESS service provided by the Illinois Association of School Boards (IASB) On October 31, 2025 the district received the policy recommendations related to PRESS 120 for review.

As a reminder, PRESS issues are published periodically (approximately 4-5 times per year), and are used to update our board policy manual and administrative procedures manual. They include updates related to changes in state/federal law, as well as regulations or current case law that may affect board policy within our district.

District 204 subscribes to a program referred to as PRESS Plus, This program allows IASB to isolate any policies from the recent issue that are related only to our district for review. With each PRESS update, we request that the Board’s legal counsel, Jennifer Rosenberg (Hodges Loizzi), review and offer any additional necessary legal guidance related to the PRESS recommendations. We expect the legal review to be completed by Jennifer during the week of November 18 and we will send those to you when they are available.

The Board will conduct a 1st Reading regarding PRESS 120 at the December 1 Committee of the Whole Meeting and a 2nd Reading at the December 15 Regular Action Meeting.

Section 1 (Draft Updates)

The following policy revisions are draft updates and can include changes of an administrative nature, such as updates to legal references, footnotes, terminology, or responses to recent legislation, or other language update suggestions.

- Policy 2:120 Board Member Development
- Policy 2:150 Committees
- Policy 2:270 Discrimination and Harassment on the Basis of Race, Color and National Origin Prohibited
- Policy 4:10 Fiscal and Business Management
- Policy 4:30 Revenue and Investments
- Policy 4:80 Accounting and Audits
- Policy 4:140 Waiver of Student Fees



- Policy 5:10 Equal Opportunity and Minority Recruitment
- Policy 5:90 Abused and Neglected Child Reporting
- Policy 5:100 Staff Development Program
- Policy 5:190 Teacher Qualifications
- Policy 5:200 Terms and Conditions of Employment and Dismissal
- Policy 5:220 Substitute Teachers
- Policy 5:280 Duties and Qualifications
- Policy 5:300 Schedules and Employment Year
- Policy 6:20 School Year Calendar and Day
- Policy 6:60 Curriculum (answers required)
- Policy 6:160 English Learners
- Policy 6:210 Instructional Materials (answers required)
- Policy 6:260 Complaints about Curriculum Instructional Materials and Programs
- Policy 6:300 Graduation Requirements
- Policy 6:310 Credit for Alternative Courses and Programs and Course Substitutions
- Policy 6:320 High School Credit for Proficiency
- Policy 7:10 Equal Educational Opportunities
- Policy 7:70 Attendance and Truancy
- Policy 7:180 Prevention and Response to Bullying, Intimidation and Harassment
- Policy 7:190 Student Behavior
- Policy 7:290 Suicide and Depression Awareness and Prevention
- Policy 7:315 Restrictions on Publications; High School
- Policy 7:340 Student Records
- Policy 8:30 Visitor and Conduct on School Property

Section 2 (Draft Rewritten)

A policy or Board exhibit currently in the Board policy manual has changes that would be too complex to show with redlined edits. The changes are presented as a clean, “rewritten” document for the Board to consider.

- Policy 7:150 Agency and Law Enforcement Requests

Section 3 (Review and Monitoring)

The following policy revisions include a policy or board exhibit currently in the board policy manual that the Board should review to determine if it is still up to date and relevant for the district. These policies are also referred to as 5 Year Review/Needs Review.

- Policy 6:280 Grading and Promotion

Recommendation

The Board of Education reviews and discusses the recommended policy updates, as presented.



PRESS 120

Document Status: Draft Update

SECTION 2 -BOARD OF EDUCATION

2:120 Board Member Development

The Board of Education desires that its individual members learn, understand, and practice effective governance principles. The Board is responsible for Board member orientation and development. Board members have an equal opportunity to attend State and national meetings designed to familiarize members with public school issues, governance, and legislation.

The Board President and/or Superintendent shall provide all Board members with information regarding pertinent education materials, publications, and notices of training or development.

Mandatory Board Member Training

Each Board member is responsible for his or her own compliance with the mandatory training laws that are described below:

1. Each Board member must complete at least 4 hours of professional development and leadership training in: (1) education and labor law; (2) financial oversight and accountability; (3) fiduciary responsibilities; (4) trauma-informed practices for students and staff; and (5) improving student outcomes, within the first year of his or her first term.
2. Each Board member must complete training on the Open Meetings Act (OMA) no later than 90 days after taking the oath of office for the first time. After completing the training, each Board member must file a copy of the certificate of completion with the Board. Training on OMA is only required once.
3. Each Board member must complete a training program on evaluations under the Performance Evaluation Reform Act (PERA) before participating in a vote on a tenured teacher's dismissal using the optional alternative evaluation dismissal process. ~~This dismissal process is available after the District's PERA implementation date.~~ [PRESSPlus1](#)

The Superintendent or designee shall maintain on the District website a log identifying the complete training and development activities of each Board member, including both mandatory and non-mandatory training.

Professional Development; Adverse Consequences of School Exclusion; Student Behavior

The Board President or Superintendent, or their designees, shall make reasonable efforts to provide ongoing professional development to Board members about the requirements of [105 ILCS 5/10-22.6](#) and [105 ILCS 5/10-20.14](#), adverse consequences of school exclusion and justice-system involvement, effective classroom management strategies, culturally responsive discipline, trauma-responsive learning environments, appropriate and available supportive services for the promotion of student attendance and engagement, and developmentally appropriate disciplinary methods that promote positive and healthy school climates.

Board Self-Evaluation

The Board will conduct periodic self-evaluations with the goal of continuous improvement.

New Board Member Orientation

The orientation process for newly elected or appointed Board members includes:

1. The Board President or Superintendent, or their designees, shall give each new Board member a copy of or online access to the Board Policy Manual, the Board's regular meeting minutes for the past year, and other helpful information including material describing the District and explaining the Board's roles and responsibilities.
2. The Board President or designee shall schedule one or more special Board meetings, or schedule time during regular meetings, for Board members to become acquainted and to review Board processes and procedures.
3. The Board President may request a veteran Board member to mentor a new member.
4. All new members are encouraged to attend workshops for new members conducted by the Illinois Association of School Boards.

Candidates

The Superintendent or designee shall invite all current candidates for the office of Board member to attend: (1) Board meetings, except that this invitation shall not extend to any closed meetings, and (2) pre-election workshops for candidates.

LEGAL REF.:

[5 ILCS 120/1.05](#) and [120/2](#), Open Meetings Act.

[105 ILCS 5/10-16a](#) and [5/24-16.5](#).

CROSS REF.: 2:80 (Board Member Oath and Conduct), 2:125 (Board Member Expenses), 2:200 (Types of Board of Education Meetings)

Adopted: January 21, 2025

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. Updated for continuous improvement. **Issue 120, October 2025**

Document Status: Draft Update

SECTION 2 -BOARD OF EDUCATION

2:150 Committees

The Board of Education may establish committees to assist with the Board's governance function and, in some situations, to comply with State law requirements. These committees are known as Board committees and report directly to the Board. Committee members may include both Board members and non-Board members depending on the committee's purpose. The Board President makes all Board committee appointments, including assigning a chair to each committee, unless specifically stated otherwise. Board committee meetings shall comply with the Open Meetings Act. A Board committee may not take final action on behalf of the Board - it may only make recommendations to the Board.

Special Board Committees

A special committee may be created for specific purposes. A special committee is automatically dissolved after presenting its final report to the Board or at the Board's discretion.

Standing Board Committees

A standing committee is created for an indefinite term. Except for the Committee of the Whole, the membership of a standing committee may fluctuate. Standing committees are:

1. Committee of the Whole. Committee of the Whole meetings are working sessions of the entire Board of Education in which specific topics are discussed in greater detail, and may replace meetings of other standing board committees. Separate meetings of individual standing board committees may still be convened at the discretion of the assigned committee chairs.
2. Parent-Teacher Advisory/Behavioral Interventions Committee. This committee assists in the development of student behavior policy and procedure. In addition to at least one Board Member, its members are parents/guardians and teachers, and may include persons whose expertise or experience is needed. The committee reviews such issues as administering medication in the schools, reciprocal reporting between the School District and local law enforcement agencies regarding criminal and civil [PRESSPlus1](#) offenses committed by students, student discipline, disruptive classroom behavior, school bus safety procedures, and the dissemination of student conduct information.

At the Board President's or designee's discretion, this committee develops and monitors procedures for using behavioral interventions in accordance with Board policy 7:230, *Misconduct by Students with Disabilities*. Committee reports and recommendations are made to the Board upon its request.

Nothing in this policy limits the authority of the Superintendent or designee to create and use committees that report to him or her or to other staff members. These are administrative committees and are not subject to the Open Meetings Act, unless more than two Board members participate on the committee.

[5 ILCS 120/](#), Open Meetings Act.

[105 ILCS 5/10-20.14](#) and [5/14-8.05](#).

CROSS REF.: 2:110 (Qualifications, Term, and Duties of Board Officers), 2:200 (Types of Board of Education Meetings), 2:240 (Board Policy Development), 7:190 (Student Behavior), 7:230 (Misconduct by Students with Disabilities)

Adopted: June 20, 2023

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. Updated in response to 105 ILCS 5/10-20.14, amended by P.A. 104-430. **Issue 120, October 2025**

Document Status: Draft Update

SECTION 2 -BOARD OF EDUCATION

2:270 Discrimination and Harassment on the Basis of Race, Color, and National Origin Prohibited

NEW

Discrimination and harassment on the basis of race, color, or national origin negatively affect a student's ability to learn and an employee's ability to work. Providing an educational and workplace environment free from such discrimination and harassment is an important District goal. The District does not discriminate on the basis of actual or perceived race, color, or national origin in any of its education programs or activities, and it complies with federal and State non-discrimination laws.

Examples of Prohibited Conduct

Examples of conduct that may constitute discrimination on the basis of race, color, or national origin include: disciplining students more harshly and frequently because of their race, color, or national origin; denying students access to high-rigor academic courses, extracurricular activities, or other educational opportunities based on their race, color, or national origin; denying language services or other educational opportunities to English learners; and assigning students special education services based on a student's race, color, or national origin.

Harassment is a form of prohibited discrimination. Examples of conduct that may constitute harassment on the basis of race, color, or national origin include: the use of racial, ethnic or ancestral slurs or stereotypes; taunts; name-calling; offensive or derogatory remarks about a person's actual or perceived race, color, or national origin; the display of racially-offensive symbols; racially-motivated physical threats and attacks; or other hateful conduct.

Making a Report or Complaint; Investigation Process

Individuals are encouraged to promptly report claims or incidents [see PRESSPlus1](#) of discrimination or harassment based on race, color, or national origin to the Nondiscrimination Coordinator, a Complaint Manager, or any employee with whom the student is comfortable speaking. Reports under this policy will be processed under Board policy 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*.

Any District employee who receives a report or complaint of discrimination or harassment must promptly forward the report or complaint to the Nondiscrimination Coordinator or a Complaint Manager. Any employee who fails to promptly comply may be disciplined, up to and including discharge.

Reports and complaints of discrimination or harassment will be confidential to the greatest extent practicable, subject to the District's duty to investigate and maintain an educational environment that is productive, respectful, and free of unlawful discrimination, including harassment.

This policy does not impair or otherwise diminish the existing rights of unionized employees to request an exclusive bargaining representative to be present during any investigatory interviews, nor does this policy diminish any rights available under an applicable collective bargaining agreement, including, but not limited to, a grievance procedure.

Federal and State Agencies

If the District fails to take necessary corrective action to stop harassment based on race, color, or national origin, further relief may be available through the Ill. Dept. of Human Rights (IDHR) or the U.S. Dept. of Education's Office for Civil Rights. To contact IDHR, go to: <https://dhr.illinois.gov/about-us/contact-idhr.html> or call (312) 814-6200 (Chicago) or (217) 785-5100 (Springfield).

Prevention and Response Program

The Superintendent or designee shall establish a prevention and response program to respond to complaints of discrimination based on race, color, and national origin, including harassment, and retaliation. The program shall include procedures for responding to complaints which:

1. Reduce or remove, to the extent practicable, barriers to reporting discrimination, harassment, and retaliation;
2. Permit any person who reports or is the victim of an incident of alleged discrimination, harassment, or retaliation to be accompanied when making a report by a support individual of the person's choice who complies with the District's policies and rules;
3. Permit anonymous reporting, except that an anonymous report may not be the sole basis of any disciplinary action;
4. Offer remedial interventions or take such disciplinary action as may be appropriate on a case-by-case basis;
5. Offer, but do not require or unduly influence, a person who reports or is the victim of an incident of harassment or retaliation the option to resolve allegations directly with the accused; and
6. Protects a person who reports or is the victim of an incident of harassment or retaliation from suffering adverse consequences as a result of a report of, investigation of, or a response to the incident.

Policy Posting and Distribution

This policy shall be posted on the District's website. The Superintendent shall annually inform staff members of this policy by posting it in a prominent and accessible location such as the District website, employee handbook, staff intranet site, and/or in other areas where policies and rules of conduct are made available to staff. The Superintendent shall annually inform students and their parents/guardians of this policy by posting it on the District's website and including an age-appropriate summary of the policy in the student handbook(s).

Enforcement

Any District employee who is determined, after an investigation, to have engaged in conduct prohibited by this policy will be subject to remedial action and/or disciplinary action, up to and including discharge.

Any District student who is determined, after an investigation, to have engaged in conduct prohibited by this policy will be subject to remedial action and/or disciplinary action, including but not limited to, suspension and expulsion consistent with Board policy 7:190, *Student Behavior*.

Any third party who is determined, after an investigation, to have engaged in conduct prohibited by this policy will be addressed in accordance with the authority of the Board in the context of the relationship of the third party to the District, e.g., vendor, parent, invitee, etc. Any person making a knowingly false accusation regarding prohibited conduct will likewise be subject to remedial and/or disciplinary action.

Retaliation Prohibited

Retaliation against any person for bringing complaints, participating in the complaint process, or otherwise providing information about discrimination or harassment based on race, color, or national origin is prohibited (see Board policy 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*).

Individuals should report allegations of retaliation to the Building Principal, an administrator, the Nondiscrimination Coordinator, and/or a Complaint Manager.

LEGAL REF.:

[42 U.S.C. §2000d](#), Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; [34 C.F.R. Part 100](#).

[42 U.S.C. §2000e](#) *et seq.*, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; [29 C.F.R. Part 1601](#).

105 ILCS 5/22-95 ~~(final citation pending)~~.

[775 ILCS 5/1-101](#) *et seq.*, Illinois Human Rights Act.

CROSS REF.: 2:260 (Uniform Grievance Procedure), 5:10 (Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Recruitment), 5:20 (Workplace Harassment Prohibited), 5:90 (Abused and Neglected Child Reporting), 5:120 (Employee Ethics; Code of Professional Conduct; and Conflict of Interest), 7:10 (Equal Educational Opportunities), 7:20 (Harassment of Students Prohibited), 7:180 (Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment), 7:190 (Student Behavior), 7:240 (Conduct Code for Participants in Extracurricular Activities)

Adopted: May 20, 2024

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. Updated for continuous improvement. **Issue 120, October 2025**

Document Status: Draft Update

OPERATIONAL SERVICES

4:10 Fiscal and Business Management

The Superintendent or designee is responsible for the School District's fiscal and business management. This responsibility includes annually preparing and presenting the District's statement of affairs to the Board of Education and publishing it by ~~before~~ [PRESSPlus1](#) December 1 as required by State law.

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure the efficient and cost-effective operation of the District's business management using computers, computer software, data management, communication systems, and electronic networks, including electronic mail, the Internet, and security systems. Each person using the District's electronic network shall complete an *Authorization for Access to the District's Electronic Network*.

Budget Planning

The District's fiscal year is from July 1 until June 30. The budget planning process shall include opportunities for the Board Finance Committee to review budget development supporting information and materials. The Director of Business Services shall present to the Board during a regular Board meeting in August, a tentative budget with appropriate explanations. The Superintendent or designee shall present to the Board, during a regular Board meeting in August, a tentative budget with appropriate explanation. This budget shall represent the culmination of an ongoing process of planning for the fiscal support needed for the District's educational program. The District's budget shall be entered upon the Ill. State Board of Education's (ISBE) *School District Budget Form*. To the extent possible, the tentative budget shall be balanced as defined by ISBE guidelines. The Superintendent or designee shall complete a tentative deficit reduction plan if one is required by ISBE guidelines.

Preliminary Adoption Procedures

After receiving the Superintendent or designee's proposed budget, the Board sets the date, place, and time for:

1. A public hearing on the proposed budget, and
2. The proposed budget to be available to the public for inspection.

The Board Secretary shall arrange to publish a notice in a local newspaper stating the date, place, and time of the proposed budget's availability for public inspection and the public hearing. The proposed budget shall be available for public inspection at least 30 days before the time of the budget hearing.

At the public hearing, the proposed budget shall be reviewed, including the cash reserve balance of all funds held by the District related to its operational levy and, if applicable, any obligations secured by those funds, and the public shall be invited to comment, question, or advise the Board.

Final Adoption Procedures

The Board adopts a budget before the end of the first quarter of each fiscal year, September 30, or by such alternative procedure as State law may define. To the extent possible, the budget shall be balanced as defined by ISBE; if not balanced, the Board will adopt a deficit reduction plan to balance the District's budget within three years according to ISBE requirements.

The Board adopts the budget by roll call vote. The budget resolution shall be incorporated into the meeting's official minutes. Board members' names voting *yea* and *nay* shall be recorded in the minutes.

The Superintendent or designee shall perform each of the following:

1. Post the District's final annual budget, itemized by receipts and expenditures, on the District's Internet website; notify parents/guardians that it is posted and provide the website's address.
2. File a certified copy of the budget resolution and an estimate of revenues by source anticipated to be received in the following fiscal year, certified by the District's Chief Fiscal Officer, with the County Clerk within 30 days of the budget's adoption.
3. Ensure disclosure to the public of the cash reserve balance of all funds held by the district related to its operational levy and, if applicable, any obligations secured by those funds, at the public hearing at which the Board certifies its operational levy.
4. Present a written report that includes the annual average expenditures of the District's operational funds for the previous three fiscal years at or before the board meeting at which the Board adopts its levy. In the event the District's combined cash reserve balance of its operational funds is more than 2.5 times the annual average expenditures of those funds for the previous three fiscal years, the Board will adopt and file with ISBE a reserve reduction plan by December 31.
5. Make all preparations necessary for the Board to timely file its Certificate of Tax Levy, including preparations to comply with the Truth in Taxation Act; file the Certificate of Tax Levy with the County Clerk on or before the last Tuesday in December. The Certificate lists the amount of property tax money to be provided for the various funds in the budget.
6. Submit the annual budget, a deficit reduction plan if one is required by ISBE guidelines, and other financial information to ISBE according to its requirements.

Any amendments to the budget or Certificate of Tax Levy shall be made as provided in the School Code and Truth in Taxation Act.

Budget Amendments

The Board may amend the budget by the same procedure as provided for in the original adoption.

Implementation

The Superintendent or designee shall implement the District's budget and provide the Board with a monthly financial report that includes all deficit fund balances. The amount budgeted as the expenditure in each fund is the maximum amount that may be expended for that category, except when a transfer of funds is authorized by the Board.

The Board shall act on all interfund loans, interfund transfers, transfers within funds, and transfers from the working cash fund or abatements of it, if one exists.

LEGAL REF.:

[105 ILCS 5/10-17](#), [5/10-22.33](#), [5/17-1](#), [5/17-1.2](#), [5/17-1.3](#), [5/17-1.10](#), [5/17-2A](#), [5/17-3.2](#), [5/17-11](#), [5/20-5](#), [5/20-8](#), and [5/20-10](#).

[35 ILCS 200/18-55](#) *et seq.*, Truth in Taxation Law.

[23 Ill.Admin.Code Part 100](#).

CROSS REF.: 4:20 (Fund Balances), 4:40 (Incurring Debt), 4:60 (Purchases and Contracts), 6:235 (Access to Electronic Networks)

Adopted: February 20, 2024

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. Updated in response to 105 ILCS 5/10-17, amended by P.A. 104-261, eff. 1-1-26. No later than December 1 each year, a school board must make its statement of affairs available to the public by posting it on the district's website and publishing it in a newspaper of general circulation. See sample exhibit 2:250-E2, *Immediately Available District Public Records and Web-Posted Reports and Records*, available at PRESS Online by logging in at www.iasb.com. **Issue 120, October 2025**

Document Status: Draft Update

OPERATIONAL SERVICES

4:30 Revenue and Investments

Revenue

The Superintendent or designee is responsible for making all claims for property tax revenue, State Aid, special State funds for specific programs, federal funds, and categorical grants.

Investments

The Director of Business Services/District Treasurer shall serve as the District's Chief Investment Officer. The Director of Business Services/District Treasurer shall invest money that is not required for current operations, in accordance with this policy and State law.

The Director of Business Services/District Treasurer and Superintendent shall use the standard of prudence when making investment decisions. They shall use the judgment and care, under circumstances then prevailing, that persons of prudence, discretion, and intelligence exercise in the management of their own affairs, not for speculation, but for investment, considering the safety of their capital as well as its probable income.

Investment Objectives

The objectives for the School District's investment activities are:

1. Safety of Principal - Every investment is made with safety as the primary and over-riding concern. Each investment transaction shall ensure that capital loss, whether from credit or market risk, is avoided.
2. Liquidity - The investment portfolio shall provide sufficient liquidity to pay District obligations as they become due. In this regard, the maturity and marketability of investments shall be considered.
3. Rate of Return - The highest return on investments is sought, consistent with the preservation of principal and prudent investment principles.
4. Diversification - The investment portfolio is diversified as to materials and investments, as appropriate to the nature, purpose, and amount of the funds.

Authorized Investments

The Director of Business Services/District Treasurer may invest District funds in any investment as authorized in [30 ILCS 235/2](#), and Acts amendatory thereto.

Except as provided herein, investments may be made only in banks, savings banks, savings and loan associations, or credit unions that are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or other approved share insurer.

The Director of Business Services/District Treasurer and Superintendent shall regularly consider material, relevant, and decision-useful sustainability factors in evaluating investment decisions, within

the bounds of financial and fiduciary prudence. Such factors include, but are not limited to: (1) corporate governance and leadership factors, (2) environmental factors, (3) social capital factors, (4) human capital factors, and (5) business model and innovation factors, as provided under the Ill. Sustainable Investing Act, [30 ILCS 238/](#).

Selection of Depositories, Investment Managers, Dealers, and Brokers

The Director of Business Services/District Treasurer shall establish a list of authorized depositories, investment managers, dealers and brokers based upon the creditworthiness, reputation, minimum capital requirements, qualifications under State law, as well as a long history of dealing with public fund entities. The Board will review and approve the list at least annually.

In order to be an authorized depository, each institution must submit copies of the last 2 sworn statements of resources and liabilities or reports of examination that the institution is required to furnish to the appropriate State or federal agency. Each institution designated as a depository shall, while acting as such depository, furnish the District with a copy of all statements of resources and liabilities or all reports of examination that it is required to furnish to the appropriate State or federal agency.

The above eligibility requirements of a bank to receive or hold public deposits do not apply to investments in an interest-bearing savings account, demand deposit account, interest-bearing certificate of deposit, or interest-bearing time deposit if: (1) the District initiates the investment at or through a bank located in Illinois, and (2) the invested public funds are at all times fully insured by an agency or instrumentality of the federal government.

The District shall consider a financial institution's record and current level of financial commitment to its local community when deciding whether to deposit funds in that financial institution. The District may consider factors including:

1. For financial institutions subject to the federal Community Reinvestment Act of 1977 (CRA), the current and historical ratings that the financial institution has received, to the extent that those ratings are publicly available, under the CRA;
2. For financial institutions subject to the Ill. Community Reinvestment Act (ICRA), the current and historical ratings that the financial institution has received, to the extent that those ratings are publicly available, under the ICRA. [PRESSPlus1](#)
3. Any changes in ownership, management, policies, or practices of the financial institution that may affect the level of the financial institution's commitment to its community;
4. The financial impact that the withdrawal or denial of District deposits might have on the financial institution;
5. The financial impact to the District as a result of withdrawing public funds or refusing to deposit additional public funds in the financial institution; and
6. Any additional burden on the District's resources that might result from ceasing to maintain deposits of public funds at the financial institution under consideration.

The District may not deposit public funds in a financial institution subject to the CRA unless the institution has a current rating of satisfactory or outstanding under the CRA. The District may not deposit public funds in a financial institution subject to the ICRA unless either: (1) the institution has a current rating of satisfactory under the ICRA at the time of deposit; or (2) the Ill. Dept. of Financial and Professional Regulation has not yet completed its initial examination of the institution under the ICRA. The District may not withdraw public funds from a financial institution prior to the date of maturity solely on the basis of a less than satisfactory rating under the ICRA. When investing or depositing public funds, the District may give preference to financial institutions that have a current rating of outstanding

under the CRA and the ICRA.

Activity Funds

The Director of Business Services/District Treasurer is authorized to invest the District's activity funds.

Collateral Requirements

All amounts deposited or invested with financial institutions in excess of any insurance limit shall be collateralized in accordance with the Public Funds Investment Act, [30 ILCS 235/](#). The Superintendent or designee shall keep the Board informed of collateral agreements.

Safekeeping and Custody Arrangements

The preferred method for safekeeping is to have securities registered in the District's name and held by a third-party custodian. Safekeeping practices should qualify for the Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 3 Deposits with Financial Institutions, Investments (including Repurchase Agreements), and Reverse Repurchase Agreements, Category I, the highest recognized safekeeping procedures.

