

# Special Education Association of Peoria County

## Table of Contents

### Special Education Association of Peoria County

#### **SECTION 1 - SCHOOL DISTRICT ORGANIZATION**

1:10 Association Legal Status

1:20 Association Organization, Operations, and Cooperative Agreements

1:30 Association Philosophy

1:32 Association Decentralization of Services

#### **SECTION 2 - BOARD OF CONTROL**

2:10 Association Governance

2:20 Powers and Duties of the Board of Control; Indemnification

2:40 Board Member Qualifications

2:50 Board Member Term of Office

2:80 Board Member Oath and Conduct

2:80-E Exhibit - Board Member Code of Conduct

2:100 Board Member Conflict of Interest

2:105 Ethics and Gift Ban

2:110 Qualifications, Term, and Duties of Board Officers

2:120 Board Member Development

2:120-E1 Exhibit - Guidelines for Serving as a Mentor to a New Board of Control Member

2:130 Board-Director Relationship

2:140 Communications To and From the Board

2:140-E Exhibit - Guidance for Board Member Communications, Including Email Use

2:150 Committees

2:160 Board Attorney

2:160-E Exhibit - Checklist for Selecting a Board Attorney

2:170 Procurement of Architectural, Engineering, and Land Surveying Services

2:200 Types of Board of Control Meetings

2:210 Organizational Board of Control Meeting

2:220 Board of Control Meeting Procedure

2:220-E1 Exhibit - Board Treatment of Closed Meeting Verbatim Recordings and Minutes

2:220-E2 Exhibit - Motion to Adjourn to Closed Meeting

2:220-E3 Exhibit - Closed Meeting Minutes

2:220-E4 Exhibit - Open Meeting Minutes

2:220-E5 Exhibit - Semi-Annual Review of Closed Meeting Minutes

2:220-E6 Exhibit - Log of Closed Meeting Minutes

2:220-E7 Exhibit - Access to Closed Meeting Minutes and Verbatim Recordings

2:220-E8 Exhibit - Board of Control Records Maintenance Requirements and FAQs

2:230 Public Participation at Board of Control Meetings and Petitions to the Board

2:240 Board Policy Development

2:240-E1 Exhibit - PRESS Issue Updates

2:240-E2 Exhibit - Developing Local Policy

2:250 Access to Association Public Records

2:260 Uniform Grievance Procedure

### **SECTION 3 - GENERAL SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION**

3:10 Goals and Objectives

3:30 Chain of Command

3:40 Director

3:40-E Exhibit - Checklist for the Executive Director Employment Contract Negotiation Process

3:50 Administrative Personnel Other Than the Director

3:60 Administrative Responsibility of the Building Principal

3:70 Succession of Authority

## **SECTION 4 - OPERATIONAL SERVICES**

4:10 Fiscal and Business Management

4:15 Identity Protection

4:20 Fund Balances

4:30 Revenue and Investments

4:40 Incurring Debt

4:45 Insufficient Fund Checks and Debt Recovery

4:50 Payment Procedures

4:55 Use of Credit and Procurement Cards

4:60 Purchases and Contracts

4:70 Resource Conservation

4:80 Accounting and Audits

4:90 Activity Funds

4:100 Insurance Management

4:110 Transportation

4:120 Food Services

4:150 Facility Management and Building Programs

4:160 Environmental Quality of Buildings and Grounds

4:170 Safety

4:175 Convicted Child Sex Offender; Screening; Notifications

4:190 Targeted School Violence Prevention Program

4:180 Pandemic Preparedness

## **SECTION 5 - PERSONNEL**

General Personnel

5:10 Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Recruitment

5:20 Workplace Harassment Prohibited

5:20-E Exhibit - Resolution to Prohibit Sexual Harassment

5:30 Hiring Process and Criteria

5:35 Compliance with the Fair Labor Standards Act

5:40 Communicable and Chronic Infectious Disease

5:50 Drug- and Alcohol-Free Workplace; Tobacco Prohibition

5:60 Expenses

5:70 Religious Holidays

5:80 Court Duty

5:90 Abused and Neglected Child Reporting

5:100 Staff Development Program

5:110 Recognition for Service

5:120 Employee Ethics; Conduct; and Conflict of Interest

5:125 Personal Technology and Social Media; Usage and Conduct

5:130 Responsibilities Concerning Internal Information

5:140 Solicitations By or From Staff

5:150 Personnel Records

5:170 Copyright

5:180 Temporary Illness or Temporary Incapacity

5:185 Family and Medical Leave

## Professional Personnel

5:190 Teacher Qualifications

5:200 Terms and Conditions of Employment and Dismissal

5:210 Resignations

5:220 Substitute Teachers

5:230 Maintaining Student Discipline

5:240 Suspension

5:250 Leaves of Absence

5:260 Student Teachers

#### Educational Support Personnel

5:270 Employment At-Will, Compensation, and Assignment

5:280 Duties and Qualifications

5:290 Employment Termination and Suspensions

5:300 Schedules and Employment Year

5:320 Evaluation

5:330 Sick Days, Vacation, Holidays, and Leaves

### **SECTION 6 - INSTRUCTION**

6:10 Educational Philosophy and Objectives

6:15 School Accountability

6:20 School Year Calendar and Day

6:40 Curriculum Development

6:50 School Wellness

6:60 Curriculum Content

6:65 Student Social and Emotional Development

6:70 Teaching About Religions

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

6:135 Accelerated Placement Program

6:140 Education of Homeless Children

6:145 Migrant Students

6:150 Home and Hospital Instruction

6:160 English Learners

6:210 Instructional Materials

6:230 Library Media Program

6:235 Access to Electronic Networks

6:240 Field Trips and Recreational Class Trips

6:250 Community Resource Persons and Volunteers

6:255 Assemblies and Ceremonies

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

6:270 Guidance and Counseling Program

## **SECTION 7 - STUDENTS**

7:10 Equal Educational Opportunities

7:10-E Exhibit - Equal Educational Opportunities Within the School Community

7:15 Student and Family Privacy Rights

7:20 Harassment of Students Prohibited

7:60 Residence

7:70 Attendance and Truancy

7:80 Release Time for Religious Instruction/Observance

7:90 Release During School Hours

7:100 Health, Eye, and Dental Examinations; Immunizations; and Exclusion of Students

7:130 Student Rights and Responsibilities

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

7:190 Student Behavior

7:200 Suspension Procedures

7:210 Expulsion Procedures

7:220 Bus Conduct

7:230 Misconduct by Students with Disabilities

7:250 Student Support Services

7:260 Exemption from Physical Education

7:270 Administering Medicines to Students

7:275 Orders to Forgo Life-Sustaining Treatment

7:280 Communicable and Chronic Infectious Disease

7:285 Food Allergy Management Program

7:290 Suicide and Depression Awareness and Prevention

7:310 Restrictions on Publications; Elementary Schools

7:315 Restrictions on Publications; High Schools

7:325 Student Fundraising Activities

7:330 Student Use of Buildings - Equal Access

7:340 Student Records

## **SECTION 8 - COMMUNITY RELATIONS**

8:10 Connection with the Community

8:20 Community Use of School Facilities

8:25 Advertising and Distributing Materials in Schools Provided by Non-School Related Entities

8:30 Visitors to and Conduct on School Property

8:70 Accommodating Individuals with Disabilities

8:80 Gifts to the Association

8:95 Parental Involvement

8:100 Relations with Other Organizations and Agencies

8:110 Public Suggestions and Concerns

**Special Education Association of Peoria County**

## Special Education Association of Peoria County

### POLICY MANUAL

The online manual provides the district's board of education policies, regulations, and related documents in a fully searchable, easy-to-use format.

#### Navigation

- Access the Table of Contents (TOC) using the main menu at top left.
- Search with confidence using the search box atop every page.
- Share or print from your mobile device using the document-specific menu at top right of each document.

#### Questions?

If you have any questions or comments regarding this manual, please contact the local district office.

Special Education Association of Peoria County

**SECTION 1 - SCHOOL DISTRICT ORGANIZATION**

Special Education Association of Peoria County

## 1:10 Association 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 mandate through the creation of Associations. The Association is governed by the laws for Associations serving a resident population of not fewer than 1,000 and not more than 500,000.

The Board of Control 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.

The Association is organized pursuant to Sections 10-22.31 and 3-15.14 of the School Code (105 ILCS 5/10-22.31 and 3-15-14). The Governing Agreement provides the details of the Association's status.

LEGAL REF.:Ill. Constitution, Art. X, Sec. 1.

105 ILCS 5/10-1 et seq.

CROSS REF.:2:10 (Association Governance), 2:20 (Powers and Duties of the Board of Control; Indemnification)

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

**Special Education Association of Peoria County**

## **1:20 Association Organization, Operations, and Cooperative Agreements**

The Special Education Association of Peoria County is organized and operates as an Association serving the educational needs as required by the School Code.

The Association enters into and participates in joint programs and intergovernmental agreements with units of local government and other Associations in order to jointly provide services and activities in a manner that will increase flexibility, scope of service opportunities, cost reductions, and/or otherwise benefit the Association and the community. The Director shall manage these activities to the extent the program or agreement requires the Association's participation, and shall provide periodic implementation or operational data and/or reports to the Board of Control concerning these programs and agreements.

The Association's governing agreement - March 2010 may be accessed at:

[www.seapco.org](http://www.seapco.org)

LEGAL REF.:Ill. Constitution, Art. VII, Sec. 10.

5 ILCS 220/1 et seq.

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

**Special Education Association of Peoria County**

## 1:30 Association Philosophy

The philosophy of SEAPCO is to serve students with diverse needs through an inclusive environment that is part of general education and that includes a full continuum of specialized services.

The following statements support this philosophy:

- An inclusive environment is one that is accepting, collaborative, supportive, and integrative, providing equal access to opportunities in general education that are based on an individual student's needs.
- Whenever possible, the student's education will be based in general education classes. Special education services that are non-categorical, team-based, and collaborative will support the student in that environment.
- Students will be provided the opportunity to become productive, participating members of the community through specialized instruction that is individualized, objective-based, and skill-oriented.
- Staff development is essential for progress, and is vital to the development of evolving professional roles.
- The needs of the whole student, from birth through transition into the community, will be addressed through increased networking and support systems.
- Parent/guardian and family involvement and the opportunity for their continual education are essential to individual student progress.
- Dissemination of information and provision of quality services are essential to meet the diverse needs of member school districts and their communities.

CROSS REF:2:10 (Association Governance), 3:10 (Goals and Objectives), 6:10 (Educational Philosophy and Objectives)

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

Special Education Association of Peoria County

## **1:32 Association Decentralization of Services**

### POLICY:

SEAPCO will cooperate with district(s) that employ staff to provide special education related services.

### PROCEDURE

#### Voting:

Districts that employ their own staff for a service and do not utilize SEAPCO services in that discipline will abstain from voting on issues related to that discipline. If there is a question regarding voting rights, the Board Chairperson will determine voting status after allowing an opportunity for district comment.

#### Funding:

State/Federal project applications written by and disbursed to SEAPCO for monies generated as a result of the number of special education students serviced will pool monies for the entire cooperative. SEAPCO supplies and equipment may be loaned to districts employing special education staff. It is understood that consumable items will be replaced.

#### Program Compliance for District Withdrawal:

Any district which intends to provide services within the district and not through SEAPCO shall do so in a manner that does not jeopardize the compliance of all member districts. Each member district shall comply with applicable state and federal laws, Illinois State Board regulations, SEAPCO Policies and procedures, and SEAPCO's ISBE-approved required procedures. In addition, districts which employ their own staff will provide a commitment to inservice to such staff, including district administrators.

#### Paperwork:

The SEAPCO Director will be available to provide consultation to districts employing special education staff so that the district is able to complete any and all forms that are required to generate reimbursement.

#### Timeline:

Between September 1 and November 1 of each school year, districts may notify the Director in writing of their intent to provide services within the district for the next school year rather than use the cooperatives services. Such services include, but are not limited to, the following: psychological, social work, speech and language, classroom teachers, and teacher assistants. If the written request is not received, the Director will plan for the same level and type of services as necessary to meet projected needs and state and federal regulations and requirements.

By February 1 of each year, any district that has provided notice outlined in the previous paragraph must deliver any and all signed agreements regarding transfer and

employment to the Director.

By February 1 of each year, all districts must notify the Director of their request for services beyond the minimum required by state regulation including, but not limited to, the following: psychological, social work, speech and language, classroom teachers, and teacher assistants. If the written request is not received, the Director will plan for the same level and type of services as necessary to meet projected needs and state and federal regulations and requirements. This request is intended to be presented through the SEAPCO Hiring Survey which is updated annually by member district.

Annually, the Director will make recommendations to each district about the level of services that are required to meet the district's needs for special education services. The recommendations will be based on past usage of services, projected changes in service delivery, projected numbers of students, and other applicable data.

All reductions in force will be discussed in accordance with applicable law and established rules and regulations.

If a district notifies the Director by February 1 of its decision to provide services within the district but later decides to use SEAPCO's services, that district's request(s) for services will be filled last after all other district requests are filled.

If a district wishes to change its service request(s) after February 1, the Director will bring the request to the SEAPCO Board of Control for discussion of the impact that the change would have on programs, services, and costs. The discussion will include issues of state and federal law, rules, and regulations. The Board of Control will make the final decision about how to accommodate the requested changes.

#### POLICY:

Member districts will share costs for attorneys' fees as they relate to SEAPCO's provision of services to students with disabilities.

#### PROCEDURE:

All costs for attorneys' fees incurred prior to the filing of a due process hearing are billed under SEAPCO's administrative budget. Each district shares the costs on the basis of the fall housing report.

If a due process hearing request is filed or court action is taken, the district against which the request is filed shares the cost equally with SEAPCO (50/50 split).

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

**SECTION 2 - BOARD OF CONTROL**

Special Education Association of Peoria County

## **2:10 Association Governance**

The Association is governed by a Board of Control consisting of one person from each member public school district and one member from the office of the Regional Superintendent of Schools. The Board's powers and duties include the authority to adopt, enforce, and monitor all policies for the management and governance of the Association's schools.

Official action by the Board may only occur at a duly called and legally conducted meeting at which a quorum is physically present.

As stated in the Board member oath of office prescribed by the School Code, a Board member has no legal authority as an individual.

LEGAL REF.:5 ILCS 120/1.02.

105 ILCS 5/10-1, 5/10-10, 5/10-12, 5/10-16.5, 5/10-16.7, and 5/10-20.5.

CROSS REF.:1:10 (Association Legal Status), 2:20 (Powers and Duties of the Board of Control; Indemnification), 2:80 (Board Member Oath and Conduct), 2:120 (Board Member Development), 2:200 (Types of Board of Control Meetings), 2:220 (Board of Control Meeting Procedure)

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

**Special Education Association of Peoria County**

## **2:20 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 each fiscal year 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, and establishing an equal employment opportunity policy that prohibits unlawful discrimination.
4. Directing, through policy, the Director, in his or her charge of the Association's administration.
5. Approving the annual budget, major expenditures, payment of obligations, annual audit, and other aspects of the Association'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 School Improvement and Association Improvement Plans as needed.
11. Presenting the Association report card and School report card(s) to parents/guardians and the community; these documents report Association, School and student performance as needed.
12. Establishing and supporting student behavior policies designed to maintain an environment conducive to learning, including deciding individual student suspension or expulsion cases brought before it.
13. Establishing the school year.
14. Requiring a moment of silence to recognize veterans during any type of school event held at a Association school on November 11.
15. Providing student transportation services pursuant to State law and the governing agreement.
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. 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 the Act, direct or cause the Board to direct the Director or other equivalent school administrator to comply with the Act's requirements concerning the reporting of child abuse.

18. 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, and 5/27-1.

115 ILCS 5/, III. Educational Labor Relations Act.

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

ROSS REF.: 1:10 (Association Legal Status), 1:20 (Association Organization, Operations, and Cooperative Agreements), 2:10 (Association Governance), 2:80 (Board Member Oath and Conduct), 2:140 (Communications To and From the Board), 2:210 (Organizational Board of Control Meeting), 2:240 (Board Policy Development), 4:60 (Purchases and Contracts), 4:70 (Resource Conservation), 4:100 (Insurance Management), 4:150 (Facility Management and Building Programs), 5:10 (Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Recruitment), 5:90 (Abused and Neglected Child Reporting), 6:10 (Educational Philosophy and Objectives), 6:15 (School Accountability), 6:20 (School 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: October 11, 2019

**Special Education Association of Peoria County**

## **2:40 Board Member Qualifications**

A Board of Control member must be at least 18 years of age. The superintendent of each member public school district shall be their district representative. The superintendent may also appoint one or more alternates who may represent the member district in case its representative must be absent, and notification of alternates on the Board of Control shall be sent to the director.

Appointments will remain effective until changed by the board of education of the member district. The director shall be an Ex-officio member of the Board of Control but shall have no vote.

The office of the regional superintendent is a member of the Board. The regional superintendent may also appoint one or more alternates who may represent him/her in case of his/her absence.

Reasons making an individual ineligible for Board membership include holding an incompatible office and certain types of State or federal employment. A child sex offender, as defined in State law, is ineligible for Board of Control membership.

LEGAL REF.: Ill. Constitution, Art. II, §1; Art. IV, §2(e); Art. VI, §13(b).

105 ILCS 5/10-3 and 5/10-10.

CROSS REF.: 2:30 (Board of Control Elections), 2:70 (Vacancies on the Board of Control - Filling Vacancies)

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

**Special Education Association of Peoria County**

## **2:50 Board Member Term of Office**

The term of office for a Board of Control member begins immediately after taking the oath of office as provided in Board policy 2:80, *Board Member Oath and Conduct*.

LEGAL REF.:10 ILCS 5/2A-1.1, 5/22-17, and 5/22-18.

105 ILCS 5/10-10, 5/10-16, and 5/10-16.5.

CROSS REF.:2:30 (Association Elections), 2:80 (Board Member Oath and Conduct), 2:210 (Organizational Board of Control Meeting)

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

**Special Education Association of Peoria County**

## 2:80 Board Member Oath and Conduct

Each Board of Control member or alternate, before taking his or her seat on the Board, shall take the following oath of office:

I, (*name*), **do solemnly swear** (or affirm) that I will faithfully discharge the duties of the office of member of the Board of Control of Special Education Association of Peoria County in accordance with the Constitution of the United States, the Constitution of the State of Illinois, and the laws of the State of Illinois, to the best of my ability.

**I further swear** (or affirm) that:

**I shall respect** taxpayer interests by serving as a faithful protector of the Association's assets;

**I shall encourage** and respect the free expression of opinion by my fellow Board members and others who seek a hearing before the Board, while respecting the privacy of students and employees;

**I shall 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 public Board meeting;

**I shall abide** by majority decisions of the Board, while retaining the right to seek changes in such decisions through ethical and constructive channels;

**As part of the Board of Control**, I shall accept the responsibility for my role in the equitable and quality education of every student in the Association's programs;

**I shall foster** with the Board of Control extensive participation of the community, formulate goals, define outcomes, and set the course for Special Education Association of Peoria County;

**I shall assist** in establishing a structure and an environment designed to ensure all students have the opportunity to attain their maximum potential through a sound organizational framework;

**I shall strive** to ensure a continuous assessment of student achievement and all conditions affecting the education of our children, in compliance with State law;

**I shall serve** as education's key advocate on behalf of students and our community's school (or schools) to advance the vision for Special Education Association of Peoria County; and

**I shall strive** to work together with the Executive Director to lead the Association toward fulfilling the vision the Board of Control has created, fostering excellence for every student in the areas of academic skills, knowledge, citizenship, and personal development.

The Board Chairperson will administer the oath in an open Board meeting; in the absence of the Chairperson, the Vice Chairperson will administer the oath. If neither is

available, the Board of Control member with the longest service on the Board will administer the oath.

The Board of Control adopts the Illinois Association of School Boards' *Code of Conduct for Members of School Boards*. A copy of the *Code* shall be displayed in the regular Board meeting room.

LEGAL REF.:105 ILCS 5/10-16.5.

CROSS REF.:1:30 (Association Philosophy), 2:20 (Powers and Duties of the School Board; Indemnification), 2:50 (Board Member Term of Office), 2:100 (Board Member Conflict of Interest), 2:105 (Ethics and Gift Ban), 2:210 (Organizational Board of Control Meeting)

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

Special Education Association of Peoria County

## 2:80-E 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 Association 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 Association.
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 School 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 Association purpose, direction and goals, and monitoring Association performance.

DATED: March 8, 2019

Special Education Association of Peoria County

## **2:100 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 Association 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 Association. 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 Association's main office is located by May 1.

LEGAL REF.:5 ILCS 420/4A-101, 420/4A-105, 420/4A-106, and 420/4A-107.

50 ILCS 105/3.

105 ILCS 5/10-9.

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; Conduct; and Conflict of Interest)

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

**Special Education Association of Peoria County**

## 2:105 Ethics and Gift Ban

### Prohibited Political Activity

The following precepts govern political activities being conducted by Association 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 Association 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 Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

### Enforcement

The Board Chairperson 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 Chairperson. If attempts to correct any misunderstanding or problem do not resolve the matter, the Director or Board Chairperson 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 Association 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.

LEGAL REF.: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), 4:60 (Purchases and Contracts), 5:120 (Employee Ethics; Conduct; and Conflict of Interest)

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

## **2:110 Qualifications, Term, and Duties of Board Officers**

The Board of Control officers are: Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Secretary, and Treasurer. These officers are appointed by the Board of Control at its organizational meeting.

### Chairperson

The Board appoints a Chairperson from its members by rotating between districts according to district number for a two-year term. The duties of the Chairperson are to:

1. Preside at all meetings;
2. Focus the Board meeting agendas on appropriate content;
3. Make all Board committee appointments, unless specifically stated otherwise;
4. Attend and observe any Board committee meeting at his or her discretion;
5. Represent the Board on other boards or agencies;
6. Sign official Association documents requiring the Chairperson's signature, including Board minutes;
7. Call special meetings of the Board of Control;
8. Serve as the *head of the public body* for purposes of the Open Meetings Act and Freedom of Information Act;
9. Ensure that a quorum of the Board is physically present at all Board meetings;
10. Administer the oath of office to new Board members; and
11. Serve as the Board's official spokesperson to the media.

The Chairperson is permitted to participate in all Board of Control meetings in a manner equal to all other Board members, including the ability to make and second motions.

The Vice Chairperson fills a vacancy in the office of Chairperson.

### Vice Chairperson

The Board elects a Vice Chairperson from its members for a two-year term. The Vice Chairperson performs the duties of the Chairperson if:

1. The office of Chairperson is vacant;
2. The Chairperson is absent; or
3. The Chairperson is unable to perform the office's duties.

A vacancy in the office of Vice Chairperson is filled by special Board appointment.

### Secretary

The Board of Control elects a Secretary for a two-year term. The Secretary may be, but is not required to be, a Board member. The Secretary may receive reasonable compensation as determined by the Board before appointment. However, if the Secretary is a Board member, the compensation shall not exceed \$500 per year, as fixed by the Board at least 180 days before the beginning of the term. The duties of the

Secretary are to:

1. Keep minutes for all Board meetings, and keep the verbatim record for all closed Board meetings;
2. Mail meeting notification and agenda to news media who have officially requested copies;
3. Keep records of the Board's official acts, and sign them, along with the Chairperson, before submitting them to the Treasurer at such times as the Treasurer may require;
4. Report to the Treasurer on or before July 7, annually, such information as the Treasurer is required to include in the Treasurer's report to the Regional Superintendent;
5. Arrange public inspection of the budget before adoption;
6. Publish required notices;
7. Sign official Association documents requiring the Secretary's signature; and
8. Maintain Board of Control policy and such other official documents as directed by the Board.

The Secretary may delegate some or all of these duties, except when State law prohibits the delegation. The Board appoints a Secretary pro tempore, who may or may not be a Board of Control member, if the Secretary is absent from any meeting or refuses to perform the duties of the office. A permanent vacancy in the office of Secretary is filled by special Board of Control appointment.

### Treasurer

The Treasurer of the Board of Control shall be either a member of the Board who serves a two-year term or a non-Board member who serves at the Board's pleasure. A Treasurer who is a Board of Control member may not be compensated. A Treasurer who is not a Board of Control member may be compensated provided it is established before the appointment. The Treasurer must:

1. Be at least 21 years old;
2. Not be a member of the County Board of School Trustees; and
3. Have a financial background or related experience, or 12 credit hours of college-level accounting.

