

Board Policy Manual

Indian Valley Vocational Center DeKalb County

This manual may be changed at any time at the sole discretion of the Board and/or the Superintendent, whichever has appropriate jurisdiction, subject only to mandatory collective bargaining requirements.

JOINT AGREEMENT POLICY MANUAL

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BOARD OF CONTROL POLICY MANUAL
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Because certain policy numbers are used for IASB sample policies, districts should use numbers ending in 2, 4, 6, or 8 for locally developed policies on topics not covered by IASB sample policies.

Joint Agreement Organization

Joint Agreement Legal Status

The Illinois Constitution requires the State to provide for an efficient system of high quality public educational institutions and services in order to achieve the educational development of all persons to the limits of their capabilities.

The General Assembly has implemented this constitutional mandate through the creation of joint agreements of various types for the purpose of providing special education services to children with disabilities. The Indian Valley Vocational Center is governed by such mandates.

Consistent with 105 ILCS 5/10-22.31, the Indian Valley Vocational Center Governing Board shall serve as the administrative and legal entity for the Cooperative/Joint Agreement.

The Governing Board constitutes a body corporate that possesses all the usual powers of a corporation for public purposes, and in that name may sue and be sued, purchase, hold and sell personal property and real estate, and enter into such obligations as are authorized by law.

LEGAL REF.: Ill. Constitution, Art. X, Sec. 1.
105 ILCS 5/10-1 et seq.
23 Ill.Admin.Code Part 226.

CROSS REF.: 2:10 (Cooperative/Joint Agreement Governance) 2:20 (Powers and Duties of the School Board; Indemnification)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Joint Agreement Organization

Membership

Membership in this Indian Valley Vocational Center shall be extended to all public school districts within a reasonable distance from the Indian Valley Vocational Center.

The terms and conditions of membership are contained in the Fifth Amended Indian Valley Vocational Center Continuing Education Co-Operative Joint Agreement.

The Member Districts participating in the Indian Valley Vocational Center are:

- Earlville Joint Agreement #9
- Hinckley-Big Rock Joint Agreement #429
- Indian Creek Joint Agreement #425
- Leland Joint Agreement #1
- Newark Joint Agreement #18
- Plano Joint Agreement #88
- Sandwich Joint Agreement #430
- Serena Joint Agreement #2
- Somonauk Joint Agreement #432
- Yorkville Joint Agreement #115

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Joint Agreement Organization

Joint Agreement Philosophy

The Joint Agreement, in an active partnership with parents and community, will promote excellence in a caring environment in which all students learn and grow. This partnership aims to empower all students to develop strong self-respect and to become responsible learners and decision-makers. The Joint Agreement is committed to developing and using a visionary and innovative curriculum, a knowledgeable and dedicated staff, and sound fiscal and management practices.

CROSS REF: 2:10 (Joint Agreement Governance), 3:10 (Goals and Objectives), 6:10
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ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

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Because certain policy numbers are used for IASB sample policies, districts should use numbers ending in 2, 4, 6, or 8 for locally developed policies on topics not covered by IASB sample policies.

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Because certain policy numbers are used for IASB sample policies, districts should use numbers ending in 2, 4, 6, or 8 for locally developed policies on topics not covered by IASB sample policies.

Board of Control

Joint Agreement Governance

The Joint Agreement is governed by a Board of Control whose membership, responsibilities and authority shall be as described in the Fifth Amended Indian Valley Vocational Center Continuing Education Co-Operative Joint Agreement.

The Board's powers and duties include the authority to adopt, enforce, and monitor all policies for the management and governance of the Joint Agreement's programs and services.

In addition, there is an Administrative District (Sandwich Community School District No. 430) whose membership, responsibilities, and authority shall be as described in Indian Valley Vocational Center's operating agreement.

The ultimate responsibility for fiscal and personnel matters rests with the Administrative District's Board based on recommendations from the Board of Control.

Official action may only occur at a duly called and legally conducted meeting at which a quorum is physically present. Board members, as individuals, have no authority over Cooperative/Joint Agreement affairs, except as provided by law or as authorized by the Board.

LEGAL REF.: 5 ILCS 120/, Open Meetings Act.
105 ILCS 5/10-20, 5/10-20.5, and 5/10-22.31.

CROSS REF.: 1:10 (Cooperative/Joint Agreement Legal Status), 2:20 (Powers and Duties of the School Board; Indemnification), 2:200 (Types of School Board Meetings), 2:220 (School Board Meeting Procedure)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Board of Control

Powers and Duties of the Board of Control; Indemnification

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

1. Organizing the Board after each consolidated election by electing officers and establishing its regular meeting schedule and, thereafter, taking action during lawfully called meetings to faithfully fulfill the Board's responsibilities in accordance with State and federal law.
2. Formulating, adopting, and modifying Board policies, at its sole discretion, subject only to mandatory collective bargaining agreements and State and federal law.
3. Employing a Director and other personnel, making employment decisions, dismissing personnel, including determining whether an employee has willfully or negligently failed to report an instance of suspected child abuse or neglect as required by 325 ILCS 5/, and establishing an equal employment opportunity policy that prohibits unlawful discrimination.
4. Directing, through policy, the Director, in his or her charge of the Joint Agreement's administration.
5. Approving the annual budget, tax levies, major expenditures, payment of obligations, annual audit, and other aspects of the Joint Agreement's financial operation; and making available a statement of financial affairs as provided in State law.
6. Entering contracts using the public bidding procedure when required.
7. Providing, constructing, controlling, and maintaining adequate physical facilities; making school buildings available for use as civil defense shelters; and establishing a resource conservation policy.
8. Establishing an equal educational opportunities policy that prohibits unlawful discrimination.
9. Approving the curriculum, textbooks, and educational services.
10. Evaluating the educational program and approving Joint Agreement Improvement and Joint Agreement Improvement Plans.
11. Presenting the Joint Agreement report card(s) to parents/guardians and the community; these documents report Joint Agreement and student performance.
12. Establishing and supporting student behavior policies designed to maintain an environment conducive to learning, including recommending individual student suspension or expulsion cases to a student's home district.
13. Establishing attendance units within the Joint Agreement and assigning students to the schools.
14. Establishing the school year.
15. Requiring a moment of silence to recognize veterans during any type of school event held at a Joint Agreement school on November 11.
16. Entering into joint agreements with other boards to establish cooperative educational programs or provide educational facilities.

17. Complying with requirements in the Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act (ANCRA). Specifically, each individual Board member must, if an allegation is raised to the member during an open or closed Board meeting that a student is an abused child as defined in ANCRA, direct or cause the Board to direct the Director or other equivalent school administrator to comply with ANCRA's requirements concerning the reporting of child abuse.
18. Notifying the State Superintendent of Education promptly and in writing of the name of a licensed teacher who was convicted of a felony, along with the conviction and the name and location of the court where the conviction occurred.
19. Notifying the Teachers' Retirement System (TRS) of the State of Ill. Board of Trustees promptly and in writing when it learns that a teacher as defined in the Ill. Pension Code was convicted of a felony, along with the name and location of the court where the conviction occurred, and the case number assigned by that court to the conviction.
20. Communicating the schools' activities and operations to the community and representing the needs and desires of the community in educational matters.

Indemnification

To the extent allowed by law, the Board shall defend, indemnify, and hold harmless Board of Control members, employees, volunteer personnel (pursuant to 105 ILCS 5/10-22.34, 10-22.34a and 10-22.34b), mentors of certified staff (pursuant to 105 ILCS 5/2-3.53a, 2-3.53b, and 105 ILCS 5/21A-5 et seq.), and student teachers who, in the course of discharging their official duties imposed or authorized by law, are sued as parties in a legal proceeding. Nothing herein, however, shall be construed as obligating the Board to defend, indemnify, or hold harmless any person who engages in criminal activity, official misconduct, fraud, intentional or willful and wanton misconduct, or acts beyond the authority properly vested in the individual.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/10, 5/17-1, 5/21B-85, and 5/27-1.
115 ILCS 5/, Ill. Educational Labor Relations Act.
325 ILCS 5/, Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act.

CROSS REF.: 1:10 (Joint Agreement Legal Status), 2:10 (Joint Agreement Governance), 2:140 (Communications To and From the Board), 2:240 (Board Policy Development), 4:60 (Purchases and Contracts), 4:70 (Resource Conservation), 4:100 (Insurance Management), 4:110 (Transportation), 4:150 (Facility Management and Building Programs), 4:165 (Awareness and Prevention of Sexual Abuse and Grooming Behaviors), 4:175 (Convicted Child Sex Offender; Screening; Notifications), 5:10 (Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Recruitment), 5:30 (Hiring Process and Criteria), 5:90 (Abused and Neglected Child Reporting), 5:120 (Employee Ethics; Code of Professional Conduct; and Conflict of Interest), 5:150 (Personnel Records), 5:210 (Resignations), 5:290 (Employment Termination and Suspensions), 6:10 (Educational Philosophy and Objectives), 6:20 (Joint Agreement Year Calendar and Day), 7:10 (Equal Educational Opportunities), 7:190 (Student Behavior), 7:200 (Suspension Procedures), 7:210 (Expulsion Procedures), 8:10 (Connection with the Community), 8:30 (Visitors to and Conduct on School Property)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Board of Control

Exhibit - Board Member Code of Conduct

As a member of my local Board of Control, I will do my utmost to represent the public interest in education by adhering to the following standards and principles:

1. I will represent all Joint Agreement constituents honestly and equally and refuse to surrender my responsibilities to special interest or partisan political groups.
2. I will avoid any conflict of interest or the appearance of impropriety which could result from my position, and will not use my Board membership for personal gain or publicity.
3. I will recognize that a Board member has no legal authority as an individual and that decisions can be made only by a majority vote at a Board meeting.
4. I will take no private action that might compromise the Board or administration and will respect the confidentiality of privileged information.
5. I will abide by majority decisions of the Board, while retaining the right to seek changes in such decisions through ethical and constructive channels.
6. I will encourage and respect the free expression of opinion by my fellow Board members and will participate in Board discussions in an open, honest and respectful manner, honoring differences of opinion or perspective.
7. I will prepare for, attend and actively participate in Board of Control meetings.
8. I will be sufficiently informed about and prepared to act on the specific issues before the Board, and remain reasonably knowledgeable about local, State, national, and global education issues.
9. I will respectfully listen to those who communicate with the Board, seeking to understand their views, while recognizing my responsibility to represent the interests of the entire community.
10. I will strive for a positive working relationship with the Director, respecting the Director's authority to advise the Board, implement Board policy, and administer the Joint Agreement.
11. I will model continuous learning and work to ensure good governance by taking advantage of Board member development opportunities, such as those sponsored by my State and national Joint Agreement Board associations, and encourage my fellow Board members to do the same.
12. I will strive to keep my Board focused on its primary work of clarifying the Joint Agreements purpose, direction and goals, and monitoring Joint Agreements performance.

DATED: May 1, 2024

Board of Control

Board Member Conflict of Interest

No Board of Control member shall: (1) have a beneficial interest directly or indirectly in any contract, work, or business of the Joint Agreement unless permitted by State or federal law; or (2) solicit or accept gratuities, favors, or anything of monetary value from contractors, potential contractors, or parties to agreements or contracts with the Joint Agreement. Situations in which the interest is not substantial or the gift is an unsolicited item of nominal value must comply with State law and Board policy 2:105, *Ethics and Gift Ban*.

Board members must annually file a *Statement of Economic Interests* as required by the Illinois Governmental Ethics Act. Each Board member is responsible for filing the statement with the county clerk of the county in which the Joint Agreement's main office is located by May 1.

Federal and State Grant Awards

No Board member shall participate in the selection, award, or administration of a contract supported by a federal award or State award governed by the Grant Accountability and Transparency Act (GATA) (30 ILCS 708/) if he or she has a real or apparent conflict of interest. A conflict of interest arises when a Board member or any of the following individuals has a financial or other interest in or a tangible benefit from the entity selected for the contract:

1. A member of the Board member's immediate family;
2. The Board member's partner; or
3. An entity that employs or is about to employ the Board member or one of the individuals listed in one or two above.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/10-9.
5 ILCS 420/, Ill. Governmental Ethics Act.
30 ILCS 708/, Grant Accountability and Transparency Act.
50 ILCS 105/3, Public Officer Prohibited Activities Act.
2 C.F.R. §200.318(c)(1).

CROSS REF.: 2:105 (Ethics and Gift Ban), 4:60 (Purchases and Contracts), 5:120 (Employee Ethics; Code of Professional Conduct; and Conflict of Interest)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Board of Control

Ethics and Gift Ban

Prohibited Political Activity

The following precepts govern political activities being conducted by Joint Agreement employees and Board of Control members:

1. No employee shall intentionally perform any *political activity* during any *compensated time*, as those terms are defined herein.
2. No Board member or employee shall intentionally use any Joint Agreement property or resources in connection with any political activity.
3. At no time shall any Board member or employee intentionally require any other Board member or employee to perform any political activity: (a) as part of that Board member's or employee's duties, (b) as a condition of employment, or (c) during any compensated time off, such as, holidays, vacation, or personal time off.
4. No Board member or employee shall be required at any time to participate in any political activity in consideration for that Board member or employee being awarded additional compensation or any benefit, whether in the form of a salary adjustment, bonus, compensatory time off, continued employment or otherwise; nor shall any Board member or employee be awarded additional compensation or any benefit in consideration for his or her participation in any political activity.

A Board member or employee may engage in any activity that: (1) is otherwise appropriate as part of his or her official duties, or (2) is undertaken by the individual on a voluntary basis that is not prohibited by this policy.

Limitations on Receiving Gifts

Except as permitted by this policy, no Board member or employee, and no spouse of or immediate family member living with a Board member or employee shall intentionally solicit or accept any *gift* from any *prohibited source*, as those terms are defined herein, or that is otherwise prohibited by law or policy. No prohibited source shall intentionally offer or make a gift that violates this policy.

The following are exceptions to the ban on accepting gifts from a prohibited source:

1. Opportunities, benefits, and services that are available on the same conditions as for the general public.
2. Anything for which the Board member or employee, or his or her spouse or immediate family member, pays the fair market value.
3. Any: (a) contribution that is lawfully made under the Election Code, or (b) activities associated with a fundraising event in support of a political organization or candidate.
4. Educational materials and missions.
5. Travel expenses for a meeting to discuss business.
6. A gift from a relative, meaning those people related to the individual as father, mother, son, daughter, brother, sister, uncle, aunt, great aunt, great uncle, first cousin, nephew, niece, husband, wife, grandfather, grandmother, grandson, granddaughter, father-in-law, mother-in-

law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, stepfather, stepmother, stepson, stepdaughter, stepbrother, stepsister, half brother, half sister, and including the father, mother, grandfather, or grandmother of the individual's spouse and the individual's fiancé or fiancée.

7. Anything provided by an individual on the basis of a personal friendship unless the recipient has reason to believe that, under the circumstances, the gift was provided because of the official position or employment of the recipient or his or her spouse or immediate family member and not because of the personal friendship. In determining whether a gift is provided on the basis of personal friendship, the recipient shall consider the circumstances under which the gift was offered, such as: (a) the history of the relationship between the individual giving the gift and the recipient of the gift, including any previous exchange of gifts between those individuals; (b) whether to the actual knowledge of the recipient the individual who gave the gift personally paid for the gift or sought a tax deduction or business reimbursement for the gift; and (c) whether to the actual knowledge of the recipient the individual who gave the gift also at the same time gave the same or similar gifts to other Board members or employees, or their spouses or immediate family members.
8. Food or refreshments not exceeding \$75 per person in value on a single calendar day; provided that the food or refreshments are: (a) consumed on the premises from which they were purchased or prepared; or (b) catered. *Catered* means food or refreshments that are purchased ready to consume, which are delivered by any means.
9. Food, refreshments, lodging, transportation, and other benefits resulting from outside business or employment activities (or outside activities that are not connected to the official duties of a Board member or employee), if the benefits have not been offered or enhanced because of the official position or employment of the Board member or employee, and are customarily provided to others in similar circumstances.
10. Intra-governmental and inter-governmental gifts. *Intra-governmental gift* means any gift given to a Board member or employee from another Board member or employee, and *inter-governmental gift* means any gift given to a Board member or employee from an officer or employee of another governmental entity.
11. Bequests, inheritances, and other transfers at death.
12. Any item or items from any one prohibited source during any calendar year having a cumulative total value of less than \$100.

Each of the listed exceptions is mutually exclusive and independent of every other.

A Board member or employee, his or her spouse or an immediate family member living with the Board member or employee, does not violate this policy if the recipient promptly takes reasonable action to return a gift from a prohibited source to its source or gives the gift or an amount equal to its value to an appropriate charity that is exempt from income taxation under 26 U.S.C. §501(c)(3).

Enforcement

The Board Chair and Director shall seek guidance from the Board attorney concerning compliance with and enforcement of this policy and State ethics laws. The Board may, as necessary or prudent, appoint an Ethics Advisor for this task.

Written complaints alleging a violation of this policy shall be filed with the Director or Board Chair. If attempts to correct any misunderstanding or problem do not resolve the matter, the Director or Board Chair shall, after consulting with the Board Attorney, either place the alleged violation on a Board meeting agenda for the Board's disposition or refer the complainant to Board policy 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*. A Board member who is related, either by blood or by marriage, up to

the degree of first cousin, to the person who is the subject of the complaint, shall not participate in any decision-making capacity for the Board. If the Board finds it more likely than not that the allegations in a complaint are true, it shall notify the State's Attorney and/or consider disciplinary action for the employee.

Definitions

Unless otherwise stated, all terms used in this policy have the definitions given in the State Officials and Employees Ethics Act, 5 ILCS 430/1-5.

Political activity means:

1. Preparing for, organizing, or participating in any political meeting, political rally, political demonstration, or other political event.
2. Soliciting contributions, including but not limited to the purchase of, selling, distributing, or receiving payment for tickets for any political fundraiser, political meeting, or other political event.
3. Soliciting, planning the solicitation of, or preparing any document or report regarding anything of value intended as a campaign contribution.
4. Planning, conducting, or participating in a public opinion poll in connection with a campaign for elective office or on behalf of a political organization for political purposes or for or against any referendum question.
5. Surveying or gathering information from potential or actual voters in an election to determine probable vote outcome in connection with a campaign for elective office or on behalf of a political organization for political purposes or for or against any referendum question.
6. Assisting at the polls on Election Day on behalf of any political organization or candidate for elective office or for or against any referendum question.
7. Soliciting votes on behalf of a candidate for elective office or a political organization or for or against any referendum question or helping in an effort to get voters to the polls.
8. Initiating for circulation, preparing, circulating, reviewing, or filing any petition on behalf of a candidate for elective office or for or against any referendum question.
9. Making contributions on behalf of any candidate for elective office in that capacity or in connection with a campaign for elective office.
10. Preparing or reviewing responses to candidate questionnaires.
11. Distributing, preparing for distribution, or mailing campaign literature, campaign signs, or other campaign material on behalf of any candidate for elective office or for or against any referendum question.
12. Campaigning for any elective office or for or against any referendum question.
13. Managing or working on a campaign for elective office or for or against any referendum question.
14. Serving as a delegate, alternate, or proxy to a political party convention.
15. Participating in any recount or challenge to the outcome of any election.

With respect to an employee whose hours are not fixed, *compensated time* includes any period of time when the employee is on premises under the control of the Joint Agreement and any other time when the employee is executing his or her official duties, regardless of location.

Prohibited source means any person or entity who:

1. Is seeking official action by: (a) a Board member, or (b) an employee, or by the Board member or another employee directing that employee;
2. Does business or seeks to do business with: (a) a Board member, or (b) an employee, or with the Board member or another employee directing that employee;
3. Conducts activities regulated by: (a) a Board member, or (b) an employee or by the Board member or another employee directing that employee;
4. Has an interest that may be substantially affected by the performance or non-performance of the official duties of the Board member or employee;
5. Is registered or required to be registered with the Secretary of State under the Lobbyist Registration Act, except that an entity does not become a prohibited source merely because a registered lobbyist is one of its members or serves on its board of directors; or
6. Is an agent of, a spouse of, or an immediate family member living with a prohibited source.

Gift means any gratuity, discount, entertainment, hospitality, loan, forbearance, or other tangible or intangible item having monetary value including but not limited to, cash, food and drink, and honoraria for speaking engagements related to or attributable to government employment or the official position of a Board member or employee.

Complaints of Sexual Harassment Made Against Board Members by Elected Officials

Pursuant to the State Officials and Employees Ethics Act (5 ILCS 430/70-5), members of the Board and other elected officials are encouraged to promptly report claims of sexual harassment by a Board member. Every effort should be made to file such complaints as soon as possible, while facts are known and potential witnesses are available. If the official feels comfortable doing so, he or she should directly inform the individual that the individual's conduct or communication is offensive and must stop.

Board members and elected officials should report claims of sexual harassment against a member of the Board to the Board Chair or Director. If the report is made to the Director, the Director shall promptly notify the Chair, or if the Chair is the subject of the complaint, the Vice Chair. Reports of sexual harassment will be confidential to the greatest extent practicable.

When a complaint of sexual harassment is made against a member of the Board by another Board member or other elected official, the Director shall appoint a qualified outside investigator who is not a Joint Agreement employee or Board member to conduct an independent review of the allegations. The investigator shall prepare a written report and submit it to the Board.

If a Board member has engaged in sexual harassment, the matter will be addressed in accordance with the authority of the Board.

The Director will post this policy on the Joint Agreement's website and/or make this policy available in the Joint Agreement's administrative office.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/22-93.
5 ILCS 430/, State Officials and Employees Ethics Act.
10 ILCS 5/9-25.1, Election Interference Prohibition Act.

CROSS REF.: 2:100 (Board Member Conflict of Interest), 2:110 (Qualifications, Term, and Duties of Board Officers), 2:260 (Uniform Grievance Procedure), 4:60 (Purchases and Contracts), 5:120 (Employee Ethics; Code of Professional Conduct; and Conflict of Interest)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Board of Control

Qualifications, Term, and Duties of Board Officers

The Board officers are the Board Chair and the Vice-Chair/Secretary. These officers are elected or appointed by the Board at its organizational meeting.

Board Chair

The Chair shall preside at all meetings of the Board of Control and serves for a term of two (2) years.

Board Vice-Chair/Secretary

The Vice-Chair/Secretary shall perform all of the functions and duties customarily performed by a secretary of a board of education of an Illinois school district and serves for a term of two (2) years until the election of his or her respective successor.

CROSS REF.: 2:150 (Committees)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Board of Control

Board Member Compensation: Expenses

Board Member Compensation Prohibited

Board of Control members provide volunteer service to the community and may not receive compensation for services, except that a Board member serving as the Board Secretary may be paid an amount up to the statutory limit if the Board so provides.

Roll Call Vote

All Board member expense requests for travel, meals, and/or lodging must be approved by roll call vote at an open meeting of the Board.

Regulation of Joint Agreement Expenses

The Board regulates the reimbursement of all travel, meal, and lodging expenses in the Joint Agreement by resolution. No later than approval of the annual budget and when necessary, the Director will recommend a maximum allowable reimbursement amount for expenses to be included in the resolution. The recommended amount should be based upon the Joint Agreement's budget and other financial considerations.

Money shall not be advanced or reimbursed, or purchase orders issued for: (1) the expenses of any person except the Board member, (2) anyone's personal expenses, or (3) entertainment expenses. Entertainment includes, but is not limited to, shows, amusements, theaters, circuses, sporting events, or any other place of public or private entertainment or amusement, unless the entertainment is ancillary to the purpose of the program or event.

Exceeding the Maximum Allowable Reimbursement Amount(s)

All requests for expense advancements, reimbursements, and/or purchase orders that exceed the maximum allowable reimbursement amount set by the Board may only be approved by it when:

1. The Board's resolution to regulate expenses allows for such approval;
2. An emergency or other extraordinary circumstance exists; and
3. The request is approved by a roll call vote at an open Board meeting.

Advancements

The Board may advance to its members actual and necessary expenses to be incurred while attending:

1. Meetings sponsored by the Illinois State Board of Education or by the Regional Superintendent of Schools;
2. County or regional meetings and the annual meeting sponsored by any School Board association complying with Article 23 of the School Code; and
3. Meetings sponsored by a national organization in the field of public school education.

Expense advancement requests must be submitted to the Director or designee on the Board's standardized estimated expense approval form. After spending expense advancements, Board members must use the Board's standardized expense reimbursement form and submit to the Director: (a) the itemized, signed advancement voucher that was issued, and (b) the amount of actual expenses by attaching receipts. A Board member must return to the Joint Agreement any portion of an expense

advancement not used. If an expense advancement is not requested, expense reimbursements may be issued by the Board to its members for the activities listed in numbers one through three, above, and other professional development opportunities that are encouraged by the School Code (see the **Reimbursements and Purchase Orders** subhead, below). Expense advancements and vouchers shall be presented to the Board in its regular bill process.

Reimbursements and Purchase Orders

Expense reimbursement is not guaranteed and, when possible, Board members should seek pre-approval of expenses by providing an estimation of expenses on the Board's standardized estimated expense approval form, except in situations when the expense is diminutive. When pre-approval is not sought, Board members must seek reimbursement on the Board's standardized expense reimbursement form. Expense reimbursements and purchase orders shall be presented to the Board in its regular bill process.

Credit and Procurement Cards

Credit and procurement cards shall not be issued to Board members.

Standardized Expense Form(s) Required

All requests for expense advancement, reimbursement, and/or purchase orders in the Joint Agreement must be submitted on the appropriate itemized, signed standardized form(s). The form(s) must show the following information:

1. The amount of the estimated or actual expense, with attached receipts for actual incurred expenses.
2. The name and office of the Board member who is requesting the expense advancement or reimbursement. Receipts from group functions must include the names, offices, and job titles of all participants.
3. The date(s) of the official business on which the expense advancement or reimbursement will be or was expended.
4. The nature of the official business conducted when the expense advancement or reimbursement will be or was expended.

Types of Official Business for Expense Advancements, Reimbursements, and Purchase Orders

1. Registration. When possible, registration fees will be paid by the Joint Agreement in advance.
2. Travel. The least expensive method of travel will be used, providing that no hardship will be caused to the Board member. Board members will be reimbursed for:
 - a. Air travel at the coach or economy class commercial airline rate. First class or business class air travel will be reimbursed only if emergency circumstances warrant. The emergency circumstances must be explained on the expense form and Board approval of the additional expense is required. Copies of airline tickets must be attached to the expense form.
 - b. Rail or bus travel at actual cost. Rail or bus travel costs may not exceed the cost of coach airfare. Copies of tickets must be attached to the expense form to substantiate amounts.
 - c. Use of personal automobiles at the standard mileage rate approved by the Internal Revenue Service for income tax purposes. The reimbursement may not exceed the cost of coach airfare. Mileage for use of personal automobiles in trips to and from transportation terminals will also be reimbursed. Toll charges and parking costs will be reimbursed.

- d. Automobile rental costs when the vehicle's use is warranted. The circumstances for such use must be explained on the expense form.
 - e. Taxis, airport limousines, ride sharing or other local transportation costs.
3. Meals. Meals charged to the Joint Agreement should represent mid-fare selections for the hotel/meeting facility or general area, consistent with the maximum allowable reimbursement amount set by the Board. Tips are included with meal charges. Expense forms must explain the meal charges incurred. Alcoholic beverages will not be reimbursed.
 4. Lodging. Board members should request conference rate or mid-fare room accommodations. A single room rate will be reimbursed. Board members should pay personal expenses at checkout. If that is impossible, deductions for the charges should be made on the expense form.
 5. Miscellaneous Expenses. Board members may seek reimbursement for other expenses incurred while attending a meeting sponsored by organizations described herein by fully describing the expenses on the expense form, attaching receipts.

Additional Requirements for Travel Expenses Charged to Federal and State Grants

All Board member expenses for travel charged to a federal grant or State grant governed by the Grant Accountability and Transparency Act (30 ILCS 708/) must comply with Board policy 5:60, Expenses, and its implementing procedures. Travel expenses include costs for transportation, lodging, meals, and related items.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/10-20 and 5/10-22.32.
30 ILCS 708/, Government Accountability and Transparency Act.
50 ILCS 150/, Local Government Travel Expense Control Act.

CROSS REF.: 2:100 (Board Member Conflict of Interest), 2:240 (Board Policy Development),
4:50 (Payment Procedures), 4:55 (Use of Credit and Procurement Cards), 5:60
(Expenses)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Board of Control

Exhibit - Board Member Expense Reimbursement Form

Submit to the Director, who will include this request in the monthly list of bills presented to the Board of Control. Please print and attach receipts for all expenditures. Use of this form is required by 2:125-E3, Resolution to Regulate Expense Reimbursements. Please print.

Name: _____ Title/Office: _____

Travel Destination: _____ Purpose: _____

Departure Date: _____ Return Date: _____

☐ **Receipts attached** Request Date: _____

☐ **Estimated expenses attached** (Completed 2:125-E2, Board Member Estimated Expense Approval Form)(pre-approval is required for federal and State grants).

☐ **Approved expense advancement (voucher) attached, if applicable*** (Completed 2:125-E2, Board Member Estimated Expense Approval Form.)

Actual Expense Report

*Board members will be reimbursed for actual and necessary expenses that exceed the amount advanced, but must refund any expense advancement that exceeds the actual and necessary expenses incurred. 105 ILCS 5/10-22.32. For federal and State grants, board members will be reimbursed for actual and necessary expenses that exceed estimated expenses as permitted by Board policy 2:125, Board Member Compensation; Expenses.

Auto Travel Allowance: _____ per mile

Date	Auto Mileage		Transp. Expenses	Lodging	Meals or Per Diem			Other		Daily Total
	Miles	Cost			Bkfst	Lunch	Dinner	Item	Cost	
Subtotal										
Advances									-	
TOTAL (a negative amount indicates refund due from Board member)									\$	

Submitting Board Member's Signature

Date

Director Signature

Date

Board of Control Action: ☐ **Approved** ☐ **Denied**
 ☐ **Approved in Part** ☐ **Exceeds Maximum Allowable Amount**
 ☐ **Grant Funding Source** (if applicable): _____

Comments: _____

DATED: May 1, 2024

Board of Control

Exhibit - Board Member Estimated Expense Approval Form

Submit to the Director, who will include this request in the monthly list of bills presented to the Board of Control. Use of this form is required (1) by 2:125-E3, Resolution to Regulate Expense Reimbursements and (2) for pre-approval of expenses to be charged to a federal grant or State grant governed by the Grant Accountability and Transparency Act. Please print.

Name: _____ Title/Office: _____

Travel Destination: _____ Purpose: _____

Departure Date: _____ Return Date: _____

☐ **Estimated Expenses Approval Requested** (50 ILCS 150/20 or grant expenditure)

☐ **Travel is grant-related*** (specify grant): _____

☐ **Purchase Order Requested** Purchase Order #: _____

☐ **Expense Advancement Voucher Requested** (105 ILCS 5/10-22.32)

Voucher Amount: _____

Estimated Expense Report

Auto Travel Allowance: _____ per mile

**Grant-related travel only: Except for mileage and other transportation expenses, expense reimbursement/per diem is only allowed if on official travel status for 12 hours or more. If lodging at or below the applicable rate cannot be identified, please indicate below and attach at least three quotes for review.*

Date	Auto Mileage		Transp. Expenses	Lodging	Meals or Per Diem			Other		Daily Total
	Miles	Cost			Bkfst	Lunch	Dinner	Item	Cost	
Total										\$

Submitting Board Member's Signature

Date

Director Signature

Date

Board of Control Action: ☐ **Approved** ☐ **Denied**
 ☐ **Approved in Part** ☐ **Exceeds Maximum Allowable Amount**
 ☐ **Grant Funding Source** (if applicable): _____

Comments: _____

DATED: May 1, 2024

Board of Control

Board-Director Relationship

The Board of Control directs, through policy, the Director in his or her charge of the administration of the Joint Agreement by delegating its authority to operate the Joint Agreement and provide leadership to staff. The Board employs and evaluates the Director and holds him or her responsible for the operation of the Joint Agreement in accordance with Board policies and State and federal law.

The Board-Director relationship is based on mutual respect for their complementary roles. The relationship requires clear communication of expectations regarding the duties and responsibilities of both the Board and Director.

The Board considers the recommendations of the Director as the Joint Agreement's Chief Executive Officer. The Board adopts policies necessary to provide general direction for the Joint Agreement and to encourage achievement of Joint Agreement goals. The Director develops plans, programs, and procedures needed to implement the policies and directs the Joint Agreement's operations.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/10-16.7 and 5/10-21.4.

CROSS REF.: 3:40 (Director)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Board of Control

Communications To and From the Board

The Board of Control welcomes communications from staff members, parents/guardians, students, and community members. Individuals may submit questions or communications for the Board of Control's consideration to the Director.

The Director or designee shall:

1. Ensure that the home page for the Joint Agreement's website contains an active electronic link to the email address(es) for the Board of Control, and
2. During the Board's regular meetings, report for the Board's consideration all questions or communications submitted through the active electronic link along with the status of the Joint Agreement's response in the Board meeting packet.

If contacted individually, Board members will refer the person to the appropriate level of authority, except in unusual situations. Board members' questions or communications to staff or about programs will be channeled through the Director's office. Board members will not take individual action that might compromise the Board or Joint Agreement. There is no expectation of privacy for any communication sent to the Board or its members, whether sent by letter, email, or other means.

Board Member Use of Electronic Communications

For purposes of this section, *electronic communications* includes, without limitation, electronic mail, electronic chat, instant messaging, texting, and any form of social networking. Electronic communications among a majority or more of a Board-quorum shall not be used for the purpose of discussing Joint Agreement business. Electronic communications among Board members shall be limited to: (1) disseminating information, and (2) messages not involving deliberation, debate, or decision-making. The following list contains examples of permissible electronic communications:

- Agenda item suggestions
- Reminders regarding meeting times, dates, and places
- Board meeting agendas or information concerning agenda items
- Individual emails to community members, subject to the other limitations in this policy

In accordance with the Open Meetings Act and the Oath of Office taken by Board members, individual Board members will not (a) reply to an email on behalf of the entire Board, or (b) engage in the discussion of Joint Agreement business through electronic communications with a majority of a Board-quorum.

LEGAL REF.: 5 ILCS 120/, Open Meetings Act.
50 ILCS 205/20, Local Records Act.

CROSS REF.: 2:220 (Board of Control Meeting Procedure), 3:30 (Chain of Command), 8:110
(Public Suggestions and Concerns)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Board of Control

Exhibit - Guidance for Board Member Communications, Including Email Use

The Open Meetings Act (OMA) requires the Board of Control to discuss Joint Agreement business only at a properly noticed Board meeting. 5 ILCS 120/. Other than during a Board meeting, a majority or more of a Board-quorum may not engage in contemporaneous interactive communication, whether in person or electronically, to discuss Joint Agreement business. This *Guidance* assumes a Board has seven members and covers issues arising from Board policy 2:140, *Communications To and From the Board*.

Communications Between or Among Board Members and/or the Director Outside of a Properly Noticed Board Meeting

1. The Director or designee is permitted to email information to Board members. For example, the Director may email Board meeting agendas and supporting information to Board members. When responding to a single Board member's request, the Director should copy all other Board members and include a *do not reply/forward* alert to the group, such as: **"BOARD MEMBER ALERT: This email is in response to a request. Do not reply or forward to the group but only to the sender."**
2. Board members are permitted to discuss any matter except Joint Agreement business with each other, whether in person or by telephone or email, regardless of the number of members participating in the discussion. For example, they may discuss league sports, work, or current events.
3. Board members are permitted to provide information to each other, whether in person or by telephone or email, that is non-deliberative and non-substantive. Examples of this type of communication include scheduling meetings and confirming receipt of information.
4. A Board member is not permitted to discuss Joint Agreement business with more than one other Board member at a time, whether in person or by telephone or email. Stated another way, a Board member may discuss Joint Agreement business in person or by telephone or email with only one other Board member at a time. However, a Board member should not facilitate interactive communication by discussing Joint Agreement business in a series of visits with, or telephone calls or emails to, Board members individually.
5. A Board member should include a *do not reply/forward* alert when emailing a message concerning Joint Agreement business to more than one other Board member. The following is an example of such an alert: **"BOARD MEMBER ALERT: This email is not for interactive discussion purposes. The recipient should not reply to it or forward it to any other individual."**
6. Board members should not forward email received from another Board member.

When Must the Electronic Communications Sent or Received by Individual Board Members Be Disclosed Pursuant to a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Request?

An electronic communication must be disclosed if it is a *public record* as defined by FOIA, unless a specific exemption applies. A public record is any recorded information "pertaining to the transaction of public business, regardless of physical form or characteristics, having been prepared by or for, or having been or being used by, received by, in the possession of, or under the control of any public

body.” 5 ILCS 140/2. Email sent or received by an individual Board member may be, depending on the content and circumstances, subject to disclosure as a *public record* (unless a FOIA exemption is applicable).

If a Board member uses a Joint Agreement-provided device or email address to discuss public business, the email is subject to disclosure under FOIA, barring an applicable exemption. If a Board member uses a private device and email address, the communication is subject to FOIA if it satisfies this test:

First, the communication pertains to the transaction of public business, and

Second, the communication was: (1) prepared by a public body, (2) prepared for a public body, (3) used by a public body, (4) received by a public body, (5) possessed by a public body, and/or (6) controlled by a public body.

This test is from the appellate court decision in City of Champaign v. Madigan, 992 N.E.2d 629 (Ill.App.4th 2013).

The following *examples* describe FOIA’s treatment of electronic communications:

1. If an electronic communication does not pertain to public business, it is not a public record and is not subject to a FOIA request.
2. An electronic communication pertaining to public business that is:
 - a. Sent and/or received by an individual Board member using a personal electronic device and personal email address while he or she is at home or work **would not be a public record**. Individual Board members, alone, cannot conduct any Joint Agreement business. As stated earlier, emails among a majority or more of a Board-quorum violate OMA and, thus, are subject to disclosure during proceedings to enforce OMA.
 - b. Sent and/or received by an individual Board member on a Joint Agreement-issued device or Joint Agreement-issued email address **will be a public record** and subject to FOIA. The electronic communication is under the control of the Joint Agreement.
 - c. Received by an individual Board member on a personal electronic device and then forwarded by the Board member to a Joint Agreement-owned device or server **will be a public record** and subject to FOIA. The electronic communication is under the control of the Joint Agreement.
 - d. Received by an individual Board member using a personal electronic device and personal email address, and then forwarded by the Board member to enough members to constitute a majority or more of a Board-quorum **will be a public record** and subject to FOIA. The electronic communication is in the Joint Agreement’s possession.
 - e. Either sent to or from a Board member’s personal electronic device during a Board meeting **will be a public record** and subject to FOIA. The electronic communication is in the Joint Agreement’s possession because Board members were functioning collectively as a public body.

The Joint Agreement’s Freedom of Information Officer and/or Board Attorney will help determine when a specific communication must be disclosed pursuant to a FOIA request.

When Must Electronic Communications Be Retained?

Email that qualifies under FOIA as a *public record* will need to be stored pursuant to the Local Records Act (LRA), only if it is evidence of the Joint Agreement's organization, function, policies, procedures, or activities or contains informational data appropriate for preservation. 50 ILCS 205/. An example is any email from a Board officer concerning a decision made in his or her capacity as an officer. If a Board member uses his or her personal email, he or she must copy this type of email to the appropriate Joint Agreement office where it will be stored. If made available, Board members should use their email accounts provided by the Joint Agreement, and the Joint Agreement will automatically store the official record messages. The Joint Agreement will delete these official record messages as provided in an applicable, approved **retention schedule**. Of course, email pertaining to public business that is sent or received by a Board Member using a Joint Agreement-issued device or email address will be subject to FOIA, even if the email does not need to be retained under the LRA.

Important: Do not destroy any email concerning a topic that is being litigated without obtaining the Board attorney's direction. In federal lawsuits, there is an automatic discovery of virtually all types of electronically created or stored data that might be relevant. Attorneys will generally notify their clients at the beginning of a legal proceeding not to destroy any electronic records that might be relevant. This is referred to as a *litigation hold*. For more discussion of a litigation hold, see 2:250-AP2, *Protocols for Record Preservation and Development of Retention Schedules*. In addition, any person who knowingly with the intent to defraud any party destroys, removes, or conceals any public record commits a Class 4 felony. 50 ILCS 205/4.

DATED: May 1, 2024

Board of Control

Committees

The Board 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 Chair makes all Board committee appointments 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 or to investigate special issues. 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 although its members will fluctuate. Standing committees are:

1. Board Policy Committee. This committee researches policy issues, and provides information and recommendations to the Board.
2. Parent-Teacher Advisory Committee. This committee assists in the development of student behavior policy and procedure, and provides information and recommendations to the Board. 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 Cooperative/Joint Agreement and local law enforcement agencies regarding criminal offenses committed by students, student discipline, disruptive classroom behavior, school bus safety procedures, and the dissemination of student conduct information.
3. Behavioral Interventions Committee. This committee develops and monitors procedures for using behavioral interventions in accordance with Board policy 7:230, *Misconduct by Students with Disabilities*, and provides information and recommendations to the Board. At the Board Chair's discretion, the Parent-Teacher Advisory Committee shall perform the duties assigned to the Behavioral Interventions Committee.

Nothing in this policy limits the authority of the Director or designee to create and use committees that report to him or her or to other staff members.

LEGAL REF.: 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 Control Meetings), 2:240 (Board Policy Development), 7:190 (Student Behavior), 7:230 (Misconduct by Students with Disabilities)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Board of Control

Board Attorney

The Board of Control may retain legal services with one or more attorneys or law firms to be the Board Attorney(s). The Board Attorney represents the Board of Control in its capacity as the governing body for the Joint Agreement. The Board Attorney serves on a retainer or other fee arrangement as determined in advance. The Board Attorney will provide services as described in the agreement for legal services or as memorialized by an engagement letter. The Joint Agreement will only pay for legal services that are provided in accordance with the agreement for legal services, as memorialized by an engagement letter, or that are otherwise authorized by this policy or a majority of the Board.

The Director, his or her designee, and Board Chair, are each authorized to confer with and/or seek the legal advice of the Board Attorney. The Board may also authorize a specific Board member to confer with the Board Attorney on its behalf.

The Director may authorize the Board Attorney to represent the Joint Agreement in any legal matter until the Board has an opportunity to be informed of and/or consider the matter.

The Board retains the right to consult with or employ other attorneys and to terminate the service of any attorney.

LEGAL REF.: Rule 1.7 (Conflict of Interest: Current Clients) and Rule 1.13 (Organization as Client) of the Ill. Rules of Professional Conduct adopted by the Ill. Supreme Court.

CROSS REF.: 4:60 (Purchases and Contracts)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Board of Control

Exhibit - Checklist for Selecting a Board Attorney

The Board of Control selects and retains the Board Attorney(s). The Board may use this checklist for guidance when it selects and retains attorney(s) and/or law firms for legal services. This checklist is designed for the Board to use a request for proposal (RFP) process to seek outside attorneys/law firms. The Board may also select an attorney without using an RFP process and adapt this checklist. The Board may also adapt this checklist and use it for an application process, if the Board seeks an in-house attorney. For more information, call the IASB Office of General Counsel; see its current phone numbers at www.iasb.com/about-us/staff/#office-general-counsel.

☐ **Determine what type of legal services the Joint Agreements needs.**

1. Review Board policy 2:160, *Board Attorney*. **Note:** Critically analyze whether the Joint Agreement's legal needs are best served by in-house attorney(s) or outside attorney(s)/law firms. Many Joint Agreements use a combination of these services. Many Joint Agreements also use multiple attorney(s)/law firms for their specialties, e.g., different law firms for bond counsel, special education, or labor law. Some boards also approve a panel of attorneys and allow the administration to choose which attorney to use.
2. Consider the following factors to analyze the type(s) of legal services needed for the Joint Agreement including, but are not limited to:
 - Joint Agreement's size;
 - Any past and current experiences with legal matters;
 - Complexity of the Joint Agreement's legal needs;
 - Availability of expertise; and
 - Cost of outside fees compared to internal staff expenses for an in-house arrangement.

☐ **Develop a list of qualifications necessary for providing quality legal services to the Joint Agreement.**

1. Review policy 4:60, *Purchases and Contracts*. **Note:** While State law exempts hiring an attorney from bidding requirements (105 ILCS 10-20.21(a)), the Board may want to review its procurement processes and align procurement for legal services to its non-bidding-related standards for purchases, e.g., avoiding favoritism, staying within the Joint Agreement's budget, etc.
2. Develop the list of qualifications. The major qualifications include, but are not limited to:
 - Licensed to practice law in Illinois and in good standing with the Ill. Attorney Registration and Disciplinary Commission (ARDC) (see checklist item *Conduct a reference check and other background investigations*, below)
 - Member of the Joint Agreement's assigned United States Joint Agreement court and the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals
 - Substantive knowledge and experience in the legal areas matching Joint Agreement's needs, e.g., bidding, civil rights, collective bargaining, education reform, employment law, Freedom of Information Act, Open Meetings Act, other records laws, special education, student rights, etc. **Note:** This list of knowledge and experience must be created by the Joint Agreement's identified needs and may change from time to time.
 - Experience in all aspects of contract, employment, and school law

- Experience that meets the Joint Agreement's needs, including litigation experience in State and federal courts
- Membership in professional associations, such as, the Ill. Council of School Attorneys (ICSA) and education law sections of bar associations, etc.
- Demonstrated knowledge of and ability to apply professional responsibility rules
- Accessibility for the Joint Agreement's identified needs, e.g., evening Board meetings, phone calls, etc.
- Ability to declare that representation of the Joint Agreement will be to the exclusion of all other clients having potential conflicts with the Joint Agreement's interests
- When additional qualifications apply, list those qualifications for providing legal services. This may include specialties such as bond counsel, etc.

☐ **Develop the RFP.**

1. Insert the list of qualifications that the Board developed.
2. Include the following information:
 - The deadline for responses to be submitted
 - The location (address or email) where responses should be sent
 - A statement that the Board is soliciting proposals from qualified lawyers and law firms to provide legal services to the Joint Agreement
 - Significant information about the Joint Agreement (see policy 1:30, *Joint Agreement Philosophy*, for the Joint Agreement's mission statement that is specific to the community's goals)
 - The scope of work, e.g., "The Board Attorney will provide legal advice concerning *[typical duties, specific duties, excluded duties]*."
 - Qualifications
 - Details about interviews and presentations
3. Specify what responders must include in their responses, such as the following:
 - Cover letter, complete name, address, and legal structure (if the responder is a law firm)
 - The individuals who prepared the response, including their titles
 - If different from above, the identity of and directory information for the individuals who have authority to answer questions regarding the submitted proposal
 - A proposed fee schedule, e.g., "Respondents may combine set fees and hourly fees. If hourly fees are proposed, please provide the minimum time increment for billing purposes. If a retainer agreement is proposed, please specifically describe options."
 - A summary of the responder's relevant experience representing public schools
 - A writing sample
 - An assurance that the responder meets the RFP's qualifications
 - References including current or past clients

☐ **Announce the RFP.**

1. Title the announcement. **Note:** How and where the RFP is announced are at the Board's sole discretion. The Board may want to announce the RFP during an open meeting, post it on the Joint Agreement's website, mail or email it to local law firms, and/or place it in the local newspaper(s) or other legal publications. A directory of those lawyers belonging to the ICSA is on the IASB website, www.iasb.com. A printed copy is available upon request. Inclusion in the directory does not represent an IASB endorsement. Some attorneys who practice school law do not belong to ICSA. Other online sources, such as the Ill. State Bar Association, also maintain directories of information about attorneys. The Board may want to title the

announcement “The [*Insert Joint Agreement’s name*] Board of Control Requests Proposals to Provide Legal Services.”

2. Announce that the Board seeks an attorney or law firm to serve as its Board Attorney.
3. Inform the reader that the attorney or law firm selected will serve either *at will* or from the date of appointment to [*date*]. The length of the appointment is at the Board’s discretion.
4. State the Joint Agreement’s philosophy or mission statement.
5. Insert the RFP location and contact information with the beginning date and time.
6. Tell prospective responders that completed RFPs must be returned by [*certain time and date*] to [*name and title of person receiving applications*].

☐ **Receive and manage responses to the RFP.**

1. Review policy 2:110, *Qualifications, Term, and Duties of Board Officers*. The Board Chair is a logical officer to accept the applications, but this task may be delegated to the Secretary or Director’s secretary if the Board determines that it is more convenient. Who accepts applications is at the Board’s sole discretion and should be decided by the Board prior to posting the RFP announcement.
2. The Board will discuss, at an open meeting, its process to review the applications and who will contact RFP responders for an interview.
3. The designated person will contact RFP responders for interviews.

☐ **Develop interview questions if the Board interviews attorneys or law firms.**

1. Interview questions are at the Board’s discretion.
2. A prospective attorney or law firm to fill the Board Attorney position may raise other specific issues that the Board will want to cover during an interview.
3. The following non-exhaustive list of interview questions may help the Board tailor its questions toward finding an attorney or law firm with an approach to the role of the Board Attorney that the Board desires:
 - What do you see as your role as Board Attorney?
 - How many other Joint Agreements do you currently represent?
 - What kind of legal services do you provide to your school clients? Please explain how your other experience is relevant to this position.
 - How many years of experience does your firm (or, the attorney) have? How long have you been practicing law? How long have you been representing Joint Agreements?
 - What methods will you use to ensure all members of the Board, which is your client, remain informed? See the discussion about the *Ill. Professional Rules of Conduct* in f/n 2 of policy 2:160, *Board Attorney*.
 - How would you manage a situation in which the Board feels strongly about its position but you believe that position is not legally supportable? The *Ill. Rules of Professional Conduct*, at www.illinoiscourts.gov/supremecourt/rules/art_viii/default_new.asp, require attorneys to represent the Board in its capacity as the governing body for the Joint Agreement. The responders should be discussing these rules, specifically Rule 1.7 (Conflict of Interest: Current Clients) and Rule 1.13 (Organization as Client), among others, in their answers to this question. See also, **PRESS** policy 2:160, *Board Attorney*.
 - How would you manage a situation in which the Board’s interest may be or become adverse to one or more of its members? See the discussion about the *Ill. Professional Rules of Conduct* in f/n 2 of policy 2:160, *Board Attorney*.

- How would you manage a situation in which the Board and Director are in conflict? How about a divided Board? See the discussion about the *Ill. Professional Rules of Conduct* in f/n 2 of policy 2:160, *Board Attorney*.
- If the Board did something that you had advised against, could you still defend the Board's action? See the discussion about the *Ill. Professional Rules of Conduct* in f/n 2 of policy 2:160, *Board Attorney*.
- Will you try to shape Board decisions or do you have a *whatever the Board decides philosophy*? See the discussion about the *Ill. Professional Rules of Conduct* in f/n 2 of policy 2:160, *Board Attorney*.
- Do you give clients specific recommendations or do you advise them of the available options and let the client decide? See the discussion about the *Ill. Professional Rules of Conduct* in f/n 2 of policy 2:160, *Board Attorney*.
- Do you provide your Board of Control clients with any updating services gratis?
- How do you keep your Board clients apprised of litigation and other legal matters you are handling for them?
- Will you be handling this business personally, i.e., will you delegate to your associates or partners?
- Can anyone else in your firm handle our inquiries when you are unavailable?
- How do you keep current on school law?
- When do you tell your school clients to contact you regarding a matter with possible legal repercussions?
- Have you represented the joint agreement in a matter involving the rights of disabled students? ...involving disabled employees? ... involving a student expulsion? ... involving a teacher dismissal? ... involving an employee's contract or dismissal? ... involving a building contract or bidding matter? ... Can you tell us about that case?
- How do you bill? How are you to be paid? Please explain your rates and/or fees. The subject of billing should cover whether the attorney or law firm prepares a budget for representation and its method for billing in detail, including the date and time, what work was performed, and who worked on the project, along with expenses.
- Did you bring a written agreement for legal services, engagement letter, or a retainer agreement? If yes, please review it for us now. If not, please explain the options for a written agreement for legal services, engagement letter, or a retainer agreement.

☐ **Develop an interview protocol.** Interviews may occur in closed session pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1).

1. The Board Chair will lead the Board as it interviews responders to its RFP. See 105 ILCS 5/10-13 stating that the Board Chair presides at all meetings and policy 2:110, *Qualifications, Term, and Duties of Board Officers*.
2. The Board may also want to consider allowing an equal amount of time for each interview.
3. Discuss the following items with each responder during the interview:
 - Introduce Board members to the responder
 - Describe the Board's interview process, selection process, and ask the responder if he or she has questions about the Board's process for selecting its attorney
 - Describe the Joint Agreement's philosophy or mission statement
 - Describe the Board Attorney position by reviewing the RFP
 - Begin asking the interview questions (see *Develop interview questions*, above)
 - Ask the responder whether he or she has any questions for the Board
 - Thank the responder and inform him or her when the Board expects to make its decision and how the responder will be contacted regarding the Board's decision

☐ **Conduct a reference check and other background investigation(s).**

1. The Board Chair may perform this check or direct the Director to:
 - Check the ARDC's master roll of attorneys as "Authorized to Practice Law" (To do this, enter the attorney's name into the ARDC's registration and public disciplinary records database at: www.iardc.org/lawyersearch.asp.)
 - Click on the attorney's name to review whether any disciplinary actions are pending or resolved; current and prior actions will appear at the bottom of the screen
 - If disciplinary actions are listed, ask the attorney or law firm for more information
2. There are other online attorney review services available. These services may be overly subjective and/or the attorney may have control over the content in these services. Always check with the ARDC.
3. Call references provided by the responder.