Controls and Report

The Director of Business Services/District Treasurer shall establish a system of internal controls and written operational procedures to prevent losses arising from fraud, employee error, misrepresentation by third parties, or imprudent employee action.

The Director of Business Services/District Treasurer shall provide a quarterly investment report to the Board. The report will: (1) assess whether the investment portfolio is meeting the District's investment objectives, (2) identify each security by class or type, book value, income earned, and market value, (3) identify those institutions providing investment services to the District, and (4) include any other relevant information. The investment portfolio's performance shall be measured by appropriate and creditable industry standards for the investment type.

The Board will determine, after receiving the Superintendent's recommendation, which fund is in most need of interest income and the Superintendent shall execute a transfer. This provision does not apply when the use of interest earned on a particular fund is restricted.

Ethics and Conflicts of Interest

The Board and District officials will avoid any investment transaction or practice that in appearance or fact might impair public confidence. Board members are bound by the Board policy 2:100, *Board Member Conflict of Interest*. No District employee having influence on the District's investment decisions shall:

1. Have any interest, directly or indirectly, in any investments in which the District is authorized to invest,
2. Have any interest, directly or indirectly, in the sellers, sponsors, or managers of those investments, or
3. Receive, in any manner, compensation of any kind from any investments in that the agency is authorized to invest.

LEGAL REF.:

[30 ILCS 235/](#), Public Funds Investment Act.

[30 ILCS 238/](#), III. Sustainable Investing Act.

[105 ILCS 5/8-7](#), [5/10-22.44](#), [5/17-1](#), and [5/17-11](#).

CROSS REF.: 2:100 (Board Member Conflict of Interest), 4:10 (Fiscal and Business Management), 4:80 (Accounting and Audits)

Adopted: January 21, 2025

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. Updated in response to the Public Funds Investment Act, 30 ILCS 235/8, amended by P.A. 104-92, eff. 1-1-26. **Issue 120, October 2025**

Document Status: Draft Update

OPERATIONAL SERVICES

4:80 Accounting and Audits

The School District's accounting and audit services shall comply with the Illinois Program Accounting Manual, as adopted by the Ill. State Board of Education (ISBE), and State law. The Superintendent or designee, in addition to other assigned financial responsibilities, shall report monthly on the District's financial performance, both income and expense, in relation to the financial plan represented in the budget.

Annual Audit

At the close of each fiscal year, the Superintendent or designee shall arrange an audit of the District funds, accounts, statements, and other financial matters. The audit shall be performed by an independent certified public accountant designated by the Board and be conducted in conformance with prescribed standards and legal requirements. A complete and detailed written audit report shall be provided to each Board member and to the Superintendent or designee. The Superintendent or designee shall annually, on or before October 15, submit ~~an original and~~ one copy of the audit to the appropriate Intermediate Service Center Executive Director. The Superintendent shall also ensure the District's auditing firm files the District's audit with ISBE annually on or before October 15. [PRESSPlus1](#)

Annual Financial Report

The Superintendent or designee shall annually prepare and submit the Annual Financial Report (AFR) on a timely basis using the form adopted by ~~the~~ ISBE. The Superintendent shall review and discuss the AFR with the Board before it is submitted and submit one copy of the AFR to the appropriate Intermediate Service Center Executive Director annually on or before October 15. The Superintendent shall also ensure the District's auditing firm files the District's AFR with ISBE annually on or before October 15. [PRESSPlus2](#)

Inventories

The Superintendent or designee is responsible for establishing and maintaining accurate inventory records. The inventory record of supplies and equipment shall include a description of each item, quantity, location, purchase date, and cost or estimated replacement cost, unless the supplies and equipment are acquired by the District pursuant to a federal or State grant award, in which case the inventory record shall also include the information required by [2 C.F.R. §200.313](#), if applicable. The Superintendent shall establish procedures for the management of property acquired by the District under grant awards that comply with federal and State law.

Capitalization Threshold

To be considered a capital asset for financial reporting purposes, a capital item must be at or above a capitalization threshold of \$10,000 and have an estimated useful life greater than one year.

Disposition of District Property

The Superintendent or designee shall notify the Board, as necessary, of the following so that the Board may consider its disposition: (1) District personal property (property other than buildings and land) that is no longer needed for school purposes, and (2) school site, building, or other real estate that is unnecessary, unsuitable, or inconvenient. Notwithstanding the above, the Superintendent or designee may unilaterally dispose of personal property of a diminutive value. The Superintendent shall establish procedures for the disposition and, when permitted by the terms and conditions of the award, the retention of property acquired by the District under grant awards that comply with federal and State law.

Taxable Fringe Benefits

The Superintendent or designee shall: (1) require that all use of District property or equipment by employees is for the District's convenience and best interests unless it is a Board-approved fringe benefit, and (2) ensure compliance with the Internal Revenue Service regulations regarding when to report an employee's personal use of District property or equipment as taxable compensation.

Controls for Revolving Funds and Petty Cash

Revolving funds and the petty cash system are established in Board policy 4:50, *Payment Procedures*. The Superintendent or designee shall: (1) designate a custodian for each revolving fund and petty cash fund, (2) obtain a bond for each fund custodian, and (3) maintain the funds in compliance with this policy, State law, and ISBE rules. A check for the petty cash fund may be drawn payable to the designated petty cash custodian. Each revolving fund shall be maintained in a bank that has been approved by the Board and established in an amount approved by the Superintendent or designee consistent with the annual budget. All expenditures from these bank accounts must be directly related to the purpose for which the account was established and supported with documentation, including signed invoices or receipts. All deposits into these bank accounts must be accompanied with a clear description of their intended purpose. The Superintendent or designee shall include checks written to reimburse revolving funds on the Board's monthly listing of bills indicating the recipient and including an explanation.

Control Requirements for Checks

The Board must approve all bank accounts opened or established in the District's or a District school's name or with the District's Federal Employer Identification Number. All checks issued by the School District must be signed by either the Director of Business Services, or Board President, except that checks from accounts containing student activity funds or fiduciary funds and checks from revolving accounts may be signed by their respective account custodians.

Internal Controls

The Superintendent or designee is primarily responsible for establishing and implementing a system of internal controls for safeguarding the District's financial condition; the Board, however, will oversee these safeguards. The control objectives are to ensure efficient business and financial practices, reliable financial reporting, and compliance with State law and Board policies, and to prevent losses from fraud, waste, and abuse, as well as employee error, misrepresentation by third parties, or other imprudent employee action.

The District's system of internal controls shall include the following:

1. All financial transactions must be properly authorized and documented.
2. Financial records and data must be accurate and complete.
3. Accounts payable must be accurate and punctual.

4. District assets must be protected from loss or misuse.
5. Incompatible duties should be segregated, if possible.
6. Accounting records must be periodically reconciled.
7. Equipment and supplies must be safeguarded.
8. Staff members with financial or business responsibilities must be properly trained and supervised, and must perform their responsibilities with utmost care and competence.
9. Any unnecessary weaknesses or financial risks must be promptly corrected.

The Superintendent or designee shall annually audit the District's financial and business operations for compliance with established internal controls and provide the results to the Board. The Board may from time-to-time engage a third-party to audit internal controls in addition to the annual audit.

LEGAL REF.:

[2 C.F.R. §200](#) *et seq.*

30 ILCS 708/, Grant Accountability and Transparency Act, ~~implemented by~~ 44 Ill.Admin.Code 7000 et seq.

[105 ILCS 5/2-3.27](#), [5/2-3.28](#), [5/3-7](#), [5/3-15.1](#), [5/5-22](#), [5/10-21.4](#), [5/10-20.19](#), [5/10-22.8](#), and [5/17-1](#) *et seq.*

[23 Ill.Admin.Code Part 100](#).

CROSS REF.: 4:10 (Fiscal and Business Management), 4:50 (Payment Procedures), 4:55 (Use of Credit Cards), 4:90 (Student Activity and Fiduciary Funds)

Adopted: June 16, 2025

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. Optional. Inclusion of this sentence supports the auditor's compliance with its filing requirement under 105 ILCS 5/3-7, amended by P.A. 104-261, eff. 1-1-26. **Issue 120, October 2025**

PRESSPlus 2. Optional. Inclusion of this sentence supports the auditor's compliance with its filing requirement under 105 ILCS 5/3-7, amended by P.A. 104-261, eff. 1-1-26. **Issue 120, October 2025**

Document Status: Draft Update

OPERATIONAL SERVICES

4:140 Waiver of Student Fees

The Superintendent will recommend to the Board of Education a schedule of school student fees ("student fees"), as defined by Ill. State Board of Education (ISBE) regulations. Examples of student fees are fees for textbooks, consumable materials, materials for extracurricular activities, and fees for certain courses, among others. Students must also pay fines for the loss of or damage to school books or other school-owned materials.

The District will waive all student fees and fines for students who meet fee waiver eligibility requirements described in this policy unless otherwise permitted to be charged by law.

Notification

The Superintendent shall ensure that a notice of waiver availability is provided to parents/guardians with every bill for fees and/or fines, and that applications for waivers are widely available and distributed according to State law and ISBE rule and that provisions for assisting parents/guardians in completing the application are available.

Eligibility Criteria

A student shall be eligible for a fee and fine waiver when:

1. The student currently lives in a household that meets the same income guidelines, with the same limits based on household size, that are used for the federal free meals program;
2. The student's parents/guardians are veterans or active-duty military personnel with income at or below 200% of the federal poverty line; or
3. The student is homeless, as defined in the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act ([42 U.S.C. §11434a](#)).

Students must meet the income requirements of the program but need not participate in order to receive a waiver of school fees.

The Superintendent or designee may also waive school fees when one or more of the following factors are present:

- Illness in the family;
- Unusual expenses such as fire, flood, storm damage, etc.;
- Unemployment; and/or
- Other emergency situations.

Any student who is homeless as defined by applicable law and Board policy will have all student fees waived even if he or she cannot document eligibility as defined in this policy.

Verification

The Superintendent or designee shall establish a process for determining a student's eligibility for a waiver of fees and fines in accordance with State law requirements..

If a student receiving a waiver is found to be no longer eligible during the school year, the Superintendent or designee shall notify the student's parent/guardian and charge student fees at a prorated amount based upon the number of school days remaining in the school year at the time of notification.

Determination and Appeal

Within 30 calendar days after the receipt of a waiver request, the Superintendent or designee shall mail a notice to the parent/guardian whenever a waiver request is denied. The denial notice shall include: (1) the reason for the denial, (2) the process and timelines for making an appeal, and (3) a statement that the parent/guardian may reapply for a waiver any time during the school year if circumstances change. If the denial is appealed, the District shall follow the procedures for the resolution of appeals as provided in the ISBE rule on waiver of fees.

LEGAL REF.:

[42 U.S.C. §11434a](#), McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act.

105 ILCS 5/10-20.13, 5/10-22.25, ~~and 5/27-24.2815, and 5/28-19.2.~~ [PRESSPlus1](#)

[23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.245](#) [may contain unenforceable provisions].

CROSS REF.: 4:130 (Free and Reduced-Price Food Services), 6:140 (Education of Homeless Children)

Adopted: February 21, 2023

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. The Legal References are updated in response to P.A. 104-391. **Issue 120, October 2025**

Document Status: Draft Update

General Personnel

5:10 Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Recruitment

The School District shall provide equal employment opportunities to all persons regardless of their race; color; creed; religion; national origin; sex; sexual orientation; age; ancestry; marital status; arrest record; military status; order of protection status; unfavorable military discharge; citizenship status provided the individual is authorized to work in the United States; work authorization status; use of lawful products while not at work; being a victim of domestic violence, sexual violence, gender violence, or any other crime of violence or use of District-issued equipment to record such types of violence; [PRESSPlus1](#) genetic information; physical or mental handicap or disability, if otherwise able to perform the essential functions of the job with reasonable accommodation; pregnancy, childbirth, or related medical conditions; reproductive health decisions; credit history, unless a satisfactory credit history is an established bona fide occupational requirement of a particular position; conviction record, unless authorized by law; family responsibilities; or other legally protected categories. No one will be penalized solely for his or her status as a registered qualifying patient or a registered designated caregiver for purposes of the Compassionate Use of Medical Cannabis Program Act, [410 ILCS 130/](#).

Persons who believe they have not received equal employment opportunities should report their claims to the Nondiscrimination Coordinator and/or a Complaint Manager under Board policy 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*, or in the case of denial of equal employment opportunities on the basis of race, color, or national origin, Board policy 2:270, *Discrimination and Harassment on the Basis of Race, Color, and National Origin Prohibited*. These individuals are listed below. No employee or applicant will be discriminated or retaliated against because he or she: (1) requested, attempted to request, used, or attempted to use a reasonable accommodation as allowed by the Illinois Human Rights Act, or (2) initiated a complaint, was a witness, supplied information, or otherwise participated in an investigation or proceeding involving an alleged violation of this policy or State or federal laws, rules or regulations, provided the employee or applicant did not make a knowingly false accusation nor provide knowingly false information.

Administrative Implementation

The Superintendent shall appoint a Nondiscrimination Coordinator for personnel who shall be responsible for coordinating the District's nondiscrimination efforts. The Nondiscrimination Coordinator may be the Superintendent or a Complaint Manager under Board policy 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*.

The Superintendent shall appoint a Title IX Coordinator to coordinate the District's efforts to comply with Title IX.

The Superintendent shall insert into this policy the names, office addresses, email addresses, and telephone numbers of the District's current Nondiscrimination Coordinator, Title IX Coordinator, and Complaint Managers.

Nondiscrimination Coordinator:

Title IX Coordinator:

Director of Human Resources

100 S. Brainard

LaGrange, IL 60525

epiotrowski@lths.net

708/579-6456

Ed Piotrowski,

Director of Human Resources

100 S. Brainard

LaGrange, IL 60525

epiotrowski@lths.net

708/579-6456

Complaint Managers:

Greg Gardner,

Associate Principal - South

4900 S. Willow Springs Rd.

Western Springs, IL 60558

ggardner@lths.net

708/579-6500

Sarah Smith,

Associate Principal - North

100 S. Brainard

LaGrange, IL 60525

ssmith@lths.net

708/579-6300

The Superintendent shall also use reasonable measures to inform staff members and applicants that the District is an equal opportunity employer, such as, by posting required notices and including this policy in the appropriate handbooks.

Minority Recruitment

The District will attempt to recruit and hire minority employees. The implementation of this policy may include advertising openings in minority publications, participating in minority job fairs, and recruiting at colleges and universities with significant minority enrollments. This policy, however, does not require or permit the District to give preferential treatment or special rights based on a protected status without evidence of past discrimination.

LEGAL REF.:

[8 U.S.C. §1324a](#) *et seq.*, Immigration Reform and Control Act.

[20 U.S.C. §1681](#) *et seq.*, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; [34 C.F.R. Part 106](#).

[29 U.S.C. §206](#)(d), Equal Pay Act.

[29 U.S.C. §218d](#), Fair Labor Standards Act.

[29 U.S.C. §621](#) *et seq.*, Age Discrimination in Employment Act.

[29 U.S.C. §701](#) *et seq.*, Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

[38 U.S.C. §4301](#) *et seq.*, Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (1994).

[42 U.S.C. §1981](#) *et seq.*, Civil Rights Act of 1991.

[42 U.S.C. §2000d](#) *et seq.*, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; [34 C.F.R. Part 100](#).

[42 U.S.C. §2000e](#) *et seq.*, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; [29 C.F.R. Part 1601](#).

[42 U.S.C. §2000ff](#) *et seq.*, Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008.

[42 U.S.C. §2000gg](#) *et seq.*, Pregnant Workers Fairness Act; [29 C.F.R. Part 1636](#).

[42 U.S.C. §2000e\(k\)](#), Pregnancy Discrimination Act.

[42 U.S.C. §12111](#) *et seq.*, Americans with Disabilities Act, Title I.

[Ill. Constitution, Art. I](#), §§17, 18, and 19.

[105 ILCS 5/10-20.7](#), [5/10-20.7a](#), [5/10-21.1](#), [5/10-22.4](#), [5/10-23.5](#), [5/22-19](#), [5/24-4](#), [5/24-4.1](#), and [5/24-7](#).

[410 ILCS 130/40](#), Compassionate Use of Medical Cannabis Program Act.

[410 ILCS 513/25](#), Genetic Information Privacy Act.

[740 ILCS 174/](#), Ill. Whistleblower Act.

[775 ILCS 5/1-103](#), [5/2-101](#), [5/2-102](#), [5/2-103](#), [5/2-103.1](#), [5/2-104\(D\)](#) and [5/6-101](#), Ill. Human Rights Act.

[775 ILCS 35/](#), Religious Freedom Restoration Act.

[820 ILCS 55/10](#), Right to Privacy in the Workplace Act.

[820 ILCS 70/](#), Employee Credit Privacy Act.

[820 ILCS 75/](#), Job Opportunities for Qualified Applicants Act.

[820 ILCS 112/](#), Ill. Equal Pay Act of 2003.

[820 ILCS 180/30](#) and [180/33](#), Victims' Economic Security and Safety Act.

[820 ILCS 260/](#), Nursing Mothers in the Workplace Act.

CROSS REF.: 2:260 (Uniform Grievance Procedure), 2:265 (Title IX Grievance Procedure), 2:270 (Discrimination and Harassment on the Basis of Race, Color, and National Origin Prohibited), 5:20 (Workplace Harassment Prohibited), 5:30 (Hiring Process and Criteria), 5:40 (Communicable and Chronic Infectious Disease), 5:50 (Drug- and Alcohol-Free Workplace; E-Cigarette, Tobacco, and Cannabis Prohibition), 5:70 (Religious Holidays), 5:180 (Temporary Illness or Temporary Incapacity), 5:200 (Terms and Conditions of Employment and Dismissal), 5:250 (Leaves of Absence), 5:270 (Employment At-Will, Compensation, and Assignment), 5:300 (Schedules and Employment Year), 5:330 (Sick Days, Vacation, Holidays, and Leaves), 7:10 (Equal Educational Opportunities), 7:180 (Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment), 8:70 (Accommodating Individuals with Disabilities)

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. Updated in response to the Victims' Economic Security and Safety Act (VESSA), 820 ILCS 180/33, added by P.A. 104-171, eff. 1-1-26. **Issue 120, October 2025**

Document Status: Draft Update

General Personnel

5:90 Abused and Neglected Child Reporting

Any District employee who suspects or receives knowledge that a student may be an abused or neglected child or, for a student aged 18 through 22, an abused or neglected individual with a disability, shall immediately report or cause a report to be made to the Ill. Dept. of Children and Family Services (DCFS) on its Child Abuse Hotline 1-800-25-ABUSE (1-800-252-2873)(within Illinois); 1-217-524-2606 (outside of Illinois); or 1-800-358-5117 (TTY). Any District employee who believes a student is in immediate danger of harm, shall first call 911. The employee shall also promptly notify the Superintendent or Building Principal that a report has been made. Negligent failure to report occurs when a District employee personally observes an instance of suspected child abuse or neglect and reasonably believes, in his or her professional or official capacity, that the instance constitutes an act of child abuse or neglect under the Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act (ANCRA) and he or she, without willful intent, fails to immediately report or cause a report to be made of the suspected abuse or neglect to DCFS.

Any District employee who discovers child sexual abuse material ~~pornography~~ [PRESSPlus1](#) on *electronic and information technology equipment, as defined in 325 ILCS 5/4.5(a)*, shall immediately report it to local law enforcement, the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children's CyberTipline 1-800-THE-LOST (1-800-843-5678) or online at report.cybertip.org/ or www.missingkids.org. The Superintendent or Building Principal shall also be promptly notified of the discovery and that a report has been made.

Any District employee who observes any act of hazing that does bodily harm to a student must report that act to the Building Principal, Superintendent, or designee who will investigate and take appropriate action. If the hazing results in death or great bodily harm, the employee must first make the report to law enforcement and then to the Superintendent or Building Principal. Hazing is defined as any intentional, knowing, or reckless act directed to or required of a student for the purpose of being initiated into, affiliating with, holding office in, or maintaining membership in any group, organization, club, or athletic team whose members are or include other students.

Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act (ANCRA), School Code, and *Erin's Law* Training

The Superintendent or designee shall provide staff development opportunities for District employees in the detection, reporting, and prevention of child abuse and neglect.

All District employees shall:

1. Before beginning employment, sign the *Acknowledgement of Mandated Reporter Status* form provided by DCFS. The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that the signed forms are retained.
2. Complete mandated reporter training as required by law within three months of initial employment and at least every three years after that date.
3. Complete an annual evidence-informed training related to child sexual abuse, grooming behaviors (including *sexual misconduct* as defined in *Faith's Law*), and boundary violations as

required by law and policy 5:100, *Staff Development Program*.

Alleged Incidents of Sexual Abuse: Investigations

An *alleged incident of sexual abuse* is an incident of sexual abuse of a child, as defined in [720 ILCS 5/11-9.1A](#), that is alleged to have been perpetrated by school personnel, including a school vendor or volunteer, that occurred: on school grounds during a school activity; or outside of school grounds or not during a school activity.

In the event that a District employee reports an alleged incident of sexual abuse to DCFS and DCFS accepts the report for investigation, the Superintendent or designee will proceed in accordance with [Section 22-85 of the Illinois School Code](#).

The existence of a DCFS and/or law enforcement investigation will not preclude the District from conducting its own parallel investigation into the alleged incident of sexual abuse in accordance with Board policy 7:20, *Harassment of Students Prohibited* and [Section 22-85 of the Illinois School Code](#).

Special Superintendent Responsibilities

The Superintendent shall execute the requirements in Board policy 5:150, *Personnel Records*, whenever another school district requests a reference concerning an applicant who is or was a District employee and was the subject of a report made by a District employee to DCFS.

When the Superintendent has reasonable cause to believe that a license holder (1) committed an intentional act of abuse or neglect with the result of making a child an abused child or a neglected child under ANCRA or an act of sexual misconduct under *Faith's Law*, and (2) that act resulted in the license holder's dismissal or resignation from the District, the Superintendent shall notify the State Superintendent and the appropriate Intermediate Service Center Executive Director in writing, providing the Ill. Educator Identification Number as well as a brief description of the misconduct alleged. The Superintendent must make the report within 30 days of the dismissal or resignation and mail a copy of the notification to the license holder.

The Superintendent shall develop and the Superintendent or designee shall implement procedures for notifying a student's parents/guardians when a District employee, contractor, or agent is alleged to have engaged in sexual misconduct with the student as defined in *Faith's Law*. The Superintendent shall also develop, and the Superintendent or designee shall implement procedures for notifying the student's parents/guardians when the Board takes action relating to the employment of the employee, contractor, or agent following the investigation of sexual misconduct. Notification shall not occur when the employee, contractor, or agent alleged to have engaged in sexual misconduct is the student's parent/guardian, and/or when the student is at least 18 years of age or emancipated.

The Superintendent or designee shall execute the recordkeeping requirements of *Faith's Law*.

Special Board of Education Member Responsibilities

Each individual Board member must, if an allegation is raised to the member during an open or closed Board meeting that a student is an abused child as defined in ANCRA, direct or cause the Board to direct the Superintendent or other equivalent school administrator to comply with ANCRA's requirements concerning the reporting of child abuse.

If the Board determines that any District employee, other than an employee licensed under [105 ILCS 5/21B](#), has willfully or negligently failed to report an instance of suspected child abuse or neglect as required by ANCRA, the Board may dismiss that employee immediately.

When the Board learns that a licensed teacher was convicted of any felony, it must promptly report it to the State agencies listed in Board policy 2:20, *Powers and Duties of the Board of Education; Indemnification*.

LEGAL REF.:

[20 U.S.C. §7926](#), Elementary and Secondary Education Act.

[105 ILCS 5/10-21.9](#), [5/10-23.13](#), [5/21B-85](#), [5/22-85.5](#), and [5/22-85.10](#).

[20 ILCS 1305/1-1](#) *et seq.*, Department of Human Services Act.

[325 ILCS 5/](#), Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act.

[720 ILCS 5/12C-50.1](#), Criminal Code of 2012.

CROSS REF.: 2:20 (Powers and Duties of the School Board; Indemnification), 3:40 (Superintendent), 3:50 (Administrative Personnel Other Than the Superintendent), 3:60 (Administrative Responsibility of the Building Principal), 4:60 (Purchases and Contracts), 4:165 (Awareness and Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse and Grooming Behaviors), 5:20 (Workplace Harassment Prohibited), 5:30 (Hiring Process and Criteria), 5:100 (Staff Development Program), 5:120 (Employee Ethics; Code of Professional Conduct; and Conflict of Interest), 5:150 (Personnel Records), 5:200 (Terms and Conditions of Employment and Dismissal), 5:290 (Employment Termination and Suspensions), 6:120 (Education of Children with Disabilities), 6:250 (Community Resource Persons and Volunteers), 7:20 (Harassment of Students Prohibited), 7:150 (Agency and [Law Enforcement Requests](#) [Police Interviews](#))

Adopted: January 21, 2025

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. Updated in response to 325 ILCS 5/4.5, amended by P.A. 104-245, eff. 1-1-26. **Issue 120, October 2025**

Document Status: Draft Update

General Personnel

5:100 Staff Development Program

The Superintendent or designee shall implement a staff development program. The goal of the program shall be to update and improve the skills and knowledge of staff members in order to achieve and maintain a high level of job performance and satisfaction. Additionally, the development program for licensed staff members shall be designed to effectuate any School Improvement Plans so that student learning objectives meet or exceed goals established by the District and State.

Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act (ANCRA) and *Erin's Law* Training

The staff development program shall include the Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act (ANCRA) mandated reporter training and training on the awareness and prevention of child sexual abuse and grooming behaviors (*Erin's Law*) as follows (see Board policies 4:165, *Awareness and Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse and Grooming Behaviors*, and 5:90, *Abused and Neglected Child Reporting*):

1. Within three months of employment, each staff member must complete mandated reporter training from a provider or agency with expertise in recognizing and reporting child abuse. Mandated reporter training must be completed again at least every three years.
2. By January 31 of every year, all school personnel must complete evidence-informed training on preventing, reporting, and responding to child sexual abuse, grooming behaviors (including *sexual misconduct* as defined in *Faith's Law*), and boundary violations.

In-Service Training Requirements

The staff development program shall provide, at a minimum, within six months of employment and renewed at least once every five years thereafter (unless required more frequently by other State or federal law), the in-service training of all District staff who work with pupils on:

1. Health conditions of students, including but not limited to training on:
 - a. Anaphylactic reactions and management, conducted by a person with expertise on anaphylactic reactions and management;
 - b. Management of asthma, prevention of asthma symptoms, and emergency response in the school setting;
 - c. The basics of seizure recognition and first aid and emergency protocols, consistent with best practice guidelines issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention;
 - d. The basics of diabetes care, how to identify when a diabetic student needs immediate or emergency medical attention, and whom to contact in case of emergency;
 - e. Current best practices regarding identification and treatment of attention deficit hyperactivity disorder; and
 - f. How to respond to an incident involving life-threatening bleeding, including use of a school's trauma bleeding control kit, if applicable.
2. Social-emotional learning. Training may include providing education to all school personnel about the content of the Illinois Social and Emotional Learning Standards, how they apply to

everyday school interactions, and examples of how social emotional learning can be integrated into instructional practices across all grades and subjects.

3. Developing cultural competency, including but not limited to understanding and reducing implicit bias, including *implicit racial bias* as defined in [105 ILCS 5/10-20.61](#) (implicit bias training).
4. Identifying warning signs of mental illness, trauma, and suicidal behavior in youth, along with appropriate intervention and referral techniques, including resources and guidelines as outlined in [105 ILCS 5/2-3.166](#) (*Ann Marie's Law*) and the definitions of *trauma*, *trauma-responsive learning environments*, and *whole child* as set forth in [105 ILCS 5/3-11](#).
5. Domestic and sexual violence and the needs of expectant and parenting youth, conducted by persons with expertise in domestic and sexual violence and the needs of expectant and parenting youth. Training shall include, but is not limited to:
 - a. Communicating with and listening to youth victims of domestic or sexual violence and expectant and parenting youth;
 - b. Connecting youth victims of domestic or sexual violence and expectant and parenting youth to appropriate in-school services and other agencies, programs, and services as needed;
 - c. Implementing the District's policies and procedures regarding such youth, including confidentiality; and
 - d. Procedures for responding to incidents of teen dating violence that take place at school, on school grounds, at school-sponsored activities, or in vehicles used for school-provided transportation as outlined in 105 ILCS [110/3.105/27-240](#) [PRESSPlus1](#) (see Board policy 7:185, *Teen Dating Violence Prohibited*).
6. Protections and accommodations for students, including but not limited to training on:
 - a. The federal Americans with Disabilities Act as it pertains to the school environment; and
 - b. Homelessness.
7. Educator ethics and responding to child sexual abuse and grooming behavior (see Board policy 5:120, *Employee Ethics; Code of Professional Conduct; and Conflict of Interest*); including but not limited to training on:
 - a. Teacher-student conduct;
 - b. School employee-student conduct; and
 - c. Evidence-informed training on preventing, recognizing, reporting, and responding to child sexual abuse and grooming as outlined in [105 ILCS 5/10-23.13](#) (*Erin's Law*).
8. Effective instruction in violence prevention and conflict resolution, conducted in accordance with the requirements of 105 ILCS 5/27-[11523.4](#) [PRESSPlus2](#) (violence prevention and conflict resolution education).

Additional Training Requirements

In addition, the staff development program shall include each of the following:

1. Ongoing professional development for all school personnel and school resource officers on the requirements of [105 ILCS 5/10-22.6](#) and [5/10-20.14](#), the adverse consequences of school exclusion and justice-system involvement, effective classroom management strategies, culturally responsive discipline, trauma-responsive learning environments as defined in [105 ILCS 5/3-11](#)(b), the appropriate and available supportive services for the promotion of student attendance and engagement, and developmentally appropriate disciplinary methods that promote positive and healthy school climates.
2. Annual continuing education and/or training opportunities (professional standards) for school nutrition program directors, managers, and staff. Each school food authority's director shall

document compliance with this requirement by the end of each school year and maintain documentation for a three-year period.

3. All high school coaching personnel, including the head and assistant coaches, and athletic directors must obtain online concussion certification by completing online concussion awareness training in accordance with [105 ILCS 25/1.15](#). Coaching personnel and athletic directors hired on or after 8-19-14 must be certified before their position's start date.
4. The following individuals must complete concussion training as specified in the Youth Sports Concussion Safety Act: coaches and assistant coaches (whether volunteer or employee) of an interscholastic athletic activity; nurses, licensed and/or non-licensed healthcare professionals serving on the Concussion Oversight Team; athletic trainers; game officials of an interscholastic athletic activity; and physicians serving on the Concussion Oversight Team.
5. For school personnel who work with hazardous or toxic materials on a regular basis, training on the safe handling and use of such materials.
6. For delegated care aides performing services in connection with a student's seizure action plan, training in accordance with [105 ILCS 150/](#), the Seizure Smart School Act.
7. For delegated care aides performing services in connection with a student's diabetes care plan, training in accordance with [105 ILCS 145/](#), the Care of Students with Diabetes Act.
8. For all District staff, annual sexual harassment prevention training.
9. Title IX requirements for training in accordance with [34 C.F.R. Part 106](#) (see Board policy 2:265, *Title IX Grievance Procedure*).
10. Training for all District employees on the prevention of discrimination and harassment based on race, color, and national origin in school as part of new employee training and at least once every two years.
11. Training for at least one designated employee at each school about the Prioritization of Urgency of Need for Services (PUNS) database and steps required to register students for it.
12. Training in accordance with [105 ILCS 5/26A](#) for at least one staff member in each school designated as a resource for students who are parents, expectant parents, or victims of domestic or sexual violence, and for any employees whose duties include the resolution of complaints of violations of [105 ILCS 5/26A](#) (see Board policy 7:255, *Students who are Parents, Expectant Parents, or Victims of Domestic or Sexual Violence*).

The Superintendent shall develop protocols for administering youth suicide awareness and prevention education to staff consistent with Board policy 7:290, *Suicide and Depression Awareness and Prevention*.

An opportunity shall be provided for all staff members to acquire, develop, and maintain the knowledge and skills necessary to properly administer life-saving techniques and first aid, including the Heimlich maneuver, cardiopulmonary resuscitation, and the use of an automated external defibrillator, in accordance with a nationally recognized certifying organization. Physical fitness facilities' staff must be trained in cardiopulmonary resuscitation and use of an automated external defibrillator.

LEGAL REF.:

[20 U.S.C. §1681](#) *et seq.*, Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972; [34 C.F.R. Part 106](#).

[42 U.S.C. §1758b](#), [Pub. L. 111-296](#), Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010; [7 C.F.R. Parts 210](#) and [235](#).

[105 ILCS 5/2-3.62](#), [5/2-3.166](#), [5/3-11](#), [5/10-20.17a](#), [5/10-20.61](#), [5/10-22.6\(c-5\)](#), [5/10-22.39](#), [5/10-](#)

[23.12](#), [5/10-23.13](#), [5/22-80\(h\)](#), [5/22-95](#), [5/22-115](#), [5/24-5](#), and [5/26A](#).

[105 ILCS 25/1.15](#), Interscholastic Athletic Organization Act.

[105 ILCS 145/25](#), Care of Students with Diabetes Act

[105 ILCS 150/25](#), Seizure Smart School Act.

[105 ILCS 110/3](#), Critical Health Problems and Comprehensive Health Education Act.

[325 ILCS 5/4](#), Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act.

[745 ILCS 49/](#), Good Samaritan Act.

[775 ILCS 5/2-109](#) and [5/5A-103](#), Ill. Human Rights Act.

[23 Ill.Admin.Code §§ 22.20, 226.800](#), and [Part 525](#).

[77 Ill.Admin.Code §527.800](#).

CROSS REF.: 2:265 (Title IX Grievance Procedure), 2:270 (Discrimination and Harassment on the Basis of Race, Color, and National Origin Prohibited), 3:40 (Superintendent), 3:50 (Administrative Personnel Other Than the Superintendent), 4:160 (Environmental Quality of Buildings and Grounds), 4:165 (Awareness and Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse and Grooming Behaviors), 5:20 (Workplace Harassment Prohibited), 5:90 (Abused and Neglected Child Reporting), 5:120 (Employee Ethics; Code of Professional Conduct; and Conflict of Interest), 5:250 (Leaves of Absence), 6:15 (School Accountability), 6:20 (School Year Calendar and Day), 6:50 (School Wellness), 6:160 (English Learners), 7:10 (Equal Educational Opportunities), 7:20 (Harassment of Students Prohibited), 7:180 (Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment), 7:185 (Teen Dating Violence Prohibited), 7:250 (Student Support Services), 7:255 (Students Who are Parents, Expectant Parents, or Victims of Domestic or Sexual Violence), 7:270 (Administering Medicines to Students), 7:285 (Anaphylaxis Prevention, Response, and Management Program), 7:290 (Suicide and Depression Awareness and Prevention), 7:305 (Student Athlete Concussions and Head Injuries)

Adopted: June 16, 2025

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. Updated in response to 105 ILCS 5/27-240, added by P.A. 104-391, replacing the citation to 105 ILCS 110/3.10, repealed by P.A. 104-391. **Issue 120, October 2025**

PRESSPlus 2. Updated in response to 105 ILCS 5/27-115, renumbered by P.A. 104-391. **Issue 120, October 2025**

Document Status: Draft Update

Professional Personnel

5:190 Teacher Qualifications

A teacher, as the term is used in this policy, refers to a District employee who is required to be licensed under State law. The following qualifications apply:

1. Each teacher must:
 - a. Have a valid Illinois Professional Educator License issued by the State Superintendent of Education with the required endorsements as provided in the School Code.
 - b. Provide the District Office with a complete official transcript of credits earned in institutions of higher education.
 - c. On or before September 1 of each year, unless otherwise provided in an applicable collective bargaining agreement, provide the District Office with an official transcript of any credits earned since the date the last transcript was filed.
 - d. Notify the Superintendent of any change in the teacher's transcript.
2. All teachers working in a program supported with federal funds under Title I, Part A must meet applicable State certification and licensure requirements.

The Superintendent or designee shall:

1. Monitor compliance with State and federal law requirements that teachers be appropriately licensed;
2. Through incentives for voluntary transfers, professional development, recruiting programs, or other effective strategies, ensure that minority students and students from low-income families are not taught at higher rates than other students by unqualified, out-of-field, or inexperienced teachers; and
3. Ensure parents/guardians of students in schools receiving Title I funds are notified of their right to request their students' classroom teachers' professional qualifications.

LEGAL REF.:

[20 U.S.C. §6312\(e\)\(1\)\(A\)](#).

[105 ILCS 5/10-20.15](#), [5/21B-15](#), [5/21B-20](#), [5/21B-25](#), [5/21B-120](#), [PRESSPlus1](#) and [5/24-23](#).

[23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.610 et seq.](#), [§1.705 et seq.](#), and [Part 25](#).

CROSS REF.: 6:170 (Title I Programs)

Adopted: February 20, 2024

PRESSPlus 1. The Legal References are updated in response P.A. 104-111, eff. 1-1-26, establishing a short-term approval credential for teachers in accordance with rules developed by ISBE. **Issue 120, October 2025**

Document Status: Draft Update

Professional Personnel

5:200 Terms and Conditions of Employment and Dismissal

The Superintendent shall manage the terms and conditions for the employment of professional personnel as provided by contract or as provided by State law. [PRESSPlus1](#)

LEGAL REF.:

[29 U.S.C. §218\(d\)](#), [Pub. L. 117-328](#), Pump for Nursing Mothers Act.

[42 U.S.C. §2000gg](#) *et seq.*, [Pub. L. 117-328](#), Pregnant Workers Fairness Act.

[105 ILCS 5/10-19](#), [5/10-19.05](#), [5/10-20.65](#), [5/14-1.09a](#), [5/22-96](#), [5/22.4](#), [5/24-16.5](#), [5/24-2](#), [5/24-8](#), [5/24-9](#), [5/24-11](#), [5/24-12](#), [5/24-21](#), [5/24A-1 through 24A-20](#).

[820 ILCS 260/](#), Nursing Mothers in the Workplace Act.

[23 Ill.Admin.Code Parts 50](#) (Evaluation of Educator Licensed Employees) and [51](#) (Dismissal of Tenured Teachers).

[Cleveland Bd. of Educ. v. Loudemill](#), 470 U.S. 532(1985).

CROSS REF.: 5:120 (Employee Ethics; Code of Professional Conduct; and Conflict of Interest), 5:290 (Employment Termination and Suspensions)

Adopted: August 19, 2024

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. This policy's content is unique to the district. Please consult the author and the **PRESS** sample, available by logging in at www.iasb.com, to determine necessary changes. **Issue 120, October 2025**

Document Status: Draft Update

Professional Personnel

5:220 Substitute Teachers

The Superintendent may employ substitute teachers as necessary to replace teachers who are temporarily absent.

A substitute teacher must hold either a valid teaching or substitute license and may teach in the place of a licensed teacher who is under contract with the Board of Education. There is no limit on the number of days that a substitute teacher may teach in the District during the school year, except as follows:

1. A substitute teacher holding a substitute license may teach for any one licensed teacher under contract with the District only for a period not to exceed 90 paid school days in any one school term.
2. A teacher holding a Professional Educator License or Educator License with Stipulations may teach for any one licensed teacher under contract with the District only for a period not to exceed 120 paid school days.

The Ill. Teachers' Retirement System (TRS) limits a substitute teacher who is a TRS annuitant to substitute teaching for a period not to exceed 120 paid days or 600 paid hours in each school year through June 30, 2026, but not more than 100 paid days in the same classroom. Beginning July 1, 2026, a substitute teacher who is a TRS annuitant may substitute teach for a period not to exceed 100 paid days or 500 paid hours in any school year, unless the subject area is one where the Regional Superintendent has certified that a personnel shortage exists.

The Board establishes a daily rate of pay for substitute teachers. Substitute teachers receive only monetary compensation for time worked and no other benefits.

Short-Term Substitute Teachers

A short-term substitute teacher must hold a valid short-term substitute teaching license and have completed the District's short-term substitute teacher training program. Unless otherwise permitted by law, short-term substitutes may teach no more than five consecutive school days for each licensed teacher who is under contract with the Board.

Emergency Situations

A substitute teacher may teach when no licensed teacher is under contract with the Board if the District has an emergency situation as defined in State law. During an emergency situation, a substitute teacher is limited to 30 calendar days of employment per each vacant position. The Superintendent shall notify the appropriate Regional Office of Education (ROE) within five business days after the employment of a substitute teacher in an emergency situation. The Board may continue to employ the same substitute teacher in a vacant position for 90 calendar days or until the end of the semester, whichever is greater, if, prior to the end of the then current 30-calendar-day period, the District makes a written request to the ROE for a 30-calendar-day extension and the extension is granted by the ROE.

LEGAL REF.:

[105 ILCS 5/10-20.68](#), [5/21B-20\(2\)](#), [5/21B-20\(3\)](#), and [5/21B-20\(4\)](#).

[105 ILCS 128/22, School Safety Drill Act.](#) [PRESSPlus1](#)

[40 ILCS 5/16-118](#), III. Pension Code.

[23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.790](#) (Substitute Teacher) and [§25.520](#) (Substitute Teaching License).

CROSS REF.: 5:30 (Hiring Process and Criteria)

Adopted: February 20, 2024

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. The Legal References are updated in response to P.A. 104-198, eff. 1-1-26, requiring districts to provide all substitute personnel with: (1) training on school evacuation drills and law enforcement lockdown drills, and (2) support that includes, at a minimum, the information packet given to employees with district-approved materials outlining evacuation and lockdown procedures. Maps indicating all school exits must also be prominently displayed in every classroom. **Issue 120, October 2025**

Document Status: Draft Update

Educational Support Personnel

5:280 Duties and Qualifications

All support staff: (1) must meet qualifications specified in job descriptions, (2) must be able to perform the essential tasks listed and/or assigned, and (3) are subject to Board of Education policies as they may be changed from time to time at the Board's sole discretion.

Paraprofessionals

Paraprofessionals provide supervised instructional support. Service as a paraprofessional requires an educator license with stipulations endorsed for a paraprofessional educator unless a specific exemption is authorized by the Ill. State Board of Education (ISBE).

Individuals with only non-instructional duties (e.g., providing technical support for computers, providing personal care services, or performing clerical duties) are not paraprofessionals, and the requirements in this section do not apply. In addition, individuals completing their clinical experiences and/or student teaching do not need to comply with this section, provided their service otherwise complies with ISBE rules.

Nonlicensed Personnel Working with Students and Performing Non-Instructional Duties

Nonlicensed personnel performing non-instructional duties may be used:

1. For supervising study halls, long distance teaching reception areas used incident to instructional programs transmitted by electronic media (e.g., computers, video, and audio), detention and discipline areas, and school-sponsored extracurricular activities;
2. As supervisors, chaperones, or sponsors for non-academic school activities or for school activities connected to the academic program during any time in which the Governor has declared a disaster due to a public health emergency, in accordance with ISBE rule; or
3. For non-teaching duties not requiring instructional judgment or student evaluation.

Nothing in this policy prevents a nonlicensed person from serving as a guest lecturer or resource person under a ~~certificated~~ licensed [PRESSPlus1](#) teacher's direction and with the administration's approval.

Coaches and Athletic Trainers

Athletic coaches and trainers shall have the qualifications required by any association in which the School District maintains a membership. Regardless of whether the athletic activity is governed by an association, the Superintendent or designee shall ensure that each athletic coach: (1) is knowledgeable regarding coaching principles, (2) has first aid training, and (3) is a trained Automated External Defibrillator user according to rules adopted by the Illinois Department of Public Health. Anyone performing athletic training services shall be licensed under the Illinois Athletic Trainers Practice Act, be an athletic trainer aide performing care activities under the on-site supervision of a licensed athletic trainer, or otherwise be qualified to perform athletic trainer activities under State law.

Bus Drivers

All school bus drivers must have a valid school bus driver permit. The Superintendent or designee shall inform the Illinois Secretary of State, within 30 days of being informed by a school bus driver, that the bus driver permit holder who is a service member [PRESSPlus2](#) has been called to active duty. New bus drivers and bus drivers who are returning from a lapse in their employment are subject to the requirements contained in Board policy 5:30, *Hiring Process and Criteria* and Board policy 5:285, *Drug and Alcohol Testing for School Bus and Commercial Vehicle Drivers*.

LEGAL REF.:

[34 C.F.R. §200.58](#).

[105 ILCS 5/10-22.34](#), [5/10-22.34a](#), and [5/10-22.34b](#).

[625 ILCS 5/6-104](#) and [5/6-106.1](#), Ill. Vehicle Code.

[23 Ill.Admin.Code §§1.280](#), [1.630](#), and [25.510](#).

CROSS REF.: 4:110 (Transportation), 4:170 (Safety), 5:30 (Hiring Process and Criteria), 5:35 (Compliance with the Fair Labor Standards Act), 5:285 (Drug and Alcohol Testing for School Bus and Commercial Vehicle Drivers), 6:250 (Community Resource Persons and Volunteers)

Adopted: February 21, 2023

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. Updated for continuous improvement. **Issue 120, October 2025**

PRESSPlus 2. *Service member* means a member of the Armed Services or reserve forces of the United States or a member of the Ill. National Guard. 625 ILCS 5/6-106.1(j). **Issue 120, October 2025**

Document Status: Draft Update

Educational Support Personnel

5:300 Schedules and Employment Year

The Superintendent shall supervise a process for setting work schedules and an employment year for educational support employees in accordance with State and federal law, Board of Education policy, and applicable agreements and shall:

1. Assign each employee one supervisor who will establish a work schedule, including breaks, as required by building or District needs, workload, and the efficient management of human resources;
2. Allow for the ability to respond to changing circumstances by altering work schedules consistent with the needs of the District, and
3. Consider the well-being of the employee.

Breaks

Please refer to the following current agreements:

Agreement Between Board of Education of Lyons Township High School District 204, Cook County, Illinois and Lyons Township ParaEducators Association (LTPA)

Negotiated Agreement Between Board of Education of Lyons Township High School District 204, Cook County, Illinois and Service Employees' International Union, A.F.L. - C.I.O. Local No. 73 Change to Win (C.T.W.).

For employees not covered by these agreements:

An employee who works at least 7.5 continuous hours shall receive a 30-minute duty-free meal break that begins within the first five hours of the employee's workday.

Nursing Mothers

The District accommodates employees who are nursing mothers and compensates them for reasonable time needed to express breast milk [PRESSPlus1](#) according to State and federal law.

LEGAL REF.:

[29 U.S.C. §§207](#) and [218d](#), Fair Labor Standards Act.

[105 ILCS 5/10-20.14a](#), [5/10-22.34](#), and [5/10-23.5](#).

[740 ILCS 137/](#), Right to Breastfeed Act.

[820 ILCS 105/](#), Minimum Wage Law.

[820 ILCS 260/](#), Nursing Mothers in the Workplace Act.

CROSS REF.: 5:10 (Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Recruitment), 5:35 (Compliance with the Fair Labor Standards Act)

Adopted: May 20, 2024

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. Updated in response to the Nursing Mothers in Workplace Act, 820 ILCS 260/10, amended by P.A. 104-76, eff. 1-1-26. **Issue 120, October 2025**

Document Status: Draft Update

INSTRUCTION

6:20 School Year Calendar and Day

School Calendar

The Board of Education, upon the Superintendent's recommendation and subject to State regulations, annually establishes the dates for opening and closing classes, teacher institutes and in-services, the length and dates of vacations, and the days designated as legal school holidays. The school calendar shall have a minimum of 185 days to ensure 176 days of actual student attendance.

Commemorative Holidays

The teachers and students ~~shall may~~ [PRESSPlus1](#) devote a portion of the school day on each commemorative holiday designated in the School Code to study and honor the commemorated person or occasion. The Board may, from time to time, designate a regular school day as a commemorative holiday.

School Day

The Board establishes the length of the school day with the recommendation of the Superintendent and subject to State law requirements. The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that observances required by State law are followed during each day of school attendance.

LEGAL REF.:

105 ILCS 5/10-19, 5/10-19.05, [5/10-20.46](#), 5/10-20.56, ~~5/10-20.46~~, 5/10-30, 5/18-12, 5/18-12.5, 5/24-2, 5/27-~~5103~~, ~~5/27-18~~, ~~5/27-19~~, ~~5/27-20~~, and 5/27-~~1025~~[20.1](#), and ~~5/27-20.2~~.

[10 ILCS 5/11-4.1](#), Election Code.

[5 ILCS 490/](#), State Commemorative Dates Act.

[23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.420\(f\)](#).

Metz v. Leininger, 850 F.Supp. 740 (N.D. Ill. 1994), *aff'd* by 57 F.3d 618 (7th Cir. 1995).

CROSS REF.: 2:20 (Powers and Duties of the Board of Education; Indemnification), 4:180 (Pandemic Preparedness; Management; and Recovery), 5:200 (Terms and Conditions of Employment and Dismissal), 5:330 (Sick Days, Vacation, Holidays, and Leaves), 6:60 (Curriculum Content), 6:70 (Teaching About Religions), 7:90 (Release During School Hours)

Adopted: February 21, 2023

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. Updated in response to 105 ILCS ⁶⁸5/24-2(c), amended by P.A. 104-391, making

commemorative holidays optional to observe and moving the last Friday in April (Arbor and Bird Day), October 9 (Leif Erikson Day), and the day immediately after Thanksgiving (Native American Heritage Day) to commemorative holidays. In addition, 105 ILCS 5/27-20 and 105 ILCS 5/27-20.2, both repealed by P.A. 104-391, removed American Indian Day and Just Say No Day, respectively, from the list of commemorative holidays. **Issue 120, October 2025**

Document Status: Draft Update

INSTRUCTION

6:60 Curriculum Content

The curriculum shall contain instruction on subjects required by State statute or regulation as follows:

1. In grades 9 through 12, subjects include: (a) language arts, (b) writing intensive courses, (c) science, (d) mathematics, (e) social studies including U.S. history, American government and one semester of civics, (f) foreign language, (g) music, (h) art, (i) driver and safety education, and (j) career and technical/vocational PRESSPlus1 education.

Students otherwise eligible to take a driver education course must receive a passing grade in at least eight courses during the previous two semesters before enrolling in the course. The Superintendent or designee may waive this requirement if he or she believes a waiver to be in the student's best interest. The course shall include: (a) instruction necessary for the safe operation of motor vehicles, including motorcycles, to the extent that they can be taught in the classroom, (b) classroom instruction on distracted driving as a major traffic safety issue, (c) instruction on required safety and driving precautions that must be observed at emergency situations, highway construction and maintenance zones, including worker safety in those zones, and railroad crossings and their approaches, and (d) instruction concerning law enforcement procedures for traffic stops, including a demonstration of the proper actions to be taken during a traffic stop and appropriate interactions with law enforcement. Automobile safety instruction covering traffic regulations and highway safety must include instruction on the consequences of alcohol consumption and the operation of a motor vehicle. The eligibility requirements contained in State law for the receipt of a certificate of completion from the Secretary of State shall be provided to students in writing at the time of their registration.