The Treasurer shall:

1. Furnish a bond, which shall be approved by a majority of the full Board of Control;
2. Maintain custody of school funds;
3. Maintain records of school funds and balances;
4. Prepare a monthly reconciliation report for the Director and Board; and
5. Receive, hold, and expend Association funds only upon the order of the Board.

A vacancy in the Treasurer's office is filled by Board appointment.

LEGAL REF.:

5 ILCS 120/7 and 420/4A-106.

105 ILCS 5/8-1, 5/8-2, 5/8-3, 5/8-6, 5/8-16, 5/8-17, 5/10-1, 5/10-5, 5/10-7, 5/10-8, 5/10-13, 5/10-13.1, 5/10-14, 5/10-16.5, and 5/17-1.

CROSS REF.:2:80 (Board Member Oath and Conduct), 2:150 (Committees), 2:210 (Organizational Board of Control Meeting), 2:220 (Board of Control Meeting Procedure)

Adopted: October 11, 2019

**Special Education Association of Peoria County**

## **2:120 Board Member Development**

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

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

### New Board Member Orientation

The orientation process for newly appointed Board members includes:

1. The Board Chairperson or Director, or their designees, shall give each new Board member a copy of or online access to the Board Policy Manual, the Board's regular meeting minutes for the past year, and other helpful information including material describing the Association and explaining the Board's roles and responsibilities.
2. The Board Chairperson or designee shall schedule one or more special Board of Control meetings, or schedule time during regular meetings, for Board members to become acquainted and to review Board processes and procedures.
3. The Board Chairperson may request a veteran Board member to mentor a new member.

LEGAL REF.:5 ILCS 120/1.05 and 120/2.

105 ILCS 5/10-16a and 5/24-16.5.

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

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

**Special Education Association of Peoria County**

## 2:120-E1 Exhibit - Guidelines for Serving as a Mentor to a New Board of Control Member

*On Association letterhead*

Date

Dear Board of Control Member:

Thank you for agreeing to serve as a mentor to a new Board member. The goal of the mentoring program is to orient a new Board member to the Board and Association and to help him or her be comfortable, develop self-confidence, and become an effective leader. Follow these guidelines to maximize your mentoring effectiveness.

1. Be a good mentor by sharing your knowledge and experiences with others. Take a personal interest in helping others succeed.
2. Try to develop an informal, collegial relationship with the new Board member - explain that you are there to help. Listen respectfully to all concerns and answer questions honestly.
3. During your first contact with the new Board member, introduce yourself and explain that you will serve as his or her mentor and are looking forward to sharing information about the Board and Association. If possible, meet with the individual to become acquainted. Be available as needed to provide assistance, advice, and support. The Director's office will have already provided the new Board member with a web link or paper copy of the Board's policies as well as other helpful material.
4. Be prepared to introduce the new Board member at upcoming Board events until he or she becomes a familiar face.
5. Be available and maintain a helpful attitude. You will assist the new Board member in becoming an effective member of the Board and ensuring skilled and knowledgeable future leadership for the Association.

Being a mentor can bring rewards to you, the new Board member, and the Association. Thank you for your assistance and commitment.

Sincerely,

Board of Control Chairperson

DATED: March 8, 2019

Special Education Association of Peoria County

## **2:130 Board-Director Relationship**

The Board of Control employs and evaluates the Director and holds him or her responsible for the operation of the Association in accordance with Board of Control 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 Association's Chief Executive Officer. The Board adopts policies necessary to provide general direction for the Association and to encourage achievement of Association goals. The Director develops plans, programs, and procedures needed to implement the policies and directs the Association's operations.

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

CROSS REF.:3:40 (Director)

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

**Special Education Association of Peoria County**

## 2:140 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's consideration to the Director or may use the electronic link to the Board's email address(es) posted on the Association's website.

The Director or designee shall:

1. Ensure that the home page for the Association'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 Association'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 Association. 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 Association 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 Association 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: October 11, 2019

Special Education Association of Peoria County

## 2:140-E Exhibit - Guidance for Board Member Communications, Including Email Use

The Open Meetings Act (OMA) requires the Board of Control to discuss Association 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 Association 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 Association 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 Association 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 Association 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 Association 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 Association 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 Association-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 Association 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 Association-issued device or Association-issued email address **will be a public record** and subject to FOIA. The electronic communication is under the control of the Association.
  - c. Received by an individual Board member on a personal electronic device and then forwarded by the Board member to a Association-owned device or server **will be a public record** and subject to FOIA. The electronic communication is under the control of the Association.
  - 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 Association'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 Association's possession because Board members

were functioning collectively as a public body.

The Association'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 Association'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 Association office where it will be stored. If made available, Board members should use their email accounts provided by the Association, and the Association will automatically store the official record messages. The Association 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 Association-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 : October 11, 2019

Special Education Association of Peoria County

## 2:150 Committees

The Board of Control 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 Chairperson 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. Finance Committee.
3. Evaluation Committee, consisting of the Chairperson and Vice Chair.
4. Collective Bargaining 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.

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: March 8, 2019

## **2:160 Board Attorney**

The Board of Control may enter into agreements for 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 Association. The Board Attorney shall not represent another client if the representation involves a concurrent conflict of interest, unless permitted by the Ill. Rules of Professional Conduct adopted by the Ill. Supreme Court. 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. The Association will only pay for legal services that are provided in accordance with the agreement for legal services or are otherwise authorized by this policy or a majority of the Board.

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

The Director may authorize the Board Attorney to represent the Association in any legal matter until the Board has an opportunity to 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: March 8, 2019

**Special Education Association of Peoria County**

## 2:160-E 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, but it can be adapted 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/whatis/staff.cfm](http://www.iasb.com/whatis/staff.cfm).

### **Determine what type of legal services the Association needs.**

1. Review Board policy 2:160, *Board Attorney*. **Note:** Critically analyze whether the Association's legal needs are best served by in-house attorney(s) or outside attorney(s)/law firms. Many Associations use a combination of these services. Many Associations also use multiple attorney(s)/law firms for their specialties, e.g., different law firms for bond counsel, special education, or labor law. This checklist is designed for the Board to use a request for proposal (RFP) process to seek outside attorney(s)/law firms, but it can be adapted for an application process, which would better fit if the Board seeks an in-house attorney.
2. Consider the following factors to analyze the type(s) of legal services needed for the Association including, but are not limited to:
  - Association's size;
  - Any past and current experiences with legal matters;
  - Complexity of the Association'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 Association.**

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 contracts for legal services to its non-bidding-related standards for purchases, e.g., avoiding favoritism, staying within the Association'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 Illinois Attorney Registration and Disciplinary Commission (ARDC) (see checklist item *Conduct a reference check and other background investigations*, below)
  - Member of the Association's assigned United States Association court and the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals
  - Substantive knowledge and experience in the legal areas matching Association'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 Association's identified needs and may change from time to time.

- Experience in all aspects of contract, employment, and school law
- Experience that meets the Association's needs, including litigation experience in State and federal courts
- Membership in professional associations, such as, the Illinois 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 Association's identified needs, e.g., evening Board meetings, phone calls, etc.
- Ability to declare that representation of the Association will be to the exclusion of all other clients having potential conflicts with the Association'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 Association
  - Significant information about the Association. See Board policy 1:30, *Association Philosophy*, for the Association'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 Association's website, mail 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 Council of School Attorneys (ICSA) is on the IASB website, [www.iasb.com](http://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 Illinois State Bar Association, also maintain directories of information about attorneys. The Board may want to title the announcement "The [*Insert Association'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 from the date of appointment to [*date*]. The length of the appointment is at the Board's discretion.
4. State the Association'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 Chairperson 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.**

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 Associations 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 Associations?
- 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](http://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 Association. 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 a Association 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 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.

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

1. The Board Chairperson will lead the Board as it interviews responders to its RFP (see 105 ILCS 5/10-13 stating that the Board Chairperson presides at all meetings and Board 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 Association'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 Chairperson 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](http://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 contract 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 (PAC-14-002).

2. Discuss the fee arrangements with the responder and decide:
  - Whether to enter into a fee arrangement 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 Associations enter into a retainer agreement for legal services 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 Association needs him or her. Associations 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 (*Agreement for Legal Services*) for these provisions:
  - Fee arrangement.
  - Scope of services.
  - Who 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* during an open Board meeting.

**□ Announce the appointment to Association 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 Board 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. [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: March 8, 2019

# Special Education Association of Peoria County

## **2:170 Procurement of Architectural, Engineering, and Land Surveying Services**

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

LEGAL REF.:40 U.S.C. §541.

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: March 8, 2019

**Special Education Association of Peoria County**

## 2:200 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 Association's main office. Board policy 2:220, *Board of Control Meeting Procedure*, governs meeting quorum requirements.

The Director and designees are 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 ten days' notice in accordance with State law.

A meeting agenda shall be posted at the Association'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 of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee 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. 99-646.
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. 5ILCS 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. 5ILCS 120/2(c)(8), amended by P.A. 99-235, eff. 1-1-16.
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 Chairperson 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 Association'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 Association Website

In addition to the other notices specified in this policy, the Director or designee shall post the following on the Association 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 Meeting 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), 2:120 (Board

Member Development), 2:210 (Organizational Board of Control Meetings), 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: March 8, 2019

Special Education Association of Peoria County

## **2:210 Organizational Board of Control Meeting**

Each appointed board member, before taking his or her seat on the Board, shall take the oath of office as provided in Board policy 2:80, *Board Member Oath and Conduct*. The Board shall elect its officers, who assume office immediately upon their election. The Board shall fix a time and date for its regular meetings.

LEGAL REF.:10 ILCS 5/2A-1 et seq.

105 ILCS 5/10-5, 5/10-16, and 5/10-16.5.

CROSS REF.:2:30 (Association Elections), 2:110 (Qualifications, Term, and Duties of Board Officers), 2:200 (Types of Board of Control Meetings), 2:220 (Board of Control Meeting Procedure), 2:230 (Public Participation at Board of Control Meetings and Petitions to the Board)

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

**Special Education Association of Peoria County**

## 2:220 Board of Control Meeting Procedure

### Agenda

The Board of Control Chairperson is responsible for focusing the Board meeting agendas on appropriate content. The Director shall prepare agendas in consultation with the Board Chairperson. The Chairperson shall designate a portion of the agenda as a consent agenda for those items that usually do not require discussion or explanation 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 Chairperson shall be placed on the agenda for an upcoming meeting. Association 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 Chairperson 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 Association 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.

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 Chairperson 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.

Each Board of Control member shall be entitled to voting privileges. Each district representative shall be entitled to the number of votes calculated as the number of enrolled special education students receiving services in special education classrooms as reported on the Association's October billing. The Regional Superintendent shall be entitled to the number of votes equal to the Association having the least enrollment of

special education students. The calculated votes will be revised annually at the Board of Control meeting held in November.

Unless otherwise provided by law, when a vote is taken upon any measure before the Association Board with a quorum being present, a majority of the weighted votes cast shall determine its outcome. When votes are entered in the records of the Association Board, "present" or "abstain" votes shall be recorded as such. A vote of "present" or "abstain" is counted with the majority vote. On a tie vote, the motion is lost.

### Minutes

The Board Secretary shall keep written minutes of all Board meetings (whether open or closed), which shall be signed by the Chairperson 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 authorizing the closed meeting;
7. A record of all motions, including individuals making and seconding motions;
8. Upon request by a Board member, a record of how he or she voted on a particular motion; and
9. 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.

At least semi-annually in an open meeting, the Board: (1) reviews minutes from all closed meetings that are currently unavailable for public release, and (2) decides which, if any, no longer require confidential treatment and are available for public inspection. The Board may meet in a prior closed session to review the minutes from closed meetings that are currently unavailable for public release.

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 ten days after the Board's

approval; they may be inspected in the Association'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 Association'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 Association'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 Association 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 Chairperson 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 close to the Board's regular meeting 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 Association's administrative offices or the verbatim recording's official storage location. Requests shall be made to the Director or Board Chairperson. While a Board member is listening to a verbatim recording, it shall not be re-recorded or removed from the Association's main office or official storage location, except by vote of the Board or by court order.

Before making such requests, Board members should consider whether such requests are germane to their responsibilities, service to Association, and/or Oath of Office in policy 2:80, *Board Member Oath and Conduct*. In the interest of encouraging free and open expression by Board members during closed meetings, the recordings of closed meetings should not be used by Board members to confirm or dispute the accuracy of recollections.

### 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 Association 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 Chairperson 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.

### Rules of Order

Unless State law or Board-adopted rules apply, the Board Chairperson, as the presiding officer, will use Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised (10th Edition), 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 Chairperson 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, and 120/2.06.

105 ILCS 5/10-6, 5/10-7, 5/10-12, and 5/10-16.

CROSS REF.:2:80 (Board Member Oath and Conduct), 2:200 (Types of Board of Control Meetings), 2:150 (Committees), 2:210 (Organizational Board of Control Meeting), 2:230 (Public Participation at Board of Control Meetings and Petitions to the Board)

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

Special Education Association of Peoria County

## 2:220-E1 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
<p><i>Before any Board meeting:</i></p> <p>Director or designee</p>	<p>Arranges to have an audio recording device with extra recording tapes and a back-up audio recording device in the Board meeting room during every Board meeting regardless of whether a closed meeting is scheduled.</p> <p>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.</p>
<p><i>Before a closed meeting:</i></p> <p>Board Chairperson or presiding officer</p>	<p>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) asks 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.</p>
<p><i>Before a closed meeting:</i></p> <p>Director or Board Secretary</p>	<p>Immediately before a closed meeting, tests and activates the audio recording device.</p>
<p><i>During a closed meeting:</i></p> <p>Board Chairperson or presiding officer</p>	<p>Convenes the closed meeting stating:</p> <p>Seeing a quorum of the Board of Education 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 Association.</p> <p>Limits discussion to the topics that were included in the motion to go into a closed meeting.</p> <p>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 Chairperson's failure.</p> <p>Once the closed meeting is finished, announces a return to an open meeting or adjournment, and states the time.</p>
<p><i>After a closed meeting:</i></p> <p>Director, Recording Secretary, or Board Secretary</p>	<p><b>For Verbatim Recordings:</b></p> <p>Takes possession of the audio recording of the closed meeting and labels it with identification information, specifically the date and items discussed.</p> <p>Adds the identification information contained on the audio recording's label to a cumulative list of closed meeting recordings.</p> <p>As soon as possible, puts the recording of the closed meeting in the previously identified secure location for storing recordings of closed meetings.</p> <p>Upon request of a Board member:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Provides access to the verbatim recordings minutes at a reasonable time and place without disrupting Association operations;</li> <li>2. Supervises the access to the closed session minutes or delegates it to one of the</li> </ol>

	<p>following individuals in the Association:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. The Recording Secretary,</li> <li>b. The Director or designated administrator, or</li> <li>c. Any elected Board member; and</li> </ol> <p>3. Logs the access to the recordings in 2:220-E7, <i>Access to Closed Meeting Minutes and Verbatim Recordings</i>.</p> <p><b>For Closed Meeting Minutes:</b></p> <p>Prepares written closed meeting minutes that include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The date, time, and place of the closed meeting</li> <li>• The Board members present and absent</li> <li>• A summary of discussion on all matters proposed or discussed</li> <li>• The time the closed meeting was adjourned</li> </ul> <p>Upon request of a Board member:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Provides access to the closed session minutes at a reasonable time and place without disrupting Association operations;</li> <li>2. Supervises the access to the closed session minutes or delegates it to one of the following individuals in the Association: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. The Recording Secretary,</li> <li>b. The Director or designated administrator, or</li> <li>c. Any elected Board member; and</li> </ol> </li> <li>3. Logs the access in 2:220-E7, <i>Access to Closed Meeting Minutes and Verbatim Recordings</i>.</li> </ol>
<p><i>After a closed meeting:</i></p> <p>Board of Control</p>	<p>Approves the previous closed meeting minutes at the next open meeting.</p>
<p><i>In preparation for the semi-annual review:</i></p> <p>Director or designee</p>	<p>Prepares a recommendation concerning the continued need for confidential treatment of closed meeting minutes; includes this recommendation in the packet for the meeting in which the Board will conduct its semi-annual review.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>If the Board wants to discuss closed meeting minutes in closed session, places "review of unreleased closed meeting minutes" on a closed meeting agenda.</p> <p>Places "result of Board's review of unreleased closed meeting minutes" as an item on a subsequent open meeting agenda.</p>
<p><i>In preparation for the semi-annual review:</i></p> <p>Individual Board members</p>	<p>Before the meeting in which the Board will conduct its semi-annual review, examines the material supplied by the Director.</p> <p>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.</p>
<p><i>During the semi-annual review:</i></p>	<p>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</p>

Board of Control	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 Chairperson	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 120/1 et seq.

DATED: March 8, 2019

Special Education Association of Peoria County

## 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 of the Association or legal counsel for the Association, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee or against legal counsel for the Association 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. 99-646.
- Collective negotiating matters between the Association 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 Association is given power to appoint under law or ordinance, or the discipline, performance or removal of the occupant of a public office, when the Association 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 Association, 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 Association. 5ILCS 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), amended by P.A. 99-235.

- 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 Association has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the Association 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 Association or any intergovernmental risk management association or self insurance pool of which the Association 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 Association 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: March 8, 2019

**Special Education Association of Peoria County**

## 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:**

**Members absent:**

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

- 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. 5 ILCS 120/2.06(d).*

**These minutes are available for public inspection as of:**

\_\_\_\_\_

(Date)

DATED: March 8, 2019

## 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.

## 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:

Members absent:

1.

1.

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

- 2.
- 3.
- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Members in attendance remotely:

## 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 Association website:

---

DATED: March 8, 2019

Special Education Association of Peoria County

## 2:220-E5 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 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.

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), amended by P.A. 99-515.

### 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 Association'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: March 8, 2019

**Special Education Association of Peoria County**

**2:220-E6 Exhibit - Log of Closed Meeting Minutes**

The purpose of this log is to facilitate the Board's semi-annual review of closed meeting minutes. 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) or Association 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. 99-646.			
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 Association property. 5ILCS 120/2(c)(6).			
Sale or purchase of securities, investments, or investment contracts. 5 ILCS 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</i>			

<p><i>for this reason shall never be released to protect the individual student's privacy.</i></p>			
<p>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></p>			
<p>Litigation, when an action against, affecting, or on behalf of the Association 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).</p>			
<p>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 Association or any intergovernmental risk management association or self insurance pool. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(12).</p>			
<p>Self-evaluation, practices and procedures or professional ethics, when meeting with an IASB representative. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(16).</p>			
<p>Minutes of meetings lawfully closed, whether for purposes of approval or semi-annual review. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(21).</p>			
<p>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).</p>			

DATED: March 8, 2019

**2:220-E7 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)), amended by P.A. 99-515. 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. Board of Police Commissioners, 555 N.E. 2d 35 (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:  
\_\_\_\_\_

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. Board of Police Commissioners, 555 N.E. 2d 35 (1990)), I acknowledge and understand that any disclosures by me of information in the 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: March 8, 2019

**Special Education Association of Peoria County**

### 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 an open meeting minute's protocol 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.

### 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 Association 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 Association'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), Association 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, 2:200, *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 Association records retention protocols and links to web-based record management resources.

Open Meeting Minutes

Are you required to approve them?	Must they be semi-annually reviewed?	May you release them to the public?	May you destroy them?
<p>Yes, within 30 days or at the next subsequent meeting, whichever is later.</p> <p><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.</i> 5 ILCS 120/2.06(b).</p>	<p>No.</p> <p>Unlike the closed meeting requirement, OMA does not contain semi-annual review requirements for open meeting minutes.</p>	<p>Yes, must within ten days after minutes are approved.</p> <p><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.</i> 5 ILCS 120/2.06(b).</p>	<p>No.</p> <p>There is no OMA provision permitting the destruction of open meeting minutes, and <b>they must be preserved unless the State Local Records Commission has given permission to destroy them.</b></p> <p>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.</p>

## Open Meeting Verbatim Recordings

Are you required to approve them?	Must they be semi-annually reviewed?	May you release them to the public?	May you destroy them?
<p>No.</p> <p>OMA does not require public bodies to approve verbatim recordings of open meetings.</p>	<p>No.</p> <p>Unlike the closed meeting requirement, OMA does not require public bodies to keep verbatim recordings of open meetings. OMA does not contain semi-annual review requirements for open meeting verbatim recordings.</p>	<p>Yes.</p> <p>Unlike the closed meeting requirement, OMA does not require public bodies to keep verbatim recordings of open meetings. 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/).</p>	<p>Possibly.</p> <p>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.</p>

## Closed Meeting Minutes

Are you required to approve them?	Must they be semi-annually reviewed?	May you release them to the public?	May you destroy them?
<p>Yes.</p> <p>OMA does not directly state public bodies are required to approve closed meeting minutes, nor does it set a 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).</p> <p>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</p>	<p>Yes.</p> <p><i>Each public body shall periodically, but not less than semi-annually, meet to review all existing minutes of all prior closed meetings (this includes records from all time that the board has been in existence). 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).</p>	<p>Yes, if prerequisites are met.</p> <p><i>Minutes of meetings closed to the public shall be available only after the 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).</p>	<p>No.</p> <p>There is no OMA provision permitting the destruction of closed meeting minutes, and <b>they must be preserved unless the State Local Records Commission has given permission to destroy them.</b></p> <p>In addition, per OMA Section 2.06(f), as amended by P.A. 99-515:</p> <p><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).</p> <p>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</p>

<p>120/2.06(c)(2). Both of these tasks would be difficult to achieve if closed meeting minutes were not first approved.</p> <p>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.</p>			<p>highly unlikely, however, that the Local Records Commission would approve of their destruction.</p>
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### Closed Meeting Verbatim Recordings

<b>Are you required to approve them?</b>	<b>Must they be semi-annually reviewed?</b>	<b>May you release them to the public?</b>	<b>May you destroy them?</b>
<p>No.</p> <p>OMA does not require approval of closed meeting verbatim recordings.</p>	<p>No.</p> <p>OMA does not require semi-annual review of closed meeting verbatim recordings.</p>	<p>Possibly but unlikely.</p> <p><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 brought to enforce this Act. 5 ILCS 120/2.06(e).</i></p> <p>But see <u>Kodish v. Oakbrook Terrace Fire Protection Association</u> (235 F.R.D. 447 (N.D. IL. 2006)), where a federal Association court ordered that closed meeting verbatim recordings be disclosed to the Plaintiff in discovery because his primary claim was brought under federal law.</p>	<p>Yes, after 18 months if prerequisites are met.</p> <p><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 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></p> <p>In addition, per OMA Section 2.06(f), as amended by P.A. 99-515:</p> <p><i>No verbatim recordings shall be recorded or removed from the public body's main office or official storage location,</i></p>

		<i>except by vote of the public body or by court order. 5 ILCS 120/2.06(e).</i>
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DATED: March 8, 2019

Special Education Association of Peoria County

## 2:230 Public Participation at Board of Control Meetings and Petitions to the Board

For an overall minimum of 30 minutes during each regular and special open meeting, 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. During public participation, there will be a 15-minute minimum total length of time for any one subject. When public participation takes less time than these minimums, it shall end.

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 Chairperson.
2. Identify oneself and be brief. Ordinarily, the time for any one person to address the Board during public participation shall be limited to five minutes. In unusual circumstances, and when an individual has made a request to speak for a longer period of time, the person may be allowed to speak for more than five minutes.
3. Observe, when necessary and appropriate, the:
  - a. Shortening of 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;
  - b. Expansion of the overall minimum of 30 minutes for public participation and/or the 15-minute minimum total length of time for any one subject; and/or
  - c. Determination of procedural matters regarding public participation not otherwise covered in Board policy.
4. Conduct oneself with respect and civility toward others and otherwise abide by Board policy 8:30, *Visitors to and Conduct on School Property*.

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

### LEGAL REF.:

5 ILCS 120/2.06, Open Meetings Act.

105 ILCS 5/10-6 and 5/10-16.

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

Adopted: October 11, 2019

## **2:240 Board Policy Development**

The Board of Control governs using written policies. Written policies ensure legal compliance, establish Board processes, articulate Association ends, delegate authority, and define operating limits. Board policies also provide the basis for monitoring progress toward Association 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 Chairperson 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 will 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 on the Association's website. Copy requests should be made pursuant to Board policy 2:250, *Access to Association 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.

### 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 Association Public Records), 3:40 (Director)

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

**Special Education Association of Peoria County**

## 2:240-E1 Exhibit - PRESS Issue Updates

This procedure is for **PRESS** subscribers. For subscribers to **PRESS Plus**, IASB's full-maintenance policy update service, the update instructions that arrive with a paid **PRESS Plus** subscription provide further guidance.