☐ **Enter into a written agreement or engagement letter with the selected attorney or law firm.**

1. All *agreements for legal services* should be in writing. At minimum, the agreement should provide the fee arrangement and the scope of services. *Agreements for legal services* and individual billing statements from the Board Attorney are subject to disclosure pursuant to a Freedom of Information Act request (PAO 14-02).
2. Discuss the fee arrangements with the responder and decide:
 - Whether to enter into a fee arrangement and/or a retainer agreement (**Note:** Attorneys typically bill by a pre-determined percentage of the hour, e.g., in one-tenth of an hour increments. Many Joint Agreements enter into a retainer agreement for legal services or an engagement letter that requires them to pay the attorney a pre-determined fee every month. In return, the attorney provides a pre-determined amount of legal services whenever the Joint Agreement needs him or her. Joint Agreements find this useful because (1) they can budget for legal expenses, (2) legal advice is available up to the pre-determined amount for lower fees, and (3) this arrangement often provides for an enhanced, long-term relationship with the attorney.)
 - The appropriate scope of services
3. Review the written contract or memorialized relationship (*agreement for legal services* or *engagement letter*) for these provisions:
 - Fee arrangement
 - Scope of services
 - Which attorneys will be providing legal services
 - A statement that the Board controls all legal decisions
 - A statement that the attorney and his or her law firm have no conflicts of interest or, if a conflict exists, that the Board understands the conflict and waives it
 - Board's right to terminate the services of the attorney and law firm at any time for any reason
4. Approve the *agreement for legal services* or *engagement letter* during an open Board meeting.

☐ **Announce the appointment to Joint Agreement staff and community.**

1. The contents of the announcement and length of time it is displayed are at the Board's sole discretion.
2. The Board may want to consider announcing during an open meeting. See policy 8:10, *Connection with the Community*.

3. The Board may want to include the following information in its announcement:
- The Board appointed [attorney's name or law firm name] as the Board Attorney
 - The appointment will begin on [date] for [length of time]
 - The Board previously established qualifications for the Board Attorney in a careful and thoughtful manner, e.g., "[Attorney or law firm's name] meets these qualifications and has demonstrated the willingness to accept its duties and responsibilities. [Attorney or law firm's name] brings a clear understanding of the demands and expectations of the Board Attorney position along with a constructive attitude toward the challenge."

DATED: May 1, 2024

Board of Control

Procurement of Architectural, Engineering, and Land Surveying Services

The Board of Control selects architects, engineers, and land surveyors to provide professional services to the Joint Agreement on the basis of demonstrated competence and qualifications, and in accordance with State law.

LEGAL REF.: 40 U.S.C. §1101 et seq.
 50 ILCS 510/, Local Government Professional Services Selection Act.
 105 ILCS 5/10-20.21.
 Shively v. Belleville Twp. High Sch. Dist. 201, 329 Ill.App.3d 1156 (5th Dist.
 2002), *appeal denied*.

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Board of Control

Types of Board of Control Meetings

General

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

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

Regular Meetings

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

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

Closed Meetings

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

1. The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees, specific individuals who serve as independent contractors in a park, recreational, or educational setting, or specific volunteers of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee, a specific individual who serves as an independent contractor in a park, recreational, or educational setting, or a volunteer of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity. However, a meeting to consider an increase in compensation to a specific employee of a public body that is subject to the Local Government Wage Increase Transparency Act may not be closed and shall be open to the public and posted and held in accordance with [the Open Meetings Act]. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1), amended by P.A. 101-459.
2. Collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2).
3. The selection of a person to fill a public office, as defined in the Open Meetings Act, including a vacancy in a public office, when the public body is given power to appoint under law or ordinance, or the discipline, performance or removal of the occupant of a public office, when the public body is given power to remove the occupant under law or ordinance. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(3).

4. Evidence or testimony presented in open hearing, or in closed hearing where specifically authorized by law, to a quasi-adjudicative body, as defined in the Open Meetings Act, provided that the body prepares and makes available for public inspection a written decision setting forth its determinative reasoning. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(4).
5. The purchase or lease of real property for the use of the public body, including meetings held for the purpose of discussing whether a particular parcel should be acquired. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(5).
6. The setting of a price for sale or lease of property owned by the public body. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(6).
7. The sale or purchase of securities, investments, or investment contracts. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(7).
8. Security procedures, school building safety and security, and the use of personnel and equipment to respond to an actual, a threatened, or a reasonably potential danger to the safety of employees, students, staff, the public, or public property. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(8).
9. Student disciplinary cases. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(9).
10. The placement of individual students in special education programs and other matters relating to individual students. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(10).
11. Litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent, in which case the basis for the finding shall be recorded and entered into the minutes of the closed meeting. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11).
12. The establishment of reserves or settlement of claims as provided in the Local Governmental and Governmental Employees Tort Immunity Act, if otherwise the disposition of a claim or potential claim might be prejudiced, or the review or discussion of claims, loss or risk management information, records, data, advice or communications from or with respect to any insurer of the public body or any intergovernmental risk management association or self insurance pool of which the public body is a member. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(12).
13. Self evaluation, practices and procedures or professional ethics, when meeting with a representative of a statewide association of which the public body is a member. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(16).
14. Discussion of minutes of meetings lawfully closed under the Open Meetings Act, whether for purposes of approval by the body of the minutes or semi-annual review of the minutes as mandated by Section 2.06. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(21).
15. Meetings between internal or external auditors and governmental audit committees, finance committees, and their equivalents, when the discussion involves internal control weaknesses, identification of potential fraud risk areas, known or suspected frauds, and fraud interviews conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards of the United States of America. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(29).

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

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

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

Reconvened or Rescheduled Meetings

A meeting may be rescheduled or reconvened. Public notice of a rescheduled or reconvened meeting shall be given in the same manner as that for a special meeting, except that no public notice is required when the original meeting is open to the public and: (1) is to be reconvened within 24 hours, or (2) an announcement of the time and place of the reconvened meeting was made at the original meeting and there is no change in the agenda.

Special Meetings

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

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

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

Emergency Meetings

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

Posting on the Joint Agreement Website

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

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

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

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Board of Control

Board of Control Meeting Procedure

Agenda

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

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

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

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

Voting Method

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

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

Minutes

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

1. The meeting's date, time, and place;
2. Board members recorded as either present or absent;
3. A summary of the discussion on all matters proposed, deliberated, or decided, and a record of any votes taken;
4. On all matters requiring a roll call vote, a record of who voted *yea* and *nay*;
5. If the meeting is adjourned to another date, the time and place of the adjourned meeting;

6. The vote of each member present when a vote is taken to hold a closed meeting or portion of a meeting, and the reason for the closed meeting with a citation to the specific exception contained in the Open Meetings Act (OMA) authorizing the closed meeting;
7. A record of all motions, including individuals making and seconding motions; and
8. The type of meeting, including any notices and, if a reconvened meeting, the original meeting's date.

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

Every six months, or as soon after as is practicable, in an open meeting, the Board: (1) reviews minutes from all closed meetings that are currently unavailable for public release, and (2) determines which, if any, no longer require confidential treatment and are available for public inspection. This is also referred to as a *semi-annual review*. The Board may meet in a prior closed session to review the minutes from closed meetings that are currently unavailable for public release, but it reports its determination in open session.

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

The official minutes are in the custody of the Board Secretary. Open meeting minutes are available for inspection during regular office hours within 10 days after the Board's approval; they may be inspected in the Joint Agreement's main office, in the presence of the Secretary, the Director or designee, or any Board member.

Minutes from closed meetings are likewise available, but only if the Board has released them for public inspection, except that Board members may access closed session minutes not yet released for public inspection (1) in the Joint Agreement's administrative offices or their official storage location, and (2) in the presence of the Recording Secretary, the Director or designated administrator, or any elected Board member. The minutes, whether reviewed by members of the public or the Board, shall not be removed from the Joint Agreement's administrative offices or their official storage location except by vote of the Board or by court order.

The Board's open meeting minutes shall be posted on the Joint Agreement website within ten days after the Board approves them; the minutes will remain posted for at least 60 days.

Verbatim Record of Closed Meetings

The Director, or the Board Secretary when the Director is absent, shall audio record all closed meetings. If neither is present, the Board Chair or presiding officer shall assume this responsibility. After the closed meeting, the person making the audio recording shall label the recording with the date and store it in a secure location. The Director shall ensure that: (1) an audio recording device and all necessary accompanying items are available to the Board for every closed meeting, and (2) a secure location for storing closed meeting audio recordings is maintained within the Joint Agreement's administrative offices or their official storage location.

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

Individual Board members may access verbatim recordings in the presence of the Recording Secretary, the Director or designated administrator, or any elected Board member. Access to the verbatim recordings is available at the Joint Agreement's administrative offices or the verbatim recording's official storage location. Requests shall be made to the Director or Board Chair. While a Board member is listening to a verbatim recording, it shall not be re-recorded or removed from the

Joint Agreement's main office or official storage location, except by vote of the Board or by court order.

Quorum and Participation by Audio or Video Means

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

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

No Physical Presence of Quorum and Participation by Audio or Video: Disaster Declaration

The ability of the Board to meet in person with a quorum physically present at its meeting location may be affected by the Governor or the Director of the Ill. Dept. of Public Health issuing a disaster declaration related to a public health emergency. The Board Chair or, if the office is vacant or the Chair is absent or unable to perform the office's duties, the Vice Chair determines that an in-person meeting or a meeting conducted under the Quorum and Participation by Audio or Video Means subhead above, is not practical or prudent because of the disaster declaration; if neither the Board Chair nor Vice Chair are present or able to perform this determination, the Director shall serve as the duly authorized designee for purposes of making this determination. The individual who makes this determination for the Board shall put it in writing, include it on the Board's published notice and agenda for the audio or video meeting and in the meeting minutes, and ensure that the Board meets every OMA requirement for the Board to meet by video or audio conference without the physical presence of a quorum.

Rules of Order

Unless State law or Board-adopted rules apply, the Board Chair, as the presiding officer, will use the most recent edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised, as a guide when a question arises concerning procedure.

Broadcasting and Recording Board Meetings

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

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

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

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

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Board of Control

Exhibit - Board Treatment of Closed Meeting Verbatim Recordings and Minutes

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

Actor	Action
<i>Before any Board meeting:</i> Director or designee	Arranges to have an audio recording device with adequate storage capacity and a back-up audio recording device in the Board meeting room during every Board meeting regardless of whether a closed meeting is scheduled. The Board may close a portion of a public meeting without prior notice; it cannot, however, have a closed meeting unless it can record the session.
<i>Before a closed meeting:</i> Board Chair or presiding officer (#3 and #4 may be delegated to the Board Secretary or Recording Secretary)	On the closed meeting date: (1) convenes an open meeting, (2) requests a motion to adjourn into closed meeting making sure the reason for the meeting is identified in the motion, (3) takes a roll call vote, (4) ensures that the minutes record the vote of each member present and the reason for the closed meeting with a citation to the specific exception contained in the Open Meetings Act (OMA) authorizing the closed meeting (5 ILCS 120/2a), and (5) adjourns the open meeting.
<i>Before a closed meeting:</i> Director or Board Secretary	Immediately before a closed meeting, tests and activates the audio recording device.
<i>During a closed meeting:</i> Board Chair or presiding officer	Convenes the closed meeting stating: Seeing a quorum of the Board of Control gathered today, ____ date, at ____ o'clock, at ____ location, for the purpose of holding a closed meeting in order to confidentially discuss ____, I call the meeting to order. In order to record who is present, I request that each individual state his or her name and position with the Joint Agreement. (Note: This script is an example.) Limits discussion to the topics that were included in the motion to go into a closed meeting. The failure to immediately call a person out-of-order who strays from the purposes included in the motion may result in an appearance of acquiescence. This responsibility to call a person out-of-order falls on each Board member in the event of the Chair's failure. Once the closed meeting is finished, announces a return to an open meeting or adjournment, and states the time.

Actor	Action
<i>After a closed meeting:</i> Director, Recording Secretary, or Board Secretary	For Verbatim Recordings: Takes possession of the audio recording of the closed meeting and labels it with identification information, specifically the date and items discussed. Adds the identification information contained on the audio recording's label to a cumulative list of closed meeting recordings. As soon as possible, puts the recording of the closed meeting in the previously identified secure location for storing recordings of closed meetings. Upon request of a Board member: 1. Provides access to the verbatim recordings minutes at a reasonable time and place without disrupting Joint Agreement operations; 2. Supervises the access to the closed session minutes or delegates it to one of the following individuals in the Joint Agreement: a. The Recording Secretary, b. The Director or designated administrator, or c. Any elected Board of Control member; and 3. Logs the access to the recordings in 2:220-E7, <i>Access to Closed Meeting Minutes and Verbatim Recordings</i>. For Closed Meeting Minutes: Prepares written closed meeting minutes that include: • The date, time, and place of the closed meeting • The Board members present and absent • A summary of discussion on all matters proposed or discussed • The time the closed meeting was adjourned Upon request of a Board member: 1. Provides access to the closed session minutes at a reasonable time and place without disrupting Joint Agreement operations; 2. Supervises the access to the closed session minutes or delegates it to one of the following individuals in the Joint Agreement: a. The Recording Secretary, b. The Director or designated administrator, or c. Any elected Board member; and 3. Logs the access in 2:220-E7, <i>Access to Closed Meeting Minutes and Verbatim Recordings</i>.

Actor	Action
<i>After a closed meeting:</i> Board of Control	Approves the previous closed meeting minutes at the next open meeting.
<i>In preparation for the semi-annual review:</i> Director or designee	Every six months, prepares a recommendation concerning the continued need for confidential treatment of all of the Board's closed meeting minutes; includes this recommendation in the packet for the meeting in which the Board will conduct its semi-annual review. This step is in preparation of the Board's meeting to decide whether the need for confidential treatment of specific closed meeting minutes continues to exist. If the Board wants to discuss closed meeting minutes in closed session, places "review of unreleased closed meeting minutes" on a closed meeting agenda. Places "result of Board's review of unreleased closed meeting minutes" as an item on a subsequent open meeting agenda.
<i>In preparation for the semi-annual review:</i> Individual Board members	Before the meeting in which the Board will conduct its semi-annual review, examines the material supplied by the Director. Individual Board members should consider: (1) the Director's recommendation, (2) the recommendation of the Board Attorney, (3) other Board members' opinions, (4) the minutes themselves, and/or (5) whether the minutes would be exempted from public disclosure under the Illinois Freedom of Information Act.
<i>During the semi-annual review:</i> Board of Control	The Board decides in open session whether: (1) the need for confidentiality still exists as to all or part of closed meeting minutes, or (2) the minutes or portions thereof no longer require confidential treatment and are available for public inspection. The Board may have an earlier meeting in closed session to discuss the continued need for confidential treatment.
<i>After the semi-annual review:</i> Director or designee	Re-labels and re-files closed meeting minutes as appropriate.
<i>Monthly:</i> Board Chair	Adds "destruction of closed meeting audio recording" as an agenda item to an upcoming open meeting.
<i>Monthly:</i> Board of Control	Approves the destruction of particular closed meeting recording(s) that are at least 18 months old and for which approved minutes of the closed meeting already exist.

LEGAL REF.: 5 ILCS 120/, Open Meetings Act.

DATED: May 1, 2024

Board of Control

Exhibit - Motion to Adjourn to Closed Meeting

Motion to Adjourn to Closed Meeting

Date: _____ Time: _____

Location: _____

A motion was made by _____, and seconded by _____, to adjourn to closed meeting to discuss:

- ☐ The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees, specific individuals who serve as independent contractors, or specific volunteers of the Joint Agreement or legal counsel for the Joint Agreement, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee, a specific individual who serves as an independent contractor, or a volunteer of the Joint Agreement or against legal counsel for the Joint Agreement to determine its validity. However, a meeting to consider an increase in compensation to a specific employee of a public body that is subject to the Local Government Wage Increase Transparency Act may not be closed and shall be open to the public and posted and held in accordance with this Act. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1), amended by P.A. 101-459.
- ☐ Collective negotiating matters between the Joint Agreement and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2).
- ☐ The selection of a person to fill a public office, including a vacancy in a public office, when the Joint Agreement is given power to appoint under law or ordinance, or the discipline, performance or removal of the occupant of a public office, when the Joint Agreement is given power to remove the occupant under law or ordinance. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(3).
- ☐ Evidence or testimony presented in open hearing, or in closed hearing where authorized by law, to a quasi-adjudicative body, as defined in the Open Meetings Act, provided that the body prepares and makes available for public inspection a written decision with its determinative reasoning. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(4).
- ☐ The purchase or lease of real property for the use of the Joint Agreement, including meetings held for the purpose of discussing whether a particular parcel should be acquired. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(5).
- ☐ The setting of a price for sale or lease of property owned by the Joint Agreement. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(6).
- ☐ The sale or purchase of securities, investments, or investment contracts. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(7).
- ☐ Security procedures, school building safety and security, and the use of personnel and equipment to respond to an actual, a threatened, or a reasonably potential danger to the safety of employees, students, staff, the public, or public property. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(8).
- ☐ Student disciplinary cases. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(9).
- ☐ The placement of individual students in special education programs and other matters relating to individual students. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(10).
- ☐ Litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular Joint Agreement has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the Joint Agreement finds that an action is probable or imminent, in which case the basis for the finding shall be recorded and entered into the closed meeting minutes. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11).
- ☐ The establishment of reserves or settlement of claims as provided in the Local Government and Governmental Employees Tort Immunity Act, if otherwise the disposition of a claim or potential claim might be prejudiced, or the review or discussion of claims, loss or risk management information, records, data, advice or communications from or with respect to any insurer of the Joint Agreement or any intergovernmental risk management association or self insurance pool of which the Joint Agreement is a member. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(12).
- ☐ Self-evaluation, practices and procedures or professional ethics, when meeting with a representative of a statewide association of which the Joint Agreement is a member. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(16).
- ☐ Discussion of minutes of meetings lawfully closed, whether for purposes of approval by the body of the minutes or semi-annual review of the minutes as mandated by Section 2.06. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(21).
- ☐ Meetings between internal or external auditors and governmental audit committees, finance committees, and their equivalents, when the discussion involves internal control weaknesses, identification of potential fraud risk areas, known or suspected frauds, and fraud interviews conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards of the United States of America. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(29).

Closed Meeting Roll Call:

“Yeas”	“Nays”

Motion: ☐ Carried ☐ Failed

DATED: May 1, 2024

Board of Control**Exhibit - Closed Meeting Minutes****Closed Meeting Minutes**

Items in bold are required by 5 ILCS 120/2.06(a)(1)-(3). Non-bolded items align with best practices.

Date: _____ **Time:** _____

Location: _____

Name of person(s) taking and recording the minutes: _____

Name of person presiding: _____

Members in attendance:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.

Members absent:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Summary of the discussion on all matters (as specified in the vote to close the meeting):

Basis for the finding that litigation is probable or imminent, if applicable (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11)):

Time of adjournment or return to open meeting: _____

The Board of Control, during its semi-annual review of closed session minutes, has decided these minutes no longer need confidential treatment. Semi-annual means every six months, or as soon after as is practicable, taking into account the nature and meeting schedule of the board. 5 ILCS 120/2.06(d), amended by P.A. 102-653.

☐ **These minutes are available for public inspection as of:** _____ (Date)

DATED: May 1, 2024

Board of Control

Exhibit - Open Meeting Minutes ¹

Meeting Minutes Protocol

1. Meeting minutes are the permanent record of the proceedings during a Board of Control meeting. All Board action must be recorded in the minutes; thus, the minutes focus on Board action.
2. The minutes only include information provided at the meeting. Information may not be corrected or updated in the minutes unless it was discussed at the meeting.
3. Minutes include a summary of the Board's discussion on an agenda topic; the minutes do not state what is said verbatim. The minutes do not repeat the same point made by different individuals. If appropriate, the minutes include a brief background and an explanation of the circumstances surrounding an issue discussed. The minutes do not include the names of members making specific points during discussion. Requests from individual Board members to include their vote or an opinion are handled according to Board policy 2:220, *Board of Control Meeting Procedure*.
4. The minutes include the topic of reports that are made to the Board including reports from the Director or a Board committee. Written reports are filed with the minutes but do not become part of the minutes.
5. The minutes note when a member is not present for the entire meeting due to late arrival and/or early departure.
6. Although items may be considered by the Board in a different order than appeared on the agenda, items in the minutes are generally recorded in the same order as they appeared on the agenda. When a meeting is reconvened on a different date, the minutes must describe what happened on each meeting date.
7. The minutes should be recorded in an objective but positive/constructive tone. Answers and explanations, rather than questions, are recorded. Writing style, including choice of words and sentence structure, is at the discretion of the individual recording the minutes.
8. The minutes include individuals' names who speak during the meeting's public participation segment as well as the topics they address. All written documents presented at a Board meeting are filed with the minutes but do not become part of the minutes.
9. The following template generally governs meeting minutes.

¹ Other than the required inclusions, the listed meeting protocols are at the board's discretion. They should facilitate a discussion and common understanding concerning what the board wants recorded in its meeting minutes. The required inclusions for meeting minutes are: (5 ILCS 120/2.06)

1. The meeting's date, time, and place;
2. Board members recorded as either physically present, remotely present, or absent;
3. A summary of the discussion on all matters proposed, deliberated, or decided, and a record of any votes taken;
4. On all matters requiring a roll call vote, a record of who voted *yea* and/or *nay*;
5. If the meeting is adjourned to another date, the time and place of the adjourned meeting; and
6. When a vote is taken to hold a closed meeting, the vote of each member and the reason for the closed meeting with a citation to the specific exception authorizing the closed meeting.

Open Meeting Minutes

Date: _____

Time: _____

Location: _____

Type of meeting: ☐ Regular ☐ Special ☐ Reconvened or rescheduled ☐ Emergency

Name of person taking the minutes: _____

Name of person presiding: _____

Members in attendance:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.

Members absent:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Members in attendance remotely:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Approval of Agenda

List any items removed from the consent agenda:

Motion made by: _____

Motion: ☐ To approve

☐ To add items as follows: *(No action may be taken on new agenda items.)*

Motion seconded by: _____

Action: ☐ Passed ☐ Failed

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes *(Needed only if this item is not on the consent agenda.)*

Minutes from the Board meeting held on: _____

Motion made by: _____

Motion: ☐ To approve

☐ To approve subject to incorporation of the following amendment(s):

Motion seconded by: _____

Action: ☐ Passed ☐ Failed

Approval of Items on Consent Agenda *(This may include expense advancements, reimbursements, and/or purchase orders regulated by the Local Government Travel Expense Control Act (see Board policies 2:125, Board Member Compensation; Expenses, and 5:60, Expenses))*

Summary of discussion:

Motion to approve the consent agenda made by: _____

Motion seconded by: _____

Roll Call: *(Needed when consent agenda contains an item involving the expenditure of money.)*

“Yeas”

“Nays”

Action: ☐ Passed ☐ Failed

Public Comments *(Reproduce this section for each individual making a comment.)*

The following individual appeared and commented on the topic noted below: *(Include the title of any documents presented to the Board.)*

Name: _____

Topic: _____

Remaining Agenda Items *(Reproduce this section for each agenda item.)*

Agenda item: _____

Summary of discussion: _____

Motion made by: _____

Motion to: _____

Motion seconded by: _____

Action: ☐ Passed ☐ Failed

(If a roll call vote occurred, record the vote of individual Board members.)

“Yeas”

“Nays”

If Applicable, Approval of Motion to Adjourn to Closed Meeting *(Insert 2:220-E2, Motion to Adjourn to Closed Meeting.)*

Approval of Motion to Adjourn

Motion to adjourn made by: _____

Motion seconded by: _____

Action: ☐ Passed ☐ Failed

Time of adjournment: _____

Post-Meeting Action

Date minutes approved: _____

Date minutes were available for public inspection: _____

Date minutes were posted on the Joint Agreement’s website: _____

DATED: May 1, 2024

Board of Control

Exhibit - Semi-Annual Review of Closed Meeting Minutes

Logging and Review Process

- Step 1. The Board Secretary or Recording Secretary maintains a log of the closed meeting minutes that are unavailable for public inspection. The meeting minutes are logged according to the reason the Board held the closed meeting. 2:220-E6, *Log of Closed Meeting Minutes*.
- Step 2. The Board meets in closed session to review the log of unreleased closed meeting minutes. The Board or Recording Secretary brings a copy of all unreleased closed meeting minutes and, if requested, allows Board members to review the actual minutes. The Board identifies which closed meeting minutes or portions thereof no longer need confidential treatment. Use *Report Following the Board's Semi-Annual Review of Closed Meeting Minutes*, below.
- Step 3. At least semi-annually (every six months, or as soon after as is practicable, taking into account the nature and meeting schedule of the Board), in an open meeting, the Board takes action to release for public inspection those minutes, or portions thereof, no longer needing confidential treatment. Use *Action to Accept*, below. Closed meeting minutes will not be released for public inspection if confidential treatment is needed to protect the public interest or the privacy of an individual, including: (1) student disciplinary cases or other matters relating to an individual student, and (2) personnel files and employees' and Board members' personal information. 5 ILCS 120/2.06(d), amended by P.A. 102-653.
- Step 4. The Board or Recording Secretary: (1) updates the log of unreleased closed meeting minutes to remove any minutes that the Board made available for public inspection; (2) makes a notation on any applicable closed meeting minutes of the Board's action to release it or a portion of it for public inspection; (3) continues to log new closed meeting minutes that the Board has not released for public inspection (2:220-E6, *Log of Closed Meeting Minutes*), and (4) maintains logs for access to closed session minutes pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2.06(e).

Report Following the Board's Semi-Annual Review of Closed Meeting Minutes

The Board of Control met on _____ in closed session to conduct its semi-annual review of closed meeting minutes that have not been released for public inspection.

The closed meeting minutes, or portions thereof, from the following dates no longer require confidential treatment: *(insert closed meeting dates)*

The need for confidentiality still exists as to all remaining closed meeting minutes to protect an individual's privacy or the Joint Agreement's interests.

Action to Accept the Board's Semi-Annual Review of Closed Meeting Minutes

Open meeting date: _____

Motion to approve the Board's semi-annual review of unreleased closed meeting minutes and to release for public inspection those minutes, or portions thereof, that the Board identified as no longer needing confidential treatment made by: _____

Motion seconded by: _____

Action: ☐ Passed ☐ Failed

DATED: May 1, 2024

Board of Control

Exhibit - Log of Closed Meeting Minutes

The purpose of this log is to facilitate the Board's semi-annual review of closed meeting minutes. *Semi-annual* means every six months, or as soon after as is practicable, taking into account the nature and meeting schedule of the board. 5 ILCS 120/2.06(d), amended by P.A. 102-653. See 2:220-E5, *Semi-Annual Review of Closed Meeting Minutes*.

The Board Secretary or Recording Secretary shall maintain a list of closed meeting minutes, arranged according to the reason for the closed meeting, that have not been released for public inspection.

Closed Session Held to Discuss:	Dates of Closed Sessions		
Specific employee(s), specific independent contractors, specific volunteers, or the Joint Agreement's legal counsel; however, a meeting to consider an increase in compensation to a specific employee of a public body that is subject to the Local Government Wage Increase Transparency Act may not be closed and shall be open to the public and posted and held in accordance with [the Open Meetings Act]. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1), amended by P.A. 101-459.			
Collective negotiating matters or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2).			
Selection of a person to fill a vacancy on the Board. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(3).			
Evidence or testimony presented in a hearing where authorized by law. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(4).			
Purchase or lease of real property. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(5).			
Setting of a price for sale or lease of Joint Agreement property. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(6).			
Sale or purchase of securities, investments, or investment contracts. 5 ILCS			

Closed Session Held to Discuss:	Dates of Closed Sessions		
120/2(c)(7).			
Security procedures and the use of personnel and equipment to respond to an actual, a threatened, or a reasonably potential danger. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(8).			
Student disciplinary cases. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(9). <i>Minutes of meetings held for this reason shall never be released to protect the individual student's privacy.</i>			
Any matter involving an individual student. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(10). <i>Minutes of meetings held for this reason shall never be released to protect the individual student's privacy.</i>			
Litigation, when an action against, affecting, or on behalf of the Joint Agreement has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the Board finds that an action is probable or imminent. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11).			
Establishment of reserves or settlement of claims as provided in the Local Government and Governmental Employees Tort Immunity Act or discussion of claims, loss or risk management information, records, data, advice or communications from or with respect to any insurer of the Joint Agreement or any intergovernmental risk management association or self insurance pool. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(12).			
Self-evaluation, practices and procedures or professional ethics, when meeting with an IASB representative. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(16).			
Minutes of meetings lawfully closed, whether for purposes of approval or semi-annual review. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(21).			
Meetings between internal or external auditors and governmental audit committees, finance committees, and their equivalents, when the discussion involves internal control weaknesses, identification of potential fraud risk areas, known or suspected frauds, and fraud interviews conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards of the United States of America. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(29).			

DATED: May 1, 2024

Board of Control

Exhibit - Access to Closed Meeting Minutes and Verbatim Recordings

The Board must allow its duly elected officials or appointed officials filling a vacancy of an elected office access to closed session minutes and verbatim recordings. 5 ILCS 120/2.06(e). The following subheads implement the logistics of granting this access.

Access to Closed Meeting Minutes

Duplicate this section for each grant of access to closed meeting minutes.

Date: _____ Time: _____ Storage Location: _____

Name of person(s) responsible for storing the closed meeting minutes: _____

☐ **Access granted**

Date access occurred: _____ Start time: _____ End time: _____

Requesting Board member's name *(Please print)* _____

In the presence of: *(Check appropriate box and insert name on line.)*

☐ Recording Secretary _____

☐ Director or designated administrator _____

☐ Elected Board member _____

For requesting Board member: *(Read the following and sign below.)*

While the Open Meetings Act does not provide a cause of action against me or the Board for disclosing closed session discussions (*Swanson v. Bd. of Police Commissioners*, 197 Ill.App.3d 592 (2nd Dist. 1990)), I acknowledge and understand that any disclosures by me of information in the closed session minutes not yet released to the public could subject me to a possible civil action alleging that I created harm to another, i.e., an intentional tort(s).

Requesting Board Member Signature

Date

Verbatim Recording Access

Duplicate this section for each grant of access to verbatim recordings.

Date: _____ Time: _____ Storage Location: _____

Name of person(s) responsible for storing the verbatim recording: _____

☐ **Access granted**

Date access occurred: _____ Start time: _____ End time: _____

Requesting Board member's name *(Please print)* _____

In the presence of: *(Check appropriate box and insert name on line.)*

☐ Recording Secretary _____

☐ Director or designated administrator _____

☐ Elected Board member _____

☐ **Access denied**

☐ **Access unavailable.** Verbatim recording requested is older than 18 months and was destroyed pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2.06(c).

For requesting Board member: *(Read the following and sign below.)*

While the Open Meetings Act does not provide a cause of action against me or the Board for disclosing closed session discussions (Swanson v. Bd. of Police Commissioners, 197 Ill.App.3d 592 (2nd Dist. 1990)), I acknowledge and understand that any disclosures by me of information in the closed session verbatim recordings could subject me to a possible civil action alleging that I created harm to another, i.e., an intentional tort(s).

Requesting Board Member Signature

Date

DATED: May 1, 2024

Board of Control

Exhibit - Board of Control Records Maintenance Requirements and FAQs

Open Meetings Act

The Open Meetings Act (OMA) requires public bodies to “keep written minutes of all their meetings, whether open or closed, and a verbatim record of all their closed meetings in the form of an audio or video recording.” 5 ILCS 120/2.06(a). Minutes must include, but are not limited to: (1) the date, time, and place of the meeting; (2) the members of the public body recorded as either present or absent and whether the members were physically present or present by means of video or audio conference; and (3) a summary of discussion on all matters proposed, deliberated, or decided, and record of any votes taken. *Id.*

The remainder of Section 2.06 addresses the approval of open meeting minutes, the treatment of verbatim recordings of closed meetings, the semi-annual review of closed meeting minutes, the confidential nature of closed meeting minutes, and the right of persons to address public officials under rules established and recorded by the public body. The requirements of Section 2.06, as well as OMA requirements pertaining to Board agendas, are included in policy 2:220, *Board of Control Meeting Procedure*.

Exhibit 2:220-E3, *Closed Meeting Minutes*, provides a sample template for keeping closed meeting minutes that incorporates the requirements of Section 2.06 of OMA. It also includes an area to designate if the Board has determined, pursuant to Section 2.06(d), that the closed meeting minutes no longer need confidential treatment.

Exhibit 2:220-E4, *Open Meeting Minutes*, contains a protocol for open meeting minutes that incorporates the requirements of Section 2.06 of OMA. It also provides a sample template for keeping open meeting minutes.

Exhibit 2:220-E5, *Semi-Annual Review of Closed Meeting Minutes*, contains a process for implementing the semi-annual review of closed meeting minutes, and exhibit 2:220-E6, *Log of Closed Meeting Minutes*, is designed to facilitate this semi-annual review (every six months, or as soon after as is practicable, taking into account the nature and meeting schedule of the Board). 5 ILCS 120/2.06(d), amended by P.A. 102-653.

Exhibit 2:220-E9, *Requirements for No Physical Presence of Quorum and Participation by Audio or Video During Disaster Declaration*, contains a process for compliance with 105 ILCS 120/7(e), added by P.A. 101-640, when a board is meeting without a physical quorum present at the meeting location during a disaster declaration related to public health concerns.

Local Records Act

The Local Records Act (LRA) provides that public records, including “any book, paper, map, photograph, digitized electronic material, or other official documentary material, regardless of physical form or characteristics, made, produced, executed or received by any agency or officer pursuant to law or in connections with the transaction of public business and preserved or appropriate for preservation by such agency or officer” must be preserved unless the State Local Records Commission has given permission to destroy those records. 50 ILCS 205/3 and 7. Board records, including agendas, meeting packets and meeting minutes, fall into this definition.

Public bodies located in Cook County must work with the Local Records Commission of Cook County to determine how long they must retain public records. Public bodies located outside of Cook County must work with the Downstate Local Records Commission to determine how long they must retain public records.

Policy 2:250, *Access to the Joint Agreements Public Records*, contains a subhead entitled **Preserving Public Records** which provides as follows:

Public records, including email messages, shall be preserved and cataloged if: (1) they are evidence of the Joint Agreement's organization, function, policies, procedures, or activities, (2) they contain informational data appropriate for preservation, (3) their retention is required by State or federal law, or (4) they are subject to a retention request by the Board Attorney (e.g., a litigation hold), Joint Agreement auditor, or other individual authorized by the Board of Control or State or federal law to make such a request. Unless its retention is required as described in items numbered 3 or 4 above, a public record, as defined by the Illinois Local Records Act, may be destroyed when authorized by the Local Records Commission.

See the sample policy, 2:220, *Board of Control Meeting Procedure*, for all relevant footnotes. Also see administrative procedure 2:250-AP2, *Protocols for Record Preservation and Development of Retention Schedules*, for recommendations regarding Joint Agreement records retention protocols and links to web-based record management resources.

Open Meeting Minutes

Are we required to approve them?	Must they be semi-annually reviewed?	May we release them to the public?	May we destroy them?
Yes, within 30 days or at the next subsequent meeting, whichever is later. <i>A public body shall approve the minutes of its open meeting within 30 days after that meeting or at the public body's second subsequent regular meeting, whichever is later. 5 ILCS 120/2.06(b).</i>	No. Unlike the closed meeting requirement, OMA does not contain semi-annual review requirements for open meeting minutes.	Yes, must within 10 days after minutes are approved. <i>The minutes of meetings open to the public shall be available for public inspection within 10 days after the approval of such minutes by the public body. Beginning July 1, 2006, at the time it complies with other requirements of this subsection, a public body that has a website that the full-time staff of the public body maintains shall post the minutes of a regular meeting of its governing body open to the public on the public body's website within 10 days after the approval of the minutes by the public body. Beginning July 1, 2006, any minutes of meetings open to the public posted on the public body's website shall remain posted on the website for at least 60 days after their initial posting. 5 ILCS</i>	No. There is no OMA provision permitting the destruction of open meeting minutes, and they must be preserved unless the State Local Records Commission has given permission to destroy them. If a public body would like to destroy open meeting minutes, then it must comply with the LRA and work with its Local Records Commission. It is highly unlikely, however, that the Local Records Commission would approve of their destruction.

Are we required to approve them?	Must they be semi-annually reviewed?	May we release them to the public?	May we destroy them?
		120/2.06(b).	

Open Meeting Verbatim Recordings

Are we required to approve them?	Must they be semi-annually reviewed?	May we release them to the public?	May we destroy them?
No. OMA does not require public bodies to approve verbatim recordings of open meetings.	No. Unlike the closed meeting requirement, OMA does not require public bodies to keep verbatim recordings of open meetings, <i>unless</i> the public body is meeting without the physical presence of a quorum during a disaster declaration related to public health concerns. 5 ILCS 120/7(e). OMA does not contain semi-annual review requirements for open meeting verbatim recordings.	Yes. Unlike the closed meeting requirement, OMA does not require public bodies to keep verbatim recordings of open meetings, <i>unless</i> the public body is meeting without the physical presence of a quorum during a disaster declaration related to public health concerns. 5 ILCS 120/7(e). If a public body makes verbatim recordings of open meetings, then such recordings are subject to public disclosure pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act. 5 ILCS 140/.	Open meeting verbatim recordings made of meetings held without the physical presence of a quorum of a public body during a disaster declaration related to public health concerns may be destroyed after 18 months if prerequisites are met. (See <u>Closed Meeting Verbatim Recordings</u> subhead, below). <i>[P]ublic bodies holding open meetings under this subsection (e) must also keep a verbatim record of all their meetings in the form of an audio or video recording. Verbatim records made under this paragraph (9) shall be made available to the public under, and are otherwise subject to, the provisions of Section 2.06. 5 ILCS 120/7(e)(9).</i> In all other cases, if a public body would like to destroy open meeting verbatim recordings, then it must comply with the LRA and work with its Local Records Commission.

Closed Meeting Minutes

Are we required to approve them?	Must they be semi-annually reviewed?	May we release them to the public?	May we destroy them?
Yes. OMA does not directly state public bodies are required to approve closed meeting minutes, nor does it set a	Yes. <i>Each public body shall periodically meet to review all existing minutes of all prior</i>	Yes, if prerequisites are met. <i>Minutes of meetings closed to the public shall be available only after the</i>	No. There is no OMA provision permitting the destruction of closed meeting minutes, and they

Are we required to approve them?	Must they be semi-annually reviewed?	May we release them to the public?	May we destroy them?
time frame for such approval. However, OMA Section 2.06(d) requires public bodies to meet at least semi-annually to “review minutes of all closed meetings.” 5 ILCS 120/2.06(d). Moreover, OMA Section 2.06(c) specifically allows the destruction of closed meeting verbatim recordings only if certain conditions are met, one of which is that “the public body approves minutes of the closed meeting that meet the written minutes requirements of subsection (a) of this Section.” 5 ILCS 120/2.06(c)(2). Both of these tasks would be difficult to achieve if closed meeting minutes were not first approved. One practice is to approve closed meeting minutes within the same time frame that open meeting minutes are approved – within 30 days of the meeting or at the next subsequent meeting, whichever is later.	<i>closed meetings (this includes records from all time that the board has been in existence). Meetings to review minutes shall occur every 6 months, or as soon thereafter as is practicable, taking into account the nature and meeting schedule of the public body. At such meetings a determination shall be made, and reported in an open session that (1) the need for confidentiality still exists as to all or part of those minutes or (2) that the minutes or portions thereof no longer require confidential treatment and are available for public inspection.</i> 5 ILCS 120/2.06(d), amended by P.A. 102-653.	<i>public body determines that it is no longer necessary to protect the public interest or the privacy of an individual by keeping them confidential.</i> 5 ILCS 120/2.06(f).	must be preserved unless the State Local Records Commission has given permission to destroy them. In addition: <i>No minutes of meetings closed to the public shall be removed from the public body's main office or official storage location, except by vote of the public body or by court order.</i> 5 ILCS 120/2.06(f). If a public body would like to destroy closed meeting minutes, then it must comply with the LRA and work with its Local Records Commission. It is highly unlikely, however, that the Local Records Commission would approve of their destruction.

Closed Meeting Verbatim Recordings

Are we required to approve them?	Must they be semi-annually reviewed?	May we release them to the public?	May we destroy them?
No. OMA does not require approval of closed meeting verbatim recordings.	No. OMA does not require semi-annual review of closed meeting verbatim recordings.	Possibly but unlikely. <i>Unless the public body has made a determination that the verbatim recording no longer requires confidential treatment or otherwise consents to disclosure, the verbatim record of a meeting closed to the public shall not be open for public inspection or subject to discovery in any administrative or judicial proceeding other than one</i>	Yes, after 18 months if prerequisites are met. <i>The verbatim record may be destroyed without notification to or the approval of a records commission or the State Archivist under the Local Records Act or the State Records Act no less than 18 months after the completion of the meeting recorded but only after: 1.) the public body approves</i>

		<i>brought to enforce this Act. 5 ILCS 120/2.06(e).</i> But see <u>Kodish v. Oakbrook Terrace Fire Protection Dist.</u> (235 F.R.D. 447 (N.D.Ill. 2006), where a federal Joint Agreement court ordered that closed meeting verbatim recordings be disclosed to the Plaintiff in discovery because his primary claim was brought under federal law.	<i>the destruction of a particular recording; and 2.) the public body approves minutes of the closed meeting that meet the written minutes requirements of subsection (a) of this Section. 5 ILCS 120/2.06(c).</i> In addition: <i>No verbatim recordings shall be recorded or removed from the public body's main office or official storage location, except by vote of the public body or by court order. 5 ILCS 120/2.06(e).</i>

DATED: May 1, 2024

Board of Control

Exhibit - Requirements for No Physical Presence of Quorum and Participation by Audio or Video During Disaster Declaration

Use this exhibit to document the Board's and/or its committee(s)'s (5 ILCS 120/1.02) processes to comply with the requirements of the Open Meetings Act (OMA) when a board and/or its committee(s) must meet during a disaster declaration related to a public health emergency/concern and the meeting will have no physical presence of a quorum and participation by audio or video.

***Note:** If a Board committee uses this exhibit, replace Board Chair, Vice Chair, and Supt. with the appropriate committee leaders.*

Consult the Board Attorney for guidance.

Documentation of OMA Requirements for Board Members to Participate in a Meeting with No Physical Presence of Quorum

☐ The Governor or the Director of the Ill. Dept. of Public Health has issued a disaster declaration related to a public health emergency because of a disaster as defined in 20 ILCS 3305/4, and all or part of the jurisdiction of the Board is covered by the disaster area. 5 ILCS 120/7(e)(1), amended by P.A. 101-640. **Note:** OMA uses "public health concerns," but the Ill. Emergency Management Act (IEMA) uses "public health emergency;" this exhibit matches the IEMA term because it governs disaster declarations.

Insert Disaster Declaration or Executive Order number [_____] or attach to this document.

☐ The Board Chair or, if the office is vacant or the Chair is absent or unable to perform the office's duties, the Vice Chair, or if neither the Board Chair nor Vice Chair are present or able to perform this determination, the Director (5 ILCS 120/7(e)(2), amended by P.A. 101-640, and 140/2(e)) signs below that the following three **Steps** were executed by:

Step 1. Determining whether the meeting is a bona fide emergency (5 ILCS 120/7(e)(7), amended by P.A. 101-640) (*check Yes or No, below*):

☐ Yes; it is an emergency meeting, and I:

- A. Notified the Board members and the public, including any news medium which has filed an annual request for notice of meetings as soon as practicable, but in any event prior to the holding of such meeting pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2.02(a) and 120/7(e)(7)(A), amended by P.A. 101-640;
- B. Stated the nature of the emergency at the beginning of the meeting; and
- C. Provided the Director or Board Secretary the resources necessary during the meeting to keep a verbatim record of the meeting, **for both open and closed**, and managed it the same way that the Board complies with the verbatim recording requirements for closed meetings (see exhibit 2:220-E1, *Board Treatment of Closed Meeting Verbatim Recordings and Minutes*). **Note:** In this situation, a verbatim recording is not limited to closed meetings only.
- D. Move to Step 2, below.

☐ No; it is a regular or special meeting, and I:

- A. Ensured that the Board provided 48 hours' notice of the meeting to all Board members, to any news medium on file in the Joint Agreement that have requested notice of meetings pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2.02(a), and to members of the public by posting it on the Joint Agreement's website. 5 ILCS 120/7(e)(7), amended by P.A. 101-640. **Note:** 5 ILCS 120/7(e), amended by P.A. 101-640 does not have the "if any" exception for Boards of Education that do not have websites. Consult the board attorney regarding alternate ways to communicate notice of a meeting when the Joint Agreement does not have a website and a Disaster Declaration or Executive Order has been issued.

Insert meeting date and time, and a link to the meeting notice or attach a copy of the notice to this document.

- B. Moves to Step 2, below.

Step 2. Determining whether it is practical, prudent, or feasible for any in-person attendance at the regular meeting location (5 ILCS 120/7(e)(2), amended by P.A. 101-640). (*check Yes or No, below*):

☐ Yes; in-person attendance is practical, prudent, or feasible, and I:

- A. Ensured that at least one Board member, the Board Attorney, or the Director was physically present at the regular meeting location (5 ILCS 120/7(e)(5), amended by P.A. 101-640), and
- B. Verified that members of the public who were present could hear all discussion and testimony and all votes of the members of the Board. 5 ILCS 120/7(e)(4), amended by P.A. 101-640.
- C. Move to Step 3, below.

☐ No; in-person attendance is not practical, prudent, or feasible, and I:

- A. Made a written determination referring to the specific Executive Order or Disaster Declaration citing the public health concern/emergency that applies to the Board and the meeting. 5 ILCS 120/7(e)(1) and (2), amended by P.A. 101-640.
- B. Included the written determination made in letter A., above, on the Board's published notice and agenda for the alternative arrangements for the meeting. 5 ILCS 120/7(e)(7)(A)-(B), amended by P.A. 101-640.
- C. Offered the alternative arrangements to the public by offering a telephone number or a web-based link. 5 ILCS 120/7(e)(4), amended by P.A. 101-640.

Insert a link to the meeting notice or attach a copy of the notice or refer to above if already attached to this document (see above).

Include this written determination on the Board/committee's published notice and agenda for the audio or video meeting, and in the meeting minutes.

- D. Move to Step 3, below.

Step 3. During the meeting, I:

☐ Directed the Recording Secretary to, in addition to the requirements for open meetings under OMA, also keep verbatim record of the open meeting by recording it and making it open and available to the public under all provisions of OMA. 5 ILCS 120/7(e)(9), amended by P.A. 101-640. *Sample text follows below in the subhead below* **Report to the Public Following the Board's Meeting with No Physical Presence of Quorum.**

☐ Read my written determination referring to the specific Executive Order or Disaster Declaration citing the public health concern/emergency that applies to the Board and the meeting and directed the Recording Secretary to include it in the meeting minutes.

☐ Ensured that any interested member of the public has access to contemporaneously hear all discussion, testimony, and roll call votes. 5 ILCS 120/7(e)(4), amended by P.A. 101-640.

☐ Requested the Recording Secretary to enter into the appropriate minutes of the Board that each Board member participating in the meeting, wherever their physical locations, announced:

1. Themselves present (5 ILCS 120/7(e)(3), amended by P.A. 101-640), and
2. A verification that they could hear one another and all discussion and testimony. Id.

See 2:220-E3, *Closed Meeting Minutes* and/or 2:220-E4, *Open Meeting Minutes*.

Attach to this document copies or information about where these minutes may be found.

☐ Announced and considered each Board member participating in the meeting present at the meeting for purposes of determining a quorum and participating in all proceedings (5 ILCS 120/7(e)(8), amended by P.A. 101-640) and directed the Recording Secretary to reflect it in the minutes (best practice for transparency).

☐ Conducted all votes by roll call, so each Board member's vote on each issue could be identified and recorded (5 ILCS 120/7(e)(6), amended by P.A. 101-640), and ensured that the Recording Secretary entered all votes as **Roll Call Votes** (*Use exhibit 2:220-E4, Open Meeting Minutes but ensure all votes are recorded as roll call votes pursuant to the example below.*):

"Yeas"	"Nays"

Motion: ☐ Carried ☐ Failed

☐ Executed or directed execution of the subhead below **Report to the Public Following the Board's Meeting with No Physical Presence of Quorum.**

Report to the Public Following the Board's Meeting with No Physical Presence of Quorum

The text below may be used for the actual report.

The Board of Control met on [insert date] with no physical presence of quorum to conduct its business.

The verbatim [circle one] audio | video recording of this meeting is available to the public under all provisions of OMA and will be destroyed pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2.06(c)(no less than 18 months after the completion of the meeting recorded but only after: (1) the Board approves the destruction of the particular recording; and (2) the Board approves minutes of the meeting that meet the written minutes requirements of OMA). 5 ILCS 120/7(e)(9), amended by P.A. 101-640.

Insert links to the verbatim recording of meeting here or attach to this document.

Note: Consult the board attorney for guidance on the destruction of a verbatim recording of an open meeting without the physical presence of a quorum. While 5 ILCS 120/2.06(c) refers to the process for destroying closed session verbatim recordings, 5 ILCS 120/7(e)(9), amended by P.A. 101-640, applies that process for destroying closed session verbatim recordings to the destruction of the verbatim open session recordings that are required when a board determines it is necessary for it to meet without the physical presence of a quorum due to a public health emergency.

Completed By: _____

Title: _____

DATED: May 1, 2024

Board of Control

Public Participation at Board of Control Meetings and Petitions to the Board

During each regular and special open meeting of the Board, any person may comment to or ask questions of the Board of Control (*public participation*), subject to the reasonable constraints established and recorded in this policy's guidelines below. The Board listens to comments or questions during public participation; responses to comments to or questions of the Board are most often managed through policy 3:30, *Chain of Command*.

To preserve sufficient time for the Board to conduct its business, any person appearing before the Board is expected to follow these guidelines:

1. Address the Board only at the appropriate time as indicated on the agenda and when recognized by the Board Chair. This includes following the directives of the Board Chair to maintain order and decorum for all.
2. Use a sign-in sheet, if requested.
3. Identify oneself and be brief. Ordinarily, the time for any one person to address the Board during public participation shall be limited to three minutes. In unusual circumstances, and when an individual has made a request to speak for a longer period of time, the Board Chair may allow a person to speak for more than three minutes. If multiple individuals wish to address the Board on the same subject, the group is encouraged to appoint a spokesperson.
4. Observe, when necessary and appropriate, the Board Chair's authority to:
 - a. Shorten the time for each person to address the Board during public participation to conserve time and give the maximum number of people an opportunity to speak; and/or
 - b. Determine procedural matters regarding public participation not otherwise covered in Board policy.
5. Conduct oneself with respect and civility toward others and otherwise abide by Board policy 8:30, *Visitors to and Conduct on Joint Agreement Property*.

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

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/10-6 and 5/10-16.
5 ILCS 120/2.06, Open Meetings Act.

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

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Board of Control

Board Policy Development

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

Policy Development

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

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

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

Policy Adoption and Dissemination

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

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

Board Policy Review and Monitoring

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

Words Importing Gender

Throughout this policy manual, words importing the masculine and/or feminine gender include all gender neutral/inclusive pronouns.

Director Implementation

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

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

Suspension of Policies

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

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

CROSS REF.: 2:150 (Committees), 2:250 (Access to Joint Agreement Public Records), 3:40 (Director)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Board of Control

Exhibit - PRESS Issue Updates

This procedure is for **PRESS** subscribers. For subscribers to **PRESS Plus**, IASB's full-maintenance policy update service, the **PRESS Plus** Online User Guide, available at www.iasb.com/policy, provides further guidance.

Actor	Action
Director	Manages the process for the Board to receive PRESS updates to policies. Manages the Board's compliance with the Open Meetings Act. Ensures that, as appropriate, the agendas for the Board Policy Committee and Board of Control include discussion and list action to consider, adopt, or revise Board policies and Board exhibits. Manages the process for approving new or revised administrative procedures, administrative procedure exhibits, and changes to employee and student handbooks. Communicates all policy and administrative procedure revisions or adoptions, as appropriate, to staff members, parents, students, and community members.
Director or Director's Secretary	Updates the Joint Agreement's <i>Roster</i> as follows: 1. Go to www.iasb.com and click on the Member Login button. 2. Log in using your email address and password. If you do not know your password, use the "forgot your password?" link. 3. At the bottom of your Profile page, click on Joint Agreements You Manage and then the Joint Agreement name. 4. Review and verify or change the Joint Agreement's existing records. Ensure that all current board members, administrators, and anyone else on staff who accesses PRESS are listed with their current email addresses.
Designated support staff	Logs in to PRESS Online as follows: 1. Go to www.iasb.com and click on the Member Login button. 2. Log in using your email address and password. If you do not know your password, use the "forgot your password?" link. 3. Under "My Account Links," click "PRESS Login." To each member of the Policy Committee, full Board, or other interested school official, emails or otherwise distributes the following: 1. PRESS Update Memo; 2. PRESS video tutorial link at: www.iasb.com/policy; 3. Committee worksheets; and 4. Current Joint Agreement policy in relevant areas. As appropriate, includes new and revised policies in the Board

Actor	Action
	meeting packets. After a policy is adopted or revised, updates the Joint Agreement's policy manual master electronic file and adds or updates adoption dates. Archives previous version of revised policy. Follows Joint Agreement process for updating paper and online manuals. Considers distributing PRESS Update Memo to Assistant Directors.
Policy Committee (or Full Board)	Considers each PRESS update. Reviews all footnote changes. Decides which changes require Board of Control discussion and which are appropriate as consent agenda items. The following are appropriate for the consent agenda: changes to the Legal References and Cross References, and minor policy edits that do not require Board discussion. Requests review of recommended revisions by the Board Attorney, as appropriate. Presents recommendations regarding PRESS updates to the Board at a regularly scheduled meeting.
Full Board	Conducts a first reading of the policies that are recommended for adoption or revision. During the next regular meeting, conducts a second reading. A second reading allows the Board to hear feedback from interested parties, including staff, parents, students, and community members; however, State law does not require two readings. After the second reading, consider and take action to approve the policies at a duly convened open meeting.
Assistant Directors, Directors, Assistant Directors, and supervisory employees	Reads PRESS Update Memo (if applicable) and adopted policies, follows the Director's process for updating administrative procedures, and makes necessary changes to employee and student handbooks within their assigned building(s).
Anyone	For further clarification, view the online tutorial for PRESS, available at www.iasb.com/policy.