2. In grades 9-12, drug and alcohol prevention education, including: PRESSPlus2 (a) age- and developmentally appropriate classroom instruction on alcohol and drug use and abuse, (b) the dangers of fentanyl, and (c) anabolic steroid abuse prevention, which must also be taught in interscholastic programs.
3. Violence prevention and conflict resolution must be stressed, including: (a) causes of conflict, (b) consequences of violent behavior, (c) non-violent resolution, and (d) relationships between drugs, alcohol, and violence.
4. The curriculum contains a unit on Internet safety, the scope of which shall be determined by the Superintendent or designee.
5. In all grades, students must receive developmentally appropriate opportunities to gain computer literacy skills that are embedded in the curriculum.
6. In all grades, character education PRESSPlus3 must be taught including respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, trustworthiness, and citizenship in order to raise students' honesty, kindness, justice, discipline, respect for others, and moral courage. Instruction on in all grades will include examples of behaviors that violate Board policy 7:180, Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment. In addition, in all grades, bullying prevention and gang resistance education and training must be taught.
7. Citizenship values must be taught, including: (a) American patriotism, (b) principles of

- representative government (the American Declaration of Independence, the Constitution of the United States of America and the Constitution of the State of Illinois), (c) proper use and display of the American flag, and (d) the Pledge of Allegiance, ~~and (e) the voting process.~~ [PRESSPlus4](#)
8. Physical education must be taught including a developmentally planned and sequential curriculum that fosters the development of movement skills, enhances health-related fitness, increases students' knowledge, offers direct opportunities to learn how to work cooperatively in a group setting, and encourages healthy habits and attitudes for a healthy lifestyle. Unless otherwise exempted, all students are required to engage daily during the school day in a physical education course. For exemptions and substitutions, see Board policies 6:310, *High School Credit for Non-District Experiences*; *Course Substitutions*; *Re-Entering Students* and 7:260, *Exemption from Physical Education*.
 9. In all schools, health education must be stressed, including: [PRESSPlus5](#) (a) human ecology, health, growth, development, personal health habits, and nutrition, (b) family life, (c) prevention and control of disease, ~~proper nutrition, (b) physical fitness, (c) personal health habits, (d) dangers and avoidance of abduction,~~ (d) age- and developmentally appropriate and evidence-informed sexual abuse and assault awareness and prevention education in all grades, (e) public health, environmental health, disaster preparedness, and safety education, [PRESSPlus6](#) (f) mental health and illness, (g) dental health, (h) cancer education, and (i) age- and developmentally appropriate consent education [PRESSPlus7](#) ~~and (f) in grades 9-12, the dangers of fentanyl.~~ The Superintendent shall implement a comprehensive health education program in accordance with State law.
 10. In all schools, abduction education that addresses the danger of and avoidance of abduction. [PRESSPlus8](#)
 11. In grades 9-12, the dangers of allergies must be taught. [PRESSPlus9](#)
 12. In grades 9-12, training on how to properly administer cardiopulmonary resuscitation and how to use an automated external defibrillator. [PRESSPlus10](#)
 13. Career/vocational education must be taught, including: (a) the importance of work, (b) the development of basic skills to enter the world of work and/or continue formal education, (c) good work habits and values, (d) the relationship between learning and work, and (e) if possible, a student work program that provides the student with work experience as an extension of the regular classroom. A career awareness and exploration program must be available at all grade levels. In grades 9-12, students engage in career exploration and career development activities to prepare them to make informed plans and decisions about their future education and career goals. In grades 9-12, a College and Career Pathway Endorsement is awarded to students who meet the requirements for a specific endorsement area.
 14. In grades 9 through 12, consumer education must be taught, including: (a) financial literacy, including consumer debt and installment purchasing (including credit scoring, managing credit debt, and completing a loan application); budgeting; savings and investing; banking (including balancing a checkbook, opening a deposit account, and the use of interest rates); understanding simple contracts; State and federal income taxes; personal insurance policies; the comparison of prices; higher education student loans; identity-theft security; and homeownership (including the basic process of obtaining a mortgage and the concepts of fixed and adjustable rate mortgages, subprime loans, and predatory lending); and (b) the roles of consumers interacting with agriculture, business, labor unions and government in formulating and achieving the goals of the mixed free enterprise system.
 15. In grades 9 through 12, a unit of instruction about the process of naturalization by which a foreign citizen or foreign national becomes a U.S. citizen that includes content from the components of the naturalization test administered⁷¹ by the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration

Services.

16. In grades 9 through 12, intensive instruction in computer literacy, which may be included as a part of English, social studies, or any other subject.
17. In grades 9 through 12, through the 2026-2027 school year, a unit of instruction on media literacy. Beginning in the fall of 2027, in grades 9 through 12, a unit of instruction on media literacy and Internet safety that includes, but is not limited to, all of the following topics: (a) accessing and evaluating information; (b) creating media; (c) reflecting on media consumption and social responsibility; (d) legal and social penalties for illicit actions online; and (e) reporting illicit content online. [PRESSPlus11](#)
18. In grades 9 through 12, an opportunity for students to take at least one computer science course aligned to Illinois learning standards.
19. In all schools, environmental education, including instruction on: (a) the current problems and needs in the conservation of natural resources and (b) beginning in the fall of 2026, instruction on climate change.
20. In all schools, instruction as determined by the Superintendent or designee on United States (U.S.) history must be taught, including: (a) the principles of representative government, (b) the Constitutions of the U.S. and Illinois, (c) the role of the U.S. in world affairs, (d) the role of labor unions, (e) the role and contributions of ethnic groups, including but not limited to, African Americans, Albanians, Asian Americans, Bohemians, Czechs, French, Germans, Hispanics (including the events related to the forceful removal and illegal deportation of Mexican-American U.S. citizens during the Great Depression), Hungarians, Irish, Italians, Lithuanians, Polish, Russians, Scots, and Slovaks in the history of this country and State, (f) a study of the roles and contributions of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) people in the history of the U.S. and Illinois, (g) Illinois history, (h) the contributions made to society by Americans of different faith practices, including, but not limited to, Muslim Americans, Jewish Americans, Christian Americans, Hindu Americans, Sikh Americans, Buddhist Americans, and any other collective community of faith that has shaped America, (i) Native American nations' sovereignty and self-determination, both historically and in the present day, with a focus on urban Native Americans, and (j) beginning in the fall of 2024, the events of the Native American experience and Native American history within the Midwest and Illinois since time immemorial in accordance with [105 ILCS 5/27-20.05](#).

In addition, all schools shall hold an educational program on the United States Constitution on Constitution Day, each September 17, commemorating the September 17, 1787 signing of the Constitution. However, when September 17 falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or holiday, Constitution Day shall be held during the preceding or following week.

21. In all schools, the curriculum includes instruction as determined by the Superintendent or designee on the Holocaust and crimes of genocide, including Nazi atrocities of 1933-1945, the Native American genocide in North America, Armenian Genocide, the Famine-Genocide in Ukraine, [Q1](#) and more recent atrocities in Cambodia, Bosnia, Rwanda, and Sudan.
22. In all schools, the curriculum includes instruction as determined by the Superintendent or designee on the history, struggles, and contributions of women.
23. In all schools, the curriculum includes instruction as determined by the Superintendent or designee on Black History, including the history of the pre-enslavement of Black people from 3,000 BCE to AD 1619, the African slave trade, slavery in America, the study of the reasons why Black people came to be enslaved, the vestiges of slavery in this country, the study of the American civil rights renaissance, as well as the struggles and contributions of African-Americans.
24. Offering a secondary agricultural education program, the curriculum includes courses as

required by [105 ILCS 5/2-3.80](#).

25. In all schools, instruction during courses as determined by the Superintendent or designee on disability history, awareness, and the disability rights movement.
26. In all schools, instruction on the events of Asian American history, including the history of Asian Americans in Illinois and the Midwest, as well as the contributions of Asian Americans toward advancing civil rights from the 19th century onward.

LEGAL REF.:

[Pub. L. No. 108-447](#), Section 111 of Division J, Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2005.

[Pub. L. No. 110-385](#), Title II, 122 stat. 4096 (2008), Protecting Children in the 21st Century Act.

[47 C.F.R. §54.520](#).

[5 ILCS 465/3](#) and [465/3a](#).

[20 ILCS 2605/2605-480](#).

[105 ILCS 5/2-3.80](#)(e) and (f), [5/10-20.79](#), [5/10-20.84](#), [5/10-23.13](#), [5/27-3](#), [5/27-3.5](#), [5/27-5](#), [5/27-6](#), [5/27-6.5](#), [5/27-7](#), [5/27-12](#), [5/27-12.1](#), [5/27-13.1](#), [5/27-13.2](#), [5/27-20.05](#), [5/27-20.08](#), [5/27-20.3](#), [5/27-20.4](#), [5/27-20.5](#), [5/27-20.7](#), [5/27-20.8](#), [5/27-21](#), [5/27-22](#), [5/27-23.3](#), [5/27-23.4](#), [5/27-23.7](#), [5/27-23.8](#), [5/27-23.10](#), [5/27-23.11](#), [5/27-23.15](#), [5/27-23.16](#), [5/27-24.1](#), and [5/27-24.2](#) [5/22-110](#), [5/27-105](#), [5/27-110](#), [5/27-115](#), [5/27-210](#), [5/27-215](#), [5/27-245](#), [5/27-250](#), [5/27-255](#), [5/27-260](#), [5/27-305](#), [5/27-310](#), [5/27-315](#), [5/27-405](#), [5/27-410](#) (scheduled for repeal on 7-1-27), [5/27-415](#) (scheduled for repeal on 7-1-27), [5/27-505](#), [5/27-510](#), [5/27-515](#), [5/27-520](#), [5/27-525](#), [5/27-530](#), [5/27-535](#), [5/27-540](#), [5/27-545](#), [5/27-605](#), [5/27-705](#), [5/27-710](#), [5/27-715](#), [5/27-720](#), [5/27-725](#), [5/27-810](#), [5/27-815](#), [5/27-1055](#), and [5/27-1070](#). [PRESSPlus12](#)

[105 ILCS 110/3](#), Comprehensive Health Education Program. [PRESSPlus13](#)

[105 ILCS 435/](#), Vocational Education Act.

[625 ILCS 5/6-408.5](#), III. Vehicle Code.

[23 Ill.Admin.Code §§1.420](#), [1.425](#), [1.430](#), and [1.440](#).

CROSS REF.: 4:165 (Awareness and Prevention of Child Sex Abuse and Grooming Behaviors), 6:20 (School Year Calendar and Day), 6:40 (Curriculum Development), 6:70 (Teaching About Religions), 7:180 (Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment, 7:185 (Teen Dating Violence Prohibited), 7:190 (Student Behavior), 7:260 (Exemption from Physical Education)

Adopted: January 21, 2025

Questions and Answers:

***Required Question 1. A district may include in its curriculum a unit of instruction studying the causes and effects of mass starvation in mid-19th century Ireland, known as the "Irish Famine." 105 ILCS 5/27-1030, renumbered by P.A. 104-391. If offered, the board locally determines the minimum amount of instruction time. For a resource originally developed by the NJ Commission on Holocaust Education, see www.oregon.gov/ode/educator-

<resources/standards/socialsciences/Documents/IrishFamine.pdf>.

Does the Board provide instruction studying the causes and effects of the Irish Famine?

No. (Default)

Yes. (IASB will add "the Irish Famine" after "the Famine-Genocide in Ukraine," and IASB will add 5/27-1030 to the Legal References.)

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. Updated in response to 105 ILCS 5/27-605, amended by P.A. 104-387, and renumbered by P.A. 104-391. **Issue 120, October 2025**

PRESSPlus 2. Drug abuse prevention education is no longer part of the Comprehensive Health Education Program (CHEP) and is therefore listed as a separate item. P.A. 104-391 consolidated drug prevention education related topics into one new section of the School Code, 105 ILCS 5/27-255. **Issue 120, October 2025**

PRESSPlus 3. Updated in response to P.A. 104-391, which repealed the requirement to teach character education formerly at 105 ILCS 5/27-12. **Issue 120, October 2025**

PRESSPlus 4. Updated in response to P.A. 104-391, which moved instruction on the voting process to civics education for grades 6, 7, or 8. **Issue 120, October 2025**

PRESSPlus 5. Letters (a) - (i) are required by CHEP. 105 ILCS 5/27-215, added by P.A. 104-391. **Issue 120, October 2025**

PRESSPlus 6. 105 ILCS 5/27-815, renumbered by P.A. 104-391, also requires safety instruction in each of grades 1 through 8, equivalent to one class period each week. Neither CHEP nor 105 ILCS 5/27-815 (as it pertains to grades 1-8) define safety education or explain how it differs from the optional safety education that boards can offer under 105 ILCS 5/27-1020, renumbered by P.A. 104-391, though districts could draw from the topics listed in that section. **Issue 120, October 2025**

PRESSPlus 7. Consent education under CHEP is limited to the definition of *consent* under 105 ILCS 5/27-215(a), added by P.A. 104-391; this basic consent instruction is separate from the more extensive, optional consent education under 105 ILCS 5/27-1010, amended and renumbered by P.A. 104-391. For more information, see PRESS sample policy 6:60, *Curriculum Content*, at footnote 33, available at PRESS Online by logging in at www.iasb.com. **Issue 120, October 2025**

PRESSPlus 8. Required by 105 ILCS 5/27-105, added by P.A. 104-391. The Ill. State Police and Ill. State Board of Education (ISBE) must develop instruction on child abduction prevention. 20 ILCS 2605/2605-480. See www.isbe.net/Documents/Child-Abduction-Prevention.pdf. Although this topic is no longer required by CHEP, it is also addressed in sample administrative procedure 6:60-AP1, *Comprehensive Health Education Program*,⁷⁴ available at PRESS Online by logging in at

www.iasb.com. **Issue 120, October 2025**

PRESSPlus 9. Required by 105 ILCS 5/27-245, added by P.A. 104-391. Although this topic is no longer required by CHEP, it is also addressed in sample administrative procedure 6:60-AP1, *Comprehensive Health Education Program*, available at PRESS Online by logging in at www.iasb.com. **Issue 120, October 2025**

PRESSPlus 10. Required by 105 ILCS 5/27-250, added by P.A. 104-391. Although this topic is no longer required by CHEP, it is also addressed in sample administrative procedure 6:60-AP1, *Comprehensive Health Education Program*, available at PRESS Online by logging in at www.iasb.com. **Issue 120, October 2025**

PRESSPlus 11. 105 ILCS 5/27-405, added by P.A. 104-391, details the requirements for media literacy and Internet safety instruction effective for the 2027-2028 school year. ISBE is required to make available instructional resources and professional development available for the development of a unit of instruction under 105 ILCS 5/27-405, subject to appropriation. Beginning with the 2027-2028 school year, media literacy instruction must also: (1) be age- and developmentally appropriate for each grade level being taught; (2) teach about the harmful physical, emotional, and psychological effects associated with unhealthy use of the Internet and social media; and (3) provide information on resources to report cyberbullying and the illicit online behavior of others. **Issue 120, October 2025**

PRESSPlus 12. Updated in response to P.A. 104-391, renumbering, reorganizing, and repealing citations throughout 105 ILCS 5/27. **Issue 120, October 2025**

PRESSPlus 13. Repealed by P.A. 104-391 and replaced, in part, by 105 ILCS 5/27-215, added by P.A. 104-391. **Issue 120, October 2025**

Document Status: Draft Update

INSTRUCTION

6:160 English Learners

The District offers opportunities for resident English Learners to achieve at high levels in academic subjects and to meet the same challenging State academic standards that all children are expected to meet. The Superintendent or designee shall develop and maintain a program for English Learners that will:

1. Assist all English Learners to achieve English proficiency, facilitate effective communication in English, and encourage their full participation in school activities and programs as well as promote participation by the parents/guardians of English Learners.
2. Appropriately identify students with limited English language proficiency.
3. Comply with State law regarding the Transitional Bilingual Educational Program (TBE) or Transitional Program of Instruction (TPI), whichever is applicable.
4. Comply with any applicable State and federal requirements for the receipt of grant money for English Learners and programs to serve them.
5. Determine the appropriate instructional program and environment for English Learners.
6. Annually assess the English proficiency of English Learners and monitor their progress in order to determine their readiness for a mainstream classroom environment.
7. Include English Learners, to the extent required by State and federal law, in the District's student assessment program to measure their achievement in reading/language arts and mathematics.
8. Provide information to the parents/guardians of English Learners about: (1) the reasons for their child's identification, (2) their child's level of English proficiency, (3) the method of instruction to be used, (4) how the program will meet their child's needs, (5) how the program will specifically help their child learn English and meet age-appropriate academic achievement standards for grade promotion and graduation, (6) specific exit requirements of the program, (7) how the program will meet their child's individualized education program, if applicable, and (8) information on parent/guardian rights. Parents/guardians will be regularly apprised of their child's progress and involvement will be encouraged.

Parent/Guardian Involvement [PRESSPlus1](#)

Parents/guardians of English Learners will be informed how they can: (1) be involved in the education of their children; (2) be active participants in assisting their children to attain English proficiency, achieve at high levels within a well-rounded education, and meet the challenging State academic standards expected of all students; and (3) participate and serve on the District's Transitional Bilingual Education Programs Parent Advisory Committee.

LEGAL REF.:

[20 U.S.C. §§6312, 6314, 6315, and 6318.](#)

[20 U.S.C. §6801](#) *et seq.*

[34 C.F.R. Part 200.](#)

[105 ILCS 5/14C-1](#) *et seq.*

[23 Ill.Admin.Code Part 228.](#)

CROSS REF.: 6:15 (School Accountability), 6:170 (Title I Programs), 6:340 (Student Testing and Assessment Program)

Adopted: October 18, 2021

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. Updated for continuous improvement. **Issue 120, October 2025**

Document Status: Draft Update

INSTRUCTION

6:210 Instructional Materials

All District classrooms and learning centers should be equipped with a wide assortment of instructional materials. These materials should provide quality learning experiences for students and:

1. To provide materials that will enrich and support the curriculum, taking into consideration the varied interests, abilities, maturity, and developmental levels of students;
2. To provide materials that will stimulate growth in knowledge, literary appreciation, aesthetic values, and ethical standards;
3. To provide background information that will enable students to make intelligent judgments in their daily lives;
4. To provide materials on opposing sides of controversial issues so students may develop the practices of critical thinking and critical analysis;
5. To provide materials representatives of sex, race, religion, nationality, ethnic origin, sexual orientation, disability, or any other differences that may exist;
6. To place principle above personal opinion and reason above prejudice in the selection of materials of the highest quality in order to assure a comprehensive collection appropriate for students;
7. To provide a current, balanced collection of materials which may include the following:
Textbooks, books, reference materials, periodicals, all forms of media, and experiences (e.g., Field trips, assemblies, speakers and which depict the cultural diversity and the pluralistic nature of American society; and
8. To provide instructional materials that are appropriate to the standards of courses and departments.

The Superintendent or designee shall annually provide a list or description of textbooks and instructional materials used in the District to the School Board. Anyone may inspect any textbook or instructional material. Objections to or complaints about instructional materials shall be presented to the Board of education only after the person making the objection or complaint has complied with the procedures established by the Superintendent or designee.

Instructional Materials Selection and Adoption

The Superintendent shall recommend to the Board for consideration and adoption all textbooks and instructional materials and shall include the following information: (1) title, publisher, copyright dates, number of copies desired, and cost; (2) any texts being replaced; and (3) rationale for recommendation. ^{Q1} The School Code governs the adoption and purchase of textbooks and instructional materials.

LEGAL REF.:

[105 ILCS 5/10-20.8](#) and [5/28-19.1](#).

CROSS REF.: 6:30 (Organization of Instruction), 6:40 (Curriculum Development), 6:170 (Title I Programs), 6:260 (Complaints About Curriculum, Instructional Materials, and Programs), 7:10 (Equal Educational Opportunities), 7:15 (Student and Family Privacy Rights), 8:110 (Public Suggestions and Concerns)

Adopted: June 20, 2023

Questions and Answers:

***Required Question 1. A Board that does not have the capacity or desire to approve all instructional materials may use the following alternative:

The Superintendent shall recommend to the Board for consideration and adoption all textbooks and primary instructional materials and shall include the following information: (1) title, publisher, copyright dates, number of copies desired, and cost; (2) any texts being replaced; and (3) rationale for recommendation. The Superintendent shall approve the selection of all other instructional materials.

Has the Board adopted the alterative language shown above?

- No. (Default)
 - Yes. (IASB will add the language shown in underline above.)
-

Document Status: Draft Update

INSTRUCTION

6:260 Complaints About Curriculum, Instructional Materials, and Programs

Parents/guardians have the right to inspect any instructional material used as part of their child's educational curriculum pursuant to Board of Education policy 7:15, *Student and Family Privacy Rights*.

Parents/guardians, employees, and community members who believe that curriculum, instructional materials, or programs violate rights guaranteed by any law or Board policy may file a complaint using Board policy 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*.

Parents/guardians, employees, and community members with other suggestions or complaints about curriculum, instructional materials, or programs should complete a *Curriculum Objection Form*. A parent/guardian may request that his/her child be exempt from using a particular instructional material or program by completing a *Curriculum Objection Form*. The Superintendent or designee shall establish criteria for the review of objections and inform the parent/guardian, employee, or community member, as applicable, of the District's decision.

LEGAL REF.:

[20 U.S.C. §1232h](#), Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment.

[Mahmoud v. Taylor, 145 S.Ct. 2332 \(2025\)](#). [PRESSPlus1](#)

CROSS REF.: 2:260 (Uniform Grievance Procedure), 7:15 (Student and Family Privacy Rights), 8:110 (Public Suggestions and Concerns)

Adopted: February 21, 2023

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. Updated in response to [Mahmoud v. Taylor, 145 S.Ct. 2332 \(2025\)](#), holding that classroom instruction will likely burden parents' free exercise rights if it requires their children to submit to instruction "that poses 'a very real threat of undermining' the religious beliefs and practices that the parents wish to instill." Unless otherwise required by law, it is unclear from Mahmoud whether a district would ever need to give advance notice to all parents/guardians of the use of certain curriculum or instructional materials that could trigger religious objections. Doing so could present discrimination concerns. Given the many unsettled legal issues in this area and the fact-dependent nature of the analysis involved, boards should consult with the board attorney regarding any curriculum objections. **Issue 120, October 2025**

Document Status: Draft Update

INSTRUCTION

6:300 Graduation Requirements

To graduate from high school, unless otherwise exempted, each student is responsible for:

1. Completing all District graduation requirements that are in addition to the State requirements.
2. Completing all courses as provided in the School Code, 105 ILCS 5/27-~~22~~605. [PRESSPlus1](#)
3. Completing all minimum requirements for graduation as specified in State law.
4. Passing an examination on patriotism, and principles of representative government, and proper use and display of the American flag ~~methods of voting, and the Pledge of Allegiance.~~ [PRESSPlus2](#) Beginning with the class of 2020, successful completion of the state civics coursework requirement will substitute for the examination.
5. Participating in State assessments that are required for graduation by State law.
6. Filing one of the following: (1) a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) with the U.S. Dept. of Education, (2) an application for State financial aid, or (3) an Ill. State Board of Education (ISBE) waiver form indicating that the student understands what these aid opportunities are and has chosen not to file an application. If the student is not at least 18 years of age or legally emancipated, the student's parent/guardian must file one of these documents on the student's behalf.

A student is exempt from this requirement if: (1) the student is unable to file a financial aid application or an ISBE waiver due to extenuating circumstances, (2) the Building Principal attests the District made a good faith effort to assist the student or the student's parent/guardian with filing a financial aid application or an ISBE waiver form, and (3) the student has met all other graduation requirements.

The Superintendent or designee is responsible for:

1. Maintaining a description of all course offerings that comply with the above graduation requirements.
2. Notifying students and their parents/guardians of graduation requirements.
3. Developing the criteria for #4 above.
4. Complying with State law requirements for students who transfer during their senior year because their parent(s)/guardian(s) are on active military duty. This includes making reasonable adjustments to ensure graduation if possible, or efforts to ensure that the original (transferor) school district issues the student a diploma.
5. Taking all other actions needed or necessary to implement this policy.

As a requirement for graduation and the granting of a diploma from Lyons Township High School, each student must earn twenty three (23) Carnegie Unit credits and successfully complete the following courses.

| Subject Area/Course | Required Credits |
|---------------------|------------------|
|---------------------|------------------|

| | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Consumer Education | 1/2 (.5) |
| Driver Education ¹ | 1/2 (.5) |
| English | 4 (4.0) |
| Health Education | 1/2 (.5) |
| Mathematics | 3 (3.0) |
| Physical Education | 3 1/2 (3.5) |
| Science | 2 (2.0) |
| United States History | 1 (1.0) |
| World History 1 (1.0) | 1 (1.0) |
| Civics | 1/2 (.5) |
| Creative and Practical Arts | >1 (1.0) ² |
| Additional Electives | 5½ (5.5) |
| TOTAL 23 (23.0) | |

In addition to twenty three (23) Carnegie Unit credits required for graduation, each student must earn u-passing grade on a test covering the Constitutions of the State of Illinois and the United States or, beginning with the class of 2020, pass the designated civics course. Each student is also required to participate in any mandated State assessments.

Early Graduation

The Superintendent or designee shall implement procedures for students to graduate early, provided they finish seven semesters of high school and meet all graduation requirements.