Actor	Action
Director	<p>Manages the process for the Board to receive <b>PRESS</b> updates to policies.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Manages the process for approving new or revised administrative procedures, administrative procedure exhibits, and changes to employee and student handbooks.</p> <p>Communicates all policy and administrative procedure revisions or adoptions, as appropriate, to staff members, parents, students, and community members.</p>
Director or Director's Secretary	<p>Updates Association's <i>Roster</i> as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Go to <a href="http://www.iasb.com">www.iasb.com</a> and click on <b>MY ACCOUNT</b>.</li> <li>2. Log in using your email address and password: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If you are signing in for the first time, your password is the 7-digit IASB ID number beginning with "2" that appears on all IASB mailing labels.</li> <li>• If you have already changed your password, use the unique password you created.</li> <li>• If you do not know your password, use the <b>forgot password</b> link.</li> </ul> </li> <li>3. Click on <b>Associations you manage</b> and then the Association name.</li> <li>4. Review and verify or change the Association's existing records. Ensure that all current board members, administrators, and anyone else on staff who accesses <b>PRESS</b> are listed with their current email addresses.</li> </ol>
Designated support staff	<p><b>To each member of the Policy Committee (or full Board):</b> Emails or otherwise distributes the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>PRESS Online Information and Instructions</b> card;</li> <li>2. <b>PRESS Update Memo</b>;</li> <li>3. <b>PRESS</b> Tutorial video link at: <p style="margin-left: 40px;"><a href="http://www.iasb.com/policy">www.iasb.com/policy</a>;</p> </li> <li>4. Committee worksheets and</li> <li>5. Current Association policy in relevant areas.</li> </ol> <p><b>To any other Board member or interested school official:</b> Emails or otherwise distributes numbers 1 through 5, above.</p> <p>As appropriate, includes new and revised policies in the Board meeting packets.</p> <p>After a policy is adopted or revised, updates the Association's policy manual master electronic file and adds or updates adoption dates.</p> <p>Archives old policy.</p>

	<p>Follows Association process for updating paper and online manuals.</p> <p>Considers distributing <b>PRESS Update Memo</b> to Building Principals.</p>
Policy Committee (or Full Board)	<p>Considers each <b>PRESS</b> update. Reviews all footnote changes.</p> <p>Decides which changes require Board of Control discussion and which are appropriate as consent agenda items.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Requests review of recommended revisions by the Board Attorney, as appropriate.</p> <p>Presents recommendations regarding <b>PRESS</b> updates to the Board at a regularly scheduled meeting.</p>
Full Board	<p>Conducts a first reading of the policies that are recommended to be updated.</p> <p>During the next regular meeting, conducts a second reading.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>After the second reading, consider and take action to approve the policies at a duly convened open meeting.</p>
Assistant Directors, Directors, Building Principals, and supervisory employees	<p>Reads <b>PRESS Update Memo (if applicable)</b>, adopted policies and follows the Director's process for updating administrative procedures, and changes to employee and student handbooks within their assigned building(s).</p>
Anyone	<p>For further clarification, view the online tutorial for <b>PRESS</b>, available at <a href="http://www.iasb.com/policy">www.iasb.com/policy</a>.</p>

DATED: March 8, 2019

Special Education Association of Peoria County

## 2:240-E2 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	<p>Confers with the Board Attorney as appropriate.</p> <p>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 action to consider, adopt, or revise Board policies.</p> <p>Manages the process for approving new or revised administrative procedures, and revisions to employee and student handbooks.</p> <p>Communicates all policy and procedure revisions or adoptions as appropriate to staff members, parents, students, and community members.</p>
Policy Committee (or Full Board)	<p><b>First</b>, answers these questions to decide whether new policy language is needed:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Does the IASB Policy Reference Manual provide guidance?</li> <li>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)?</li> <li>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.</li> </ol> <p><b>Second</b>, uses a 4-step process to draft new policy language:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Frames the question and discusses the topic.</li> <li>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.</li> <li>3. Assesses existing policy and decides whether new or revised policy language is needed.</li> <li>4. 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.</li> </ol> <p><b>Third</b>, 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.</p> <p>The <b>PRESS</b> coding system reserves policy numbers ending in a '0' and '5' for <b>PRESS</b> material. Locally-developed Association policies should use policy numbers ending in 2, 4, 6, or 8.</p>
Full Board	<p>Conducts a first reading of the policy that is recommended for adoption or revision.</p> <p>During the next regular meeting, conducts a second reading.</p> <p>A second reading allows the Board to hear feedback from interested parties, including staff, parents, students, and community members;</p>

	<p>however, State law does not require two readings.</p> <p>After the second reading, consider and take action to approve the policies at a duly convened open meeting.</p>
Designated support staff	<p>After a policy is adopted or revised, updates the Association's policy manual master electronic file and adds adoption dates.</p> <p>Archives previous version of revised policy.</p> <p>Follows Association process for updating paper and online manuals.</p>
Assistant Directors, Directors, Building Principals, and supervisory employees	<p>Reads <b>PRESS Update Memo</b> (if applicable) and adopted policies and follows the Director's process for updating administrative procedures, and changes to employee and student handbooks within their assigned building(s).</p>

DATED: March 8, 2019

Special Education Association of Peoria County

## **2:250 Access to Association Public Records**

Full access to the Association'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 Association'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 Association's response.

### Freedom of Information Officer

The Director shall serve as the Association's Freedom of Information Officer and assumes all the duties and powers of that office as provided in FOIA and this policy. The Director may delegate these duties and powers to one or more designees, but the delegation shall not relieve the Director of the responsibility for the action that was delegated.

### Definition

The Association'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 Association.

### 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 Association'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 Association employees to immediately forward any request for inspection and copying of a public record to the Association'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 Association'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 Association'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 Association'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 Association'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 Association'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 Association'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 Association 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 Association'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), Association 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: March 8, 2019

**Special Education Association of Peoria County**

## 2:260 Uniform Grievance Procedure

A student, parent/guardian, employee, or community member should notify any Association 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
2. Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972
3. Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973
4. Title VI of the Civil Rights Act, 42 U.S.C. §2000d et seq.
5. Equal Employment Opportunities Act (Title VII of the Civil Rights Act), 42 U.S.C. §2000e etseq.
6. Sexual harassment (State Officials and Employees Ethics Act, Illinois Human Rights Act, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972)
7. Breastfeeding accommodations for students, 105 ILCS 5/10-20.60
8. Bullying, 105 ILCS 5/27-23.7
9. Misuse of funds received for services to improve educational opportunities for educationally disadvantaged or deprived children
10. Curriculum, instructional materials, and/or programs
11. Victims' Economic Security and Safety Act, 820 ILCS 180
12. Illinois Equal Pay Act of 2003, 820 ILCS 112
13. Provision of services to homeless students
14. Illinois Whistleblower Act, 740 ILCS 174/
15. Misuse of genetic information (Illinois Genetic Information Privacy Act (GIPA), 410 ILCS 513/ and Titles I and II of the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act (GINA), 42 U.S.C. §2000ff et seq.
16. 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 Association 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, *school business days* means days on which the Association'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 Association 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 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*.

### Investigation

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 parent(s)/guardian(s) 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 or this policy, (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 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 school business days of 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, 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 school 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 first class U.S. mail as well as to the Complaint Manager. All decisions shall be based upon the *preponderance of evidence* standard.

Within 10 school 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 school business days, the Board shall affirm, reverse, or amend the Director's decision or direct the Director to gather additional information. Within five school business days of 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, within 30 school business days after receiving the Complaint Manager's report, the Board shall mail its written decision to the Complainant and the accused by first class U.S. mail 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 Association'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 Association's Title IX Coordinator.

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

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

### **Nondiscrimination Coordinator:**

Dave Ptak

Name

NAME

4812 W. Pfeiffer Rd., Bartonville, IL 61607

Address

dptak@seapco.org

Email

309-697-0880

Telephone

## Complaint Managers:

Dave Ptak

Alison Childers

Name

Name

4812 W. Pfeiffer Rd., Bartonville, IL 61607

4812 W. Pfeiffer Rd., Bartonville, IL 61607

Address

Address

dptak@seapco.org

achilders@seapco.org

Email

Email

309-697-0880

309-697-0880

Telephone

Telephone

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

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

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

Equal Pay Act, 29 U.S.C. §206(d).

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

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

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

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

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

Title IX of the Education Amendments, 20 U.S.C. §1681 et seq.

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

105 ILCS 5/2-3.8, 5/3-10, 5/10-20.7a, 5/10-20.60, 5/10-22.5, 5/22-19, 5/24-4, 5/27-1, 5/27-23.7, and 45/1-15.

Illinois Genetic Information Privacy Act, 410 ILCS 513/.

Illinois Whistleblower Act, 740 ILCS 174/.

Illinois Human Rights Act, 775 ILCS 5/.

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

Equal Pay Act of 2003, 820 ILCS 112/.

Employee Credit Privacy Act, 820 ILCS 70/.

23 Ill.Admin.Code §§1.240 and 200.40.

CROSS REF.:2:105 (Ethics and Gift Ban), 5:10 (Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Recruitment), 5:20 (Workplace Harassment Prohibited), 5:30 (Hiring Process and Criteria), 6:120 (Education of Children with Disabilities), 6:140 (Education of Homeless Children), 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), 7:310 (Restrictions on Publications; Elementary Schools), 7:315 (Restrictions on Publications; High Schools), 8:70 (Accommodating Individuals with Disabilities), 8:95 (Parental Involvement), 8:110 (Public Suggestions and Concerns)

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

**Special Education Association of Peoria County**

**SECTION 3 - GENERAL SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION**

Special Education Association of Peoria County

### 3:10 Goals and Objectives

The Director directs the administration in order to manage the Association and to facilitate the implementation of a quality educational program in alignment with Board of Control policy 1:30, *Association 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 school and community.
5. Develop an administrative procedures manual and handbooks for personnel and students that are in alignment with Board policy.
6. Manage the Association's fiscal and business activities to ensure financial health, cost-effectiveness, and protection of the Association's assets.
7. Provide for the proper use, reasonable care, and appropriate maintenance of the Association'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 (Association 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 Building Principal), 6:10 (Educational Philosophy and Objectives)

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

**Special Education Association of Peoria County**

### **3:30 Chain of Command**

The Director shall develop an organizational chart indicating the channels of authority and reporting relationships for school 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 (Association 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: March 8, 2019

**Special Education Association of Peoria County**

### 3:40 Director

#### Duties and Authority

The Director is the Association's executive officer and is responsible for the administration and management of the Association schools in accordance with Board of Control policies and directives, and State and federal law. Association management duties include, without limitation, preparing, submitting, publishing, and posting reports and notifications as required by State and federal law. 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 Association 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, Association employees, students, and the community. The Director must have and maintain a Professional Educator License with a Director of Special Education endorsement issued by the Illinois State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board.

#### 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 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.

#### 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, 5/10-23.8, 5/21B-20, 5/21B-25, 5/24-11, and 5/24A-3.

23 Ill.Admin.Code §§1.310, 1.705, and 29.130.

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)

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

# Special Education Association of Peoria County

### 3:40-E Exhibit - Checklist for the Executive Director Employment Contract Negotiation Process

The Board of Education hires and employs the Executive Director. The Executive Director shall be in charge of the administration of the schools 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 Executive Director. See IASB's *Foundational Principles of Effective Governance*, **Principle 3. The board employs a Executive Director**, at:

[www.iasb.com/pdf/found\\_\\_prin.pdf](http://www.iasb.com/pdf/found__prin.pdf).

The foundation for a productive employment relationship begins when the Board identifies the most qualified Executive Director candidate (*successful Executive Director candidate*) after an established interview process. The Board then extends an offer of employment to the successful Executive 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:

[www.iasb.com/pdf/found\\_\\_prin.pdf](http://www.iasb.com/pdf/found__prin.pdf).

Below, the *Checklist for the Executive Director Employment Contract Negotiation Process (Checklist)* provides a column entitled **Executive Director Contract Term Considerations for the Board**. It lists common Executive Director 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 Executive Director 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 Executive 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 Executive Director, all set the foundation for mutual respect and a clear understanding of the Board and Executive 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 Executive Director's employment contract or a basis for a board to re-open contracts currently in effect.

Prior to providing the successful Executive 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 Executive Director candidate. The Board and the successful Executive 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 Executive 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 Executive 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 Executive Director candidate retraining 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 Executive Director**

Executive Director Contract Term Considerations for the Board	Explanation, Special Considerations, and Resources
Duties	<p>Does the Board enumerate the duties of the Executive Director in the employment contract?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Are the statutory duties of the Executive Director listed?</li> <li>2. Has the Board incorporated policy references to the other duties related to the Executive Director's employment?</li> </ol> <p>See 105 ILCS 5/10-21.4 and 105 ILCS 5/10-16.7.</p>
Full-time, Attention and Energy Clause	<p>How will the Board address outside activities of the Executive Director?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. How will the Board define <i>outside activities</i>?</li> <li>2. Will the Board restrict the Executive Director from engaging in outside activities during the term of the employment contract?</li> <li>3. Will the Board require approval/notification before the Executive Director engages in outside activities?</li> </ol>

☐ **Employment and Compensation**

Executive Director Contract Term Considerations for the Board	Explanation, Special Considerations, and Resources
Duration of Contract	<p>A Executive 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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>If the duration is one year or less, then the contract need not reference goals or suspension of tenure.</p>
Salary	Special Considerations for the Board may include:

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What is the estimated Board contribution to the Teachers' Retirement System (TRS) for any raises above six percent (prior to 7-1-18 (40 ILCS 5/15-155(g), amended by P.A. 100-587)) or three percent (40 ILCS 5/15-155 (g-1), amended by P.A. 100-587) prior to retirement?</li> <li>2. What is the <i>cost shift</i> implication for the District if the Board offers or later agrees to a salary that is equal to or greater than the governor's statutory salary of \$177,412 (P.A. 100-23 now makes school districts responsible for paying the actuarial cost of the pension benefits earned on the portion of a TRS member's salary that exceeds \$177,412)?</li> <li>3. Do any administrative cost cap triggers exist (105 ILCS 5/17-1.5)?</li> </ol> <p>Items the Board may see the successful Executive Director candidate request of it:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. A fixed salary for each year of the contract.</li> <li>2. A guaranteed minimum salary.</li> <li>3. Compensation increases.</li> </ol>
Severance Agreements	<p>The Government Severance Pay Act (GSPA), 5 ILCS 415/10, added by P.A. 100-895, eff. 1-1-19, requires the following contract provisions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. A restriction to an amount not exceeding 20 weeks of compensation; and</li> <li>2. A prohibition for any severance if the Executive Director is fired for <i>misconduct</i> by the Board. See the <i>Severance Pay</i> row under the <b>Changes to the Executive Director's Employment Contract</b> subhead below for a definition of what misconduct means in the context of this law.</li> </ol>
Teachers Retirement System (TRS) & Teacher Health Insurance (THIS)	<p>How does the Board want to address:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Pension contributions (TRS-THIS)?</li> <li>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?</li> <li>3. Unforeseen pension reform issues?</li> </ol>

## Conditions of Employment

Executive Director Contract Term Considerations for the Board	Explanation, Special Considerations, and Resources
Administrative License	Does the Board want to require the successful Executive Director candidate to guarantee that as the future Executive Director of the District, 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 <b>PRESS</b> sample policy 5:30, <i>Hiring Process and Criteria</i> and the subhead entitled <b>Fingerprint-based Criminal History Records Information Check</b> in administrative procedure 5:30-AP2, <i>Investigations</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 discussed above? If yes, consult the Board Attorney and consider the following laws:  15 U.S.C. § 1681 <u>et seq.</u> , Federal Fair Credit Reporting Act (FCRA), is a federal

law that regulates the gathering and use of information about consumers by third party *consumer reporting agencies*, 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/, III. 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 ban the box law*).

820 ILCS 55/, III. Right to Privacy in the Workplace Act, 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 District property during nonworking hours, i.e., tobacco or alcohol.

820 ILCS 70/, III. 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 *bona fide occupational requirement*, which is further defined in the statute. The job descriptions of Executive Directors generally meet this standard because they: (1) describe a managerial position that involves direction of school districts; (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). Districts 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. Part 1630.2(r).

See also **PRESS** sample policy 5:30, *Hiring Process and Criteria*, specifically f/ns 18 and 19.

Tenure

Suspension of Tenure

With multi-year contracts and multi-year extensions, Executive Directors waive their rights to tenure in a school district, but no previously acquired tenure may be lost.

Continued Tenure

Executive Directors serving multiple one year contracts may still accrue service toward and acquire tenure.

See 105 ILCS 5/10-23.8 and the *Duration of Contract* row in the **Employment and Compensation** checkbox, above.

## □ Evaluations and Goals

Executive Director Contract Term Considerations for the Board	Explanation, Special Considerations, and Resources
<p>Board Goals and Indicators of Student Performance and Academic Achievement for the Executive Director</p>	<p>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 Executive Director and other information as the Board may determine.</p> <p>Regarding its goals and indicators, has the Board:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. At minimum, addressed student performance and academic achievement (105 ILCS 5/10-23.8 states "and other information as the Board may determine")?</li> <li>2. Included them in the body of the employment contract? Or as an exhibit to it?</li> <li>3. Set them to be:             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Measurable and achievable, i.e., are they within the Executive Director's control?</li> <li>b. Objective, subjective or a combination of both?</li> </ol> </li> <li>4. Set a timeline for achievement, and if so is it on an:             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Annual basis?</li> <li>b. Prior to completion of the employment contract?</li> </ol> </li> <li>5. Set them as procedural, substantive, or a combination of both?</li> </ol> <p>For more information about setting goals and indicators for Executive Directors regarding student performance and academic achievement, see:</p> <p>IASB's <i>Field Services Catalog</i> at:</p> <p><a href="http://www.iasb.com/pdf/fieldservicecatalog.pdf">www.iasb.com/pdf/fieldservicecatalog.pdf</a>.</p> <p>Contact a Field Services Director regarding the following IASB workshops and/or offerings that may set the stage for school boards to hold their Executive Directors accountable for district performance, including academic achievement:</p> <p><i>Setting District Goals and Direction</i> (leads a board and Executive Director to develop their own district-language for specific measurable, and attainable goals and indicators)</p> <p><i>The Executive Director Evaluation Process</i> (describes an effective method of holding the Executive Director accountable)</p> <p><i>The Board and its Executive Director</i> (workshop assisting a board in developing an effective relationship with its Executive Director).</p>
<p>Executive Director Evaluation</p>	<p>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:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. "Direct, through policy, its Executive Director in his or her charge of the administration of the school district;" and</li> <li>2. Evaluate the Executive Director in his or her "administration of school board policies and his or her stewardship of the assets of the district."</li> </ol>

How will the Board evaluate the successful Executive Director candidate upon its outlined goals and indicators?

Does the Board state when it will evaluate the successful Executive Director candidate upon the goals and indicators that it set? **Note:** Some districts do not consider the Executive Director evaluation to be a *one-time event* and put an on-going process into place. Contrast other districts, 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 Executive Director candidate responsible to trigger the components of the Executive Director'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 Executive 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 Executive Director, see:

*The Executive Director Evaluation Process* at: [www.iasb.com/training/Executive-Director-evaluation-process.pdf](http://www.iasb.com/training/Executive-Director-evaluation-process.pdf);

IASB's *Foundational Principles of Effective Governance*, **Principle 3. The board employs a Executive Director**, at: [www.iasb.com/principles.cfm](http://www.iasb.com/principles.cfm); stating "the board employs and evaluates one person — the Executive Director — and holds that person accountable for district performance and compliance with written board policy".

## ☐ Expenses and Benefits

Executive Director Contract Term Considerations for the Board	Explanation, Special Considerations, and Resources
Expenses	<p>How will the Board address expenses in its employment contract negotiations with the successful Executive Director candidate?</p> <p><u>Business</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What standard will the Board use, e.g., reasonable, itemized, etc.?</li> <li>2. Will the Board designate the Chairperson or another individual to review and/or approve the Executive Director's expenses?</li> </ol> <p><u>Transportation</u></p> <p>Will the Board reimburse travel? If yes, what types of travel will the board reimburse? Some transportation topics that successful Executive Director candidates request discussion about include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Vehicle insurance reimbursement(s)</li> <li>2. Vehicle repair reimbursement(s)</li> <li>3. A travel allowance only at either a set amount or the District's per mile rate</li> </ol>

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. A vehicle</li> <li>5. Out-of-district travel</li> </ol>
Insurance	<p>Will the Board address insurance in its employment contract negotiations with the successful Executive Director candidate?</p> <p>Some items successful Executive Director candidates request include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Insurance contributions as part of a Cafeteria Plan, or in the alternative, the Board paying the premiums.</li> <li>2. Specific insurance coverages from the Board, such as health, dental, vision, life, disability, etc.</li> </ol>
Vacation	<p>Will the Board address vacation days in its employment contract negotiations with the successful Executive Director candidate? If yes, then:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. How many days?</li> <li>2. Will vacation days accumulate? And, if so, how?</li> <li>3. Will the Board designate itself, the Chairperson, or a Board officer to approve or receive notification from the Executive Director prior to taking a vacation? If yes, describe the process.</li> <li>4. Will the Board address reimbursement for unused days?</li> </ol>
Sick Leave/Days	<p>Will the Board address sick days in its employment contract negotiations with the successful Executive Director candidate? If yes, then:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Will sick leave be limited to annual sick leave days in the District's teachers' contract?</li> <li>2. How will sick day accumulation be addressed?</li> <li>3. Will the Board designate itself, the Chairperson, or a Board officer to approve or receive notification from the Executive Director prior to taking or upon returning from a sick day? If yes, describe the process.</li> </ol>
Professional Activities and Organizations   Memberships in Community Organizations	<p>Will the Board address memberships in professional activities/organizations and/or community organizations its employment contract negotiations with the successful Executive Director candidate? If yes, then:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. How many organizations will the Board allow the Executive Director to join?</li> <li>2. Which organizations will be allowed?</li> <li>3. What is the Board's limit for the cost of dues to professional organizations?</li> </ol>
Retirement	<p>Will the Board address any type of payment(s) upon the Executive Director's retirement? If yes, then:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Has the Board thoroughly examined and addressed: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Any consequences or other penalties to it?</li> <li>b. The impact of any prior salary increases?</li> <li>c. Potential pension reform issues?</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. Often, a successful Executive Director candidate's attorney has interest in the following issues: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Available post-retirement options available, e.g., payments for sick/vacation days, post-retirement insurance, longevity annuity payment, etc.</li> <li>b. Whether a potential retirement payment will be properly creditable for TRS purposes. <b>Note:</b> Ultimately, only TRS has the authority to determine</li> </ol> </li> </ol>

	credibility.
Annuities and Other Deferred Compensation	<p>Will the Board address any type of annuities and other deferred compensation issues? If yes, then:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Will it offer such compensation in addition to the Executive Director's agreed-upon salary?</li> <li>2. Will it contribute creditable earnings for TRS purposes?</li> </ol>

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

<b>Executive Director Contract Term Considerations for the Board</b>	<b>Explanation, Special Considerations, and Resources</b>
Non-Renewal at End of Contract	<p>How will the Board and successful Executive Director candidate agree to address orderly end to the employment contract when the Board chooses not to renew it?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Will there be a non-renewal notification date? Do both parties' attorneys find it reasonable?</li> <li>2. Will the Board require the Executive Director to remind it of the non-renewal date?</li> <li>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?</li> <li>4. Will the Board agree to language in the employment contract that would provide the Executive Director with a hearing upon non-renewal?</li> </ol>
Renewal at End of Contract	<p>Will the Board agree to a procedure for renewing the employment contract at its end? If yes, then:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What date would be the earliest that the Board could renew its employment contract with the Executive Director?</li> <li>2. What criteria will the Board base its renewal upon? For example, some boards base renewal upon Executive Directors achieving their stated goals and indicators of student performance and academic improvement and other information they required.</li> </ol>
Contract Extensions	<p>Will the Board agree to allow for an extension of its employment contract during its term? If yes, then:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Will the Board agree to extend it during its term if the Board determines that the Executive Director successfully met all of the Board's stated goals and indicators of student performance and academic improvement and other information it required?</li> <li>2. Will the Board agree to extend a one-year contract when the Executive Director is not required to meet any goals?</li> </ol> <p>See 105 ILCS 5/10-23.8.</p>
Terminations	<p>If the successful Executive Director candidate accepts employment with the Board and becomes the Executive Director, how will the Board outline the grounds and procedures for terminating the Executive Director's employment during the contract's term?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Will the Board and the successful Executive Director candidate agree to</li> </ol>

	<p>terminate it upon mutual agreement?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. Will the Board allow retirement to be an appropriate reason for terminating its employment contract with the Executive Director? And if so, will the Board require reasonable notice from its Executive Director?</li> <li>3. Could either the Board or Executive Director terminate the employment contract without cause by providing notice to the other?</li> <li>4. Will the Board terminate the employment contract for permanent disability of the Executive Director? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. How will the Board define permanent disability in the contract?</li> <li>b. Will the Board require the Executive Director to obtain a permanent disability determination through physician certification, and/or</li> <li>c. Will the Board consider duration of absence; e.g., 90-days or exhaustion of sick leave, whichever is greater?</li> </ol> </li> </ol> <p>See <b>PRESS</b> sample policy 5:180, <i>Temporary Illness or Temporary Incapacity</i>.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. What standard will the Board use to terminate the employment contract for cause? Items to consider include: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Any conduct detrimental/prejudicial to the District;*</li> <li>b. Just cause;</li> <li>c. Sufficient to dismiss a tenured teacher;</li> <li>d. Material breach of contract; or</li> <li>e. Not arbitrary and capricious.</li> </ol> </li> </ol> <p>*50 ILCS 205/3c, amended by P.A. 100-1040, requires a school district 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 <b>Severance Pay</b> row directly below.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6. Will the Board agree to provisions for hearing and due process for the Executive Director?</li> <li>7. How will the Board address death of its Executive Director during the duration of the employment contract?</li> </ol>
Severance Pay	<p>Any renewal or renegotiation that adds a condition of severance pay must include the following provisions of GSPA, 5 ILCS 415/10(a)(1), added by P.A. 100-895, eff. 1-1-19:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. A restriction to an amount not exceeding 20 weeks of compensation; and</li> <li>2. A prohibition for any severance if the Executive 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, amended by P.A. 100-1040 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, see f/n 6 in policy 2:260, <i>Uniform Grievance Procedure</i>.</li> </ol>
Liquidated Damages	<p>Will the Board agree to liquidate damages with its Executive Director if one or the other terminates the employment contract?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Have both the Board and the successful Executive Director candidate discussed the practical consequences of a liquidated damages clause with their respective attorneys?</li> </ol>

	2. If the Board terminates the contract, has it discussed with the Board Attorney how it can avoid litigation with its former Executive Director?
Amendments	How will the Board and Executive Director agree to allow for amendments to the employment contract?