DATED: May 1, 2024

Board of Control

Exhibit - Developing Local Policy

Actor	Action
Anyone (Director, Board of Control member, staff, parent, student, community member, or Board Attorney)	Brings a concern that may necessitate a new policy or a current policy's revision to the attention of the Board of Control.
Director	Confers with the Board Attorney as appropriate. Manages the Board's compliance with the Open Meetings Act. Ensures that, as appropriate, the agendas for the Board Policy Committee and Board of Control include discussion and list action to consider, adopt, or revise Board policies and Board exhibits. Manages the process for approving new or revised administrative procedures, administrative procedure exhibits, and changes to employee and student handbooks. Communicates all policy and administrative procedure revisions or adoptions as appropriate to staff members, parents, students, and community members.
Policy Committee (or Full Board)	First, answers these questions to decide whether new policy language is needed: 1. Does the IASB Policy Reference Manual provide guidance? 2. Is the request something that should be covered in policy (i.e., Board work), or is it something that should be handled by the staff (i.e., staff work)? 3. Is it already covered in policy? Checks for policies that cover similar or connected topics using tools such as search engines, Tables of Contents, cross references, and indexes. Second, uses a 3-step process to draft new policy language: 1. Frames the question and discusses the topic. 2. Requests the Director to provide research, including appropriate data, and input from others, such as, those who may be affected by the policy and those who will implement the policy. 3. Drafts or requests the Director or Board Attorney to draft language addressing the concern that aligns with the Board's mission, vision, goals, and objectives. Third, decides whether the new language should be included in an existing policy or added as a new policy. Assigns any new policy an appropriate location and number. The PRESS coding system reserves policy numbers ending in a '0' and '5' for PRESS material. Locally developed Joint Agreement

Actor	Action
	policies should use policy numbers ending in 2, 4, 6, or 8.
Full Board	Conducts a first reading of the policy that is recommended for adoption or revision. During the next regular meeting, conducts a second reading. A second reading allows the Board to hear feedback from interested parties, including staff, parents, students, and community members; however, State law does not require two readings. After the second reading, consider and take action to approve the policies at a duly convened open meeting.
Designated support staff	After a policy is adopted or revised, updates the Joint Agreement's policy manual master electronic file and adds or updates adoption dates. Archives previous version of revised policy. Follows Joint Agreement process for updating paper and online manuals.
Assistant Directors, Directors, Assistant Directors, and supervisory employees	Reads PRESS Update Memo (if applicable) and adopted policies, follows the Director's process for updating administrative procedures, and makes necessary changes to employee and student handbooks within their assigned building(s).

DATED: May 1, 2024

Board of Control

Access to Joint Agreement Public Records

Full access to the Joint Agreement's *public records* is available to any person as provided in the Illinois Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), this policy, and implementing procedures. The Director or designee shall: (1) provide the Board with sufficient information and data to permit the Board to monitor the Joint Agreement's compliance with FOIA and this policy, and (2) report any FOIA requests during the Board's regular meetings along with the status of the Joint Agreement's response.

Freedom of Information Officer

The Fiscal Services Personnel shall serve as the Joint Agreement's Freedom of Information Officer and assumes all the duties and powers of that office as provided in FOIA and this policy.

Definition

The Joint Agreement's *public records* are defined as records, reports, forms, writings, letters, memoranda, books, papers, maps, photographs, microfilms, cards, tapes, recordings, electronic data processing records, electronic communications, recorded information and all other documentary material pertaining to the transaction of public business, regardless of physical form or characteristics, having been prepared by or for, or having been or being used by, received by, in the possession of, or under the control of the Joint Agreement.

Requesting Records

A request for inspection and/or copies of public records must be made in writing and may be submitted by personal delivery, mail, telefax, or email directed to the Joint Agreement's Freedom of Information Officer. Individuals making a request are not required to state a reason for the request other than to identify when the request is for a commercial purpose or when requesting a fee waiver. The Director or designee shall instruct Joint Agreement employees to immediately forward any request for inspection and copying of a public record to the Joint Agreement's Freedom of Information Officer or designee.

Responding to Requests

The Freedom of Information Officer shall approve all requests for public records unless:

1. The requested material does not exist;
2. The requested material is exempt from inspection and copying by the Freedom of Information Act; or
3. Complying with the request would be unduly burdensome.

Within five business days after receipt of a request for access to a public record, the Freedom of Information Officer shall comply with or deny the request, unless the time for response is extended as specified in Section 3 of FOIA. The Freedom of Information Officer may extend the time for a response for up to five business days from the original due date. If an extension is needed, the Freedom of Information Officer shall: (1) notify the person making the request of the reason for the extension, and (2) either inform the person of the date on which a response will be made, or agree with the person in writing on a compliance period.

The time periods are extended for responding to requests for records made for a *commercial purpose*, requests by a *recurrent requester*, or *voluminous requests*, as those terms are defined in Section 2 of FOIA. The time periods for responding to those requests are governed by Sections 3.1, 3.2, and 3.6 of FOIA.

When responding to a request for a record containing both exempt and non-exempt material, the Freedom of Information Officer shall redact exempt material from the record before complying with the request.

Fees

Persons making a request for copies of public records must pay any and all applicable fees. The Freedom of Information Officer shall establish a fee schedule that complies with FOIA and this policy and is subject to the Board's review. The fee schedule shall include copying fees and all other fees to the maximum extent they are permitted by FOIA, including without limitation, search and review fees for responding to a request for a *commercial purpose* and fees, costs, and personnel hours in connection with responding to a *voluminous request*.

Copying fees, except when fixed by statute, shall be reasonably calculated to reimburse the Joint Agreement's actual cost for reproducing and certifying public records and for the use, by any person, of its equipment to copy records. In no case shall the copying fees exceed the maximum fees permitted by FOIA. If the Joint Agreement's actual copying costs are equal to or greater than the maximum fees permitted by FOIA, the Freedom of Information Officer is authorized to use FOIA's maximum fees as the Joint Agreement's fees. No copying fees shall be charged for: (1) the first 50 pages of black and white, letter or legal sized copies, or (2) electronic copies other than the actual cost of the recording medium, except if the response is to a *voluminous request*, as defined in FOIA.

A fee reduction is available if the request qualifies under Section 6 of FOIA. The Freedom of Information Officer shall set the amount of the reduction taking into consideration the amount of material requested and the cost of copying it.

Provision of Copies and Access to Records

A public record that is the subject of an approved access request will be available for inspection or copying at the Joint Agreement's administrative office during regular business hours, unless other arrangements are made by the Freedom of Information Officer.

Many public records are immediately available from the Joint Agreement's website including, but not limited to, the process for requesting a public record. The Freedom of Information Officer shall direct a requester to the Joint Agreement's website if a requested record is available there. If the requester is unable to reasonably access the record online, he or she may resubmit the request for the record, stating his or her inability to reasonably access the record online, and the Joint Agreement shall make the requested record available for inspection and copying as otherwise provided in this policy.

Preserving Public Records

Public records, including email messages, shall be preserved and cataloged if: (1) they are evidence of the Joint Agreement's organization, function, policies, procedures, or activities, (2) they contain informational data appropriate for preservation, (3) their retention is required by State or federal law, or (4) they are subject to a retention request by the Board Attorney (e.g., a litigation hold), Joint Agreement auditor, or other individual authorized by the Board of Control or State or federal law to make such a request. Unless its retention is required as described in items numbered 3 or 4 above, a public record, as defined by the Illinois Local Records Act, may be destroyed when authorized by the Local Records Commission.

LEGAL REF.: 5 ILCS 140/, Illinois Freedom of Information Act.
105 ILCS 5/10-16 and 5/24A-7.1.
820 ILCS 40/11.
820 ILCS 130/5.

CROSS REF.: 2:140 (Communications To and From the Board), 5:150 (Personnel Records),
7:340 (Student Records)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Board of Control

Uniform Grievance Procedure

A student, parent/guardian, employee, or community member should notify any Joint Agreement Complaint Manager if he or she believes that the Board of Control, its employees, or its agents have violated his or her rights guaranteed by the State or federal Constitution, State or federal statute, or Board policy, or have a complaint regarding any one of the following:

1. Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C. §12101 et seq.
2. Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, 20 U.S.C. §1681 et seq., excluding Title IX sexual harassment complaints governed by policy 2:265, *Title IX Sexual Harassment Grievance Procedure*
3. Individuals With Disabilities Education Improvement Act, 20 U.S.C. 1400 et seq.
4. Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 U.S.C. §791 et seq.
5. Title VI of the Civil Rights Act, 42 U.S.C. §2000d et seq.
6. Equal Employment Opportunities Act (Title VII of the Civil Rights Act), 42 U.S.C. §2000e et seq.
7. Sexual harassment prohibited by the State Officials and Employees Ethics Act, 5 ILCS 430/70-5(a); Illinois Human Rights Act, 775 ILCS 5/; and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 U.S.C. §2000e et seq. (Title IX sexual harassment complaints are addressed under policy 2:265, *Title IX Sexual Harassment Grievance Procedure*)
8. Breastfeeding accommodations for students, 105 ILCS 5/10-20.60
9. Bullying, 105 ILCS 5/27-23.7
10. Misuse of funds received for services to improve educational opportunities for educationally disadvantaged or deprived children
11. Curriculum, instructional materials, and/or programs
12. Victims' Economic Security and Safety Act, 820 ILCS 180/
13. Illinois Equal Pay Act of 2003, 820 ILCS 112/
14. Provision of services to homeless students
15. Illinois Whistleblower Act, 740 ILCS 174/
16. Misuse of genetic information prohibited by the Illinois Genetic Information Privacy Act, 410 ILCS 513/; and Titles I and II of the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act, 42 U.S.C. §2000ff et seq.
17. Employee Credit Privacy Act, 820 ILCS 70/

The Complaint Manager will first attempt to resolve complaints without resorting to this grievance procedure. If a formal complaint is filed under this policy, the Complaint Manager will address the complaint promptly and equitably. A student and/or parent/guardian filing a complaint under this policy may forego any informal suggestions and/or attempts to resolve it and may proceed directly to this grievance procedure. The Complaint Manager will not require a student or parent/guardian

complaining of any form of harassment to attempt to resolve allegations directly with the accused (or the accused's parents/guardians); this includes mediation.

Right to Pursue Other Remedies Not Impaired

The right of a person to prompt and equitable resolution of a complaint filed under this policy shall not be impaired by the person's pursuit of other remedies, e.g., criminal complaints, civil actions, etc. Use of this grievance procedure is not a prerequisite to the pursuit of other remedies and use of this grievance procedure does not extend any filing deadline related to the pursuit of other remedies. If a person is pursuing another remedy subject to a complaint under this policy, the Joint Agreement will continue with a simultaneous investigation under this policy.

Deadlines

All deadlines under this policy may be extended by the Complaint Manager as he or she deems appropriate. As used in this policy, *business days* means days on which the Joint Agreement's main office is open.

Filing a Complaint

A person (hereinafter Complainant) who wishes to avail him or herself of this grievance procedure may do so by filing a complaint with any Joint Agreement Complaint Manager. The Complainant shall not be required to file a complaint with a particular Complaint Manager and may request a Complaint Manager of the same gender. The Complaint Manager may request the Complainant to provide a written statement regarding the nature of the complaint or require a meeting with a student's parent(s)/guardian(s). The Complaint Manager shall assist the Complainant as needed.

For any complaint alleging bullying and/or cyberbullying of students, the Complaint Manager shall process and review the complaint according to Board policy 7:180, *Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment*, in addition to any response required by this policy. For any complaint alleging sexual harassment or other violation of Board policy 5:20, *Workplace Harassment Prohibited*, the Complaint Manager shall process and review the complaint according to that policy, in addition to any response required by this policy.

Investigation Process

The Complaint Manager will investigate the complaint or appoint a qualified person to undertake the investigation on his or her behalf. The Complaint Manager shall ensure both parties have an equal opportunity to present evidence during an investigation. If the Complainant is a student under 18 years of age, the Complaint Manager will notify his or her parents/guardians that they may attend any investigatory meetings in which their child is involved. The complaint and identity of the Complainant will not be disclosed except: (1) as required by law, this policy, or any collective bargaining agreement, (2) as necessary to fully investigate the complaint, or (3) as authorized by the Complainant.

The identity of any student witnesses will not be disclosed except: (1) as required by law, this policy, or any collective bargaining agreement, (2) as necessary to fully investigate the complaint, or (3) as authorized by the parent/guardian of the student witness, or by the student if the student is 18 years of age or older.

The Complaint Manager will inform, at regular intervals, the person(s) filing a complaint under this policy about the status of the investigation. Within 30 business days after the date the complaint was filed, the Complaint Manager shall file a written report of his or her findings with the Director. The Complaint Manager may request an extension of time.

The Director will keep the Board informed of all complaints.

If a complaint contains allegations involving the Director or Board member(s), the written report shall be filed directly with the Board, which will make a decision in accordance with paragraph four of the following section of this policy.

Decision and Appeal

Within five business days after receiving the Complaint Manager's report, the Director shall mail his or her written decision to the Complainant and the accused by registered mail, return receipt requested, and/or personal delivery as well as to the Complaint Manager. All decisions shall be based upon the *preponderance of evidence* standard.

Within 10 business days after receiving the Director's decision, the Complainant or the accused may appeal the decision to the Board by making a written request to the Complaint Manager. The Complaint Manager shall promptly forward all materials relative to the complaint and appeal to the Board.

Within 30 business days after an appeal of the Director's decision, the Board shall affirm, reverse, or amend the Director's decision or direct the Director to gather additional information. Within five business days after the Board's decision, the Director shall inform the Complainant and the accused of the Board's action.

For complaints containing allegations involving the Director or Board member(s), within 30 business days after receiving the Complaint Manager's or outside investigator's report, the Board shall mail its written decision to the Complainant and the accused by registered mail, return receipt requested, and/or personal delivery as well as to the Complaint Manager.

This policy shall not be construed to create an independent right to a hearing before the Director or Board. The failure to strictly follow the timelines in this grievance procedure shall not prejudice any party.

Appointing a Nondiscrimination Coordinator and Complaint Managers

The Director shall appoint a Nondiscrimination Coordinator to manage the Joint Agreement's efforts to provide equal opportunity employment and educational opportunities and prohibit the harassment of employees, students, and others. The Nondiscrimination Coordinator also serves as the Joint Agreement's Title IX Coordinator.

The Director shall appoint at least one Complaint Manager to administer this policy. If possible, the Director will appoint two Complaint Managers, one of each gender. The Joint Agreement's Nondiscrimination Coordinator may be appointed as one of the Complaint Managers.

The Director shall insert into this policy and keep current the names, office addresses, email addresses, and telephone numbers of the Nondiscrimination Coordinator and the Complaint Managers.

Nondiscrimination Coordinator:

Director Joe Barbic

Name

600 Lions Rd., Sandwich, IL 60548

Address

jbarbic@ivvc.net

Email

815-786-9873

Telephone

Complaint Managers:

Director Joe Barbic

Name

600 Lions Rd., Sandwich, IL 60548

Address

jbarbic@ivvc.net

Email

815-786-9873

Telephone

Assistant Director Alyx Bickel

Name

600 Lions Rd., Sandwich, IL

Address

abickel@ivvc.net

Email

815-786-9873

Telephone

LEGAL REF.:

8 U.S.C. §1324a et seq., Immigration Reform and Control Act.

20 U.S.C. §1232g, Family Education Rights Privacy Act.

20 U.S.C. §1400, The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

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

29 U.S.C. §206(d), Equal Pay Act.

29 U.S.C. §621 et seq., Age Discrimination in Employment Act.

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

29 U.S.C. §2612, Family and Medical Leave Act.

42 U.S.C. §2000d et seq., Title VI of the Civil Rights Act.

42 U.S.C. §2000e et seq., Equal Employment Opportunities Act (Title VII of the Civil Rights Act).

42 U.S.C. §2000ff et seq., Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act.

42 U.S.C. §11431 et seq., McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act.

42 U.S.C. §12101 et seq., Americans With Disabilities Act.

105 ILCS 5/2-3.8, 5/3-10, 5/10-20, 5/10-20.5, 5/10-20.7a, 5/10-20.60, 5/10-20.69 5/10-20.75 (final citation pending), 5/10-22.5, 5/22-19, 5/24-4, 5/27-1, 5/27-23.7, and 45/1-15.

5 ILCS 415/10(a)(2), Government Severance Pay Act.

5 ILCS 430/70-5(a), State Officials and Employees Ethics Act.

410 ILCS 513/, Ill. Genetic Information Privacy Act.

740 ILCS 174/, Whistleblower Act.

740 ILCS 175/, Ill. False Claims Act.

775 ILCS 5/, Ill. Human Rights Act.

820 ILCS 180/, Victims' Economic Security and Safety Act; 56 Ill.Admin.Code Part 280.

820 ILCS 112/, Equal Pay Act of 2003.

820 ILCS 70/, Employee Credit Privacy Act, 70/10(b), and 70/2523 Ill.Admin.Code §§1.240, 200.40, 226.50, and 226.570.

CROSS REF.: 2:105 (Ethics and Gift Ban), 2:265 (Title IX Sexual Harassment Grievance Procedure), 5:10 (Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Recruitment), 5:20 (Workplace Harassment Prohibited), 5:30 (Hiring Process and Criteria), 5:90 (Abused and Neglected Child Reporting), 6:120 (Education of Children with Disabilities), 6:260 (Complaints About Curriculum, Instructional Materials, and Programs), 7:10 (Equal Educational Opportunities), 7:15 (Student and Family Privacy Rights), 7:20 (Harassment of Students Prohibited), 7:180 (Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment), 7:185 (Teen Dating Violence Prohibited), 7:315 (Restrictions on Publications; High Schools), 8:70 (Accommodating Individuals with Disabilities), 8:95 (Parental Involvement), 8:110 (Public Suggestions and Concerns)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Board of Control

Title IX Sexual Harassment Grievance Procedure

Sexual harassment affects a student's ability to learn and an employee's ability to work. Providing an educational and workplace environment free from sexual harassment is an important Joint Agreement goal. The Joint Agreement does not discriminate on the basis of sex in any of its education programs or activities, and it complies with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX) and its implementing regulations (34 C.F.R. Part 106) concerning everyone in the Joint Agreement's education programs and activities, including applicants for employment, students, parents/guardians, employees, and third parties.

Title IX Sexual Harassment Prohibited

Sexual harassment as defined in Title IX (Title IX Sexual Harassment) is prohibited. Any person, including a Joint Agreement employee or agent, or student, engages in Title IX Sexual Harassment whenever that person engages in conduct on the basis of an individual's sex that satisfies one or more of the following:

1. A Joint Agreement employee conditions the provision of an aid, benefit, or service on an individual's participation in unwelcome sexual conduct; or
2. Unwelcome conduct determined by a reasonable person to be so severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive that it effectively denies a person equal access to the Joint Agreement's educational program or activity; or
3. *Sexual assault* as defined in 20 U.S.C. §1092(f)(6)(A)(v), *dating violence* as defined in 34 U.S.C. §12291(a)(11), *domestic violence* as defined in 34 U.S.C. §12291(a)(12), or *stalking* as defined in 34 U.S.C. §12291(a)(36).

Examples of sexual harassment include, but are not limited to, touching, crude jokes or pictures, discussions of sexual experiences, teasing related to sexual characteristics, spreading rumors related to a person's alleged sexual activities, rape, sexual battery, sexual abuse, and sexual coercion.

Definitions from 34 C.F.R. §106.30

Complainant means an individual who is alleged to be the victim of conduct that could constitute sexual harassment.

Education program or activity includes locations, events, or circumstances where the Joint Agreement has substantial control over both the *Respondent* and the context in which alleged sexual harassment occurs.

Formal Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint means a document filed by a *Complainant* or signed by the Title IX Coordinator alleging sexual harassment against a *Respondent* and requesting that the Joint Agreement investigate the allegation.

Respondent means an individual who has been reported to be the perpetrator of the conduct that could constitute sexual harassment.

Supportive measures mean non-disciplinary, non-punitive individualized services offered as appropriate, as reasonably available, and without fee or charge to the *Complainant* or the *Respondent* before or after the filing of a *Formal Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint* or where no *Formal Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint* has been filed.

Title IX Sexual Harassment Prevention and Response

The Director or designee will ensure that the Joint Agreement prevents and responds to allegations of Title IX Sexual Harassment as follows:

1. Ensures that the Joint Agreement's comprehensive health education program in Board policy 6:60, *Curriculum Content*, incorporates (a) age-appropriate sexual abuse and assault awareness and prevention programs in grades pre-K through 12, and (b) age-appropriate education about the warning signs, recognition, dangers, and prevention of teen dating violence in grades 7-12. This includes incorporating student social and emotional development into the Joint Agreement's educational program as required by State law and in alignment with Board policy 6:65, *Student Social and Emotional Development*.
2. Incorporates education and training for staff pursuant to policy 5:100, *Staff Development Program*, and as recommended by the Director, Title IX Coordinator, Nondiscrimination Coordinator, Assistant Director, or a Complaint Manager.
3. Notifies applicants for admission or employment, students, parents/guardians, employees, and collective bargaining units of this policy and contact information for the Title IX Coordinator by, at a minimum, prominently displaying them on the Joint Agreement's website, if any, and in each handbook made available to such persons.

Making a Report

A person who wishes to make a report under this Title IX Sexual Harassment grievance procedure may make a report to the Title IX Coordinator, Nondiscrimination Coordinator, Assistant Director, a Complaint Manager, or any employee with whom the person is comfortable speaking. A person who wishes to make a report may choose to report to a person of the same gender.

Employees shall respond to incidents of sexual harassment by promptly making or forwarding the report to the Title IX Coordinator. An employee who fails to promptly make or forward a report may be disciplined, up to and including discharge.

The Director shall insert into this policy and keep current the name, office address, email address, and telephone number of the Title IX Coordinator.

Title IX Coordinator:

Director Joe Babric

Name

600 Lions Rd., Sandwich, IL 60548

Address

jbarbic@ivvc.net

Email

815-786-9873

Telephone

Processing and Reviewing a Report or Complaint

Upon receipt of a report, the Title IX Coordinator and/or designee will promptly contact the *Complainant* to: (1) discuss the availability of supportive measures, (2) consider the *Complainant's* wishes with respect to *supportive measures*, (3) inform the *Complainant* of the availability of *supportive measures* with or without the filing of a *Formal Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint*, and (4) explain to the *Complainant* the process for filing a *Formal Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint*.

Further, the Title IX Coordinator will analyze the report to identify and determine whether there is another or an additional appropriate method(s) for processing and reviewing it. For any report received,

the Title IX Coordinator shall review Board policies 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*; 5:20, *Workplace Harassment Prohibited*; 5:90, *Abused and Neglected Child Reporting*; 5:120, *Employee Ethics; Code of Professional Conduct; and Conflict of Interest*; 7:20, *Harassment of Students Prohibited*; 7:180, *Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment*; 7:185, *Teen Dating Violence Prohibited*; and 7:190, *Student Behavior*, to determine if the allegations in the report require further action.

Reports of alleged sexual harassment will be confidential to the greatest extent practicable, subject to the Joint Agreement's duty to investigate and maintain an educational program or activity that is productive, respectful, and free of sexual harassment.

Formal Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint Grievance Process

When a *Formal Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint* is filed, the Title IX Coordinator will investigate it or appoint a qualified person to undertake the investigation.

The Director or designee shall implement procedures to ensure that all *Formal Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaints* are processed and reviewed according to a Title IX grievance process that fully complies with 34 C.F.R. §106.45. The Joint Agreement's grievance process shall, at a minimum:

1. Treat *Complainants* and *Respondents* equitably by providing remedies to a *Complainant* where the *Respondent* is determined to be responsible for sexual harassment, and by following a grievance process that complies with 34 C.F.R. §106.45 before the imposition of any disciplinary sanctions or other actions against a *Respondent*.
2. Require an objective evaluation of all relevant evidence – including both inculpatory and exculpatory evidence – and provide that credibility determinations may not be based on a person's status as a *Complainant*, *Respondent*, or witness.
3. Require that any individual designated by the Joint Agreement as a Title IX Coordinator, investigator, decision-maker, or any person designated by the Joint Agreement to facilitate an informal resolution process:
 - a. Not have a conflict of interest or bias for or against complainants or respondents generally or an individual *Complainant* or *Respondent*.
 - b. Receive training on the definition of sexual harassment, the scope of the Joint Agreement's *education program or activity*, how to conduct an investigation and grievance process (including hearings, appeals, and informal resolution processes, as applicable), and how to serve impartially.
4. Require that any individual designated by the Joint Agreement as an investigator receiving training on issues of relevance to create an investigative report that fairly summarizes relevant evidence.
5. Require that any individual designated by the Joint Agreement as a decision-maker receive training on issues of relevance of questions and evidence, including when questions and evidence about the *Complainant's* sexual predisposition or prior sexual behavior are not relevant.
6. Include a presumption that the *Respondent* is not responsible for the alleged conduct until a determination regarding responsibility is made at the conclusion of the grievance process.
7. Include reasonably prompt timeframes for conclusion of the grievance process.
8. Describe the range of possible disciplinary sanctions and remedies the Joint Agreement may implement following any determination of responsibility.

9. Base all decisions upon the *preponderance of evidence* standard.
10. Include the procedures and permissible bases for the *Complainant* and *Respondent* to appeal.
11. Describe the range of *supportive measures* available to *Complainants* and *Respondents*.
12. Not require, allow, rely upon, or otherwise use questions or evidence that constitute, or seek disclosure of, information protected under a legally recognized privilege, unless the person holding such privilege has waived the privilege.

Enforcement

Any Joint Agreement employee who is determined, at the conclusion of the grievance process, to have engaged in sexual harassment will be subject to disciplinary action up to and including discharge. Any third party who is determined, at the conclusion of the grievance process, to have engaged in sexual harassment will be addressed in accordance with the authority of the Board in the context of the relationship of the third party to the Joint Agreement, e.g., vendor, parent, invitee, etc. Any Joint Agreement student who is determined, at the conclusion of the grievance process, to have engaged in sexual harassment will be subject to disciplinary action, including, but not limited to, a recommendation of suspension or expulsion consistent with student behavior policies. Any person making a knowingly false accusation regarding sexual harassment will likewise be subject to disciplinary action.

This policy does not increase or diminish the ability of the Joint Agreement or the parties to exercise any other rights under existing law.

Retaliation Prohibited

The Joint Agreement prohibits any form of retaliation against anyone who, in good faith, has made a report or complaint, assisted, or participated or refused to participate in any manner in a proceeding under this policy. Any person should report claims of retaliation using Board policy 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*.

Any person who retaliates against others for reporting or complaining of violations of this policy or for participating in any manner under this policy will be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including discharge, with regard to employees, or suspension and expulsion, with regard to students.

LEGAL REF.: 20 U.S.C. §1681 et seq., Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972; 34 C.F.R. Part 106.

Davis v. Monroe County Bd. of Educ., 526 U.S. 629 (1999).

Gebser v. Lago Vista Independent Sch. Dist., 524 U.S. 274 (1998).

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), 5:100 (Staff Development Program), 5:120 (Employee Ethics; Code of Professional Conduct; and Conflict of Interest), 6:60 (Curriculum Content), 6:65 (Student Social and Emotional Development), 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), 7:190 (Student Behavior)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

INDIAN VALLEY VOCATIONAL CENTER BOARD OF CONTROL POLICY MANUAL
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Because certain policy numbers are used for IASB sample policies, districts should use numbers ending in 2, 4, 6, or 8 for locally developed policies on topics not covered by IASB sample policies.

General Joint Agreement Administration

Goals and Objectives

The Director directs the administration in order to manage the Joint Agreement and to facilitate the implementation of a quality educational program in alignment with Board of Control policy 1:30, *Joint Agreement Philosophy*. Specific goals and objectives are to:

1. Provide educational expertise.
2. Plan, organize, implement, and evaluate educational programs that will provide for students' mastery of the Illinois Learning Standards.
3. Meet or exceed student performance and academic improvement goals established by the Board.
4. Develop and maintain channels for communication between the joint agreement and community.
5. Develop an administrative procedures manual and handbooks for personnel and students that are in alignment with Board policy.
6. Manage the Joint Agreement's fiscal and business activities to ensure financial health, cost-effectiveness, and protection of the Joint Agreement's assets.
7. Provide for the proper use, reasonable care, and appropriate maintenance of the Joint Agreement's real and personal property, including buildings, equipment, and supplies.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/10-16.7, 5/10-21.4, and 5/10-21.4a.

CROSS REF.: 1:30 (Joint Agreement Philosophy), 2:20 (Powers and Duties of the Board of Control; Indemnification), 2:130 (Board Director Relationship), 3:40 (Director), 3:50 (Administrative Personnel Other Than the Director), 3:60 (Administrative Responsibility of the Assistant Director), 6:10 (Educational Philosophy and Objectives)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

General Joint Agreement Administration

Chain of Command

The Director shall develop an organizational chart indicating the channels of authority and reporting relationships for personnel. These channels should be followed, and no level should be bypassed except in unusual situations.

All personnel should refer matters requiring administrative action to the responsible administrator, and may appeal a decision to a higher administrative officer. Whenever possible, each employee should be responsible to only one immediate supervisor. When this is not possible, the division of responsibility must be clear.

CROSS REF.: 1:20 (Joint Agreement Organization, Operations, and Cooperative Agreements),
2:140 (Communications To and From the Board), 3:70 (Succession of
Authority), 8:110 (Public Suggestions and Concerns)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

General Joint Agreement Administration

Director

Duties and Authority

The Director is the Joint Agreement's executive officer and is responsible for the administration and management of the Joint Agreement in accordance with Board of Control policies and directives, and State and federal law. Joint Agreement management duties include, without limitation, preparing, submitting, publishing, and posting reports and notifications as required by State and federal law, including the special reporting responsibilities in policy 5:90, *Abused and Neglected Child Reporting*. The Director is authorized to develop administrative procedures and take other action as needed to implement Board policy and otherwise fulfill his or her responsibilities. The Director may delegate to other Joint Agreement staff members the exercise of any powers and the discharge of any duties imposed upon the Director by Board policies or by Board vote. The delegation of power or duty, however, shall not relieve the Director of responsibility for the action that was delegated.

Qualifications

The Director must be of good character and of unquestionable morals and integrity. The Director shall have the experience and the skills necessary to work effectively with the Board, Joint Agreement employees, students, and the community. The Director must also have a professional educator license with a CT endorsement and a general administrative certificate evaluation.

Evaluation

The Board will evaluate, at least annually, the Director's performance and effectiveness, using standards and objectives developed by the Director and Board that are consistent with State law, the Board's policies, and the Director's contract. A specific time should be designated for a formal evaluation session with all Board members present. The evaluation should include a discussion of professional strengths as well as performance areas needing improvement.

The Director shall annually present evidence of professional growth through attendance at educational conferences, in-service training, or similar continuing education pursuits.

Compensation and Benefits

The Board and the Director shall enter into an employment agreement that conforms to Board policy and State law. This contract shall govern the employment relationship between the Board and the Director. The terms of the Director's employment agreement, when in conflict with this policy, will control.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/10-16.7, 5/10-20.47, 5/10-21.4, 5/10-21.9, 5/10-23.8, 5/21B-20, 5/21B-25, 5/24-11, and 5/24A-3.
5 ILCS 120/7.3, Open Meetings Act.
23 Ill.Admin.Code §§1.310, 1.705, and 25.355.

CROSS REF: 2:20 (Powers and Duties of the Board of Control; Indemnification), 2:130 (Board-Director Relationship), 2:240 (Board Policy Development), 3:10 (Goals and Objectives), 4:165 (Awareness and Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse and Grooming Behaviors), 4:175 (Convicted Child Sex Offender; Screening; Notifications), 5:30 (Hiring Process and Criteria), 5:90 (Abused and Neglected Child Reporting), 5:120 (Employee Ethics; Code of Professional Conduct; and Conflict of Interest), 5:150 (Personnel Records), 5:210 (Resignations), 5:290 (Employment Termination and Suspensions)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

General Joint Agreement Administration

Exhibit - Checklist for the Director Employment Contract Negotiation Process

The Board of Control hires and employs the Director. The Director shall be in charge of the administration under the direction of the Board, through its policies. See 105 ILCS 5/10-21.4 and 105 ILCS 5/10-16.7. As an effective employer, the Board must develop and maintain a productive relationship with the Director. See IASB's *Foundational Principles of Effective Governance*, **Principle 3. The board employs a Superintendent**, at: www.iasb.com/conference-training-and-events/training/training-resources/foundational-principles-of-effective-governance/.

The foundation for a productive employment relationship begins when the Board identifies the most qualified Director candidate (*successful Director candidate*) after an established interview process. The Board then extends an offer of employment to the successful Director candidate. The employment search process and resulting relationship should consist of mutual respect and a clear understanding of respective roles, responsibilities, and expectations. This relationship should begin with the Board's policy, a thoughtfully crafted employment contract and job description, and procedures for communications and ongoing assessment. See *Principles* at the link above.

Below, the *Checklist for the Director Employment Contract Negotiation Process (Checklist)* provides a column entitled **Director Contract Term Considerations for the Board**. It lists common Superintendent employment contract terms and points of consideration for boards to prepare for during the contract formation process. Another column entitled **Explanation, Special Considerations, and Resources** provides extra information about these common Superintendent employment contract terms.

The *Checklist* is intended to serve as a resource to educate and guide the Board through the employment contract negotiation process with its successful Director candidate. Board members who are educated about the content within the *Checklist* are crucial to successful negotiation processes. An educated contract formation and negotiation process, along with a well-written contract and job description for the Director, all set the foundation for mutual respect and a clear understanding of the Board and Director's respective roles, responsibilities, and expectations. **Important:** This *Checklist* is a resource for contract formation; it is not a list of *must have* items for a Director's employment contract or a basis for a board to re-open contracts currently in effect.

Prior to providing the successful Director candidate an offer for employment and contract for review, consideration, and negotiation, consult the Board Attorney about the *Checklist* and the scope of the terms the Board wishes to offer the successful Director candidate. The Board and the successful Director candidate should expect and encourage the other to seek the advice of their respective attorneys during the employment contract formation process.

Many attorneys agree and best practices suggest that boards and successful Director candidates work with their own separate attorneys in an amicable and cooperative manner to complete the employment contract negotiation process.

- ☐ **Board Attorney.** Prior to providing any successful Director candidate with an offer for employment and a contract for review, consideration, and negotiation, best practices suggest consulting the Board Attorney about the *Checklist*. **Note:** Boards should view a successful Director candidate retaining his or her own attorney as a best practice (as opposed to a warning sign). Each party is beginning the employment relationship in a cooperative manner to set an appropriate foundation to the future working relationship.

☐ **Power and Duties of the Director**

Director Contract Term Considerations for the Board	Explanation, Special Considerations, and Resources
Duties	Does the Board enumerate the duties of the Director in the employment contract? 1. Are the statutory duties of the Director listed? 2. Has the Board incorporated policy references to the other duties related to the Director's employment? See 105 ILCS 5/10-21.4 and 105 ILCS 5/10-16.7.
Full-time, Attention and Energy Clause	How will the Board address outside activities of the Director? 1. How will the Board define <i>outside activities</i>? 2. Will the Board restrict the Director from engaging in outside activities during the term of the employment contract? 3. Will the Board require approval/notification before the Director engages in outside activities?

☐ **Employment and Compensation**

Director Contract Term Considerations for the Board	Explanation, Special Considerations, and Resources
Duration of Contract	A Director's employment contract may not exceed five years. If its duration is two to five years, the contract must reference goals and suspension of tenure. No performance-based contract shall be extended or rolled over prior to its scheduled expiration unless all the performance and improvement goals contained in the contract have been met. See 105 ILCS 5/10-23.8. If the duration is one year or less, then the contract need not reference goals or suspension of tenure.
Salary	Special Considerations for the Board may include: 1. What is the estimated Board contribution to the Teachers' Retirement System (TRS) for any raises above six percent (40 ILCS 5/15-155(g)) prior to retirement? 2. What is the <i>cost shift</i> implication for the Joint Agreement if the Board offers or later agrees to a salary that is equal to or greater than the governor's statutory salary? The Joint Agreement is responsible for paying the actuarial cost of the pension benefits earned on the portion of a TRS member's salary that exceeds the governor's statutory salary. The governor's annual salary is

Director Contract Term Considerations for the Board	Explanation, Special Considerations, and Resources
	published by TRS at: www.trsil.org/employers/payments/contribution-rates_earnings-limitations. 3. Do any administrative cost cap triggers exist (105 ILCS 5/17-1.5)? Items the Board may see the successful Director candidate request of it: 1. A fixed salary for each year of the contract. 2. A guaranteed minimum salary. 3. Compensation increases.
Severance Agreements	Any contract that contains a condition of severance pay must include the following provisions required by the Government Severance Pay Act (GSPA), 5 ILCS 415/10: 1. A restriction to an amount not exceeding 20 weeks of compensation; and 2. A prohibition for any severance if the Director is fired for <i>misconduct</i> by the Board. See the <i>Severance Pay</i> row under the Changes to the Director's Employment Contract subhead below for a definition of what misconduct means in the context of this law.
Teachers Retirement System (TRS) & Teacher Health Insurance (THIS)	How does the Board want to address: 1. Pension contributions (TRS-THIS)? 2. Inclusion of salary and other compensation in the payment of TRS and THIS? Or, will TRS and THIS be in addition to salary and other compensation? 3. Unforeseen pension reform issues?

☐ **Conditions of Employment**

Director Contract Term Considerations for the Board	Explanation, Special Considerations, and Resources
Administrative License	Does the Board want to require the successful Director candidate to guarantee that as the future Director of the Joint Agreement, he or she has and will maintain the appropriate licensure throughout the employment contract?
Criminal Background Check Law	105 ILCS 5/10-21.9. See also PRESS sample policy 5:30, <i>Hiring Process and Criteria</i> , and the subhead entitled Fingerprint-based Criminal History

Director Contract Term Considerations for the Board	Explanation, Special Considerations, and Resources
	Records Information Check in administrative procedure 5:30-AP2, <i>Investigations</i> .
Sexual Misconduct Related Employment History Review Law	105 ILCS 5/22-94, added by P.A. 102-702, eff. 7-1-23. See also PRESS sample policy 5:30, <i>Hiring Process and Criteria</i> and PRESS sample administrative procedure 5:30-AP3, <i>Sexual Misconduct Related Employment History Review (EHR)</i> .
Other Background Check Laws	Does the Board want to require additional background inquiries beyond the fingerprint-based criminal history records information check required by 105 ILCS 5/10-21.9 and sexual misconduct related employment history review required by 105 ILCS 5/22-94, added by P.A. 102-702, eff. 7-1-23 and discussed above? If yes, consult the Board Attorney and consider the following laws: 15 U.S.C. § 1681 <i>et seq.</i>, Federal Fair Credit Reporting Act (FCRA), is a federal law that regulates the gathering and use of information about consumers by third party <i>consumer reporting agencies</i>, including credit information, criminal background, driving record, personal characteristics/reputation, etc. The law requires consumer reporting agencies to comply with certain procedural notice requirements when gathering information from a consumer. 820 ILCS 75/, Ill. Job Opportunities for Qualified Applicants Act, prohibits employers from inquiring about an applicant's criminal history until the application has been determined qualified and notified that he/she has been selected for an interview (a/k/a <i>ban the box</i> law). 820 ILCS 55/, Ill. Right to Privacy in the Workplace Act (RPWA), prohibits employers from: 1. Requesting, coercing, or requiring any employee or prospective employee to provide a user name and password for any personal online account; 2. Requesting, coercing, or requiring an employee or applicant to invite the employer to have access to that individual's personal online account; and 3. Taking an adverse employment action against an individual (including refusal to hire) based on that individual's use of a lawful product off Joint Agreement property during nonworking hours, i.e., tobacco, cannabis, or alcohol.

Director Contract Term Considerations for the Board	Explanation, Special Considerations, and Resources
	(Note: RPWA allows employers to regulate employees' use of those lawful products that impair an employee's ability to perform the employee's assigned duties. See policy 5:50, <i>Drug- and Alcohol-Free Workplace; E-Cigarette, Tobacco, and Cannabis Prohibition</i>, and its f/ns). 820 ILCS 70/, Ill. Employee Credit Privacy Act, prohibits employers from inquiring into an individual's credit history or taking action against an employee based such history unless a satisfactory credit history is a <i>bona fide occupational requirement</i>, which is further defined in the statute. The job descriptions of Directors generally meet this standard because they: (1) describe a managerial position that involves direction of the Joint Agreement; (2) include signatory power over more than \$100; and (3) involve having access to confidential and financial information. Note: Any one of these grounds alone is sufficient.
Medical Examination	105 ILCS 5/24-5 requires new employees to submit evidence of physical fitness to perform assigned duties and freedom from communicable diseases. The Americans with Disabilities Act allows medical inquiries of current employees only when they are job-related and consistent with business necessity or part of a voluntary employee wellness program. 42 U.S.C. §12112(d)(4). Joint Agreements may deny jobs to individuals with disabilities who pose a direct threat to the health or safety of others in the workplace, provided that a reasonable accommodation would not either eliminate the risk or reduce it to an acceptable level. 42 U.S.C. §12113; 29 C.F.R. §1630.2(r). See also PRESS sample policy 5:30, <i>Hiring Process and Criteria</i>, specifically f/ns 25 and 26.
Tenure	<u>Suspension of Tenure</u> With multi-year contracts and multi-year extensions, Directors waive their rights to tenure in a Joint Agreement, but no previously acquired tenure may be lost. <u>Continued Tenure</u> Directors serving multiple one year contracts may still accrue service toward and acquire tenure. See 105 ILCS 5/10-23.8 and the <i>Duration of Contract</i> row in the Employment and Compensation

Director Contract Term Considerations for the Board	Explanation, Special Considerations, and Resources
	checkbox, above.

☐ **Evaluations and Goals**

Director Contract Term Considerations for the Board	Explanation, Special Considerations, and Resources
Board Goals and Indicators of Student Performance and Academic Achievement for the Director	105 ILCS 5/10-23.8 requires each performance-based contract to include the goals and indicators of student performance and academic improvement determined and used by the Board to measure the performance and effectiveness of the Director and other information as the Board may determine. Regarding its goals and indicators, has the Board: 1. At minimum, addressed student performance and academic achievement (105 ILCS 5/10-23.8 states “and other information as the Board may determine”)? 2. Included them in the body of the employment contract? Or as an exhibit to it? 3. Set them to be: a. Measurable and achievable, i.e., are they within the Director’s control? b. Objective, subjective or a combination of both? 4. Set a timeline for achievement, and if so is it on an: a. Annual basis? b. Prior to completion of the employment contract? 5. Set them as procedural, substantive, or a combination of both? For more information about setting goals and indicators for Directors regarding student performance and academic achievement, see: www.iasb.com/conference-training-and-events/training/workshops/ Contact a Field Services Director regarding the following IASB workshops and/or offerings that may set the stage for Boards of Education to hold their Directors accountable for performance, including academic achievement: <i>Setting Joint Agreement Goals and Direction</i> (leads a

Director Contract Term Considerations for the Board	Explanation, Special Considerations, and Resources
	board and Superintendent to develop their own language for specific measurable, and attainable goals and indicators) <i>The Superintendent Evaluation Process</i> (describes an effective method of holding the Superintendent accountable)
Superintendent Evaluation	Once the Board has developed its goals and indicators (as discussed immediately above), 105 ILCS 5/10-20, 5/10-23, and 5/10-23.8 require the Board to: 1. “Direct, through policy, its Superintendent in his or her charge of the administration of the Joint Agreement;” and 2. Evaluate the Superintendent in his or her “administration of Board of Control policies and his or her stewardship of the assets of the Joint Agreement.” How will the Board evaluate the successful Director candidate upon its outlined goals and indicators? Does the Board state when it will evaluate the successful Director candidate upon the goals and indicators that it set? Note: Some Joint Agreements do not consider the Director evaluation to be a <i>one-time event</i> and put an on-going process into place. Contrast other Joint Agreements, which depending upon their preferences, generally find the best time of year to evaluate is in the winter or early springtime. Is the Board or the successful Superintendent candidate responsible to trigger the components of the Superintendent’s evaluation process? What evaluation instrument will be used? How will the evaluation be documented? Will an evaluation instrument be outlined by the Board in its employment contract with the successful Director candidate? Is the evaluation instrument the Board will use tied to its goals and indicators of student performance and academic improvement and other information as the Board may determine? For more information about best practices when planning for and evaluating the Director, see: <i>The Superintendent Evaluation Process</i> at: www.iasb.com/iasb/media/documents/Superintendent-evaluation-process.pdf;

Director Contract Term Considerations for the Board	Explanation, Special Considerations, and Resources
	IASB's <i>Foundational Principles of Effective Governance</i> , Principle 3. The board employs a Superintendent , at: www.iasb.com/conference-training-and-events/training/training-resources/foundational-principles-of-effective-governance/ ; stating "the board employs and evaluates one person — the Director — and holds that person accountable for performance and compliance with written board policy."

☐ **Expenses and Benefits**

Director Contract Term Considerations for the Board	Explanation, Special Considerations, and Resources
Expenses and Allowances	How will the Board address expenses and allowances in its employment contract negotiations with the successful Director candidate? <u>Business</u> 1. What standard will the Board use, e.g., reasonable, itemized, etc.? 2. Will the Board designate the Board Chair or another individual to review and/or approve the Director's expenses? <u>Transportation</u> Will the Board reimburse travel? If yes, what types of travel will the board reimburse? Some transportation topics that successful Director candidates request discussion about include: 1. Vehicle insurance reimbursement(s) 2. Vehicle repair reimbursement(s) 3. A travel allowance only at either a set amount or the Joint Agreement's per mile rate 4. A vehicle 5. Out-of-Joint Agreement travel
Insurance	Will the Board address insurance in its employment contract negotiations with the successful Director candidate? Some items successful Director candidates request include: 1. Insurance contributions as part of a Cafeteria Plan, or in the alternative, the Board paying the premiums.

Director Contract Term Considerations for the Board	Explanation, Special Considerations, and Resources
	Specific insurance coverages from the Board, such as health, dental, vision, life, disability, etc.
Vacation	Will the Board address vacation days in its employment contract negotiations with the successful Director candidate? If yes, then: - How many days? - Will vacation days accumulate? And, if so, how? - Will the Board designate itself, the Board Chair, or a Board officer to approve or receive notification from the Director prior to taking a vacation? If yes, describe the process. - Will the Board address reimbursement for unused days? - Will vacation days need to be used for days off during winter or spring breaks?
Sick Leave/Days	Will the Board address sick days in its employment contract negotiations with the successful Director candidate? If yes, then: - Will sick leave be limited to annual sick leave days in the Joint Agreement's teachers' contract or will a different amount be provided? - How will sick day accumulation be addressed? - Will the Board designate itself, the Board Chair, or a Board officer to approve or receive notification from the Director prior to taking or upon returning from a sick day? If yes, describe the process.
Professional Activities and Organizations Memberships in Community Organizations	Will the Board address memberships in professional activities/organizations and/or community organizations its employment contract negotiations with the successful Director candidate? If yes, then: - How many organizations will the Board allow the Director to join? - Which organizations will be allowed? - What is the Board's limit for the cost of dues to professional organizations?
Retirement	Will the Board address any type of payment(s) upon the Director's retirement? If yes, then: - Has the Board thoroughly examined and addressed: - Any consequences or other penalties to it?

Director Contract Term Considerations for the Board	Explanation, Special Considerations, and Resources
	b. The impact of any prior salary increases? c. Potential pension reform issues? 2. Often, a successful Director candidate's attorney has interest in the following issues: a. Available post-retirement options available, e.g., payments for sick/vacation days, post-retirement insurance, longevity annuity payment, etc. b. Whether a potential retirement payment will be properly creditable for TRS purposes. Note: Ultimately, only TRS has the authority to determine creditability.
Annuities and Other Deferred Compensation	Will the Board address any type of annuities and other deferred compensation issues? If yes, then: 1. Will it offer such compensation in addition to the Director's agreed-upon salary? 2. Will it contribute creditable earnings for TRS purposes?

☐ **Changes to the Director's Employment Contract**

Director Contract Term Considerations for the Board	Explanation, Special Considerations, and Resources
Non-Renewal at End of Contract	How will the Board and successful Director candidate agree to address orderly end to the employment contract when the Board chooses not to renew it? 1. Will there be a non-renewal notification date? Do both parties' attorneys find it reasonable? 2. Will the Board require the Director to remind it of the non-renewal date? 3. Will there be any agreement to a clause for an automatic one-year renewal if the Board fails to provide end-of-contract non-renewal notification? 4. Will the Board agree to language in the employment contract that would provide the Director with a hearing upon non-renewal?
Renewal at End of Contract	Will the Board agree to a procedure for renewing the employment contract at its end? If yes, then: 1. What date would be the earliest that the Board could renew its employment contract with the

Director Contract Term Considerations for the Board	Explanation, Special Considerations, and Resources
	Director? 2. What criteria will the Board base its renewal upon? For example, some boards base renewal upon Directors achieving their stated goals and indicators of student performance and academic improvement and other information they required.
Contract Extensions	Will the Board agree to allow for an extension of its employment contract during its term? If yes, then: 1. Will the Board agree to extend it during its term if the Board determines that the Director successfully met all of the Board's stated goals and indicators of student performance and academic improvement and other information it required? 2. Will the Board agree to extend a one-year contract when the Director is not required to meet any goals? See 105 ILCS 5/10-23.8.
Terminations	If the successful Director candidate accepts employment with the Board and becomes the Director, how will the Board outline the grounds and procedures for terminating the Director's employment during the contract's term? 1. Will the Board and the successful Director candidate agree to terminate it upon mutual agreement? 2. Will the Board allow retirement to be an appropriate reason for terminating its employment contract with the Director? And if so, will the Board require reasonable notice from its Director? 3. Could either the Board or Director terminate the employment contract without cause by providing notice to the other? 4. Will the Board terminate the employment contract for permanent disability of the Director? a. How will the Board define permanent disability in the contract? b. Will the Board require the Director to obtain a permanent disability determination through physician certification, and/or c. Will the Board consider duration of absence; e.g., 90-days after exhaustion of available

Director Contract Term Considerations for the Board	Explanation, Special Considerations, and Resources
	leave, whichever is greater? See PRESS sample policy 5:180, <i>Temporary Illness or Temporary Incapacity</i>. 5. What standard will the Board use to terminate the employment contract for cause? Items to consider include: a. Any conduct detrimental/prejudicial to the Joint Agreement;* b. Just cause; c. Sufficient to dismiss a tenured teacher; d. Material breach of contract; or e. Not arbitrary and capricious. *50 ILCS 205/3c, requires a Joint Agreement to post on its website and make available to news media specific information about severance agreements that it enters into because an employee or contractor was found to have engaged in sexual harassment or sexual discrimination, as defined by the Ill. Human Rights Act or Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. See Severance Pay row directly below. 6. Will the Board agree to provisions for hearing and due process for the Director? 7. How will the Board address death of its Director during the duration of the employment contract?
Severance Pay	Any renewal or renegotiation that adds a condition of severance pay must include the following provisions of GSPA, 5 ILCS 415/10(a)(1): A restriction to an amount not exceeding 20 weeks of compensation; and A prohibition for any severance if the Director is fired for <i>misconduct</i> by the Board. This law defines misconduct to include sexual harassment and/or discrimination. But 50 ILCS 205/3c limits sexual harassment or discrimination to instances when an employee is “found to have engaged in sexual harassment or sexual discrimination, as defined by the Ill. Human Rights Act or Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.” For more discussion about these laws,

Director Contract Term Considerations for the Board	Explanation, Special Considerations, and Resources
	see f/n 6 in policy 2:260, <i>Uniform Grievance Procedure</i> .
Liquidated Damages	Will the Board agree to liquidate damages with its Director if one or the other terminates the employment contract? 1. Have both the Board and the successful Director candidate discussed the practical consequences of a liquidated damages clause with their respective attorneys? 2. If the Board terminates the contract, has it discussed with the Board Attorney how it can avoid litigation with its former Director?
Amendments	How will the Board and Director agree to allow for amendments to the employment contract?

☐ **What technical clauses need to be in the Director's employment contract?**

Director Contract Term Considerations for the Board	Explanation, Special Considerations, and Resources
Technical clauses (common in contracts)	If the employment contract contains any of the following technical provisions, have the Board Attorney and Director's attorney reviewed them? 1. Notice 2. Applicable law 3. Headings and numbers 4. Complete understanding, i.e., do the Board members and Director share the same understanding of the various provisions written in the employment contract? 5. Counterparts 6. Effect of Policy Amendments 7. Severability 8. Advice of Counsel

☐ **Miscellaneous Issues**

Director Contract Term Considerations for the Board	Explanation, Special Considerations, and Resources
Board Obligations Under the Employment Contract	Do all members of the Board understand the Joint Agreement's obligations under the employment contract and what not complying with them will mean to the Joint Agreement? Specifically, are Board members aware of the Board's specific obligations regarding: 1. The Director Evaluation 2. Goal setting

Director Contract Term Considerations for the Board	Explanation, Special Considerations, and Resources
	3. Required notifications/actions by each party prior to termination of the employment contract
Ongoing Monitoring of Each Party's Compliance with the Contract	Are the Board and Director actually complying with the terms of the employment contract? Has the Board Attorney explained how the Board should monitor compliance with the employment contract?
Legislative Issues	How might pending pension reform legislation or other trending legislation affect the employment contract?

DATED: May 1, 2024

General Joint Agreement Administration

Administrative Personnel Other Than the Director

Duties and Authority

The Board of Control establishes Joint Agreement administrative and supervisory positions in accordance with the Joint Agreement's needs and State law. This policy applies to all administrators other than the Director, including without limitation, the Assistant Director. The general duties and authority of each administrative or supervisory position are approved by the Board, upon the Director's recommendation, and contained in the respective position's job description. In the event of a conflict, State law and/or the administrator's employment agreement shall control.