Certificate of Completion

A student with a disability who has an Individualized Education Program prescribing special education, transition planning, transition services, or related services beyond the student's four years of high school, qualifies for a certificate of completion after the student has completed four years of high school. The student is encouraged to participate in the graduation ceremony of his or her high school graduation class. The Superintendent or designee shall provide timely written notice of this requirement to children with disabilities and their parents/guardians.

Service Member Diploma

The District will award a diploma to a service member who was killed in action while performing active military duty with the U.S. Armed Forces or an honorably discharged veteran of World War II, the Korean Conflict, or the Vietnam Conflict, provided that he or she (1) resided within an area currently within the District at the time he or she left high school, (2) left high school before graduating in order to serve in the U.S. Armed Forces, and (3) has not received a high school diploma.

105 ILCS 5/2-3.64a-5, 5/22-27, 5/22-87, 5/27-510~~3~~, 5/27-605~~22~~, and 5/27-615~~22-10~~.

[105 ILCS 70/](#), Educational Opportunity for Military Children Act.

[23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.440](#).

CROSS REF.: 6:30 (Organization of Instruction), 6:310 (High School Credit for Non-District Experiences; Course Substitutions; Re-Entering Students), 6:320 (High School Credit for Proficiency), 7:50 (School Admissions and Student Transfers To and From Non-District Schools)

Adopted: December 13, 2016

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. Renumbered in response to P.A. 104-391. **Issue 120, October 2025**

PRESSPlus 2. Updated in response to 105 ILCS 5/27-510, added by P.A. 104-391, requiring students to pass an exam on patriotism, principles of representative government, and proper use and display of the American flag, formerly addressed at 105 ILCS 5/27-3, repealed by P.A. 104-391. **Issue 120, October 2025**

PRESS Footnotes

1. ²Driver Education: per State law, only the classroom phase must be passed. If a student satisfies the Driver Education requirement through an approved, off-site program, then this requirement and 1/2 (.5) credit requirement will have been deemed waived.

2. ⁴Beginning with the class of 2020, students must choose 1 Carnegie Unit from a pool of designated creative and practical arts courses.

Document Status: Draft Update

INSTRUCTION

6:310 Credit for Alternative Courses and Programs, and Course Substitutions

Correspondence Courses [PRESSPlus1](#)

A student enrolled in a correspondence course may receive high school credit for work completed, provided:

1. The course is given by an institution accredited by AdvancED;
2. The student is a fourth or fifth year senior;
3. The student assumes responsibility for all fees; and
4. The Building Principal approves the course in advance.

A maximum of 3 units of credit may be counted toward the requirements for a student's high school graduation.

Distance Learning Courses, Including Virtual or Online Courses

A student enrolled in a distance learning course, including a virtual or online course, may receive high school credit for work completed, provided:

1. The course is offered by an institution approved by the Superintendent or designee;
2. The course is not offered at the student's high school;
3. The student assumes responsibility for all fees (including tuition and textbooks); and
4. The Building Principal approves the course in advance.

Students may be limited as to the number of distance learning courses that apply toward high school credit. Grades earned in approved distance learning courses count toward a student's grade point average, class rank, and eligibility for athletic and extracurricular activities. The District may pay the fee for expelled students who are permitted to take virtual or online courses in alternative settings.

Exchange Programs

An exchange student will be granted a diploma if he or she completes the criteria for graduation established by the State of Illinois and the Board of Education. The Board may grant a certificate of attendance to exchange students.

District students will receive high school credit for world exchange courses that meet the criteria established in the curriculum and that are approved by the Building Principal. International study course work not meeting District requirements may be placed in the student's permanent record and recorded as an international study experience.

Summer School and Independent Study

A student will receive high school credit for successfully completing: (1) any course given by an

institution accredited by AdvancED, and (2) independent study in a curriculum area not offered by the District, provided the student obtains the consent of a supervising teacher as well as the Building Principal.

College Courses

A student who successfully completes community college courses may receive high school credit, provided:

1. The student is a senior in good academic standing;
2. The course is not offered in the high school curriculum;
3. The course is approved in advance by the student's guidance counselor and the High School Principal or designee; and
4. The student assumes responsibility for all fees.

A maximum of 6 units of credit may be counted toward the requirements for a student's high school graduation.

Dual Credit Courses

A student who successfully completes a dual credit course may receive credit at both the college and high school level. When applicable, the Building Principal or designee shall, prior to the first day of class, inform individual high school students enrolled in a mixed enrollment dual credit course that includes students who have and have not met the community college's criteria for dual credit coursework of whether or not they are eligible to earn college credit for the course.

World Language Courses

A student will receive high school credit by studying world language in an approved ethnic school program, provided such program meets the minimum standards established by the State Board of Education.

The amount of credit will be based on world language proficiency achieved. The Building Principal may require a student seeking world language credit to successfully complete a world language proficiency examination.

Tech Prep Partnership for Careers Programs and Vocational Academies

A student will receive high school credit for work-related training at manufacturing facilities or agencies in a Tech Prep Partnership for Careers program, [PRESSPlus2](#) or for credit earned in a Vocational Academy. The student assumes responsibility for any fee, tuition, supply, or other expenses for participation in Tech Prep Partnership for Careers Programs or Vocational Academies.

Substitutions for Physical Education and Other Required Courses

A student in grades 9-12 may substitute the advanced placement computer science course for one year of mathematics, in accordance with [Section 27-22 of the School Code](#). The transcript of a student who completes the advanced placement computer science course will state that it qualifies as a mathematics-based, quantitative course.

A student in grades 9-12, unless otherwise stated, may submit a written request to the Building Principal to be excused from physical education courses for the reasons stated below. The

Superintendent or designee shall maintain records showing that the criteria set forth in this policy were applied to the student's individual circumstances.

1. Ongoing participation in an interscholastic or extracurricular athletic program for students in grades 11 and 12 (student must be in the 11th or 12th grade);
2. Ongoing participation in a marching band program for credit for students in grades 11 and 12;
3. Enrollment in academic classes that are required for admission to an institution of higher learning (student must be in the 11th or 12th grade); or
4. Enrollment in academic classes that are required for graduation from high school, provided that failure to take such classes will result in the student being unable to graduate (student must be in the 11th or 12th grade).

A student in grades 9-12 who is eligible for special education may be excused from physical education courses if:

1. The student's parent/guardian agrees that the student must utilize the time set aside for physical education to receive special education support and services, or
2. The student's individualized education program team determines that the student must utilize the time set aside for physical education to receive special education support and services, or
3. The student is participating in an adaptive athletic program outside of the school setting, and the parent/guardian documents the student's participation in writing to the District.

The agreement or determination must be made a part of the individualized education program. A student requiring adapted physical education must receive that service in accordance with the student's individualized education program.

Registered Apprenticeship Program. The Superintendent or designee will ensure that the District complies with State law requirements for registered apprenticeship programs. The opportunities and requirements for registered apprenticeship programs contained in this policy will be posted on the District's website, and parents/guardians and students will also be notified of such opportunities in the appropriate school handbook(s).

A student in grades 9-12 who is 16 years or older may satisfy one or more high school courses (including physical education) or graduation requirements by successfully completing a registered apprenticeship program if:

1. The registered apprenticeship program meets all criteria contained in State law;
2. The registered apprenticeship program is listed by the District, or the student identifies a registered (but not listed) apprenticeship program with a business or organization if one is not offered in the District;
3. The student enrolled in a registered apprenticeship program has the opportunity to earn post-secondary credit toward a certificate or degrees, as applicable;
4. The student's parent/guardian requests and approves the substitution(s) in writing on forms provided by the District and on its website;
5. The Building Principal approves the substitution(s); and
6. All non-academic requirements mandated by the School Code for high school graduation that would otherwise prohibit or prevent the student from participating in the registered apprenticeship program are waived.

Individuals younger than 21 years of age may re-enter high school to acquire a high school diploma or an equivalency certificate, subject to the limitations in Board Policy 7:50, School Admissions and Student Transfers To and From Non-District Schools. Re-entering students may obtain credit through the successful completion of the following (not all of these may be available at any one time):

1. District courses
2. Non-District experiences described in this policy
3. Classes in a program established under [Section 10-22.20 of the School Code](#), in accordance with the standards established by the Illinois Community College Board
4. Proficiency testing, correspondence courses, and other nonformal educational endeavors

LEGAL REF.:

105 ILCS 5/2-3.44, 5/2-3.108, 5/2-3.115(b), 5/2-3.142, 5/2-3.175, 5/10-22.43a, 5/10-20.62, [5/27-610](#), [5/27-710](#), and [5/27-1035](#) ~~22.3, and 5/27-22.05~~. [PRESSPlus3](#)

[110 ILCS 27/](#), Dual Credit Quality Act.

[23 Ill.Admin.Code §§1.425\(e\), 1.440\(f\), 1.470\(c\), and Part 255](#).

CROSS REF.: 6:300 (Graduation Requirements), 6:320 (High School Credit for Proficiency), 7:260 (Exemption from Physical Activity)

Adopted: February 21, 2023

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. This policy's content is unique to the district. Please consult the author and the **PRESS** sample, available by logging in at www.iasb.com, to determine necessary changes. **Issue 120, October 2025**

PRESSPlus 2. Updated in response to 105 ILCS 5/2-3.115, amended by P.A. 104-261, eff. 1-1-26, deleting the provision that required ISBE to encourage programs of academic credit for Tech Prep work-based learning for high school students, and authorizing ISBE to make grants to districts to be used for these programs. **Issue 120, October 2025**

PRESSPlus 3. The Legal References are updated. **Issue 120, October 2025**

Document Status: Draft Update

INSTRUCTION

6:320 High School Credit for Proficiency

Proficiency Credits

Subject to the limitations in this policy and State law, the Superintendent is authorized to establish and approve a program for granting credit for proficiency with the goal of allowing a student who would not benefit from a course because the student is proficient in the subject area to receive credit without having to take the course. A student who demonstrates competency under this program will receive course credit for the applicable course and be excused from any requirement to take the course as a graduation prerequisite. No letter grade will be given for purposes of the student's cumulative grade point average. The Superintendent or designee shall notify students of the availability of and requirements for receiving proficiency credit.

The program for granting credit for proficiency may allow, as the Superintendent deems appropriate, course credit to be awarded on the basis of a local examination to a student who has achieved the necessary proficiency through independent study or work taken in or through another institution. Proficiency testing may also be used to determine eligible credit for other subjects whenever students enter from non-graded schools, non-recognized or non-accredited schools, or were in a home-schooling program.

High School Credit for Students in Grade 7 or 8

The Superintendent or designee may investigate, coordinate, and implement a program for students in grades 7 and 8 to enroll in a course required for a high school diploma.

If a program is available, students in grades 7 and 8 may enroll in a course required for a high school diploma when the course is offered by the high school that the elementary student would attend and either of the following is satisfied: (1) the student participates in the course at the high school and the elementary student's enrollment in the course would not prevent a high school student from being able to enroll, or (2) the student participates in the course where the student attends school as long as the course is taught by a teacher who holds a professional educator license with an endorsement for the grade level and content area of the course. A student who successfully completes a course required for a high school diploma while in grades 7 and 8 shall receive academic credit and a grade for the course. That academic credit shall satisfy the requirements of [Section 27-22 of the School Code](#) for purposes of receiving a high school diploma, unless evidence about the course's rigor and content show that the course did not address the relevant Illinois learning standard at the level appropriate for the high school grade during which the course is usually taken. The student's grade in the course shall also be included in the student's grade point average.

LEGAL REF.:

[105 ILCS 5/10-22.10, 5/10-22.43, 5/10-22.43a, 5/27-12.1, ~~5/27-22~~, 5/27-22.10, and 5/27-605/27-24.3, and 5/27-24.4.](#) [PRESSPlus1](#)

CROSS REF.: 6:180 (Extended Instructional Programs), 6:280 (Grading and Promotion), 6:300 (Graduation Requirements), 6:310 (Credit for Alternative Courses and Programs, and Course Substitutions), 7:40 (Nonpublic School Students, Including Parochial and Home-Schooled Students)

Adopted: May 20, 2024

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. Updated in response to 105 ILCS 5/27-605, amended by P.A. 104-387 and amended and renumbered by P.A. 104-391, allowing students to choose one year of career and technical education to meet a high school graduation requirement. **Issue 120, October 2025**

Document Status: Draft Update

STUDENTS

7:10 Equal Educational Opportunities

Equal educational and extracurricular opportunities shall be available for all students without regard to color, race, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, ancestry, age, physical or mental disability, gender identity, status of being homeless, immigration status, order of protection status, military status, unfavorable military discharge, reproductive health decisions, or actual or potential marital or parental status, including pregnancy. Further, the District will not knowingly enter into agreements with any entity or any individual that discriminates against students on the basis of sex or any other protected status, except that the District remains viewpoint neutral when granting access to school facilities under Board policy 8:20, *Community Use of School Facilities*. Any student may file a discrimination complaint by using Board policy 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*, or in the case of discrimination on the basis of race, color, or national origin, Board policy 2:270, *Discrimination and Harassment on the Basis of Race, Color, and National Origin Prohibited*.

Sex Equity

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

Any student may file a sex equity complaint by using Board policy 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*. A student may appeal the Board's resolution of the complaint to the appropriate Intermediate Service Center Executive Director (pursuant to [105 ILCS 5/3-10](#)) and, thereafter, to the State Superintendent of Education (pursuant to [105 ILCS 5/2-3.8](#)).

Any student may file a sexual harassment complaint by using Board policy 2:265, *Title IX Grievance Procedure*.

Administrative Implementation

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

Nondiscrimination Coordinator:

Ed Piotrowski,
Director of Human Resources
100 S. Brainard
LaGrange, IL 60525

epiotrowski@lths.net

Title IX Coordinator:

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708/579-6456

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Complaint Managers:

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Sarah Smith,

Associate Principal - South

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LEGAL REF.:

[20 U.S.C. §1681](#) *et seq.*, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; [34 C.F.R. Part 106](#).

[29 U.S.C. §791](#) *et seq.*, Rehabilitation Act of 1973; [34 C.F.R. Part 104](#).

[42 U.S.C. §2000d](#), Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; [34 C.F.R. Part 100](#).

[42 U.S.C. §11431](#) *et seq.*, McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act.

[Plyler v. Doe, 457 U.S. 202 \(1982\)](#), [PRESSPlus1](#)

[Good News Club v. Milford Central Sch., 533 U.S. 98 \(2001\)](#).

Ill. Constitution, Art. I, §18.

105 ILCS 5/3.25b, 5/3.25d(b), 5/10-20.12, 5/10-20.60, 5/10-20.63, 5/10-22.5, [5/22-105](#), 5/26A, and 5/27-1.

[775 ILCS 5/1-101](#) *et seq.*, Illinois Human Rights Act.

[775 ILCS 35/5](#), Religious Freedom Restoration Act.

[23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.240](#) and [Part 200](#).

CROSS REF.: 2:260 (Uniform Grievance Procedure), 2:265 (Title IX Grievance Procedure), 2:270 (Discrimination and Harassment on the Basis of Race, Color, and National Origin Prohibited), 6:65 (Student Social and Emotional Development), 7:20 (Harassment of Students Prohibited), 7:50 (School Admissions and Student Transfers To and From Non-District Schools), 7:60 (Residence), 7:130 (Student Rights and Responsibilities), [7:150 \(Agency and Law Enforcement Requests\)](#), 7:160 (Student Appearance), 7:180 (Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment), 7:185 (Teen Dating Violence Prohibited), 7:250 (Student Support Services), 7:255 (Students Who are Parents, Expectant Parents, or Victims of Domestic or Sexual Violence), 7:330 (Student Use of Buildings - Equal Access), 7:340 (Student Records), 8:20 (Community Use of School Facilities)

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. Updated in response to 105 ILCS 5/22-105(c)(1-3), added by P.A. 104-288, eff. 1-1-26, codifying Plyler v. Doe, 457 U.S. 202 (1982), prohibiting districts from taking any action that would deny a child free public education based on the child's or their parent's/guardian's actual or perceived citizenship or immigration status, and requiring districts to establish a policy and procedures regarding agency and law enforcement requests, to ensure this right is preserved. See policy 7:150, *Agency and Law Enforcement Requests*, and sample administrative procedure 7:150-AP, *Managing Agency and Law Enforcement Requests*, available at PRESS Online by logging in at www.iasb.com.
Issue 120, October 2025

Document Status: Draft Update

STUDENTS

7:70 Attendance and Truancy

Compulsory School Attendance

This policy applies to individuals who have custody or control of a child: (a) between the ages of six (on or before September 1) and 17 years (unless the child has graduated from high school), or (b) who is enrolled in any of grades kindergarten through 12 in the public school regardless of age. Subject to specific requirements in State law, the following children are not required to attend public school: (1) any child attending a private school (including a home school) or parochial school, (2) any child who is physically or mentally unable to attend school (including a pregnant student suffering medical complications as certified by her physician), (3) any child lawfully and necessarily employed, (4) any child over 12 and under 14 years of age while in confirmation classes, (5) any child absent because of religious reasons, including to observe a religious holiday, for religious instruction, or because his or her religion forbids secular activity on a particular day(s) or time of day, (6) any child 16 years of age or older who is employed and is enrolled in a graduation incentives program, (7) any child absent for the purpose of sounding "Taps" at a military honors funeral held in this State for a deceased veteran, and (8) any child absent because a parent or legal guardian has been called to active military duty, is on leave from military duty, or has immediately returned from deployment to a combat zone or combat-support posting.

The parent/guardian of a student who is enrolled must authorize all absences from school and notify the school in advance or at the time of the student's absence. A valid cause for absence includes illness (including up to five days without a medical note during an academic year for mental or behavioral health of the student), attendance at a verified medical or therapeutic appointment (including a victim services provider), observance of a religious holiday, death in the immediate family, attendance at a civic event, family emergency, other situations beyond the control of the student as determined by the Board, voting pursuant to policy 7:90, *Release During School Hours* ([10 ILCS 5/7-42](#) and [5/17-15](#)), other circumstances that cause reasonable concern to the parent/guardian for the student's mental, emotional, or physical health or safety, or other reason as approved by the Superintendent or designee. For students who are parents, expectant parents, or victims of domestic or sexual violence, valid cause for absence also includes the fulfillment of a parenting responsibility and addressing circumstances resulting from domestic or sexual violence. Students absent for a valid cause, including for reasons related to a student's pregnancy may make up missed homework and classwork assignments in a reasonable timeframe.

Absenteeism and Truancy Program

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

1. A protocol for excusing a student from attendance who is necessarily and lawfully employed. The Superintendent or designee is authorized to determine when the student's absence is justified.
2. A protocol for excusing a student in grades 9 through 12 from attendance to sound *Taps* at a military honors funeral held in Illinois for a deceased veteran.

3. A protocol for excusing a student from attendance on a particular day(s) or at a particular time of day when his/her parent/guardian is an active-duty member of the uniformed services and has been called to duty for, is on leave from, or has immediately returned from deployment to a combat zone or combat-support postings. Such a student shall be granted five days of excused absences in any school year and, at the discretion of the school board, additional excused absences to visit the student's parent or legal guardian relative to such leave or deployment of the parent or legal guardian.
4. A process to identify and track students who are truants, chronic or habitual truants, or truant minors as defined in [105 ILCS 5/26-2a](#).
5. A description of diagnostic procedures for identifying the cause(s) of a student's unexcused absenteeism, including interviews with the student, his or her parent(s)/guardian(s), and staff members or other people who may have information about the reasons for the student's attendance problem.
6. The identification of supportive services that may be offered to truant, chronically truant, or chronically absent students, including parent-teacher conferences, student and/or family counseling, and information about available community services relevant to such students' needs. See Board policy 6:110, *Programs for Students At Risk of Academic Failure and/or Dropping Out of School and Graduation Incentives Program*.
7. A process for the collection and review of chronic absence data and to:
 - a. Determine what systems of support and resources are needed to engage chronically absent students and their families, and
 - b. Encourage the habit of daily attendance and promote success.
8. Reasonable efforts to provide ongoing professional development to all school personnel, Board members, and school resource officers on the appropriate and available supportive services for the promotion of student attendance and engagement.
9. A process to request the assistance and resources of outside agencies, such as, the juvenile officer of the local police department or the truant office of the appropriate Intermediate Service Center, if truancy continues after supportive services have been offered.
10. A protocol for cooperating with non-District agencies including County or municipal authorities, the Intermediate Service Center, truant officers, the Community Truancy Review Board, and a comprehensive community-based youth service agency. Any disclosure of school student records must be consistent with Board policy 7:340, *Student Records*, as well as State and federal law concerning school student records.
11. An acknowledgement that no punitive action, including out-of-school suspensions, expulsions, or court action, shall be taken against a truant minor for his or her truancy unless available supportive services and other school resources have been provided to the student.
12. The criteria to determine whether a student's non-attendance is due to extraordinary circumstances shall include economic or medical necessity or family hardship and such other criteria that the Superintendent believes qualifies.
13. [An approval process for students to attend activities allowed under 105 ILCS 5/10-19.05\(k\), including provisions for making up missed coursework that do not penalize students.](#) [PRESSPlus1](#)
14. A process for a 17-year-old resident to participate in the District's various programs and resources for truants. The student must provide documentation of his/her dropout status for the previous six months. A request from an individual 19 years of age or older to re-enroll after having dropped out of school is handled according to provisions in 7:50, *School Admissions and Student Transfers To and From Non-District Schools*.
15. A process for the temporary exclusion of a student 17 years of age or older for failing to meet minimum attendance standards according to provisions in State law. A parent/guardian has the

right to appeal a decision to exclude a student.

Updating

Pursuant to State law and Board policy 2:240, *Board Policy Development*, the Board updates this policy at least once every two years. The Superintendent or designee shall assist the Board with its update.

LEGAL REF.:

105 ILCS [5/10-19.05\(k\)](#), [5/22-92](#), and [5/26-1](#) through [5/26-3](#), [5/26-5](#) through [5/26-16](#), [5/26-18](#), and [5/26A](#).

[705 ILCS 405/3-33.5](#), Juvenile Court Act of 1987.

[23 Ill.Admin.Code §§1.242](#) and [1.290](#).

CROSS REF.: 5:100 (Staff Development Program), 6:110 (Programs for Students At Risk of Academic Failure and/or Dropping Out of School and Graduation Incentives Program), 6:150 (Home and Hospital Instruction), 7:10 (Equal Educational Opportunities), 7:50 (School Admissions and Student Transfers To and From Non-District Schools), 7:60 (Residence), 7:80 (Release Time for Religious Instruction/Observance), 7:90 (Release During School Hours), 7:190 (Student Discipline), 7:255 (Students Who are Parents, Expectant Parents, or Victims of Domestic or Sexual Violence), 7:340 (Student Records)

Adopted: June 16, 2025

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. Updated in response to 105 ILCS 5/10-19.05(k), amended by P.A. 104-250, eff. 1-1-26, requiring an approval process for students to attend allowable activities by the beginning of the 2026-2027 school year. Allowable activities are: (1) instruction in a college course where the student is dually enrolled for both high school and college credit, (2) participation in a Supervised Career Development Experience in which student participation and learning outcomes are approved by an educator licensed under 105 ILCS 5/21B for assessment of competencies, (3) participation in any work-based learning experience in which student participation and learning outcomes are approved by an educator who holds an Educator License with Stipulations with a career and technical educator endorsement and a work-based learning designation, (4) participation in a youth apprenticeship in which student participation and learning outcomes are approved by an educator licensed under 105 ILCS 5/21B for assessment of competencies, and (5) participation in a blended learning program approved by the district in which course content, student evaluation, and instructional methods are supervised by an educator licensed under 105 ILCS 5/21B. **Issue 120, October 2025**

Document Status: Draft Update

STUDENTS

7:180 Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment

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

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

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

Definitions from 105 ILCS 5/22-110~~27-23.7~~ [PRESSPlus1](#)

Artificial intelligence means a machine-based system that, for explicit or implicit objectives, infers, from the input it receives, how to generate outputs such as predictions, content, recommendations, or decisions that can influence physical or virtual environments. Artificial intelligence includes generative artificial intelligence.

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

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

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

Bullying may take various forms, including without limitation one or more of the following: harassment, threats, intimidation, stalking, physical violence, sexual harassment, sexual violence, posting or distributing sexually explicit images, theft, public humiliation, destruction of property, or retaliation for asserting or alleging an act of bullying. This list is meant to be illustrative and non-exhaustive.

Cyberbullying means bullying through the use of technology or any electronic communication, including without limitation any transfer of signs, signals, writing, images, sounds, data, or intelligence of any nature transmitted in whole or in part by a wire, radio, electromagnetic system, photo-electronic system, or photo-optical system, including without limitation electronic mail, Internet communications, instant messages, or facsimile communications. *Cyberbullying* includes the creation of a webpage or weblog in which the creator assumes the identity of another person or the knowing impersonation of another person as the author of posted content or messages if the creation or impersonation creates any of the effects enumerated in the definition of *bullying*. *Cyberbullying* also includes the distribution by electronic means of a communication to more than one person or the posting of material on an electronic medium that may be accessed by one or more persons if the distribution or posting creates any of the effects enumerated in the definition of *bullying*. *Cyberbullying* also includes the posting or distribution of an unauthorized digital replica by electronic means if the posting or distribution creates any of the effects enumerated in the definition of *bullying*. [PRESSPlus2](#)

Digital replica means a newly created, electronic representation of the identity of an actual individual created using a computer, algorithm, software, tool, artificial intelligence, or other technology that is fixed in a sound recording or audiovisual work in which that individual did not actually perform or appear and that is so realistic that a reasonable observer would believe it is a performance by the individual being portrayed and no other individual.