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

<b>Executive Director Contract Term Considerations for the Board</b>	<b>Explanation, Special Considerations, and Resources</b>
Technical clauses (common in contracts)	<p>If the employment contract contains any of the following technical provisions, have the Board Attorney and Executive Director's attorney reviewed them?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Notice</li> <li>2. Applicable law</li> <li>3. Headings and numbers</li> <li>4. Complete understanding, i.e., do the Board members and Executive Director share the same understanding of the various provisions written in the employment contract?</li> <li>5. Counterparts</li> <li>6. Effect of Policy Amendments</li> <li>7. Severability</li> <li>8. Advice of Counsel</li> </ol>

**□ Miscellaneous Issues**

<b>Executive Director Contract Term Considerations for the Board</b>	<b>Explanation, Special Considerations, and Resources</b>
Board Obligations Under the Employment Contract	<p>Do all members of the Board understand the District's obligations under the employment contract and what not complying with them will mean to the District?</p> <p>Specifically, are Board members aware of the Board's specific obligations regarding:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Executive Director Evaluation</li> <li>2. Goal setting</li> <li>3. Required notifications/actions by each party prior to termination of the employment contract</li> </ol>
Ongoing Monitoring of Each Party's Compliance with the Contract	Are the Board and Executive 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: March 8, 2019

Special Education Association of Peoria County

### **3:50 Administrative Personnel Other Than the Director**

#### Duties and Authority

The Board of Control establishes Association administrative and supervisory positions in accordance with the Association's needs and State law. This policy applies to all administrators other than the Director, including without limitation, Building Principals and Special Education Administrators. 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 Association'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 at such 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 Building Principal), 5:30 (Hiring Process and Criteria), 5:250 (Leaves of Absence)

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

Special Education Association of Peoria County

### **3:60 Administrative Responsibility of the Building Principal**

#### Duties and Authority

The Board of Control, upon the recommendation of the Director, employs Building Principals and Special Education Administrators as the chief administrators and instructional leaders of their assigned schools, and may employ Assistant Principals. The primary responsibility of a Building Principal and Special Education Administrator is the improvement of instruction and management of special education services. Each Building Principal 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 Building Principal's and Special Education Administrator's education and training. Each Building Principal, Assistant Principal, and Special Education Administrator shall complete State law requirements to be a prequalified evaluator before conducting an evaluation of a teacher or assistant principal.

#### Evaluation Plan

The Director or designee shall implement an evaluation plan for Principals and Assistant Principals 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 each Building Principal or, in the absence of the Director or his or her designee, an individual appointed by the Board of Control who holds a valid professional educator license endorsed for 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.: 10 ILCS 5/4-6.2.

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.

105 ILCS 127/.

23 Ill.Admin.Code Parts 35 and 50, Subpart D.

CROSS REF.: 3:50 (Administrative Personnel Other Than the Director), 5:250 (Leaves of Absence)

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

### **3:70 Succession of Authority**

If the Director, Building Principal, 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 (Association Organization, Operations, and Cooperative Agreements), 3:30 (Chain of Command)

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

Special Education Association of Peoria County

**SECTION 4 - OPERATIONAL SERVICES**

Special Education Association of Peoria County

## 4:10 Fiscal and Business Management

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

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

### Budget Planning

The Association'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 July, 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 Association's educational program. The Association's budget shall be entered upon the Illinois State Board of Education's *Association Budget Form*. To the extent possible, the tentative budget shall be balanced as defined by the State Board of Education guidelines. The Director shall complete a tentative deficit reduction plan if one is required by the State Board of Education 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, 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, August 30, or by such alternative procedure as State law may define. To the extent possible, the budget shall be balanced as defined by the State Board of Education; if not balanced, the Board will adopt a deficit reduction plan to balance the Association's budget within three years according to State Board of Education requirements.

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

The Director or designee shall perform each of the following:

1. Post the Association's final annual budget, itemized by receipts and expenditures, on the Association'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 Association's Chief Fiscal Officer, with the County Clerk within 30 days of the budget's adoption.
3. Submit the annual budget, a deficit reduction plan if one is required by State Board of Education guidelines, and other financial information to the State Board of Education according to its requirements.

Any amendments to the budget shall be made as provided in the School Code.

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

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

LEGAL REF.:35 ILCS 200/18-55 et seq.

105 ILCS 5/10-17, 5/10-22.33, 5/17-1, 5/17-1.2, 5/17-2A, 5/17-3.2, 5/17-11, 5/20-5, 5/20-8, and 5/20-10.

23 Ill.Admin.Code Part 100.

CROSS REF.:4:40 (Incurring Debt), 6:235 (Access to Electronic Networks)

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

#### 4:15 Identity Protection

The collection, storage, use, and disclosure of social security numbers by the Association shall be consistent with State and federal laws. The goals for managing the Association'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 Association from unauthorized disclosure.

The Director is responsible for ensuring that the Association 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 Association 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 Association 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 Association 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.

LEGAL REF.:5 ILCS 179/, Identity Protection Act.

50 ILCS 205/3, Local Records Act.

105 ILCS 10/, Illinois School Student Records Act.

CROSS REF:2:250 (Access to Association Public Records), 5:150 (Personnel

Records), 7:340 (Student Records)

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

Special Education Association of Peoria County

#### 4:20 Fund Balances

The Director or designee shall maintain fund balances adequate to ensure the Association's ability to maintain levels of service and pay its obligations in a prompt manner in spite of unforeseen events or unexpected expenses. The Director or designee shall inform the Board whenever it should discuss drawing upon its reserves or borrowing money.

The Association seeks to maintain a year-end fund balance to revenue ratio of no less than 25 percent, as calculated under the Ill. State Board of Education's *School District Financial Profile*.

CROSS REF.:4:10 (Fiscal and Business Management), 4:80 (Accounting and Audits)

Adopted: October 11, 2019

Special Education Association of Peoria County

## 4:30 Revenue and Investments

### Revenue

The Director or designee is responsible for making all claims for revenue, 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 Association's investment activities are:

1. Safety of Principal - Every investment is made with safety as the primary and overriding 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 Association 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 Association 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.

### 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 2 sworn statements of resources and liabilities or reports of examination that the institution is required to furnish to the appropriate State or federal agency. Each institution designated as a depository shall, while acting as such depository, furnish the Association 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 Association initiates the investment at or through a bank located in Illinois, and (2) the invested public funds are at all times fully insured by an agency or instrumentality of the federal government.

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

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

### 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 Association'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 Association'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 Association, 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 Association 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 Association employee having influence on the Association's investment decisions shall:

1. Have any interest, directly or indirectly, in any investments in which the Association 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/.

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: March 8, 2019

Special Education Association of Peoria County

#### 4:40 Incurring Debt

The Director shall provide early notice to the Board of Control of the Association's need to borrow money. The Director or designee shall prepare all documents and notices necessary for the Board, at its discretion, to: (1) issue State Aid Anticipation Certificates, working cash fund bonds, bonds, notes, and other evidence of indebtedness, or (2) establish a line of credit with a bank or other financial institution. The Director shall notify the State Board of Education before the Association issues any form of long-term or short-term debt that will result in outstanding debt that exceeds 75% of the debt limit specified in State law.

#### Bond Issue Obligations

In connection with the Board's issuance of bonds, the Director shall be responsible for ensuring the Association's compliance with federal securities laws, including the anti-fraud provisions of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended and, if applicable, the continuing disclosure obligations under Rule 15c2-12 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.

Additionally, in connection with the Board's issuance of bonds, the interest on which is excludable from *gross income* for federal income tax purposes, or which enable the Association or bond holder to receive other federal tax benefits, the Board authorizes the Director to establish written procedures for post-issuance compliance monitoring for such bonds to protect their tax-exempt (or tax-advantaged) status.

The Board may contract with outside professionals, such as bond counsel and/or a qualified financial consulting firm, to assist it in meeting the requirements of this subsection.

LEGAL REF.: Securities Act of 1933, 15 U.S.C. §77a et seq.

Securities Exchange Act of 1934, 15 U.S.C. §78a et seq.

17 C.F.R. §240.15c2-12.

Bond Authorization Act, 30 ILCS 305/2.

Bond Issue Notification Act, 30 ILCS 352/1.

Local Government Debt Reform Act, 30 ILCS 350/.

Tax Anticipation Note Act, 50 ILCS 420/.

105 ILCS 5/17-16, 5/17-17, 5/18-18, and 5/19-1 et seq.

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

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

# Special Education Association of Peoria County

## 4:45 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 Association 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 Association to the fullest extent of the law.

A Local Debt Recovery Program may be available through the Illinois Office of the Comptroller (IOC) in the future. To participate in it, an intergovernmental agreement (IGA) between the Association and the IOC must be in existence. The IGA establishes the terms under which the Association may refer a delinquent debt to the IOC for an offset (deduction). The IOC may execute an offset, in the amount of the delinquent debt owed to the Association, from a future payment that the State makes to an individual or entity responsible for paying the delinquent debt.

The Director or designee shall execute the requirements of the IGA. While executing the requirements of the IGA, the Director or designee is responsible, without limitation, for each of the following:

1. Providing an Association-wide, uniform, method of notice and due process to the individual or entity against whom a claim for delinquent debt payment (*claim*) is made. Written notice and an opportunity to be heard must be given to the individual or entity responsible for paying a delinquent debt before the claim is certified to the IOC for offset. The notice must state the claim's amount, the reason for the amount due, the claim's date or time period, and a description of the process to challenge the claim. If reimbursable meals or snacks provided under the Hunger-Free Students' Bill of Rights Act are the basis of the Association's delinquent debt claim of no less than \$500, the notice must be sent to a student's parent(s)/guardian(s) only after: (a) the student owes the Association more than five meals and/or snacks; (b) the Executive Director or designee made: (i) repeated contacts to collect the amounts owed, and (ii) reasonable efforts to collect the amount due for at least one year; and (c) the Association requested the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) to apply for meal benefits pursuant to policy 4:130, *Free and Reduced-Price Food Services*, and they either: (i) did not qualify, or (ii) refused to apply.
2. An individual or entity challenging a claim shall be provided an informal proceeding to refute the claim's existence, amount, or current collectability; the decision following this proceeding shall be reviewable.
  - a. If a waiver of student fees is requested as a challenge to paying the claim, and the waiver of student fees is denied, an appeal of the denial of a fee waiver request shall be handled according to 4:140, *Waiver of Student Fees*. If no waiver of student

fees is requested, reviews regarding payment of the claim shall be handled according to this policy before certification to the IOC for offset.

- b. If application for meal benefits pursuant to policy 4:130, *Free and Reduced-Price Food Services*, is requested as a challenge to paying the claim, and the request is denied, an appeal of the denial of the request shall be handled according to 4:130, *Free and Reduced-Price Food Services*. If no request for meal benefits is received, review of the claim's payment shall be handled according to this policy before certification to the IOC for offset.
1. Certifying to the IOC that the debt is past due and legally enforceable, and notifying the IOC of any change in the status of an offset claim for delinquent debt.
2. Responding to requests for information from the IOC to facilitate the prompt resolution of any administrative review requests received by the IOC.

LEGAL REF.:15 ILCS 405/10.05 and 10.05d.

105 ILCS 123/, Hunger-Free Students' Bill of Rights Act.

810 ILCS 5/3-806.

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

Special Education Association of Peoria County

#### 4:50 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 Chairperson 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 school 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: March 8, 2019

Special Education Association of Peoria County

#### 4:55 Use of Credit and Procurement Cards

The Director and employees designated by the Director are authorized to use Association credit and procurement cards to simplify the acquisition, receipt, and payment of purchases and travel expenses incurred on the Association's behalf. Credit and procurement cards shall only be used for those expenses that are for the Association'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 Association's best interests.

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

In addition to the other limitations contained in this and other Board policies, Association 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 Association 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 and Finance Manager, 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 Association 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 Association 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 Association 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 Association 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 Association credit or procurement card and shall ensure that it is used for the Association'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 (Activity Funds), 5:60 (Expenses)

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

Special Education Association of Peoria County

## 4:60 Purchases and Contracts

The Director or designee shall manage the Association'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 State law. The Board Attorney shall be consulted as needed regarding the legal requirements for purchases or contracts. All contracts over \$12,500 shall be approved or authorized by the Board.

All purchases and contracts should support a recognized Association 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. Notwithstanding the above, the Director shall not commit to any single, non-customary purchase or expenditure, excluding personnel, of greater than \$12,500 without prior Board approval.

When presenting a contract or purchase for Board approval, the Director or designee shall ensure that it complies with applicable 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 Association 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. 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 Association'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 Association 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 Association school or school-related activity with one or more student(s); (2) prohibits 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 Association's fingerprint-based criminal history records check on him or her.
  - b. In accordance with 105 ILCS 5/24-5: (1) concerning each employee who begins providing services in the Association after June 16, 2014, provide the Association with evidence of physical fitness to perform the duties assigned and freedom from communicable disease if the employee will have direct, daily contact with one or more student(s); and (2) require any new or existing employee who has and will have direct, daily contact with one or more student(s) to complete additional health examinations as required by the Association and be subject to additional health examinations, including tuberculosis screening, as required by the Illinois Department of Public Health rules or order of a local health official.

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

LEGAL REF.:105 ILCS 5/10-20.19c, 5/10-20.21, 5/10-21.9, 5/10-22.34c, 5/19b-1 et seq., and 5/24-5.

820 ILCS 130/.

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)

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

Special Education Association of Peoria County

#### **4:70 Resource Conservation**

The Director or designee shall manage a program of energy and resource conservation for the Association 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 Association'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 Association'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 Association.
4. Adherence to energy conservation measures.

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

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

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

**Special Education Association of Peoria County**

## 4:80 Accounting and Audits

The Association'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 Association'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 Association 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.

### Disposition of Association Property

The Director or designee shall notify the Board, as necessary, of the following so that the Board may consider its disposition: (1) Association 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.

### Taxable Fringe Benefits

The Director or designee shall: (1) require that all use of Association property or equipment by employees is for the Association'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

Association 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. Each revolving fund shall be maintained in a bank that has been approved by the Board and established in an amount approved by the Director consistent with the annual budget. All expenditures from these bank accounts must be directly related to the purpose for which the account was established and supported with documentation, including signed invoices or receipts. All deposits into these bank accounts must be accompanied with a clear description of their intended purpose. The 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 Association's or a Association school's name or with the Association's Federal Employer Identification Number. All checks issued by the Association must be signed by either the Treasurer or Board Chairperson, except that checks from an account containing student activity funds and revolving accounts may be signed by the respective account custodian.

### Internal Controls

The Director or designee is primarily responsible for establishing and implementing a system of internal controls for safeguarding the Association'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 Director or designee shall annually audit the Association'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.: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 (Activity Funds)

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

# Special Education Association of Peoria County

#### 4:90 Activity 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 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 Illinois State Board of Education 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 authority and responsibilities specific to the treasurer listed in the Illinois State Board of Education 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.

LEGAL REF.:105 ILCS 5/8-2 and 5/10-20.19.

23 Ill.Admin.Code §§100.20 and 100.80.

CROSS REF.:4:80 (Accounting and Audits), 7:325 (Student Fund-Raising Activities)

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

Special Education Association of Peoria County

#### 4:100 Insurance Management

The Director or designee 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 Association 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 Association's certified 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 certified staff members authorized in 105 ILCS 5/21A-5 et seq. (new teacher), 105 ILCS 5/2-3.53a (new principal), 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, 100 Stat. 222, 4980B(f) of the I.R.S. Code, 42 U.S.C. §300bb-1 et seq.

105 ILCS 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, 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: October 11, 2019

Special Education Association of Peoria County

#### 4:110 Transportation

Each member district shall provide transportation for special education students. Free transportation services and vehicle adaption for special education students shall be provided if included in a student's individualized educational program. Non-public school students shall be transported in accordance with State law.

The Association may provide transportation to students attending Association-operated programs as recommended by the Director and approved by the Board of Control consistent with the Association budget as approved by the Board of Control and the Administrative District.

#### LEGAL REF.:

20 U.S.C. §6312(c)(5)(B), Elementary and Secondary Education Act.

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

105 ILCS 5/10-22.22 and 5/29-1 et seq.

105 ILCS 45/1-15 and /1-17.

625 ILCS 5/1-148.3a-5, 5/1-182, 5/11-1414.1, 5/12-813.1, 5/12-815, 5/12-816, 5/12-821, and 5/13-109.

23 Ill.Admin.Code §§1.510 and 226.750; Part 120.

92 Ill.Admin.Code Part 440.

CROSS REF.:4:170 (Safety), 5:100 (Staff Development Program), 5:120 (Employee Ethics; Conduct; and Conflict of Interest), 5:280 (Educational Support Personnel - Duties and Qualifications), 6:140 (Education of Homeless Children), 6:170 (Title I Programs), 7:220 (Bus Conduct)

Adopted: October 11, 2019

Special Education Association of Peoria County

#### 4:120 Food Services

Good nutrition shall be promoted in the Association's meal programs and in other food and beverages that are sold to students during the school day. The Director shall manage a food service program that complies with this policy and is in alignment with Board of Control policy 6:50, *School Wellness*.

Food or beverage items sold to students as part of a reimbursable meal under federal law must follow the nutrition standards specified in the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture rules that implement the National School Lunch and Child Nutrition Acts. Schools being reimbursed for meals under these laws are *participating schools*.

The food service program in participating schools shall comply with the nutrition standards specified in the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture's *Smart Snacks rules* when it offers competitive foods to students on the school campus during the school day. *Competitive foods* are all food and beverages that are offered by any person, organization or entity for sale to students on the school campus during the school day that are not reimbursed under programs authorized by federal law. The food service programs in participating schools shall also comply with any applicable mandates in the Illinois State Board of Education's School Food Service rules implementing these federal laws and the Ill. School Breakfast and Lunch Program Act.

All revenue from the sale of any food or beverages sold in competition with the School Breakfast Program or National School Lunch Program to students in food service areas during the meal period shall accrue to the nonprofit school lunch program account.

LEGAL REF.:Russell B. National School Lunch Act, 42 U.S.C. §1751 et seq.

Child Nutrition Act of 1966, 42 U.S.C. §1771 et seq.

7 C.F.R. Parts 210 and 220, Food and Nutrition Service.

105 ILCS 125/.

23 Ill.Admin.Code Part 305, School Food Service.

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

Special Education Association of Peoria County

#### **4:150 Facility Management and Building Programs**

The Director or designee shall manage the Association'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 Association 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 Association school 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.

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: October 11, 2019

**Special Education Association of Peoria County**

#### 4:160 Environmental Quality of Buildings and Grounds

The Director or designee shall take all reasonable measures to protect: (1) the safety of Association personnel, students, and visitors on Association premises from risks associated with hazardous materials and (2) the environmental quality of the Association's buildings and grounds. Before pesticides are used on Association premises, the Director or designee shall notify employees and parents/guardians of students as required by the Structural Pest Control Act, 225 ILCS 235/, and the Lawn Care Products Application and Notice Act, 415 ILCS 65/.

#### LEGAL REF.:

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 5/10-20.17a; 5/10-20.48.

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 65/, Lawn Care Products Application and Notice 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: October 11, 2019

Special Education Association of Peoria County

## 4:170 Safety

### Safety and Security

All Association operations, including the education program, shall be conducted in a manner that will promote the safety and security of everyone on Association property or at a Association 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;
4. Instruction in safe bus riding practices; and
5. 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.

### School 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 Association.
2. One bus evacuation drill.
3. One severe weather and shelter-in-place drill to address and prepare students and school personnel for possible tornado incidents.
4. One law enforcement 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 school personnel and students present at school at the time of the drill, except for those exempted by administrators or school support personnel.

### 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 Association'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 Association 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 Association. The Director or designee shall ensure that every AED on the Association'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 Association'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, implemented by 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.:4:175 (Convicted Child Sex Offender; Screening; Notifications), 4:180

(Pandemic Preparedness), 5:30 (Hiring Process and Criteria), 8:30 (Visitors to and Conduct on School Property), 8:100 (Relations with Other Organizations and Agencies)

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

Special Education Association of Peoria County

#### **4:175 Convicted Child Sex Offender; Screening; Notifications**

##### Persons Prohibited on School Property without Prior Permission

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 meets either of the following two exceptions:

1. The offender is a parent/guardian of a student attending the school and has notified the Building Principal of his or her presence at the school for the purpose of: (i) attending a conference 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 Chairperson shall provide the details of the offender's upcoming visit to the Building Principal.

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. 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 Association contact person for purposes of these laws. The Director and Building Principal shall manage a process for schools 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 Building Principal determines advisable.

LEGAL REF.:20 ILCS 2635/, Uniform Conviction Information Act.

720 ILCS 5/11-9.3.

730 ILCS 152/, Sex Offender Community Notification Law.

730 ILCS 154/75-105, Murderer and Violent Offender Against Youth Community Notification Law.

CROSS REF.:5:30 (Hiring Process and Criteria), 5:260 (Student Teachers), 6:250 (Community Resource Persons and Volunteers), 8:30 (Visitors to and Conduct on School Property), 8:100 (Relations with Other Organizations and Agencies)

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

Special Education Association of Peoria County

#### 4:190 Targeted School Violence Prevention Program

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

The Superintendent or designee shall develop and implement the Program. The Program oversees the maintenance of a Cooperative 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 Cooperative's Comprehensive Safety and Security Plan, required by Board policy 4:170, *Safety*, and shall:

1. Establish a Cooperative-level School Violence Prevention Team to: (a) develop a Cooperative-level Targeted School Violence Prevention Plan, and (b) oversee the Cooperative'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 schools.
3. Comply with State and federal law and align with Board policies.

The Local Governmental and Governmental Employees Tort Immunity Act protects the Cooperative 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 District, (3) extend beyond the school day and/or school-sponsored events, or (4) guarantee or ensure the safety of students, Cooperative 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), 6:270 (Guidance and Counseling Program), 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 School Property), 8:100 (Relations with Other Organizations and Agencies)

Adopted: October 11, 2019

Special Education Association of Peoria County

#### 4:180 Pandemic Preparedness

The Board of Control recognizes that the Association will play an essential role along with the local health department and emergency management agencies in protecting the public's health and safety if an influenza pandemic occurs. Pandemic influenza is a worldwide outbreak of a virus for which there is little or no natural immunity and no vaccine; it spreads quickly to people who have not been previously exposed to the new virus.