Qualifications

All administrative personnel shall be appropriately licensed and shall meet all applicable requirements contained in State law and Illinois State Board of Education rules.

Evaluation

The Director or designee shall evaluate all administrative personnel and make employment and salary recommendations to the Board.

Administrators shall annually present evidence to the Director of professional growth through attendance at educational conferences, additional schooling, in-service training, and Illinois Administrators' Academy courses, or through other means as approved by the Director.

Administrative Work Year

The work year for administrators shall be the same as the Joint Agreement's fiscal year, July 1 through June 30, unless otherwise stated in the employment agreement. In addition to legal holidays, administrators shall have vacation periods as approved by the Director. All administrators shall be available for work when their services are necessary.

Compensation and Benefits

The Board and each administrator shall enter into an employment agreement that complies with Board policy and State law. The terms of an individual employment contract, when in conflict with this policy, will control.

The Board will consider the Director's recommendations when setting compensation for individual administrators. These recommendations should be presented to the Board no later than the March Board meeting or at such earlier time that will allow the Board to consider contract renewal and nonrenewal issues.

Unless stated otherwise in individual employment contracts, all benefits and leaves of absence available to teaching personnel are available to administrative personnel.

LEGAL REF: 105 ILCS 5/10-21.4a, 5/10-23.8a, 5/10-23.8b, 5/21B, and 5/24A.
23 Ill.Admin.Code §§1.310, 1.705, and 50.300; and Parts 25 and 29.

CROSS REF: 3:60 (Administrative Responsibility of the Assistant Director), 4:165 (Awareness
and Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse and Grooming Behaviors), 4:175
(Convicted Child Sex Offender; Screening; Notifications), 5:30 (Hiring Process
and Criteria), 5:90 (Abused and Neglected Child Reporting), 5:120 (Employee
Ethics; Code of Professional Conduct; and Conflict of Interest), 5:150 (Personnel
Records), 5:210 (Resignations), 5:250 (Leaves of Absence), 5:290 (Employment
Termination and Suspensions)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

General Joint Agreement Administration

Administrative Responsibility of the Assistant Director

Duties and Authority

The Board of Control, upon the recommendation of the Director, employs an Assistant Director as the chief administrator and instructional leader. The primary responsibility of an Assistant Director is the improvement of instruction. The Assistant Director shall perform all duties as described in State law as well as such other duties as specified in his or her employment agreement or as the Director may assign, that are consistent with the Assistant Director's education and training. The Assistant Director shall complete State law requirements to be a prequalified evaluator before conducting an evaluation of a teacher.

Evaluation Plan

The Director or designee shall implement an evaluation plan for the Assistant Director that complies with Section 24A-15 of the School Code and relevant Illinois State Board of Education rules. Using that plan, the Director or designee shall evaluate the Assistant Director. The Director or designee may conduct additional evaluations.

Qualifications and Other Terms and Conditions of Employment

Qualifications and other terms and conditions of employment are found in Board policy 3:50, *Administrative Personnel Other Than the Director*.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/2-3.53a, 5/10-20.14, 5/10-21.4a, 5/10-23.8a, 5/10-23.8b, and 5/24A-15.
10 ILCS 5/4-6.2, Election Code.
105 ILCS 127/, School Reporting of Drug Violations Act.
23 Ill.Admin.Code Parts 35 and 50, Subpart D.

CROSS REF.: 3:50 (Administrative Personnel Other Than the Director), 4:165 (Awareness and Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse and Grooming Behaviors), 4:175 (Convicted Child Sex Offender; Screening; Notifications), 5:90 (Abused and Neglected Child Reporting), 5:120 (Employee Ethics; Code of Professional Conduct; and Conflict of Interest), 5:150 (Personnel Records), 5:210 (Resignations), 5:250 (Leaves of Absence), 5:290 (Employment Termination and Suspensions)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

General School Administration

Staff Supervision

Cooperative personnel are supervised by the Director, Assistant Directors, or Program Coordinators, or their respective designees. The Cooperative and its administrative staff are responsible for the supervision of the special education program housed in its educational facilities. The Member Districts and their administrative staff are responsible for the day-to-day operation and supervision of those programs housed in their facilities. Member Districts directly supervise their own employees.

The Cooperative is responsible for providing technical assistance and consultation to Member Districts, their administrators, and teachers regarding special education programs and services, including, without limitation, planning and conducting appropriate in-service activities and classroom visitations.

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

General Joint Agreement Administration

Succession of Authority

If the Director, Assistant Director, or other administrator is temporarily unavailable, the succession of authority and responsibility of the respective office shall follow a succession plan, developed by the Director and submitted to the Board of Control.

CROSS REF.: 1:20 (Joint Agreement Organization, Operations, and Cooperative Agreements),
 3:30 (Chain of Command)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

INDIAN VALLEY VOCATIONAL CENTER BOARD OF CONTROL POLICY MANUAL
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Because certain policy numbers are used for IASB sample policies, districts should use numbers ending in 2, 4, 6, or 8 for locally developed policies on topics not covered by IASB sample policies.

Operational Services

Fiscal and Business Management

The Director is responsible for the Joint Agreement's fiscal and business management. This responsibility includes annually preparing and presenting the Joint Agreement's statement of affairs to the Board of Control and publishing it before December 1 as required by State law.

The Director shall ensure the efficient and cost-effective operation of the Joint Agreement'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 Joint Agreement's electronic network shall complete an *Authorization for Access to the Joint Agreement's Electronic Network*.

Budget Planning

The Joint Agreement's fiscal year is from July 1 until June 30. The Director shall present to the Board, no later than the first regular 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 Joint Agreement's educational program. The Joint Agreement's budget shall be entered upon the Ill. State Board of Education's (ISBE) *School District/Joint Agreement Budget Form*. To the extent possible, the tentative budget shall be balanced as defined by ISBE guidelines.

Preliminary Adoption Procedures

After receiving the Director'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 Joint Agreement 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 1, or by such alternative procedure as State law may define. To the extent possible, the budget shall be balanced as defined by ISBE.

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 Director or designee shall perform each of the following:

1. Post the Joint Agreement's final annual budget, itemized by receipts and expenditures, on the Joint Agreement'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 Joint Agreement's Chief Fiscal Officer, with the County Clerk within 30 days of the budget's adoption.
3. Submit the annual budget, 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 Director or designee shall implement the Joint Agreement's budget and provide the Board with a monthly financial report. 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, 5/17-2A, 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.: 4:40 (Incurring Debt), 4:60 (Purchases and Contracts), 6:235 (Access to Electronic Networks)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Operational Services

Identity Protection

The collection, storage, use, and disclosure of social security numbers by the Joint Agreement shall be consistent with State and federal laws. The goals for managing the Joint Agreement's collection, storage, use, and disclosure of social security numbers are to:

1. Limit all activities involving social security numbers to those circumstances that are authorized by State or federal law.
2. Protect each social security number collected or maintained by the Joint Agreement from unauthorized disclosure.

The Director is responsible for ensuring that the Joint Agreement complies with the Identity Protection Act, 5 ILCS 179/. Compliance measures shall include each of the following:

1. All employees having access to social security numbers in the course of performing their duties shall be trained to protect the confidentiality of social security numbers. Training should include instructions on the proper handling of information containing social security numbers from the time of collection through the destruction of the information.
2. Only employees who are required to use or handle information or documents that contain social security numbers shall have access to such information or documents.
3. Social security numbers requested from an individual shall be provided in a manner that makes the social security number easily redacted if the record is required to be released as part of a public records request.
4. When collecting a social security number or upon request by an individual, a statement of the purpose(s) for which the Joint Agreement is collecting and using the social security number shall be provided. The stated reason for collection of the social security number must be relevant to the documented purpose.
5. All employees must be advised of this policy's existence, and a copy of the policy must be made available to each employee. The policy must also be made available to any member of the public, upon request.
6. If this policy is amended, employees will be advised of the existence of the amended policy and a copy of the amended policy will be made available to each employee.

No Joint Agreement employee shall collect, store, use, or disclose an individual's social security number unless specifically authorized by the Director. This policy shall not be interpreted as a guarantee of the confidentiality of social security numbers and/or other personal information. The Joint Agreement will use best efforts to comply with this policy, but this policy should not be construed to convey any rights to protection of information not otherwise afforded by law.

Treatment of Personally Identifiable Information Under Grant Awards

The Director ensures that the Joint Agreement takes reasonable measures to safeguard: (1) *protected personally identifiable information*, (2) other information that a federal awarding agency, pass-through agency or State awarding agency designates as sensitive, such as *personally identifiable information* (PII) and (3) information that the Joint Agreement considers to be sensitive consistent with applicable laws regarding privacy and confidentiality (collectively, *sensitive information*), when

administering federal grant awards and State grant awards governed by the Grant Accountability and Transparency Act (30 ILCS 708/).

The Director shall establish procedures for the identification, handling, storage, access, disposal and overall confidentiality of sensitive information. The Director shall ensure that employees and contractors responsible for the administration of a federal or State award for the Joint Agreement receive regular training in the safeguarding of sensitive information. Employees mishandling sensitive information are subject to discipline, up to and including dismissal.

LEGAL REF.: 2 C.F.R. §200.303(e).
 5 ILCS 179/, Identity Protection Act.
 30 ILCS 708/, Grant Accountability and Transparency Act
 50 ILCS 205/3, Local Records Act.
 105 ILCS 10/, Illinois School Student Records Act.

CROSS REF: 2:250 (Access to Joint Agreement Public Records), 5:150 (Personnel Records),
 7:340 (Student Records)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Operational Services

Revenue and Investments

Revenue

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

Investments

The Director shall either appoint a Chief Investment Officer or serve as one. The Chief Investment Officer shall invest money that is not required for current operations, in accordance with this policy and State law.

The Chief Investment Officer and Director 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 Joint Agreement'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 Joint Agreement 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 Chief Investment Officer may invest Joint Agreement funds in any investment as authorized in 30 ILCS 235/2, and Acts amended 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 Chief Investment Officer and Director 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 Chief Investment Officer 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 two 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 Joint Agreement 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, interest-bearing certificate of deposit, or interest-bearing time deposit if: (1) the Joint Agreement 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.

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 Director 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 Joint Agreement'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 Chief Investment Officer 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 Chief Investment Officer shall provide a quarterly investment report to the Board. The report will: (1) assess whether the investment portfolio is meeting the Joint Agreement'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 Joint Agreement, 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 Director's recommendation, which fund is in most need of interest income and the Director 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 Joint Agreement 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 Joint Agreement employee having influence on the Joint Agreement's investment decisions shall:

1. Have any interest, directly or indirectly, in any investments in which the Joint Agreement 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/, Ill. 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: May 1, 2024

Operational Services

Incurring Debt

The Director shall provide early notice to the Board of Control of the Indian Valley Vocational Center's need to borrow money. The Director should accompany any recommendation to borrow money with a statement describing the need for a loan and a plan for accomplishing the loan which includes the preparation of all necessary documents.

LEGAL REF.: Bond Authorization Act, 30 ILCS 305/2.
105 ILCS 5/10-22.31 and 5/18-20.

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

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Operational Services

Insufficient Fund Checks and Debt Recovery

Insufficient Fund Checks

The Director or designee is responsible for collecting up to the maximum fee authorized by State law for returned checks written to the Joint Agreement that are not honored upon presentation to the respective bank or other depository institution for any reason. The Director is authorized to contact the Board Attorney whenever necessary to collect the returned check amount, fee, collection costs and expenses, and interest.

Delinquent Debt Recovery

The Director is authorized to seek collection of delinquent debt owed the Joint Agreement to the fullest extent of the law.

LEGAL REF.: 15 ILCS 405/10.05 and 10.05d, State Comptroller Act.
 105 ILCS 123/, Hunger-Free Students' Bill of Rights Act.
 810 ILCS 5/3-806, Uniform Commercial Code.

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Operational Services

Payment Procedures

The Treasurer shall prepare a list of all due and payable bills, indicating vendor name and amount, and shall present it to the Board of Control in advance of the Board's first regular monthly meeting or, if necessary, a special meeting. These bills are reviewed by the Board, after which they may be approved for payment by Board order. Approval of all bills shall be given by a roll call vote and the votes shall be recorded in the minutes. The Treasurer shall pay the bills after receiving a Board order or pertinent portions of the Board minutes, even if the minutes are unapproved, provided the order or minutes are signed by the Board Chair and Secretary, or a majority of the Board.

The Treasurer is authorized, without further Board approval, to pay Social Security taxes, wages, pension contributions, utility bills, and other recurring bills. These disbursements shall be included in the listing of bills presented to the Board.

The Board authorizes the Director or designee to establish revolving funds and a petty cash fund system for cafeterias, lunchrooms, athletics, or similar purposes, provided such funds are maintained in accordance with Board policy 4:80, *Accounting and Audits*, and remain in the custody of an employee who is properly bonded according to State law.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/8-16, 5/10-7, and 5/10-20.19.
23 Ill.Admin.Code §100.70.

CROSS REF.: 4:55 (Use of Credit and Procurement Cards), 4:60 (Purchases and Contracts),
4:80 (Accounting and Audits)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Operational Services

Use of Credit and Procurement Cards

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

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

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

1. Credit and/or procurement cards may only be used to pay certain job-related expenses or to make purchases on behalf of the Board or Joint Agreement or any student activity fund, or for purposes that would otherwise be addressed through a conventional revolving fund.
2. The Director or designee shall instruct the issuing bank to block the cards' use at unapproved merchants.
3. Each cardholder, other than the Director, may charge no more than \$500 in a single purchase and no more than \$1000 within a given month without prior authorization from the Director.
4. The Director or designee must approve the use of a Joint Agreement credit or procurement card whenever such use is by telephone, fax, and the Internet. Permission shall be withheld when the use violates any Board policy, is from a vendor whose reputation has not been verified, or would be more expensive than if another available payment method were used.
5. The consequences for unauthorized purchases include, but are not limited to, reimbursing the Joint Agreement for the purchase amount, loss of cardholding privileges, and, if made by an employee, discipline up to and including discharge.
6. All cardholders must sign a statement affirming that they are familiar with this policy.
7. The Director shall implement a process whereby all purchases using a Joint Agreement credit or procurement card are reviewed and approved by someone other than the cardholder or someone under the cardholder's supervision.
8. Cardholders must submit the original, itemized receipt to document all purchases.
9. No individual may use a Joint Agreement credit or procurement card to make purchases in a manner contrary to State law, including, but not limited to, the bidding and other purchasing requirements in 105 ILCS 5/10-20.21, or any Board policy.
10. The Director or designee shall account for any financial or material reward or rebate offered by the company or institution issuing the Joint Agreement credit or procurement card and shall ensure that it is used for the Joint Agreement's benefit.

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

CROSS REF.: 4:50 (Payment Procedures), 4:60 (Purchases and Contracts), 4:80 (Accounting and Audits), 4:90 (Student Activity and Fiduciary Funds), 5:60 (Expenses)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Operational Services

Purchases and Contracts

The Director shall manage the Joint Agreement's purchases and contracts in accordance with State law, the standards set forth in this policy, and other applicable Board of Control policies.

Standards for Purchasing and Contracting

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

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

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

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

1. Supplies, materials, or work involving an expenditure in excess of \$25,000 must comply with the State law bidding procedure, 105 ILCS 5/10-20.21, unless specifically exempted.
2. Construction, lease, or purchase of school buildings must comply with State law and Board policy 4:150, *Facility Management and Building Programs*.
3. Guaranteed energy savings must comply with 105 ILCS 5/19b-1 et seq.
4. Third party non-instructional services must comply with 105 ILCS 5/10-22.34c.
5. Goods and services that are intended to generate revenue and other remunerations for the Joint Agreement in excess of \$1,000, including without limitation vending machine contracts, sports and other attire, class rings, and photographic services, must comply with 105 ILCS 5/10-20.21(b-5). The Director or designee shall keep a record of: (1) each vendor, product, or service provided, (2) the actual net revenue and non-monetary remuneration from each contract or agreement, and (3) how the revenue was used and to whom the non-monetary remuneration was distributed. The Director or designee shall report this information to the Board by completing the necessary forms that must be attached to the Joint Agreement's annual budget.
6. Any contract to purchase food with a bidder or offeror must comply with 105 ILCS 5/10-20.21(b-10).
7. The purchase of paper and paper products must comply with 105 ILCS 5/10-20.19c and Board policy 4:70, *Resource Conservation*.
8. Each contractor with the Joint Agreement is bound by each of the following:
 - a. In accordance with 105 ILCS 5/10-21.9(f): (1) prohibit any of its employees who is or was found guilty of a criminal offense listed in 105 ILCS 5/10-21.9(c) and 5/21B-80(c) to have direct, daily contact at a Joint Agreement or Joint Agreement-related activity with one or more student(s); (2) prohibit any of the contractor's employees from having direct, daily contact with one or more students if the employee was found guilty of any offense in 5/21B-80(b) (certain drug offenses) until seven years following the end of the

employee's sentence for the criminal offense; and (3) require each of its employees who will have direct, daily contact with student(s) to cooperate during the Joint Agreement's fingerprint-based criminal history records check on him or her.

- b. In accordance with 105 ILCS 5/22-94: (1) prohibit any of its employees from having *direct contact with children or students* if the contractor has not performed a sexual misconduct related employment history review (EHR) of the employee or if the Joint Agreement objects to the employee's assignment based on the employee's involvement in an instance of sexual misconduct as provided in 105 ILCS 5/22-94(j)(3), which the contractor is required to disclose; (2) discipline, up to and including termination or denial of employment, any employee who provides false information or willfully fails to disclose information required by the EHR; (3) maintain all records of EHRs and provide the Joint Agreement access to such records upon request; and (4) refrain from entering into any agreements prohibited by 105 ILCS 5/22-94(g).
 - c. In accordance with 105 ILCS 5/24-5: (1) concerning each new employee of a contractor that provides services to students or in schools, provide the Joint Agreement with evidence of physical fitness to perform the duties assigned and freedom from communicable disease; and (2) require any new or existing employee who provides services to students or in schools to complete additional health examinations as required by the Joint Agreement and be subject to additional health examinations, including tuberculosis screening, as required by the Ill. Dept. of Public Health rules or order of a local health official.
9. Any pavement engineering project using a coal tar-based sealant product or high polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon sealant product for pavement engineering-related use must comply with the Coal Tar Sealant Disclosure Act.
10. Purchases made with federal or State awards must comply with 2 C.F.R. Part 200 and 30 ILCS 708/, as applicable, and any terms of the award.

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

LEGAL REF.: 2 C.F.R. Part 200.
105 ILCS 5/10-20.19c, 5/10-20.21, 5/10-21.9, 5/10-22.34c, 5/19b-1 et seq., 5/22-94, and 5/24-5.
30 ILCS 708/, Grant Accountability and Transparency Act.
410 ILCS 170/, Coal Tar Sealant Disclosure Act.
820 ILCS 130/, Prevailing Wage Act.

CROSS REF.: 2:100 (Board Member Conflict of Interest), 4:70 (Resource Conservation), 4:150 (Facility Management and Building Programs), 4:175 (Convicted Child Sex Offender; Screening; Notifications), 5:90 (Abused and Neglected Child Reporting)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Operational Services

Resource Conservation

The Director or designee shall manage a program of energy and resource conservation for the Joint Agreement that includes:

1. Periodic review of procurement procedures and specifications to ensure that purchased products and supplies are reusable, durable, or made from recycled materials, if economically and practically feasible.
2. Purchasing recycled paper and paper products in amounts that will, at a minimum, meet the specifications in the School Code, if economically and practically feasible.
3. Periodic review of procedures on the reduction of solid waste generated by academic, administrative, and other institutional functions. These procedures shall: (a) require recycling the Joint Agreement's waste stream, including landscape waste, computer paper, and white office paper, if economically and practically feasible; (b) include investigation of the feasibility of potential markets for other recyclable materials that are present in the Joint Agreement's waste stream; and (c) be designed to achieve, before July 1, 2020, at least a 50% reduction in the amount of solid waste that is generated by the Joint Agreement.
4. Adherence to energy conservation measures.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/10-20.19c and 5/19b.

CROSS REF.: 4:60 (Purchases and Contracts), 4:150 (Facility Management and Building Programs)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Operational Services

Accounting and Audits

The Joint Agreement's accounting and audit services shall comply with the *Requirements for Accounting, Budgeting, Financial Reporting, and Auditing*, as adopted by the Ill. State Board of Education (ISBE), State and federal laws and regulations, and generally accepted accounting principles. Determination of liabilities and assets, prioritization of expenditures of governmental funds, and provisions for accounting disclosures shall be made in accordance with government accounting standards as directed by the auditor designated by the Board. The Director, in addition to other assigned financial responsibilities, shall report monthly on the Joint Agreement'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 Director shall arrange an audit of the Joint Agreement 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 Director. The Director shall annually, on or before October 15, submit an original and one copy of the audit to the Regional Superintendent of Schools.

Annual Financial Report

The Director or designee shall annually prepare and submit the Annual Financial Report on a timely basis using the form adopted by the ISBE. The Director shall review and discuss the Annual Financial Report with the Board before it is submitted.

Inventories

The Director 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 Joint Agreement 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 Director shall establish procedures for the management of property acquired by the Joint Agreement 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 \$5,000 and have an estimated useful life greater than one year.

Disposition of Joint Agreement Property

The Director or designee shall notify the Board, as necessary, of the following so that the Board may consider its disposition: (1) Joint Agreement 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 Director or designee may unilaterally dispose of personal property of a diminutive value. The Director shall establish procedures for the disposition of property acquired by the Joint Agreement under grant awards that comply with federal and State law.

Taxable Fringe Benefits

The Director or designee shall: (1) require that all use of Joint Agreement property or equipment by employees is for the Joint Agreement'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 Joint Agreement 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 Director 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. Bank accounts for revolving funds are limited to a maximum balance of \$500.00. 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 Director 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 Joint Agreement's or a Joint Agreement name or with the Joint Agreement's Federal Employer Identification Number. All checks issued by the School District must be signed by either the Student Services Professional or the Bookkeeper, except 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 Director is primarily responsible for establishing and implementing a system of internal controls for safeguarding the Joint Agreement'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 Joint Agreement'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. Joint Agreement 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 Director or designee shall annually audit the Joint Agreement'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.Adm.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 and Procurement Cards), 4:90 (Student Activity and Fiduciary Funds)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Operational Services

Student Activity and Fiduciary Funds

The Board of Control, upon the Director or designee's recommendation, establishes student activity funds to be managed by student organizations under the guidance and direction of a staff member for educational, recreational, or cultural purposes. The Board, upon the Director or designee's recommendation, also establishes fiduciary funds to be supervised by the Director or designee. The Joint Agreement has custodial responsibilities for fiduciary funds but no direct involvement in the management of such funds.

Student Activity Funds

The Director or designee shall be responsible for supervising student activity funds in accordance with Board policy, 4:80, *Accounting and Audits*; State law; and the Ill. State Board of Education (ISBE) rules for student activity funds. The Board will appoint a treasurer for each fund to serve as the fund's sole custodian and be bonded in accordance with the School Code. The treasurer shall have all of the responsibilities specific to the treasurer listed in ISBE rules for school activity funds, except that the treasurer is not authorized to make loans between activity funds.

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

Fiduciary Funds

The Director or designee shall be responsible for supervising fiduciary funds in accordance with Board policy 4:80, *Accounting and Audits*; State law; and ISBE rules for fiduciary funds. The Board will appoint a treasurer for each fund to serve as the fund's sole custodian and be bonded in accordance with the School Code. The treasurer shall have all of the responsibilities specific to the treasurer listed in the ISBE rules for fiduciary funds.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/8-2 and 5/10-20.19.
23 Ill.Admin.Code §§100.20, 100.80, and 100.85.

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

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Operational Services

Insurance Management

The Director shall recommend and maintain all insurance programs that provide the broadest and most complete coverage available at the most economical cost, consistent with sound insurance principles.

The insurance program shall include each of the following:

1. Liability coverage to insure against any loss or liability of the Joint Agreement and the listed individuals against civil rights damage claims and suits, constitutional rights damage claims and suits, and death and bodily injury and property damage claims and suits, including defense costs, when damages are sought for negligent or wrongful acts allegedly committed in the scope of employment or under the Board's direction or related to any mentoring services provided to the Joint Agreement's licensed staff members; Board of Control members; employees; volunteer personnel authorized by 105 ILCS 5/10-22.34, 5/10-22.34a, and 5/10-22.34b; mentors of licensed staff members authorized in 105 ILCS 5/21A-5 et seq. (new teacher), 105 ILCS 5/2-3.53a (Assistant Director), and 2-3.53b (new Directors); and student teachers.
2. Comprehensive property insurance covering a broad range of causes of loss involving building and personal property. The coverage amount shall normally be for the replacement cost or the insurable value.
3. Workers' Compensation to protect individual employees against financial loss in case of a work-related injury, certain types of disease, or death incurred in an employee-related situation.

LEGAL REF.: Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act, Pub. L. 99-272, §10001, 26 U.S.C. §4980B(f), 42 U.S.C. §300bb-1 et seq.
105 ILCS 5/2-3.53a, 5/2-3.53b, 5/10-20.20, 5/10-22.3, 5/10-22.3a, 5/10-22.3b, 5/10-22.3f, 5/10-22.34, 5/10-22.34a, 5/10-22.34b, 5/21A-5 et seq., and 5/22-15.
215 ILCS 5/, Ill. Insurance Code.
750 ILCS 75/, Ill. Religious Freedom Protection and Civil Union Act.
820 ILCS 305/, Workers' Compensation Act.

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Operational Services

Transportation

Transportation to and from Joint Agreement programs and schools shall be the responsibility of the district of residence.

No school employee may transport students in school or private vehicles unless authorized by the administration.

All contracts for charter bus services must contain the clause prescribed by State law regarding criminal background checks for bus drivers.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/10-22.22 and 5/29-1 et seq.
625 ILCS 5/12-815 and 5/12-821.

CROSS REF.: 4:170 (Safety), 5:100 (Staff Development Program), 5:120 (Ethics and Conduct),
5:280 (Educational Support Personnel - Duties and Qualifications), 6:170 (Title I
Programs)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Operational Services

Waiver of Student Fees

The Director will recommend to the Board of Control a schedule of fees, if any, to be charged students for the use of textbooks, consumable materials, extracurricular activities, and other school student fees. Students must also pay fines for the loss of or damage to school books or other school owned materials.

Fees for textbooks and other instructional materials, as well as fines for the loss or damage of school property are waived for students who meet the eligibility criteria for a waiver as described in this policy. In order that no student is denied educational services or academic credit due to the inability of parents/guardians to pay student fees and fines, the Director will recommend to the Board which additional fees and fines, if any, the Joint Agreement will waive for students who meet the eligibility criteria for a waiver.

Notification

The Director shall ensure that a notice of waiver applicability 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 Ill. State Board of Education (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).

The Director or designee will give additional consideration when one or more of the following factors are present:

- Illness in the family;
- Unusual expenses such as fire, flood, storm damage, etc.;
- Unemployment;
- Emergency situations;
- When one or more of the parents/guardians are involved in a work stoppage.

Verification

The Director 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 Director or designee shall notify the student's parent/guardian and charge the student a prorated amount based upon the number of school days remaining in the school year.

Determination and Appeal

Within 30 calendar days after the receipt of a waiver request, the Director 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 Joint Agreement 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, 5/27-24.2, and 5/28-19.2.
23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.245 [may contain unenforceable provisions].

CROSS REF.: 6:220 (Bring Your Own Technology (BYOT) Program; Responsible Use and Conduct)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Joint Agreement Operational Services

Facility Management and Building Programs

The Director shall manage the Joint Agreement's facilities and grounds as well as facility construction and building programs in accordance with the law, the standards set forth in this policy, and other applicable Board of Control policies. The Director or designee shall facilitate: (1) inspections of schools by the Regional Superintendent and State Fire Marshal or designee, (2) review of plans and specifications for future construction or alterations of a school if requested by the relevant municipality, county (if applicable), or fire protection district, and (3) compliance with the 10-year safety survey process required by the School Code.

Standards for Managing Buildings and Grounds

All Joint Agreement buildings and grounds shall be adequately maintained in order to provide an appropriate, safe, and energy efficient physical environment for learning and teaching. The Director or designee shall provide the Board with periodic reports on maintenance data and projected maintenance needs that include cost analysis. Prior Board approval is needed for all renovations or permanent alterations to buildings or grounds when the total cost will exceed \$12,500, including the cost equivalent of staff time. This policy is not intended to discourage efforts to improve the appearance of buildings or grounds that are consistent with the designated use of those buildings and grounds.

Standards for Green Cleaning

For each Joint Agreement with 50 or more students, the Director or designee shall establish and supervise a green cleaning program that complies with the guidelines established by the Illinois Green Government Coordinating Council.

Standards for Facility Construction and Building Programs

As appropriate, the Board will authorize a comprehensive study to determine the need for facility construction and expansion. On an annual basis, the Director or designee shall provide the Board with projected facility needs, enrollment trends, and other data impacting facility use. Board approval is needed for all new facility construction and expansion.

When making decisions pertaining to design and construction of school facilities, the Board will confer with members of the staff and community, the Ill. State Board of Education, and educational and architectural consultants, as it deems appropriate. The Board's facility goals are to:

1. Integrate facilities planning with other aspects of planning and goal-setting.
2. Base educational specifications for school buildings on identifiable student needs.
3. Design buildings for sufficient flexibility to permit new or modified programs.
4. Design buildings for maximum potential for community use.
5. Meet or exceed all safety requirements.
6. Meet requirements on the accessibility of school facilities to disabled persons as specified in State and federal law.
7. Provide for low maintenance costs, energy efficiency, and minimal environmental impact.

LEGAL REF.: 42 U.S.C. §12101 et seq., Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, implemented by 28 C.F.R. Parts 35 and 36.
20 ILCS 3130/, Green Buildings Act.
105 ILCS 5/2-3.12, 5/10-20.49, 5/10-22.36, 5/10-20.63, and 5/17-2.11.
105 ILCS 140/, Green Cleaning Schools Act.
105 ILCS 230/, School Construction Law.
410 ILCS 25/, Environmental Barriers Act.
410 ILCS 35/25, Equitable Restrooms Act.
820 ILCS 130/, Prevailing Wage Act.
23 Ill.Admin.Code Part 151, School Construction Program; Part 180, Health/Life Safety Code for Public Schools; and Part 2800, Green Cleaning for Elementary and Secondary Schools.
71 Ill.Admin.Code Part 400, Ill. Accessibility Code.

CROSS REF.: 2:150 (Committees), 2:170 (Procurement of Architectural, Engineering, and Land Surveying Services), 4:60 (Purchases and Contracts), 8:70 (Accommodating Individuals with Disabilities)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Operational Services

Environmental Quality of Buildings and Grounds

The Director shall take all reasonable measures to protect: (1) the safety of Joint Agreement personnel, students, and visitors on Joint Agreement premises from risks associated with hazardous materials, and (2) the environmental quality of the Joint Agreement's buildings and grounds.

Pesticides

Restricted use pesticides will not be applied on or within 500 feet of school property during normal school hours. The Director or designee shall maintain a registry of employees and parents/guardians of students requesting notification before the application of pesticide(s) and notify these people as required by the Structural Pest Control Act, 225 ILCS 235/, and the Lawn Care Products Application and Notice Act, 415 ILCS 65/.

Coal Tar Sealant

Beginning on 1-1-23, before coal tar-based sealant products or high polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon sealant products are used on Joint Agreement premises, the Director or designee shall notify employees and parents/guardians of students in writing or by telephone as required by the Coal Tar Sealant Disclosure Act.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/10-20.17a; 5/10-20.48.
29 C.F.R. §1910.1030, Occupational Exposure to Bloodborne Pathogens, as adopted by the Illinois Department of Labor, 56 Ill.Admin.Code §350.700(b).
29 C.F.R. §1910.1200, Occupational Safety and Health Administration Hazard Communication Standards, as adopted by 820 ILCS 255/1.5, Toxic Substances Disclosure to Employees Act.
20 ILCS 3130/, Green Buildings Act.
105 ILCS 135/, Toxic Art Supplies in Schools Act.
105 ILCS 140/, Green Cleaning School Act.
225 ILCS 235/, Structural Pest Control Act.
415 ILCS 60/14, Illinois Pesticide Act.
415 ILCS 65/, Lawn Care Products Application and Notice Act.
410 ILCS 170/, Coal Tar Sealant Disclosure Act.
820 ILCS 255/, Toxic Substances Disclosure to Employees Act. (*inoperative*)
23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.330.

CROSS REF.: 4:150 (Facility Management and Building Programs), 4:170 (Safety)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Operational Services

Awareness and Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse and Grooming Behaviors

Child sexual abuse and grooming behaviors harm students, their parents/guardians, the Joint Agreement's environment, its school communities, and the community at large, while diminishing a student's ability to learn. The Board has a responsibility and obligation to increase awareness and knowledge of: (1) issues regarding child sexual abuse, (2) likely warning signs that a child may be a victim of sexual abuse, (3) grooming behaviors related to child sexual abuse and grooming, (4) how to report child sexual abuse, (5) appropriate relationships between Joint Agreement employees and students based upon State law, and (6) how to prevent child sexual abuse.

To address the Board's obligation to increase awareness and knowledge of these issues, prevent sexual abuse of children, and define prohibited grooming behaviors, the Director or designee shall implement an Awareness and Prevention of Sexual Abuse and Grooming Behaviors Program. The Program will:

1. Educate students with:
 - a. An age-appropriate and evidence-informed health and safety education curriculum that includes methods for how to report child sexual abuse and grooming behaviors to authorities, through policy 6:60, *Curriculum Content*;
 - b. Information in policy 7:250, *Student Support Services*, about: (i) Joint Agreement counseling options, assistance, and intervention for students who are victims of or affected by sexual abuse, and (ii) community-based Children's Advocacy Centers and sexual assault crisis centers and how to access those serving the Joint Agreement.
2. Train Joint Agreement employees about child sexual abuse and grooming behaviors by January 31 of each school year with materials that include:
 - a. A definition of prohibited grooming behaviors and employee-student boundary violations pursuant to policy 5:120, *Employee Ethics; Code of Professional Conduct; and Conflict of Interest*;
 - b. Evidence-informed content on preventing, recognizing, reporting, and responding to child sexual abuse, grooming behaviors, and employee-student boundary violations pursuant to policies 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*; 2:265, *Title IX Sexual Harassment Grievance Procedure*; 5:90, *Abused and Neglected Child Reporting*; 5:100, *Staff Development Program*; and 5:120, *Employee Ethics; Code of Professional Conduct; and Conflict of Interest*; and
 - c. How to report child sexual abuse, grooming behaviors, and/or employee-student boundary violations pursuant to policies 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*; 2:265, *Title IX Sexual Harassment Grievance Procedure*; and 5:90, *Abused and Neglected Child Reporting*.
3. Provide information to parents/guardians in student handbooks about the warning signs of child sexual abuse, grooming behaviors, and employee-student boundary violations with evidence-informed educational information that also includes:

- a. Assistance, referral, or resource information, including how to recognize grooming behaviors, appropriate relationships between Joint Agreement employees and students based upon policy 5:120, *Employee Ethics; Code of Professional Conduct; and Conflict of Interest*, and how to prevent child sexual abuse from happening;
- b. Methods for how to report child sexual abuse, grooming behaviors, and/or employee-student boundary violations to authorities; and
- c. Available counseling and resources for children who are affected by sexual abuse, including both emotional and educational support for students affected by sexual abuse, so that the student can continue to succeed in school pursuant to policy 7:250, *Student Support Services*.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/10-23.13, 5/22-85.5, 5/27-9.1a, and 5/27-13.2.
 105 ILCS 110/3, Critical Health Problems and Comprehensive Health Education Act.
 325 ILCS 5/, Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act.
 720 ILCS 5/11-25, Criminal Code of 2012.

CROSS REF.: 2:260 (Uniform Grievance Procedure), 2:265 (Title IX Sexual Harassment Grievance Procedure), 4:175 (Convicted Child Sex Offender; Screening; Notifications), 5:90 (Abused and Neglected Child Reporting), 5:100 (Staff Development Program), 5:120 (Employee Ethics; Code of Professional Conduct; and Conflict of Interest), 6:60 (Curriculum Content), 7:20 (Harassment of Students Prohibited), 7:250 (Student Support Services)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Operational Services

Safety

Safety and Security

All Joint Agreement operations, including the education program, shall be conducted in a manner that will promote the safety and security of everyone on Joint Agreement property or at a Joint Agreement event. The Director or designee shall develop, implement, and maintain a comprehensive safety and security plan that includes, without limitation:

1. An emergency operations and crisis response plan(s) addressing prevention, preparation, response, and recovery for each school;
2. Provisions for a coordinated effort with local law enforcement and fire officials, emergency medical services personnel, and the Board Attorney;
3. A school safety drill plan; and
4. A clear, rapid, factual, and coordinated system of internal and external communication.

In the event of an emergency that threatens the safety of any person or property, students and staff are encouraged to follow the best practices discussed for their building regarding the use of any available cellular telephones.

Joint Agreement Safety Drill Plan

During every academic year, each school building that houses school children shall conduct, at a minimum, each of the following in accordance with the School Safety Drill Act (105 ILCS 128/):

1. Three school evacuation drills to address and prepare students and school personnel for fire incidents. One of these three drills shall require the participation of the local fire department or Joint Agreement.
2. One severe weather and shelter-in-place drill to address and prepare students and school personnel for possible tornado incidents.
3. One law enforcement lockdown drill to address a school shooting incident and to evaluate the preparedness of school personnel and students. This drill shall occur no later than 90 days after the first day of school of each year, and shall require the participation of all personnel and students present at the time of the drill, except for those exempted by administrators, school support personnel, or a parent/guardian.

Annual Review

The Board or its designee will annually review each school building's emergency operations and crisis response plan(s), protocols, and procedures, as well as each building's compliance with the school safety drill plan. This annual review shall be in accordance with the School Safety Drill Act (105 ILCS 128/) and the Joint Rules of the Office of the State Fire Marshal and the Ill. State Board of Education (ISBE). 29 Ill.Admin.Code Part 1500.

Automated External Defibrillator (AED)

The Director or designee shall implement a written plan for responding to medical emergencies at the Joint Agreement's physical fitness facilities in accordance with the Fitness Facility Medical Emergency Preparedness Act and shall file a copy of the plan with the Ill. Dept. of Public Health

(IDPH). The plan shall provide for at least one automated external defibrillator (AED) to be available at every physical fitness facility on the premises according to State law requirements.

The Joint Agreement shall have an AED on site as well as a trained AED user: (1) on staff during staffed business hours; and (2) available during activities or events sponsored and conducted or supervised by the Joint Agreement. The Director or designee shall ensure that every AED on the Joint Agreement's premises is properly tested and maintained in accordance with rules developed by the IDPH. This policy does not create an obligation to use an AED.

Carbon Monoxide Alarms

The Director or designee shall implement a plan with the Joint Agreement's local fire officials to:

1. Determine which school buildings to equip with approved *carbon monoxide alarms* or *carbon monoxide detectors*,
2. Locate the required carbon monoxide alarms or carbon monoxide detectors within 20 feet of a carbon monoxide emitting device, and
3. Incorporate carbon monoxide alarm or detector activation procedures into each school building that requires a carbon monoxide alarm or detector. The Director or designee shall ensure each school building annually reviews these procedures.

Lead Testing in Water

The Director or designee shall implement testing for lead in each source of drinking water in school buildings in accordance with the Ill. Plumbing License Law and guidance published by the IDPH. The Director or designee shall notify parent(s)/guardian(s) about the sampling results from their children's respective school buildings.

Emergency Closing

The Director is authorized to close school(s) in the event of hazardous weather or other emergency that threatens the safety of students, staff members, or school property.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/10-20.2, 5/10-20.57, 5/18-12, and 5/18-12.5.
105 ILCS 128/, School Safety Drill Act; 29 Ill.Admin.Code Part 1500.
210 ILCS 74/, Physical Fitness Facility Medical Emergency Preparedness Act.
225 ILCS 320/35.5, Ill. Plumbing License Law.

CROSS REF.: 4:110 (Transportation), 4:175 (Convicted Child Sex Offender; Screening; Notifications), 4:180 (Pandemic Preparedness; Management; and Recovery), 5:30 (Hiring Process and Criteria), 8:30 (Visitors to and Conduct on Joint Agreement Property), 8:100 (Relations with Other Organizations and Agencies)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Operational Services

Convicted Child Sex Offender; Screening; Notifications

Persons Prohibited on Joint Agreement Property without Prior Permission

State law prohibits a child sex offender from being present on Joint Agreement property or loitering within 500 feet of Joint Agreement property when persons under the age of 18 are present, unless the offender meets either of the following two exceptions:

1. The offender is a parent/guardian of a student attending the Joint Agreement and has notified the Assistant Director of his or her presence at the Joint Agreement for the purpose of: (i) attending a conference 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. The offender received permission to be present from the Board of Control, Director, or Director's designee. If permission is granted, the Director or Board Chair shall provide the details of the offender's upcoming visit to the Assistant Director.

In all cases, the Director or designee shall supervise a child sex offender whenever the offender is in a child's vicinity. If a student is a sex offender, the Director or designee shall develop guidelines for managing his or her presence in school.

Screening

The Director or designee shall perform fingerprint-based criminal history records information checks and/or screenings required by State law or Board policy for employees; student teachers; students doing field or clinical experience other than student teaching; contractors' employees who have direct, daily contact with one or more children; and resource persons and volunteers. The Board Chair shall ensure that these checks are completed for the Director. He or she shall take appropriate action based on the result of any criminal background check and/or screen.

Notification to Parents/Guardians

The Director shall develop procedures for the distribution and use of information from law enforcement officials under the Sex Offender Community Notification Law and the Murderer and Violent Offender Against Youth Community Notification Law. The Director or designee shall serve as the Joint Agreement contact person for purposes of these laws. The Director and Assistant Director shall manage a process for Joint Agreements to notify the parents/guardians during school registration that information about sex offenders is available to the public as provided in the Sex Offender Community Notification Law. This notification must occur during school registration and at other times as the Director or Assistant Director determines advisable.

LEGAL REF.: 20 U.S.C. §7926, Elementary and Secondary Education Act.
20 ILCS 2635/, Uniform Conviction Information Act.
720 ILCS 5/11-9.3, Criminal Code of 2012.
730 ILCS 152/, Sex Offender Community Notification Law.
730 ILCS 154/75-105, Murderer and Violent Offender Against Youth Community Notification Law.

CROSS REF.: 2:110 (Qualifications, Term, and Duties of Board Officers), 3:40 (Director), 3:50 (Administrative Personnel Other Than the Director), 3:60 (Administrative Responsibility of the Assistant Director), 4:165 (Awareness and Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse and Grooming Behaviors), 5:30 (Hiring Process and Criteria), 5:260 (Student Teachers), 6:250 (Community Resource Persons and Volunteers), 8:30 (Visitors to and Conduct on Joint Agreement Property), 8:100 (Relations with Other Organizations and Agencies)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Operational Services

Pandemic Preparedness; Management; and Recovery

The Board of Control recognizes that the Joint Agreement will play an essential role along with the local health department and emergency management agencies in protecting the public's health and safety during a pandemic.

A pandemic is a global outbreak of disease. Pandemics happen when a new virus emerges to infect individuals and, because there is little to no pre-existing immunity against the new virus, it spreads sustainably.

To prepare the Joint Agreement community for a pandemic, the Director or designee shall: (1) learn and understand how the roles that the federal, State, and local government function; (2) form a pandemic planning team consisting of appropriate Joint Agreement personnel and community members to identify priorities and oversee the development and implementation of a comprehensive pandemic school action plan; and (3) build awareness of the final plan among staff, students, and community.

Emergency Joint Agreement Closing

In the case of a pandemic, the Governor may declare a disaster due to a public health emergency that may affect any decision for an emergency school closing. Decisions for an emergency school closing will be made by the Director in consultation with and, if necessary, at the direction of the Governor, Ill. Dept. of Public Health, Joint Agreement's local health department, emergency management agencies, and/or Regional Office of Education.

During an emergency closing, the Board Chair and the Director may, to the extent the emergency situation allows, examine existing Board policies pursuant to Policy 2:240, *Board Policy Development*, and recommend to the Board for consideration any needed amendments or suspensions to address mandates that the Joint Agreement may not be able to accomplish or implement due to a pandemic.

Board Meeting Procedure; No Physical Presence of Quorum and Participation by Audio or Video

A disaster declaration related to a public health emergency may affect the Board's ability to meet in person and generate a quorum of members who are physically present at the location of a meeting. Policy 2:220, *Board of Control Meeting Procedure*, governs Board meetings by video or audio conference without the physical presence of a quorum.

Payment of Employee Salaries During Emergency Joint Agreement Closures

The Director shall consult with the Board to determine the extent to which continued payment of salaries and benefits will be made to the Joint Agreement's employees, pursuant to Board policies 3:40, *Director*, 3:50, *Administrative Personnel Other Than the Director*, 5:35, *Compliance with the Fair Labor Standards Act*, 5:200, *Terms and Conditions of Employment and Dismissal*, and 5:270, *Employment At-Will, Compensation, and Assignment*, and consistent with: (1) applicable laws, regulations, federal or State or local emergency declarations, executive orders, and agency directives; (2) collective bargaining agreements and any bargaining obligations; and (3) the terms of any grant under which an employee is being paid.

Suspension of In-Person Instruction; Remote and/or Blended Remote Learning Day Plan(s)

When the Governor declares a disaster due to a public health emergency pursuant to 20 ILCS 3305/7, and the State Superintendent of Education declares a requirement for the Joint Agreement to use *Remote Learning Days* or *Blended Remote Learning Days*, the Director shall approve and present to the Board for adoption a Remote and/or Blended Remote Learning Day Plan (Plan) that:

1. Recommends to the Board for consideration any suspensions or amendments to curriculum-related policies to reduce any Board-required graduation or other instructional requirements in excess of minimum curricular requirements specified in School Code that the Joint Agreement may not be able to provide due to the pandemic;
2. Implements the requirements of 105 ILCS 5/10-30, by adapting into a Plan the Joint Agreement's e-learning program implemented pursuant to 105 ILCS 5/10-20.56; and
3. Ensures a plan for periodic review of and/or amendments to the Plan when needed and/or required by statute, regulation, or State guidance.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/10-16.7, 5/10-20.5, 5/10-20.56, and 5/10-30.
5 ILCS 120/2.01 and 120/7(e), Open Meetings Act.
20 ILCS 2305/2(b), Ill. Dept. of Public Health Act (Part 1).
20 ILCS 3305/, Ill. Emergency Management Agency Act.
115 ILCS 5/, Ill. Educational Labor Relations Act.

CROSS REF.: 2:20 (Powers and Duties of the Board of Control; Indemnification), 2:220 (Board of Control Meeting Procedure), 2:240 (Board Policy Development), 3:40 (Director), 3:50 (Administrative Personnel Other Than the Director), 3:70 (Succession of Authority), 4:170 (Safety), 5:35 (Compliance with the Fair Labor Standards Act), 5:200 (Terms and Conditions of Employment and Dismissal), 5:270 (Employment At-Will, Compensation, and Assignment), 6:20 (Joint Agreement Year Calendar and Day), 6:60 (Curriculum Content), 6:300 (Graduation Requirements), 7:90 (Release During Joint Agreement Hours), 8:100 (Relations with Other Organizations and Agencies)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Operational Services

Targeted Joint Agreement Violence Prevention Program

Threats and acts of targeted school violence harm the Joint Agreement's environment and community, diminishing students' ability to learn and a Joint Agreement's ability to educate. Providing students and staff with access to a safe and secure Joint Agreement environment is an important Board goal. While it is not possible for the Joint Agreement to completely eliminate threats in its environment, a Targeted Joint Agreement Violence Prevention Program (Program) using the collective efforts of local school officials, staff, students, families, and the community helps the Joint Agreement reduce these risks to its environment.

The Director or designee shall develop and implement the Program. The Program oversees the maintenance of a Joint Agreement environment that is conducive to learning and working by identifying, assessing, classifying, responding to, and managing threats and acts of targeted school violence. The Program shall be part of the Joint Agreement's Comprehensive Safety and Security Plan, required by Board policy 4:170, *Safety*, and shall:

1. Establish a District-level School Violence Prevention Team to: (a) develop a District-level Targeted School Violence Prevention Plan, and (b) oversee the Joint Agreement's Building-level Threat Assessment Team(s).
2. Establish Building-level Threat Assessment Team(s) to assess and intervene with individuals whose behavior may pose a threat to safety. This team may serve one or more Joint Agreement.
3. Comply with State and federal law and align with Board policies.

The Local Governmental and Governmental Employees Tort Immunity Act protects the Joint Agreement from liability. The Program does not: (1) replace the care of a physician licensed to practice medicine in all of its branches or a licensed medical practitioner or professional trained in violence prevention, assessments and counseling services, (2) extend beyond available resources within the Joint Agreement, (3) extend beyond the school day and/or school-sponsored events, or (4) guarantee or ensure the safety of students, Joint Agreement staff, or visitors.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/10-20.14, 5/10-21.7, 5/10-27.1A, 5/10-27.1B, 5/24-24, and 5/27-23.7.
105 ILCS 128/, School Safety Drill Act.
745 ILCS 10/, Local Governmental and Governmental Employees Tort Immunity Act.
29 Ill.Admin.Code Part 1500.

CROSS REF.: 2:240 (Board Policy Development), 4:170 (Safety), 5:90 (Abused and Neglected Child Reporting), 5:100 (Staff Development Program), 5:230 (Maintaining Student Discipline), 6:65 (Student Social and Emotional Development), 7:140 (Search and Seizure), 7:150 (Agency and Police Interviews), 7:180 (Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment), 7:185 (Teen Dating Violence Prohibited), 7:190 (Student Behavior), 7:250 (Student Support Services), 7:290 (Suicide and Depression Awareness and Prevention), 7:340 (Student Records), 8:30 (Visitors to and Conduct on Joint Agreement Property), 8:100 (Relations with Other Organizations and Agencies)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

INDIAN VALLEY VOCATIONAL CENTER BOARD OF CONTROL POLICY MANUAL
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Because certain policy numbers are used for IASB sample policies, districts should use numbers ending in 2, 4, 6, or 8 for locally developed policies on topics not covered by IASB sample policies.

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Because certain policy numbers are used for IASB sample policies, districts should use numbers ending in 2, 4, 6, or 8 for locally developed policies on topics not covered by IASB sample policies.

General Personnel

Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Recruitment

The Joint Agreement 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; 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; credit history, unless a satisfactory credit history is an established bona fide occupational requirement of a particular position; conviction record, unless authorized by law; 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 for the Uniform Grievance Procedure. 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 Director shall appoint a Nondiscrimination Coordinator for personnel who shall be responsible for coordinating the Joint Agreement's nondiscrimination efforts. The Nondiscrimination Coordinator may be the Director or a Complaint Manager for the Uniform Grievance Procedure. The Nondiscrimination Coordinator also serves as the Joint Agreement's Title IX Coordinator.

The Director shall insert into this policy the names, office addresses, email addresses, and telephone numbers of the Joint Agreement's current Nondiscrimination Coordinator and Complaint Managers.

Nondiscrimination Coordinator:

Director Joe Barbic

Name

600 Lions Rd., Sandwich, IL 60548

Address

jbarbic@ivvc.net

Email

815-786-9873

Telephone

Complaint Managers:

Director Joe Barbic

Name

600 Lions Rd., Sandwich, IL 60548

Address

jbarbic@ivvc.net

Email

815-786-9873

Telephone

Assistant Director Alyx Bickel

Name

600 Lions Rd., Sandwich, IL

Address

abickel@ivvc.net

Email

815-786-9873

Telephone

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

Minority Recruitment

The Joint Agreement 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 Joint Agreement 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. §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. §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. §2000d et seq., Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.
 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, 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 Sexual Harassment Grievance Procedure), 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)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

General Personnel

Workplace Harassment Prohibited

The Joint Agreement expects the workplace environment to be productive, respectful, and free of unlawful discrimination, including harassment. Joint Agreement employees shall not engage in harassment or abusive conduct on the basis of an individual's actual or perceived race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, sex, sexual orientation, age, citizenship status, work authorization status, disability, pregnancy, marital status, order of protection status, military status, or unfavorable discharge from military service, nor shall they engage in harassment or abusive conduct on the basis of an individual's other protected status identified in Board policy 5:10, *Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Recruitment*. Harassment of students, including, but not limited to, sexual harassment, is prohibited by Board policies 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*; 2:265, *Title IX Sexual Harassment Grievance Procedure*; 7:20, *Harassment of Students Prohibited*; 7:180, *Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment*; and 7:185, *Teen Dating Violence Prohibited*.

The Joint Agreement will take remedial and corrective action to address unlawful workplace harassment, including sexual harassment.

Sexual Harassment Prohibited

The Joint Agreement shall provide a workplace environment free of verbal, physical, or other conduct or communications constituting harassment on the basis of sex as defined and otherwise prohibited by State and federal law. The Joint Agreement provides annual sexual harassment prevention training in accordance with State law.

Joint Agreement employees shall not make unwelcome sexual advances or request sexual favors or engage in any unwelcome conduct of a sexual nature when: (1) submission to such conduct is made either explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of an individual's employment; (2) submission to or rejection of such conduct by an individual is used as the basis for employment decisions affecting such individual; or (3) such conduct has the purpose or effect of substantially interfering with an individual's work performance or creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive working environment. Sexual harassment prohibited by this policy includes, but is not limited to, verbal, physical, or other conduct. The terms intimidating, hostile, or offensive include, but are not limited to, conduct that has the effect of humiliation, embarrassment, or discomfort. Sexual harassment will be evaluated in light of all the circumstances.