Restorative measures means a continuum of school-based alternatives to exclusionary discipline, such as suspensions and expulsions, that: (i) are adapted to the particular needs of the school and community, (ii) contribute to maintaining school safety, (iii) protect the integrity of a positive and productive learning climate, (iv) teach students the personal and interpersonal skills they will need to be successful in school and society, (v) serve to build and restore relationships among students, families, schools, and communities, (vi) reduce the likelihood of future disruption by balancing accountability with an understanding of students' behavioral health needs in order to keep students in school, and (vii) increase student accountability if the incident of bullying is based on religion, race, ethnicity, or any other protected category that is identified in the Ill. Human Rights Act.

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

Unauthorized digital replica means the use of a digital replica of an individual without the consent of the depicted individual.

Bullying Prevention and Response Plan

The Superintendent or designee shall develop and maintain a bullying prevention and response plan that advances the District's goal of providing all students with a safe learning environment free of bullying and harassment. This plan must be consistent with the requirements listed below.

1. The District uses the definition of *bullying* as provided in this policy.

2. Bullying is contrary to State law and the policy of this District. However, nothing in the District's bullying prevention and response plan is intended to infringe upon any right to exercise free expression or the free exercise of religion or religiously based views protected under the [First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution](#) or under [Section 3 of Article I of the Illinois Constitution](#).
3. Students are encouraged to immediately report bullying. A report may be made orally or in writing to the Nondiscrimination Coordinator, Title IX Coordinator, Building Principal, Assistant Building Principal, Dean of Students, a Complaint Manager, or any staff member with whom the student is comfortable speaking. Anyone, including staff members and parents/guardians, who has information about actual or threatened bullying is encouraged to report it to the District named officials or any staff member. The District named officials and all staff members are available for help with a bully or to make a report about bullying. Anonymous reports are also accepted; however, this shall not be construed to permit formal disciplinary action solely on the basis of an anonymous report.

Nondiscrimination Coordinator:

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4. Consistent with federal and State laws and rules governing student privacy rights, the parents/guardians of all students involved in an alleged incident of bullying will be notified of such, along with threats, suggestions, or instances of self-harm determined to be the result of bullying, within 24 hours after the school's administration is made aware of the student's involvement in the incident. As appropriate, the school's administration shall also discuss the availability of social work services, counseling, school psychological services, other interventions, and restorative measures. The school shall make diligent efforts to notify a parent or legal guardian, utilizing all contact information the school has available or that can be reasonably obtained within the 24-hour period.⁹⁸

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

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

6. The Superintendent or designee shall use interventions to address bullying, that may include, but are not limited to, school social work services, restorative measures, social-emotional skill building, counseling, school psychological services, and community-based services.
7. A reprisal or retaliation against any person who reports an act of bullying **is prohibited**. Any person's act of reprisal or retaliation may be treated as either: (1) bullying, (2) acts subject to disciplinary action, up to and including suspension, and /or expulsion, and/or (3) both options (1) and (2) for purposes of determining any consequences or other appropriate remedial actions.
8. A student will not be punished for reporting bullying or supplying information, even if the District's investigation concludes that no bullying occurred. However, knowingly making a false accusation or providing knowingly false information will be treated as either: (1) *bullying*, (2) acts subject to disciplinary action up to and including suspension and/or expulsion, and/or (3) both (1) and (2) for purposes of determining any consequences or other appropriate remedial actions.
9. The District's bullying prevention and response plan is based on the engagement of a range of school stakeholders, including students and parents/guardians.
10. The Superintendent or designee shall post this policy on the District's publicly accessible website, if any, and include it in the student handbook, and, where applicable, post it where other policies, rules, and standards of conduct are currently posted. The policy must be distributed annually to parents/guardians, students, and school personnel (including new employees when hired), and must also be provided periodically throughout the school year to students and faculty.d
11. Pursuant to State law and Board policy 2:240, *Board Policy Development*, the Board monitors this policy every two years by conducting a review and re-evaluation of this policy to make any necessary and appropriate revisions. The Superintendent or designee shall assist the Board with its re-evaluation and assessment of this policy's outcomes and effectiveness. Updates to this policy will reflect any necessary and appropriate revisions. This process shall include, without limitation:

- a. The frequency of victimization;

- b. Student, staff, and family observations of safety at a school;
- c. Identification of areas of a school where bullying occurs;
- d. The types of bullying utilized; and
- e. Bystander intervention or participation.

The evaluation process may use relevant data and information that the District already collects for other purposes. Acceptable documentation to satisfy the re-evaluated policy submission include one of the following: [PRESSPlus3](#)

- i. An updated ?version of the policy with the amendment/modification date specifying the date of adoption (indicated by month, date, and year) [PRESSPlus4](#) included in the reference portion of the policy;
- ii. If no revisions are deemed necessary, a copy of Board minutes indicating that the policy was re-evaluated and no changes were deemed to be necessary; or
- iii. A signed statement from the Board President indicating that the Board re-evaluated the policy and no changes to it were necessary.

The Superintendent or designee will post the information developed as a result of the policy re-evaluation on the District's website, or if a website is not available, the information will be provided to school administrators, Board Members, school personnel, parents/guardians, and students. Reviews and re-evaluations in years they are due must be submitted to ISBE by September 30.

12. The Superintendent or designee shall fully implement the Board policies, including without limitation, the following:
- a. 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*. A student may use this policy to complain about bullying.
 - b. 2:265, *Title IX Grievance Procedure*. Any person may use this policy to complain about sexual harassment in violation of Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972.
 - c. 2:270, *Discrimination and Harassment on the Basis of Race, Color, and National Origin Prohibited*. Any person may use this policy to complain about discrimination or harassment on the basis of race, color, or national origin in violation of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and/or the Illinois Human Rights Act.
 - d. 6:60, *Curriculum Content*. Bullying prevention and character instruction is provided in all grades in accordance with State law.
 - e. 6:65, *Student Social and Emotional Development*. Student social and emotional development is incorporated into the District's educational program as required by State law.
 - f. 6:235, *Access to Electronic Networks*. This policy states that the use of the District's electronic networks is limited to: (1) support of education and/or research, or (2) a legitimate business use.
 - g. 7:20, *Harassment of Students Prohibited*. This policy prohibits any person from harassing, intimidating, or bullying a student based on an identified actual or perceived characteristic (the list of characteristics in 7:20 is the same as the list in this policy).
 - h. 7:185, *Teen Dating Violence Prohibited*. This policy prohibits teen dating violence on school property, at school sponsored activities, and in vehicles used for school-provided transportation.
 - i. 7:190, *Student Behavior*. This policy prohibits, and provides consequences for, hazing,

bullying, or other aggressive behaviors, or urging other students to engage in such conduct.

- j. 7:315, *Restrictions on Publications; High Schools*. This policy prohibits students from and provides consequences for: (1) accessing and/or distributing at school any written, printed, or electronic material, including material from the Internet, that will cause substantial disruption of the proper and orderly operation and discipline of the school or school activities, and (2) creating and/or distributing written, printed, or electronic material, including photographic material and blogs, that causes substantial disruption to school operations or interferes with the rights of other students or staff members.

LEGAL REF.:

105 ILCS 5/10-20.14, 5/10-22.6(b-20), 5/22-110, and 5/24-24, ~~and 5/27-23.7~~.

405 ILCS 49/, Children's Mental Health Act.

775 ILCS 5/1-103, Ill. Human Rights Act.

23 Ill.Admin.Code §§1.240, 1.280, and 1.295.

CROSS REF.: 2:240 (Board Policy Development), 2:260 (Uniform Grievance Procedure), 2:265 (Title IX Grievance Procedure), 2:270 (Discrimination and Harassment on the Basis of Race, Color, and National Origin Prohibited), 4:170 (Safety), 5:230 (Maintaining Student Discipline), 6:60 (Curriculum Content), 6:65 (Student Social and Emotional Development), 6:235 (Access to Electronic Networks), 7:20 (Harassment of Students Prohibited), 7:185 (Teen Dating Violence Prohibited), 7:190 (Student Behavior), 7:220 (Bus Conduct), 7:230 (Misconduct by Students with Disabilities), 7:240 (Conduct Code for Participants in Extracurricular Activities), 7:285 (Anaphylaxis Prevention, Response, and Management Program), 7:315 (Restrictions on Publications; High Schools)

Adopted: June 16, 2025

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. All definitions are directly from 105 ILCS 5/22-110, amended by P.A. 104-338, eff. 7-1-26, and renumbered by P.A. 104-391, or any other statutes it incorporates by reference. **Issue 120, October 2025**

PRESSPlus 2. This sentence is required beginning with the 2026-27 school year. 105 ILCS 5/22-110, amended by P.A. 104-338, eff. 7-1-26, and renumbered by P.A. 104-391. **Issue 120, October 2025**

PRESSPlus 3. 105 ILCS 5/22-110, renumbered by P.A. 104-391. See ISBE's *School Policies for Bullying Prevention* at: www.isbe.net/Documents/Bullying-Prev-Policy-Req.pdf. **Issue 120, October 2025**

PRESSPlus 4. Including the month, date, and year that an updated policy was adopted is required by 23 Ill. Admin.Code §1.295(c)(2). **Issue 120, October 2025**

Document Status: Draft Update

STUDENTS

7:190 Student Behavior

The goals and objectives of this policy are to provide effective discipline practices that: (1) prioritize the safety and dignity of students and staff; (2) maintain a positive, weapons-free, and substance-free learning environment; (3) keep school property and the property of others secure; (4) address the causes of a student's misbehavior and to the extent possible and practical, provide opportunities for all individuals involved in an incident to participate in its resolution; and (5) teach students positive behavioral skills to become independent, self-disciplined citizens in the school community and society.

As is the case throughout the Board Policy Manual, the term *includes* when used in this policy means *includes, without limitation*.

When and Where Conduct Rules Apply

A student may be subject to disciplinary action for engaging in *prohibited student conduct*, as described in the section with that name below, whenever the student's conduct is reasonably related to school or school activities, including:

1. On, or within sight of, school grounds at any time, including before, during, and after school hours;
2. Off school grounds at a school-sponsored activity or event, or any activity or event that bears a reasonable relationship to school;
3. Traveling to or from school or a school activity, function, or event; or
4. Anywhere, if the conduct does or reasonably could be foreseen to do any of the following: interfere with, disrupt, or adversely affect the school environment, school operations, or an educational function, including, conduct that may reasonably be considered to: (a) be a threat or an attempted intimidation of a staff member; or (b) endanger the health or safety of students, staff, or school property.

Prohibited Student Conduct

The school administration is authorized to discipline students for gross disobedience or misconduct, including:

1. Using, possessing, distributing, purchasing, selling, or offering for sale:
 - a. Tobacco or nicotine materials, including electronic cigarettes.
 - b. Alcoholic beverages. A student who is under the influence of an alcoholic beverage is not permitted to attend school or school functions and is treated as if in possession of alcohol.
 - c. Any illegal drug or controlled substance, or cannabis (including marijuana, hashish, and medical cannabis unless the student is authorized to be administered a medical cannabis infused product under *Ashley's Law* and Policy 7:270).
 - d. Any anabolic steroid unless it is being administered in accordance with a physician's or licensed practitioner's prescription.

- e. Any performance-enhancing substance on the Illinois High School Association's most current banned substance list unless administered in accordance with a physician's or licensed practitioner's prescription.
- f. Any prescription drug when not prescribed for the student by a physician or licensed practitioner, or when used in a manner inconsistent with the prescription or prescribing physician's or licensed practitioner's instructions. The use or possession of medical cannabis, even by a student for whom medical cannabis has been prescribed, is prohibited unless the student is authorized to be administered a medical cannabis infused product under *Ashley's Law* and Policy 7:270.
- g. Any substance regardless of whether it contains an illegal drug or is explicitly prohibited by this policy, that is inhaled, injected, smoked, consumed, or otherwise ingested or absorbed with the intention of causing a physiological or psychological change in the body, regardless of whether such change is in fact caused. This includes pure caffeine in tablet or powdered form. The prohibition in this section does not apply to a substance for which the student has a prescription from a physician or licensed practitioner where the student is using the substance in a manner consistent with the prescription or prescribing physician's or licensed practitioner's instructions, including a student's use of legally prescribed asthma or other inhalant medication.
- h. *Look-alike* or counterfeit drugs, which are any substance: (a) that a student believes to be, or represents to be, an illegal drug, controlled substance, substance causing a physiological or psychological change in the body, or other substance that is prohibited by this policy; or (b) about which a student engages in behavior that would lead a reasonable person to believe that the student expressly or impliedly believes or represents the substance to be an illegal drug, controlled substance, substance causing a physiological or psychological change in the body, or other substance that is prohibited by this policy. The prohibition in this section does not apply to a substance for which the student has a prescription from a physician or licensed practitioner where the student is using the substance in a manner consistent with the prescription or prescribing physician's or licensed practitioner's instructions.
- i. Drug paraphernalia, including devices that are or can be used to: (a) ingest, inhale, or inject cannabis or controlled substances into the body; and (b) grow, process, store, or conceal cannabis or controlled substances.

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

- 2. Using, possessing, controlling, or transferring a *weapon* as that term is defined in the **Weapons** section of this policy, or violating the **Weapons** section of this policy.
- 3. Using or possessing an electronic paging device.
- 4. Using or possessing an electronic paging device.
- 5. Using a cellular telephone, video recording device, personal digital assistant (PDA), or other electronic device in any manner that disrupts the educational environment or violates the rights of others, including using the device to take photographs in locker rooms or bathrooms, cheat, or otherwise violate student conduct rules. Unless otherwise banned under this policy or by the Building Principal, all electronic devices must be kept powered off or silenced during the regular school day unless: (a) the supervising teacher grants permission; (b) use of the device is provided in a student's individualized education program (IEP) or Section 504 plan; (c) it is used during the student's lunch period, or (d) it is needed in an emergency that threatens the safety of students, staff, or other individuals.

6. *Sexting*, which, for purposes of this policy, is the act of creating, sending, sharing, viewing, receiving, or possessing sexually explicit messages, images, or videos electronically, regardless of whether they are authentic or computer-generated, through the use of a computer, electronic communication device, or cellular phone. Sexting also includes creating, sending, sharing, viewing, receiving, or possessing *indecent visual depictions, non-consensual dissemination of private sexual images, and non-consensual dissemination of sexually explicit digitized depictions*, as defined in State law.
7. Using or possessing a laser pointer unless the student: (1) has express authorization by a staff member, (2) is using the laser pointer in the context of instruction; and (3) is under a staff member's direct supervision when using the laser pointer.
8. Disobeying rules of student conduct or directives from staff members or school officials. Examples of disobeying staff directives include refusing a District staff member's request to stop, present school identification, or submit to a search.
9. Engaging in academic dishonesty, including cheating, intentionally plagiarizing, using a writing service and/or generative artificial intelligence technology in place of original work unless specifically authorized by staff, wrongfully giving or receiving help during an academic examination, altering report cards, and wrongfully obtaining test copies or scores.
10. Engaging in hazing or any kind of bullying or aggressive behavior that does physical or psychological harm to a staff person or another student, or urging other students to engage in such conduct. Prohibited conduct specifically includes any use of violence, intimidation, force, noise, coercion, threats, stalking, harassment, sexual harassment, public humiliation, theft or destruction of property, retaliation, hazing, bullying, using a school computer or a school computer network, or other comparable conduct.
11. Engaging in any sexual activity, including consensual sexual activity, offensive touching, sexual harassment, indecent exposure (including mooning), and sexual assault. This does not include the: (a) expression of gender or sexual orientation or preference, or (b) the non-disruptive display of affection during non-instructional time.
12. Teen dating violence, as described in Board policy 7:185, *Teen Dating Violence Prohibited*.
13. Causing or attempting to cause damage to, or stealing or attempting to steal, school property or another person's personal property.
14. Entering or being present on/in school property or a school facility without proper authorization.
15. In the absence of a reasonable belief that an emergency exists, calling emergency responders (such as calling 911); signaling or setting off alarms or signals indicating the presence of an emergency; or indicating the presence of a bomb or explosive device on school grounds, school bus, or at any school activity.
16. Being absent without a recognized excuse; State law and School Board policy regarding truancy control will be used with chronic and habitual truants.
17. Being involved with any public school fraternity, sorority, or secret society, including by: (a) being a member; (b) promising to join; (c) pledging to become a member; or (d) soliciting any other person to join, promise to join, or be pledged to become a member.
18. Being involved in gangs or gang-related activities, including displaying gang symbols or paraphernalia.
19. Violating any criminal law, including assault, battery, arson, theft, gambling, eavesdropping, vandalism, and hazing.
20. Making an explicit threat on an Internet website against a school employee, a student, or any school-related personnel if the Internet website through which the threat was made is a site that was accessible within the school at the time the threat was made or was available to third parties who worked or studied within the school grounds at the time the threat was made, and

the threat could be reasonably interpreted as threatening to the safety and security of the threatened individual because of his or her duties or employment status or status as a student inside the school.

21. Operating an unmanned aircraft system (UAS) or drone for any purpose on school grounds or at any school event unless granted permission by the Superintendent or designee.
22. Engaging in any activity, on or off campus, that interferes with, disrupts, or adversely affects the school environment, school operations, or an educational function, including conduct that may reasonably be considered to: (a) be a threat or an attempted intimidation of a staff member; or (b) endanger the health or safety of students, staff, or school property.

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

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

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

Disciplinary Measures

School officials shall limit the number and duration of expulsions and out-of-school suspensions to the greatest extent practicable, and, where practicable and reasonable, shall consider forms of non-exclusionary discipline before using out-of-school suspensions or expulsions. School personnel shall not advise or encourage students to drop out voluntarily due to behavioral or academic difficulties. Potential disciplinary measures include any of the following:

1. Notifying parent(s)/guardian(s).
2. Disciplinary conference.
3. Withholding of privileges.
4. Temporary removal from the classroom.
5. Return of property or restitution for lost, stolen, or damaged property.
6. In-school suspension. The Building Principal or designee shall properly supervise the student.
7. After-school study or Saturday study provided the student's parent/guardian has been notified. If transportation arrangements cannot be agreed upon, an alternative disciplinary measure must be used. The student must be supervised by the detaining teacher or the Building Principal or designee.
8. Community service with local public and nonprofit agencies that enhances community efforts to meet human, educational, environmental, or public safety needs. The District will not provide transportation. School administration shall use this option only as an alternative to another disciplinary measure, when appropriate, giving the student and/or parent/guardian the choice.
9. Seizure of contraband; confiscation and temporary retention of personal property that was used

to violate this policy or school disciplinary rules.

10. Suspension of bus riding privileges in accordance with Board policy 7:220, *Bus Conduct*.
11. Out-of-school suspension from school and all school activities in accordance with Board policy 7:200, *Suspension Procedures*. A student who has been suspended may also be restricted from being on school grounds and at school activities.
12. Expulsion from school and all school activities for a definite time period not to exceed two calendar years in accordance with Board policy 7:210, *Expulsion Procedures*. A student who has been expelled may also be restricted from being on school grounds and at school activities.
13. Transfer to an alternative program if the student is expelled if the parent/guardian agrees to such transfer. The transfer shall be in the manner provided in [Article 13A](#) or [13B of the School Code](#).
14. Notifying juvenile authorities or other law enforcement whenever the conduct involves criminal activity, including illegal drugs (controlled substances), *look-alikes*, alcohol, or weapons or in other circumstances as authorized by the reciprocal reporting agreement between the District and local law enforcement agencies.

The above list of disciplinary measures is a range of options that will not always be applicable in every case. In some circumstances, it may not be possible to avoid suspending or expelling a student because behavioral interventions, other than a suspension and expulsion, will not be appropriate and available, and the only reasonable and practical way to resolve the threat and/or address the disruption is a suspension or expulsion.

Corporal punishment is prohibited in all circumstances. *Corporal punishment* is defined as a discipline method in which a person deliberately inflicts pain upon a student in response to the student's unacceptable behavior or inappropriate language, with an aim to halt an offense, prevent its recurrence, or set an example for others. It includes slapping, paddling, or prolonged maintenance of students in physically painful positions, or intentional infliction of bodily harm. Corporal punishment does not include reasonable force as permitted by [105 ILCS 5/10-20.33](#).

Isolated Time Out, Time Out, and Physical Restraint

Neither isolated time out, time out, nor physical restraint shall be used to discipline or punish a student. These methods are only authorized for use as permitted in [105 ILCS 5/10-20.33](#), Ill. State Board of Education (ISBE) rules ([23 Ill.Admin.Code §§ 1.280, 1.285](#)), and the District's procedure(s).

Weapons

A student who is determined to have brought one of the following objects to school, any school-sponsored activity or event, or any activity or event that bears a reasonable relationship to school shall be expelled for a period of at least one calendar year but not more than two calendar years:

1. A firearm, meaning any gun, rifle, shotgun, or weapon as defined by Section 921 of Title 18 of the United States Code ([18 U.S.C. § 921](#)), firearm as defined in Section 1.1 of the Firearm Owners Identification Card Act ([430 ILCS 65/](#)), or firearm as defined in Section 24-1 of the Criminal Code of 2012 ([720 ILCS 5/24-1](#)).
2. A knife, brass knuckles, or other knuckle weapon regardless of its composition, a billy club, or any other object if used or attempted to be used to cause bodily harm, including *look-alikes* of any firearm as defined above.

The expulsion requirement under either paragraph 1 or 2 above may be modified by the Superintendent, and the Superintendent's determination may be modified by the Board on a case-by-case basis. The Superintendent or designee may grant an exception to this policy, upon the prior

request of an adult supervisor, for students in theatre, cooking, ROTC, martial arts, and similar programs, whether or not school-sponsored, provided the item is not equipped, nor intended, to do bodily harm.

This policy's prohibitions concerning weapons apply regardless of whether: (1) a student is licensed to carry a concealed firearm, or (2) the Board permits visitors, who are licensed to carry a concealed firearm, to store a firearm in a locked vehicle in a school parking area.

Any student who brings a firearm or weapon to school will be automatically referred to the criminal justice or juvenile delinquency system.

Re-Engagement of Returning Students

The Superintendent or designee shall maintain a process to facilitate the re-engagement of students who are returning from an out-of-school suspension, expulsion, or an alternative school setting. The goal of re-engagement shall include the opportunity for students who have been suspended to complete or make up work for equivalent academic credit.

Required Notices

A school staff member shall immediately notify the office of the Building Principal in the event that he or she: (1) observes any person in possession of a firearm on ~~or around~~ school grounds, becomes aware of any person in possession of a firearm on school grounds, or becomes aware of any threat of gun violence on school grounds; however, such action may be delayed if immediate notice would endanger students under his or her supervision, (2) observes or has reason to suspect that any person on school grounds is or was involved in a drug-related incident, or (3) observes a battery committed against any staff member or is subject to a battery. *School grounds* includes modes of transportation to school activities and any public way within 1000 feet of the school, as well as school property itself.

Upon receiving a report of (1), above, the Building Principal or designee shall immediately notify local law enforcement. If the report of (1), above, pertains to a threat of firearm violence made by a student, the Building Principal or designee shall attempt to notify the student's parent/guardian as soon as possible and shall further attempt to contact the parent/guardian to ensure that the student does not have access to a firearm. [PRESSPlus1](#) In addition, upon receiving a report on any of the above (1)-(3), the Building Principal or designee shall notify the Superintendent or designee and any involved student's parent/guardian.

Upon receiving a report on any of the above (1)-(3), the Superintendent or designee shall immediately notify local law enforcement. The Superintendent or designee shall also report these incidents to ISBE through its web-based School Incident Reporting System as they occur during the year and no later than July 31 for the preceding school year.

Delegation of Authority

Each teacher, and any other school personnel when students are under his or her charge, is authorized to impose any disciplinary measure, other than suspension, expulsion, corporal punishment, or in-school suspension, that is appropriate and in accordance with the policies and rules on student discipline. Teachers, other licensed educational employees, and any other persons (whether or not a licensed employee) providing a related service for or with respect to a student, may only use reasonable force as permitted by [105 ILCS 5/10-20.33](#). Teachers may temporarily remove students from a classroom for disruptive behavior.

The Superintendent, Building Principal, Assistant Building Principal, or Dean of Students is authorized to impose the same disciplinary measures as teachers and may suspend students guilty of gross

disobedience or misconduct from school (including all school functions) and from riding the school bus, up to 10 consecutive school days, provided the appropriate procedures are followed. The Board may suspend a student from riding the bus in excess of 10 school days for safety reasons.

Student Handbook

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

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

Incorporated

by Reference: 7:190-AP4 (Use of Isolated Time Out, Time Out, and Physical Restraint)

LEGAL REF.:

[20 U.S.C. §7971](#) *et seq.*, Pro-Children Act of 2004.

[20 U.S.C. §7961](#) *et seq.*, Gun Free Schools Act.

[105 ILCS 5/10-20.5b](#), [5/10-20.14](#), [5/10-20.28](#), [5/10-20.36](#), [5/10-21.7](#), [5/10-21.10](#), [5/10-22.6](#), [5/10-27.1A](#), [5/10-27.1B](#), [5/22-33](#), [5/22-100](#), [5/22-110](#), [5/24-24](#), [5/26-12](#), [5/27-240](#)~~27-23.7~~, and 5/31-3.

[105 ILCS 110/3.10](#), *Critical Health Problems and Comprehensive Health Education Act.*

[410 ILCS 130/](#), Compassionate Use of Medical Cannabis Pilot Program.

[410 ILCS 647/](#), Powdered Caffeine Control and Education Act.