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

#### Emergency School Closing

In the case of a pandemic, any decision for an emergency school closing will be made by the Director in consultation with and, if necessary, at the direction of the Association's local health department, emergency management agencies, and Regional Office of Education.

LEGAL REF.:105 ILCS 5/10-16.7 and 5/10-20.5.

Ill. Dept. of Public Health Act (Part 1), 20 ILCS 2305/2(b).

Ill. Emergency Management Agency Act, 20 ILCS 3305.

Ill. Educational Labor Relations Act, 115 ILCS 5/.

CROSS REF.:1:20 (Association Organization, Operations, and Cooperative Agreements), 2:20 (Powers and Duties of the Board of Control; Indemnification), 4:170 (Safety), 7:90 (Release During School Hours), 8:100 (Relations with Other Organizations and Agencies)

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

Special Education Association of Peoria County

**SECTION 5 - PERSONNEL**

Special Education Association of Peoria County

**General Personnel**

Special Education Association of Peoria County

## 5:10 Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Recruitment

The Association 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; use of lawful products while not at work; being a victim of domestic or sexual 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; 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 Pilot 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 Association's nondiscrimination efforts. The Nondiscrimination Coordinator may be the Director or a Complaint Manager for the Uniform Grievance Procedure. The Director shall insert into this policy the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of the Association's current Nondiscrimination Coordinator and Complaint Managers.

### **Nondiscrimination Coordinator:**

Dave Ptak

4812 W. Pfeiffer Rd., Bartonville, IL 61607

dptak@seapco.org

309-697-0880

### **Complaint Managers:**

Dave Ptak

4812 W. Pfeiffer Rd., Bartonville, IL 61607

dptak@seapco.org

Alison Childers

4812 W. Pfeiffer Rd., Bartonville, IL 61607

achilders@seapco.org

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

### Minority Recruitment

The Association 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 Association 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, implemented by 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.

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, implemented by 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, 5/20.7a, 5/21.1, 5/22.4, 5/23.5, 5/22-19, 5/24-4, 5/24-4.1, and 5/24-7.

410 ILCS 130/40, Compassionate Use of Medical Cannabis Pilot Program Act.

410 ILCS 513/25, Genetic Information Protection Act.

740 ILCS 174/, Ill. Whistleblower Act.

775 ILCS 5/1-103, 5/2-102, 103, and 5/6-101, Ill. Human Rights Act.

775 ILCS 35/5, 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), 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; Tobacco 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: March 8, 2019

Special Education Association of Peoria County

## **5:20 Workplace Harassment Prohibited**

The Association expects the workplace environment to be productive, respectful, and free of unlawful discrimination, including harassment. Association employees shall not engage in harassment or abusive conduct on the basis of an individual's race, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, age, citizenship status, disability, or 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 policy 7:20, *Harassment of Students Prohibited*.

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

### Sexual Harassment Prohibited

The Association 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.

Association 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 Complaint

Employees are encouraged to promptly report information regarding violations of this policy. Employees may choose to report to a person of the employee's same gender. Every effort should be made to file such complaints as soon as possible, while facts are known and potential witnesses are available.

Aggrieved employees, 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 Building Principal, an administrator, the Nondiscrimination Coordinator, and/or a Complaint Manager. Employees 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 complaint according to that policy, in addition to any

response required by this policy 5:20, *Workplace Harassment Prohibited*.

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

**Nondiscrimination Coordinator:**

Dave Ptak

Name

4812 W. Pfeiffer Rd., Bartonville, IL 61607

Address

dptak@seapco.org

Email

309-697-0880

Telephone

**Complaint Managers:**

Dave Ptak

Alison Childers

Name

Name

4812 W. Pfeiffer Rd., Bartonville, IL 61607

4812 W. Pfeiffer Rd., Bartonville, IL 61607

Address

Address

dptak@seapco.org

achilders@seapco.org

Email

Email

309-697-0880

309-697-0880

Telephone

Telephone

Investigation Process

Supervisors, Building Principals, or administrators who receive a report or complaint of harassment must promptly forward the report or complaint to the Nondiscrimination Coordinator or a Complaint Manager. A supervisor or administrator 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 Association's duty to investigate and maintain a workplace environment that is productive, respectful, and free of unlawful discrimination, including harassment. The Association shall investigate alleged workplace harassment when a Complaint Manager becomes aware of an allegation, regardless of whether a written report or complaint is filed.

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 Association, i.e., vendor, parent, invitee, etc. Any employee making a knowingly false accusation regarding harassment will likewise be subject to disciplinary action, 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 bona fide complaints or providing information about harassment is prohibited (see Board policy 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*), and 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 Building Principal, 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 Association 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 and applicants of this policy, which shall include reprinting this policy in the appropriate handbooks.

LEGAL REF.: Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 U.S.C. §2000e et seq., implemented by 29 C.F.R. §1604.11.

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, 20 U.S.C. §1681 et seq., implemented by 34 C.F.R. Part 106.

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

Ill. Human Rights Act, 775 ILCS 5/2-101(E), 5/2-102(D), 5/2-102(E-5), 5/5-102, and 5/5-102.2.

56 Ill. Admin. Code Parts 2500, 2510, 5210, and 5220.

Burlington Industries v. Ellerth, 524 U.S. 742 (1998).

Crawford v. Metro. Gov't of Nashville & Davidson County, 555 U.S. 271 (2009).

Faragher v. City of Boca Raton, 524 U.S. 775 (1998).

Franklin v. Gwinnett Co. Public Schools, 503 U.S. 60 (1992).

Harris v. Forklift Systems, 510 U.S. 17 (1993).

Jackson v. Birmingham Bd. of Educ., 544 U.S. 167 (2005).

Meritor Savings Bank v. Vinson, 477 U.S. 57 (1986).

Oncale v. Sundown Offshore Services, 523 U.S. 75 (1998).

Porter v. Erie Foods International, Inc., 576 F.3d 629 (7th Cir. 2009).

Sangamon County Sheriff's Dept. v. Ill. Human Rights Com'n, 233 Ill.2d 125 (Ill. 2009).

Vance v. Ball State University, 133 S. Ct. 2434 (2013).

CROSS REF.:2:260 (Uniform Grievance Procedure), 5:10 (Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Recruitment), 7:20 (Harassment of Students Prohibited)

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

Special Education Association of Peoria County

## 5:20-E Exhibit - Resolution to Prohibit Sexual Harassment

WHEREAS, Section 10-20 of the School Code (105 ILCS 5/10-20) grants Board of Controls 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 Associations 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. 100-554) 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/); and (4) the consequences: (a) of a violation of the prohibition on sexual harassment; and (b) for knowingly making a false report;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of [insert name], [insert county] County, Illinois, as follows:

Section 1:The Board adopts Board policy 5:20, *Workplace Harassment Prohibited*, attached as Exhibit A, which contains 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 Building Principal, 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.

Section 2:Any prior versions of Board policy 5:20, *Workplace Harassment Prohibited*, adopted by the Board are superseded by this Resolution.

Adopted this 8th day of March, 2019

Attested by: Board Chairperson

Attested by: Board Secretary

# Special Education Association of Peoria County

## 5:30 Hiring Process and Criteria

The Association 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 Section 5/21B-80(c) of the School Code.

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

### Job Descriptions

The Board of Control maintains the Director's job description and directs, through policy, the Director, in his or her charge of the Association'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 of Control, the Board Chairperson shall ensure that these checks are completed. The Director or designee, or if the applicant is a successful Director candidate, then the Board Chairperson shall notify an applicant if the applicant is identified in either database. The School Code requires the Board Chairperson to keep a conviction record confidential and share it only with the Director, Regional Director, State Director, State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board, any other person necessary to the hiring decision, or for purposes of clarifying the information, the Ill. Dept. of State Police and/or Statewide Sex Offender Database. The Board of Control 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 an Immigration and Naturalization Service Form as required by federal law.

The Association 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 Section 5/21B-80 of the School Code or who falsifies, or omits facts from, his or her employment application or other employment documents.

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

1. The Association 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 Association does not ask an applicant or applicant's previous employers about claim(s) made or benefit(s) received under the Workers' Compensation Act.
3. The District 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.
4. The Association provides equal employment opportunities to all persons. See policy 5:10, *Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Recruitment*.

### 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, or an advanced practice nurse who has a written collaborative agreement with a collaborating physician that authorizes the advanced practice nurse to perform health examinations, or a 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 Association.

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, or an advanced practice nurse who has a written collaborative agreement with a collaborating physician that authorizes the advanced practice nurse to perform health examinations, or a 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 Association's staff will provide an orientation program for new employees to acquaint them with the Association'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.: 105 ILCS 5/10-16.7, 5/10-20.7, 5/10-21.4, 5/10-21.9, 5/21B-10, 5/21B-80, 5/10-22.34, 5/10-22.34b, 5/22-6.5, 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.

Americans with Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C. §12112, and 29 C.F.R. Part 1630.

Fair Credit Reporting Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1681 et seq.

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

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(III. 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 Superintendent), 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), 5:125 (Personal Technology and Social Media; Usage and Conduct), 5:220 (Substitute Teachers), 5:280 (Educational Support Personnel - Duties and Qualifications)

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

**Special Education Association of Peoria County**

## 5:35 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 Association employees will be 12:00 a.m. Saturday until 11:59 p.m. Friday. 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

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.

### 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, *Professional Personnel - Suspension*. Non-licensed employees may be suspended without pay in accordance with Board policy 5:290, *Educational Support Personnel - 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)

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

Special Education Association of Peoria County

## 5:40 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 Association 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 is encouraged to inform the director immediately. 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.:Americans With Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C. §12101 et seq.; 29 C.F.R. §1630.1 et seq., amended by the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act (ADAAA), Pub. L. 110-325.

Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 U.S.C. §791; 34 C.F.R. §104.1 et seq.

Department of Public Health Act, 20 ILCS 2305/6.

105 ILCS 5/24-5.

Personnel Record Review Act, 820 ILCS 40/.

Control of Communicable Diseases, 77 Ill.Admin.Code Part 690.

CROSS REF.:2:150 (Committees), 5:30 (Hiring Process and Criteria), 5:180 (Temporary Illness or Temporary Incapacity)

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

Special Education Association of Peoria County

## 5:50 Drug- and Alcohol-Free Workplace; Tobacco Prohibition

All Association workplaces are drug- and alcohol-free workplaces. All employees are prohibited from engaging in any of the following activities while on Association premises or while performing work for the Association:

1. Unlawful manufacture, dispensing, distribution, possession, or use of an illegal or controlled substance.
2. Distribution, consumption, use, possession, or being under the influence of an alcoholic beverage; being present on Association premises or while performing work for the Association when alcohol consumption is detectible, regardless of when and/or where the use occurred.
3. Possession or use of medical cannabis.

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.

As a condition of employment, each employee shall:

1. Abide by the terms of the 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 Association premises or while performing work for the Association, no later than 5 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 Association 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 Association may impose upon employees for violations of this policy.

### Tobacco Prohibition

All employees are covered by the conduct prohibitions contained in policy 8:30, *Visitors to and Conduct on School Property*. The prohibition on the use of tobacco products applies both (1) when an employee is on school property, and (2) while an employee is performing work for the Association at a school event regardless of the event's location. *Tobacco* shall have the meaning provided in section 10-20.5b of the School Code.

### Association Action Upon Violation of Policy

An employee who violates this policy may be subject to disciplinary action, including termination. Alternatively, the Board of Control 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 Association 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 Association receives contract or grant monies of the employee's conviction within 10 days after receiving notice of the conviction.

LEGAL REF.:Americans With Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C. §12114.

Compassionate Use of Medical Cannabis Pilot Program, 410 ILCS 130/.

Controlled Substances Act, 21 U.S.C. §812; 21 C.F.R. §1308.11-1308.15.

Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988, 41 U.S.C. §8101 et seq.

Safe and Drug-Free School and Communities Act of 1994, 20 U.S.C. §7101 et seq.

Drug-Free Workplace Act, 30 ILCS 580/.

105 ILCS 5/10-20.5b.

CROSS REF.:8:30 (Visitors to and Conduct on School Property)

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

## 5:60 Expenses

**Please refer to the applicable collective bargaining agreement.**

**For employees not covered by a current applicable bargaining agreement:**

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 District 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 District'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 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 reimbursement, or purchase order will be or was expended.
4. The nature of the official business conducted when the expense reimbursement, or purchase order will be or was expended.

### 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. Employees should seek pre-approval of expenses by providing an estimation of expenses on the Association's standardized estimated expense approval form for employees. Employees must seek reimbursement on the Association'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 Association 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. Copies of airline tickets 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 Collective Bargaining Agreement. 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, or other local transportation costs.

### Meals

Meals charged to the Association 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.

LEGAL REF.: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: March 8, 2019

**Special Education Association of Peoria County**

## **5:70 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 Association's operational needs. A per diem deduction may also be requested by the employee.

LEGAL REF.:Religious Freedom Restoration Act, 775 ILCS 35/15.

Illinois Human Rights Act, 775 ILCS 5/2-101 and 5/2-102.

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

**Special Education Association of Peoria County**

## 5:80 Court Duty

The Association will pay full salary during the time an employee is absent due to court duty or, pursuant to a subpoena, serves as a witness or has a deposition taken in any school-related matter pending in court.

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

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

LEGAL REF.:105 ILCS 5/10-20.7.

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

Special Education Association of Peoria County

## 5:90 Abused and Neglected Child Reporting

Any Association employee who suspects or receives knowledge that a student may be an abused or neglected child or, for a student aged 18 through 21, an abused or neglected individual with a disability, shall: (1) immediately report or cause a report to be made to the Illinois 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 Association employee who believes a student is in immediate danger of harm, shall first call 911. The employee shall also promptly notify the Director or Building Principal that a report has been made. The Director or Building Principal shall immediately coordinate any necessary notifications to the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) with DCFS, the applicable school resource officer (SRO), and/or local law enforcement.

Any Association 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 [report.cybertip.org/](http://report.cybertip.org/) or [www.cybertipline.com](http://www.cybertipline.com). The Director or Building Principal shall also be promptly notified of the discovery and that a report has been made.

Any Association employee who observes any act of hazing that does bodily harm to a student must report that act to the Building Principal, 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 Building Principal. Hazing is defined as any intentional, knowing, or reckless act directed to or required of a student for the purpose of being initiated into, affiliating with, holding office in, or maintaining membership in any group, organization, club, or athletic team whose members are or include other students.

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

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

All Association 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 one year of initial employment and at least every five years after that date.

The Director will encourage all Association educators to complete continuing professional development that addresses the traits and identifiers that may be evident in students who are victims of child sexual abuse, including recognizing and reporting child sexual abuse and providing appropriate follow-up and care for abused students as they

return to the classroom setting.

### Special Director Responsibilities

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

The Director shall notify the State Superintendent and the Regional Superintendent in writing when he or she has reasonable cause to believe that a license holder was dismissed or resigned from the Association as a result of an act that made a child an abused or neglected child. 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.

### 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 the Act, direct or cause the Board to direct the Director or other equivalent school administrator to comply with the Act's requirements concerning the reporting of child abuse.

LEGAL REF.:105 ILCS 5/10-21.9.

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), 5:20 (Workplace Harassment Prohibited), 5:100 (Staff Development Program), 5:120 (Employee Ethics; Conduct; and Conflict of Interest), 5:150 (Personnel Records), 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: March 8, 2019

**Special Education Association of Peoria County**

## 5:100 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. Additionally, the development program for licensed staff members shall be designed to effectuate the Association and School Improvement Plans so that student learning objectives meet or exceed goals established by the Association and State.

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 Association 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 Association 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 Association 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 kindergarten through 12 to identify the warning signs of mental illness and suicidal behavior in youth along with appropriate intervention and referral techniques.
5. Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act (ANCRA), School Code, and *Erin's Law* Training as follows:
  - a. Staff development for local school site personnel who work with students in grades kindergarten through 8, in the detection, reporting and prevention of child abuse and neglect (see policy 5:90, *Abused and Neglected Child Reporting*).
  - b. Within one year 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 five years (see policy 5:90, *Abused and Neglected Child Reporting*).
  - c. Informing educators about the recommendation in the *Erin's Law* Taskforce Report requesting them to attend continuing professional development programs that address the prevention and identification of child sexual abuse (see policy 5:90, *Abused and Neglected Child Reporting*).

6. Education for staff instructing students in grades 7 through 12, concerning teen dating violence as recommended by the Association's Nondiscrimination Coordinator, Building Principal, Assistant Building Principal, Dean of Students or Complaint Manager.
7. 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.
8. 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.
9. 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.
10. Training for school personnel to develop cultural competency, including understanding and reducing implicit racial bias.
11. For school personnel who work with hazardous or toxic materials on a regular basis, training on the safe handling and use of such materials.

The Director or designee 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.: Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010, 42 U.S.C. §1758b, Pub. L. 111-296.

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, 5/22-80(h), and 5/24-5.

105 ILCS 25/1.15, Interscholastic Athletic Organization 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.

23 Ill.Admin.Code §§ 22.20, 226.800, and Part 525.

77 Ill.Admin.Code §527.800.

CROSS REF.:3:40 (Director), 3:50 (Administrative Personnel Other Than the Director), 4:160 (Environmental Quality of Buildings and Grounds), 5:20 (Workplace Harassment Prohibited), 5:90 (Abused and Neglected Child Reporting), 5:120 (Employee Ethics; Conduct; and Conflict of Interest), 5:250 (Leaves of Absence), 6:15 (School Accountability), 6:20 (School Year Calendar and Day), 6:160 (English Learners), 7:10 (Equal Educational Opportunities), 7:20 (Harassment of Students Prohibited), 7:180 (Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment), 7:270 (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: March 8, 2019

Special Education Association of Peoria County

**5:110 Recognition for Service**

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

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

Special Education Association of Peoria County

## 5:120 Employee Ethics; Conduct; and Conflict of Interest

### Professional and Appropriate Conduct

All Association employees are expected to maintain high standards in their school relationships, to demonstrate integrity and honesty, to be considerate and cooperative, and to maintain professional and appropriate relationships with students, parents, staff members, and others. In addition, the *Code of Ethics for Illinois Educators*, adopted by the Illinois State Board of Education, is incorporated by reference into this policy. Any employee who sexually harasses a student or otherwise violates an employee conduct standard will be subject to discipline up to and including dismissal.

### Statement of Economic Interests

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

1. Director;
2. Building Principal;
3. Head of any department;
4. Any employee who, as the Association'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 of Control policy 2:105, *Ethics and Gift Ban*, applies to all Association 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 Section 22-5 of the School Code, "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 the Illinois State Board of Education 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 Association nor shall an employee act as an agent of any business in any transaction with the Association. This includes participation in the selection, award or administration of a contract supported by a federal award when the employee has a real or apparent conflict of interest as defined by 2 C.F.R. §200.318(c)(1). Employees shall

neither solicit nor accept gratuities, favors, or anything of monetary value from contractors, potential contractors, or parties to agreements or contracts. 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*.

### 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 Illinois Educators)

LEGAL REF.:U.S. Constitution, First Amendment.

2 C.F.R. §200.318(c)(1).

5 ILCS 420/4A-101 and 430/.

50 ILCS 135/.

105 ILCS 5/10-22.39 and 5/22-5.

775 ILCS 5/5A-102.

23 Ill.Admin.Code Part 22, Code of Ethics for Illinois 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), 4:60 (Purchases and Contracts), 5:100 (Staff Development Program)

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

Special Education Association of Peoria County

## 5:125 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 communication techniques through the use of web-based and mobile technologies to turn communication into interactive dialogue. This includes, but is not limited to, services such as *Facebook*, *LinkedIn*, *Twitter*, *Instagram*, *Snapchat*, and *YouTube*.

**Personal technology** - Any device that is not owned or leased by the Association or otherwise authorized for Association 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 laptop computers (e.g., laptops, ultrabooks, and chromebooks), tablets (e.g., iPads®, Kindle®, Microsoft Surface®, and other Android® platform or Windows® devices), smartphones (e.g., iPhone®, BlackBerry®, Android® platform phones, and Windows Phone®), and other devices (e.g., iPod®).

### Usage and Conduct

All Association employees who use personal technology and social media shall:

1. Adhere to the high standards for appropriate school relationships required by policy 5:120, *Employee Ethics; Conduct; and Conflict of Interest*, at all times, regardless of the ever-changing social media and personal technology platforms available. This includes Association 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 policy 5:20, *Workplace Harassment Prohibited*; 5:100, *Staff Development Program*; 5:120, *Employee Ethics; Conduct; and Conflict of Interest*; 6:235, *Access to Electronic Networks*; 7:20, *Harassment of Students Prohibited*; and the Ill. Code of Educator Ethics, 23 Ill.Admin.Code §22.20.
2. Choose a Association-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. Comply with policy 5:130, *Responsibilities Concerning Internal Information*. This means that personal technology and social media may not be used to share, publish, or transmit information about or images of students and/or Association employees without proper approval. For Association employees, proper approval may include implied consent under the circumstances.
5. Refrain from using the Association's logos without permission and follow Board policy 5:170, *Copyright*, and all Association copyright compliance procedures.
6. 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.

7. 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 Association 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.
8. 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 Association for any losses, costs, or damages, including reasonable attorney fees, incurred by the Association relating to, or arising out of, any violation of this policy.

The Director shall:

1. Inform Association employees about this policy during the in-service on educator ethics, teacher-student conduct, and school employee-student conduct.
2. Direct Building Principals and Special Education Administrators 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 no one for the Association, or on its behalf, requests of an employee or applicant access in any manner to his or her social networking website or requests passwords to such sites.
5. Periodically review this policy and any procedures with Association 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.

Ill. Human Rights Act, 775 ILCS 5/5A-102.

Code of Ethics for Ill. Educators, 23 Ill.Admin.Code §22.20.

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.:5:20 (Workplace Harassment Prohibited), 5:30 (Hiring Process and Criteria), 5:100 (Staff Development Program), 5:120 (Employee Ethics; 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: March 8, 2019

Special Education Association of Peoria County

## 5:130 Responsibilities Concerning Internal Information

Association 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 Association or used by the Association or its employees. The Director or designee shall manage procedures for safeguarding the integrity, security, and, as appropriate, confidentiality of internal information.

All personnel with access to human resource and/or financial systems databases must change their password for these systems at a minimum of twice each year

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 Association Public Records), 5:150 (Personnel Records), 7:340 (Student Records)

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

**Special Education Association of Peoria County**

**5:140 Solicitations By or From Staff**

Association 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: March 8, 2019

Special Education Association of Peoria County

## 5:150 Personnel 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 Association 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 Association'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 Association Public Records*.

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 execute the requirements in the Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act whenever another Association asks for a reference concerning an applicant who is or was a Association employee and was the subject of a report made by a Association employee to DCFS.

When requested for information about an employee by an entity other than a prospective employer, the Association will only confirm position and employment dates unless the employee has submitted a written request to the Director or designee.

LEGAL REF.:745 ILCS 46/10.

820 ILCS 40/.

23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.660.

CROSS REF.:2:250 (Access to Association's Public Records), 7:340 (Student Records)

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

## 5:170 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 Association 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 Association's copyright compliance procedures and to obey the copyright laws. The Association 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 Association'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 Association-owned computer. At no time shall it be necessary for a Association staff member to violate copyright laws in order to properly perform his or her duties.

LEGAL REF.:Federal Copyright Law of 1976, 17 U.S.C. §101 et seq.

105 ILCS 5/10-23.10.

CROSS REF.:6:235 (Access to Electronic Networks)

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

Special Education Association of Peoria County

## 5:180 Temporary Illness or Temporary Incapacity

**Please refer to the applicable collective bargaining agreement.**

**For employees not covered by a current applicable bargaining agreement:**

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, Association-paid insurance programs, etc.) will be deducted from the Association'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 Association does not contribute, are not applicable to this policy.

If illness, incapacity, or any other condition causes a teacher or other licensed employee 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 Association'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).

School District 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: October 11, 2019

## 5:185 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 uses any 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 servicemember (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 Association will substitute an employee's accrued compensatory time-off and/or paid leave for unpaid FMLA leave. 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 Association, 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, both of the following provisions must describe the employee:

1. The employee is employed at a worksite where at least 50 employees are employed within 75 miles; and
2. The employee has been employed by the District for at least 12 months and has been employed for at least 1,250 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 District need not be consecutive. However, the District will not consider any period of previous employment that occurred more than 7 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 District's intention to rehire the employee.