Making a Report or Complaint

Employees and *nonemployees* (persons who are not otherwise employees and are directly performing services for the Joint Agreement pursuant to a contract with the Joint Agreement, including contractors, and consultants) are encouraged to promptly report information regarding violations of this policy. Individuals may choose to report to a person of the individual's same gender. Every effort should be made to file such reports or complaints as soon as possible, while facts are known and potential witnesses are available.

Aggrieved individuals, if they feel comfortable doing so, should directly inform the person engaging in the harassing conduct or communication that such conduct or communication is offensive and must stop.

Whom to Contact with a Report or Complaint

An employee should report claims of harassment, including making a confidential report, to any of the following: his/her immediate supervisor, the Assistant Director, an administrator, the Nondiscrimination Coordinator, and/or a Complaint Manager.

An employee may also report claims using Board policy 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*. If a claim is reported using Board policy 2:260, then the Complaint Manager shall process and review the claim according to that policy, in addition to any response required by this policy.

The Director shall insert into this policy the names, office addresses, email addresses, and telephone numbers of the Joint Agreement's current Nondiscrimination Coordinator and Complaint Managers. The Nondiscrimination Coordinator also serves as the Joint Agreement's Title IX Coordinator.

Nondiscrimination Coordinator:

Director Joe Barbic

Name

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jbarbic@ivvc.net

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Assistant Director Alyx Bickel

Name

600 Lions Rd., Sandwich, IL

Address

abickel@ivvc.net

Email

815-786-9873

Telephone

Investigation Process

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

Reports and complaints of harassment will be confidential to the greatest extent practicable, subject to the Joint Agreement's duty to investigate and maintain a workplace environment that is productive, respectful, and free of unlawful discrimination, including harassment.

For any report or complaint alleging sexual harassment that, if true, would implicate Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (20 U.S.C. §1681 *et seq.*), the Nondiscrimination Coordinator or designee shall consider whether action under policy 2:265, *Title IX Sexual Harassment Grievance Procedure*, should be initiated.

For any other alleged workplace harassment that does not require action under policy 2:265, *Title IX Sexual Harassment Grievance Procedure*, the Nondiscrimination Coordinator or a Complaint Manager or designee shall consider whether an investigation under policy 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*, and/or 5:120, *Employee Ethics; Code of Professional Conduct; and Conflict of Interest*, should be initiated, regardless of whether a written report or complaint is filed.

Reports That Involve Alleged Incidents of Sexual Abuse of a Child by Joint Agreement Personnel

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

Any complaint alleging an incident of sexual abuse shall be processed and reviewed according to policy 5:90, *Abused and Neglected Child Reporting*. In addition to reporting the suspected abuse, the complaint shall also be processed under policy 2:265, *Title IX Sexual Harassment Grievance Procedure*, or policy 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*.

Enforcement

A violation of this policy by an employee may result in discipline, up to and including discharge. A violation of this policy by a third party will be addressed in accordance with the authority of the Board in the context of the relationship of the third party to the Joint Agreement, e.g., vendor, parent, invitee, etc. Any person making a knowingly false accusation regarding harassment will likewise be subject to disciplinary action, which for an employee that may be up to and including discharge.

Retaliation Prohibited

An employee's employment, compensation, or work assignment shall not be adversely affected by complaining or providing information about harassment. Retaliation against employees for bringing complaints or providing information about harassment is prohibited (see Board policy 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*), and depending upon the law governing the complaint, whistleblower protection may be available under the State Officials and Employees Ethics Act (5 ILCS 430/), the Whistleblower Act (740 ILCS 174/), and the Ill. Human Rights Act (775 ILCS 5/).

An employee should report allegations of retaliation to his/her immediate supervisor, the Assistant Director, an administrator, the Nondiscrimination Coordinator, and/or a Complaint Manager.

Employees who retaliate against others for reporting or complaining of violations of this policy or for participating in the reporting or complaint process will be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including discharge.

Recourse to State and Federal Fair Employment Practice Agencies

The Joint Agreement encourages all employees who have information regarding violations of this policy to report the information pursuant to this policy. The following government agencies are available to assist employees: the Ill. Dept. of Human Rights and the U. S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

The Director shall also use reasonable measures to inform staff members, applicants, and nonemployees of this policy, which shall include posting on the Joint Agreement website and/or making this policy available in the Joint Agreement's administrative office, and including this policy in the appropriate handbooks.

LEGAL REF.: 42 U.S.C. §2000e et seq., Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; 29 C.F.R. §1604.11.
20 U.S.C. §1681 et seq., Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; 34 C.F.R. Part 106.
5 ILCS 430/70-5(a), State Officials and Employees Ethics Act.
775 ILCS 5/2-101(E) and (E-1), 5/2-102(A), (A-10), (D-5), 5/2-102(E-5), 5/2-109, 5/5-102, and 5/5-102.2, Ill. Human Rights Act.
56 Ill. Admin.Code Parts 2500, 2510, 5210, and 5220.
Vance v. Ball State Univ., 570 U.S. 421 (2013).
Crawford v. Metro. Gov't of Nashville & Davidson Cnty., 555 U.S. 271 (2009).
Jackson v. Birmingham Bd. of Educ., 544 U.S. 167 (2005).
Oncale v. Sundowner Offshore Servs., 523 U.S. 75 (1998).
Burlington Indus. v. Ellerth, 524 U.S. 742 (1998).
Faragher v. City of Boca Raton, 524 U.S. 775 (1998).
Harris v. Forklift Systems, 510 U.S. 17 (1993).
Franklin v. Gwinnett Co. Public Schools, 503 U.S. 60 (1992).
Meritor Savings Bank v. Vinson, 477 U.S. 57 (1986).
Porter v. Erie Foods Int, Inc., 576 F.3d 629 (7th Cir. 2009).
Williams v. Waste Mgmt., 361 F.3d 1021 (7th Cir. 2004).
Berry v. Delta Airlines, 260 F.3d 803 (7th Cir. 2001).
Sangamon Cnty. Sheriff's Dept. v. Ill. Human Rights Com'n, 233 Ill.2d 125 (Ill. 2009).

CROSS REF.: 2:260 (Uniform Grievance Procedure), 2:265 (Title IX Sexual Harassment Grievance Procedure), 4:60 (Purchases and Contracts), 5:10 (Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Recruitment), 5:90 (Abused and Neglected Child Reporting), 5:120 (Employee Ethics; Code of Professional Conduct; and Conflict of Interest), 7:20 (Harassment of Students Prohibited), 8:30 (Visitors to and Conduct on Joint Agreement Property)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

General Personnel

Exhibit - Resolution to Prohibit Sexual Harassment

WHEREAS, Section 10-20 of the School Code (105 ILCS 5/10-20) grants Boards of Education other powers that are not inconsistent with their duties;

WHEREAS, Section 1-5 of the State Officials and Employees Ethics Act (5 ILCS 430/1-5) includes Joint Agreements within the definition of a *governmental entity*;

WHEREAS, Section 5-65 of the State Officials and Employees Ethics Act (5 ILCS 430/5-65, added by P.A. 100-554) provides that all persons have a right to work in an environment free from sexual harassment;

WHEREAS, Section 70-5 of the State Officials and Employees Ethics Act (5 ILCS 430/70-5, amended by P.A.s 100-554 and 101-221) requires governmental entities to adopt an ordinance or resolution establishing a policy to prohibit sexual harassment which, at a minimum, includes: (1) a prohibition on sexual harassment; (2) details on how an individual can report an allegation of sexual harassment, including options for making a confidential report to a supervisor, ethics officer, Inspector General, or the Ill. Dept. of Human Rights; (3) a prohibition on retaliation for reporting sexual harassment allegations, including availability of whistleblower protections under the Act, the Whistleblower Act (740 ILCS 174/), and the Ill. Human Rights Act (775 ILCS 5/); (4) the consequences: (a) of a violation of the prohibition on sexual harassment; and (b) for knowingly making a false report; and (5) a mechanism for reporting and independent review of allegations of sexual harassment made against a Board member by a fellow Board member or other elected official;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Control of Indian Valley Vocational Center, Dekalb County, Illinois, as follows:

Section 1: The Board adopts Board policies 2:105, *Ethics and Gift Ban*, and 5:20, *Workplace Harassment Prohibited*, attached as Exhibit A, which collectively contain the following: (1) a prohibition on sexual harassment; (2) detail regarding how an individual can report an allegation of sexual harassment, including options for making a confidential report to an immediate supervisor, the Assistant Director, an administrator, the Nondiscrimination Coordinator, a Complaint Manager, or the Ill. Dept. of Human Rights; (3) a prohibition on retaliation for reporting sexual harassment allegations and a statement regarding the availability of whistleblower protections under the State Officials and Employees Ethics Act, the Whistleblower Act, and the Ill. Human Rights Act; and (4) the consequences: (a) of a violation of the prohibition on sexual harassment; and (b) for knowingly making a false report, and (5) a mechanism for reporting and independent review of allegations of sexual harassment made against a Board member by a fellow Board member or other elected official.

Section 2: Any prior versions of Board policies 2:105, *Ethics and Gift Ban*, and 5:20, *Workplace Harassment Prohibited*, adopted by the Board are superseded by this Resolution.

Adopted this 1st day of May, 2024.

Attested by: _____, Board Chair

Attested by: _____, Board Secretary

General Personnel

Hiring Process and Criteria

The Joint Agreement hires the most qualified personnel consistent with budget and staffing requirements and in compliance with Board of Control policy on equal employment opportunity and minority recruitment. The Director is responsible for recruiting personnel and making hiring recommendations to the Board. If the Director's recommendation is rejected, the Director must submit another. The Director may select personnel on a short-term basis for a specific project or emergency condition before the Board's approval. No individual will be employed who has been convicted of a criminal offense listed in 105 ILCS 5/21B-80(c).

All applicants must complete a Joint Agreement application in order to be considered for employment.

Job Descriptions

The Board maintains the Director's job description and directs, through policy, the Director, in his or her charge of the Joint Agreement's administration.

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

Investigations

The Director or designee shall ensure that a fingerprint-based criminal history records check and a check of the Statewide Sex Offender Database and Violent Offender Against Youth Database is performed on each applicant as required by State law. When the applicant is a successful Director candidate who has been offered employment by the Board, the Board Chair shall ensure that these checks are completed. The Director or designee, or if the applicant is a successful Director candidate, then the Board Chair shall notify an applicant if the applicant is identified in either database. The School Code requires the Board Chair to keep a conviction record confidential and share it only with the Director, Regional Superintendent, State Superintendent, State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board, any other person necessary to the hiring decision, the Ill. State Police and/or Statewide Sex Offender Database for purposes of clarifying the information, and/or the Teachers' Retirement System of the State of Illinois when required by law. The Board reserves its right to authorize additional background inquiries beyond a fingerprint-based criminal history records check when it deems it appropriate to do so, in accordance with applicable laws.

Each newly hired employee must complete a U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services Form as required by federal law.

The Joint Agreement retains the right to discharge any employee whose criminal background investigation reveals a conviction for committing or attempting to commit any of the offenses outlined in 105 ILCS 5/21B-80 or who falsifies, or omits facts from, his or her employment application or other employment documents. If an indicated finding of abuse or neglect of a child has been issued by the Ill. Department of Children and Family Services or by a child welfare agency of another jurisdiction for any applicant for student teaching, applicant for employment, or any Joint Agreement employee, then the Board must consider that person's status as a condition of employment.

The Director shall ensure that the Joint Agreement does not engage in any investigation or inquiry prohibited by law and complies with each of the following:

1. The Joint Agreement uses an applicant's credit history or report from a consumer reporting agency only when a satisfactory credit history is an established bona fide occupational requirement of a particular position.
2. The Joint Agreement does not screen applicants based on their current or prior wages or salary histories, including benefits or other compensation, by requiring that the wage or salary history satisfy minimum or maximum criteria.
3. The Joint Agreement does not request or require a wage or salary history as a condition of being considered for employment, being interviewed, continuing to be considered for an offer of employment, an offer of employment, or an offer of compensation.
4. The Joint Agreement does not request or require an applicant to disclose wage or salary history as a condition of employment.
5. The Joint Agreement does not ask an applicant or applicant's current or previous employers about wage or salary history, including benefits or other compensation.
6. The Joint Agreement does not ask an applicant or applicant's previous employers about claim(s) made or benefit(s) received under the Workers' Compensation Act.
7. The Joint Agreement does not request of an applicant or employee access in any manner to his or her personal online account, such as social networking websites, including a request for passwords to such accounts.
8. The Joint Agreement provides equal employment opportunities to all persons. See policy 5:10, *Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Recruitment*.

Sexual Misconduct Related Employment History Review (EHR)

Prior to hiring an applicant for a position involving *direct contact with children or students*, the Director shall ensure that an EHR is performed as required by State law. When the applicant is a Director candidate, the Board Chair shall ensure that the EHR is initiated before a successful Director candidate is offered employment by the Board.

Physical Examinations

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

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

Orientation Program

The Joint Agreement's staff will provide an orientation program for new employees to acquaint them with the Joint Agreement's policies and procedures, the school's rules and regulations, and the

responsibilities of their position. Before beginning employment, each employee must sign the *Acknowledgement of Mandated Reporter Status* form as provided in policy 5:90, *Abused and Neglected Child Reporting*.

LEGAL REF.: 42 U.S.C. §12112, Americans with Disabilities Act; 29 C.F.R. Part 1630.
15 U.S.C. § 1681 et seq., Fair Credit Reporting Act.
8 U.S.C. §1324a et seq., Immigration Reform and Control Act.
105 ILCS 5/10-16.7, 5/10-20.7, 5/10-21.4, 5/10-21.9, 5/10-22.34, 5/10-22.34b,
5/21B-10, 5/21B-80, 5/21B-85, 5/22-6.5, 5/22-94, and 5/24-5.
20 ILCS 2630/3.3, Criminal Identification Act.
820 ILCS 55/, Right to Privacy in the Workplace Act.
820 ILCS 70/, Employee Credit Privacy Act.
Duldulao v. St. Mary of Nazareth Hospital, 136 Ill. App. 3d 763 (1st Dist. 1985),
aff'd in part and remanded 115 Ill.2d 482(Ill. 1987).
Kaiser v. Dixon, 127 Ill. App. 3d 251 (2nd Dist. 1984).
Molitor v. Chicago Title & Trust Co., 325 Ill. App. 124 (1st Dist. 1945).

CROSS REF.: 2:260 (Uniform Grievance Procedure), 3:50 (Administrative Personnel Other Than the Director), 4:60 (Purchases and Contracts), 4:175 (Convicted Child Sex Offender; Screening; Notifications), 5:10 (Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Recruitment), 5:40 (Communicable and Chronic Infectious Disease), 5:90 (Abused and Neglected Child Reporting), 5:120 (Employee Ethics; Code of Professional Conduct; and Conflict of Interest), 5:125 (Personal Technology and Social Media; Usage and Conduct), 5:220 (Substitute Teachers), 5:280 (Duties and Qualifications)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

General Personnel

Compliance with the Fair Labor Standards Act

Job Classifications

The Director will ensure that all job positions are identified as either “exempt” or “non-exempt” according to State law and the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) and that employees are informed whether they are “exempt” or “non-exempt.” “Exempt” and “non-exempt” employee categories may include certificated and non-certificated job positions. All non-exempt employees, whether paid on a salary or hourly basis, are covered by minimum wage and overtime provisions.

Workweek and Compensation

The workweek for Joint Agreement employees will be 12:00 a.m. Sunday until 11:59 p.m. Saturday. Non-exempt employees will be compensated for all hours worked in a workweek including overtime. For non-exempt employees paid a salary, the salary is paid for a 40-hour workweek even if an employee is scheduled for less than 40 hours. “Overtime” is time worked in excess of 40 hours in a single workweek.

Overtime

Please refer to the applicable collective bargaining agreement(s).

For employees not covered by a current applicable bargaining agreement:

A non-exempt employee shall not work overtime without his or her supervisor’s express approval. All supervisors of non-exempt employees shall: (1) monitor overtime use on a weekly basis and report such use to the business office, (2) seek the Director or designee’s written pre-approval for any long term or repeated use of overtime that can be reasonably anticipated, (3) ensure that overtime provisions of this policy and the FLSA are followed, and (4) ensure that employees are compensated for any overtime worked. Accurate and complete time sheets of actual hours worked during the workweek shall be signed by each employee and submitted to the business office. The business office will review work records of employees on a regular basis, make an assessment of overtime use, and provide the assessment to the Director. In lieu of overtime compensation, non-exempt employees may receive compensatory time-off, according to Board policy 5:310, *Compensatory Time-Off*.

Suspension Without Pay

No exempt employee shall have his or her salary docked, such as by an unpaid suspension, if the deduction would cause a loss of the exempt status. Licensed employees may be suspended without pay in accordance with Board policy 5:240, *Suspension*. Non-licensed employees may be suspended without pay in accordance with Board policy 5:290, *Employment Termination and Suspensions*.

Implementation

The Director or designee shall implement the policy in accordance with the FLSA, including its required notices to employees. In the event of a conflict between the policy and State or federal law, the latter shall control.

LEGAL REF.: 820 ILCS 105/4a.
Fair Labor Standards Act, 29 U.S.C. §201 et seq., 29 C.F.R. Parts 516, 541, 548,
553, 778, and 785.

CROSS REF.: 5:240 (Suspension), 5:290 (Employment Termination and Suspensions), 5:310
(Compensatory Time-Off)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

General Personnel

Communicable and Chronic Infectious Disease

The Director or designee shall develop and implement procedures for managing known or suspected cases of a communicable and chronic infectious disease involving Joint Agreement employees that are consistent with State and federal law, Illinois Department of Public Health rules, and Board of Control policies.

An employee with a communicable or chronic infectious disease will be permitted to retain his or her position whenever, after reasonable accommodations and without undue hardship, there is no substantial risk of transmission of the disease to others, provided an employee is able to continue to perform the position's essential functions. An employee with a communicable and chronic infectious disease remains subject to the Board's employment policies including sick and/or other leave, physical examinations, temporary and permanent disability, and termination.

LEGAL REF.: 42 U.S.C. §12101 et seq., Americans With Disabilities Act, amended by the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act (ADAAA), Pub. L. 110-325; 29 C.F.R. §1630.1 et seq.
29 U.S.C. §791, Rehabilitation Act of 1973; 34 C.F.R. §104.1 et seq.
105 ILCS 5/24-5.
20 ILCS 2305/6, Department of Public Health Act.
820 ILCS 40/, Personnel Record Review Act.
77 Ill.Admin.Code Part 690, Control of Communicable Diseases.

CROSS REF.: 2:150 (Committees), 4:180 (Pandemic Preparedness; Management; and Recovery), 5:30 (Hiring Process and Criteria), 5:180 (Temporary Illness or Temporary Incapacity)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

General Personnel

Drug- and Alcohol-Free Workplace; E-Cigarette, Tobacco, and Cannabis Prohibition

All Joint Agreement workplaces are drug- and alcohol-free workplaces.

All employees are prohibited from engaging in any of the following activities while on Joint Agreement premises or while performing work for the Joint Agreement:

1. Unlawful manufacture, dispensing, distribution, possession, or use of an illegal or controlled substance.
2. Distribution, consumption, use, possession, or being impaired by an alcoholic beverage; being present on Joint Agreement premises or while performing work for the Joint Agreement when alcohol consumption is detectable, regardless of when and/or where the use occurred.
3. Distribution, consumption, possession, use, or being impaired by or under the influence of cannabis; being present on Joint Agreement premises or while performing work for the Joint Agreement when impaired by or under the influence of cannabis, regardless of when and/or where the use occurred, unless distribution, possession, and/or use is by a school nurse or school administrator pursuant to *Ashley's Law*, 105 ILCS 5/22-33. The Joint Agreement considers employees impaired by or under the influence of cannabis when there is a good faith belief that an employee manifests specific articulable symptoms while working that decrease or lessen the employee's performance of the duties or tasks of the employee's job position.

Upon the Director or designee's reasonable suspicion of an employee's violation of any of the prohibited activities stated above, the Director or designee may direct the employee to undergo a drug and/or alcohol test to corroborate or refute the alleged violation. State law protects the Joint Agreement from liability when it takes actions pursuant to a reasonable workplace drug policy, including but not limited to subjecting an employee or applicant to reasonable drug and alcohol testing, reasonable and nondiscriminatory random drug testing, discipline, termination of employment, or withdrawal of a job offer due to a failure of a drug test.

For purposes of this policy a controlled substance means a substance that is:

1. Not legally obtainable,
2. Being used in a manner different than prescribed,
3. Legally obtainable, but has not been legally obtained, or
4. Referenced in federal or State controlled substance acts.

For purposes of this policy, *Joint Agreement premises* means workplace as defined in the Cannabis Regulation and Tax Act (CRTA) in addition to Joint Agreement and school buildings, grounds, and parking areas; vehicles used for school purposes; and any location used for a Board of Control meeting, school athletic event, or other school-sponsored or school-sanctioned events or activities. *School grounds* means the real property comprising any school, any conveyance used to transport students to school or a school-related activity, and any public way within 1,000 feet of any school ground, designated school bus stops where students are waiting for the school bus, and school-sponsored or school-sanctioned events or activities. "Vehicles used for school purposes" means school buses or other school vehicles.

As a condition of employment, each employee shall:

1. Abide by the terms of this Board policy respecting a drug- and alcohol-free workplace; and
2. Notify his or her supervisor of his or her conviction under any criminal drug statute for a violation occurring on the Joint Agreement premises or while performing work for the Joint Agreement, no later than five calendar days after such a conviction.

Unless otherwise prohibited by this policy, prescription and over-the-counter medications are not prohibited when taken in standard dosages and/or according to prescriptions from the employee's licensed health care provider, provided that an employee's work performance is not impaired.

To make employees aware of the dangers of drug and alcohol abuse, the Director or designee shall perform each of the following:

1. Provide each employee with a copy of this policy.
2. Post notice of this policy in a place where other information for employees is posted.
3. Make available materials from local, State, and national anti-drug and alcohol-abuse organizations.
4. Enlist the aid of community and State agencies with drug and alcohol informational and rehabilitation programs to provide information to Joint Agreement employees.
5. Establish a drug-free awareness program to inform employees about:
 - a. The dangers of drug abuse in the workplace,
 - b. Available drug and alcohol counseling, rehabilitation, re-entry, and any employee assistance programs, and
 - c. The penalties that the Joint Agreement may impose upon employees for violations of this policy.
6. Remind employees that policy 6:60, *Curriculum Content*, requires the Joint Agreement to educate students, depending upon their grade, about drug and substance abuse prevention and relationships between drugs, alcohol, and violence.

E-Cigarette, Tobacco, and Cannabis Prohibition

All employees are covered by the conduct prohibitions contained in policy 8:30, *Visitors to and Conduct on Joint Agreement Property*. The prohibition on the use of e-cigarettes, tobacco, and cannabis products applies both (1) when an employee is on school property, and (2) while an employee is performing work for the Joint Agreement at a school event regardless of the event's location.

Tobacco has the meaning provided in 105 ILCS 5/10-20.5b.

Cannabis has the meaning provided in the CRTA, 410 ILCS 705/1-10.

E-Cigarette is short for electronic cigarette and includes, but is not limited to, any electronic nicotine delivery system (ENDS), electronic cigar, electronic cigarillo, electronic pipe, electronic hookah, vape pen, or similar product or device, and any components or parts that can be used to build the product or device.

Joint Agreement Action Upon Violation of Policy

An employee who violates this policy may be subject to disciplinary action, including termination. In addition or alternatively, the Board may require an employee to successfully complete an appropriate drug- or alcohol-abuse rehabilitation program.

The Board shall take disciplinary action with respect to an employee convicted of a drug offense in the workplace within 30 days after receiving notice of the conviction.

Should Joint Agreement employees be engaged in the performance of work under a federal contract or grant, or under a State contract or grant of \$5,000 or more, the Director shall notify the appropriate State or federal agency from which the Joint Agreement receives contract or grant monies of the employee's conviction within 10 days after receiving notice of the conviction.

Disclaimer

The Board reserves the right to interpret, revise or discontinue any provision of this policy pursuant to the **Suspension of Policies** subhead in policy 2:240, *Board Policy Development*.

LEGAL REF.:	42 U.S.C. §12114, Americans With Disabilities Act. 21 U.S.C. §812; 21 C.F.R. §1308.11-1308.15, Controlled Substances Act. 41 U.S.C. §8101 <u>et seq.</u> , Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988. 20 U.S.C. §7101 <u>et seq.</u> , Safe and Drug-Free School and Communities Act of 1994. 30 ILCS 580/, Drug-Free Workplace Act. 105 ILCS 5/10-20.5b. 410 ILCS 82/, Smoke Free Illinois Act. 410 ILCS 130/, Compassionate Use of Medical Cannabis Program Act. 410 ILCS 705/1-1 <u>et seq.</u> , Cannabis Regulation and Tax Act. 720 ILCS 675, Prevention of Tobacco Use by Persons under 21 Years of Age and Sale and Distribution of Tobacco Products Act. 820 ILCS 55/, Right to Privacy in the Workplace Act. 21 C.F.R. Parts 1100, 1140, and 1143. 23 Ill.Admin.Code §22.20.
CROSS REF.:	5:10 (Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Recruitment), 5:120 (Employee Ethics; Code of Professional Conduct; and Conflict of Interest), 6:60 (Curriculum Content), 8:30 (Visitors to and Conduct on Joint Agreement Property)
ADOPTED:	May 1, 2024

General Personnel

Expenses

The Board regulates the reimbursement of all travel, meal, and lodging expenses by resolution. Money shall not be advanced or reimbursed, or purchase orders issued for: (1) the expenses of any person except the employee, (2) anyone's personal expenses, or (3) entertainment expenses. Entertainment includes, but is not limited to, shows, amusements, theaters, circuses, sporting events, or any other place of public or private entertainment or amusement, unless the entertainment is ancillary to the purpose of the program or event. The Joint Agreement is not responsible for losses due to an employee's own negligence, losses due to normal wear, or losses due to theft, unless the theft was a result of the Joint Agreement's negligence. Employees must submit the appropriate itemized, signed, standardized form(s) to support any requests for expense advancements, reimbursements, or purchase orders that show the following:

1. The amount of the estimated or actual expense, with attached receipts for actual incurred expenses.
2. The name and title of the employee who is requesting the expense advancement or reimbursement. Receipts from group functions must include the names, offices, and job titles of all participants.
3. The date(s) of the official business on which the expense advancement, reimbursement, or purchase order will be or was expended.
4. The nature of the official business conducted when the expense advancement, reimbursement, or purchase order will be or was expended.

Advancements

The Director may advance expenses to teachers and other licensed employees for the anticipated actual and necessary expenses to be incurred while attending meetings that are related to their duties and will contribute to their professional development, provided they fall below the maximum allowed in the Board's expense regulations.

Expense advancement requests must be submitted to the Director or designee on the Joint Agreement's standardized estimated expense approval form for employees. After spending expense advancements, employees must use the Joint Agreement's standardized expense reimbursement form and submit to the Director: (a) the itemized, signed advancement voucher that was issued, and (b) the amount of actual expenses by attaching receipts. Any portion of an expense advancement not used must be returned to the Joint Agreement. Expense advancements and vouchers shall be presented to the Board in its regular bill process.

Reimbursements and Purchase Orders

Expense reimbursements and purchase orders may be issued by the Director or designee to employees, along with other expenses necessary for the performance of their duties, provided the expenses fall below the maximum allowed in the Board's expense regulations.

Expense reimbursements and purchase order approvals are not guaranteed and, when possible, employees should seek pre-approval of expenses by providing an estimation of expenses on the Joint Agreement's standardized estimated expense approval form for employees, except in situations when the expense is diminutive. When pre-approval is not sought, employees must seek reimbursement on

the Joint Agreement's standardized expense reimbursement form for employees. Expense reimbursements and purchase orders shall be presented to the Board in its regular bill process.

Use of Credit and Procurement Cards

Credit and procurement card usage is governed by policy 4:55, *Use of Credit and Procurement Cards*.

Exceeding the Maximum Allowable Expense Amount(s)

All requests for expense advancements, reimbursements, and purchase orders exceeding the maximum allowed in the Board's expense regulations may only be approved when:

1. The Board's resolution to regulate expenses allows for such approval;
2. An emergency or other extraordinary circumstance exists; and
3. The request is approved by a roll call vote at an open Board meeting.

Registration

When possible, registration fees will be paid by the Joint Agreement in advance.

Travel

The least expensive method of travel will be used, provided that no hardship will be caused to the employee. Employees will be reimbursed for:

1. Air travel at the coach or economy class commercial airline rate. First class or business class air travel will be reimbursed only if emergency circumstances warrant. The emergency circumstances must be explained on the expense form and Board approval of the additional expense is required. Fees for the first checked bag will be reimbursed. Copies of airline tickets and baggage receipts must be attached to the expense form.
2. Rail or bus travel at actual cost. Rail or bus travel costs may not exceed the cost of coach airfare. Copies of tickets must be attached to the expense form to substantiate amounts.
3. Use of personal automobiles at the standard mileage rate approved by the Internal Revenue Service for income tax purposes. The reimbursement may not exceed the cost of coach airfare. Mileage for use of personal automobiles in trips to and from transportation terminals will also be reimbursed. Toll charges and parking costs will be reimbursed.
4. Automobile rental costs when the vehicle's use is warranted. The circumstances for such use must be explained on the expense form.
5. Taxis, airport limousines, ride sharing services, or other local transportation costs.

Please also refer to the applicable collective bargaining agreement(s).

Meals

Meals charged to the Joint Agreement should represent mid-fare selections for the hotel/meeting facility or general area. Tips are included with meal charges. Expense forms must explain the meal charges incurred. Alcoholic beverages will not be reimbursed.

Lodging

Employees should request conference rate or mid-fare room accommodations. A single room rate will be reimbursed. Employees should pay personal expenses at checkout. If that is impossible, deductions for the charges should be made on the expense form.

Miscellaneous Expenses

Employees may seek reimbursement for other expenses incurred while attending a meeting sponsored by organizations described herein by fully describing the expenses on the expense form, attaching receipts.

Additional Requirements for Travel Expenses Charged to Federal and State Grants

All grant-related travel expenses must be pre-approved by the Director or designee.

Expenses for travel, including expenses for transportation, lodging, meals, and related items incurred by employees and charged to a federal grant or State grant governed by the Grant Accountability and Transparency Act (30 ILCS 708/) must also meet the following requirements:

1. The participation of the employee is necessary to the award, and the costs are specifically related to the award.
2. Expenses must be permissible under the terms and conditions of the award.
3. Expenses must be reasonable and consistent with this policy.
4. The Board does not reimburse actual expenses or pay a per diem allowance unless the employee is on official travel status for more than 12 hours. However, employees remain eligible for mileage reimbursement (minus regular commuting mileage/costs) and other transportation expenses if on travel status less than 12 hours.
5. Expenses may be charged based on an actual cost basis or on a per diem basis in lieu of actual costs incurred; however, only one method may be applied per trip.
6. Commercial airfare costs in excess of the least expensive coach or economy class are prohibited except when such accommodations would: (1) require circuitous routing; (2) require travel during unreasonable hours; (3) excessively prolong travel; (4) result in additional costs that would offset transportation savings; or (5) offer accommodations not reasonably adequate for the traveler's medical needs. Qualifying circumstances must be explained on the expense form, and Board approval of the additional expense is required.
7. Per diem rates and actual reimbursement amounts for mileage, meals, and lodging may not exceed the rates established by the Governor's Travel Control Board or federal travel regulations, whichever is less. These limits do not apply when: (1) an employee stays in the lowest-priced room available at or near a hotel where a conference or seminar is located or in accommodations arranged by the conference/seminar organization, or (2) lodging at or below the established rate is unavailable. In those cases, the employee will be reimbursed for actual lodging expenses with prior approval, but in no case will the reimbursement exceed 300% of the applicable maximum per diem rate. If a conference fee includes a meal, the meal or per diem allowance will be reduced by the actual value of the meal or the applicable meal allowance, whichever is less.
8. Employees must use the least expensive compact car available when using a rental car for travel, unless an exception is approved. The Board does not reimburse employees for collision damage waiver or theft insurance.
9. The Board will reimburse travel expenses not chargeable to an award from other Joint Agreement funds consistent with this policy.

LEGAL REF.: 2 C.F.R. §200.474.
30 ILCS 708/130, Grant Accountability and Transparency Act.
50 ILCS 150/, Local Government Travel Expense Control Act.
105 ILCS 5/10-22.32.
820 ILCS 115/9.5, Ill. Wage Payment and Collection Act.

CROSS REF.: 2:125 (Board Member Compensation; Expenses), 2:240 (Board Policy Development), 4:50 (Payment Procedures), 4:55 (Use of Credit and Procurement Cards)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

General Personnel

Exhibit - Employee Expense Reimbursement Form

Submit to the Director. Use of this form is required by 2:125-E3, Resolution to Regulate Expense Reimbursements. Please print and attach receipts for all expenditures.

Name: _____ Title/Office: _____

Destination: _____ Purpose: _____

Departure Date: _____ Return Date: _____

☐ **Receipts attached** Request Date: _____

☐ **Estimated expenses attached** (Completed 5:60-E2, Employee Estimated Expense Approval Form)(pre-approval is required for federal and state grants).

☐ **Approved expense advancement (voucher) attached, if applicable*** (Completed 5:60-E2, Employee Estimated Expense Approval Form.)

Actual Expense Report

*Employees will be reimbursed for actual and necessary expenses that exceed the amount advanced, but must refund any expense advancement that exceeds the actual and necessary expenses incurred. 105 ILCS 5/10-22.32. For federal and State grants, employees will be reimbursed for actual and necessary expenses that exceed estimated expenses as permitted by Board policy 5:60, Expenses.

Auto Travel Allowance: _____ per mile

Date	Auto Mileage		Transp. Expenses	Lodging	Meals or Per Diem			Other Item	Cost	Daily Total
	Miles	Cost			Bkfst	Lunch	Dinner			
Subtotal										
Advances									-	
TOTAL (A negative amount indicates refund due from employee.)									\$	

Director or Designee:
(below maximum allowable amount)

☐ **Approved** ☐ **Denied**
☐ **Approved in Part**
☐ **Grant Funding Source** (if
applicable): _____

Director or Designee Signature

Date

Comments: _____

Board of Control Action (exceeds maximum allowable amount):
Denied

☐ **Approved** ☐

☐ **Approved in Part**
☐ **Grant Funding Source** (if
applicable): _____

Employee Signature

Date

DATED: May 1, 2024

General Personnel

Exhibit - Employee Estimated Expense Approval Form

Submit to the Director. Use of this form is required (1) by 2:125-E3, Resolution to Regulate Expense Reimbursements and (2) for pre-approval of expenses to be charged to a federal grant or State grant governed by the Grant Accountability and Transparency Act. Please print.

Name: _____ Title/Office: _____

Travel Destination: _____ Purpose: _____

☐ **Estimated Expenses Approval Requested** (50 ILCS 150/20 or grant expenditure)

☐ **Travel is grant-related*** (specify grant): _____

☐ **Purchase Order Requested** Purchase Order #: _____

☐ **Expense Advancement Voucher Requested** (105 ILCS 5/10-22.32)

Voucher Amount: _____

Estimated Expense Report

Departure date: _____ Return date: _____

Auto Travel Allowance: _____ per mile

**Grant-related travel only: Except for mileage and other transportation expenses, expense reimbursement/per diem is only allowed if on official travel status for 12 hours or more. If lodging at or below the applicable rate cannot be identified, please indicate below and attach at least three quotes for review.*

Date	Auto		Transp. Expenses	Lodging	Meals or Per Diem			Other Item	Cost	Daily Total
	Mileage Miles	Cost			Bkfst	Lunch	Dinner			
Total										\$

Director or Designee

(below maximum allowable amount):

☐ **Approved**

☐ **Denied**

☐ **Approved in Part**

☐ **Grant Funding Source** (if applicable): _____

Director or Designee Signature

Date

Comments: _____

Board of Control Action *(exceeds maximum allowable amount):*
Denied

☐ **Approved**

☐

☐ **Approved in Part**

☐ **Grant Funding Source** (if applicable): _____

Employee Signature

Date

DATED: May 1, 2024

General Personnel

Religious Holidays

The Director shall grant an employee's request for time off to observe a religious holiday if the employee gives at least five days' prior notice and the absence does not cause an undue hardship.

Employees may use earned vacation time or personal leave to make up the absence, provided such time is consistent with the Joint Agreement's operational needs. A per diem deduction may also be requested by the employee.

LEGAL REF.: 775 ILCS 5/2-101 and 5/2-102, Ill. Human Rights Act.
 775 ILCS 35/155, Religious Freedom Restoration Act.

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

General Personnel

Court Duty

The Joint Agreement will deduct any fees that an employee receives for court duty, less mileage and meal expenses, from the employee's compensation, or make arrangements for the employee to endorse the fee check to the Joint Agreement.

An employee should give at least five days' prior notice of pending court duty to the Joint Agreement.

Witness Duty

The Joint Agreement will pay full salary during the time an employee is absent due to a subpoena to serve as a witness in a trial or have a deposition taken in any school-related matter pending in court.

Jury Duty

Please refer to the applicable collective bargaining agreement(s).

For employees not covered by a current applicable bargaining agreement:

The Joint Agreement will pay full salary during the time an employee is absent due to jury duty.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/10-20.7.
705 ILCS 305/4.1, Jury Act.

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

General Personnel

Abused and Neglected Child Reporting

Any Joint Agreement 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: (1) 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), and (2) follow directions given by DCFS concerning filing a written report within 48 hours with the nearest DCFS field office. Any Joint Agreement employee who believes a student is in immediate danger of harm, shall first call 911. The employee shall also promptly notify the Director or Assistant Director that a report has been made. The Director or Assistant Director shall immediately coordinate any necessary notifications to the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) with DCFS, and/or local law enforcement.

Negligent failure to report occurs when a Joint Agreement 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 Joint Agreement employee who discovers child pornography on electronic and information technology equipment 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 www.report.cybertip.org or www.missingkids.org. The Director or Assistant Director shall also be promptly notified of the discovery and that a report has been made.

Any Joint Agreement employee who observes any act of hazing that does bodily harm to a student must report that act to the Assistant Director, Director, 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 Director or Assistant Director. 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), Joint Agreement Code, and Erin's Law Training

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

All Joint Agreement employees shall:

1. Before beginning employment, sign the *Acknowledgement of Mandated Reporter Status* form provided by DCFS. The Director 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.

If a Joint Agreement employee reports an alleged incident of sexual abuse to DCFS and DCFS accepts the report for investigation, DCFS will refer the matter to the local Children's Advocacy Center (CAC). The Director or designee will implement procedures to coordinate with the CAC.

DCFS and/or the appropriate law enforcement agency will inform the Joint Agreement when its investigation is complete or has been suspended, as well as the outcome of its investigation. The existence of a DCFS and/or law enforcement investigation will not preclude the Joint Agreement from conducting its own parallel investigation into the alleged incident of sexual abuse in accordance with policy 7:20, *Harassment of Students Prohibited*.

Special Director Responsibilities

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

When the Director 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 Joint Agreement, the Director shall notify the State Superintendent and the Regional Superintendent in writing, providing the Ill. Educator Identification Number as well as a brief description of the misconduct alleged. The Director must make the report within 30 days of the dismissal or resignation and mail a copy of the notification to the license holder.

The Director shall develop procedures for notifying a student's parents/guardians when a Joint Agreement employee, contractor, or agent is alleged to have engaged in *sexual misconduct* with the student as defined in *Faith's Law*. The Director shall also develop 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 Director shall execute the recordkeeping requirements of *Faith's Law*.

Special Board of Control 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 Director or other equivalent school administrator to comply with ANCRA's requirements concerning the reporting of child abuse.

If the Board determines that any Joint Agreement 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 policy 2:20, *Powers and Duties of the Board of Control; 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 Board of Control; Indemnification), 3:40
(Director), 3:50 (Administrative Personnel Other Than the Director), 3:60
(Administrative Responsibility of the Assistant Director), 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 Police Interviews)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

General Personnel

Staff Development Program

The Director or designee shall implement a staff development program. The goal of such 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.

The staff development program shall include the Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act (ANCRA), School Code, and awareness and prevention of child sexual abuse and grooming behaviors (*Erin's Law*) training as follows (see 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, 2023, and every year after, all school personnel must complete evidence-informed training on preventing, reporting, and responding to child sexual abuse, grooming behaviors, and boundary violations.

The staff development program shall provide, at a minimum, at least once every two years, the in-service training of licensed school personnel and administrators on current best practices regarding the identification and treatment of attention deficit disorder and attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, the application of non-aversive behavioral interventions in the school environment, and the use of psychotropic or psychostimulant medication for school-age children.

The staff development program shall provide, at a minimum, once every two years, the in-service training of all Joint Agreement staff on educator ethics, teacher-student conduct, and school employee-student conduct.

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

1. At least, once every two years, training of all Joint Agreement staff by a person with expertise on anaphylactic reactions and management.
2. At least every two years, an in-service to train school personnel, at a minimum, to understand, provide information and referrals, and address issues pertaining to youth who are parents, expectant parents, or victims of domestic or sexual violence.
3. Training that, at a minimum, provides Joint Agreement staff with a basic knowledge of matters relating to acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) and the availability of appropriate sources of counseling and referral.
4. Training for licensed school personnel and administrators who work with students in grades 11 through 12 to identify the warning signs of mental illness and suicidal behavior in youth along with appropriate intervention and referral techniques.
5. Education for staff instructing students in grades 11 through 12, concerning teen dating violence as recommended by the Joint Agreement's Nondiscrimination Coordinator, Assistant Director or Complaint Manager.
6. Ongoing professional development for teachers, administrators, school resource officers, and staff regarding the adverse consequences of school exclusion and justice-system involvement, effective classroom management strategies, culturally responsive discipline, 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.

7. 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.
8. 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 8-19-2014 must be certified before their position's start date.
9. 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.
10. Every two years, school personnel who work with students must complete an in-person or online training program on the management of asthma, the prevention of asthma symptoms, and emergency response in the school setting.
11. Training for school personnel to develop cultural competency, including understanding and reducing implicit racial bias.
12. For school personnel who work with hazardous or toxic materials on a regular basis, training on the safe handling and use of such materials.
13. For nurses, administrators, school counselors, teachers, persons employed by a local health department and assigned to a school, and persons who contract with the Joint Agreement to perform services in connection with a student's seizure action plan, training in the basics of seizure recognition, first aid, and appropriate emergency protocols.
14. For all Joint Agreement staff, annual sexual harassment prevention training.
15. Title IX requirements for training as follows (see policy 2:265, Title IX Sexual Harassment Grievance Procedure):
 - a. For all Joint Agreement staff, training on the definition of sexual harassment, the scope of the Joint Agreement's education program or activity, all relevant Joint Agreement policies and procedures, and the necessity to promptly forward all reports of sexual harassment to the Title IX Coordinator.
 - b. For school personnel designated as Title IX coordinators, investigators, decision-makers, or informal resolution facilitators, training on the definition of sexual harassment, the scope of the Joint Agreement's education program or activity, how to conduct an investigation and grievance process (including hearings, appeals, and informal resolution processes, as applicable), and how to serve impartially.
 - c. For school personnel designated as Title IX investigators, training on issues of relevance to create an investigative report that fairly summarizes relevant evidence.
 - d. For school personnel designated as Title IX decision-makers, training on issues of relevance of questions and evidence, including when questions and evidence about a complainant's sexual predisposition or prior sexual behavior are not relevant.

The Director 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, 5/10-20.17a, 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), and 5/24-5.
105 ILCS 25/1.15, Interscholastic Athletic Organization 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, 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 Sexual Harassment Grievance Procedure), 3:40 (Director), 3:50 (Administrative Personnel Other Than the Director), 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), 6:20 (School Calendar Year and Day), 6:50 (School Wellness), 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), 7:270 (Administering Medicines to Students), 7:285 (Food Allergy Management Program), 7:290 (Suicide and Depression Awareness and Prevention), 7:305 (Student Athlete Concussions and Head Injuries)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

General Personnel

Recognition for Service

The Board of Control will periodically recognize those Joint Agreement employees who contribute significantly to the educational programs and welfare of the students.

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

General Personnel

Employee Ethics; Code of Professional Conduct; and Conflict of Interest

All Joint Agreement employees are expected to maintain high standards in their job performance, demonstrate integrity and honesty, be considerate and cooperative, and maintain professional and appropriate relationships with students, parents/guardians, staff members, and others.

The Director or designee shall provide this policy to all Joint Agreement employees and students and/or parents/guardians in their respective handbooks, and ensure its posting on the Joint Agreement's website, if any.

Professional and Appropriate Conduct

Professional and appropriate employee conduct are important Board goals that impact the quality of a safe learning environment and the school community, increasing students' ability to learn and the Joint Agreement's ability to educate. To protect students from sexual misconduct by employees, and employees from the appearance of impropriety, State law also recognizes the importance for Joint Agreement employees to constantly maintain professional and appropriate relationships with students by following established expectations and guidelines for employee-student boundaries. Many breaches of employee-student boundaries do not rise to the level of criminal behavior but do pose a potential risk to student safety and impact the quality of a safe learning environment. Repeated violations of employee-student boundaries may indicate the grooming of a student for sexual abuse. As bystanders, employees may know of concerning behaviors that no one else is aware of, so their training on: (1) preventing, recognizing, reporting, and responding to child sexual abuse and grooming behavior; (2) this policy; and (3) federal and state reporting requirements is essential to maintaining the Board's goal of professional and appropriate conduct.

The Director or designee shall identify employee conduct standards that define appropriate employee-student boundaries, provide training about them, and monitor the Joint Agreement's employees for violations of employee-student boundaries. The employee conduct standards will require that, at a minimum:

1. Employees who are governed by the *Code of Ethics for Illinois Educators*, adopted by the Ill. State Board of Education (ISBE), will comply with its incorporation by reference into this policy.
2. Employees are trained on educator ethics, child abuse, grooming behaviors, and employee-student boundary violations as required by law and policies 2:265, *Title IX Sexual Harassment Grievance Procedure*; 4:165, *Awareness and Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse and Grooming Behaviors*; 5:90, *Abused and Neglected Child Reporting*; and 5:100, *Staff Development Program*.
3. Employees maintain professional relationships with students, including maintaining employee-student boundaries based upon students' ages, grade levels, and developmental levels and following Joint Agreement -established guidelines for specific situations, including but not limited to:
 - a. Transporting a student;
 - b. Taking or possessing a photo or video of a student; and

- c. Meeting with a student or contacting a student outside the employee's professional role.
4. Employees report prohibited behaviors and/or boundary violations pursuant to Board policies 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*; 2:265, *Title IX Sexual Harassment Grievance Procedure*; and 5:90, *Abused and Neglected Child Reporting*.
5. Discipline up to and including dismissal will occur for any employee who violates an employee conduct standard or engages in any of the following:
 - a. Violates expectations and guidelines for employee-student boundaries.
 - b. Sexually harasses a student.
 - c. Willfully or negligently fails to follow reporting requirements of the Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act (325 ILCS 5/), Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (20 U.S.C. §1681 *et seq.*), or the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (20 U.S.C. § 7926).
 - d. Engages in *grooming* as defined in 720 ILCS 5/11-25.
 - e. Engages in grooming behaviors. Prohibited grooming behaviors include, at a minimum, *sexual misconduct*. *Sexual misconduct* is any act, including but not limited to, any verbal, nonverbal, written, or electronic communication or physical activity, by an employee with direct contact with a student, that is directed toward or with a student to establish a romantic or sexual relationship with the student. Examples include, but are not limited to:
 - i. A sexual or romantic invitation.
 - ii. Dating or soliciting a date.
 - iii. Engaging in sexualized or romantic dialog.
 - iv. Making sexually suggestive comments that are directed toward or with a student.
 - v. Self-disclosure or physical exposure of a sexual, romantic, or erotic nature.
 - vi. A sexual, indecent, romantic, or erotic contact with the student.

Statement of Economic Interests

The following employees must file a *Statement of Economic Interests* as required by the Ill. Governmental Ethics Act:

1. Director;
2. Assistant Director;
3. Head of any department;
4. Any employee who, as the Joint Agreement's agent, is responsible for negotiating one or more contracts, including collective bargaining agreement(s), in the amount of \$1,000 or greater;
5. Hearing officer;

6. Any employee having supervisory authority for 20 or more employees; and
7. Any employee in a position that requires an administrative or a chief school business official endorsement.

Ethics and Gift Ban

Board policy 2:105, *Ethics and Gift Ban*, applies to all Joint Agreement employees. Students shall not be used in any manner for promoting a political candidate or issue.

Prohibited Interests; Conflict of Interest; and Limitation of Authority

In accordance with 105 ILCS 5/22-5, "no school officer or teacher shall be interested in the sale, proceeds, or profits of any book, apparatus, or furniture used or to be used in any school with which such officer or teacher may be connected," except when the employee is the author or developer of instructional materials listed with ISBE and adopted for use by the Board. An employee having an interest in instructional materials must file an annual statement with the Board Secretary.

For the purpose of acquiring profit or personal gain, no employee shall act as an agent of the Joint Agreement nor shall an employee act as an agent of any business in any transaction with the Joint Agreement. This includes participation in the selection, award, or administration of a contract supported by a federal award or State award governed by the Grant Accountability and Transparency Act (GATA) (30 ILCS 708/) when the employee has a real or apparent conflict of interest. A conflict of interest arises when an employee or any of the following individuals has a financial or other interest in or a tangible benefit from the entity selected for the contract:

1. A member of the employee's immediate family;
2. An employee's partner; or
3. An entity that employs or is about to employ the employee or one of the individuals listed in one or two above.

Employees shall neither solicit nor accept gratuities, favors, or anything of monetary value from contractors, potential contractors, or parties to agreements or subcontracts. Situations in which the interest is not substantial or the gift is an unsolicited item of nominal value must comply with State law and Board policy 2:105, *Ethics and Gift Ban*.

Guidance Counselor Gift Ban

Guidance counselors are prohibited from intentionally soliciting or accepting any gift from a *prohibited source* or any gift that would be in violation of any federal or State statute or rule. For guidance counselors, a *prohibited source* is any person who is (1) employed by an institution of higher education, or (2) an agent or spouse of or an immediate family member living with a person employed by an institution of higher education. This prohibition does not apply to:

1. Opportunities, benefits, and services available on the same conditions as for the general public.
2. Anything for which the guidance counselor pays market value.
3. A gift from a relative.
4. Anything provided by an individual on the basis of a personal friendship, unless the guidance counselor believes that it was provided due to the official position or employment of the guidance counselor and not due to the personal friendship. In determining whether a gift is provided on the basis of personal friendship, the guidance

counselor must consider the circumstances in which the gift was offered, including any of the following:

- a. The history of the relationship between the individual giving the gift and the guidance counselor, including any previous exchange of gifts between those individuals.
 - b. Whether, to the actual knowledge of the guidance counselor, the individual who gave the gift personally paid for the gift or sought a tax deduction or business reimbursement for the gift.
 - c. Whether, to the actual knowledge of the guidance counselor, the individual who gave the gift also, at the same time, gave the same or a similar gift to other Joint Agreement employees.
5. Bequests, inheritances, or other transfers at death.
 6. Any item(s) during any calendar year having a cumulative total value of less than \$100.
 7. Promotional materials, including, but not limited to, pens, pencils, banners, posters, and pennants.

A guidance counselor does not violate this prohibition if he or she promptly returns the gift to the prohibited source or donates the gift or an amount equal to its value to a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt charity.

Outside Employment

Employees shall not engage in any other employment or in any private business during regular working hours or at such other times as are necessary to fulfill appropriate assigned duties.

Incorporated
by reference: 5:120-E (Code of Ethics for Ill. Educators)

LEGAL REF.: U.S. Constitution, First Amendment.
2 C.F.R. §200.318(c)(1).
5 ILCS 420/4A-101, Ill. Governmental Ethics Act.
5 ILCS 430/, State Officials and Employee Ethics Act.
30 ILCS 708/, Grant Accountability and Transparency Act.
50 ILCS 135/, Local Governmental Employees Political Rights Act.
105 ILCS 5/10-22.39, 5/10-23.13, 5/22-5, 5/22-85.5, and 5/22-93.
325 ILCS 5/, Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act.
720 ILCS 5/11-25, Criminal Code of 2012.
775 ILCS 5/5A-102, Ill. Human Rights Act.
23 Ill.Admin.Code Part 22, Code of Ethics for Ill. Educators.
Pickering v. Board of Township H.S. Dist. 205, 391 U.S. 563 (1968).
Garcetti v. Ceballos, 547 U.S. 410 (2006).

CROSS REF.: 2:105 (Ethics and Gift Ban), 2:265 (Title IX Sexual Harassment Grievance Procedure), 4:60 (Purchases and Contracts), 4:165 (Awareness and Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse and Grooming Behaviors), 5:90 (Abused and Neglected Child Reporting), 5:100 (Staff Development Program), 5:125 (Personal Technology and Social Media; Usage and Conduct), 5:200 (Terms and Conditions of Employment and Dismissal), 5:290 (Employment Terminations and Suspensions), 7:20 (Harassment of Students Prohibited)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

General Personnel

Personal Technology and Social Media; Usage and Conduct

Definitions

Includes - Means “includes without limitation” or “includes, but is not limited to.”

Social media - Media for social interaction, using highly accessible web-based and/or mobile technologies that allow users to share content and/or engage in interactive communication through online communities. This includes, but is not limited to, services such as *Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter, Instagram, TikTok, Snapchat, and YouTube*.

Personal technology - Any device that is not owned or leased by the Joint Agreement or otherwise authorized for Joint Agreement use and: (1) transmits sounds, images, text, messages, videos, or electronic information, (2) electronically records, plays, or stores information, or (3) accesses the Internet, or private communication or information networks. This includes computers, tablets, smartphones, and other devices.