[430 ILCS 66/](#), Firearm Concealed Carry Act.

[23 Ill.Admin.Code §§ 1.280](#), [1.285](#).

CROSS REF.: 2:150 (Committees), 2:240 (Board Policy Development), 5:230 (Maintaining Student Discipline), 6:110 (Programs for Students At Risk of Academic Failure and/or Dropping Out of School and Graduation Incentives Program), 7:70 (Attendance and Truancy), 7:130 (Student Rights and Responsibilities), 7:140 (Search and Seizure), 7:150 (Agency and [Law Enforcement Requests](#)~~Police Interviews~~), 7:160 (Student Appearance), 7:170 (Vandalism), 7:180 (Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment), 7:185 (Teen Dating Violence Prohibited), 7:200 (Suspension Procedures), 7:210 (Expulsion Procedures), 7:220 (Bus Conduct), 7:230 (Misconduct by Students with Disabilities), 7:240 (Conduct Code for Participants in Extracurricular Activities), 7:270 (Administering Medicines to Students), 7:315 (Restrictions on Publications; High Schools), 8:30 (Visitors to and Conduct on School Property)

Adopted: June 16, 2025

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. Updated in response to 105 ILCS 5/10-27.1A(b), amended by P.A. 104-174. **Issue 120, October 2025**

Document Status: Draft Update

STUDENTS

7:290 Suicide and Depression Awareness and Prevention

Youth suicide impacts the safety of the school environment. It also affects the school community, diminishing the ability of surviving students to learn and the school's ability to educate. Suicide and depression awareness and prevention are important Board goals.

Suicide and Depression Awareness and Prevention Program

The Superintendent or designee shall develop, implement, and maintain a suicide and depression awareness and prevention program (Program) that advances the Board's goals of increasing awareness and prevention of depression and suicide. This program must be consistent with the requirements of *Ann Marie's Law* listed below; each listed requirement, 1-6, corresponds with the list of required policy components in the School Code [Section 5/2-3.166\(c\)\(2\)-\(7\)](#). The Program shall include:

1. Protocols for administering youth suicide awareness and prevention education to students and staff.
 - a. For students, implementation will incorporate Board policy 6:60, *Curriculum Content*, which implements ~~105 ILCS 5/2-3.139 and 105 ILCS 5/27-215.7~~ (requiring education for students on mental health and illness ~~to develop a sound mind and a healthy body~~). [PRESSPlus1](#)
 - b. For staff, implementation will incorporate Board policy 5:100, *Staff Development Program*, and teacher's institutes under [105 ILCS 5/3-14.8](#) (requiring coverage of the warning signs of suicidal behavior).
2. Procedures for methods of suicide prevention with the goal of early identification and referral of students possibly at risk of suicide. Implementation will incorporate:
 - a. The training required by [105 ILCS 5/10-22.39](#) for all District staff who work with students to identify the warning signs of suicidal behavior in youth along with appropriate intervention and referral techniques, including methods of prevention, procedures for early identification, and referral of students at risk of suicide; and
 - b. Ill. State Board of Education (ISBE)-recommended guidelines and educational materials for staff training and professional development, along with ISBE-recommended resources for students containing age-appropriate educational materials on youth suicide and awareness, if available pursuant to *Ann Marie's Law* on ISBE's website.
3. Methods of intervention, including procedures that address an emotional or mental health safety plan for use during the school day and at school-sponsored events for a student identified as being at increased risk of suicide including those students who: (A) suffer from a mental health disorder; (B) suffer from a substance abuse disorder; (C) engage in self-harm or have previously attempted suicide; (D) reside in an out-of-home placement; (E) are experiencing homelessness; (F) are identified as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and/or identify as (LGBTQ+); (G) are bereaved by suicide; or (H) have a medical condition or certain types of disabilities.

Implementation will incorporate paragraph number 2, above, along with Board policies:

- a. 6:65, *Student Social and Emotional Development*, implementing the goals and benchmarks of the Ill. Learning Standards and [405 ILCS 49/15\(b\)](#) (requiring student social and emotional development in the District's educational program);
 - b. 6:120, *Education of Children with Disabilities*, implementing special education requirements for the District;
 - c. 6:140, *Education of Homeless Children*, implementing provision of District services to students who are homeless;
 - d. 6:270, *Guidance and Counseling Program*, implementing guidance and counseling program(s) for students, and [105 ILCS 5/10-22.24a](#) and [22.24b](#), which allow a qualified guidance specialist or any licensed staff member to provide school counseling services;
 - e. 7:10, *Equal Educational Opportunities*, and its implementing administrative procedure and exhibit, implementing supports for equal educational opportunities for students who are LGBTQ+;
 - f. 7:50, *School Admissions and Student Transfers To and From Non-District Schools*, implementing State law requirements related to students who are in foster care;
 - g. 7:250, *Student Support Services*, implementing the Children's Mental Health Act, [405 ILCS 49/](#) (requiring protocols for responding to students with social, emotional, or mental health issues that impact learning ability); and
 - h. State and/or federal resources that address emotional or mental health safety plans for students who are possibly at an increased risk for suicide, if available on the ISBE's website pursuant to *Ann Marie's Law*
4. Methods of responding to a student or staff suicide or suicide attempt. Implementation of this requirement shall incorporate building-level Student Support Committee(s) established through Board policy 7:250, *Student Support Services*.
 5. Reporting procedures. Implementation of this requirement shall incorporate Board policy 6:270, *Guidance and Counseling Program*, and Board policy 7:250, *Student Support Services*, in addition to other State and/or federal resources that address reporting procedures.
 6. A process to incorporate ISBE-recommended resources on youth suicide awareness and prevention programs, including current contact information for such programs in the District's Suicide and Depression Awareness and Prevention Program.

Illinois Suicide Prevention Strategic Planning Committee

The Superintendent or designee shall attempt to develop a relationship between the District and the Illinois Suicide Prevention Strategic Planning Committee, the Illinois Suicide Prevention Coalition Alliance, and/or a community mental health agency. The purpose of the relationship is to discuss how to incorporate the goals and objectives of the Illinois Suicide Prevention Strategic Plan into the District's Suicide Prevention and Depression Awareness Program.

Monitoring

The Board will review and update this policy pursuant to *Ann Marie's Law* and Board policy 2:240, *Board Policy Development*.

Information to Staff, Parents/Guardians, and Students

The Superintendent shall inform each school district employee about this policy and ensure its posting on the District's website. The Superintendent or designee shall provide a copy of this policy to the parent or legal guardian of each student enrolled in the District. Student and staff [PRESSPlus2](#)

identification (ID) cards, the District's website, and student handbooks and planners will contain the support information as required by State law.

Implementation

This policy shall be implemented in a manner consistent with State and federal laws, including the Student Confidential Reporting Act, [5 ILCS 860/](#), Children's Mental Health Act, [405 ILCS 49/](#), Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities Confidentiality Act, [740 ILCS 110/](#), and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, [42 U.S.C. §12101 et seq.](#)

The District, Board, and its staff are protected from liability by the Local Governmental and Governmental Employees Tort Immunity Act. Services provided pursuant to this policy: (1) do not replace the care of a physician licensed to practice medicine in all of its branches or a licensed medical practitioner or professional trained in suicide prevention, assessments and counseling services, (2) are strictly limited to the available resources within the District, (3) do not extend beyond the school day and/or school-sponsored events, and (4) cannot guarantee or ensure the safety of a student or the student body.

LEGAL REF.:

[42 U.S.C. § 1201 et seq.](#), Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

105 ILCS 5/2-3.166, ~~105 ILCS 5/2-3.139~~, 5/3-14.8, ~~5/10-20.76~~, 5/10-20.81, 5/10-22.24a, 5/10-22.24b, 5/10-22.39, 5/14-1.01 et seq., 5/14-7.02, ~~and 5/14-7.02b~~, and 5/27-2157.

[5 ILCS 860/](#), Student Confidential Reporting Act.

[405 ILCS 49/](#), Children's Mental Health Act.

[740 ILCS 110/](#), Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities Confidentiality Act.

[745 ILCS 10/](#), Local Governmental and Governmental Tort Immunity Act.

CROSS REF.: 2:240 (Board Policy Development), 5:100 (Staff Development Program), 6:60 (Curriculum Content), 6:65 (Student Social and Emotional Development), 6:120 (Education of Children with Disabilities), 6:270 (Guidance and Counseling Program), 7:180 (Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment), 7:250 (Student Support Services)

Adopted: February 20, 2024

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. Updated in response to 105 ILCS 5/27-215, added by P.A. 104-391. **Issue 120, October 2025**

PRESSPlus 2. Updated in response to 105 ILCS 5/10-20.81, amended by P.A. 104-264, eff. 1-1-26, requiring districts to insert the same contact information for suicide prevention helplines required for student ID cards on employee ID cards for employees serving any of grades 6 through 12. **Issue 120, October 2025**

Document Status: Draft Update

STUDENTS

7:315 Restrictions on Publications; High Schools

Definitions

Libel means the willful or negligent publication of provably false and unprivileged statements of fact that do demonstrable harm to a living person's reputation.

Obscene means lewd; impure; indecent; calculated to shock the moral sense of humans by a disregard of chastity or modesty. Objectionable or offensive to accepted standards of decency.

School official means a Building Principal or designee.

School sponsored media means any material that is prepared, substantially written, published, or broadcast by a student journalist, distributed or generally made available to members of the student body, and prepared under the direction of a student media advisor. It does not include media intended for distribution or transmission solely in the classroom in which the media is produced.

Slander means the speaking of false statements of fact that seriously harm a living person's reputation.

Student journalist means a public high school student who gathers, compiles, writes, edits, photographs, records, or prepares information for dissemination in school-sponsored media.

Student media advisor means an individual employed, appointed, or designated by the District to supervise or provide instruction relating to school-sponsored media.

School-Sponsored Media

School-sponsored publications, productions, and websites are governed by the Speech Rights of Student Journalists Act and Board of Education policies, and student journalists are responsible for determining the news, opinion, feature, and advertising content of those publications, productions, and websites.

Student journalists must:

1. Make decisions based upon news value and guided by the Code of Ethics provided by the Society of Professional Journalists, National Scholastic Press Association, Journalism Education Association, or other relevant group;
2. Produce media based upon professional standards of accuracy, objectivity, and fairness;
3. Review material to improve sentence structure, grammar, spelling, and punctuation;
4. Check and verify all facts and verify the accuracy of all quotations;
5. In the use of personal opinions, editorial statements, and/or letters to the editor, provide opportunity and space for the expression of differing opinions within the same media to align with the District's media literacy curriculum [mandate in 105 ILCS 5/27-20.08](#); [PRESSPlus1](#) and

6. Include an author's name with any personal opinions and editorial statements, if appropriate.

Student journalists may not create, produce, or distribute school-sponsored media that:

1. Is libelous, slanderous, or obscene;
2. Constitutes an unwarranted invasion of privacy;
3. Violates federal or State law, including the Constitutional rights of third parties; or
4. Incites students to:
 - a. Commit an unlawful act;
 - b. Violate any of the District's policies; or
 - c. Materially and substantially disrupt the orderly operation of the school.

The District will not engage in prior restraint of material prepared by student journalists for school-sponsored media, unless the material fits into one of the four prohibited categories listed above, in which case the Superintendent or designee and/or student media adviser may review, edit, and delete such media material before publication or distribution of the media.

No expression made by students in the exercise of freedom of speech or freedom of the press under this policy shall be deemed to be an expression of the District or an expression of Board policy.

Non-School Sponsored Publications Accessed or Distributed On Campus

For purposes of this section and the following section, a *publication* includes, without limitation: (1) written or electronic print material, (2) audio-visual material on any medium including electromagnetic media (e.g., images, digital files, flash memory, etc.), or combinations of these whether off-line (e.g., a printed book, digital files, etc.) or online (e.g., any website, social networking site, database for information retrieval, etc.), or (3) information or material on electronic devices (e.g., text or voice messages delivered by cell phones, tablets, and other hand-held devices).

Creating, distributing, and/or accessing non-school sponsored publications shall occur at a time and place and in a manner that will not cause disruption, be coercive, or result in the perception that the distribution or the publication is endorsed by the District.

Students are prohibited from creating, distributing, and/or accessing at school any publication that:

1. Will cause a material and substantial disruption of the proper and orderly operation and discipline of the school or school activities;
2. Violates the rights of others, including but not limited to material that is libelous, slanderous or obscene, invades the privacy of others, or infringes on a copyright;
3. Is socially inappropriate or inappropriate due to maturity level of the students, including but not limited to material that is obscene, pornographic, or pervasively lewd and vulgar, contains indecent and vulgar language, or *sexting* as defined by Board policy 7:190, *Student Behavior*, and/or Student Handbooks;
4. Is reasonably viewed as promoting illegal drug use;
5. Is distributed in kindergarten through eighth grade and is primarily prepared by non-students, unless it is being used for school purposes. However, material from outside sources or the citation to such sources may be allowed, as long as the material to be distributed or accessed is primarily prepared by students; or
6. Encourages or incites students to violate any Board policies.

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

Non-School Sponsored Publications Accessed or Distributed Off-Campus

A student engages in gross disobedience and misconduct and may be disciplined for creating and/or distributing a publication that: (1) causes a substantial disruption or a foreseeable risk of a substantial disruption to school operations, or (2) interferes with the rights of other students or staff members.

Bullying and Cyberbullying

The Superintendent or designee shall treat behavior that is *bullying* and/or *cyberbullying* according to Board policy 7:180, *Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment*, in addition to any response required by this policy.

LEGAL REF.:

105 ILCS ~~5/22-110~~ ~~5/27-20.08~~ and ~~5/27-23.7~~, 5/27-405, and 5/27-415 (scheduled for repeal on 7-1-27).

[105 ILCS 80/](#), Speech Rights of Student Journalists Act.

[Tinker v. Des Moines Indep. Cmty. Sch. Dist.](#), 393 U.S. 503 (1969).

[Hazelwood v. Kuhlmeier](#), 484 U.S. 260 (1988).

[Morse v. Frederick](#), 551 U.S. 393 (2007).

[Hedges v. Wauconda Cmty. Unit Sch. Dist. No. 118](#), 9 F.3d 1295 (7th Cir. 1993).

CROSS REF.: 1:30 (School District Mission, Vision, Motto, Equity Statement, and Core Values), 6:10 (Educational Philosophy and Objectives), 6:65 (Student Social and Emotional Development), 6:235 (Access to Electronic Networks), 7:180 (Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment), 7:190 (Student Behavior), 8:25 (Advertising and Distributing Materials in Schools Provided by Non-School Related Entities)

Adopted: June 16, 2025

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. 105 ILCS 5/27-415, renumbered by P.A. 104-391 and scheduled for repeal on 7-1-27, addressing the requirements for media literacy instruction through the 2026-2027 school year. Beginning with the 2027-2028 school year, media literacy instruction is combined with instruction on Internet safety under 105 ILCS 5/27-405(c), added by P.A. 104-391. **Issue 120, October 2025**

Document Status: Draft Update

STUDENTS

7:340 Student Records

School student records are confidential. Information from them shall not be released other than as provided by law. A school student record is any writing or other recorded information concerning a student and by which a student may be identified individually that is maintained by a school or at its direction by a school employee, regardless of how or where the information is stored, except as provided in State or federal law as summarized below:

1. Records kept in a staff member's sole possession.
2. Records maintained by law enforcement professionals ~~officers~~ [PRESSPlus1](#) working in the school.
3. Video and other electronic recordings (including without limitation, electronic recordings made on school buses) that are created in part for law enforcement, security, or safety reasons or purposes. The content of these recordings may become part of a school student record to the extent school officials create, use, and maintain this content, or it becomes available to them by law enforcement professionals ~~officials~~, for disciplinary or special education purposes regarding a particular student.
4. Any information, either written or oral, received from law enforcement officials concerning a student less than the age of 18 years who has been arrested or taken into custody.

School student records are confidential and information from them shall not be released other than as provided by law. A school student record is any writing or other recorded information concerning a student and by which a student may be identified individually that is maintained by a school or at its direction or by a school employee, regardless of how or where the information is stored, except for certain records kept in a staff member's sole possession; records maintained by law enforcement officers working in the school; video and other electronic recordings that are created in part for law enforcement, security, or safety reasons or purposes; and electronic recordings made on school buses.

State and federal law grants students, parents/guardians, and when applicable, the Ill. Dept. of Children and Family Services' Office of Education and Transition Services, certain rights, including the right to inspect, copy, and/or challenge school student records. The information contained in school student records shall be kept current, accurate, clear, and relevant. All information maintained concerning a student receiving special education services shall be directly related to the provision of services to that child. The District may release directory information as permitted by law, but a parent/guardian shall have the right to opt-out of the release of directory information regarding his or her child. The District will comply with State or federal law with regard to release of a student's school records, including, where applicable, without notice to, or the consent of, the student's parent/guardian or eligible student.

The Superintendent shall fully implement this policy and designate an *official records custodian* for each school who shall maintain and protect the confidentiality of school student records, inform staff members of this policy, and inform students and their parents/guardians of their rights regarding school student records.

LEGAL REF.:

[20 U.S.C. §1232g](#), Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act; [34 C.F.R. Part 99](#).

[50 ILCS 205/7](#), Local Records Act.

[105 ILCS 5/10-20.12b](#), [5/10-20.40](#), [5/14-1.01](#) *et seq.*, and [5/26A-30](#).

[105 ILCS 10/](#), Ill. School Student Records Act.

[105 ILCS 85/](#), Student Online Personal Protection Act.

[325 ILCS 17/](#), Children's Privacy Protection and Parental Empowerment Act.

[750 ILCS 5/602.11](#), Ill. Marriage and Dissolution of Marriage Act.

[23 Ill.Admin.Code Parts 226](#) and [375](#).

[Owasso I.S.D. No. I-011 v. Falvo](#), 534 U.S. 426 (2002).

[Chicago Tribune Co. v. Chicago Bd. of Ed.](#), 332 Ill.App.3d 60 (1st Dist. 2002).

CROSS REF.: 5:100 (Staff Development Program), 5:130 (Responsibilities Concerning Internal Information), 7:15 (Student and Family Privacy Rights), 7:220 (Bus Conduct), 7:255 (Students Who are Parents, Expectant Parents, or Victims of Domestic or Sexual Violence), 7:345 (Use of Educational Technologies; Student Data Privacy and Security)

Adopted: June 16, 2025

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. Revised in #2 and #3 to match the text of the Illinois School Student Records Act (ISSRA). **Issue 120, October 2025**

Document Status: Draft Update

COMMUNITY RELATIONS

8:30 Visitors to and Conduct on School Property

The following definitions apply to this policy:

School property - District and school buildings, grounds, and parking areas; vehicles used for school purposes; and any location used for a Board of Education meeting, school athletic event, or other school-sponsored or school-sanctioned events or activities.

- School buildings and grounds, all District buildings and grounds, vehicles used for school purposes, and any location used for a Board of Education meeting, school athletic event, or other school-sponsored event.

Visitor - Any person other than an enrolled student or District employee.

All visitors to school property are required to report to the main entrance of each campus and receive permission to remain on school property. All visitors must provide required identification, sign a visitors' log, show identification, and wear a visitor's badge. When leaving the school, visitors must return their badge. On those occasions when large groups of parents/guardians, friends, and/or community members are invited onto school property or when community members are attending Board meetings, visitors are not required to sign in but must follow school officials' instructions. Persons on school property without permission will be directed to leave and may be subject to criminal prosecution.

Except as provided in the next paragraph, any person wishing to confer with a staff member should contact that staff member to make an appointment. Conferences with teachers are held, to the extent possible, outside school hours or during the teacher's conference/preparation period.

Requests to access a school building, facility, and/or educational program, or to interview personnel or a student for purposes of assessing the student's special education needs, should be made at the appropriate building. Access shall be facilitated according to guidelines from the Superintendent or designee.

The School District expects mutual respect, civility, and orderly conduct among all people on school property or at a school event. No person on school property or at a school event (including visitors, students, and employees) shall perform any of the following acts:

1. Strike, injure, threaten, harass, or intimidate a staff member, Board member, sports official or coach, or any other person.
2. Behave in an unsportsmanlike manner, or use vulgar or obscene language.
3. Unless specifically permitted by State law, possess a weapon, any object that can reasonably be considered a weapon or looks like a weapon, or any dangerous device.
4. Damage or threaten to damage another's property.
5. Damage or deface school property.
6. Violate any Illinois law, or town or county ordinance.

7. Smoke or otherwise use tobacco products.
8. Distribute, consume, use, possess, or be impaired by or under the influence of an alcoholic beverage, cannabis, other lawful product, or illegal drug.
9. Be present when the person's alcoholic beverage, cannabis, other lawful product, or illegal drug consumption is detectable, regardless of when and/or where the use occurred.
10. Use or possess medical cannabis, unless he or she has complied with policy 7:270, *Administering Medicines to Students*, implementing *Ashley's Law*.
11. Impede, delay, disrupt, or otherwise interfere with any school activity or function (including using cellular phones in a disruptive manner).
12. Enter upon any portion of school premises at any time for purposes other than those that are lawful and authorized by the Board.
13. Operate a motor vehicle: (a) in a risky manner, (b) in excess of 20 miles per hour, or (c) in violation of an authorized District employee's directive.
14. Engage in any risky behavior, including roller-blading, roller-skating, or skateboarding.
15. Violate other District policies or regulations, or a directive from an authorized security officer or District employee.
16. Engage in any conduct that interferes with, disrupts, or adversely affects the District or a School function.

Convicted Child Sex Offender

State law prohibits a child sex offender from being present on school property or loitering within 500 feet of school property when persons under the age of 18 are present, unless the offender is:

1. A parent/guardian of a student attending the school and has notified the Building Principal of his or her presence at the school for the purpose of: (i) attending a conference at the school with school personnel to discuss the progress of his or her child academically or socially, (ii) participating in child review conferences in which evaluation and placement decisions may be made with respect to his or her child regarding special education services, or (iii) attending conferences to discuss other student issues concerning his or her child such as retention and promotion; or
2. Has permission to be present from the Board, Superintendent, or Superintendent's designee. If permission is granted, the Superintendent or Board President shall provide the details of the offender's upcoming visit to the Building Principal.

The following rules shall apply:

1. In all cases, the Superintendent, or designee who is a ~~licensed~~~~certified~~ [PRESSPlus1](#) employee, shall supervise a child sex offender whenever the offender is on campus.
2. Each child sex offender must complete a School Visit Request for each visit to school property.
3. Prior approval by the Superintendent is required.

Exclusive Bargaining Representative Agent

Upon notifying the Building Principal's office, authorized agents of an exclusive bargaining representative will be provided reasonable access to employees in the bargaining unit they represent in accordance with State law. Such access shall be conducted in a manner that will not impede the normal operations of the District.

Enforcement

Any staff member may request identification from any person on school property; refusal to provide such information is a criminal act. The Building Principal or designee shall seek the immediate removal of any person who refuses to provide requested identification.

Any person who engages in conduct prohibited by this policy may be ejected from or denied admission to school property in accordance with State law. The person also may be subject to being denied admission to school athletic or extracurricular events for up to one calendar year in accordance with the procedures below.

Procedures to Deny Future admission to Athletic or Extracurricular School Events

Before any person may be denied admission to athletic or extracurricular school events, the person has a right to a hearing before the Board. The Superintendent may refuse the person admission pending such hearing. The Superintendent or designee must provide the person with a hearing notice, delivered or sent by certified mail with return receipt requested, at least ten days before the Board hearing date. The hearing notice must contain:

1. The date, time, and place of the Board hearing;
2. A description of the prohibited conduct;
3. The proposed time period that admission to school events will be denied; and
4. Instruction on how to waive a hearing.

LEGAL REF.:

[20 U.S.C. §7971](#) *et seq.*, Pro-Children Act of 2001.

[Nuding v. Cerro Gordo Community Unit School Dist.](#), 313 Ill. App.3d 344 (4th Dist. 2000).

[105 ILCS 5/10-20.5](#), [10-20.5b](#), [5/10-22.10](#), [5/22-33](#), [5/22-110](#), and [5/24-25](#), and [5/27-23.7\(a\)](#). [PRESSPlus2](#)

[115 ILCS 5/3](#)(c), Ill. Educational Labor Relations Act.

[10 ILCS 130/](#), Compassionate Use of Medical Cannabis Program Act.

[410 ILCS 705/](#), Cannabis Tax and Regulation Act.

[430 ILCS 66/](#), Firearm Concealed Carry Act.

[720 ILCS 5/11-9.3](#), [5/21-1](#), [5/21-1.2](#), [5/21-3](#), [5/21-5](#), [5/21-5.5](#), [5/21-9](#), and [5/21-11](#).