### 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 Association'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 Association 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 Association 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 Association may request recertification when the, (1) employee requests a leave extension, (2) circumstances described by the original certification change significantly, or (3) Association 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 Association within 15 calendar days after the request. The Association 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 Association 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 Association's obligation to maintain health insurance coverage ceases if an employee's premium payment is more than 30 days late and the Association 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 Association may impose as provided in the FMLA or implementing regulations, and (2) the Association'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.:Family and Medical Leave Act, 29 U.S.C. §2601 et seq., 29 C.F.R. Part 825.

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: March 8, 2019

Special Education Association of Peoria County

**Professional Personnel**

Special Education Association of Peoria County

## 5:190 Teacher Qualifications

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

1. Each teacher must:
  - a. Have a valid Illinois Professional Educator License issued by the State Director of Education with the required endorsements as provided in the School Code.
  - b. Provide the Association Office with a complete official transcript of credits earned in institutions of higher education.
  - c. On or before September 1 of each year, unless otherwise provided in an applicable collective bargaining agreement, provide the Association 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;
2. Through incentives for voluntary transfers, professional development, recruiting programs, or other effective strategies, ensure that minority students and students from low-income families are not taught at higher rates than other students by unqualified, out-of-field, or inexperienced teachers; and

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: March 8, 2019

Special Education Association of Peoria County

## **5:200 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 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, Duty-Free Lunch, Salary, Assignments and Transfers, Evaluation

**Please refer to the applicable collective bargaining agreement.**

### Nursing Mothers

The Association accommodates employees who are nursing mothers according to provisions in State and federal law.

### School Social Worker Services Outside of Association Employment

School social workers may not provide services outside of their Association employment to any student(s) attending school in any Association program or member district(s) to which they are assigned. *School social worker* has the meaning stated in 105 ILCS 5/14-1.09a.

### Dismissal

The Association will follow State law when dismissing a teacher.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/10-19, 5/10-20.60 (P.A. 100-356, final citation pending), 5/14-1.09a, 5/18-8, 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 260/1 et seq.

23 Ill.Admin.Code Parts 50 (Evaluation of Certified Employees) and 51 (Dismissal of Tenured Teachers).

Cleveland Bd. of Educ. v. Loudermill, 470 U.S. 532(1985).

CROSS REF.: 5:290 (Employment Termination and Suspensions), 6:20 (School Year Calendar and Day)

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

## 5:210 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., 842 N.E.2d 1230 (Ill.App.1st 2006).

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

Special Education Association of Peoria County

## 5:220 Substitute Teachers

### **Please refer to the applicable collective bargaining agreement.**

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 or short-term 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 District during the school year, except as follows:

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

The Illinois 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, 2020, 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 School Board establishes a daily rate of pay for substitute teachers. Substitute teachers receive only monetary compensation for time worked and no other benefits.

### Short-Term Substitute Teachers

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

### Emergency Situations

A substitute teacher may teach when no licensed teacher is under contract with the Board if the District has an emergency situation as defined in State law. During an emergency situation, a substitute teacher is limited to 30 calendar days of employment per each vacant position. The Director or designee 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 5/10-20.67 (P.A. 100-596, final citation pending), 5/21B-20(2),

5/21B-20(3), and 5/21B-20(4).

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

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

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

Special Education Association of Peoria County

## 5:230 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 employees, and persons providing a student's related service(s): (1) maintain discipline in the schools as required in the School Code, and (2) follow the Board of Control policies and administrative procedures on student conduct, behavior, and discipline.

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 Building Principal 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: March 8, 2019

**Special Education Association of Peoria County**

## 5:240 Suspension

### Suspension Without Pay

The Board of Control may suspend without pay: (1) a professional employee pending a dismissal hearing, or (2) a professional employee as a disciplinary measure for up to 30 employment days for misconduct that is detrimental to the Association. Administrative staff members may not be suspended without pay as a disciplinary measure.

Misconduct that is detrimental to the Association 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 Association's best interests, (2) as a disciplinary measure for misconduct that is detrimental to the Association 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 Association 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 Association, 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 Association 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.:5 ILCS 430/5-60(b).

105 ILCS 5/24-12.

325 ILCS 5/7.4(c-10).

Cleveland Bd. of Educ. v. Loudermill, 470 U.S. 532 (1985).

Barszcz v. Community College Association No. 504, 400 F.Supp. 675 (N.D. Ill., 1975).

Massie v. East St. Louis Sch. Association No.189, 203 Ill.App.3d 965 (5th Dist. 1990).

CROSS REF.:5:290 (Educational Support Personnel - Employment Termination and Suspensions)

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

**Special Education Association of Peoria County**

## 5:250 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, Leaves to Serve as an Officer or Trustee of a Specific Organization

#### **Please refer to the applicable collective bargaining agreement.**

The use of paid sick leave for adoption or placement for adoption is limited to 30 days unless a longer leave is provided in an applicable collective bargaining agreement. The Director may require that the employee provide evidence that the formal adoption process is underway.

### Child 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 child bereavement leave. The purpose, requirements, scheduling, and all other terms of the leave are governed by the Child Bereavement Leave Act. Child bereavement leave allows for: (1) attendance by the bereaved staff member at the funeral or alternative to a funeral of his or her child, (2) making arrangements necessitated by the death of the staff member's child, or (3) grieving the death of the staff member's child, without any adverse employment action.

The leave must be completed within 60 days after the date on which the employee received notice of the death of his or her child. However, in the event of the death of more than one child 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 Child Bereavement Leave Act. This policy does not create any right for an employee to take child bereavement leave that is inconsistent with the Child Bereavement Leave Act.

### Sabbatical Leave

Sabbatical leave may be granted in accordance with the School Code.

### Leave of Absence Without Pay

The Board may grant a leave of absence without pay to tenured professional staff members who have rendered satisfactory service and desire to return to employment in a similar capacity at a time determined by the Board.

Each leave of absence shall be of the shortest possible duration required to meet the leave's purpose consistent with a reasonable continuity of instruction for students.

### 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 Association, 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 Association's employees may be absent to serve as election judges on the same Election Day.

### Child-Rearing Leave

The Board may 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 must 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 winter recess.

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.

### Leave for Employment in Department of Defense

The Board may grant teachers a leave of absence to accept employment in a Dept. of Defense overseas school.

### School 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 or classroom activities related to the teacher's child, if the conference or activity 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 or Sexual Violence

An unpaid leave from work is available to any staff member who: (1) is a victim of domestic or sexual violence, or (2) has a family or household member who is a victim of domestic or sexual violence whose interests are not adverse to the employee as it relates to the domestic or sexual 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 Association employs at least 50 employees, an employee is entitled to a total of 12 work weeks of unpaid leave during any 12-month period. 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.).

#### LEGAL REF.:

10 ILCS 5/13-2.5

20 ILCS 1805/30.1 et seq.

105 ILCS 5/24-6, 5/24-6.1, 5/24-6.2, 5/24-6.3, 5/24-13, and 5/24-13.1.

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: March 8, 2019

**Special Education Association of Peoria County**

## 5:260 Student Teachers

The Director is authorized to accept students from university-approved teacher-training programs to do student teaching in the Association. 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, begin a required internship, or participate in any field experience in the Association, the Director or designee shall ensure that:

1. The Association or placing agency 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 Community Notification Law (730 ILCS 154/75-105).

The School Code requires each individual student teaching or beginning a required internship to provide the Association 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 Department of State Police, to the Department of State Police. 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 Association. Student teachers should be assigned to supervising teachers whose qualifications are acceptable to the Association and the students' respective colleges or universities.

LEGAL REF.: Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act, P.L. 109-248.

Uniform Conviction Information Act, 20 ILCS 2635/1.

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: March 8, 2019

**Special Education Association of Peoria County**

**Educational Support Personnel**

Special Education Association of Peoria County

## **5:270 Employment At-Will, Compensation, and Assignment**

### Employment At-Will

Unless otherwise specifically provided, Association employment is at-will, meaning that employment may be terminated by the Association 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 (Educational Support Personnel - Employment Termination and Suspensions)

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

**Special Education Association of Peoria County**

## 5:280 Duties and Qualifications

All support staff: (1) must meet qualifications specified in job descriptions, (2) must be able to perform the essential tasks listed and/or assigned, and (3) are subject to Board of 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 Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE).

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

### Noncertificated and Unlicensed Personnel Working with Students and Performing Non-Instructional Duties

Noncertificated and unlicensed 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
3. For non-teaching duties not requiring instructional judgment or student evaluation.

Nothing in this policy prevents a noncertificated person from serving as a guest lecturer or resource person under a certificated teacher's direction and with the administration's approval.

LEGAL REF.:34 C.F.R. §§200.58 and 200.59.

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.

23 Ill.Admin.Code §§1.630 and 25.510.

CROSS REF.:4:170 (Safety), 5:30 (Hiring Process and Criteria), 5:35 (Compliance with the Fair Labor Standards Act), 6:250 (Community Resource Persons and Volunteers)

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

# Special Education Association of Peoria County

## **5:290 Employment Termination and Suspensions**

### Resignation and Retirement

**Please refer to the applicable collective bargaining agreement.**

**For employees not covered by a current applicable bargaining agreement:**

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 Association 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.

### Reduction in Force and Recall

**Please refer to the applicable collective bargaining agreement.**

**For employees not covered by a current applicable bargaining agreement:**

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 Association. 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 Association 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 Association, 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 Association 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.: 5 ILCS 430 et seq.

105 ILCS 5/10-22.34c and 5/10-23.5.

325 ILCS 5/7.4(c-10).

820 ILCS 105/4a.

CROSS REF.: 5:240 (Professional Personnel - Suspension), 5:270 (Educational Support Personnel - Employment At-Will, Compensation, and Assignment)

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

**Special Education Association of Peoria County**

## 5:300 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 Association 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 Association 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: March 8, 2019

Special Education Association of Peoria County

## 5:320 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.

**Please refer to the applicable collective bargaining agreement.**

**For employees not covered by a current applicable 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.

CROSS REF.:5:10 (Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Recruitment), 5:150 (Personnel Records)

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

Special Education Association of Peoria County

## 5:330 Sick Days, Vacation, Holidays, and Leaves

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

**For employees not covered by a current applicable bargaining agreement or individual employee contract:**

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

Full or part-time educational support personnel who work at least 600 hours per year receive paid sick leave days according to the applicable benefit plan for their position. Part-time employees will receive sick leave pay equivalent to their regular workday. Unused sick leave shall accumulate to a maximum of 200 days, including the leave of the current year.

Sick leave is defined in State law as personal illness, quarantine at home, serious illness or death in the immediate family or household, or birth, adoption, or placement for adoption. The Director and/or designee shall monitor the use of sick leave.

As a condition for paying sick leave after three days absence for personal illness or 30 days for birth 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 chiropractic physician licensed under the Medical Practice Act, (3) an advanced practice registered nurse who has a written collaborative agreement with a collaborating physician that authorizes the advanced practice registered to perform health examinations, (4) a physician assistant who has been delegated the authority to perform health examinations by his or her supervising physician, or (5) 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 Association shall pay the expenses incurred by the employee.

The use of paid sick leave for adoption or placement for adoption is limited to 30 days unless a longer leave is provided in an applicable collective bargaining agreement. The Director may require that the employee provide evidence that the formal adoption process is underway.

### Vacation

Twelve-month employees shall be eligible for paid vacation days according to the applicable benefit plan for their position

### Holidays

Unless the Association 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 holiday listed below, Association employees will not be required to work on:

New Year's Day	Labor Day
Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday	Columbus Day
Presidents' Day	Veteran's Day
Casimir Pulaski's Birthday	Thanksgiving Day
Memorial Day	Christmas Day
Independence Day	

A holiday will not cause a deduction from an employee's time or compensation. The Association 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

All employees follow CBA except employers with individual contracts.

### 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. Leaves for Service in the Military and General Assembly.
2. School Visitation Leave.
3. Leaves for Victims of Domestic or Sexual Violence.
4. Child Bereavement Leave
5. Leave to serve as an election judge.

### LEGAL REF.:

20 ILCS 1805/30.1 et seq.

105 ILCS 5/10-20.7b, 5/24-2, and 5/24-6.

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: October 11, 2019

Special Education Association of Peoria County

**SECTION 6 - INSTRUCTION**

Special Education Association of Peoria County

## 6:10 Educational Philosophy and Objectives

The Association'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 life long 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 as needed a 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 (Association Philosophy), 3:10 (Goals and Objectives), 6:15 (School Accountability), 7:10 (Equal Educational Opportunities)

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

Special Education Association of Peoria County

## 6:15 School Accountability

According to the Illinois General Assembly, the primary purpose of schooling is the transmission of knowledge and culture through which students learn in areas necessary to their continuing development and entry into the world of work. To fulfill that purpose, the Ill. State Board of Education (ISBE) prepared State Goals for Learning with accompanying Illinois Learning Standards.

The Board of Control gives priority in the allocation of resources, including funds, time, personnel, and facilities, to fulfilling this purpose.

### Quality Assurance

The Board continuously monitors student achievement and the quality of the Association's work. The Director shall supervise the following quality assurance components, in accordance with State law and ISBE, and continuously keep the Board informed:

1. Prepare each school's annual recognition application and quality assurance appraisal, whether internal or external, to assess each school's continuous school improvement.
2. Continuously assess the Association's and each school's overall performance in terms of both academic success and equity. This includes, without limitation, a thorough analysis of ISBE's balanced accountability measure and each school's Multiple Measure Index and corresponding Annual Measurable Objective provided by ISBE.
3. If applicable, develop Association and School Improvement Plans, present them for Board approval, and supervise their implementation.
4. Prepare a school report card, present it at a regular Board meeting, and disseminate it as provided in State law.
5. In accordance with 105 ILCS 5/2-3.153, annually administer a climate survey on the instructional environment within the school to, at minimum, students in grades 4 through 12 and teachers.

### LEGAL REF.:

105 ILCS 5/2-3.25, 5/2-3.25a, 5/2-3.25b, 5/2-3.25c, 5/2-3.25d-5, 5/2-3.25e-5, 5/2-3.25f, 5/2-3.25f-5, 5/2-3.63, 5/2-3.64a-5, 5/2-3.153, 5/10-21.3a, and 5/27-1.

23 Ill.Admin.Code Part 1, Subpart A: Recognition Requirements.

CROSS REF.:7:10 (Equal Educational Opportunities)

Adopted: October 11, 2019

Special Education Association of Peoria County

## 6:20 School Year Calendar and Day

### School Calendar

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

### Commemorative Holidays

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

### School Day

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

LEGAL REF.:105 ILCS 5/10-19, 5/10-24.46, 5/18-12, 5/18-12.5, 5/24-2, 5/27-3, 5/27-18, 5/27-19, 5/27-20, 5/27-20.1, 5/27-20.2, and 20/1.

10 ILCS 5/11-4.1.

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 of Control; Indemnification), 5:200 (Terms and Conditions of Employment and Dismissal), 5:330 (Sick Days, Vacation, Holidays, and Leaves), 6:60 (Curriculum Content), 6:70 (Teaching About Religions), 7:90 (Release During School Hours)

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

Special Education Association of Peoria County

## 6:40 Curriculum Development

### Adoption

The Director shall recommend a comprehensive curriculum that is aligned with:

1. The Association's educational philosophy and goals,
2. Student needs as identified by research, demographics, and student achievement and other data,
3. The knowledge, skills, and abilities required for students to become life-long learners,
4. The minimum requirements of State and federal law and regulations for curriculum and graduation requirements,
5. The curriculum Association-wide and articulated across all grade levels,
6. The Illinois State Learning Standards and any Association learning standards, and
7. Any required State or federal student testing.

The Board of Control will adopt, upon recommendation of the Director, a curriculum that meets the above criteria.

### Experimental Educational Programs and Pilot Projects

The Director or designee may recommend experimental educational programs and/or pilot projects for Board consideration. Proposals must include goals, material needs, anticipated expenses, and an evaluation process. The Director shall submit to the Board periodic progress reports for programs that exceed one year in duration and a final evaluation with recommendation upon the program's completion.

### Single-Gender Classes and Activities

The Director or designee may recommend a program of nonvocational single-gender classes and/or activities to provide diverse educational opportunities and/or meet students' identified educational needs. Participation in the classes or activities must be voluntary, both genders must be treated with substantial equality, and the program must otherwise comply with State and federal law and with Board policy 7:10, *Equal Educational Opportunities*. The Director must periodically evaluate any single-gender class or activity to ensure that: (1) it does not rely on overly broad generalizations about the different talents, capabilities, or preferences of either gender, and (2) it continues to comply with State and federal law and with Board policy 7:10, *Equal Educational Opportunities*.

### Development

The Director or designee 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.

The Director shall report to the Board as appropriate, the curriculum review program's efforts to:

1. Regularly evaluate the curriculum and instructional program.
2. Ensure the curriculum continues to meet the stated adoption criteria.
3. Include input from a cross-section of teachers, administrators, parents/guardians, and students, representing all schools, grade levels, disciplines, and specialized and alternative programs.
4. Coordinate with the process for evaluating the instructional program and materials.

### Curriculum Guides and Course Outlines

The Director or designee shall develop and provide subject area curriculum guides to appropriate staff members.

### LEGAL REF.:

20 U.S.C. §1681, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, implemented by 34 C.F.R. Part 106.

105 ILCS 5/10-20.8 and 5/10-19.

CROSS REF.:6:60 (Curriculum Content), 6:65 (Student Social and Emotional Development), 6:70 (Teaching About Religions), 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), 6:135 (Accelerated Placement Program), 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)

Adopted: October 11, 2019

**Special Education Association of Peoria County**

## 6:50 School Wellness

Student wellness, including good nutrition and physical activity, shall be promoted in the Association'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 association run 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 District's comprehensive health education curriculum. See Board policy 6:60, *Curriculum Content*.

### Goals for Physical Activity

The goals for addressing physical activity include the following:

- Schools will support and promote an active lifestyle for students.
- Physical education will be taught in all grades and shall include a developmentally planned and sequential curriculum that fosters the development of movement skills, enhances health-related fitness, increases students' knowledge, offers direct opportunities to learn how to work cooperatively in a group setting, and encourages healthy habits and attitudes for a healthy lifestyle. See Board policy 6:60, *Curriculum Content* and Board policy 7:260, *Exemption from Physical Education*.
- During the school day, all students will be required to engage in a daily physical education course, unless otherwise exempted. See Board policy 6:60, *Curriculum Content* and Board policy 7:260, *Exemption from Physical Education*.
- The curriculum will be consistent with and incorporate relevant *Illinois Learning Standards for Physical Development and Health* as established by the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE).

### 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 that are consistent with Board policy 4:120, *Food Services* (requiring compliance with the nutrition standards specified in the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture's (USDA) *Smart Snacks* rules).

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
3. Prohibit marketing during the school day of foods and beverages that do not meet the standards listed in Board policy 4:120, *Food Services*, i.e., in-school marketing of food and beverage items must meet *competitive foods* standards.

*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.

ISBE rules prohibit EFDs for grades 8 and below in participating schools.

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 Association's related procedure(s), contact the Director or designee. The Association's procedures are subject to change. The number of EFDs for grades 9 through 12 in participating schools is set by ISBE rule.

### Guidelines for Reimbursable School Meals

Reimbursable school meals served shall meet, at a minimum, the nutrition requirements and regulations for the National School Lunch Program and/or School Breakfast Program.

### 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 Association's implementation of the policy
- The extent to which schools in the Association are 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 Association will make the results of the assessment available to the public
- Where the Association 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 of Control and the 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 school board, 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 Association's records retention protocols, and the Local Records Act.

LEGAL REF.: Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act of 2004, Pub. L. 108-265, Sec. 204.

Child Nutrition Act of 1966, 42 U.S.C. §1771 et seq.

National School Lunch Act, 42 U.S.C. §1751 et seq.

Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010, 42 U.S.C. §1758b, Pub. L. 111-296.

42 U.S.C. §1779, as implemented by 7 C.F.R. §§210.11 and 210.31.

Local Records Act, 50 ILCS 205/.

105 ILCS 5/2-3.139.

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), 4:120 (Food Services), 5:100 (Staff Development Program), 6:60 (Curriculum Content), 7:260 (Exemption from Physical Education), 8:10 (Connection with the Community)

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

## 6:60 Curriculum Content

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

1. In kindergarten through grade 8, subjects include: (a) language arts, (b) reading, (c) other communication skills, (d) science, (e) mathematics, (f) social studies, (g) art, (h) music, and (i) drug and substance abuse prevention. A reading opportunity of 60 minutes per day will be promoted for all students in kindergarten through grade 3 whose reading levels are one grade level or more lower than their current grade level. Before the completion of grade 5, students will be offered at least one unit of cursive instruction.
2. In grades 9 through 12, subjects include: (a) language arts, (b) writing intensive course, (c) science, (d) mathematics, (e) social studies including U.S. history, American government and, for students entering the 9th grade in the fall of 2016 and each year after it, one semester of civics, (f) foreign language, (g) music, (h) art, (i) driver and safety education, and (j) vocational education.

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

3. In grades 7 through 12, as well as in interscholastic athletic programs, steroid abuse prevention must be taught.
4. In kindergarten through grade 12, provided it can be funded by private grants or the federal government, violence prevention and conflict resolution must be stressed, including: (a) causes of conflict, (b) consequences of violent behavior, (c) non-violent resolution, and (d) relationships between drugs, alcohol, and violence.
5. In grades kindergarten through 12, age-appropriate Internet safety must be taught, the scope of which shall be determined by the Director or designee. The curriculum must incorporate policy 6:235, *Access to Electronic Networks* and, at a minimum, include: (a) education about appropriate online behavior, (b) interacting with other individuals on social networking websites and in chat rooms, and (c) cyberbullying awareness and response.

6. In all grades, character education must be taught including respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, trustworthiness, and citizenship in order to raise students' honesty, kindness, justice, discipline, respect for others, and moral courage.
7. In all schools, citizenship values must be taught, including: (a) patriotism, (b) democratic principles of freedom, justice, and equality, (c) proper use and display of the American flag, (d) the Pledge of Allegiance, and (e) the voting process.
8. In all grades, physical education must be taught including a developmentally planned and sequential curriculum that fosters the development of movement skills, enhances health-related fitness, increases students' knowledge, offers direct opportunities to learn how to work cooperatively in a group setting, and encourages healthy habits and attitudes for a healthy lifestyle. Unless otherwise exempted, all students are required to engage in a physical education course with such frequency as determined by the Board after recommendation from the Director, but at a minimum of three days per five-day week. For exemptions and substitutions, see policies 6:310, *High School Credit for Non-Association Experiences; Course Substitutions; Re-Entering Students* and 7:260, *Exemption from Physical Education*.
9. In all schools, health education must be stressed, including: (a) proper nutrition, (b) physical fitness, (c) components necessary to develop a sound mind in a healthy body, (d) dangers and avoidance of abduction, and (e) age-appropriate sexual abuse and assault awareness and prevention education in all grades. The Director or designee shall implement a comprehensive health education program in accordance with State law.
10. In all schools, career/vocational education must be taught, including: (a) the importance of work, (b) the development of basic skills to enter the world of work and/or continue formal education, (c) good work habits and values, (d) the relationship between learning and work, and (e) if possible, a student work program that provides the student with work experience as an extension of the regular classroom. A career awareness and exploration program must be available at all grade levels.
11. In grades 9 through 12, consumer education must be taught, including: (a) financial literacy, including consumer debt and installment purchasing (including credit scoring, managing credit debt, and completing a loan application); budgeting; savings and investing; banking (including balancing a checkbook, opening a deposit account, and the use of interest rates); understanding simple contracts; State and federal income taxes; personal insurance policies; the comparison of prices; higher education student loans; identity-theft security; and homeownership (including the basic process of obtaining a mortgage and the concepts of fixed and adjustable rate mortgages, subprime loans, and predatory lending); and (b) the roles of consumers interacting with agriculture, business, labor unions and government in formulating and achieving the goals of the mixed free enterprise system.
12. In all schools, conservation of natural resources must be taught, including: (a) home ecology, (b) endangered species, (c) threats to the environment, and (d) the importance of the environment to life as we know it.
13. In all schools, United States history must be taught, including: (a) the principles of representative government, (b) the Constitutions of the U.S. and Illinois, (c) the role

of the U.S. in world affairs, (d) the role of labor unions, and (e) the role and contributions of ethnic groups, including but not limited to, the African Americans, Albanians, Asian Americans, Bohemians, Czechs, French, Germans, Hispanics (including the events related to the forceful removal and illegal deportation of Mexican-American U.S. citizens during the Great Depression), Hungarians, Irish, Italians, Lithuanians, Polish, Russians, Scots, and Slovaks in the history of this country and State.