Usage and Conduct

All Joint Agreement employees who use personal technology and/or social media shall:

1. Adhere to the high standards for **Professional and Appropriate Conduct** required by policy 5:120, *Employee Ethics; Code of Professional Conduct; and Conflict of Interest*, at all times, regardless of the ever-changing social media and personal technology platforms available. This includes Joint Agreement employees posting images or private information about themselves or others in a manner readily accessible to students and other employees that is inappropriate as defined by policies 5:20, *Workplace Harassment Prohibited*; 5:100, *Staff Development Program*; 5:120, *Employee Ethics; Code of Professional Conduct; and Conflict of Interest*; 6:235, *Access to Electronic Networks*; and 7:20, *Harassment of Students Prohibited*; and the Ill. Code of Educator Ethics, 23 Ill.Admin.Code §22.20.
2. Choose a Joint Agreement -provided or supported method whenever possible to communicate with students and their parents/guardians.
3. Not interfere with or disrupt the educational or working environment, or the delivery of education or educational support services.
4. Inform their immediate supervisor if a student initiates inappropriate contact with them via any form of personal technology or social media.
5. Report instances of suspected abuse or neglect discovered through the use of social media or personal technology pursuant to a school employee’s obligations under policy 5:90, *Abused and Neglected Child Reporting*.
6. Not disclose confidential information, including but not limited to school student records (e.g., student work, photographs of students, names of students, or any other personally identifiable information about students) or personnel records, in compliance with policy 5:130, *Responsibilities Concerning Internal Information*. For Joint Agreement employees, proper approval may include implied consent under the circumstances.
7. Refrain from using the Joint Agreement’s logos without permission and follow Board policy 5:170, *Copyright*, and all Joint Agreement copyright compliance procedures.

8. Use personal technology and social media for personal purposes only during non-work times or hours. Any duty-free use must occur during times and places that the use will not interfere with job duties or otherwise be disruptive to the school environment or its operation.
9. Assume all risks associated with the use of personal technology and social media at school or school-sponsored activities, including students' viewing of inappropriate Internet materials through the Joint Agreement employee's personal technology or social media. The Board expressly disclaims any responsibility for imposing content filters, blocking lists, or monitoring of its employees' personal technology and social media.
10. Be subject to remedial and any other appropriate disciplinary action for violations of this policy ranging from prohibiting the employee from possessing or using any personal technology or social media at school to dismissal and/or indemnification of the Joint Agreement for any losses, costs, or damages, including reasonable attorney fees, incurred by the Joint Agreement relating to, or arising out of, any violation of this policy.

Director Responsibilities

The Director shall:

1. Inform Joint Agreement employees about this policy in such circumstances as during the in-service on educator ethics, teacher-student conduct, and school employee-student conduct required by policy 5:120, *Employee Ethics; Code of Professional Conduct; and Conflict of Interest*.
2. Direct Assistant Directors to annually:
 - a. Provide their building staff with a copy of this policy.
 - b. Inform their building staff about the importance of maintaining high standards in their school relationships.
 - c. Remind their building staff that those who violate this policy will be subject to remedial and any other appropriate disciplinary action up to and including dismissal.
3. Build awareness of this policy with students, parents, and the community.
4. Ensure that neither the Joint Agreement, nor anyone on its behalf, commits an act prohibited by the Right to Privacy in the Workplace Act, 820 ILCS 55/10; i.e., the *Facebook Password Law*.
5. Periodically review this policy and any implementing procedures with Joint Agreement employee representatives and electronic network system administrator(s) and present proposed changes to the Board.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/21B-75 and 5/21B-80.
775 ILCS 5/5A-102, Ill. Human Rights Act.
820 ILCS 55/10, Right to Privacy in the Workplace Act.
23 Ill.Admin.Code §22.20, Code of Ethics for Ill. Educators.
Garcetti v. Ceballos, 547 U.S. 410 (2006).
Pickering v. High School Dist. 205, 391 U.S. 563 (1968).
Mayer v. Monroe County Community School Corp., 474 F.3d 477 (7th Cir. 2007).

CROSS REF.: 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), 5:130 (Responsibilities Concerning Internal Information), 5:150 (Personnel Records), 5:170 (Copyright), 5:200 (Terms and Conditions of Employment and Dismissal), 6:235 (Access to Electronic Networks), 7:20 (Harassment of Students Prohibited), 7:340 (Student Records)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

General Personnel

Responsibilities Concerning Internal Information

Joint Agreement employees are responsible for maintaining: (1) the integrity and security of all internal information, and (2) the privacy of confidential records, including but not limited to: student school records, personnel records, and the minutes of, and material disclosed in, a closed Board of Control meeting. Internal information is any information, oral or recorded in electronic or paper format, maintained by the Joint Agreement or used by the Joint Agreement or its employees. The Director or designee shall manage procedures for safeguarding the integrity, security, and, as appropriate, confidentiality of internal information.

- LEGAL REF.: Family Educational and Privacy Rights Act, 20 U.S.C. §1232g.
 Uses and Disclosures of Protected Health Information; General Rules, 45 C.F.R.
 §164.502.
 Ill. Freedom of Information Act, 5 ILCS 140/.
 Local Records Act, 50 ILCS 205/.
 105 ILCS 10/.
 Personnel Record Review Act, 820 ILCS 40/.
- CROSS REF.: 2:140 (Communications To and From the Board), 2:250 (Access to Joint
 Agreement Public Records), 5:150 (Personnel Records), 7:340 (Student Records)
- ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

General Personnel

Solicitations By or From Staff

Joint Agreement employees shall not solicit donations or sales, nor shall they be solicited for donations or sales, on school grounds without prior approval from the Director.

CROSS REF.: 8:90 (Parent Organizations and Booster Clubs)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

General Personnel

Personnel Records

Maintenance and Access to Records

The Director or designee shall manage the maintenance of personnel records in accordance with State and federal law and Board of Control policy. Records, as determined by the Director, are retained for all employment applicants, employees, and former employees given the need for the Joint Agreement to document employment-related decisions, evaluate program and staff effectiveness, and comply with government recordkeeping and reporting requirements. Personnel records shall be maintained in the Joint Agreement's administrative office, under the Director's direct supervision.

Access to personnel records is available as follows:

1. An employee will be given access to his or her personnel records according to State law and guidelines developed by the Director.
2. An employee's supervisor or other management employee who has an employment or business-related reason to inspect the record is authorized to have access.
3. Anyone having the respective employee's written consent may have access.
4. Access will be granted to anyone authorized by State or federal law to have access.
5. All other requests for access to personnel information are governed by Board policy 2:250, *Access to Joint Agreement Public Records*.

Prospective Employer Inquiries Concerning a Current or Former Employee's Job Performance

The Director or designee shall manage a process for responding to inquiries by a prospective employer concerning a current or former employee's job performance. The Director shall:

1. Execute the requirements in the Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act whenever another Joint Agreement asks for a reference concerning an applicant who is or was a Joint Agreement employee and was the subject of a report made by a Joint Agreement employee to Ill. Dept. of Children and Family Services (DCFS); and
2. Comply with the federal law prohibiting the Joint Agreement from providing a recommendation of employment for an employee, contractor, or agent that Joint Agreement knows, or has probable cause to believe, has engaged in sexual misconduct with a student or minor in violation of the law, but the Director or designee may follow routine procedures regarding the transmission of administrative or personnel files for that employee.
3. Manage the Joint Agreement's responses to employer requests for sexual misconduct related employment history review (EHR) information in accordance with *Faith's Law*.

When requested for information about an employee by an entity other than a prospective employer, the Joint Agreement will only confirm position and employment dates unless the employee has submitted a written request to the Director or designee.

LEGAL REF.: 20 U.S.C. §7926.
105 ILCS 5/22-94.
325 ILCS 5/4, Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act.
745 ILCS 46/10, Employment Record Disclosure Act.
820 ILCS 40/, Personnel Record Review Act.
23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.660.

CROSS REF.: 2:250 (Access to Joint Agreement Public Records), 5:90 (Abused and Neglected Child Reporting), 7:340 (Student Records)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

General Personnel

Copyright

Works Made for Hire

The Director shall manage the development of instructional materials and computer programs by employees during the scope of their employment in accordance with State and federal laws and Board of Control policies. Whenever an employee is assigned to develop instructional materials and/or computer programs, or otherwise performs such work within the scope of his or her employment, it is assured the Joint Agreement shall be the owner of the copyright.

Copyright Compliance

While staff members may use appropriate supplementary materials, it is each staff member's responsibility to abide by the Joint Agreement's copyright compliance procedures and to obey the copyright laws. The Joint Agreement is not responsible for any violations of the copyright laws by its staff or students. A staff member should contact the Director or designee whenever the staff member is uncertain about whether using or copying material complies with the Joint Agreement's procedures or is permissible under the law, or wants assistance on when and how to obtain proper authorization. No staff member shall, without first obtaining the permission of the Director or designee, install or download any program on a Joint Agreement -owned computer. At no time shall it be necessary for a Joint Agreement staff member to violate copyright laws in order to properly perform his or her duties.

LEGAL REF.: 17 U.S.C. §101 et seq., Federal Copyright Law of 1976.
105 ILCS 5/10-23.10.

CROSS REF.: 6:235 (Access to Electronic Networks)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

General Personnel

Temporary Illness or Temporary Incapacity

A temporary illness or temporary incapacity is an illness or other capacity of ill-being that renders an employee physically or mentally unable to perform assigned duties. During such a period, the employee can use accumulated sick leave benefits. However, income received from other sources (worker's compensation, Joint Agreement -paid insurance programs, etc.) will be deducted from the Joint Agreement's compensation liability to the employee. The Board of Control's intent is that in no case will the employee, who is temporarily disabled, receive more than 100 percent of his or her gross salary.

Those insurance plans privately purchased by the employee and to which the Joint Agreement does not contribute, are not applicable to this policy.

If illness, incapacity, or any other condition causes a teacher to be absent in one school year, after exhaustion of all available leave, for more than 90 consecutive work days, such absence may be considered a permanent disability and the Board may begin dismissal proceedings subject to State and federal law, including the Americans with Disabilities Act. The Director may recommend this paragraph's use when circumstances strongly suggest that the teacher or other licensed employee returned to work intermittently in order to avoid this paragraph's application. This paragraph shall not be considered a limitation on the Board's authority to take any action concerning an employee that is authorized by State and federal law.

Any employee may be required to have an examination, at the Joint Agreement's expense, by a physician who is licensed in Illinois to practice medicine and surgery in all its branches, a licensed advanced practice registered nurse, or a licensed physician assistant if the examination is job-related and consistent with business necessity.

LEGAL REF.: 42 U.S.C. §12101 et seq., Americans with Disabilities Act.
105 ILCS 5/10-22.4, 5/24-12, and 5/24-13.
Elder v. School Dist. No.127 1/2, 60 Ill.App.2d 56 (1st Dist. 1965).
Joint Agreement No. 151 v. ISBE, 154 Ill.App.3d 375 (1st Dist. 1987).

CROSS REF.: 5:30 (Hiring Process and Criteria), 5:40 (Communicable and Chronic Infectious Disease), 5:185 (Family and Medical Leave), 5:250 (Leaves of Absence), 5:330 (Sick Days, Vacation, Holidays, and Leaves)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

General Personnel

Family and Medical Leave

Leave Description

An eligible employee may use unpaid family and medical leave (FMLA leave), guaranteed by the federal Family and Medical Leave Act. The U.S. Department of Labor's rules (federal rules) implementing FMLA, as they may be amended from time to time, control FMLA leave.

An eligible employee may take FMLA leave for up to a combined total of 12 weeks each year, on a rolling 12-month period measured backward from the date the employee used and FMLA leave so that the remaining leave entitlement is the balance of the 12 weeks that has not been used during the immediately preceding 12 months.

During a single 12-month period, an eligible employee's FMLA leave entitlement may be extended to a total of 26 weeks of unpaid leave to care for a covered service member (defined in the federal rules) with a serious injury or illness. The "single 12-month period" is measured forward from the date the employee's first FMLA leave to care for the covered servicemember begins.

While FMLA leave is normally unpaid, the Joint Agreement will substitute an employee's accrued compensatory time-off and/or paid leave for unpaid FMLA leave, provided such leave is available for use in accordance with Board policies and rules. In addition, all policies and rules regarding the use of paid leave apply when paid leave is substituted for unpaid FMLA leave. Any substitution of paid leave for unpaid FMLA leave will count against the employee's FMLA leave entitlement. Use of FMLA leave shall not preclude the use of other applicable unpaid leave that will extend the employee's leave beyond 12 weeks, provided that the use of FMLA leave shall not serve to extend such other unpaid leave. Any full workweek period during which the employee would not have been required to work, including summer break, winter break and spring break, is not counted against the employee's FMLA leave entitlement.

FMLA leave is available in one or more of the following instances:

1. The birth and first-year care of a son or daughter.
2. The adoption or foster placement of a son or daughter, including absences from work that are necessary for the adoption or foster care to proceed and expiring at the end of the 12-month period beginning on the placement date.
3. The serious health condition of an employee's spouse, child, or parent.
4. The employee's own serious health condition that makes the employee unable to perform the functions of his or her job.
5. The existence of a qualifying exigency arising out of the fact that the employee's spouse, child, or parent is a military member on covered active duty or has been notified of an impending call or order to active duty, as provided by federal rules.
6. To care for the employee's spouse, child, parent, or next of kin who is a covered servicemember with a serious injury or illness, as provided by federal rules.

If spouses are employed by the Joint Agreement, they may together take only 12-weeks for FMLA leaves when the reason for the leave is 1 or 2, above, or to care for a parent with a serious health condition, or a combined total of 26 weeks for item 6 above.

An employee may be permitted to work on an intermittent or reduced-leave schedule in accordance with federal rules.

Eligibility

To be eligible for FMLA leave, an employee must be employed at a worksite where at least 50 employees are employed within 75 miles. In addition, one of the following provisions must describe the employee:

1. The employee has been employed by the Joint Agreement for at least 12 months and has been employed for at least 1,000 hours of service during the 12-month period immediately before the beginning of the leave. The 12 months an employee must have been employed by the Joint Agreement need not be consecutive. However, the Joint Agreement will not consider any period of previous employment that occurred more than seven years before the date of the most recent hiring, except when the service break is due to fulfillment of a covered service obligation under the employee's Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA), 38 U.S.C. 4301, et seq., or when a written agreement exists concerning the Joint Agreement's intention to rehire the employee.
2. The employee is a full-time classroom teacher.

Requesting Leave

If the need for the FMLA leave is foreseeable, an employee must provide the Director or designee with at least 30 days' advance notice before the leave is to begin. If 30 days' advance notice is not practicable, the notice must be given as soon as practicable. The employee shall make a reasonable effort to schedule a planned medical treatment so as not to disrupt the Joint Agreement's operations, subject to the approval of the health care provider administering the treatment. The employee shall provide at least verbal notice sufficient to make the Director or designee aware that he or she needs FMLA leave, and the anticipated timing and duration of the leave. Failure to give the required notice for a foreseeable leave may result in a delay in granting the requested leave until at least 30 days after the date the employee provides notice.

Certification

Within 15 calendar days after the Director or designee makes a request for certification for a FMLA leave, an employee must provide one of the following:

1. When the leave is to care for the employee's covered family member with a serious health condition, the employee must provide a complete and sufficient certificate signed by the family member's health care provider.
2. When the leave is due to the employee's own serious health condition, the employee must provide a complete and sufficient certificate signed by the employee's health care provider.
3. When the leave is to care for a covered servicemember with a serious illness or injury, the employee must provide a complete and sufficient certificate signed by an authorized health care provider for the covered servicemember.
4. When the leave is because of a qualified exigency, the employee must provide: (a) a copy of the covered military member's active duty orders or other documentation issued by the military indicating that the military member is on active duty or call to active duty status, and the dates of the covered military member's active duty service, and (b) a statement or description, signed by the employee, of appropriate facts regarding the qualifying exigency for which FMLA leave is requested.

The Joint Agreement may require an employee to obtain a second and third opinion at its expense when it has reason to doubt the validity of a medical certification.

The Joint Agreement may require recertification at reasonable intervals, but not more often than once every 30 days. Regardless of the length of time since the last request, the Joint Agreement may request recertification when the, (1) employee requests a leave extension, (2) circumstances described

by the original certification change significantly, or (3) Joint Agreement receives information that casts doubt upon the continuing validity of the original certification. Recertification is at the employee's expense and must be provided to the Joint Agreement within 15 calendar days after the request. The Joint Agreement may request recertification every six months in connection with any absence by an employee needing an intermittent or reduced schedule leave for conditions with a duration in excess of six months.

Failure to furnish a complete and sufficient certification on forms provided by the Joint Agreement may result in a denial of the leave request.

Continuation of Health Benefits

During FMLA leave, employees are entitled to continuation of health benefits that would have been provided if they were working. Any share of health plan premiums being paid by the employee before taking the leave, must continue to be paid by the employee during the FMLA leave. A Joint Agreement's obligation to maintain health insurance coverage ceases if an employee's premium payment is more than 30 days late and the Joint Agreement notifies the employee at least 15 days before coverage will cease.

Changed Circumstances and Intent to Return

An employee must provide the Director or designee reasonable notice of changed circumstances (i.e., within two business days if the changed circumstances are foreseeable) that will alter the duration of the FMLA leave. The Director or designee, taking into consideration all of the relevant facts and circumstances related to an individual's leave situation, may ask an employee who has been on FMLA leave for eight consecutive weeks whether he or she intends to return to work.

Return to Work

If returning from FMLA leave occasioned by the employee's own serious health condition, the employee is required to obtain and present certification from the employee's health care provider that he or she is able to resume work.

An employee returning from FMLA leave will be given an equivalent position to his or her position before the leave, subject to: (1) permissible limitations the Joint Agreement may impose as provided in the FMLA or implementing regulations, and (2) the Joint Agreement's reassignment policies and practices.

Classroom teachers may be required to wait to return to work until the next semester in certain situations as provided by the FMLA regulations.

Implementation

The Director or designee shall ensure that: (1) all required notices and responses to leave requests are provided to employees in accordance with the FMLA; and (2) this policy is implemented in accordance with the FMLA. In the event of a conflict between the policy and the FMLA or its regulations, the latter shall control. The terms used in this policy shall be defined as in the FMLA regulations.

LEGAL REF.: 29 U.S.C. §2601 et seq., Family and Medical Leave Act; 29 C.F.R. Part 825.
105 ILCS 5/24-6.4.

CROSS REF.: 5:180 (Temporary Illness or Temporary Incapacity), 5:250 (Leaves of Absence),
5:310 (Compensatory Time-Off), 5:330 (Sick Days, Vacation, Holidays, and
Leaves)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Professional Personnel

Teacher Qualifications

A teacher, as the term is used in this policy, refers to a Joint Agreement employee who is required to be licensed under State law. Each teacher must:

- a. Have valid certification as provided in the School Code.
- b. Provide the Joint Agreement Office with a complete 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 Joint Agreement Office with a transcript of any credits earned since the date the last transcript was filed.
- d. Notify the Director of any change in the teacher's transcript.

The Director or designee shall:

1. Monitor compliance with State and federal law requirements that teachers be appropriately licensed; and
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.

LEGAL REF.: 20 U.S.C. §6312(e)(1)(A).
105 ILCS 5/10-20.15, 5/21-11.4, 5/21B-15, 5/21B-20, 5/21B-25, and 5/24-23.
23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.610 et seq., §1.705 et seq., and Part 25.

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Professional Personnel

Terms and Conditions of Employment and Dismissal

The Board of Control delegates authority and responsibility to the Director to manage the terms and conditions for the employment of professional personnel. The Director shall act reasonably and comply with State and federal law as well as any applicable individual employment contract or collective bargaining agreement in effect. The Director is responsible for making dismissal recommendations to the Board consistent with the Board's goal of having a highly qualified, high performing staff.

School Year and Day, Evaluation

Please refer to the applicable collective bargaining agreement(s).

Duty-Free Lunch

Teachers employed for at least four hours per day shall receive a duty-free lunch equivalent to the student lunch period, or 30 minutes, whichever is longer.

Nursing Mothers

The Joint Agreement accommodates employees who are nursing mothers according to provisions in State and federal law.

Salary

Teachers shall be paid according to the salaries fixed by the Board, but in no case less than the minimum salary provided by the School Code. Teachers shall be paid at least monthly on a 10- or 12-month basis.

Assignments and Transfers

The Director is authorized to make teaching, study hall, extra class duty, and extracurricular assignments. In order of priority, assignments shall be made based on the Joint Agreement's needs and best interests, employee qualifications, and employee desires.

Joint Agreement Social Worker Services Outside of Joint Agreement Employment

Joint Agreement social workers may not provide services outside of their Joint Agreement employment to any student(s) attending school in the Joint Agreement. *Social worker* has the meaning stated in 105 ILCS 5/14-1.09a.

Dismissal

The Joint Agreement will follow State law when dismissing a teacher.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/10-19, 5/10-19.05, 5/10-20.65, 5/14-1.09a, 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. Loudermill, 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), 6:20 (Joint Agreement Year
Calendar and Day)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Professional Personnel

Resignations

Tenured teachers may resign at any time with consent of the Board of Control or by written notice sent to the Board Secretary at least 30 days before the intended date of resignation. However, no teacher may resign during the school term in order to accept another teaching position without the consent of the Board.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/24-14.
Park Forest Heights School Dist. v. State Teacher Certification Bd., 363 Ill.App.3d 433 (1st Dist. 2006).

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Professional Personnel

Substitute Teachers

The Director 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. There is no limit on the number of days that a substitute teacher may teach in the Joint Agreement 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 Joint Agreement only for a period not to exceed 120 days beginning with the 2021-2022 through the 2022-2023 school year, otherwise 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 Joint Agreement 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, but not more than 100 paid days in the same classroom. Beginning July 1, 2023, 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 of Control 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 Joint Agreement'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 Joint Agreement 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 Director shall notify the appropriate Regional Office of Education within five business days after the employment of a substitute teacher in an emergency situation.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/10-20.68, 5/21B-20(2), 5/21B-20(3), and 5/21B-20(4).
40 ILCS 5/16-118, Ill. 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: May 1, 2024

Professional Personnel

Maintaining Student Discipline

Maintaining an orderly learning environment is an essential part of each teacher's instructional responsibilities. A teacher's ability to foster appropriate student behavior is an important factor in the teacher's educational effectiveness. The Director shall ensure that all teachers, other certificated [licensed] educational employees (except for individuals employed as paraprofessional educators), employees, and persons providing a student's related service(s): (1) maintain discipline in the school as required in the School Code, (2) follow the Board of Control policies and administrative procedures on student conduct, behavior, and discipline and (3) follow the requirements with respect to discipline, if any, in a student's IEP.

When a student's behavior is unacceptable, the teacher should first discuss the matter with the student, if appropriate. If the unacceptable behavior continues, the teacher should consult with the Assistant Director and/or discuss the problem with the parent(s)/guardian(s). A teacher may remove any student from the learning setting whose behavior interferes with the lessons or participation of fellow students. A student's removal must be in accordance with Board policy and administrative procedures.

Teachers shall not use disciplinary methods that may be damaging to students, such as ridicule, sarcasm, or excessive temper displays. Corporal punishment (including slapping, paddling, or prolonged maintenance of a student in physically painful positions, and intentional infliction of bodily harm) may not be used. Teachers may use reasonable force as needed to keep students, school personnel, and others safe, or for self-defense or defense of property.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/24-24.
23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.280.

CROSS REF.: 2:150 (Committees), 7:190 (Student Behavior), 7:230 (Misconduct by Students with Disabilities)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Professional Personnel

Suspension

Suspension Without Pay

The Board of Control may suspend without pay: (1) a professional employee pending a dismissal hearing, or (2) a teacher as a disciplinary measure for up to 30 employment days for misconduct that is detrimental to the Joint Agreement. Administrative staff members may not be suspended without pay as a disciplinary measure.

Misconduct that is detrimental to the Joint Agreement includes:

- Insubordination, including any failure to follow an oral or written directive from a supervisor;
- Violation of Board policy or Administrative Procedure;
- Conduct that disrupts or may disrupt the educational program or process;
- Conduct that violates any State or federal law that relates to the employee's duties; and
- Other sufficient causes.

The Director or designee is authorized to issue a pre-suspension notification to a professional employee. This notification shall include the length and reason for the suspension as well as the deadline for the employee to exercise his or her right to appeal the suspension to the Board or Board-appointed hearing examiner before it is imposed. At the request of the professional employee made within five calendar days of receipt of a pre-suspension notification, the Board or Board-appointed hearing examiner will conduct a pre-suspension hearing. The Board or its designee shall notify the professional employee of the date and time of the hearing. At the pre-suspension hearing, the professional employee or his/her representative may present evidence. If the employee does not appeal the pre-suspension notification, the Director or designee shall report the action to the Board at its next regularly scheduled meeting.

Suspension With Pay

The Board or Director or designee may suspend a professional employee with pay: (1) during an investigation into allegations of disobedience or misconduct whenever the employee's continued presence in his or her position would not be in the Joint Agreement's best interests, (2) as a disciplinary measure for misconduct that is detrimental to the Joint Agreement as defined above, or (3) pending a Board hearing to suspend a teacher without pay.

The Director shall meet with the employee to present the allegations and give the employee an opportunity to refute the charges. The employee will be told the dates and times the suspension will begin and end.

Employees Under Investigation by Illinois Dept. of Children and Family Services (DCFS)

Upon receipt of a DCFS recommendation that the Joint Agreement remove an employee from his or her position when he or she is the subject of a pending DCFS investigation that relates to his or her employment with the Joint Agreement, the Board or Director or designee, in consultation with the Board Attorney, will determine whether to:

1. Let the employee remain in his or her position pending the outcome of the investigation; or
2. Remove the employee as recommended by DCFS, proceeding with:
 - a. A suspension with pay; or

- b. A suspension without pay.

Repayment of Compensation and Benefits

If a professional employee is suspended with pay, either voluntarily or involuntarily, pending the outcome of a criminal investigation or prosecution, and the employee is later dismissed as a result of his or her criminal conviction, the employee must repay to the Joint Agreement all compensation and the value of all benefits received by him or her during the suspension. The Director will notify the employee of this requirement when the employee is suspended.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/24-12.
5 ILCS 430/5-60(b), State Officials and Employee Ethics Act.
325 ILCS 5/7.4(c-10), Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act.
Cleveland Bd. of Educ. v. Loudermill, 470 U.S. 532 (1985).
Barszcz v. Cmty College Dist. No. 504, 400 F.Supp. 675 (N.D. Ill. 1975).
Massie v. East St. Louis Sch. Dist. No.189, 203 Ill.App.3d 965 (5th Dist. 1990).

CROSS REF.: 5:290 (Employment Termination and Suspensions)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Professional Personnel

Leaves of Absence

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

Sick and Bereavement Leave, Personal Leave

Please refer to the applicable collective bargaining agreement(s).

Staff members are entitled to use up to 30 days of paid sick leave because of the birth of a child that is not dependent on the need to recover from childbirth. Such days may be used at any time within the 12-month period following the birth of the child. Intervening periods of nonworking days or school not being in session, such as breaks and holidays, do not count towards the 30 working school days. As a condition of paying sick leave beyond the 30 working school days, the Board or Director may require medical certification.

For purposes of adoption, placement for adoption, or acceptance of a child in need of foster care, paid sick leave may be used for reasons related to the formal adoption or the formal foster care process prior to taking custody of the child or accepting the child in need of foster care, and for taking custody of the child or accepting the child in need of foster care. Such leave is limited to 30 days, unless a longer leave is provided in an applicable collective bargaining agreement, and need not be used consecutively once the formal adoption or foster care process is underway. The Board or Director may require that the employee provide evidence that the formal adoption or foster care process is underway.

Family Bereavement Leave

State law allows a maximum of 10 unpaid work days for eligible employees (Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993, 20 U.S.C. §2601 *et seq.*) to take family bereavement leave. The purpose, requirements, scheduling, and all other terms of the leave are governed by the Family Bereavement Leave Act. Eligible employees may use family bereavement leave, without any adverse employment action, for: (1) attendance by the bereaved staff member at the funeral or alternative to a funeral of a covered family member, which includes an employee's child, stepchild, domestic partner, sibling, parent, mother-in-law, father-in-law, grandchild, grandparent, or stepparent (2) making arrangements necessitated by the death of the covered family member, (3) grieving the death of the covered family member, or (4) absence from work due to a Significant Event, which includes: (i) miscarriage, (ii) an unsuccessful round of intrauterine insemination or of an assisted reproductive technology procedure, (iii) a failed adoption match or an adoption that is not finalized because it is contested by another party, (iv) a failed surrogacy agreement, (v) a diagnosis that negatively impacts pregnancy or fertility, or (vi) a still birth. An employee qualifying for leave due to a Significant Event will not be required to identify which specific reason applies to the employee's request.

The leave must be completed within 60 days after the date on which the employee received notice of the death of the covered family member or the date on which an event under item (4) above occurs. However, in the event of the death of more than one covered family member in a 12-month period, an employee is entitled to up to a total of six weeks of bereavement leave during the 12-month period, subject to certain restrictions under State and federal law. Other existing forms of leave may be

substituted for the leave provided in the Family Bereavement Leave Act. This policy does not create any right for an employee to take family bereavement leave that is inconsistent with the Family Bereavement Leave Act.

Leave to Serve as an Election Judge

Any staff member who was appointed to serve as an election judge under State law may, after giving at least 20-days' written notice to the Joint Agreement, be absent without pay for the purpose of serving as an election judge. The staff member is not required to use any form of paid leave to serve as an election judge. No more than 10% of the Joint Agreement's employees may be absent to serve as election judges on the same Election Day.

Child-Rearing Leave

The Board shall grant a professional staff member's request for a non-paid, child-rearing leave, not to exceed the balance of the school year plus one additional school year (but in no event shall such leave exceed three semesters), provided the request complies with this policy. Nothing in this section shall prohibit a professional staff member from using paid sick days as provided in this policy.

A teacher should request, if possible, a child-rearing leave by notifying the Director in writing no later than 90 days before the requested leave's beginning date. The request should include the proposed leave dates. The leave shall end before a new school year begins or before the first day of school after semester break.

Subject to the insurance carrier's approval, the teacher may maintain insurance benefits at his or her own expense during a child-rearing leave.

A professional staff member desiring to return before the leave's expiration will be assigned to an available vacancy for which the teacher is qualified, subject to scheduling efficiency and instruction continuity.

Leaves for Service in the Military

Leaves for service in the U.S. Armed Services or any of its reserve components and the National Guard, as well as re-employment rights, will be granted in accordance with State and federal law. A professional staff member hired to replace one in military service does not acquire tenure.

General Assembly Leave

Leaves for service in the General Assembly, as well as re-employment rights, will be granted in accordance with State and federal law. A professional staff member hired to replace one in the General Assembly does not acquire tenure.

Joint Agreement Visitation Leave

An eligible professional staff member is entitled to eight hours during any school year, no more than four hours of which may be taken on any given day, to attend school conferences, behavioral meetings, or academic meetings related to the teacher's child, if the conference or meeting cannot be scheduled during non-work hours. Professional staff members must first use all accrued vacation leave, personal leave, compensatory leave, and any other leave that may be granted to the professional staff member, except sick, and disability leave.

The Director shall develop administrative procedures implementing this policy consistent with the School Visitation Rights Act.

Leaves for Victims of Domestic Violence, Sexual Violence, Gender Violence, or Other Crime of Violence

An unpaid leave from work is available to any staff member who: (1) is a victim of domestic violence, sexual violence, gender violence, or any other crime of violence or (2) has a family or household member who is a victim of such violence whose interests are not adverse to the employee as it relates to the domestic violence, sexual violence, gender violence, or any other crime of violence. The unpaid leave allows the employee to seek medical help, legal assistance, counseling, safety planning, and other assistance without suffering adverse employment action.

The Victims' Economic Security and Safety Act governs the purpose, requirements, scheduling, and continuity of benefits, and all other terms of the leave. Accordingly, if the Joint Agreement employs at least 15 but no more than 49 employees, and subject to any expectations in VESSA, an employee is entitled to a total of eight work weeks of unpaid leave during any 12-month period. 820 ILCS 180/20(a)(2), amended by P.A. 103-314, eff. 1-1-24. Neither the law nor this policy creates a right for an employee to take unpaid leave that exceeds the unpaid leave time allowed under, or is in addition to the unpaid leave time permitted by, the federal Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 (29 U.S.C. §2601 *et seq.*).

Leaves to Serve as an Officer or Trustee of a Specific Organization

Upon request, the Board will grant: (1) an unpaid leave of absence to an elected officer of a State or national teacher organization that represents teachers in collective bargaining negotiations, (2) twenty days of paid leave of absence per year to a trustee of the Teachers' Retirement System in accordance with 105 ILCS 5/24-6.3, and (3) a paid leave of absence for the local association president of a State teacher association that is an exclusive bargaining agent in the Joint Agreement, or his or her designee, to attend meetings, workshops, or seminars as described in 105 ILCS 5/24-6.2.

COVID-19 Paid Administrative Leave

During any time when the Governor has declared a disaster due to a public health emergency under 20 ILCS 3305/7, paid administrative leave is available to eligible employees if the Joint Agreement, State or any of its agencies, or the local health department has issued guidance, mandates, or rules related to COVID-19 that restrict an employee from being on Joint Agreement property for a reason outlined in State law.

For an employee to be eligible for COVID-19 paid administrative leave, the employee must be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 as defined in 105 ILCS 5/10-20.83 (final citation pending).

The employee will receive as many days of administrative leave as required to abide by the public health guidance, mandates, and requirements issued by the Ill. Dept. of Public Health, unless a longer period has been negotiated with the exclusive bargaining representative.

As a condition of being granted COVID-19 paid administrative leave, an employee shall provide all documentation necessary to substantiate the employee's eligibility for the leave, as requested by the Director or designee. An employee who is on COVID-19 paid administrative leave will receive the employee's regular rate of pay; the leave will not diminish any other leave or benefits of the employee. Employees may not accrue COVID-19 paid administrative leave.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/10-20.83 (final citation pending), 5/24-6, 5/24-6.1, 5/24-6.2, 5/24-6.3,
5/24-13, and 5/24-13.1.
10 ILCS 5/13-2.5, Election Code.
330 ILCS 61/, Service Member Employment and Reemployment Rights Act.
820 ILCS 147/, School Visitation Rights Act.
820 ILCS 154/, Child Bereavement Leave Act.
820 ILCS 180/, Victims' Economic Security and Safety Act.

CROSS REF.: 5:180 (Temporary Illness or Temporary Incapacity), 5:185 (Family and Medical
Leave), 5:330 (Sick Days, Vacation, Holidays, and Leaves)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Professional Personnel

Student Teachers

The Director is authorized to accept students from university-approved teacher-training programs to do student teaching in the Joint Agreement. No individual who has been convicted of a criminal offense that would subject him or her to license suspension or revocation pursuant to Section 5/21B-80 of the School Code or who has been found to be the perpetrator of sexual or physical abuse of a minor under 18 years of age pursuant to proceedings under Article II of the Juvenile Court Act of 1987 is permitted to student teach.

Before permitting an individual to student teach or begin a required internship in the Joint Agreement, the Director or designee shall ensure that:

1. The Joint Agreement performed a *105 ILCS 5/10-21.9(g) Check* as described below; and
2. The individual furnished evidence of physical fitness to perform assigned duties and freedom from communicable disease pursuant to 105 ILCS 5/24-5.

A *105 ILCS 5/10-21.9(g) Check* shall include:

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

The School Code requires each individual student teaching or beginning a required internship to provide the Joint Agreement with written authorization for, and pay the costs of, his or her 105 ILCS 5/10-21.9(g) check (including any applicable vendor's fees). Upon receipt of this authorization and payment, the Director or designee will submit the student teacher's name, sex, race, date of birth, social security number, fingerprint images, and other identifiers, as prescribed by the Ill. State Police (ISP), to the ISP. The Director or designee will provide each student teacher with a copy of his or her report.

Assignment

The Director or designee shall be responsible for coordinating placements of all student teachers within the Joint Agreement. Student teachers should be assigned to supervising teachers whose qualifications are acceptable to the Joint Agreement and the students' respective colleges or universities.

LEGAL REF.: 34 U.S.C. §20901 et seq., Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act, P.L. 109-248.
20 ILCS 2635/1, Uniform Conviction Information Act.
105 ILCS 5/10-21.9, 5/10-22.34, and 5/24-5.

CROSS REF.: 4:175 (Convicted Child Sex Offender; Screening; Notifications), 5:190 (Teacher Qualifications)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Educational Support Personnel

Employment At-Will, Compensation, and Assignment

Employment At-Will

Unless otherwise specifically provided, Joint Agreement employment is at-will, meaning that employment may be terminated by the Joint Agreement or employee at any time for any reason, other than a reason prohibited by law, or no reason at all. Nothing in Board of Control policy is intended or should be construed as altering the employment at-will relationship.

Exceptions to employment at-will may include employees who are employed annually, have an employment contract, or are otherwise granted a legitimate interest in continued employment. The Director is authorized to make exceptions to employing nonlicensed employees at-will but shall maintain a record of positions or employees who are not at-will.

Compensation

The Board will determine salary and wages for educational support personnel. Increments are dependent on evidence of continuing satisfactory performance. An employee covered by the overtime provisions in State or federal law shall not work overtime without the prior authorization from the employee's immediate supervisor. Educational support personnel are paid twice a month.

Assignment

The Director is authorized to make assignments and transfers of educational support personnel.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/10-22.34 and 5/10-23.5.

CROSS REF.: 5:10 (Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Recruitment), 5:35 (Compliance with the Fair Labor Standards Act), 5:290 (Employment Termination and Suspensions), 5:310 (Compensatory Time-Off)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Educational Support Personnel

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 Control 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 Control (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 teacher's direction and with the administration's approval.

Bus Drivers

All school bus drivers must have a valid school bus driver permit. The Director 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 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: May 1, 2024

Educational Support Personnel

Drug and Alcohol Testing for School Bus and Commercial Vehicle Drivers

The Joint Agreement shall adhere to State and federal law and regulations requiring a drug and alcohol testing program for school bus and commercial vehicle drivers. The Director or designee manages a program to implement State and federal law defining the circumstances and procedures for the testing.

This policy shall not be implemented, and no administrative procedures will be needed, until it is reasonably foreseeable that the District will hire staff for a position(s) requiring a commercial driver's license.

LEGAL REF.: 625 ILCS 5/6-106.1 and 5/6-106.1c.
49 U.S.C. §31306, Alcohol and Controlled Substances Testing (Omnibus Transportation Employee Testing Act of 1991, P.L. 102-143).
49 C.F.R. Parts 40 (Procedures for Transportation Workplace Drug and Alcohol Testing Programs), 382 (Controlled Substance and Alcohol Use and Testing), and 395 (Hours of Service of Drivers).

CROSS REF.: 4:110 (Transportation), 5:30 (Hiring Process and Criteria), 5:280 (Duties and Qualifications)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Educational Support Personnel

Employment Termination and Suspensions

Resignation and Retirement

An employee is requested to provide two weeks' notice of a resignation. A resignation notice cannot be revoked once given. An employee planning to retire should notify his or her supervisor at least two months before the retirement date.

Non-RIF Dismissal

The Joint Agreement may terminate an at-will employee at any time for any or no reason, but not for a reason prohibited by State or federal law.

Employees who are employed annually or have a contract, or who otherwise have a legitimate expectation of continued employment, may be dismissed: (1) at the end of the school year or at the end of their respective contract after being provided appropriate notice and after compliance with any applicable contractual provisions, or (2) mid-year or mid-contract provided appropriate due process procedures are provided.

The Director is responsible for making dismissal recommendations to the Board of Control consistent with the Board's goal of having a highly qualified, high performing staff. This includes recommending a non-licensed employee for immediate dismissal for willful or negligent failure to report an instance of suspected child abuse or neglect as required by 325 ILCS 5/.

Reduction in Force and Recall

The Board may, as necessary or prudent, decide to decrease the number of educational support personnel or to discontinue some particular type of educational support service and, as a result of that action, dismiss or reduce the hours of one or more educational support employees. When making decisions concerning reduction in force and recall, the Board will follow Sections 10-22.34c (outsourcing non-instructional services) and 10-23.5 (procedures) of the School Code, to the extent they are applicable and not superseded by legislation or an applicable collective bargaining agreement.

Final Paycheck

A terminating employee's final paycheck will be adjusted for any unused, earned vacation credit. Employees are paid for all earned vacation. Terminating employees will receive their final pay on the next regular payday following the date of termination, except that an employee dismissed due to a reduction in force shall receive his or her final paycheck on or before the next regular pay date following the last day of employment.

Suspension

Except as provided below, the Director is authorized to suspend an employee without pay as a disciplinary measure, during an investigation into allegations of misconduct or pending a dismissal hearing whenever, in the Director's judgment, the employee's presence is detrimental to the Joint Agreement. A disciplinary suspension shall be with pay: (1) when the employee is exempt from the overtime provisions, or (2) until an employee with an employment contract for a definite term is provided a notice and hearing according to the suspension policy for professional employees. Upon receipt of a recommendation from the Ill. Dept. Children and Family Services (DCFS) that the Joint

Agreement remove an employee from his or her position when he or she is the subject of a pending DCFS investigation that relates to his or her employment with the Joint Agreement, the Board or Director or designee, in consultation with the Board Attorney, will determine whether to:

1. Let the employee remain in his or her position pending the outcome of the investigation; or
2. Remove the employee as recommended, proceeding with:
 - a. A suspension with pay; or
 - b. A suspension without pay.

Any criminal conviction resulting from the investigation or allegations shall require the employee to repay to the Joint Agreement all compensation and the value of all benefits received by the employee during the suspension. The Director will notify the employee of this requirement when the employee is suspended.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/10-22.34c and 5/10-23.5.
5 ILCS 430 et seq., State Officials and Employees Ethics Act.
325 ILCS 5/7.4(c-10), Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act.
820 ILCS 105/4a, Minimum Wage Law.

CROSS REF.: 5:90 (Abused and Neglected Child Reporting), 5:120 (Employee Ethics; Code of Professional Conduct; and Conflict of Interest), 5:240 (Suspension), 5:270 (Employment At-Will, Compensation, and Assignment)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Educational Support Personnel

Schedules and Employment Year

The Director 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 Control 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 Joint Agreement needs, work load, and the efficient management of human resources;
2. Allow for the ability to respond to changing circumstances by altering work schedules as needed; and
3. Consider the well-being of the employee. The Director's approval is required to establish a flexible work schedule or job-sharing.

Breaks

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. The Joint Agreement accommodates employees who are nursing mothers according to State and federal law.

LEGAL REF.: Fair Labor Standards Act, 29 U.S.C. §207 et seq.
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.: 5:35 (Compliance with the Fair Labor Standards Act)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Educational Support Personnel

Compensatory Time-Off

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

Employees may be given 1-1/2 hours of compensatory time-off in lieu of cash payment for each hour of overtime worked. Other than as provided below, at no time may an employee's accumulated compensatory time-off exceed 12 hours, which represents compensation for 8 hours of overtime. An employee whose work regularly includes public safety, emergency response, or seasonal activities may accumulate a maximum of 480 hours of compensatory time, which represents compensation for 320 hours of overtime. If an employee accrues the maximum number of compensatory time-off hours, the employee: (1) is paid for any additional overtime hours worked, at the rate of one and one-half times the employee's regular hourly rate of pay, and (2) does not accumulate compensatory time-off until the employee uses an equal amount of accrued time-off.

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

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

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

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

Implementation

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

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

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

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Educational Support Personnel

Evaluation

The Director is responsible for designing and implementing a program for evaluating the job performance of each educational support staff member according to standards contained in Board of Control policies as well as in compliance with State law and any applicable employee handbook and/or collective bargaining agreement. The standards for the evaluation program shall include, but not be limited to:

1. Each employee shall be evaluated annually, preferably before the annual salary review.
2. The direct supervisor shall provide input.
3. The employee's work quality, promptness, attendance, reliability, conduct, judgment, and cooperation shall be considered.
4. The employee shall receive a copy of the annual evaluation.
5. All evaluations shall comply with State and federal law and any applicable employee handbook and/or collective bargaining agreement.

CROSS REF.: 5:10 (Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Recruitment), 5:150
(Personnel Records)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Educational Support Personnel

Sick Days, Vacation, Holidays, and Leaves

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

Sick and Bereavement Leave

Educational support personnel shall receive the same sick and bereavement leave that is granted professional staff.

Sick leave is defined in State law as personal illness, mental or behavioral complications, quarantine at home, serious illness or death in the immediate family or household, or birth, adoption, placement for adoption, or the acceptance of a child in need of foster care. The Director or designee shall monitor the use of sick leave.

As a condition for paying sick leave after three days absence for personal illness or as the Board or Director deem necessary in other cases, the Board or Director may require that the staff member provide a certificate from: (1) a physician licensed in Illinois to practice medicine and surgery in all its branches, (2) a mental health professional licensed in Illinois providing ongoing care or treatment to the staff member (3) a chiropractic physician licensed under the Medical Practice Act, (4) a licensed advanced practice registered nurse, (5) a licensed physician assistant who has been delegated the authority to perform health examinations by his or her supervising physician, or (6) if the treatment is by prayer or spiritual means, a spiritual adviser or practitioner of the employee's faith. If the Board or Director requires a certificate during a leave of less than three days for personal illness, the Joint Agreement shall pay the expenses incurred by the employee.

Employees are entitled to use up to 30 days of paid sick leave because of the birth of a child that is not dependent on the need to recover from childbirth. Such days may be used at any time within the 12-month period following the birth of the child. Intervening periods of nonworking days or school not being in session, such as breaks and holidays, do not count towards the 30 working school days. As a condition of paying sick leave beyond the 30 working school days, the Board or the Director may require medical certification.

For purposes of adoption, placement for adoption, or acceptance of a child in need of foster care, paid sick leave may be used for reasons related to the formal adoption or the formal foster care process prior to taking custody of the child or accepting the child in need of foster care, and for taking custody of the child or accepting the child in need to foster care. Such leave is limited to 30 days, unless a longer leave is provided in an applicable collective bargaining agreement, and need not be used consecutively once the formal adoption or foster care process is underway. The Board or Director may require that the employee provide evidence that the formal adoption or foster care process is underway.

Vacation

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

<u>Length of Employment</u>	<u>Monthly Accumulation</u>	<u>Maximum Vacation Leave Earned Per Year</u>

<u>From:</u>	<u>To:</u>		
Beginning of year 2	End of year 5	0.83 Days	10 Days per year
Beginning of year 6	End of year 15	1.25 Days	15 Days per year
Beginning of year 16	End of year	1.67 Days	20 Days per year

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

Vacation days earned in one fiscal year must be used by the end of the following fiscal year; they do not accumulate. Employees resigning or whose employment is terminated are entitled to the monetary equivalent of all earned vacation.

Holidays

Unless the Joint Agreement has a waiver or modification of the School Code pursuant to Section 2-3.25g or 24-2(b) allowing it to schedule school on a legal school holiday listed below, Joint Agreement employees will not be required to work on:

New Year's Day	Labor Day
Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday	Columbus Day
Abraham Lincoln's Birthday	Veterans Day
Casimir Pulaski's Birthday	2022 Election Day
Memorial Day	Thanksgiving Day
Juneteenth National Freedom Day	Christmas Day
Independence Day	

A holiday will not cause a deduction from an employee's time or compensation. The Joint Agreement may require educational support personnel to work on a school holiday during an emergency or for the continued operation and maintenance of facilities or property.

Personal Leave

Educational support personnel shall receive the same sick and bereavement leave that is granted professional staff.

The use of a personal day is subject to the following conditions:

1. Except in cases of emergency or unavoidable situations, a personal leave request should be submitted to the Assistant Director three days before the requested date.
2. No personal leave day may be used immediately before or immediately after a holiday, or during the first and/or last five days of the school year, unless the Director grants prior approval.
3. Personal leave may not be used in increments of less than one-half day.
4. Personal leave is subject to any necessary replacement's availability.
5. Personal leave may not be used on an in-service training day and/or institute training days.
6. Personal leave may not be used when the employee's absence would create an undue hardship.

Leave to Serve as a Trustee of the Ill. Municipal Retirement Fund

Upon request, the Board will grant 20 days of paid leave of absence per year to a trustee of the Ill. Municipal Retirement Fund in accordance with State law.

Other Leaves

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

1. Leave for Service in the Military.
2. Leave for Service in the General Assembly.
3. School Visitation Leave.
4. Leaves for Victims of Domestic Violence, Sexual Violence, Gender Violence, or Other Crime of Violence.
5. Family Bereavement Leave.
6. Leave to serve as an election judge.
7. COVID-19 Paid Administrative Leave.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/10-20.7b, 5/10-20.83 (final citation pending), 5/24-2, 5/24-6, and 5/24-6.3.
10 ILCS 5/13-2.5, Election Code.
330 ILCS 61/, Service Member Employment and Reemployment Rights Act.
820 ILCS 147, School Visitation Rights Act.
820 ILCS 154/, Child Bereavement Leave Act.
820 ILCS 180/, Victims' Economic Security and Safety Act.
School Dist. 151 v. ISBE, 154 Ill.App.3d 375 (1st Dist. 1987); Elder v. Sch. Dist. No.127 1/2, 60 Ill.App.2d 56 (1st Dist. 1965).

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

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

INDIAN VALLEY VOCATIONAL CENTER BOARD OF CONTROL POLICY MANUAL
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Because certain policy numbers are used for IASB sample policies, districts should use numbers ending in 2, 4, 6, or 8 for locally developed policies on topics not covered by IASB sample policies.

Instruction

Educational Philosophy and Objectives

The Joint Agreement's educational program will seek to provide an opportunity for each student to develop to his or her maximum potential. The objectives for the educational program are to:

1. Foster students' self-discovery, self-awareness, and self-discipline.
2. Develop students' awareness of and appreciation for cultural diversity.
3. Stimulate students' intellectual curiosity and growth.
4. Provide students with fundamental career concepts and skills.
5. Help students develop sensitivity to the needs and values of others and a respect for individual and group differences.
6. Help each student strive for excellence and instill a desire to reach the limit of his or her potential.
7. Encourage students to become lifelong learners.
8. Provide an educational climate and culture free of bias concerning the protected classifications identified in policy 7:10, *Equal Educational Opportunities*.

In order for the Board to monitor whether the educational program is attaining these objectives and to be knowledgeable of current and future resource needs, the Director shall prepare an annual report that includes:

1. A review and evaluation of the present curriculum.
2. A projection of curriculum and resource needs.
3. An evaluation of, and plan to eliminate, any bias in the curriculum or instructional materials and methods concerning the classifications referred to in item 8, above.
4. Any plan for new or revised instructional program implementation.
5. A review of present and future facility needs.

CROSS REF: 1:30 (Joint Agreement Philosophy), 3:10 (Goals and Objectives), 6:15 (School Accountability), 7:10 (Equal Educational Opportunities)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Instruction

School Calendar Year and Day

The Joint Agreement follows, as closely as possible, the calendars established by Member Districts. Staff working in classrooms housed in Member Districts shall follow that District's established calendar.

For schools operated by the Joint Agreement, the Board of Control, upon the Director's recommendation and subject to State regulations, will establish the dates for teacher institutes and inservices, 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

In schools operated by the Joint Agreement, the teachers and students shall 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.

School Day

For schools operated by the Joint Agreement, the Board of Control establishes the length of the school day with the recommendation of the Director and subject to State law requirements.

LEGAL REF.: 5 ILCS 490/2, 490/86, and 490/155.
105 ILCS 5/10-19, 5/24-2, 5/27-18, 5/27-19, 5/27-20, 5/27-20.1, and 5/27-20.2.
23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.420(f).
Metzl 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; Indemnification), 5:200 (Terms and Conditions of Employment and Dismissal), 5:330 (Sick Days, Vacation, Holidays, and Leaves), 7:90 (Release During School Hours)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Instruction

Organization of Instruction and Curriculum Development

Organization of Instruction

The housing of programs in Member District facilities shall be according to plans developed by the Director in cooperation with the Member Districts.

For schools operated by the Joint Agreement, the Director shall annually develop a plan for organizing instructional levels.

Programs and Curriculum

The Director shall develop and implement a plan of services for special education students that is educationally sound and is otherwise in compliance with State and federal law.

The Director shall develop a curriculum review program to monitor the current curriculum and promptly suggest changes to make the curriculum more effective, to take advantage of improved teaching methods and materials, and to be responsive to social change, technological developments, student needs, and community expectations.

LEGAL REF.: 23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.420.

CROSS REF.: 6:120 (Education of Children with Disabilities), 6:62 (Physical Education), 6:65 (Student Social and Emotional Development), 6:80 (Teaching About Controversial Issues) 6:100 (Using Animals in the Educational Program), 6:110 (Programs for Students At Risk of Academic Failure and/or Dropping Out of School and Graduation Incentives Program), 6:120 (Education of Children with Disabilities), 6:130 (Program for the Gifted), 6:140 (Education of Homeless Children), 6:145 (Migrant Students), 6:150 (Home and Hospital Instruction), 6:160 (English Learners), 7:10 (Equal Educational Opportunities), 7:15 (Student and Family Privacy Rights), 7:100 (Health, Eye, and Dental Examinations; Immunizations; and Exclusion of Students)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Instruction

School Wellness

Student wellness, including good nutrition and physical activity, shall be promoted in the Joint Agreement's educational program, school-based activities, and meal programs. This policy shall be interpreted consistently with Section 204 of the Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act of 2004 and the Healthy Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 (HHFKA).

The Director will ensure:

1. Each school building complies with this policy;
2. The policy is available to the community on an annual basis through copies of or online access to the Board Policy Manual; and
3. The community is informed about the progress of this policy's implementation.

Goals for Nutrition Education and Nutrition Promotion

The goals for addressing nutrition education and nutrition promotion include the following:

- Schools will support and promote sound nutrition for students.
- Schools will foster the positive relationship between sound nutrition, physical activity, and the capacity of students to develop and learn.
- Nutrition education will be part of the Joint Agreement's comprehensive health education curriculum. See Board policy 6:60, *Curriculum Content*.

Nutrition Guidelines for Foods Available During the School Day; Marketing Prohibited

Students will be offered and schools will promote nutritious food and beverage choices during the school day.