CROSS REF.: 2:200 (Types of Board of Education Meetings), 2:230 (Public Participation at Board of Education Meetings and Petitions to the Board), 4:170 (Safety), 5:50 (Drug- and Alcohol-Free Workplace; E-Cigarette, Tobacco, and Cannabis Prohibition), 6:120 (Education of Children with Disabilities), 6:250 (Community Resource Persons and Volunteers), 7:190 (Student Behavior), 7:270 (Administering Medicines to Students), 8:20 (Community Use of School Facilities)

Adopted: February 20, 2024

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. Updated for continuous improvement. ¹¹⁹ **Issue 120, October 2025**

PRESSPlus 2. The Legal References are updated in response to P.A. 104-391. **Issue 120, October 2025**

REWRITTEN

Document Status: Draft Update - Rewritten

STUDENTS

7:150 Agency and Law Enforcement Requests

Title has been updated. Original Title: Agency and Police Interviews

The District recognizes the right of every student to equal access to a free public education under State and federal law, consistent with Board policy 7:10, *Equal Educational Opportunities*. District administrators and staff stand *in loco parentis* when government agency and law enforcement authority requests occur at school. [PRESSPlus1](#)

Federal and State Law Requirements Regarding Citizenship and Immigration Status in Schools [PRESSPlus2](#)

No student shall be denied an education based on the student's, or their parent's/guardian's, actual or perceived citizenship or immigration status. Based on such status, the District will not:

1. Exclude a student from participating in, or deny them the benefits of, any District program or activity.
2. Use policies or procedures or engage in practices that have the effect of excluding a student from participating in or denying the benefits of any District program or activity.
3. Use policies or procedures or engage in practices that have the effect of excluding participation of a student's parent(s)/guardian(s) from District parental engagement activities or programs.
4. Threaten to disclose information related to the actual or perceived citizenship or immigration status of a student or a person associated with the student to any other person, entity, or immigration or law enforcement agency.
5. Disclose information related to the perceived citizenship or immigration status of a student or a person associated with the student to any other person, entity, or immigration or law enforcement agency if the District does not have direct knowledge of the student's or associated person's actual citizenship or immigration status, subject to the requirements in 105 ILCS 5/22-105(c)(3). [PRESSPlus3](#)
6. Disclose information related to the actual citizenship or immigration status of a student or a person associated with the student to any other person or nongovernmental entity if the District has direct knowledge of the student's or associated person's actual citizenship status, subject to the requirements in 105 ILCS 5/22-105(c)(3).

State law does not prohibit or restrict the District from sending or receiving information about the citizenship or immigration status of an individual to or from the U.S. Dept. of Homeland Security or any other governmental entity under 8 U.S.C. §§1373 and 1644.

Responding to Agency and Law Enforcement Requests [PRESSPlus4](#)

The Superintendent shall develop procedures to manage requests by government agencies or law enforcement authorities regarding students at school. Procedures will:

1. Recognize individual student rights and privacy.

2. Recognize the potential impact the release of information or an interview may have on an individual student.
3. Minimize potential disruption.
4. Foster a cooperative relationship with government agencies and law enforcement authorities.
5. Maintain discipline and recognize that school employees stand in the relationship of the parents/guardians to the students during the school day.
6. Comply with State law including, but not limited to, ensuring that before a law enforcement agent, school resource officer, or other school security person detains and questions on school grounds a student under 18 years of age who is suspected of committing a criminal act, the Superintendent or designee will: [PRESSPlus5](#)
 - a. Notify or attempt to notify the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) and document the time and manner in writing;
 - b. Make reasonable efforts to ensure the student's parent/guardian is present during questioning or, if they are not present, ensure that school employees (including, but not limited to, a school social worker, psychologist, nurse, counselor, or any other mental health professional) are present during the questioning; and
 - c. If practicable, make reasonable efforts to ensure a trained law enforcement officer [PRESSPlus6](#) to promote safe interactions and communications with the student is present during questioning.
7. Manage reviewing and authorizing requests from law enforcement agents attempting to enter a school or school facility, in accordance with the requirements of 105 ILCS 5/22-105(c) (4). [PRESSPlus7](#)

LEGAL REF.:

U.S. Constitution, Amend. IV.

8 U.S.C. §1373 and §1644.

Plyler v. Doe, 457 U.S. 202 (1982).

Ill. Constitution, Art. I, §6.

105 ILCS 5/10-20.64, 5/10-20.68, 5/22-88, 5/22-105, and 5/24-24.

55 ILCS 80/, Children's Advocacy Center Act.

325 ILCS 5/, Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act.

720 ILCS 5/31-1 et seq., Interference with Public Officers Act.

725 ILCS 120/, Rights of Crime Victims and Witnesses Act.

CROSS REF.: 2:160 (Board Attorney), 2:260 (Uniform Grievance Procedure), and 2:270 (Discrimination and Harassment on the Basis of Race, Color, and National Origin Prohibited), 5:90 (Abused and Neglected Child Reporting), 7:10 (Equal Educational Opportunities), 7:130 (Student Rights and Responsibilities), 7:140 (Search and Seizure), 7:190 (Student Behavior)

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. This policy is renamed and rewritten in response to 105 ILCS 5/22-105, added by P.A. 104-288, eff. 1-1-26, requiring districts to establish a policy by 7-1-26 regarding agency and law enforcement requests at school, and for continuous improvement. See the footnotes of this sample policy for more information, available at PRESS Online by logging in at www.iasb.com.

By 7-1-26, districts are also required to develop procedures for reviewing and authorizing requests from *lawenforcement agents* attempting to enter a school or school facility. 105 ILCS 5/22-105(b), added by P.A. 104-288, eff. 1-1-26, defines *lawenforcement agent* as "an agent of federal, State, or local law enforcement authorized with the power to arrest or detain individuals or manage the custody of detained individuals for a law enforcement purpose, including civil immigration enforcement." *Law enforcement agent* does not include a school resource officer as defined in 105 ILCS 5/10-20.68. Id. See sample administrative procedure 7:150-AP, *Managing Agency and Law Enforcement Requests*. **Issue 120, October 2025**

PRESSPlus 2. Required by 105 ILCS 5/22-105(d), added by P.A. 104-288, eff. 1-1-26. **Issue 120, October 2025**

PRESSPlus 3. Districts must also still comply with federal and State laws, e.g., FERPA and the Ill. School Student Records Act, governing the disclosure of student records or information. **Consult the board attorney regarding legal requirements when requests are received from federal law enforcement agencies. Issue 120, October 2025**

PRESSPlus 4. With the exception of items #6 and #7, the listed standards for procedures are at the local school board's discretion and may be omitted. For procedures addressing #1-6, refer to the *Guidelines for Interviews of Students*, published by the Ill. Council of School Attorneys (ICSA *Guidelines*) at: www.iasb.com/policy-services-and-school-law/guidance-and-resources/guidelines-for-interviews-of-students/ in consultation with the board attorney. For procedures addressing the items listed in #7, refer to sample administrative procedure 7:150-AP, *Managing Agency and Law Enforcement Requests*, available at PRESS Online by logging in at www.iasb.com, in consultation with the board attorney. Procedures covering item #7 are required by 105 ILCS 5/22-105, added by P.A. 104-288, eff. 1-1-26, and must be implemented by 7-1-26. **Issue 120, October 2025**

PRESSPlus 5. 105 ILCS 5/22-88. The statute does not specifically assign these duties to a school official, but instead states that "a law enforcement officer, school resource officer, or other school security personnel" must ensure these conditions are met before detaining and questioning a student on school grounds. For ease of implementation, this policy assigns these duties to a school official as they routinely contact parents/guardians and can arrange for the presence of school personnel during an interview. See the *ICSA Guidelines* for further discussion of school officials' responsibilities when law enforcement authorities interview students at school. **Issue 120, October 2025**

PRESSPlus 6. A *trained lawenforcement officer* is someone who: (1) received training in youth investigations approved or certified by his/her law enforcement agency or under 50 ILCS 705/10.22, or (2) is a juvenile police officer per 705 ILCS 405/1-3(17). 105 ILCS 5/22-88(b)(4). **Issue 120, October 2025**

PRESSPlus 7. 105 ILCS 5/22-105(c)(4), added by P.A. 104-288, eff. 1-1-26, requires a district to

develop procedures that: (1) designate authorized personnel at the school and the superintendent's office or school administrative office who may contact the board attorney, (2) require the designated authorized person and board attorney to work together to review requests from law enforcement agents to enter a school or school facility, including under judicial warrants, nonjudicial warrants, and subpoenas, (3) require the designated authorized personnel to monitor or accompany and to document all interactions with law enforcement agents while on the school's premises, and (4) require the designated authorized person to notify and seek consent from a student's parent/guardian, or from the student if the student is 18 years old or older or emancipated, if a law enforcement agent requests access to a student for immigration enforcement purposes, unless such access is in compliance with a judicial warrant or subpoena that restricts the disclosure of the information to the student's parent/guardian.

Regarding requirement #2 in the paragraph immediately above, ensure that the superintendent's authority to designate others to contact the board attorney aligns with policy 2:160, *Board Attorney*. The superintendent will need to work with the board attorney to create a list of administrators authorized to consult directly with the board attorney if any agency or law enforcement request is received. Factors to consider when drafting this list include: the type of request received, the type of agency or law enforcement unit making the request, whether or not a warrant is presented, and whether or not exigent circumstances are claimed. **Issue 120, October 2025**

REVIEW & MONITORING

Document Status: Review and Monitoring

INSTRUCTION

6:280 Grading and Promotion

The Superintendent shall establish a system of grading and reporting academic achievement to students and their parents/guardians. The system shall also determine when promotion and graduation requirements are met. The decision to promote a student to the next grade level shall be based on successful completion of the curriculum, attendance, and performance on the standardized tests required by the Ill. State Board of Education (ISBE) and/or other assessments. A student shall not be promoted based upon age or any other social reason not related to academic performance. The administration shall determine remedial assistance for a student who is not promoted. [PRESSPlus1](#)

Every teacher shall maintain an evaluation record for each student in the teacher's classroom. The Principal cannot change the final grade assigned by the teacher without notifying the teacher. Reasons for changing a student's final grade include:

- A miscalculation of test scores,
- A technical error in assigning a particular grade or score,
- The teacher agrees to allow the student to do extra work that may impact the grade,
- An inappropriate grading system used to determine the grade, or
- An inappropriate grade based on an appropriate grading system.

Should a grade change be made, the administrator making the change must sign the changed record.

LEGAL REF.:

[105 ILCS 5/2-3.64a-5](#), [5/10-20.9a](#), [5/10-21.8](#), and [5/27-27](#).

CROSS REF.: 6:300 (Graduation Requirements), 6:340 (Student Testing and Assessment Program), 7:50 (School Admissions and Student Transfers To and From Non-District Schools)

Adopted: June 15, 2020

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. This policy is suggested to be reviewed by the Board. According to policy 2:240, *Board Policy Development*, "[t]he Board will periodically review its policies for relevancy, monitor its policies for effectiveness, and consider whether any modifications are required." IASB suggests that each policy in the Board's policy manual be reviewed at a minimum of every five years. As part of the review, the Board may choose to:

- Compare the adopted version to the current PRESS sample (available at PRESS Online by logging in at www.iasb.com), discussing any differences and/or options noted in the footnotes to determine whether local changes are necessary
- Update the policy language due to changes in local conditions

- Make no changes, but update the adoption date to reflect that the policy has been reviewed and re-adopted

Issue 120, October 2025



ED PIOTROWSKI
DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES

TO: Brian Waterman, Superintendent
Board of Education
FROM: Edward M. Piotrowski, Director of Human Resources
DATE: November 18, 2025
RE: Stipend Committee Recommendation

BACKGROUND

Over the course of the first semester of the 2025-2026 school year, the Stipend Committee convened three times to evaluate proposals for the creation and expansion of stipends across clubs, activities, and athletics at Lyons Township High School. This recommendation reflects the District's continued investment in student engagement, safety, equitable access, and the long-term growth of our co-curricular and extracurricular programs.

ACTIVITIES

The following stipend is recommended for creation, with one stipend in the amount of the 2.64% base activity stipend (\$1,552.10):

Women in Sports Empowerment Club (WISE)

Women in Sports Empowerment Club has been operating in a pilot status and we are recommending the approval of this club to full club status with an accompanying stipend. The Stipend Committee recommends the creation of one activity stipend for WISE Club in the amount of the 2.64% base activity stipend (\$1,552.10). WISE Club is dedicated to spreading awareness regarding the history and current efforts of women in sports to reach equality. This organization promotes girls' sports both at Lyons Township High School and outside of LT. The main goals of WISE include promoting gender equality specifically in sports, promoting gender equality and women's empowerment in general, and increasing supporters/fans at LT girls' sports games. The club achieves these goals through various activities such as creating posters for upcoming girls' sports events, discussing the adversities women have faced outside of sports, and inviting female athletes, coaches, or LT alumni to speak to members. WISE also provides time and place for volunteer opportunities or creating cards for recreational leagues like AYSO to keep girls engaged in sports. This stipend is recommended to support an organization that fosters inclusive opportunities for connection and engagement across the district, ensuring equitable support for programs dedicated to women's athletics and empowerment.

RECOMMENDATION

The Stipend Committee respectfully recommends that the Board of Education approve the above proposal for a new club stipend. This recommendation supports growing student programs and fosters inclusive opportunities for connection and engagement across the district. The total cost for the creation of the WISE stipend is \$1,552.10.

LYONS TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL

DISTRICT 204 OFFICES 100 S. Brainard Ave., LaGrange, IL 60525-2101
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Brian Stachacz
Director of Business Services

Memorandum

To: Dr. Brian Waterman, Board of Education
From: Brian Stachacz
Date: 11/18/2025
Re: 2025 Supplemental Tax Levy for Bond & Interest Payments

Information: In order for District 204 to increase the Bond & Interest Levy for the 2025 tax year, a separate resolution is required to be approved by the Board of Education. The Supplemental Bond & Interest Levy is a separate levy that is outside of the general levy but will be included in the total for the 2025 levy through Cook County.

For the 2025 levy, the District is able to increase the total Bond & Interest Levy to \$3,021,299.03. When the District sold bonds in December of 2023 and January of 2024, the debt payment schedule assumed that an increase would be added to the levy every year until the bonds are paid in full.

A copy of the resolution, necessary to increase the Bond & Interest Levy as discussed, is attached for your review. It is required to be a separate resolution from that of the general tax levy and will appear on the December 2025 Board meeting agenda as a separate item.

Recommendation: The Board of Education approve the resolution authorizing a supplemental tax levy to pay the principal of and interest on outstanding limited bonds of Township High School District Number 204, Cook County, Illinois.

MINUTES of a regular public meeting of the Board of Education of Township High School District Number 204, Cook County, Illinois, held in Room 103 of the North Campus, 100 South Brainard Avenue, LaGrange, Illinois, in said School District at 7:00 o'clock P.M., on the 15th day of December, 2025.

* * *

The President called the meeting to order and directed the Secretary to call the roll.

Upon the roll being called, Tim Albores, the President, and the following members were physically present at said location: _____

The following members were allowed by a majority of the members of the Board of Education in accordance with and to the extent allowed by rules adopted by the Board of Education to attend the meeting by video or audio conference: _____

No member was not permitted to attend the meeting by video or audio conference.

The following members were absent and did not participate in the meeting in any manner or to any extent whatsoever: _____

The President announced that in view of the current financial condition of the District, the Board of Education would consider the adoption of a resolution authorizing a supplemental tax levy to pay the principal of and interest on outstanding limited bonds of the District.

Whereupon Member _____ presented and the Secretary read by title a resolution as follows, a copy of which was provided to each member of the Board of Education prior to said meeting and to everyone in attendance at said meeting who requested a copy:

RESOLUTION authorizing a supplemental property tax levy to pay the principal of and interest on outstanding limited bonds of Township High School District Number 204, Cook County, Illinois.

* * *

WHEREAS, Township High School District Number 204, Cook County, Illinois (the “*District*”), is a duly organized School District operating under the provisions of the School Code of the State of Illinois, and all laws amendatory thereof and supplementary thereto (the “*School Code*”); and

WHEREAS, the District has heretofore issued and has outstanding its General Obligation Limited Tax School Bonds, Series 2024 (the “*Bonds*”); and

WHEREAS, the Bonds were issued as limited bonds pursuant to and in accordance with the provisions of Section 15.01 of the Local Government Debt Reform Act of the State of Illinois, as amended (the “*Debt Reform Act*”); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to a resolution adopted by the Board of Education of the District (the “*Board*”) on the 18th day of September, 2023, as supplemented by a Notification of Sale for the Bonds, dated the 19th day of December, 2023 (together, the “*Bond Resolution*”), and in accordance with the provisions of the School Code and the Debt Reform Act, the District has heretofore levied taxes upon all of the taxable property within the District to pay the principal of and interest on the Bonds as set forth in Column (B) of the schedule attached hereto as *Exhibit A*; and

WHEREAS, the Bond Resolution has been filed with the County Clerk of the County of Cook, Illinois (the “*County Clerk*”); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Bond Resolution, the District directed the County Clerk to extend the taxes levied in the Bond Resolution to pay principal of and interest on the Bonds in accordance with the terms of the Bond Resolution; and

WHEREAS, although the obligation of the District to pay the Bonds is a general obligation under the School Code and all taxable property in the District is subject to the levy of taxes to pay the Bonds without limitation as to rate, the amount of said taxes that will be extended to pay the Bonds is limited by the Property Tax Extension Limitation Law of the State of Illinois, as amended (the “*Tax Extension Limitation Law*”); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to and in accordance with the provisions of the Debt Reform Act, the Bonds are payable from the debt service extension base of the District (the “*Base*”), which is an amount equal to that portion of the extension of the District for the 1994 levy year constituting an extension for payment of principal of and interest on bonds issued by the District without referendum, but not including alternate bonds issued under Section 15 of the Debt Reform Act or refunding obligations issued to refund or to continue to refund obligations of the District initially issued pursuant to referendum, increased each year, commencing with the 2009 levy year, by the lesser of 5% or the percentage increase in the Consumer Price Index (as defined in the Tax Extension Limitation Law) during the 12-month calendar year preceding the levy year; and

WHEREAS, the Base for levy year 2025 is equal to \$3,021,299.03 (the “*2025 Base*”); and

WHEREAS, the principal of and interest due on the Bonds is set forth in Column (A) of *Exhibit A* and in certain levy years exceeds the taxes levied in the Bond Resolution; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the School Code, the Debt Reform Act and the Tax Extension Limitation Law, the District has the authority to adopt a supplemental levy causing the amount of taxes levied to pay the principal of and interest on the Bonds to be increased up to the amount of the 2025 Base or the amount of the principal of and interest due on the Bonds payable from the taxes levied for each such levy year (including principal of and interest due on the Bonds in excess of the taxes levied in prior years), whichever is less; and

WHEREAS, the Board has heretofore determined and does hereby determine that it is necessary and in the best interests of the District that the District adopt a supplemental tax levy to pay the principal of and interest on the Bonds as further described herein:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by the Board of Education of Township High School District Number 204, Cook County, Illinois, as follows:

Section 1. The preambles to this Resolution are hereby found and determined to be true, correct and complete and are hereby incorporated into this Resolution by this reference.

Section 2. The District does hereby levy for the years 2025 to 2032, inclusive, the supplemental amounts set forth in Column (C) of *Exhibit A*, which levies shall be extended against all of the taxable property in the District for the purpose of paying the principal of and interest on the Bonds. The taxes herein levied shall be in addition to and in excess of the taxes levied in the Bond Resolution. A schedule showing the aggregate of the taxes levied in the Bond Resolution and the taxes levied in this Resolution is set forth in Column (D) of *Exhibit A*.

Section 3. Forthwith upon the passage of this Resolution, the Secretary of the Board is hereby directed to file a certified copy of this Resolution with the County Clerk, and it shall be the duty of the County Clerk to in and for the years 2025 to 2033, inclusive, ascertain the rate necessary to produce the tax as set forth in Column (D) of *Exhibit A*, and extend the same for collection on the tax books against all of the taxable property within the District in connection with other taxes levied in each of said years for school purposes, in order to raise the respective amount aforesaid and in each of said years such annual tax shall be computed, extended and collected in the same manner as now or hereafter provided by law for the computation, extension and collection of taxes for general school purposes of the District, and when collected, the taxes hereby levied shall be placed to the credit of the special fund heretofore created and designated as the “School Bond and Interest Fund of 2024” which taxes are hereby irrevocably pledged to and shall be used only for

the purpose of paying the principal of and interest on the Bonds; and a certified copy of this Resolution shall also be filed with the School Treasurer who receives the taxes of the District.

Section 4. If any section, paragraph, clause or provision of this Resolution shall be held to be invalid or unenforceable for any reason, the invalidity or unenforceability of such section, paragraph, clause or provision shall not affect any of the remaining provisions of this Resolution.

Section 5. All resolutions or parts thereof in conflict herewith be and the same are hereby repealed and that this Resolution shall be in full force and effect forthwith upon its adoption.

Adopted December 15, 2025.

President, Board of Education

Secretary, Board of Education

EXHIBIT A

SUPPLEMENTAL AND TOTAL TAXES LEVIED AND TO BE EXTENDED

| YEAR OF LEVY | (A) DEBT SERVICE ON THE 2024 BONDS | (B) TAXES CURRENTLY ON FILE | (C) 2025 SUPPLEMENTAL TAX LEVY FOR 2024 BONDS | (D) TOTAL TAXES TO BE EXTENDED TO PRODUCE |
|--------------------|---|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| 2023 | \$ 553,683.33 | \$ 553,683.33 | \$ 0.00 | \$ 553,683.33 |
| 2024 | 579,750.00 | 508,854.13 | 0.00 | 508,854.13 |
| *** | *** | *** | *** | *** |
| 2025 | 582,500.00 | 454,354.13 | 181,694.90 | 636,049.03 |
| 2026 | 580,000.00 | 406,854.13 | 181,694.90 | 588,549.03 |
| 2027 | 577,500.00 | 361,354.13 | 181,694.90 | 543,049.03 |
| 2028 | 580,000.00 | 318,104.13 | 181,694.90 | 499,799.03 |
| 2029 | 582,250.00 | 272,354.13 | 181,694.90 | 454,049.03 |
| 2030 | 3,194,250.00 | 2,839,604.13 | 181,694.90 | 3,021,299.03 |
| 2031 | 3,245,500.00 | 2,839,604.13 | 181,694.90 | 3,021,299.03 |
| 2032 | 3,292,500.00 | 2,839,604.13 | 181,694.90 | 3,021,299.03 |
| 2033 | 1,890,000.00 | 1,890,000.00 | 0.00 | 1,890,000.00 |

Member _____ moved and Member _____
seconded the motion that said resolution as presented and read by title be adopted.

After a full and complete discussion thereof, the President directed the Secretary to call the roll for a vote upon the motion to adopt said resolution.

Upon the roll being called, the following members voted AYE: _____

The following members voted NAY: _____

Whereupon the President declared the motion carried and said resolution adopted, and in open meeting approved and signed said resolution and directed the Secretary to record the same in full in the records of the Board of Education of Township High School District Number 204, Cook County, Illinois, which was done.

Other business not pertinent to the adoption of said resolution was duly transacted at said meeting.

Upon motion duly made, seconded and carried, the meeting was adjourned.

Secretary, Board of Education

STATE OF ILLINOIS)
) SS
COUNTY OF COOK)

CERTIFICATION OF MINUTES AND RESOLUTION

I, the undersigned, do hereby certify that I am the duly qualified and acting Secretary of the Board of Education of Township High School District Number 204, Cook County, Illinois (the “Board”), and that as such official I am the keeper of the records and files of the Board.

I do further certify that the foregoing constitutes a full, true and complete transcript of the minutes of the meeting of the Board held on the 15th day of December, 2025, insofar as same relates to the adoption of a resolution entitled:

RESOLUTION authorizing a supplemental property tax levy to pay the principal of and interest on outstanding limited bonds of Township High School District Number 204, Cook County, Illinois.

a true, correct and complete copy of which said resolution as adopted at said meeting appears in the foregoing transcript of the minutes of said meeting.

I do further certify that the deliberations of the Board on the adoption of said resolution were conducted openly, that the vote on the adoption of said resolution was taken openly, that said meeting was held at a specified time and place convenient to the public, that notice of said meeting was duly given to all of the news media requesting such notice, that an agenda for said meeting was posted at the location where said meeting was held and at the principal office of the Board at least 72 hours in advance of the holding of said meeting, that at least one copy of said agenda was continuously available for public review during the entire 72-hour period preceding said meeting, that said meeting was called and held in strict compliance with the provisions of the Open Meetings Act of the State of Illinois, as amended, and with the provisions of the School Code of the State of Illinois, as amended, and that the Board has complied with all of the provisions of said Act and said Code and with all of the procedural rules of the Board in the conduct of said meeting and in the adoption of said resolution.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto affix my official signature, this 15th day of December, 2025.

Secretary, Board of Education

STATE OF ILLINOIS)
) SS
COUNTY OF COOK)

FILING CERTIFICATE

I, the undersigned, do hereby certify that I am the duly qualified and acting County Clerk of The County of Cook, Illinois, and as such official I do further certify that on the ____ day of _____, 2025, there was filed in my office a duly certified copy of a resolution entitled:

RESOLUTION authorizing a supplemental property tax levy to pay the principal of and interest on outstanding limited bonds of Township High School District Number 204, Cook County, Illinois.

duly adopted by the Board of Education of Township High School District Number 204, Cook County, Illinois, on the 15th day of December, 2025, and that the same has been deposited in the official files and records of my office.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto affix my official signature and the seal of said County, this ____ day of _____, 2025.

County Clerk

[SEAL]

STATE OF ILLINOIS)
) SS
COUNTY OF COOK)

FILING CERTIFICATE

I, the undersigned, do hereby certify that I am the duly qualified and acting School Treasurer who receives the taxes of Township High School District Number 204, Cook County, Illinois (the “*District*”), and as such official I do further certify that on the 15th day of December, 2025, there was filed in my office a duly certified copy of a resolution entitled:

RESOLUTION authorizing a supplemental property tax levy to pay the principal of and interest on outstanding limited bonds of Township High School District Number 204, Cook County, Illinois.

duly adopted by the Board of Education of the District on the 15th day of December, 2025, and that the same has been deposited in the official files and records of my office.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto affix my official signature, this 15th day of December, 2025.

School Treasurer