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

14. In grade 7 and all high school courses concerning U.S. history or a combination of U.S. history and American government, students must view a Congressional Medal of Honor film made by the Congressional Medal of Honor Foundation, provided there is no cost for the film.
15. In all schools, the curriculum includes instruction as determined by the Director or designee on the Holocaust and crimes of genocide, including Nazi atrocities of 1933-1945, Armenian Genocide, the Famine-Genocide in Ukraine, and more recent atrocities in Cambodia, Bosnia, Rwanda, and Sudan.
16. In all schools, the curriculum includes instruction as determined by the Director or designee on the history, struggles, and contributions of women.
17. In all schools, the curriculum includes instruction as determined by the Director or designee on Black History, including the history of the African slave trade, slavery in America, and the vestiges of slavery in this country, as well as the struggles and contributions of African-Americans.
18. In all schools offering a secondary agricultural education program, the curriculum includes courses as required by 105 ILCS 5/2-3.80.
19. In all schools, instruction during courses as determined by the Director or designee on disability history, awareness, and the disability rights movement.
20. In kindergarten through grade 8, education must be available to students concerning effective methods of preventing and avoiding traffic injuries related to walking and bicycling.

LEGAL REF.: Pub. L. No. 108-447, Section 111 of Division J, Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2005.

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

47 C.F.R. §54.520

5 ILCS 465/3 and 465/3a.

20 ILCS 2605/2605-480.

105 ILCS 5/2-3.80(e) and (f), 5/27-3, 5/27-3.5, 5/27-5, 5/27-6, 5/27-6.5, 5/27-7, 5/27-12, 5/27-12.1, 5/27-13.1, 5/27-13.2, 5/27-20.3, 5/27-20.4, 5/27-20.5, 5/27-20.7, 5/27-21, 5/27-22, 5/27-23.3, 5/27-23.4, 5/27-23.7, 5/27-23.8, 5/27-23.10, 5/27-23.11, 5/27-24.2, 435/, and 110/3.

625 ILCS 5/6-408.5.

23 Ill.Admin.Code §§1.420, 1.425, 1.430, and 1.440.

CROSS REF.:6:20 (School Year Calendar and Day), 6:40 (Curriculum Development), 6:70 (Teaching About Religions), 6:235 (Access to Electronic Networks), 7:180 (Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment), 7:185 (Teen Dating Violence Prohibited), 7:190 (Student Behavior), 7:260 (Exemption from Physical Education)

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

**Special Education Association of Peoria County**

## 6:65 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 Association's curriculum and other educational programs consistent with the Association'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 Association'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, Association-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 of 2003, 405 ILCS 49/.

CROSS REF.:1:30, (Association Philosophy), 6:10 (Educational Philosophy and Objectives), 6:40 (Curriculum Development), 6:60 (Curriculum Content), 6:270 (Guidance and Counseling Program), 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: March 8, 2019

Special Education Association of Peoria County

## 6:70 Teaching About Religions

The Association's curriculum may include the study of religions as they relate to geography, history, culture, and the development of various ethnic groups. The study of religions shall give neither preferential nor derogatory treatment to any single religion, religious belief, or to religion in general. The study of religions shall be treated as an academic subject with no emphasis on the advancement or practice of religion.

LEGAL REF.: School Dist. of Abington Twp v. Schempp, 374 U.S. 203 (1963).

Allegheny County v. ACLU Pittsburgh Chapter, 492 U.S. 573 (1989).

CROSS REF.: 6:20 (School Year Calendar and Day), 6:40 (Curriculum Development), 6:60 (Curriculum Content), 6:255 (Assemblies and Ceremonies)

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

Special Education Association of Peoria County

## **6:80 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 Association specifically reserves its right to stop any school-sponsored activity that it determines violates this policy, is harmful to the Association or the students, or violates State or federal law.

CROSS REF.:6:40 (Curriculum Development), 6:255 (Assemblies and Ceremonies)

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

**Special Education Association of Peoria County**

## **6:100 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.

LEGAL REF.:105 ILCS 5/2-3.122, 5/27-14, and 112/.

CROSS REF.:6:40 (Curriculum Development)

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

**Special Education Association of Peoria County**

## **6:110 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
- Counseling services by psychologists
- Psychological testing
- Truants' alternative and optional education program
- Alternative school placement
- Community agency services
- Alternative learning opportunities program, in conformity with the Alternative Learning Opportunities Law, as it may be amended from time to time
- Graduation incentives program
- Remediation program

Any student who is below the age of 20 years is eligible to enroll in a graduation incentives program if he or she:

1. Is considered a dropout according to State law;
2. Has been suspended or expelled;
3. Is pregnant or is a parent;
4. Has been assessed as chemically dependent; or
5. Is enrolled in a bilingual education or English Language Learners program.

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.:7:70 (Attendance and Truancy)

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

**Special Education Association of Peoria County**

## 6:120 Education of Children with Disabilities

The Association shall provide a free appropriate public education in the least restrictive environment and necessary related services to all children with disabilities enrolled in the Association, 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 3 and 21 (inclusive) for whom it is determined, through definitions and procedures described in the Ill. State Board of Education (ISBE) *Special Education* rules, that special education services are needed.

It is the intent of the Association 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 the IDEA.

For students eligible for services under IDEA, the Association shall follow procedures 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 Association 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.

The Association may enter in to intergovernmental agreements with other entities to assist the Association in fulfilling its obligations to the Association's disabled students.

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. §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: March 8, 2019

Special Education Association of Peoria County

## 6:135 Accelerated Placement Program

The Association provides an Accelerated Placement Program (APP). The APP advances the Association's goal of providing educational programs with opportunities for each student to develop to his or her maximum potential. The APP provides an educational setting with curriculum options usually reserved for students who are older or in higher grades than the student participating in the APP. APP options include, but may not be limited to: (a) accelerating a student in a single subject; (b) other grade-level acceleration; and (c) early entrance to kindergarten or first grade. Participation in the APP is open to all students who demonstrate high ability and who may benefit from accelerated placement. It is not limited to students who have been identified as gifted and talented. Eligibility to participate in the Association's APP shall not be conditioned upon the protected classifications identified in Board policy 7:10, *Equal Educational Opportunities*, or any factor other than the student's identification as an accelerated learner.

The Director or designee shall implement an APP that includes:

1. Decision-making processes that are fair, equitable, and involve multiple individuals, e.g. Association administrators, teachers, and school support personnel, and a student's parent(s)/guardian(s);
2. Notification processes that notify a student's parent(s)/guardian(s) of a decision affecting a student's participation in the APP; and
3. Assessment processes that include multiple valid, reliable indicators.

The Director or designee shall annually notify the community, parent(s)/guardian(s), students, and school personnel about the APP, the process for referring a student for possible evaluation for accelerated placement, and the methods used to determine whether a student is eligible for accelerated placement. Notification may: (a) include varied communication methods, such as student handbooks and Association or school websites; and (b) be provided in multiple languages, as appropriate.

LEGAL REF.:105 ILCS 5/14A.

CROSS REF.:6:10 (Educational Philosophy and Objectives), 7:10 (Equal Educational Opportunities)

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

Special Education Association of Peoria County

## 6:140 Education of Homeless Children

Each child of a homeless individual and each homeless youth has equal access to the same free, appropriate public education as provided to other children and youths, including a public pre-school education. A *homeless child* is defined as provided in the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act and the Ill. Education for Homeless Children Act. The Director or designee shall act as or appoint a Liaison for Homeless Children to coordinate this policy's implementation.

A homeless child may attend the Association school that the child attended when permanently housed or in which the child was last enrolled. A homeless child living in any Association school's attendance area may attend that school.

The Director or designee shall review and revise rules or procedures that may act as barriers to the enrollment of homeless children and youths. In reviewing and revising such procedures, consideration shall be given to issues concerning transportation, immunization, residency, birth certificates, school records and other documentation, and guardianship. Transportation shall be provided in accordance with the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act and State law. The Director or designee shall give special attention to ensuring the enrollment and attendance of homeless children and youths who are not currently attending school. If a child is denied enrollment or transportation under this policy, the Liaison for Homeless Children shall immediately refer the child or his or her parent/guardian to the ombudsperson appointed by the Regional Superintendent and provide the child or his or her parent/guardian with a written explanation for the denial. Whenever a child and his or her parent/guardian who initially share the housing of another person due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar hardship continue to share the housing, the Liaison for Homeless Children may, after the passage of 18 months and annually thereafter, conduct a review as to whether such hardship continues to exist in accordance with State law.

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

Ill. Education for Homeless Children Act, 105 ILCS 45/.

CROSS REF.:2:260 (Uniform Grievance Procedure), 7:10 (Equal Educational Opportunities), 7:60 (Residence), 7:100 (Health, Eye, and Dental Examinations; Immunizations; and Exclusion of Students)

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

Special Education Association of Peoria County

## 6:145 Migrant Students

The Association will support the needs of migrant children in member districts.

This support will include a means to:

1. Identify migrant students and assess their educational and related health and social needs.
2. Provide a full range of services to migrant students through appropriate local, State and federal educational programs, including applicable Title I programs, special education, gifted education, vocational education, language programs, counseling programs, and elective classes.
3. Provide migrant children with full and appropriate opportunities to meet the same challenging State academic standards that all children are expected to meet.
4. Provide advocacy and outreach programs to migrant children and their families and professional development for Association staff.
5. Provide programs, activities, and procedures for the engagement of parents/guardians and family members of migrant students in an understandable format and language.

### Migrant Education Program for Parent/Guardian and Family Member Engagement

Parents/guardians and family members of migrant students will be involved in and regularly consulted about the development, implementation, operation, and evaluation of the migrant program.

Parents/guardians and family members of migrant students will receive instruction regarding their role in improving the academic achievement of their children.

LEGAL REF.:20 U.S.C. §6318.

20 U.S.C. §6391 et seq.

34 C.F.R. §200.80 et seq.

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

Special Education Association of Peoria County

## **6:150 Home and Hospital Instruction**

A student who is absent from school, or whose physician, physician assistant, or advanced practice registered nurse anticipates that the student will be absent from school, because of a medical condition may be eligible for instruction in the student's home or hospital. Eligibility shall be determined by State law and the Illinois State Board of Education rules governing (1) the continuum of placement options for students who have been identified for special education services or (2) the home and hospital instruction provisions for students who have not been identified for special education services. Appropriate educational services from qualified staff will begin no later than five school days after receiving a physician's written statement. Instructional or related services for a student receiving special education services will be determined by the student's individualized education program.

A student who is unable to attend school because of pregnancy will be provided home instruction, correspondence courses, or other courses of instruction (1) before the birth of the child when the student's physician, physician assistant, or advanced practice registered nurse indicates, in writing, that she is medically unable to attend regular classroom instruction, and (2) for up to three months after the child's birth or a miscarriage.

Periodic conferences will be held between appropriate school personnel, parent(s)/guardian(s), and hospital staff to coordinate course work and facilitate a student's return to school.

LEGAL REF.:105 ILCS 5/10-22.6a, 5/14-13.01, and 5/18-4.5.

23 Ill.Admin.Code §§1.520, 1.610, and 226.300.

CROSS REF.:6:120 (Education of Children with Disabilities), 7:10 (Equal Educational Opportunity), 7:280 (Communicable and Chronic Infectious Disease)

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

**Special Education Association of Peoria County**

## 6:160 English Learners

The Association offers support to member districts in providing opportunities for resident English Learners to achieve at high levels in academic subjects and to meet the same challenging State academic standards that all children are expected to meet. The Director or designee will work with member districts to develop and maintain a program for English Learners that will:

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

### Parent Involvement

Parents/guardians of English Learners will be informed how they can: (1) be involved in the education of their children, and (2) be active participants in assisting their children to attain English proficiency, achieve at high levels within a well-rounded education, and meet the challenging State academic standards expected of all students.

LEGAL REF.:20 U.S.C. §§6312, 6314, 6315, and 6318.

20 U.S.C. §6801 et seq.

34 C.F.R. Part 200.

105 ILCS 5/14C-1 et seq.

23 Ill.Admin.Code Part 228.

CROSS REF.:6:15 (School Accountability)

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

Special Education Association of Peoria County

## 6:210 Instructional Materials

All Association 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 maintain a list or description of textbooks and instructional materials used in the Association. 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.:6:40 (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: March 8, 2019

## **6:230 Library Media Program**

The Director or designee shall manage the Association's library media program to comply with (1) State law and Ill. State Board of Education (ISBE) rule and (2) the following standards:

1. The program includes an organized collection of resources available to students and staff to supplement classroom instruction, foster reading for pleasure, enhance information literacy, and support research, as appropriate to students of all abilities in the grade levels served.
2. Financial resources for the program's resources and supplies are allocated to meet students' needs.
3. Students in all grades served have equitable access to library media resources.
4. The advice of an individual who is qualified according to ISBE rule is sought regarding the overall direction of the program, including the selection and organization of materials, provision of instruction in information and technology literacy, and structuring the work of library paraprofessionals.
5. Staff members are invited to recommend additions to the collection.
6. Students may freely select resource center materials as well as receive guided selection of materials appropriate to specific, planned learning experiences.

LEGAL REF.:23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.420(o).

CROSS REF.:6:60 (Curriculum Content), 6:210 (Instructional Materials)

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

**Special Education Association of Peoria County**

## 6:235 Access to Electronic Networks

Electronic networks, including the Internet, are a part of the Association's instructional program and serve to promote educational excellence by facilitating resource sharing, innovation, and communication. The Director shall develop an implementation plan for this policy and appoint system administrator(s).

The Association 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 Association 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 Association's electronic networks shall: (1) be consistent with the curriculum adopted by the Association 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 Association's electronic network is part of the curriculum and is not a public forum for general use.

### Acceptable Use

All use of the Association'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. Students and staff members have no expectation of privacy in any material that is stored, transmitted, or received via the Association's electronic networks or Association computers. General rules for behavior and communications apply when using electronic networks. The Association's administrative procedure, *Acceptable Use of the Association'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 Association 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 Association's Electronic Networks* as a condition for using the Association's electronic network. Each student and his or her parent(s)/guardian(s) must sign the *Authorization* before being granted unsupervised use.

All users of the Association'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.

The failure of any student or staff member to follow the terms of the Association's administrative procedure, *Acceptable Use of the Association's Electronic Networks*, or this policy, will result in the loss of privileges, disciplinary action, and/or appropriate legal action.

LEGAL REF.: No Child Left Behind Act, 20 U.S.C. §6777.

Children's Internet Protection Act, 47 U.S.C. §254(h) and (l).

Enhancing Education Through Technology Act, 20 U.S.C §6751 et seq.

47 C.F.R. Part 54, Subpart F, Universal Service Support for Schools and Libraries.

720 ILCS 5/26.5.

CROSS REF.: 5:100 (Staff Development Program), 5:170 (Copyright), 6:40 (Curriculum Development), 6:60 (Curriculum Content), 6:210 (Instructional Materials), 6:220 (Bring Your Own Technology (BYOT) Program; Responsible Use and Conduct), 6:230 (Library Media Program), 6:260 (Complaints About Curriculum, Instructional Materials, and Programs), 7:130 (Student Rights and Responsibilities), 7:190 (Student Behavior), 7:310 (Restrictions on Publications; Elementary Schools)

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

# Special Education Association of Peoria County

## 6:240 Field Trips and Recreational Class Trips

Field trips are permissible when the experiences are a part of the school curriculum and/or contribute to the Association'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 Association 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 Association staff members, shall not be represented as or construed to be sponsored by the Association or school. The Association does not provide liability protection for privately arranged trips and is not responsible for any damages arising from them.

### Recreational Class Trips

Recreational class trips are permissible provided they do not interfere with the Association's educational goals. The provisions in this policy concerning field trips are also applicable to recreational class trips, except those regarding educational value.

LEGAL REF.:105 ILCS 5/29-3.1.

CROSS REF.:6:10 (Educational Philosophy and Objectives), 7:10 (Equal Educational Opportunities), 7:270 (Administering Medicines to Students)

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

Special Education Association of Peoria County

## 6:250 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 certificated teacher's immediate supervision;
4. To assist in times of violence or other traumatic incidents within the Association 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 certificated 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: March 8, 2019

Special Education Association of Peoria County

## 6:255 Assemblies and Ceremonies

Assemblies must be approved by the Director or designee and be consistent with the Association's educational objectives.

The Association 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, 112 S.Ct. 2649 (1992).

Santa Fe Independent Association v. Doe, 120 S.Ct. 2266 (2000).

Jones v. Clear Creek Independent Association, 977 F.2d 963 (5th Cir., 1992), *reh'g denied*, 983 F.2d 234 (5th Cir., 1992) and *cert. denied*, 113 S.Ct. 2950 (1993).

CROSS REF.: 6:70 (Teaching About Religion), 6:80 (Teaching About Controversial Issues)

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

Special Education Association of Peoria County

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

Persons with suggestions or complaints about curriculum, instructional materials, and programs should complete a curriculum objection form and/or use the Uniform Grievance Procedure. 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.

CROSS REF.:2:260 (Uniform Grievance Procedure), 8:110 (Public Suggestions and Concerns)

ADOPTED:March 8, 2019

**Special Education Association of Peoria County**

## **6:270 Guidance and Counseling Program**

The Association provides a guidance and counseling program for students. The Director or designee shall direct the Association's guidance and counseling program. School counseling services, as described by State law, may be performed by a qualified guidance specialist or any certificated staff member.

Each staff member is responsible for effectively guiding students under his/her supervision in order to provide early identification of intellectual, emotional, social, or physical needs, diagnosis of any learning disabilities, and development of educational potential. The Association's counselors shall offer counseling to those students who require additional assistance.

The guidance program will assist students to identify career options consistent with their abilities, interests, and personal values. Students shall be encouraged to seek the help of counselors to develop specific curriculum goals that conform to the student's career objectives. High school juniors and seniors will have the opportunity to receive career-oriented information. Representatives from colleges and universities, occupational training institutions and career-oriented recruiters, including the military, may be given access to the school campus in order to provide students and parents/guardians with information.

LEGAL REF.:105 ILCS 5/10-22.24a and 5/10-22.24b.

23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.420(q).

CROSS REF.: 6:65 (Student Social and Emotional Development), 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), 7:100 (Health, Eye, and Dental Examinations; Immunizations; and Exclusion of Students), 7:250 (Student Support Services), 7:290 (Suicide and Depression Awareness and Prevention)

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

**Special Education Association of Peoria County**

**SECTION 7 - STUDENTS**

Special Education Association of Peoria County

## 7:10 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 Association 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 Association 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 Director of Education (pursuant to 105 ILCS 5/2-3.8).

### Administrative Implementation

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

LEGAL REF.: 20 U.S.C. §1681 et seq., Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, implemented by 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 (P.A.s 100-29 and 100-163, final citations pending), 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), 6:65 (Student Social and Emotional Development), 7:20 (Harassment of Students Prohibited), 7:60 (Residence), 7:130 (Student Rights and Responsibilities), 7:160 (Student Appearance), 7:180 (Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment), 7:250 (Student Support Services), 7:330 (Student Use of Buildings - Equal Access), 7:340 (Student Records), 8:20 (Community Use of School Facilities)

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

Special Education Association of Peoria County

## 7:10-E Exhibit - Equal Educational Opportunities Within the School Community

The Association 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 Association. 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 Association 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 Association'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 Association'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: March 8, 2019

## 7:15 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 Association's educational objectives as identified in Board of Control 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 and regardless of 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 Association 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.

### Survey 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 Association) 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.

## Selling or Marketing Students' Personal Information Is Prohibited

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.

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 parents/guardians at least annually, at the beginning of the school year, and within a reasonable period after any substantive change in this policy.

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.

325 ILCS 17/, Children's Privacy Protection and Parental Empowerment Act.

105 ILCS 5/10-20.38.

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: March 8, 2019

## 7:20 Harassment of Students Prohibited

### Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment Prohibited

No person, including a Association 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 Association 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

Sexual harassment of students is prohibited. Any person, including a Association employee or agent, or student, engages in sexual harassment whenever he or she makes sexual advances, requests sexual favors, and/or engages in other verbal or physical conduct, including sexual violence, of a sexual or sex-based nature, imposed on the basis of sex, that:

1. Denies or limits the provision of educational aid, benefits, services, or treatment; or that makes such conduct a condition of a student's academic status; or
2. Has the purpose or effect of:
  - a. Substantially interfering with a student's educational environment;
  - b. Creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive educational environment;
  - c. Depriving a student of educational aid, benefits, services, or treatment; or
  - d. Making submission to or rejection of such conduct the basis for academic decisions affecting a student.

The terms *intimidating*, *hostile*, and *offensive* include conduct that has the effect of humiliation, embarrassment, or discomfort. Examples of sexual harassment include touching, crude jokes or pictures, discussions of sexual experiences, teasing related to sexual characteristics, and spreading rumors related to a person's alleged sexual activities. The term *sexual violence* includes a number of different acts. Examples of sexual violence include, but are not limited to, rape, sexual assault, sexual battery, sexual abuse, and sexual coercion.

### Making a Complaint; Enforcement

Students are encouraged to report claims or incidences of bullying, harassment, sexual harassment, or any other prohibited conduct to the Nondiscrimination Coordinator, Building Principal, Assistant Building Principal, Dean of Students, a Complaint Manager, or any staff member with whom the student is comfortable speaking. A student may choose to report to a person of the student's same sex. Complaints will be kept confidential to the extent possible given the need to investigate. Students who make good faith complaints will not be disciplined.

An allegation that a student was a victim of any prohibited conduct perpetrated by another student shall be referred to the Building Principal, Assistant Building Principal, or Dean of Students for appropriate action.

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

### **Nondiscrimination Coordinator:**

Dave Ptak

Name

4812 W. Pfeiffer Rd., Bartonville, IL 61607

Address

dptak@seapco.org

Email

309-697-0880

Telephone

### **Complaint Managers:**

Dave Ptak

Alison Childers

Name

Name

4812 W. Pfeiffer Rd., Bartonville, IL 61607

4812 W. Pfeiffer Rd., Bartonville, IL 61607

Address

Address

dptak@seapco.org

achilders@seapco.org

Email

Email

309-697-0880

309-697-0880

Telephone

Telephone

The Director shall use reasonable measures to inform staff members and students of this policy, such as, by including it in the appropriate handbooks.

Any Association 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 Association 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 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.

105 ILCS 5/10-20.12, 10-22.5, 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), 5:20 (Workplace Harassment Prohibited), 7:10 (Equal Educational Opportunities), 7:180 (Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment), 7:190 (Student Behavior)

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

**Special Education Association of Peoria County**

## 7:60 Residence

### Resident Students

Only students who are residents of a member district of the Association may attend an Association school without board approval, except as otherwise provided below or in State law. A student's residence is the same as the person who has legal custody of the student.

A student whose family moves out of an Association member district during the school year will be permitted to attend school for the remainder of the year.

### Requests for Nonresident Student Admission

Nonresident students may attend Association schools upon the approval of a request submitted by the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) for nonresident admission. The Board of Control may approve the request subject to the following:

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

### Admission of Nonresident Students Pursuant to an Agreement or Order

Nonresident students may attend Association schools pursuant to:

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

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

105 ILCS 5/10-20.12a, 5/10-20.12b, and 5/10-22.5.

105 ILCS 45/ and 70/.

23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.240.

Israel S. by Owens v. Board of Educ. of Oak Park and River Forest High School Dist.

200, 601 N.E.2d 1264 (Ill.App.1, 1992).

Joel R. v. Board of Education of Manheim Association 83, 686 N.E.2d 650 (Ill.App.1, 1997).

Kraut v. Rachford, 366 N.E.2d 497 (Ill.App.1, 1977).

CROSS REF.:6:140 (Education of Homeless Children), 7:70 (Attendance and Truancy)

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

Special Education Association of Peoria County

## **7:70 Attendance and Truancy**

### Compulsory School Attendance

The Association works to support member districts regarding compulsory school attendance, absenteeism, and truancy laws and regulations.

LEGAL REF.:105 ILCS 5/26-1 through 16.