In addition, in order to promote student health and reduce childhood obesity, the Director or designee shall:

1. Restrict the sale of *competitive foods*, as defined by the USDA, in the food service areas during meal periods;
2. Comply with all ISBE rules; and

Competitive foods standards do not apply to foods and beverages available, but not sold in school during the school day; e.g., brown bag lunches, foods for classroom parties, school celebrations, and reward incentives.

Exempted Fundraising Day (EFD) Requests

All food and beverages sold to students on the school campuses of participating schools during the school day must comply with the "general nutrition standards for competitive foods" specified in federal law.

The Director or designee in a participating school may grant an EFD for grades 9 through 12 in participating schools. To request an EFD and learn more about the Joint Agreement's related procedure(s), contact the Director or designee. The Joint Agreement's procedures are subject to change. The number of EFDs for grades 9 through 12 in participating schools is set by ISBE rule.

Monitoring

At least every three years, the Director shall provide implementation data and/or reports to the Board concerning this policy's implementation sufficient to allow the Board to monitor and adjust the policy (a triennial report). This triennial report must include without limitation each of the following:

- An assessment of the Joint Agreement's implementation of the policy
- The extent to which the Joint Agreement is in compliance with the policy
- The extent to which the policy compares to model local school wellness policies
- A description of the progress made in attaining the goals of the policy
- How the Joint Agreement will make the results of the assessment available to the public
- Where the Joint Agreement will retain records of the assessment

The Board will monitor and adjust the policy pursuant to policy 2:240, *Board Policy Development*.

Community Involvement

The Board and Director will actively invite suggestions and comments concerning the development, implementation, periodic reviews, and updates of the school wellness policy from parents, students, representatives of the school food authority, teachers of physical education, school health professionals, the Board of Control, school administrators, and the community. Community involvement methods shall align their suggestions and comments to policy 2:140, *Communications To and From the Board* and/or the **Community Engagement** subhead in policy 8:10, *Connection with the Community*.

Recordkeeping

The Director shall retain records to document compliance with this policy, the Joint Agreement's records retention protocols, and the Local Records Act.

LEGAL REF.: Pub. L. 108-265, Sec. 204, Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act of 2004.
 42 U.S.C. §1771 et seq., Child Nutrition Act of 1966.
 42 U.S.C. §1751 et seq., National School Lunch Act.
 42 U.S.C. §1758b, Pub. L. 111-296, Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010.
 42 U.S.C. §1779, as implemented by 7 C.F.R. §§210.11 and 210.31.
 50 ILCS 205/, Local Records Act.
 105 ILCS 5/2-3.139 and 5/2-3.189.
 23 Ill.Admin.Code Part 305, Food Program.
 ISBE's *School Wellness Policy* Goal, adopted Oct. 2007.

CROSS REF.: 2:140 (Communications To and From the Board), 2:150 (Committees), 2:240 (Board Policy Development), 5:100 (Staff Development Program), 6:60 (Curriculum Content), 8:10 (Connection with the Community)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Instruction

Curriculum Content

The curriculum shall be developed by the Director, with the advice and consent of the Board of Control, and contain instruction on subjects required by State statute or regulation.

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Instruction

Student Social and Emotional Development

Social and emotional learning (SEL) is defined as the process through which students enhance their ability to integrate thinking, feeling, and behaving to achieve important life tasks. Students competent in SEL are able to recognize and manage their emotions, establish healthy relationships, set positive goals, meet personal and social needs, and make responsible and ethical decisions.

The Director shall incorporate SEL into the Joint Agreement's curriculum and other educational programs consistent with the Joint Agreement's mission and the goals and benchmarks of the Ill. Learning Standards. The Ill. Learning Standards include three goals for students:

1. Develop self-awareness and self-management skills to achieve school and life success.
2. Use social-awareness and interpersonal skills to establish and maintain positive relationships.
3. Demonstrate decision-making skills and responsible behaviors in personal, school, and community contexts.

The incorporation of SEL objectives into the Joint Agreement's curriculum and other educational programs may include but is not limited to:

1. Classroom and school-wide programming to foster a safe, supportive learning environment where students feel respected and valued. This may include incorporating scientifically based, age-and-culturally appropriate classroom instruction, Joint Agreement-wide, and school-wide strategies that teach SEL skills, promote optimal mental health, and prevent risk behaviors for all students.
2. Staff development and training to promote students' SEL development. This may include providing all personnel with age-appropriate academic and SEL and how to promote it.
3. Parent/Guardian and family involvement to promote students' SEL development. This may include providing parents/guardians and families with learning opportunities related to the importance of their children's optimal SEL development and ways to enhance it.
4. Community partnerships to promote students' SEL development. This may include establishing partnerships with diverse community agencies and organizations to assure a coordinated approach to addressing children's mental health and SEL development.
5. Early identification and intervention to enhance students' school readiness, academic success, and use of good citizenship skills. This may include development of a system and procedures for periodic and universal screening, assessment, and early intervention for students who have significant risk factors for social, emotional, or mental health conditions that impact learning.
6. Treatment to prevent or minimize mental health conditions in students. This may include building and strengthening referral and follow-up procedures for providing effective clinical services for students with social, emotional, and mental health conditions that impact learning. This may include student and family support services, school-based behavioral health services, and school-community linked services and supports.
7. Assessment and accountability for teaching SEL skills to all students. This may include implementation of a process to assess and report baseline information and ongoing progress

about school climate, students' social and emotional development, and academic performance.

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

CROSS REF.: 1:30 (Joint Agreement Philosophy), 6:10 (Educational Philosophy and Objectives), 6:60 (Curriculum Content), 7:100 (Health, Eye, and Dental Examinations; Immunizations; and Exclusion of Students), 7:180 (Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment), 7:250 (Student Support Services)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Instruction

Teaching About Controversial Issues

The Director shall ensure that all school-sponsored presentations and discussions of controversial or sensitive topics in the instructional program, including those made by guest speakers, are:

- Age-appropriate. Proper decorum, considering the students' ages, should be followed.
- Consistent with the curriculum and serve an educational purpose.
- Informative and present a balanced view.
- Respectful of the rights and opinions of everyone. Emotional criticisms and hurtful sarcasm should be avoided.
- Not tolerant of profanity or slander.

The Joint Agreement specifically reserves its right to stop any school-sponsored activity that it determines violates this policy, is harmful to the Joint Agreement or the students, or violates State or federal law.

LEGAL REF.: Garcetti v. Ceballos, 547 U.S. 410 (2006).
Mayer v. Monroe Cnty. Cmty. Sch. Corp., 474 F.3d 477 (7th Cir. 2007).

CROSS REF.: 6:255 (Assemblies and Ceremonies)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Instruction

Using Animals in the Educational Program

Animals may be brought into school facilities for educational purposes according to procedures developed by the Director assuring: (a) the animal is appropriately housed, humanely cared for, and properly handled, and (b) students will not be exposed to a dangerous animal or an unhealthy environment.

Animal Experiments

Experiments on living animals are prohibited; however, behavior studies that do not impair an animal's health or safety are permissible.

Animal Dissection

The dissection of dead animals or parts of dead animals shall be allowed in the classroom only when the dissection exercise contributes to or is a part of an illustration of pertinent study materials. All dissection of animals shall be confined to the classroom and must comply with the School Code.

Students who object to performing, participating in, or observing the dissection of animals are excused from classroom attendance without penalty during times when such activities are taking place. No student will be penalized or disciplined for refusing to perform, participate in, or observe a dissection. The Director or designee shall inform students of: (1) their right to refrain from performing, participating in, or observing dissection, and (2) which courses contain a dissection unit and which of those courses offers an alternative project.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/2-3.122, 5/27-14, and 112/.

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Instruction

Programs for Students At Risk of Academic Failure and/or Dropping Out of School and Graduation Incentives Program

The Director or designee shall develop, maintain, and supervise a program for students at risk of academic failure or dropping out of school. The program shall include education and support services addressing individual learning styles, career development, and social needs, and may include without limitation one or more of the following:

- Parent-teacher conferences
- Counseling services by social workers and/or guidance counselors
- Truants' alternative and optional education program
- Community agency services
- Alternative learning opportunities program, in conformity with the Alternative Learning Opportunities Law, as it may be amended from time to time

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/2-3.41, 5/2-3.66, 5/10-20.9a, 5/13B, 5/26-2a, 5/26-13, 5/26-14, and 5/26-16.

CROSS REF.: 6:280 (Grading and Promotion), 6:300 (Graduation Requirements), 7:70 (Attendance and Truancy)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Instruction

Education of Children with Disabilities

The Joint Agreement shall provide a free appropriate public education in the least restrictive environment and necessary related services to all children with disabilities enrolled in the Joint Agreement, as required by the Individuals With Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and implementing provisions of the School Code, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Americans With Disabilities Act. The term *children with disabilities*, as used in this policy, means children between ages 14 (or has graduated from 8th grade) and 21 (inclusive) for whom it is determined, through definitions and procedures described in the Ill. State Board of Control (ISBE) *Special Education* rules, that special education services are needed. Children with disabilities who turn 22 years old during the school year are eligible for such services through the end of the school year.

It is the intent of the Joint Agreement to ensure that students who are disabled within the definition of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 are identified, evaluated, and provided with appropriate educational services. Students may be disabled within the meaning of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act even though they do not require services pursuant to IDEA.

For students eligible for services under IDEA, the Joint Agreement will coordinate services with the home school for identification, evaluation, placement, and delivery of services to children with disabilities provided in the ISBE *Special Education* rules. For those students who are not eligible for services under IDEA, but, because of disability as defined by Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, need or are believed to need special instruction or related services, the Joint Agreement shall establish and implement a system of procedural safeguards. The safeguards shall cover students' identification, evaluation, and educational placement. This system shall include notice, an opportunity for the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) to examine relevant records, an impartial hearing with opportunity for participation by the student's parent(s)/guardian(s), representation by counsel, and a review procedure.

If necessary, students may also be placed in nonpublic special education programs or education facilities.

LEGAL REF.: 20 U.S.C. §1400 et seq., Individuals With Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004.
29 U.S.C. §794, Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 504.
42 U.S.C. §12101 et seq., Americans With Disabilities Act.
34 C.F.R. Part 106.
34 C.F.R. Part 300.
105 ILCS 5/14-1.01 et seq., 5/14-7.02, and 5/14-7.02b.
23 Ill.Admin.Code Part 226.

CROSS REF.: 2:150 (Committees), 7:230 (Misconduct by Students with Disabilities)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Instruction

Extracurricular and Co-Curricular Activities

Extracurricular or co-curricular activities are school-sponsored programs for which some or all of the activities are outside the instructional day. They do not include field trips, homework, or occasional work required outside the school day for a scheduled class. *Co-curricular activity* refers to an activity associated with the curriculum in a regular classroom and is generally required for class credit. *Extracurricular activity* refers to an activity that is not part of the curriculum, is not graded, does not offer credit, and does not take place during classroom time; it includes competitive interscholastic activities and clubs.

The Director must approve an activity in order for it to be considered a Joint Agreement-sponsored extracurricular or co-curricular activity, using the following criteria:

1. The activity will contribute to the leadership abilities, social well-being, self-realization, good citizenship, or general growth of student-participants.
2. Fees assessed students are reasonable and do not exceed the actual cost of operation.
3. The Joint Agreement has sufficient financial resources for the activity.
4. Requests from students.
5. The activity will be supervised by a school-approved sponsor.

Non-school sponsored student groups are governed by Board of Control policy, 7:330, *Student Use of Buildings - Equal Access*.

Academic Criteria for Participation

For high school students, selection of members or participants is at the discretion of the teachers, sponsors, or coaches, provided that the selection criteria conform to the Joint Agreement's policies. Participation in co-curricular activities is dependent upon course selection and successful progress in those courses. In order to be eligible to participate in any school-sponsored or school-supported extracurricular activity, a student must maintain an overall grade of 70% in their course. Any student-participant failing to meet these academic criteria shall be suspended from the activity until the specified academic criteria are met.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/10-20.30 and 5/24-24.

CROSS REF.: 4:170 (Safety), 7:10 (Equal Educational Opportunities), 7:40 (Nonpublic School Students, Including Parochial and Home-Schooled Students), 7:240 (Conduct Code for Participants in Extracurricular Activities), 7:330 (Student Use of Buildings - Equal Access), 8:20 (Community Use of School Facilities)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Instruction

Instructional Materials

All Joint Agreement classrooms and learning centers should be equipped with an evenly-proportioned, wide assortment of instructional materials, including textbooks, workbooks, audio-visual materials, and electronic materials. These materials should provide quality learning experiences for students and:

1. Enrich and support the curriculum;
2. Stimulate growth in knowledge, literary appreciation, aesthetic values, and ethical standards;
3. Provide background information to enable students to make informed judgments and promote critical reading and thinking;
4. Depict in an accurate and unbiased way the cultural diversity and pluralistic nature of American society; and
5. Contribute to a sense of the worth of all people regardless of sex, race, religion, nationality, ethnic origin, sexual orientation, disability, or any other differences that may exist.

The Director or designee shall annually provide a list or description of textbooks and instructional materials used in the Joint Agreement to the Board of Control. Anyone may inspect any textbook or instructional material.

Teachers are encouraged to use age-appropriate supplemental material only when it will enhance, or otherwise illustrate, the subjects being taught. No R-rated movie shall be shown to students unless prior approval is received from the Director or designee, and no movie rated NC-17 (no one 17 and under admitted) shall be shown under any circumstances. These restrictions apply to television programs and other media with equivalent ratings. The Director or designee shall give parents/guardians an opportunity to request that their child not participate in a class showing a movie, television program, or other media with an R or equivalent rating.

Instructional Materials Selection and Adoption

The Director shall approve the selection of all textbooks and instructional materials according to the standards described in this policy. 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 and Curriculum Development), 6:80 (Teaching About Controversial Issues), 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: May 1, 2024

Instruction

Bring Your Own Technology (BYOT) Program; Responsible Use and Conduct

The Director or designee shall establish a *Bring Your Own Technology (BYOT) Program*. The program will:

1. Promote educational excellence by facilitating resource sharing, innovation, and communication to enhance (a) technology use skills; (b) web-literacy and critical thinking skills about Internet resources and materials, including making wise choices; and (c) habits for responsible digital citizenship required in the 21st century.
2. Provide sufficient wireless infrastructure within budget parameters.
3. Provide access to the Internet only through the Joint Agreement's electronic networks.
4. Identify approved BYOT devices and what Joint Agreement-owned technology devices may be available; e.g., laptops, tablet devices, E-readers, and/or smartphones.
5. Align with Board policies 4:140, *Waiver of Student Fees*; 5:120, *Employee Ethics; Code of Professional Conduct; and Conflict of Interest*; 5:125, *Personal Technology and Social Media; Usage and Conduct*; 5:170, *Copyright*; 6:120, *Education of Children with Disabilities*; 6:235, *Access to Electronic Networks*; 7:140, *Search and Seizure*; 7:180, *Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment*; 7:190, *Student Behavior*; 7:340, *Student Records*; and 7:345, *Use of Educational Technologies; Student Data Privacy and Security*.
6. Provide relevant staff members with BYOT professional development opportunities, including the provision of:
 - a. Classroom management information about issues associated with the program, e.g., technical support, responsible use, etc.;
 - b. A copy of or access to this policy and any building-specific rules for the program;
 - c. Additional training, if necessary, about 5:170, *Copyright*; and
 - d. Information concerning appropriate behavior of staff members as required by State law and policy 5:120, *Employee Ethics; Code of Professional Conduct; and Conflict of Interest*.
7. Provide a method to inform parents/guardians and students about this policy.
8. Include the program in the annual report to the Board as required under policy 6:10, *Education Philosophy and Objectives*.

The Joint Agreement reserves the right to discontinue its BYOT program at any time. The Joint Agreement does not provide liability protection for BYOT devices, and it is not responsible for any damages to them.

Responsible Use

The Joint Agreement recognizes students participating in the program as responsible young adults and holds high expectations of their conduct in connection with their participation in the program. Teachers may encourage students to bring their own devices as supplemental in-class materials when: (a) using the devices will appropriately enhance, or otherwise illustrate, the subjects being taught; (b) the Assistant Director has approved their use and found that their use is age-appropriate; and (c) the student's parent/guardian has signed the *Bring Your Own Technology (BYOT) Program Participation*

Authorization and Responsible Use Agreement Form. A student's right to privacy in his or her device is limited; any reasonable suspicion of activities that violate law or Board policies will be treated according to policy 7:140, *Search and Seizure*.

Responsible use in the program incorporates into this policy the individual's *Acceptable Use of Electronic Networks* agreement pursuant to policy 6:235, *Access to Electronic Networks*. Responsible use also incorporates the established usage and conduct rules in policy 5:125, *Personal Technology and Social Media; Usage and Conduct*, for staff and 7:190, *Student Behavior*, for students. Failure to follow these rules and the specific BYOT program student guidelines may result in: (a) the loss of access to the Joint Agreement's electronic network and/or student's BYOT privileges; (b) disciplinary action pursuant to 7:190, *Student Behavior*; 7:200, *Suspension Procedures*; or 7:210, *Expulsion Procedures*; and/or (c) appropriate legal action, including referrals of suspected or alleged criminal acts to appropriate law enforcement agencies.

LEGAL REF.: 15 U.S.C. §§6501-6508, Children's Online Privacy Protection Act; 16 C.F.R. Part 312, Children's Online Privacy Protection Rule.
20 U.S.C §6751 et seq., Enhancing Education Through Technology Act.
47 U.S.C. §254(h) and (l), Children's Internet Protection Act.
47 C.F.R. Part 54, Subpart F, Universal Service Support for Schools and Libraries.
105 ILCS 5/10-20.28.

CROSS REF.: 1:30 (Joint Agreement Philosophy), 4:140 (Waiver of Student Fees), 5:120 (Employee Ethics; Code of Professional Conduct; and Conflict of Interest), 5:125 (Personal Technology and Social Media; Usage and Conduct), 5:170 (Copyright), 6:10 (Educational Philosophy and Objectives), 6:120 (Education of Children with Disabilities), 6:210 (Instructional Materials), 6:235 (Access to Electronic Networks), 7:140 (Search and Seizure), 7:180 (Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment), 7:190 (Student Behavior), 7:340 (Student Records)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Instruction

Access to Electronic Networks

Electronic networks are a part of the Joint Agreement's instructional program and serve to promote educational excellence by facilitating resource sharing, innovation, and communication.

The term *electronic networks* includes all of the Joint Agreement's technology resources, including, but not limited to:

1. The Joint Agreement's local-area and wide-area networks, including wireless networks (Wi-Fi), Joint Agreement-issued Wi-Fi hotspots, and any Joint Agreement servers or other networking infrastructure;
2. Access to the Internet or other online resources via the Joint Agreement's networks or to any Joint Agreement-issued online account from any computer or device, regardless of location;
3. Joint Agreement-owned or Joint Agreement-issued computers, laptops, tablets, phones, or similar devices.

The Director shall develop an implementation plan for this policy and appoint system administrator(s).

The Joint Agreement is not responsible for any information that may be lost or damaged, or become unavailable when using the network, or for any information that is retrieved or transmitted via the Internet. Furthermore, the Joint Agreement will not be responsible for any unauthorized charges or fees resulting from access to the Internet.

Curriculum and Appropriate Online Behavior

The use of the Joint Agreement's electronic networks shall: (1) be consistent with the curriculum adopted by the Joint Agreement as well as the varied instructional needs, learning styles, abilities, and developmental levels of the students, and (2) comply with the selection criteria for instructional materials and library resource center materials. As required by federal law and Board policy 6:60, *Curriculum Content*, students will be educated about appropriate online behavior, including but not limited to: (1) interacting with other individuals on social networking websites and in chat rooms, and (2) cyberbullying awareness and response. Staff members may, consistent with the Director's implementation plan, use the Internet throughout the curriculum.

The Joint Agreement's electronic network is part of the curriculum and is not a public forum for general use.

Acceptable Use

All use of the Joint Agreement's electronic networks must be: (1) in support of education and/or research, and be in furtherance of the goals stated herein, or (2) for a legitimate school business purpose. Use is a privilege, not a right. Users of the Joint Agreement's electronic networks have no expectation of privacy in any material that is stored on, transmitted, or received via the Joint Agreement's electronic networks. General rules for behavior and communications apply when using electronic networks. The Joint Agreement's administrative procedure, *Acceptable Use of the Joint Agreement's Electronic Networks*, contains the appropriate uses, ethics, and protocol. Electronic communications and downloaded material, including files deleted from a user's account but not erased, may be monitored or read by school officials.

Internet Safety

Technology protection measures shall be used on each Joint Agreement computer with Internet access. They shall include a filtering device that protects against Internet access by both adults and minors to visual depictions that are: (1) obscene, (2) pornographic, or (3) harmful or inappropriate for students, as defined by federal law and as determined by the Director or designee. The Director or designee shall enforce the use of such filtering devices. An administrator, supervisor, or other authorized person may disable the filtering device for bona fide research or other lawful purpose, provided the person receives prior permission from the Director or system administrator. The Director or designee shall include measures in this policy's implementation plan to address the following:

1. Ensure staff supervision of student access to online electronic networks,
2. Restrict student access to inappropriate matter as well as restricting access to harmful materials,
3. Ensure student and staff privacy, safety, and security when using electronic communications,
4. Restrict unauthorized access, including "hacking" and other unlawful activities, and
5. Restrict unauthorized disclosure, use, and dissemination of personal identification information, such as, names and addresses.

Authorization for Electronic Network Access

Each staff member must sign the *Authorization for Access to the Joint Agreement's Electronic Networks* as a condition for using the Joint Agreement's electronic network. Each student and his or her parent(s)/guardian(s) must sign the *Authorization* before being granted unsupervised use.

Confidentiality

All users of the Joint Agreement's computers to access the Internet shall maintain the confidentiality of student records. Reasonable measures to protect against unreasonable access shall be taken before confidential student information is loaded onto the network.

Violations

The failure of any user to follow the terms of the Joint Agreement's administrative procedure, *Acceptable Use of the Joint Agreement's Electronic Networks*, or this policy, will result in the loss of privileges, disciplinary action, and/or appropriate legal action.

LEGAL REF.: 20 U.S.C. §7131, Elementary and Secondary Education Act.
47 U.S.C. §254(h) and (l), Children's Internet Protection Act.
47 C.F.R. Part 54, Subpart F, Universal Service Support for Schools and Libraries.
115 ILCS 5/14(c-5), Ill. Educational Labor Relations Act.
720 ILCS 5/26.5.

CROSS REF.: 5:100 (Staff Development Program), 5:170 (Copyright), 6:60 (Curriculum Content), 6:210 (Instructional Materials), 6:220 (Bring Your Own Technology (BYOT) Program; Responsible Use and Conduct), 6:260 (Complaints About Curriculum, Instructional Materials, and Programs), 7:130 (Student Rights and Responsibilities), 7:190 (Student Behavior), 7:315 (Restrictions on Publications; High Schools), 7:345 (Use of Educational Technologies; Student Data Privacy and Security)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Instruction

Field Trips

Field trips are permissible when the experiences are a part of the school curriculum and/or contribute to the Joint Agreement's educational objectives.

All field trips must have the Director or designee's prior approval, except that field trips beyond a 200-mile radius of the school or extending overnight must have the prior approval of the Board of Control. The Director or designee shall analyze the following factors to determine whether to approve a field trip: educational value, student safety, parent concerns, heightened security alerts, and liability concerns. On all field trips, a bus fee set by the Director or designee may be charged to help defray the transportation costs.

Parents/guardians of students: (1) shall be given the opportunity to consent to their child's participation in any field trip, and (2) are responsible for all entrance fees, food, lodging, or other costs, except that the Joint Agreement will pay such costs for students who qualify for a fee waiver under Board policy 4:140, *Waiver of Student Fees*. All non-participating students shall be provided an alternative experience. Any field trip may be cancelled without notice due to an unforeseen event or condition.

Privately arranged trips, including those led by Joint Agreement staff members, shall not be represented as or construed to be sponsored by the Joint Agreement or school. The Joint Agreement does not provide liability protection for privately arranged trips and is not responsible for any damages arising from them.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/29-3.1.

CROSS REF.: 4:140 (Waiver of Student Fees), 6:10 (Educational Philosophy and Objectives), 7:10 (Equal Educational Opportunities), 7:270 (Administering Medicines to Students)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Instruction

Community Resource Persons and Volunteers

The Board of Control encourages the use of resource persons and volunteers to: (1) increase students' educational attainment; (2) provide enrichment experiences for students; (3) increase the effective utilization of staff time and skills; (4) give more individual attention to students; and (5) promote greater community involvement.

Resource persons and volunteers may be used:

1. For non-teaching duties not requiring instructional judgment or evaluation of students;
2. For supervising study halls, long distance teaching reception areas used incident to instructional programs transmitted by electronic media (such as computers, video, and audio), detention and discipline areas, and school-sponsored extracurricular activities;
3. To assist with academic programs under a licensed teacher's immediate supervision;
4. To assist in times of violence or other traumatic incidents within the Joint Agreement by providing crisis intervention services to lessen the effects of emotional trauma on staff, students, and the community, provided the volunteer meets the qualifications established by the Ill. School Crisis Assistance Team Steering Committee;
5. As a guest lecturer or resource person under a licensed teacher's direction and with the administration's approval; or
6. As supervisors, chaperones, or sponsors for non-academic school activities.

The Director shall follow Board policy 4:175, *Convicted Child Sex Offender; Screening; Notifications*, to establish procedures for securing and screening resource persons and volunteers. A person who is a *sex offender*, as defined by the Sex Offender Registration Act, or a *violent offender against youth*, as defined in the Murderer and Violent Offender Against Youth Registration Act, is prohibited from being a resource person or volunteer. All volunteer coaches must comply with the requirement to report hazing in policy 5:90, *Abused and Neglected Child Reporting*.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/10-22.34, 5/10-22.34a, and 5/10-22.34b.
720 ILCS 5/12C-50.1, Failure to Report Hazing.
730 ILCS 150/1 et seq., Sex Offender Registration Act.
730 ILCS 152/101 et seq., Sex Offender Community Notification Law.
730 ILCS 154/75 et seq., Murderer and Violent Offender Against Youth Community Notification Law.
730 ILCS 154/101 et seq., Murderer and Violent Offender Against Youth Registration Act.

CROSS REF.: 4:170 (Safety), 4:175 (Convicted Child Sex Offender; Screening; Notifications), 5:90 (Abused and Neglected Child Reporting), 5:280 (Duties and Qualifications), 8:30 (Visitors to and Conduct on School Property), 8:95 (Parental Involvement)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Instruction

Assemblies and Ceremonies

Assemblies must be approved by the Director or designee and be consistent with the Joint Agreement's educational objectives.

While the Joint Agreement respects an individual's brief, quiet, personal religious observance(s), it shall not endorse or otherwise promote invocations, benedictions, and group prayers at any school assembly, ceremony, or other school-sponsored activity.

LEGAL REF.: Lee v. Weisman, 505 U.S. 577 (1992).
Santa Fe Independent Sch. Dist. v. Doe, 530 U.S. 290 (2000).
Kennedy v. Bremerton Sch. Dist., 142 S.Ct. 2407 (2022).
Jones v. Clear Creek Independent Sch. Dist., 930 F.2d 416 (5th Cir. 1991), *cert. granted, judgement vacated*, 505 U.S. 1215 (1992), *remand*, 977 F.2d 963, *reh'g denied*, 983 F.2d 234 (5th Cir. 1992), and *cert. denied*, 508 U.S. 967 (1993).

CROSS REF.: 6:80 (Teaching About Controversial Issues)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Instruction

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 Control 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 response will be given in writing on the complaint form.

LEGAL REF.: 20 U.S.C. §1232h, Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment.

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

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Instruction

Grading and Promotion

The Director or designee shall establish a system of grading and reporting academic achievement to students and their parents/guardians, which system of reporting may be modified to meet an individual student's needs as specified in his or her Individualized Educational Program/Plan (IEP). A student shall not be promoted solely based upon age or any other social reason, except as provided in the student's IEP.

Every teacher shall maintain an evaluation record for each student in the teacher's classroom. A Cooperative/Joint Agreement administrator 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.: 6:110 (Programs for Students At Risk of Academic Failure and/or Dropping Out of School and Graduation Incentives Program)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Instruction

Homework

Homework is part of the Joint Agreement's instructional program and has the overarching goal of increasing student achievement. Homework is assigned to further a student's educational development and is an application or adaptation of a classroom experience. The Director shall provide guidance to ensure that homework:

1. Is used to reinforce and apply previously covered concepts, principles, and skills;
2. Is not assigned for disciplinary purposes;
3. Serves as a communication link between the school and parents/guardians;
4. Encourages independent thought, self-direction, and self-discipline; and
5. Is of appropriate frequency and length, and does not become excessive, according to the teacher's best professional judgment.

Missed Homework

Students absent for a valid cause may make up missed homework in a reasonable timeframe per policy 7:70, *Attendance and Truancy*.

CROSS REF.: 7:70 (Attendance and Truancy)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

**INDIAN VALLEY VOCATIONAL CENTER
BOARD OF CONTROL POLICY MANUAL
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Because certain policy numbers are used for IASB sample policies, districts should use numbers ending in 2, 4, 6, or 8 for locally developed policies on topics not covered by IASB sample policies.

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Because certain policy numbers are used for IASB sample policies, districts should use numbers ending in 2, 4, 6, or 8 for locally developed policies on topics not covered by IASB sample policies.

Students

Equal Educational Opportunities

Equal educational and extracurricular opportunities shall be available for all students without regard to color, race, nationality, religion, sex, sexual orientation, ancestry, age, physical or mental disability, gender identity, status of being homeless, immigration status, order of protection status, actual or potential marital or parental status, including pregnancy. Further, the Joint Agreement 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 Joint Agreement remains viewpoint neutral when granting access to school facilities under Board of Control policy 8:20, *Community Use of School Facilities*. Any student may file a discrimination grievance by using Board policy 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*.

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 Regional Superintendent (pursuant to 105 ILCS 5/3-10) and, thereafter, to the State Superintendent of Education (pursuant to 105 ILCS 5/2-3.8).

Administrative Implementation

The Director shall appoint a Nondiscrimination Coordinator, who also serves as the Joint Agreement's Title IX Coordinator. The Director and Assistant Director shall use reasonable measures to inform staff members and students of this policy and related grievance procedures.

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.
42 U.S.C. §11431 et seq., McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act.
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, 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 Sexual Harassment Grievance Procedure), 6:65 (Student Social and Emotional Development), 7:20 (Harassment of Students Prohibited), 7:50 (School Admissions and Student Transfers To and From Non-Joint Agreement Schools), 7:60 (Residence), 7:130 (Student Rights and Responsibilities), 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), 7:330 (Student Use of Buildings - Equal Access), 7:340 (Student Records), 8:20 (Community Use of School Facilities)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Students

Exhibit - Equal Educational Opportunities Within the School Community

The Joint Agreement welcomes diversity in its schools. Policy 7:10, *Equal Educational Opportunities* cites the many civil rights laws that guarantee equal education opportunities to all students. In addition, the policies below address the equal educational opportunities, health, safety, and general welfare of students within the Joint Agreement. These policies are not a complete list, and depending on the factual context, another policy not specifically listed may apply:

1. 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*, contains the process for an individual to seek resolution of a complaint. A student may use this policy to complain about bullying. The Joint Agreement Complaint Manager shall address the complaint promptly and equitably.
2. 6:65, *Student Social and Emotional Development*, requires that social and emotional learning be incorporated into the Joint Agreement's curriculum and other educational programs.
3. 7:10, *Equal Educational Opportunities*, requires that equal educational and extracurricular opportunities be available to all students without regard to, among other protected statuses, sex, sexual orientation, and gender identity.
4. 7:20, *Harassment of Students Prohibited*, prohibits any person from harassing, intimidating, or bullying a student based on an actual or perceived characteristic that is identified in the policy including, among other protected statuses, sex, sexual orientation, and gender identity.
5. 7:130, *Student Rights and Responsibilities*, recognizes that all students are entitled to rights protected by the U.S. and Illinois Constitutions and laws for persons of their age and maturity in a school setting.
6. 7:160, *Student Appearance*, prohibits students from dressing or grooming in such a way as to disrupt the educational process, interfere with a positive teaching/learning climate, or compromise reasonable standards of health, safety, and decency.
7. 7:180, *Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment*, contains the comprehensive structure for the Joint Agreement's bullying prevention program.
8. 7:250, *Student Support Services*, directs the Director to develop protocols for responding to students' social, emotional, or mental health needs that impact learning.
9. 7:330, *Student Use of Buildings - Equal Access*, grants student-initiated groups or clubs the free use of school premises for their meetings, under specified conditions.
10. 7:340, *Student Records*, contains the comprehensive structure for managing school student records, keeping them confidential, and providing access as allowed or required.

DATED: May 1, 2024

Students

Student and Family Privacy Rights

Surveys

All surveys requesting personal information from students, as well as any other instrument used to collect personal information from students, must advance or relate to the Joint Agreement's educational objectives as identified in policy 6:10, *Educational Philosophy and Objectives*, or assist students' career choices. This applies to all surveys, regardless of whether the student answering the questions can be identified or who created the survey.

Surveys Created by a Third Party

Before a school official or staff member administers or distributes a survey or evaluation created by a third party to a student, the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) may inspect the survey or evaluation, upon their request and within a reasonable time of their request.

This section applies to every survey: (1) that is created by a person or entity other than a Joint Agreement official, staff member, or student, (2) regardless of whether the student answering the questions can be identified, and (3) regardless of the subject matter of the questions.

Surveys Requesting Personal Information

School officials and staff members shall not request, nor disclose, the identity of any student who completes any survey or evaluation (created by any person or entity, including the Joint Agreement) containing one or more of the following items:

1. Political affiliations or beliefs of the student or the student's parent/guardian.
2. Mental or psychological problems of the student or the student's family.
3. Behavior or attitudes about sex.
4. Illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating, or demeaning behavior.
5. Critical appraisals of other individuals with whom students have close family relationships.
6. Legally recognized privileged or analogous relationships, such as those with lawyers, physicians, and ministers.
7. Religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or the student's parent/guardian.
8. Income other than that required by law to determine eligibility for participation in a program or for receiving financial assistance under such program.

The student's parent(s)/guardian(s) may:

1. Inspect the survey or evaluation upon, and within a reasonable time of, their request, and/or
2. Refuse to allow their child to participate in the activity described above. The school shall not penalize any student whose parent(s)/guardian(s) exercised this option.

Instructional Material

A student's parent(s)/guardian(s) may inspect, upon their request, any instructional material used as part of their child's educational curriculum within a reasonable time of their request.

The term “instructional material” means instructional content that is provided to a student, regardless of its format, printed or representational materials, audio-visual materials, and materials in electronic or digital formats (such as materials accessible through the Internet). The term does not include academic tests or academic assessments.

Physical Exams or Screenings

No school official or staff member shall subject a student to a non-emergency, invasive physical examination or screening as a condition of school attendance. The term *invasive physical examination* means any medical examination that involves the exposure of private body parts, or any act during such examination that includes incision, insertion, or injection into the body, but does not include a hearing, vision, or scoliosis screening.

The above paragraph does not apply to any physical examination or screening that:

1. Is permitted or required by an applicable State law, including physical examinations or screenings that are permitted without parental notification.
2. Is administered to a student in accordance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. §1400 *et seq.*).
3. Is otherwise authorized by Board policy.

Prohibition on Selling or Marketing Students’ Personal Information

No school official or staff member shall market or sell personal information concerning students (or otherwise provide that information to others for that purpose). The term *personal information* means individually identifiable information including: (1) a student or parent’s first and last name, (2) a home or other physical address (including street name and the name of the city or town), (3) a telephone number, (4) a Social Security identification number or (5) driver’s license number or State identification card.

Unless otherwise prohibited by law, the above paragraph does not apply: (1) if the student’s parent(s)/guardian(s) have consented; or (2) to the collection, disclosure or, use of personal information collected from students for the exclusive purpose of developing, evaluating or providing educational products or services for, or to, students or educational institutions, such as the following:

1. College or other postsecondary education recruitment, or military recruitment.
2. Book clubs, magazines, and programs providing access to low-cost literary products.
3. Curriculum and instructional materials used by elementary schools and secondary schools.
4. Tests and assessments to provide cognitive, evaluative, diagnostic, clinical, aptitude, or achievement information about students (or to generate other statistically useful data for the purpose of securing such tests and assessments) and the subsequent analysis and public release of the aggregate data from such tests and assessments.
5. The sale by students of products or services to raise funds for school-related or education-related activities.
6. Student recognition programs.

Under no circumstances may a school official or staff member provide a student’s *personal information* to a business organization or financial institution that issues credit or debit cards.

Notification of Rights and Procedures

The Director or designee shall notify students’ parents/guardians of:

1. This policy as well as its availability upon request from the general administration office.
2. How to opt their child out of participation in activities as provided in this policy.
3. The approximate dates during the school year when a survey requesting personal information, as described above, is scheduled or expected to be scheduled.
4. How to request access to any survey or other material described in this policy.

This notification shall be given to parents/guardians at least annually, at the beginning of the school year, and within a reasonable period after any substantive change in this policy.

Transfer of Rights

The rights provided to parents/guardians in this policy transfer to the student when the student turns 18 years old, or is an emancipated minor.

LEGAL REF.: 20 U.S.C. §1232h, Protection of Pupil Rights Act.
105 ILCS 5/10-20.38.
325 ILCS 17/, Children's Privacy Protection and Parental Empowerment Act.

CROSS REF.: 2:260 (Uniform Grievance Procedure), 6:210 (Instructional Materials), 6:260 (Complaints About Curriculum, Instructional Materials, and Programs), 7:130 (Student Rights and Responsibilities)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Students

Harassment of Students Prohibited

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

Sexual Harassment Prohibited

The Joint Agreement shall provide an educational environment free of verbal, physical, or other conduct or communications constituting harassment on the basis of sex as defined and otherwise prohibited by State and federal law. See policies 2:265, *Title IX Sexual Harassment Grievance Procedure*, and 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*.

Making a Report or Complaint

Students are encouraged to promptly report claims or incidences of bullying, intimidation, harassment, sexual harassment, or any other prohibited conduct to the Nondiscrimination Coordinator, Assistant Director, a Complaint Manager, or any employee with whom the student is comfortable speaking. A student may choose to report to an employee of the student's same gender.

Reports under this policy will be considered a report under Board policy 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*, and/or Board policy 2:265, *Title IX Sexual Harassment Grievance Procedure*. The Nondiscrimination Coordinator and/or Complaint Manager shall process and review the report according to the appropriate grievance procedure. The Director shall insert into this policy the names, office addresses, email addresses, and telephone numbers of the Joint Agreement's current Nondiscrimination Coordinator and Complaint Managers. The Nondiscrimination Coordinator also serves as the Joint Agreement's Title IX Coordinator.

Nondiscrimination Coordinator:

Director Joe Barbic

Name

600 Lions Rd., Sandwich, IL 60548

Address

jbarbic@ivvc.net

Email

815-786-9873

Telephone

Complaint Managers:

Director Joe Barbic

Name

600 Lions Rd., Sandwich, IL 60548

Address

jbarbic@ivvc.net

Email

815-786-9873

Telephone

Assistant Director Alyx Bickel

Name

600 Lions Rd., Sandwich, IL

Address

abickel@ivvc.net

Email

815-786-9873

Telephone

The Director shall use reasonable measures to inform staff members and students of this policy by including:

1. For students, age-appropriate information about the contents of this policy in the Joint Agreement's student handbook(s), on the Joint Agreement's website, and, if applicable, in any other areas where policies, rules, and standards of conduct are otherwise posted in each school.
2. For staff members, this policy in the appropriate employee handbook(s), if applicable, and/or in any other areas where policies, rules, and standards of conduct are otherwise made available to staff.

Investigation Process

Any Joint Agreement employee who receives a report or complaint of 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 harassment will be confidential to the greatest extent practicable, subject to the Joint Agreement's duty to investigate and maintain an educational environment that is productive, respectful, and free of unlawful discrimination, including harassment.

For any report or complaint alleging sexual harassment that, if true, would implicate Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (20 U.S.C. §1681 et seq.), the Nondiscrimination Coordinator or designee shall consider whether action under policy 2:265, *Title IX Sexual Harassment Grievance Procedure*, should be initiated.

For any other alleged student harassment that does not require action under policy 2:265, *Title IX Sexual Harassment Grievance Procedure*, the Nondiscrimination Coordinator or a Complaint Manager or designee shall consider whether an investigation under policies 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*, and/or 7:190, *Student Behavior*, should be initiated, regardless of whether a written report or complaint is filed.

Reports That Involve Alleged Incidents of Sexual Abuse of a Child by School Personnel

An *alleged incident of sexual abuse* is an incident of sexual abuse of a child, as defined in 720 ILCS 5/11-9.1A(b), 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.

Any complaint alleging an incident of sexual abuse shall be processed and reviewed according to policy 5:90, *Abused and Neglected Child Reporting*. In addition to reporting the suspected abuse, the complaint shall also be processed under policy 2:265, *Title IX Sexual Harassment Grievance Procedure*, or policy 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*.

Enforcement

Any Joint Agreement employee who is determined, after an investigation, to have engaged in conduct prohibited by this policy will be subject to disciplinary action up to and including discharge. Any 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 Joint Agreement, e.g., vendor, parent, invitee, etc. Any Joint Agreement student who is determined, after an investigation, to have engaged in conduct prohibited by this policy will be subject to disciplinary action, including but not limited to, suspension and expulsion consistent with the behavior policy. Any person making a knowingly false accusation regarding prohibited conduct will likewise be subject to disciplinary action.

Retaliation Prohibited

Retaliation against any person for bringing complaints or providing information about harassment is prohibited (see policies 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*, and 2:265, *Title IX Sexual Harassment Grievance Procedure*).

Students should report allegations of retaliation to the Assistant Director, an administrator, the Nondiscrimination Coordinator, and/or a Complaint Manager.

LEGAL REF.: 20 U.S.C. §1681 et seq., Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972; 34 C.F.R. Part 106.
105 ILCS 5/10-20.12, 5/10-22.5, 5/10-23.13, 5/27-1, and 5/27-23.7.
775 ILCS 5/1-101 et seq., Illinois Human Rights Act.
23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.240 and Part 200.
Davis v. Monroe County Bd. of Educ., 526 U.S. 629 (1999).
Franklin v. Gwinnett Co. Public Schs., 503 U.S. 60 (1992).
Gebser v. Lago Vista Independent Sch. Dist., 524 U.S. 274 (1998).
West v. Derby Unified Sch. Dist. No. 260, 206 F.3d 1358 (10th Cir. 2000).

CROSS REF.: 2:260 (Uniform Grievance Procedure), 2:265 (Title IX Sexual Harassment Grievance Procedure), 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), 7:10 (Equal Educational Opportunities), 7:180 (Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment), 7:185 (Teen Dating Violence Prohibited), 7:190 (Student Behavior), 7:240 (Conduct Code for Participants in Extracurricular Activities)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Students

School Admissions

Enrollment at the Indian Valley Vocational Center is determined by the student's home school along with the student's parent(s)/guardian(s). Individuals interested in attending classes at the Vocational Center should see their counselor for an application. Upon approval of the home school Principal and counselor, the student may be admitted.

LEGAL REF: Individuals With Disabilities Education Improvement Act, 20 U.S.C. §1400 et seq.
Equal Opportunity for Individuals With Disabilities, 42 U.S.C. §12101 et seq.
105 ILCS 5/10-20.12, 5/10-22.5a, 5/14-1.02, 5/14-1.03a, 5/14-16, 5/26-1, and 5/26-2.
23 Ill. Admin. Code Part 226.

CROSS REF.: 4:110 (Transportation), 6:30 (Organization of Instruction), 6:110 (Programs for Students At Risk of Academic Failure and/or Dropping out of School and Graduation Incentives Program), 6:140 (Education of Homeless Children), 6:300 (Graduation Requirements), 7:60 (Residence), 7:70 (Attendance and Truancy), 7:100 (Health, Eye, and Dental Examinations; Immunizations; and Exclusion of Students), 7:340 (Student Records)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Students

Residence

Member Districts

Students who are residents of a Member District may participate in the programs available through the Joint Agreement according to provisions in their Individualized Educational Program/Plan (IEP). Students of member districts have priority through June 1st.

Non-Member Districts

Eligible students who are not residents of a Member District may participate in the programs available through the Joint Agreement, providing the sending (resident) district pays the Joint Agreement the regular tuition charge as determined by the Board of Control. The sending district shall pay the per capita cost as provided in Section 14-7.01 of the School Code (105 ILCS 5/14-7.01). All enrolled students must comply with the Joint Agreement's policies on student behavior.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/10-20.12a, 5/10-20.12b, and 5/10-22.5.

CROSS REF.: 7:70 (Attendance and Truancy), 7:190 (Student Behavior)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Students

Attendance and Truancy

Compulsory School Attendance

This policy applies to individuals who have custody or control of a child: (a) between the ages of 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, and (6) any child 16 years of age or older who is employed and is enrolled in a graduation incentives program.

The parent/guardian of a student who is enrolled must authorize all absences from school and notify the school in advance or at the time of the student's absence. A valid cause for absence includes illness (including mental or behavioral health of the student), 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, 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 Director or designee. Students absent for a valid cause may make up missed homework and classwork assignments in a reasonable timeframe.

Absenteeism and Truancy Program

The Director or designee shall manage an absenteeism and truancy program in accordance with the School Code and Board of Control 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 Director or designee is authorized to determine when the student's absence is justified.
2. A protocol for excusing a student in grades 11 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.
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, or information about community agency services. See Board policy 6:110, *Programs for Students At Risk of Academic Failure and/or Dropping Out of School and Graduation Incentives Program*.

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 teachers, administrators, Board members, school resource officers, and staff 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 Regional Office of Education, if truancy continues after supportive services have been offered.
10. A protocol for cooperating with non-Joint Agreement agencies including County or municipal authorities, the Regional Superintendent, truant officers, the Community Truancy Review Board, and a comprehensive community based youth service agency. Any disclosure of school student 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 Director believes qualifies.
13. A process for a 17-year-old resident to participate in the Joint Agreement's various programs and resources for truants. The student must provide documentation of his/her dropout status for the previous six months.
14. 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.

Monitoring

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

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/22-92 and 5/26-1 through 18.
705 ILCS 405/3-33.5, Juvenile Court Act of 1987.
23 Ill.Admin.Code §§1.242 and Part 207.

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), 7:10 (Equal Educational Opportunities), 7:60 (Residence), 7:80 (Release Time for Religious Instruction/Observance), 7:190 (Student Behavior), 7:340 (Student Records)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Students

Release Time for Religious Instruction/Observance

A student shall be released from school, as an excused absence, to because of religious reasons, including to observe a religious holiday, for religious instruction, or because the student's religion forbids secular activity on a particular day(s) or time of day. The student's parent/guardian must give written notice to the Assistant Director at least five calendar days before the student's anticipated absence(s).

The Director or designee shall develop and distribute to teachers appropriate procedures regarding student absences for religious reasons, including how teachers are notified of a student's impending absence, and the State law requirement that teachers provide the student with an equivalent opportunity to make up any examination, study, or work requirement.

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

CROSS REF.: 7:70 (Attendance and Truancy)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Students

Release During School Hours

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

Early Dismissal Announcement

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

CROSS REF.: 4:170 (Safety)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Students

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

The students' resident/home district is responsible for ensuring that its students who are enrolled in the Joint Agreement's programs are in compliance with State law regarding health examinations and immunizations.

LEGAL REF. 105 ILCS 5/27-8.1.
 410 ILCS 45/6.2.
 77 Ill.Admin.Code Part 665.

CROSS REF.: 6:30 (Organization of Instruction and Curriculum Development), 7:130 (Student Rights and Responsibilities), 7:280 (Communicable and Chronic Infectious Disease)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Students

Student Rights and Responsibilities

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

Students may, during the school day, during noninstructional time, voluntarily engage in individually or collectively initiated, non-disruptive prayer or religious-based meetings that, consistent with the Free Exercise and Establishment Clauses of the U.S. and Illinois Constitutions, are not sponsored, promoted, or endorsed in any manner by the school or any school employee. *Noninstructional time* means time set aside by a school before actual classroom instruction begins or after actual classroom instruction ends.

LEGAL REF.: 20 U.S.C. §7904.
105 ILCS 20/5.
Tinker v. Des Moines Independent Joint Agreement, 89 S.Ct. 733 (1969).

CROSS REF.: 7:140 (Search and Seizure), 7:150 (Agency and Police Interviews), 7:160 (Student Appearance), 7:190 (Student Behavior), 7:330 (Student Use of Buildings - Equal Access)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Students

Search and Seizure

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

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

School authorities may inspect and search school property and equipment owned or controlled by the school (such as, lockers, desks, and parking lots), as well as personal effects left there by a student, without notice to or the consent of the student. Students have no reasonable expectation of privacy in these places or areas or in their personal effects left there.

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

Students

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

When feasible, the search should be conducted as follows:

1. Outside the view of others, including students,
2. In the presence of a school administrator or adult witness, and
3. By a certificated employee or liaison police officer of the same sex as the student.

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

Seizure of Property

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

Notification Regarding Student Accounts or Profiles on Social Networking Websites

The Director or designee shall notify students and their parents/guardians of each of the following in accordance with the Right to Privacy in the School Setting Act, 105 ILCS 75/:

1. School officials may not request or require a student or his or her parent/guardian to provide a password or other related account information to gain access to the student's account or profile on a social networking website.

2. School officials may conduct an investigation or require a student to cooperate in an investigation if there is specific information about activity on the student's account on a social networking website that violates a school disciplinary rule or policy. In the course of an investigation, the student may be required to share the content that is reported in order to allow school officials to make a factual determination.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/10-20.14, 5/10-22.6, and 5/10-22.10a.
Right to Privacy in the School Setting Act, 105 ILCS 75/.
Cornfield v. Consolidated High School Dist. No. 230, 991 F.2d 1316 (7th Cir. 1993).
People v. Dilworth, 169 Ill.2d 195 (1996), *cert. denied*, 116 S.Ct. 1692 (1996).
People v. Pruitt, 278 Ill.App.3d 194 (1st Dist. 1996), *app. denied*, 667 N.E. 2d 1061 (Ill.App.1, 1996).
T.L.O. v. New Jersey, 469 U.S. 325 (1985).
Vernonia School Dist. 47J v. Acton, 515 U.S. 646 (1995).
Safford Unified School Dist. No. 1 v. Redding, 557 U.S. 364 (2009).

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

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Students

Agency and Police Interviews

The Director shall develop procedures to manage requests by agency officials or police officers to interview students at school. Procedures will:

1. Recognize individual student rights and privacy,
2. Recognize the potential impact an interview may have on an individual student,
3. Minimize potential disruption,
4. Foster a cooperative relationship with public agencies and law enforcement, and
5. Comply with State law including, but not limited to, ensuring that before a law enforcement officer, 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 Director or designee will:
 - a. Notify or attempt to notify the student's parent/guardian 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 to promote safe interactions and communications with the student is present during questioning.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/10-20.64, 5/22-88.
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.: 5:90 (Abused and Neglected Child Reporting), 7:130 (Student Rights and Responsibilities), 7:140 (Search and Seizure), 7:190 (Student Behavior)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Students

Student Appearance

A student's appearance, including dress and hygiene, must not disrupt the educational process or compromise standards of health and safety. The Joint Agreement does not prohibit hairstyles historically associated with race, ethnicity, or hair texture, including, but not limited to, protective hairstyles such as braids, locks, and twists. Students who disrupt the educational process or compromise standards of health and safety must modify their appearance. Procedures for guiding student appearance will be developed by the Director or designee and included in the *Student Handbook(s)*.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/2-3.25 and 5/10-22.25b.
Tinker v. Des Moines Indep. Sch. Dist., 393 U.S. 503 (1969).

CROSS REF.: 7:10 (Equal Educational Opportunities), 7:130 (Student Rights and Responsibilities), 7:190 (Student Behavior)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Students

Vandalism

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

LEGAL REF.: 740 ILCS 115/.

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

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Students

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 Cooperative/Joint Agreement goals.

Bullying on the basis of actual or perceived race, color, national origin, military status, unfavorable discharge status from the military service, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender-related identity or expression, ancestry, age, religion, physical or mental disability, order of protection status, status of being homeless, or actual or potential marital or parental status, including pregnancy, association with a person or group with one or more of the aforementioned actual or perceived characteristics, or any other distinguishing characteristic **is prohibited**, and the bullying prevention and response policies of Member Districts will be observed in all Cooperative/Joint Agreement Programs.

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

CROSS REF.: 2:240 (Committee Policy Development), 2:260 (Uniform Grievance Procedure), 4:170 (Safety), 5:230 (Maintaining Student Discipline), 6:30 (Curriculum Development), 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), 7:230 (Misconduct by Students with Disabilities), 7:240 (Conduct Code for Participants in Extracurricular Activities), 7:285 (Food Allergy Management Program)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Students

Teen Dating Violence Prohibited

Engaging in teen dating violence that takes place at school, on school property, at school-sponsored activities, or in vehicles used for school-provided transportation is prohibited. For purposes of this policy, the term *teen dating violence* occurs whenever a student uses or threatens to use physical, mental, or emotional abuse to control an individual in the dating relationship; or uses or threatens to use sexual violence in the dating relationship.

The teen dating violence policies of Member Districts will be observed in all Cooperative/Joint Agreement Programs.

- Incorporated
by Reference: 7:180-AP1, (Prevention, Identification, Investigation, and Response to Bullying and School Violence)
- LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 110/3.10.
- CROSS REF.: 2:240 (Committee Policy Development), 5:100 (Staff Development), 5:230 (Maintaining Student Discipline), 6:30 (Curriculum Development), 6:65 (Student Social and Emotional Development), 7:20 (Harassment of Students Prohibited), 7:180 (Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment), 7:190 (Student Behavior), 7:230 (Misconduct by Students with Disabilities), 7:240 (Conduct Code for Participants in Extracurricular Activities)
- ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Students

Student Behavior

The goals and objectives of this policy are to provide effective discipline practices that: (1) ensure the safety and dignity of students and staff; (2) maintain a positive, weapons-free, and drug-free learning environment; (3) keep school property and the property of others secure; (4) address the causes of a student's misbehavior and 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.

When and Where Conduct Rules Apply

A student is 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, but not limited to:

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

Prohibited Student Conduct

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

1. Using, possessing, distributing, purchasing, or selling tobacco or nicotine materials, including without limitation, electronic cigarettes.
2. Using, possessing, distributing, purchasing, or selling alcoholic beverages. Students who are under the influence of an alcoholic beverage are not permitted to attend school or school functions and are treated as though they had alcohol in their possession.
3. Using, possessing, distributing, purchasing, selling, or offering for sale:
 - a. 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*).
 - b. Any anabolic steroid unless it is being administered in accordance with a physician's or licensed practitioner's prescription.
 - c. Any performance-enhancing substance on the Illinois High School Association's most current banned substance list unless administered in accordance with a physician's or licensed practitioner's prescription.

- d. Any prescription drug when not prescribed for the student by a 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*.
- e. Any inhalant, regardless of whether it contains an illegal drug or controlled substance: (a) that a student believes is, or represents to be capable of, causing intoxication, hallucination, excitement, or dulling of the brain or nervous system; or (b) about which the student engaged in behavior that would lead a reasonable person to believe that the student intended the inhalant to cause intoxication, hallucination, excitement, or dulling of the brain or nervous system. The prohibition in this section does not apply to a student's use of asthma or other legally prescribed inhalant medications.
- f. Any substance inhaled, injected, smoked, consumed, or otherwise ingested or absorbed with the intention of causing a physiological or psychological change in the body, including without limitation, pure caffeine in tablet or powdered form.
- g. Look-alike or counterfeit drugs, including a substance that is not prohibited by this policy, but one: (a) that a student believes to be, or represents to be, an illegal drug, controlled substance, or other substance that is prohibited by this policy; or (b) about which a student engaged in behavior that would lead a reasonable person to believe that the student expressly or impliedly represented to be an illegal drug, controlled substance, or other substance that is prohibited by this policy.
- h. 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.

- 4. Using, possessing, controlling, or transferring a *weapon* as that term is defined in the **Weapons** section of this policy, or violating the **Weapons** section of this policy.
- 5. Using or possessing an electronic paging device. Using a cellular telephone, video recording device, personal digital assistant (PDA), or other electronic device in any manner that disrupts the educational environment or violates the rights of others, including using the device to take photographs in locker rooms or bathrooms, cheat, or otherwise violate student conduct rules. Prohibited conduct specifically includes, without limitation, creating, sending, sharing, viewing, receiving, or possessing an indecent visual depiction of oneself or another person through the use of a computer, electronic communication device, or cellular phone. Unless otherwise banned under this policy or by the Assistant Director, all electronic devices must be kept powered-off or silenced and out-of-sight during the regular school day unless: (a) the supervising teacher grants permission; (b) use of the device is provided in a student's individualized education program (IEP); (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. Using or possessing a laser pointer unless under a staff member's direct supervision and in the context of instruction.

7. Disobeying rules of student conduct or directives from staff members or school officials. Examples of disobeying staff directives include refusing a Joint Agreement staff member's request to stop, present school identification, or submit to a search.
8. Engaging in academic dishonesty, including cheating, intentionally plagiarizing, wrongfully giving or receiving help during an academic examination, altering report cards, and wrongfully obtaining test copies or scores.
9. 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, without limitation, any use of violence, intimidation, force, noise, coercion, threats, stalking, harassment, sexual harassment, public humiliation, theft or destruction of property, retaliation, hazing, bullying, bullying using a school computer or a school computer network, or other comparable conduct.
10. Engaging in any sexual activity, including without limitation, offensive touching, sexual harassment, indecent exposure (including mooning), and sexual assault. This does not include the non-disruptive: (a) expression of gender or sexual orientation or preference, or (b) display of affection during non-instructional time.
11. Teen dating violence, as described in Board policy 7:185, *Teen Dating Violence Prohibited*.
12. Causing or attempting to cause damage to, or stealing or attempting to steal, school property or another person's personal property.
13. Entering school property or a school facility without proper authorization.
14. 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.
15. Being absent without a recognized excuse; State law and Board of Control policy regarding truancy control will be used with chronic and habitual truants.
16. Being involved with any public school fraternity, sorority, or secret society, by: (a) being a member; (b) promising to join; (c) pledging to become a member; or (d) soliciting any other person to join, promise to join, or be pledged to become a member.
17. Being involved in gangs or gang-related activities, including displaying gang symbols or paraphernalia.
18. Violating any criminal law, including but not limited to, assault, battery, arson, theft, gambling, eavesdropping, vandalism, and hazing.
19. 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.
20. Operating an unmanned aircraft system (UAS) or drone for any purpose on school grounds or at any school event unless granted permission by the Director or designee.

21. Engaging in any activity, on or off campus, that interferes with, disrupts, or adversely affects the school environment, school operations, or an educational function, including but not limited to, conduct that may reasonably be considered to: (a) be a threat or an attempted intimidation of a staff member; or (b) endanger the health or safety of students, staff, or school property.

For purposes of this policy, the term *possession* includes having control, custody, or care, currently or in the past, of an object or substance, including situations 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 Director or designee shall ensure that the parent/guardian of a student who engages in aggressive behavior is notified of the incident. The failure to provide such notification does not limit the Board's authority to impose discipline, including suspension or expulsion, for such behavior.

No disciplinary action shall be taken against any student that is based totally or in part on the refusal of the student's parent/guardian to administer or consent to the administration of psychotropic or 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 imposed by the Indian Valley Vocational Center or its home districts include, without limitation, 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 Assistant Director or designee shall ensure that the student is properly supervised.
7. Seizure of contraband; confiscation and temporary retention of personal property that was used to violate this policy or school disciplinary rules.
8. 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.
9. 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.

10. Notifying juvenile authorities or other law enforcement whenever the conduct involves criminal activity, including but not limited to, illegal drugs (controlled substances), *look-alikes*, alcohol, or weapons or in other circumstances as authorized by the reciprocal reporting agreement between the Joint Agreement 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. Corporal punishment is defined as slapping, paddling, or prolonged maintenance of students in physically painful positions, or intentional infliction of bodily harm. Corporal punishment does not include reasonable force as needed to maintain safety for students, staff, or other persons, or for the purpose of self-defense or defense of property.

Isolated Time Out, Time Out, and Physical Restraint

The Joint Agreement prohibits the use of isolated time out, time out, and physical restraint, as defined in 105 ILCS 5/10-20.33.

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 1961 (720 ILCS 5/24-1).
2. A knife, brass knuckles, or other knuckle weapon regardless of its composition, a billy club, or any other object if used or attempted to be used to cause bodily harm, including *look-alikes* of any *firearm* as defined above.

The expulsion requirement under either paragraph one or two above may be modified by the Director, and the Director's determination may be modified by the Board on a case-by-case basis. The Director 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.

Re-Engagement of Returning Students

The Director 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 be to support the student's ability to be successful in school following a period of exclusionary discipline and 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 Assistant Director in the event that he or she: (1) observes any person in possession of a firearm on or around school grounds; however, such action may be delayed if immediate notice would endanger students under his or her supervision, (2) observes or has reason to suspect that any person on school grounds is or was involved in a drug-related incident, or (3) observes a battery committed against any staff member. Upon receiving such a report, the Assistant Director or designee shall immediately notify the local law enforcement agency, Ill. State Police (ISP), and any involved student's parent/guardian. *School grounds* includes modes of transportation to school activities and any public way within 1000 feet of the school, as well as school property itself.

Delegation of Authority

Each teacher, and any other school personnel when students are under his or her charge, is authorized to impose any disciplinary measure, other than suspension, expulsion, corporal punishment, or in-school suspension, that is appropriate and in accordance with the policies and rules on student discipline. Teachers, other certificated [licensed] educational employees, and other persons providing a related service for or with respect to a student, may use reasonable force as needed to maintain safety for other students, school personnel, or other persons, or for the purpose of self-defense or defense of property. Teachers may temporarily remove students from a classroom for disruptive behavior.

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

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

LEGAL REF.: 20 U.S.C. §6081, Pro-Children Act of 1994.
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, 5/24-24, 5/26-12, 5/27-23.7, 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 §1.285.

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 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), 7:230 (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: May 1, 2024

Students

Suspension Procedures

In-School Suspension

The Director or designee is authorized to maintain an in-school suspension program. The program shall include, at a minimum, each of the following:

1. Before assigning a student to in-school suspension, the charges will be explained and the student will be given an opportunity to respond to the charges.
2. Students are supervised by licensed school personnel.
3. Students are given the opportunity to complete classroom work during the in-school suspension for equivalent academic credit.

Out-of-School Suspension

The Director or designee shall implement suspension procedures that provide, at a minimum, for each of the following:

1. A conference during which the charges will be explained and the student will be given an opportunity to respond to the charges before he or she may be suspended.
2. A pre-suspension conference is not required, and the student can be immediately suspended when the student's presence poses a continuing danger to persons or property or an ongoing threat of disruption to the educational process. In such cases, the notice and conference shall follow as soon as practicable.
3. An attempted phone call to the student's parent(s)/guardian(s).
4. A written notice of the suspension to the parent(s)/guardian(s) and the student, which shall:
 - a. Provide notice to the parent(s)/guardian(s) of their child's right to a review of the suspension;
 - b. Include information about an opportunity to make up work missed during the suspension for equivalent academic credit;
 - c. Detail the specific act of gross disobedience or misconduct resulting in the decision to suspend;
 - d. Provide rationale or an explanation of how the chosen number of suspension days will address the threat or disruption posed by the student or his or her act of gross disobedience or misconduct; and
 - e. Depending upon the length of the out-of-school suspension, include the following applicable information:
 - i. For a suspension of 3 school days or less, an explanation that the student's continuing presence in school would either pose:
 - a) A threat to school safety, or
 - b) A disruption to other students' learning opportunities.
 - ii. For a suspension of 4 or more school days, an explanation:

- a) That other appropriate and available behavioral and disciplinary interventions have been exhausted,
 - b) As to whether school officials attempted other interventions or determined that no other interventions were available for the student, and
 - c) That the student's continuing presence in school would either:
 - i) Pose a threat to the safety of other students, staff, or members of the school community, or
 - ii) Substantially disrupt, impede, or interfere with the operation of the school.
 - iii. For a suspension of 5 or more school days, the information listed in section 4.e.ii., above, along with documentation by the Director or designee determining what, if any, appropriate and available support services will be provided to the student during the length of his or her suspension.
5. A summary of the notice, including the reason for the suspension and the suspension length, must be given to the Board by the Director or designee.
6. Upon request of the parent(s)/guardian(s), a review of the suspension shall be conducted by the Board or a hearing officer appointed by the Board. At the review, the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) may appear and discuss the suspension with the Board or its hearing officer and may be represented by counsel. Whenever there is evidence that mental illness may be the cause for the suspension, the Director or designee shall invite a representative from a local mental health agency to consult with the Board. After presentation of the evidence or receipt of the hearing officer's report, the Board shall take such action as it finds appropriate. If the suspension is upheld, the Board's written suspension decision shall specifically detail items (a) and (e) in number 4, above.

LEGAL REF.: Goss v. Lopez, 419 U.S. 565 (1975).
105 ILCS 5/10-20.14, 5/10-22.6.
23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.280.

CROSS REF.: 5:100 (Staff Development Program), 7:130 (Student Rights and Responsibilities),
7:190 (Student Behavior)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Students

Expulsion Procedures

The final authority for expulsion of a student receiving services from the Cooperative/Joint Agreement lies with the Board of Education of the student's district of residence. The district of residence's policy for expulsion of students will be followed, including the due process procedure.

The Director or designee shall implement expulsion procedures for non joint agreement students that provide, at a minimum, for the following:

1. Before a student may be expelled, the student and his or her parent(s)/guardian(s) shall be provided a written request to appear at a hearing to determine whether the student should be expelled. The request shall be sent by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested. The request should include:
 - a. The reasons for the proposed expulsion as well as the conduct rule the student is charged with violating.
 - b. The time, date, and place for the hearing.
 - c. A short description of what will happen during the hearing.
 - d. A statement indicating that the School Code allows the Board of Control to expel a student for a definite period of time not to exceed 2 calendar years, as determined on a case by case basis.
 - e. A request that the student or parent(s)/guardian(s) inform the Center if the student will be represented by an attorney and, if so, the attorney's name.
2. Unless the student and parent(s)/guardian(s) indicate that they do not want a hearing or fail to appear at the designated time and place, the hearing will proceed. It shall be conducted by the Board of Control or a hearing officer appointed by it. If a hearing officer is appointed, he or she shall report to the Board the evidence presented at the hearing and the Board shall take such final action as it finds appropriate.
3. During the expulsion hearing, the Board or hearing officer shall hear evidence concerning whether the student is guilty of the gross disobedience or misconduct as charged. The student and his or her parent(s)/guardian(s) may be represented by counsel, offer evidence, present witnesses, cross-examine witnesses who testified, and otherwise present reasons why the student should not be expelled. After presentation of the evidence or receipt of the hearing officer's report, the Board shall decide the issue of guilt and take such action as it finds appropriate.
4. If the Board acts to expel the student, its written expulsion decision shall:
 - a. Detail the specific reason why removing the student from his or her learning environment is in the best interest of the school.
 - b. Provide a rationale for the specific duration of the recommended expulsion.
 - c. Document how school officials determined that all behavioral and disciplinary interventions have been exhausted by specifying which interventions were attempted or whether school officials determined that no other appropriate and available interventions exists for the student.

- d. Document how the student's continuing presence in school would (1) pose a threat to the safety of other students, staff, or members of the school community, or (2) substantially disrupt, impede, or interfere with the operations of school.
5. Upon expulsion, the Center may refer the student to appropriate and available support services.

No special education student shall be expelled if the student's particular act of gross disobedience or misconduct is a manifestation of his or her disability. A special education student whose gross disobedience or misconduct is not a manifestation of his/her disability may be expelled pursuant to the expulsion procedures, in accordance with the district of residence, provided that the student shall continue to receive educational services as provided in the Individualized Education Program/Plan (IEP) during the period of expulsion.

LEGAL REF.: 34 CFR §§300.530-300.536.
105 ILCS 5/10-22.6(a).
23 Ill.Admin.Code §226.400.
Goss v. Lopez, 95 S.Ct. 729 (1975).

CROSS REF.: 7:130 (Student Rights and Responsibilities), 7:190 (Student Behavior), 7:230 (Misconduct by Students with Disabilities)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Students

Misconduct by Students with Disabilities

Behavioral Interventions

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

Discipline of Special Education Students

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

LEGAL REF.: Individuals With Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004, 20 U.S.C. §§1412, 1413, and 1415.
Gun-Free Schools Act, 20 U.S.C. §7151 et seq.
34 C.F.R. §§300.101, 300.530 - 300.536.
105 ILCS 5/10-22.6 and 5/14-8.05.
23 Ill.Admin.Code §226.400.
Honig v. Doe, 108 S.Ct. 592 (1988).

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

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Students

Conduct Code for Participants in Extracurricular Activities

The Director or designee, using input from coaches and sponsors of extracurricular activities, shall develop a conduct code for all participants in extracurricular activities consistent with Board of Control policy. The conduct code shall: (1) require participants in extracurricular activities to conduct themselves as good citizens and exemplars of their school at all times, including after school, on days when school is not in session, and whether on or off school property; (2) emphasize that hazing and bullying activities are strictly prohibited; and (3) notify participants that failure to abide by it could result in discipline, up to and including removal from the activity. Participants who violate the conduct code will be allowed to give an explanation before being progressively disciplined. The conduct code shall be reviewed by the Assistant Director periodically at his or her discretion and presented to the Board.

Participants in extracurricular activities must abide by the conduct code for the activity and Board policy 7:190, *Student Behavior*. All coaches and sponsors of extracurricular activities shall annually review the conduct code with participants and provide participants with a copy. In addition, coaches and sponsors of interscholastic athletic programs shall provide instruction on steroid abuse prevention to students in grades 9 through 12 participating in these programs.

LEGAL REF.: Mahanoy Area Sch. Dist. v. B.L., 141 S.Ct. 2038 (2021).
Bd. of Educ. of Independent Sch. Dist. No. 92 v. Earls, 536 U.S. 822 (2002).
Vernonia Sch. Dist. 475 v. Acton, 515 U.S. 646 (1995).
Clements v. Bd. of Educ. of Decatur, 133 Ill.App.3d 531 (4th Dist. 1985).
Kevin Jordan v. O'Fallon THSD 203, 302 Ill.App.3d 1070 (5th Dist. 1999).
Todd v. Rush County Schs., 133 F.3d 984 (7th Cir. 1998).
105 ILCS 5/24-24, 5/27-23.3, and 25/2.

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

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Students

Student Support Services

The Joint Agreement's member districts provide a liaison to facilitate the enrollment and transfer of records of students in the legal custody of the Ill. Dept. of Children and Family Services when enrolling in or changing schools. The following student support services may be provided by the Joint Agreement or its member districts:

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

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

Erin's Law Counseling Options, Assistance, and Intervention

The Joint Agreement's member districts will ensure that each school building's Student Support Committee identifies counseling options for students who are affected by sexual abuse and grooming behaviors, along with Joint Agreement and community-based options for victims of sexual abuse and grooming behaviors to obtain assistance and intervention. Community-based options must include a Children's Advocacy Center and sexual assault crisis center(s) that serve the Joint Agreement or its member districts, if any. This policy shall be implemented in a manner consistent with State and federal laws, including the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, 42 U.S.C. §12101 et seq.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/10-23.13(b), 5/10-20.59, and 5/21B-25(G).
405 ILCS 49/, Children's Mental Health Act.
740 ILCS 110/, Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities Confidentiality Act.

CROSS REF.: 6:65 (Student Social and Emotional Development), 7:100 (Health, Eye, and Dental Examinations; Immunizations; and Exclusion of Students), 7:280 (Communicable and Chronic Infectious Disease), 7:340 (Student Records)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Students

Administering Medicines to Students

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

No Joint Agreement employee shall administer to any student, or supervise a student's self-administration of, any prescription or non-prescription medication until a completed and signed *School Medication Authorization Form (SMA Form)* is submitted by the student's parent/guardian.

No student shall possess or consume any prescription or non-prescription medication on school grounds or at a school-related function other than as provided for in this policy and its implementing procedures.

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

The Assistant Director shall include this policy in the Student Handbook and shall provide a copy to the parents/guardians of students.

Self-Administration of Medication

A student may possess and self-administer an epinephrine injector, e.g., EpiPen®, and/or asthma medication prescribed for use at the student's discretion, provided the student's parent/guardian has completed and signed an *SMA Form*. The Director or designee will ensure an Emergency Action Plan is developed for each self-administering student.

A student may self-administer medication required under a *qualifying plan*, provided the student's parent/guardian has completed and signed an *SMA Form*. A qualifying plan means: (1) an asthma action plan, (2) an Individual Health Care Action Plan, (3) an Ill. Food Allergy Emergency Action Plan and Treatment Authorization Form, (4) a plan pursuant to Section 504 of the federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973, or (5) a plan pursuant to the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

The Joint Agreement shall incur no liability, except for willful and wanton conduct, as a result of any injury arising from a student's self-administration of medication, including asthma medication or epinephrine injectors, or medication required under a qualifying plan. A student's parent/guardian must indemnify and hold harmless the Joint Agreement and its employees and agents, against any claims, except a claim based on willful and wanton conduct, arising out of a student's self-administration of an epinephrine injector, asthma medication, and/or a medication required under a qualifying plan.

Administration of Medical Cannabis

The Compassionate Use of Medical Cannabis Program Act allows a *medical cannabis infused product* to be administered to a student by one or more of the following individuals:

1. A parent/guardian of a student who is a minor who registers with the Ill. Dept. of Public Health (IDPH) as a *designated caregiver* to administer medical cannabis to their child. A

designated caregiver may also be another individual other than the student's parent/guardian. Any designated caregiver must be at least 21 years old and is allowed to administer a *medical cannabis infused product* to a child who is a student on the premises of his or her school or on his or her school bus if:

- a. Both the student and the designated caregiver possess valid registry identification cards issued by IDPH;
 - b. Copies of the registry identification cards are provided to the Joint Agreement;
 - c. That student's parent/guardian completed, signed, and submitted a *School Medication Authorization Form - Medical Cannabis*; and
 - d. After administering the product to the student, the designated caregiver immediately removes it from school premises or the school bus.
2. A properly trained school nurse or administrator, who shall be allowed to administer the *medical cannabis infused product* to the student on the premises of the child's school, at a school-sponsored activity, or before/after normal school activities, including while the student is in before-school or after-school care on school-operated property or while being transported on a school bus.
 3. The student him or herself when the self-administration takes place under the direct supervision of a school nurse or administrator.

Medical cannabis infused product (product) includes oils, ointments, foods, and other products that contain usable cannabis but are not smoked or vaped. Smoking and/or vaping medical cannabis is prohibited.

The product may not be administered in a manner that, in the opinion of the Joint Agreement or school, would create a disruption to the educational environment or cause exposure of the product to other students. A school employee shall not be required to administer the product.

Discipline of a student for being administered a product by a designated caregiver, or by a school nurse or administrator, or who self-administers a product under the direct supervision of a school nurse or administrator pursuant to this policy is prohibited. The Joint Agreement may not deny a student attendance at a school solely because he or she requires administration of the product during school hours.

Void Policy

The **Administration of Medical Cannabis** section of the policy is void and the Joint Agreement reserves the right not to implement it if the Joint Agreement or school is in danger of losing federal funding.

Administration of Undesignated Medication

Upon any administration of an undesignated medication permitted by State law, the Director or designee(s) must ensure all notifications required by State law and administrative procedures occur.

Undesignated Medication Disclaimers

Upon implementation of this policy, the protections from liability and hold harmless provisions applicable under State law apply.

No one, including without limitation, parents/guardians of students, should rely on the Joint Agreement for the availability of undesignated medication. This policy does not guarantee the

availability of undesignated medications. Students and their parents/guardians should consult their own physician regarding these medication(s).

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/10-20.14b, 5/10-22.21b, 5/22-30, and 5/22-33.
105 ILCS 145/, Care of Students with Diabetes Act.
410 ILCS 130/, Compassionate Use of Medical Cannabis Program Act.
720 ILCS 550/, Cannabis Control Act.
23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.540.

CROSS REF.: 7:285 (Anaphylaxis Prevention, Response, and Management Program)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Students

Communicable and Chronic Infectious Disease

A student with or carrying a communicable and/or chronic infectious disease has all rights, privileges, and services provided by law and the Board of Control's policies. The Director will develop procedures to safeguard these rights while managing health and safety concerns.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/10-21.11.
 23 Ill.Admin.Code §§ 1.610 and 226.300.
 77 Ill.Admin.Code Part 690.
 20 U.S.C. §1400 et seq., Individuals With Disabilities Education Improvement Act
 of 2004.
 29 U.S.C. §794(a), Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 504.

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Students

Anaphylaxis Prevention, Response, and Management Program

School attendance may increase a student's risk of exposure to allergens that could trigger anaphylaxis. Students at risk for anaphylaxis benefit from a Board of Control policy that coordinates a planned response in the event of an anaphylactic emergency. Anaphylaxis is a severe systemic allergic reaction from exposure to allergens that is rapid in onset and can cause death. Common allergens include animal dander, fish, latex, milk, shellfish, tree nuts, eggs, insect venom, medications, peanuts, soy, and wheat. A severe allergic reaction usually occurs quickly; death has been reported to occur within minutes. An anaphylactic reaction can also occur up to one to two hours after exposure to the allergen.

While it is not possible for the Joint Agreement to completely eliminate the risks of an anaphylactic emergency when a student is at school, an Anaphylaxis Prevention, Response, and Management Program helps the Joint Agreement reduce these risks and provide accommodations and proper treatment for anaphylactic reactions.

The Director or designee shall develop and implement an Anaphylaxis Prevention, Response, and Management Program for the prevention and treatment of anaphylaxis that:

1. Fully implements the Ill. State Board of Control (ISBE)'s model policy required by the School Code that: (a) relates to the care and response to a person having an anaphylaxis reaction, (b) addresses the use of epinephrine in a school setting, (c) provides a full food allergy and prevention of allergen exposure plan, and (d) aligns with 105 ILCS 5/22-30 and 23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.540.
2. Ensures staff members receive appropriate training, including: (a) an in-service training program for staff who work with students that is conducted by a person with expertise in anaphylactic reactions and management, and (b) training required by law for those staff members acting as *trained personnel*, as provided in 105 ILCS 5/22-30 and 23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.540.
3. Implements and maintains a supply of undesignated epinephrine in the name of the Joint Agreement, in accordance with policy 7:270, *Administering Medicines to Students*.
4. Follows and references the applicable best practices specific to the Joint Agreement's needs in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's *Voluntary Guidelines for Managing Food Allergies in Schools and Early Care and Education Programs* and the *National Association of School Nurses Allergies and Anaphylaxis Resources/Checklists*.
5. Provides annual notice to the parents/guardians of all students to make them aware of this policy.
6. Complies with State and federal law and is in alignment with Board policies.

Monitoring

Pursuant to State law and policy 2:240, *Board Policy Development*, the Board reviews and makes any necessary updates to this policy at least once every three years. The Director or designee shall assist the Board with its review and any necessary updates.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/2-3.190, 5/10-22.39(e), and 5/22-30.
23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.540.
Anaphylaxis Response Policy for Illinois Schools, published by ISBE.

CROSS REF.: 4:110 (Transportation), 4:170 (Safety), 5:100 (Staff Development Program),
6:120 (Education of Children with Disabilities), 6:240 (Field Trips), 7:180
(Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation and Harassment), 7:250
(Student Support Services), 7:270 (Administering Medicines to Students), 8:100
(Relations with Other Organizations and Agencies)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Students

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 Director 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 5/27-7 (requiring education for students to develop a sound mind and a healthy body).
 - 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 licensed school personnel and administrators 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 lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or questioning (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 Joint Agreement's educational program);
 - b. 6:120, *Education of Children with Disabilities*, implementing special education requirements for the Joint Agreement;
 - c. 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;
 - d. 7:10, *Equal Educational Opportunities*, and its implementing administrative procedure and exhibit, implementing supports for equal educational opportunities for students who are LGBTQ;
 - e. 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
 - f. 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 Joint Agreement's Suicide and Depression Awareness and Prevention 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 Director shall inform each Joint Agreement employee about this policy and ensure its posting on the Joint Agreement's website. The Director or designee shall provide a copy of this policy to the parent or legal guardian of each student enrolled in the Joint Agreement. Student identification (ID) cards, the Joint Agreement'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 Joint Agreement, 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 Joint Agreement, (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. § 12101 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, 5/27-7.
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), 7:180 (Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment), 7:250 (Student Support Services)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Students

Student Athlete Concussions and Head Injuries

The Director or designee shall develop and implement a program to manage concussions and head injuries suffered by students. The program shall:

1. Fully implement the Youth Sports Concussion Safety Act (YSCSA), that provides, without limitation, each of the following:
 - a. The Board must appoint or approve member(s) of a Concussion Oversight Team for the Joint Agreement.
 - b. The Concussion Oversight Team shall establish each of the following based on peer-reviewed scientific evidence consistent with guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention:
 - i. A return-to-play protocol governing a student's return to interscholastic athletics practice or competition following a force of impact believed to have caused a concussion. The Director or designee shall supervise an athletic trainer or other person responsible for compliance with the return-to-play protocol.
 - ii. A return-to-learn protocol governing a student's return to the classroom following a force of impact believed to have caused a concussion. The Director or designee shall supervise the person responsible for compliance with the return-to-learn protocol.
 - c. Each student and the student's parent/guardian shall be required to sign a concussion information receipt form each school year before participating in an interscholastic athletic activity.
 - d. A student shall be removed from an interscholastic athletic practice or competition immediately if any of the following individuals believes that the student sustained a concussion during the practice and/or competition: a coach, a physician, a game official, an athletic trainer, the student's parent/guardian, the student, or any other person deemed appropriate under the return-to-play protocol.
 - e. A student who was removed from interscholastic athletic practice or competition shall be allowed to return only after all statutory prerequisites are completed, including without limitation, the return-to-play and return-to-learn protocols developed by the Concussion Oversight Team. An athletic team coach or assistant coach may not authorize a student's return-to-play or return-to-learn.
 - f. The following individuals must complete concussion training as specified in the YSCSA: all coaches or assistant coaches (whether volunteer or a Joint Agreement employee) of interscholastic athletic activities; nurses, licensed healthcare professionals or non-licensed healthcare professionals who serve on the Concussion Oversight Team (whether or not they serve on a volunteer basis); athletic trainers; game officials of interscholastic athletic activities; and physicians who serve on the Concussion Oversight Team.
 - g. The Board shall approve school-specific emergency action plans for interscholastic athletic activities to address the serious injuries and acute medical conditions in which a student's condition may deteriorate rapidly.

2. Comply with the concussion protocols, policies, and by-laws of the Illinois High School Association (IHSA), including its *Protocol for Implementation of NFHS Sports Playing Rules for Concussions*, which includes its *Return to Play (RTP) Policy*. These specifically require that:
 - a. A student athlete who exhibits signs, symptoms, or behaviors consistent with a concussion in a practice or game shall be removed from participation or competition at that time.
 - b. A student athlete who has been removed from an interscholastic contest for a possible concussion or head injury may not return to that contest unless cleared to do so by a physician licensed to practice medicine in all its branches in Illinois or a certified athletic trainer.
 - c. If not cleared to return to that contest, a student athlete may not return to play or practice until the student athlete has provided his or her school with written clearance from a physician licensed to practice medicine in all its branches in Illinois, advanced practice registered nurse, physician assistant or a certified athletic trainer working in conjunction with a physician licensed to practice medicine in all its branches in Illinois.
3. Require that all high school coaching personnel, including the head and assistant coaches, and athletic directors obtain online concussion certification by completing online concussion awareness training in accordance with 105 ILCS 25/1.15.
4. Require all student athletes to view the IHSA video about concussions.
5. Inform student athletes and their parent(s)/guardian(s) about this policy in the *Agreement to Participate* or other written instrument that a student athlete and his or her parent/guardian must sign before the student is allowed to participate in a practice or interscholastic competition.
6. Provide coaches and student athletes and their parent(s)/guardian(s) with educational materials from the IHSA regarding the nature and risk of concussions and head injuries, including the risks inherent in continuing to play after a concussion or head injury.
7. Include a requirement for staff members to notify the parent/guardian of a student who exhibits symptoms consistent with that of a concussion.
8. Include a requirement for staff members to distribute the Ill. Dept. of Public Health concussion brochure to any student or the parent/guardian of a student who may have sustained a concussion, regardless of whether or not the concussion occurred while the student was participating in an interscholastic athletic activity, if available.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/22-80.
105 ILCS 25/1.15, Interscholastic Athletic Organization Act.
20 ILCS 2310/2310-307, Civil Administrative Code of Illinois.

CROSS REF.: 4:170 (Safety), 5:100 (Staff Development Program)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Students

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 Assistant Director 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 adviser means an individual employed, appointed, or designated by the Joint Agreement 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 Control 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 Joint Agreement's media literacy curriculum mandate in 105 ILCS 5/27-20.08; 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 Joint Agreement's policies; or
 - c. Materially and substantially disrupt the orderly operation of the school.

The Joint Agreement 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 Director 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 Joint Agreement 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 Joint Agreement.

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 of Control policy and Student Handbooks;
4. Is reasonably viewed as promoting illegal drug use;
5. 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 Director 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 5/27-20.08 and 5/27-23.7.
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 (Joint Agreement Philosophy), 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), 8:25 (Advertising and Distributing Materials in Schools Provided by Non-School Related Entities)
- ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Students

Student Fundraising Activities

No individual or organization is allowed to ask students to participate in fundraising activities while the students are on school grounds during school hours or during any school activity. Exceptions are:

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

The Director or designee shall manage student fundraising activities in alignment with the following directives:

1. Fundraising efforts shall not conflict with instructional activities or programs.
2. For any school that participates in the School Breakfast Program or the National School Lunch Program, fundraising activities involving the sale of food and beverage items to students during the school day while on the school campus must comply with the Ill. State Board of Control rules concerning the sale of competitive food and beverage items.
3. Participation in fundraising efforts must be voluntary.
4. Student safety must be paramount.
5. For school-sponsored student organizations, a school staff member must supervise the fundraising activities and the student activity funds treasurer must safeguard the financial accounts.
6. The fundraising efforts must be to support the organization's purposes and/or activities, the general welfare, a charitable cause, or the educational experiences of students generally.
7. The funds shall be used to the maximum extent possible for the designated purpose.
8. Any fundraising efforts that solicit donor messages for incorporation into school property, e.g., tiles or bricks, or placement upon school property, e.g., posters or placards, must:
 - a. Develop viewpoint neutral guidelines for the creation of messages;
 - b. Inform potential donors that all messages are subject to review and approval, and that messages that do not meet the established guidelines must be resubmitted or the donation will be returned; and
 - c. Place a disclaimer on all fundraising information and near the completed donor messages that all messages are "solely the expression of the individual donors and not an endorsement by the Joint Agreement of any message's content."

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/10-20.19(3).
23 Ill.Admin.Code Part 305, School Food Service.

CROSS REF.: 4:90 (Student Activity and Fiduciary Funds), 8:80 (Gifts to the Joint Agreement),
8:90 (Parent Organizations and Booster Clubs)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Students

Student Use of Buildings - Equal Access

Student groups or clubs that are not school sponsored are granted free use of school premises for a meeting or series of meetings under the following conditions:

1. The meeting is held during those non-instructional times identified by the Director or designee for non-curricular student groups, clubs, or organizations to meet. *Non-instructional time* means time set aside by the school before actual classroom instruction begins or after actual classroom instruction ends. *Non-curricular student groups* are those student groups, clubs, or organizations that do not directly relate to the curriculum.
2. All non-curriculum related student groups that are not Joint Agreement sponsored receive substantially the same treatment.
3. The meeting is student-initiated, meaning that the request is made by a student.
4. Attendance at the meeting is voluntary.
5. The school will not sponsor the meeting.
6. School employees are present at religious meetings only in a non-participatory capacity.
7. The meeting and/or any activities during the meeting do not materially or substantially interfere with the orderly conduct of educational activities.
8. Non-school persons do not direct, conduct, control, or regularly attend the meetings.
9. The school retains its authority to maintain order and discipline.
10. A school staff member or other responsible adult is present in a supervisory capacity.
11. The Director or designee approves the meeting or series of meetings.

The Director or designee shall develop administrative procedures to implement this policy.

LEGAL REF.: 20 U.S.C. §4071 et seq., Equal Access Act.
Bd. of Ed. of Westside Community Sch. Dist. v. Mergens, 496 U.S. 226 (1990).
Gernetzke v. Kenosha Unified Sch. Dist. No. 1, 274 F.3d 464 (7th Cir. 2001), *cert. denied*, 535 U.S. 1017.

CROSS REF.: 7:10 (Equal Educational Opportunities), 8:20 (Community Use of School Facilities)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Students

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 officers 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 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.

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 Joint Agreement 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 Joint Agreement 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. Upon request, the Joint Agreement discloses school student records without parent consent to the official records custodian of another school in which a student has enrolled or intends to enroll, as well as to any other person as specifically required or permitted by State or federal law.

The Director 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, and 5/14-1.01 et seq.
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), 7:345 (Use of Educational Technologies; Student Data Privacy and Security)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Students

Use of Educational Technologies; Student Data Privacy and Security

Educational technologies used in the Joint Agreement shall further the objectives of the Joint Agreement's educational program, as set forth in Board policy 6:10, *Educational Philosophy and Objectives*, align with the curriculum criteria in policy 6:40, *Curriculum Development*, and/or support efficient Joint Agreement operations. The Director shall ensure that the use of educational technologies in the Joint Agreement meets the above criteria.

The Joint Agreement and/or vendors under its control may need to collect and maintain data that personally identifies students in order to use certain educational technologies for the benefit of student learning or Joint Agreement operations.

Federal and State law govern the protection of student data, including school student records and/or *covered information*. The sale, rental, lease, or trading of any school student records or covered information by the Joint Agreement is prohibited. Protecting such information is important for legal compliance, Joint Agreement operations, and maintaining the trust of Joint Agreement stakeholders, including parents, students and staff.

Definitions

Covered information means personally identifiable information (PII) or information linked to PII in any media or format that is not publicly available and is any of the following: (1) created by or provided to an operator by a student or the student's parent/guardian in the course of the student's or parent/guardian's use of the operator's site, service or application; (2) created by or provided to an operator by an employee or agent of the Joint Agreement; or (3) gathered by an operator through the operation of its site, service, or application.

Operators are entities (such as educational technology vendors) that operate Internet websites, online services, online applications, or mobile applications that are designed, marketed, and primarily used for K-12 school purposes.

Breach means the unauthorized acquisition of computerized data that compromises the security, confidentiality or integrity of covered information maintained by an operator or the Joint Agreement.

Operator Contracts

The Director or designee designates which Joint Agreement employees are authorized to enter into written agreements with operators for those contracts that do not require separate Board approval. Contracts between the Board and operators shall be entered into in accordance with State law and Board policy 4:60, *Purchases and Contracts*, and shall include any specific provisions required by State law.

Security Standards

The Director or designee shall ensure the Joint Agreement implements and maintains reasonable security procedures and practices that otherwise meet or exceed industry standards designed to protect covered information from unauthorized access, destruction, use, modification, or disclosure. In the event the Joint Agreement receives notice from an operator of a breach or has determined a breach has occurred, the Director or designee shall also ensure that the Joint Agreement provides any breach notifications required by State law.

LEGAL REF.: 20 U.S.C. §1232g, Family and Educational Rights and Privacy Act, implemented
by 34 C.F.R. Part 99.
105 ILCS 10/, Ill. School Student Records Act.
105 ILCS 85/, Student Online Personal Protection Act.
23 Ill. Admin. Code Part 380.

CROSS REF.: 4:15 (Identity Protection), 4:60 (Purchases and Contracts), 6:235 (Access to
Electronic Networks), 7:340 (Student Records)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

INDIAN VALLEY VOCATIONAL CENTER BOARD OF CONTROL POLICY MANUAL
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Because certain policy numbers are used for IASB sample policies, districts should use numbers ending in 2, 4, 6, or 8 for locally developed policies on topics not covered by IASB sample policies.

Community Relations

Connection with the Community

Public Relations

The Board Chair is the official spokesperson for the School Board. The Director is the District's chief spokesperson. The Director or designee shall plan and implement a District public relations program to keep the community informed and build support through open and authentic communications.

The public relations program shall include, without limitation, media relations; internal communications; communications to the community; communications to students and parents/guardians; emergency communications in coordination with the District Safety Coordinator; the District website and social media platforms; and other efforts to reach all audiences using suitable mediums.

Community Engagement

Community engagement is a process that the Board uses to actively involve diverse citizens in dialogue, deliberation, and collaborative thinking around common interests for the Joint Agreement's school.

The Board, in consultation with the Director, determines the purpose(s) and objective(s) of any community engagement initiative. For each community engagement initiative:

1. The Board will:
 - a. Commit to the determined purpose(s) and objective(s), and
 - b. Provide information about the expected nature of the public's involvement.
2. The Director will:
 - a. Identify the effective tools and tactics that will advance the Board's purpose(s) and objective(s),
 - b. At least annually, prepare a report for the community engagement initiative, and/or
 - c. Prepare a final report of the community engagement initiative.

The Board will periodically: (1) review whether its community engagement initiative(s) are achieving the identified purpose(s) and objective(s); (2) consider what, if any, modifications would improve effectiveness; and (3) determine whether to continue individual initiatives.

CROSS REF.: 2:110 (Qualifications, Term, and Duties of Board Officers)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Community Relations

Community Use of School Facilities

School facilities are available to community organizations during non-school hours when such use does not: (1) interfere with any school function or affect the safety of students or employees, or (2) affect the property or liability of the Joint Agreement. The use of school facilities for school purposes has precedence over all other uses. The Joint Agreement reserves the right to cancel previously scheduled use of facilities by community organizations and other groups. The use of school facilities requires the prior approval of the Director or designee and is subject to applicable procedures.

Persons on school premises must abide by the Joint Agreement's conduct rules at all times.

Student groups, school-related organizations, government agencies, and non-profit organizations are granted the use of school facilities at no costs during regularly staffed hours. Fees and costs shall apply during non-regularly staffed hours and to other organizations granted use of facilities at any time. A fee schedule and other terms of use shall be prepared by the Director and be subject to annual approval by the Board of Control.

- LEGAL REF.: 20 U.S.C. §7905, Boy Scouts of America Equal Access Act.
10 ILCS 5/11-4.1, Election Code.
105 ILCS 5/10-20.41, 5/10-22.10, and 5/29-3.5.
Good News Club v. Milford Central School, 533 U.S. 98 (2001).
Lamb's Chapel v. Center Moriches Union Free Joint Agreement, 508 U.S. 384 (1993).
Rosenberger v. Rector and Visitors of Univ. of Va., 515 U.S. 819 (1995).
- CROSS REF.: 7:330 (Student Use of Buildings - Equal Access), 8:25 (Advertising and Distributing Materials in Schools Provided by Non-School Related Entities), 8:30 (Visitors to and Conduct on School Property)
- ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Community Relations

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

No material or literature shall be posted or distributed that would: (1) disrupt the educational process, (2) violate the rights or invade the privacy of others, (3) infringe on a trademark or copyright, or (4) be defamatory, obscene, vulgar, or indecent. No material, literature, or advertisement shall be posted or distributed without advance approval as described in this policy.

Community, Educational, Charitable, or Recreational Organizations

Community, educational, charitable, recreational, or similar groups may, under procedures established by the Director, advertise events pertinent to students' interests or involvement. All advertisements must (1) be student-oriented, (2) prominently display the sponsoring organization's name, and (3) be approved in advance by the Director or designee. The Joint Agreement reserves the right to decide where and when any advertisement or flyer is distributed, displayed, or posted.

Commercial Companies and Political Candidates or Parties

Commercial companies and political candidates or organizations are prohibited from advertising in schools, on the school grounds, or on school or District websites.

No individual or entity may advertise or promote its interests by using the names or pictures of the Joint Agreement, and Joint Agreement school or facility, staff members, or students except as authorized by and consistent with administrative procedures and approved by the Board.

LEGAL REF.: Lamb's Chapel v. Center Moriches Union Free Sch. Dist., 508 U.S. 384 (1993).
Berger v. Rensselaer Central Sch. Corp., 982 F.2d 1160 (7th Cir. 1993), *cert. denied*, 113 S.Ct. 2344 (1993).
Sherman v. Community Consolidated Sch. Dist. 21, 8 F.3d 1160 (7th Cir. 1993), *cert. denied*, 8 F.3d 1160 (1994).
Hedges v. Wauconda Community Unit Sch. Dist. No. 118, 9 F.3d 1295 (7th Cir. 1993).
Victory Through Jesus Sports Ministry v. Lee's Summit R-7 Sch. Dist., 640 F.3d 329 (8th Cir. 2011), *cert. denied*, 565 U.S. 1036 (2011).
DiLoreto v. Downey Unified Sch. Dist., 196 F.3d 958 (9th Cir. 1999).

CROSS REF.: 7:325 (Student Fundraising Activities), 7:330 (Student Use of Buildings - Equal Access)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Community Relations

Visitors to and Conduct on Joint Agreement Property

The following definitions apply to this policy:

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

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

All visitors to school property are required to report to the Assistant Director's office and receive permission to remain on school property. All visitors must 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 Director or designee.

The Joint Agreement 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 the Director under 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 Joint Agreement employee's directive.
14. Engage in any risky behavior, including roller-blading, roller-skating, or skateboarding.
15. Violate other Joint Agreement policies or regulations, or a directive from an authorized security officer or Joint Agreement employee.
16. Engage in any conduct that interferes with, disrupts, or adversely affects the Joint Agreement 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 Assistant Director 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, Director, or Director's designee. If permission is granted, the Director or Board Chair shall provide the details of the offender's upcoming visit to the Assistant Director.

In all cases, the Director, or designee who is a certified employee, shall supervise a child sex offender whenever the offender is in a child's vicinity.

Exclusive Bargaining Representative Agent

Please refer to the applicable collective bargaining agreement(s).

For employees whose collective bargaining agreement does not address this subject:

Upon notifying the Assistant Director'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 Joint Agreement.

Enforcement

Any staff member may request identification from any person on school property; refusal to provide such information is a criminal act. The Assistant Director 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 school property. The person is also subject to being denied admission to school events or meetings for up to one calendar year.

Procedures to Deny Future Admission to School Events or Meetings

Before any person may be denied admission to school events or meetings as provided in this policy, the person has a right to a hearing before the Board. The Director may refuse the person admission pending such hearing. The Director 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. Instructions on how to waive a hearing.

LEGAL REF.: Nuding v. Cerro Gordo Community Unit School Dist., 313 Ill. App.3d 344 (4th Dist. 2000).
20 U.S.C. § 7181 et seq., Pro-Children Act of 1994.
105 ILCS 5/10-20.5b, 5/22-33, 5/24-25, and 5/27-23.7(a).
115 ILCS 5/3(c), Ill. Educational Labor Relations Act.
410 ILCS 130/, Compassionate Use of Medical Cannabis Program Act.
430 ILCS 66/, Firearm Concealed Carry Act.
410 ILCS 705/, Cannabis Tax and Regulation Act.
720 ILCS 5/11-9.3.

CROSS REF.: 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: May 1, 2024

Community Relations

Accommodating Individuals with Disabilities

Individuals with disabilities shall be provided an opportunity to participate in all school-sponsored services, programs, or activities and will not be subject to illegal discrimination. When appropriate, the Joint Agreement may provide to persons with disabilities aids, benefits, or services that are separate or different from, but as effective as, those provided to others.

The Joint Agreement will provide auxiliary aids and services when necessary to afford individuals with disabilities equal opportunity to participate in or enjoy the benefits of a service, program, or activity.

Each service, program, website, or activity operated in existing facilities shall be readily accessible to, and useable by, individuals with disabilities. New construction and alterations to facilities existing before January 26, 1992, will be accessible when viewed in their entirety.

The Director or designee is designated the Title II Coordinator and shall:

1. Oversee the Joint Agreement's compliance efforts, recommend necessary modifications to the Board of Control, and maintain the Joint Agreement's final Title II self-evaluation document, update it to the extent necessary, and keep it available for public inspection for at least three years after its completion date.
2. Institute plans to make information regarding Title II's protection available to any interested party.

Individuals with disabilities should notify the Director or Assistant Director if they have a disability that will require special assistance or services and, if so, what services are required. This notification should occur as far in advance as possible of the school-sponsored function, program, or meeting.

Individuals with disabilities may allege a violation of this policy or federal law by reporting it to the Director or designated Title II Coordinator, or by filing a grievance under the Uniform Grievance Procedure.

LEGAL REF.: Americans with Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C. §§12101 et seq. and 12131 et seq.; 28 C.F.R. Part 35.
Rehabilitation Act of 1973 §104, 29 U.S.C. §794 (2006).
105 ILCS 5/10-20.51.
410 ILCS 25/, Environmental Barriers Act.
71 Ill.Admin.Code Part 400, Illinois Accessibility Code.

CROSS REF.: 2:260 (Uniform Grievance Procedure), 4:150 (Facility Management and Building Programs)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Community Relations

Gifts to the Joint Agreement

The Board of Control appreciates gifts from any education foundation, other entities, or individuals. All gifts must adhere to each of the following:

1. Be accepted by the Board or, if less than \$500.00 in value, the Director or designee. Individuals should obtain a pre-acceptance commitment before identifying the Joint Agreement, any school, or school program or activity as a beneficiary in any fundraising attempt, including without limitation, any Internet fundraising attempt.
2. Be given without a stated purpose or with a purpose deemed by the party with authority to accept the gift to be compatible with the Board's educational objectives and policies.
3. Be consistent with the Joint Agreement's mandate to provide equal educational and extracurricular opportunities to all students in the Joint Agreement as provided in Board policy 7:10, *Equal Educational Opportunities*. State and federal laws require the Joint Agreement to provide equal treatment for members of both sexes to educational programming, extracurricular activities.
4. Permit the Joint Agreement to maintain resource equity among its learning centers.
5. Be viewpoint neutral. The Director or designee shall manage a process for the review and approval of donations involving the incorporation of messages into or placing messages upon school property.
6. Comply with all laws applicable to the Joint Agreement including, without limitation, the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Prevailing Wage Act, the Health/Life Safety Code for Public Schools, and all applicable procurement and bidding requirements.

The Joint Agreement will provide equal treatment to all individuals and entities seeking to donate money or a gift. Upon acceptance, all gifts become the Joint Agreement's property. The acceptance of a gift is not an endorsement by the Board, Joint Agreement, or school of any product, service, activity, or program. The method of recognition is determined by the party accepting the gift.

LEGAL REF.: 20 U.S.C. §1681 et seq., Title IX of the Education Amendments implemented by 34 C.F.R. Part 106.
105 ILCS 5/16-1.
23 Ill.Admin.Code §200.40.

CROSS REF.: 4:60 (Purchases and Contracts), 4:150 (Facility Management and Building Programs), 6:10 (Educational Philosophy and Objectives), 6:210 (Instructional Materials), 7:10 (Equal Educational Opportunities)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Community Relations

Parent Organizations and Booster Clubs

Parent organizations and booster clubs are invaluable resources to the Joint Agreement's school. While parent organizations and booster clubs have no administrative authority and cannot determine Joint Agreement policy, the Board of Control welcomes their suggestions and assistance.

Parent organizations and booster clubs may be recognized by the Board and permitted to use the Joint Agreement's name, the Joint Agreement school's name, or the Joint Agreement school's team name, or any logo attributable to the Joint Agreement provided they first receive the Director or designee's express written consent. Consent to use one of the above-mentioned names or logos will generally be granted if the organization or club has by-laws containing the following:

1. The organization's or club's name and purpose, such as, to enhance students' educational experiences, to help meet educational needs of students, to provide extra athletic benefits to students, to assist specific sports teams or academic clubs through financial support, or to enrich extracurricular activities.
2. The rules and procedures under which it operates.
3. An agreement to adhere to all Board policies and administrative procedures.
4. A statement that membership is open and unrestricted, meaning that membership is open to all parents/guardians of students enrolled in the school, Joint Agreement staff, and community members.
5. A statement that the Joint Agreement is not, and will not be, responsible for the organization's or club's business or the conduct of its members, including on any organization or club websites or social media accounts.
6. An agreement to maintain and protect its own finances.
7. A recognition that money given to a school cannot be earmarked for any particular expense. Booster clubs may make recommendations, but cash or other valuable consideration must be given to the Joint Agreement to use at its discretion. The Board's legal obligation to comply with Title IX by providing equal opportunity for members of both genders will supersede an organization or club's recommendation.

Permission to use one of the above-mentioned names or logos may be rescinded at any time and does not constitute permission to act as the Joint Agreement's representative. At no time does the Joint Agreement accept responsibility for the actions of any parent organization or booster club regardless of whether it was recognized and/or permitted to use any of the above-mentioned names or logos. The Director shall designate an administrative staff member to serve as the recognized liaison to parent organizations or booster clubs. The liaison will serve as a resource person and provide information about school programs, resources, policies, problems, concerns, and emerging issues. Building staff will be encouraged to participate in the organizations.

CROSS REF.: 8:80 (Gifts to the Joint Agreement)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Community Relations

Parental Involvement

In order to assure collaborative relationships between students' families and the Joint Agreement, and to enable parents/guardians to become active partners in their children's education, the Director shall:

1. Keep parents/guardians thoroughly informed about their child's school and education.
2. Encourage parents/guardians to be involved in their child's school and education.
3. Establish effective two-way communication between parents/guardians and the Joint Agreement.
4. Seek input from parents/guardians on significant school-related issues.
5. Inform parents/guardians on how they can assist their children's learning.

The Director shall periodically report to the Board of Control on the implementation of this policy.

CROSS REF.: 6:250 (Community Resource Persons and Volunteers), 8:10 (Connection with the Community), 8:90 (Parent Organizations and Booster Clubs)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Community Relations

Relations with Other Organizations and Agencies

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

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

CROSS REF.: 1:20 (Joint Agreement Organization, Operations, and Cooperative Agreements), 4:170 (Safety), 4:180 (Pandemic Preparedness; Management; and Recovery), 5:90 (Abused and Neglected Child Reporting), 7:150 (Agency and Police Interviews)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024

Community Relations

Public Suggestions and Concerns

The Board of Control is interested in receiving suggestions and concerns from members of the community. Any individual may make a suggestion or express a concern by contacting any Joint Agreement or School office. Community members who e-mail the Joint Agreement or any Joint Agreement employee or board member are expected to abide by the standards in Board policy 6:235, Access to Electronic Networks, and should, to the extent possible, limit their communications to relevant individuals. All suggestions and/or concerns will be referred to the appropriate level staff member or Joint Agreement administrator who is most able to respond in a timely manner. Each concern or suggestion shall be considered on its merit.

An individual who is not satisfied may file a grievance under Board policy 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*. The Board encourages, but does not require, individuals to follow the channels of authority prior to filing a grievance. Neither this policy nor the *Uniform Grievance Procedure* create an independent right to a hearing before the Board.

LEGAL REF.: 115 ILCS 5/14(c-5), Ill. Educational Labor Relations Act.

CROSS REF.: 2:140 (Communications To and From the Board), 2:230 (Public Participation at Board of Control Meetings and Petitions to the Board), 2:260 (Uniform Grievance Procedure), 3:30 (Chain of Command), 6:235 (Access to Electronic Networks), 6:260 (Complaints About Curriculum, Instructional Materials and Programs), 8:10 (Connection with the Community)

ADOPTED: May 1, 2024