705 ILCS 405/3-33.5, Juvenile Court Act of 1987.

23 Ill.Admin.Code §§1.242 and 1.290.

CROSS REF.:6:110 (Programs for Students At Risk of Academic Failure and/or Dropping Out of School and Graduation Incentives Program), 6:150 (Home and Hospital Instruction), 7:10 (Equal Educational Opportunities), 7:60 (Residence), 7:80 (Release Time for Religious Instruction/Observance), 7:190 (Student Behavior), 7:340 (Student Records)

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

**Special Education Association of Peoria County**

## **7:80 Release Time for Religious Instruction/Observance**

A student shall be released from school, as an excused absence, to observe a religious holiday or for religious instruction. The student's parent/guardian must give written notice to the Building Principal at least five calendar days before the student's anticipated absence(s). This notice shall satisfy the Association's requirement for a written excuse when the student returns to school.

The Director shall develop and distribute to teachers appropriate procedures regarding student absences for religious reasons and include a list of religious holidays on which a student shall be excused from school attendance, 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.:Religious Freedom Restoration Act, 775 ILCS 35/.

105 ILCS 5/26-1 and 5/26-2b.

CROSS REF.:7:70 (Attendance and Truancy)

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

**Special Education Association of Peoria County**

### **7:90 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: March 8, 2019

**Special Education Association of Peoria County**

## **7:100 Health, Eye, and Dental Examinations; Immunizations; and Exclusion of Students**

Required health examinations and immunizations are the responsibility of constituent member districts.

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

105 ILCS 5/27-8.1 and 45/1-20.

410 ILCS 45/7.1 and 315/2e.

23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.530.

77 Ill.Admin.Code Part 665.

77 Ill.Admin.Code Part 690.

CROSS REF.:6:140 (Education of Homeless Children), 7:280 (Communicable and Chronic Infectious Disease)

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

**Special Education Association of Peoria County**

## 7:130 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 Association 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 Association, 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: March 8, 2019

Special Education Association of Peoria County

## **7:150 Agency and Police Interviews**

The Director or designee 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) minimize potential disruption, (3) foster a cooperative relationship with public agencies and law enforcement, and (4) comply with State law.

LEGAL REF.: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.:7:130 (Student Rights and Responsibilities), 7:190 (Student Behavior)

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

**Special Education Association of Peoria County**

## 7:160 Student Appearance

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

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

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

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

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

Special Education Association of Peoria County

## **7:170 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: March 8, 2019

Special Education Association of Peoria County

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

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

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

### Definitions from Section 27-23.7 of the School Code (105 ILCS 5/27-23.7)

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

1. Placing the student or students in reasonable fear of harm to the student's or students' person or property;
2. Causing a substantially detrimental effect on the student's or students' physical or mental health;
3. Substantially interfering with the student's or students' academic performance; or
4. Substantially interfering with the student's or students' ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities, or privileges provided by a school.

*Cyberbullying* means bullying through the use of technology or any electronic communication, including without limitation any transfer of signs, signals, writing, images, sounds, data, or intelligence of any nature transmitted in whole or in part by a wire, radio,

electromagnetic system, photo-electronic system, or photo-optical system, including without limitation electronic mail, Internet communications, instant messages, or facsimile communications. *Cyberbullying* includes the creation of a webpage or weblog in which the creator assumes the identity of another person or the knowing impersonation of another person as the author of posted content or messages if the creation or impersonation creates any of the effects enumerated in the definition of *bullying*. *Cyberbullying* also includes the distribution by electronic means of a communication to more than one person or the posting of material on an electronic medium that may be accessed by one or more persons if the distribution or posting creates any of the effects enumerated in the definition of *bullying*.

*Restorative measures* means a continuum of school-based alternatives to exclusionary discipline, such as suspensions and expulsions, that: (i) are adapted to the particular needs of the school and community, (ii) contribute to maintaining school safety, (iii) protect the integrity of a positive and productive learning climate, (iv) teach students the personal and interpersonal skills they will need to be successful in school and society, (v) serve to build and restore relationships among students, families, schools, and communities, and (vi) reduce the likelihood of future disruption by balancing accountability with an understanding of students' behavioral health needs in order to keep students in school.

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

### Bullying Prevention and Response Plan

The Director or designee shall develop and maintain a bullying prevention and response plan that advances the Association's goal of providing all students with a safe learning environment free of bullying and harassment. This plan must be consistent with the requirements listed below; each numbered requirement, 1-12, corresponds with the same number in the list of required policy components in 105 ILCS 5/27-23.7(b) 1-12.

1. The Association uses the definition of *bullying* as provided in this policy.
2. Bullying is contrary to State law and the policy of this Association. However, nothing in the Association's bullying prevention and response plan is intended to infringe upon any right to exercise free expression or the free exercise of religion or religiously based views protected under the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution or under Section 3 of Article I of the Illinois Constitution.
3. Students are encouraged to immediately report bullying. A report may be made orally or in writing to the Nondiscrimination Coordinator, Building Principal, Assistant Building Principal, Dean of Students, a Complaint Manager, or any staff member with whom the student is comfortable speaking. Anyone, including staff members and parents/guardians, who has information about actual or threatened bullying is encouraged to report it to the Association named officials or any staff member. The Association named officials and all staff members are available for help with a bully

or to make a report about bullying. Anonymous reports are also accepted.

### **Nondiscrimination Coordinator:**

Dave Ptak

Name

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### **Complaint Managers:**

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4. Consistent with federal and State laws and rules governing student privacy rights, the Director or designee shall promptly inform the parent(s)/guardian(s) of every student involved in an alleged incident of bullying and discuss, as appropriate, the availability of social work services, counseling, school psychological services, other interventions, and restorative measures.
5. The Director or designee shall promptly investigate and address reports of bullying, by, among other things:
  - a. Making all reasonable efforts to complete the investigation within 10 school days after the date the report of a bullying incident was received and taking into consideration additional relevant information received during the course of the investigation about the reported bullying incident.
  - b. Involving appropriate school support personnel and other staff persons with knowledge, experience, and training on bullying prevention, as deemed appropriate, in the investigation process.
  - c. Notifying the Building Principal or school administrator or designee of the reported incident of bullying as soon as possible after the report is received.

- d. Consistent with federal and State laws and rules governing student privacy rights, providing parents/guardians of the students who are parties to the investigation information about the investigation and an opportunity to meet with the Building Principal or school administrator or his or her designee to discuss the investigation, the findings of the investigation, and the actions taken to address the reported incident of bullying.

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

6. The Director or designee shall use interventions to address bullying, that may include, but are not limited to, school social work services, restorative measures, social-emotional skill building, counseling, school psychological services, and community-based services.
7. A reprisal or retaliation against any person who reports an act of bullying is **prohibited**. A student's act of reprisal or retaliation will be treated as *bullying* for purposes of determining any consequences or other appropriate remedial actions.
8. A student will not be punished for reporting bullying or supplying information, even if the Association's investigation concludes that no bullying occurred. However, knowingly making a false accusation or providing knowingly false information will be treated as *bullying* for purposes of determining any consequences or other appropriate remedial actions.
9. The Association's bullying prevention and response plan must be based on the engagement of a range of school stakeholders, including students and parents/guardians.
10. The Director or designee shall post this policy on the Association's website, if any, and include it in the student handbook, and, where applicable, post it where other policies, rules, and standards of conduct are currently posted. The policy must be distributed annually to parents/guardians, students, and school personnel (including new employees when hired), and must also be provided periodically throughout the school year to students and faculty.
11. The Director or designee shall assist the Board with its evaluation and assessment of this policy's outcomes and effectiveness. This process shall include, without limitation:
  - a. The frequency of victimization;
  - b. Student, staff, and family observations of safety at a school;
  - c. Identification of areas of a school where bullying occurs;
  - d. The types of bullying utilized; and
  - e. Bystander intervention or participation.

The evaluation process may use relevant data and information that the Association already collects for other purposes. The Director or designee must post the information developed as a result of the policy evaluation on the Association's website, or if a

website is not available, the information must be provided to school administrators, Board members, school personnel, parents/guardians, and students.

12. The Director or designee shall fully implement the Board policies, including without limitation, the following:
  - a. 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*. A student may use this policy to complain about bullying.
  - b. 6:60, *Curriculum Content*. Bullying prevention and character instruction is provided in all grades in accordance with State law.
  - c. 6:65, *Student Social and Emotional Development*. Student social and emotional development is incorporated into the Association's educational program as required by State law.
  - d. 6:235, *Access to Electronic Networks*. This policy states that the use of the Association's electronic networks is limited to: (1) support of education and/or research, or (2) a legitimate business use.
  - e. 7:20, *Harassment of Students Prohibited*. This policy prohibits *any* person from harassing, intimidating, or bullying a student based on an identified actual or perceived characteristic (the list of characteristics in 7:20 is the same as the list in this policy).
  - f. 7:190, *Student Behavior*. This policy prohibits, and provides consequences for, hazing, bullying, or other aggressive behaviors, or urging other students to engage in such conduct.
  - g. 7:310, *Restrictions on Publications; Elementary Schools*. This policy prohibits students from and provides consequences for: (1) accessing and/or distributing at school any written, printed, or electronic material, including material from the Internet, that will cause substantial disruption of the proper and orderly operation and discipline of the school or school activities, and (2) creating and/or distributing written, printed, or electronic material, including photographic material and blogs, that causes substantial disruption to school operations or interferes with the rights of other students or staff members.

LEGAL REF.: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 (Board Policy Development), 2:260 (Uniform Grievance Procedure), 4:170 (Safety), 5:230 (Maintaining Student Discipline), 6:60 (Curriculum Content), 6:65 (Student Social and Emotional Development), 6:235 (Access to Electronic Networks), 7:20 (Harassment of Students Prohibited), 7:190 (Student Behavior), 7:220 (Bus Conduct), 7:230 (Misconduct by Students with Disabilities), 7:285

(Food Allergy Management Program), 7:310 (Restrictions on Publications; Elementary Schools)

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

Special Education Association of Peoria County

## 7:185 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 who is 13 to 19 years of age 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 Director or designee shall develop and maintain a program to respond to incidents of teen dating violence that:

1. Fully implements and enforces each of the following Board policies:
  - a. 7:20, *Harassment of Students Prohibited*. This policy prohibits any person from harassing, intimidating, or bullying a student based on the student's actual or perceived characteristics of sex; sexual orientation; gender identity; and gender-related identity or expression (this policy includes more protected statuses).
  - b. 7:180, *Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment*. This policy prohibits students from engaging in bullying, intimidation, and harassment at school, school-related events and electronically. Prohibited conduct includes threats, stalking, physical violence, sexual harassment, sexual violence, theft, public humiliation, destruction of property, or retaliation for asserting or alleging an act of bullying.
2. Encourages anyone with information about incidents of teen dating violence to report them to any of the following individuals:
  - a. Any school staff member. School staff shall respond to incidents of teen dating violence by following the District's established procedures for the prevention, identification, investigation, and response to bullying and school violence.
  - b. The Nondiscrimination Coordinator, Building Principal, Assistant Building Principal, Dean of Students, or a Complaint Manager identified in policy 7:20, *Harassment of Students Prohibited*.
3. Incorporates age-appropriate instruction in grades 7 through 12, in accordance with the District's comprehensive health education program in Board policy 6:60, *Curriculum Content*. This includes incorporating student social and emotional development into the District's educational program as required by State law and in alignment with Board policy 6:65, *Student Social and Emotional Development*.
4. Incorporates education for school staff, as recommended by the Nondiscrimination Coordinator, Building Principal, Assistant Building Principal, Dean of Students, or a Complaint Manager.
5. Notifies students and parents/guardians of this policy.

Incorporated

by Reference:7:180-AP1, (Prevention, Identification, Investigation, and Response to Bullying)

LEGAL REF.:105 ILCS 110/3.10.

CROSS REF.:2:240 (Board Policy Development), 5:100 (Staff Development Program), 5:230 (Maintaining Student Discipline), 6:60 (Curriculum Content), 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), 7:220 (Bus Conduct), 7:230 (Misconduct by Students with Disabilities), 7:240 (Conduct Code for Participants in Extracurricular Activities)

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

Special Education Association of Peoria County

## 7:190 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 Building Principal, all electronic devices must be kept powered-off and out-of-sight during the regular school day unless: (a) the supervising teacher grants permission; (b) use of the device is provided in a student's 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 Association 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 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 Building Principal or designee shall ensure that the student is properly supervised.
7. After-school study or Saturday study provided the student's parent/guardian has been notified. If transportation arrangements cannot be agreed upon, an alternative disciplinary measure must be used. The student must be supervised by the detaining

teacher or the Building Principal or designee.

8. Community service with local public and nonprofit agencies that enhances community efforts to meet human, educational, environmental, or public safety needs. The Association will not provide transportation. School administration shall use this option only as an alternative to another disciplinary measure, giving the student and/or parent/guardian the choice.
9. Seizure of contraband; confiscation and temporary retention of personal property that was used to violate this policy or school disciplinary rules.
10. Suspension of bus riding privileges in accordance with Board policy 7:220, *Bus Conduct*.
11. Out-of-school suspension from school and all school activities in accordance with Board policy 7:200, *Suspension Procedures*. A student who has been suspended may also be restricted from being on school grounds and at school activities.
12. Expulsion from school and all school activities for a definite time period not to exceed 2 calendar years in accordance with Board policy 7:210, *Expulsion Procedures*. A student who has been expelled may also be restricted from being on school grounds and at school activities.
13. Transfer to an alternative program if the student is expelled or otherwise qualifies for the transfer under State law. The transfer shall be in the manner provided in Article 13A or 13B of the School Code.
14. Notifying juvenile authorities or other law enforcement whenever the conduct involves criminal activity, including 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 Association 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.

School staff members shall not use isolated time out and physical restraints other than as permitted in Section 10-20.33 of the School Code, State Board of Education rules, and procedures developed by the Director. Neither isolated time out nor physical restraints shall be used to discipline or punish a student.

### 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 (430ILCS65/), 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 Building Principal in the event that he or she: (1) observes any person in possession of a firearm on or around school grounds; however, such action may be delayed if immediate notice would endanger students under his or her supervision, (2) observes or has reason to suspect that any person on school grounds is or was involved in a drug-related incident, or (3) observes a battery committed against any staff member. Upon receiving such a report, the Building Principal or designee shall immediately notify the local law enforcement agency, Ill. Dept. of 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, Building Principal, Assistant Building Principal, or Dean of Students is authorized to impose the same disciplinary measures as teachers and may suspend students guilty of gross disobedience or misconduct from school (including all school functions) and from riding the school bus, up to ten consecutive school days, provided the appropriate procedures are followed. The Board may suspend a student from riding the bus in excess of ten school days for safety reasons.

### Student Handbook

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

A student handbook, including the Association 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, 5/31-3, and 110/3.10.

410 ILCS 130/, Compassionate Use of Medical Cannabis Pilot Program.

410 ILCS 647/, Powdered Caffeine Control and Education Act.

430 ILCS 66/, Firearm Concealed Carry Act.

23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.280.

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), 7:150 (Agency and Police Interviews), 7:160 (Student Appearance), 7:170 (Vandalism), 7:180 (Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment ), 7:200 (Suspension Procedures), 7:210 (Expulsion Procedures), 7:220 (Bus Conduct), 7:230 (Misconduct by Students with Disabilities), 7:270 (Administering Medicines to Students),

7:310 (Restrictions on Publications; Elementary Schools), 8:30 (Visitors to and Conduct on School Property)

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

Special Education Association of Peoria County

## 7:200 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 the Department of Human Services 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.:105 ILCS 5/10-22.6.

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

Sieck v. Oak Park River-Forest High School, 807 F.Supp. 73 (N.D. Ill., E.D., 1992).

CROSS REF.:5:100 (Staff Development Program), 7:130 (Student Rights and Responsibilities), 7:190 (Student Behavior), 7:220 (Bus Conduct)

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

Special Education Association of Peoria County

## 7:210 Expulsion Procedures

The Association shall support member districts in implementing expulsion procedures that provide, at a minimum, for the following:

1. Before a student may be expelled, the student and his or her parent(s)/guardian(s) shall be provided 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 shall:
  - a. Include the time, date, and place for the hearing.
  - b. Briefly describe what will happen during the hearing.
  - c. Detail the specific act of gross disobedience or misconduct resulting in the decision to recommend expulsion.
  - d. List the student's prior suspension(s).
  - e. State 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.
  - f. Ask that the student or parent(s)/guardian(s) or attorney inform the Director or Board Attorney if the student will be represented by an attorney and, if so, the attorney's name and contact information.
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 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. Whenever there is evidence that mental illness may be the cause for the recommended expulsion, the Director or designee shall invite a representative from the Dept. of Human Services to consult with the Board.
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. School officials must provide: (1) testimony of any other interventions attempted and exhausted or of their determination that no other appropriate and available interventions were available for the student, and (2) evidence of the threat or disruption posed by the student. 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 existed 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 operation of the school.
5. Upon expulsion, the Association may refer the student to appropriate and available support services.

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

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

CROSS REF.:5:100 (Staff Development Program), 7:130 (Student Rights and Responsibilities), 7:190 (Student Behavior), 7:200 (Suspension Procedures), 7:230 (Misconduct by Students with Disabilities)

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

**Special Education Association of Peoria County**

## 7:220 Bus Conduct

All students must follow the Association's *School Bus Safety Rules*.

### School Bus Suspensions

The Director, or any designee as permitted in the School Code, is authorized to suspend a student from riding the school bus for up to 10 consecutive school days for engaging in gross disobedience or misconduct, including but not limited to, the following:

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

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

### Electronic Recordings on School Buses

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

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

LEGAL REF.: Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, 20 U.S.C. §1232g; 34 C.F.R. Part 99.

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

720 ILCS 5/14-3(m).

23 Ill.Admin.Code Part 375, Student Records.

CROSS REF.: 4:170 (Safety), 7:130 (Student Rights and Responsibilities), 7:170 (Vandalism), 7:190 (Student Behavior), 7:200 (Suspension Procedures), 7:230 (Misconduct by Students with Disabilities), 7:340 (Student Records)

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

Special Education Association of Peoria County

## 7:230 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 Association 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 Association shall comply with the Individuals With Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004 and the Illinois State Board of Education's *Special Education* rules when disciplining special education students. No special education student shall be expelled if the student's particular act of gross disobedience or misconduct is a manifestation of his or her disability.

LEGAL REF.: Individuals With Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004, 20 U.S.C. §§1412, 1413, 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), 7:220 (Bus Conduct)

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

**Special Education Association of Peoria County**

## 7:250 Student Support Services

The following student support services may be provided by the Association:

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. Speech/Language Pathology.
5. Vision Services.
6. Hearing Services.
7. Adapted P.E.
8. Occupational Therapy.
9. Physical Therapy.
10. Child Find Screening.
11. Consultant Teachers.

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

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.:405 ILCS 49/, Children's Mental Health Act of 2003.

740 ILCS 110/, Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities Confidentiality Act.

105 ILCS 5/10-20.58.

CROSS REF.:6:65 (Student Social and Emotional Development), 6:270 (Guidance and Counseling Program), 7:100 (Health, Eye, and Dental Examinations; Immunizations; and Exclusion of Students), 7:280 (Communicable and Chronic Infectious Diseases), 7:340 (Student Records)

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

## 7:260 Exemption from Physical Education

In order to be excused from participation in physical education, a student must present an appropriate excuse from his or her parent/guardian or from a person licensed under the Medical Practice Act. The excuse may be based on medical or religious prohibitions. An excuse because of medical reasons must include a signed statement from a person licensed under the Medical Practice Act that corroborates the medical reason for the request. An excuse based on religious reasons must include a signed statement from a member of the clergy that corroborates the religious reason for the request.

Special activities in physical education will be provided for a student whose physical or emotional condition, as determined by a person licensed under the Medical Practice Act, prevents his or her participation in the physical education course.

State law prohibits the Board from honoring parental excuses based upon a student's participation in athletic training, activities, or competitions conducted outside the auspices of the Association.

A student who is eligible for special education may be excused from physical education courses in either of the following situations:

1. He or she (a) is in grades 3-12, (b) his or her IEP requires that special education support and services be provided during physical education time, and (c) the parent/guardian agrees or the IEP team makes the determination; or
2. He or she (a) has an IEP, (b) is participating in an adapted athletic program outside of the school setting, and (c) the parent/guardian documents the student's participation as required by the Director or designee.

A student requiring adapted physical education must receive that service in accordance with his or her Individualized Educational Program/Plan (IEP).

Students in grades 7 and 8 may submit a written request to the Building Principal to be excused from physical education courses because of his or her ongoing participation in an interscholastic or extracurricular athletic program. The Building Principal will evaluate requests on a case-by-case basis.

The Director or designee shall maintain records showing that the criteria set forth in this policy were applied to the student's individual circumstances, as appropriate.

Students who have been excused from physical education shall return to the course as soon as practical. The following considerations will be used to determine when a student shall return to a physical education course:

1. The time of year when the student's participation ceases;
2. The student's class schedule; and
3. The student's future or planned additional participation in activities qualifying for substitutions for physical education as outlined in policy 6:310, *High School Credit for Non-District Experiences; Course Substitutions; Re-Entering Students*.

225 ILCS 60/, Medical Practice Act.

23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.420(p) and §1.425(d), (e).

CROSS REF.:6:60 (Curriculum Content)

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

Special Education Association of Peoria County

## 7:270 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 Association's procedures on dispensing medication.

No Association employee shall administer to any student, or supervise a student's self-administration of, any prescription or non-prescription medication until a completed and signed *School Medication Authorization Form* is submitted by the student's parent/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 Building Principal shall include this policy in the Student Handbook and shall provide a copy to the parent(s)/guardian(s) of students.

### Self-Administration of Medication

A student may possess 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 a *School Medication Authorization Form*. The Association shall incur no liability, except for willful and wanton conduct, as a result of any injury arising from a student's self-administration of medication or epinephrine injector or the storage of any medication by school personnel. A student's parent/guardian must indemnify and hold harmless the Association 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 and/or medication, or the storage of any medication by school personnel.

### Void Policy

The **Association Supply of Undesignated Asthma Medication** section of the policy is void whenever the Director or designee is, for whatever reason, unable to: (1) obtain for the Association a prescription for undesignated asthma medication from a physician or advanced practice nurse licensed to practice medicine in all its branches, or (2) fill the Association's prescription for undesignated school asthma medication.

The **Designated Caregiver Administration of Medical Cannabis** section of the policy is void and the Association reserves the right not to implement it if the Association or school is in danger of losing federal funding.

### Administration of Undesignated Medication

Upon any administration of an undesignated asthma medication, the Director or

designee(s) must ensure all notifications required by State law and administrative procedures occur.

### Disclaimers

Upon implementation of this policy, the protections from liability and hold harmless provisions as explained in Section 22-30(c) of the School Code apply.

No one, including without limitation parent(s)/guardian(s) of students, should rely on the Association for the availability of undesignated asthma medication. This policy does not guarantee the availability of undesignated medications. Students and their parent(s)/guardian(s) 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.

410 ILCS 130/, Compassionate Use of Medical Cannabis Pilot Program Act, and scheduled to be repealed on July 1, 2020.

720 ILCS 550/, Cannabis Control Act.

23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.540.

CROSS REF.:7:285 (Food Allergy Management)

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

**Special Education Association of Peoria County**

## 7:275 Orders to Forgo Life-Sustaining Treatment

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

Whenever an order to forgo life-sustaining treatment is received, the Director shall convene a multi-disciplinary team that includes:

1. The student, when appropriate;
2. The student's parent(s)/guardian(s);
3. Other medical professionals, e.g., licensed physician, physician's assistant, or nurse practitioner;
4. Local first responders for the building in which the student is assigned to attend school;
5. The school nurse;
6. Clergy, if requested by the student or his or her parent(s)/guardians(s);
7. Other individuals to provide support to the student or his or her parent(s)/guardian(s); and
8. School personnel designated by the Director.

The team shall determine guidelines to be used by school staff members in the event the child suffers a life-threatening episode at school or a school event.

The Association personnel shall convey orders to forgo life-sustaining treatment to the appropriate emergency or healthcare provider.

LEGAL REF.: Health Care Surrogate Act, 755 ILCS 40/.

Cruzan v. Director, Missouri Dept. of Health, 497 U.S. 261 (1990).

In re C.A., a minor, 236 Ill.App.3d 594 (1st Dist. 1992).

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

Special Education Association of Peoria County

## **7:280 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.

410 ILCS 315/2a.

23 Ill.Admin.Code §§ 1.610 and 226.300.

77 Ill.Admin.Code Part 690.

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

Rehabilitation Act, Section 504, 29 U.S.C. §794(a).

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

**Special Education Association of Peoria County**

## 7:285 Food Allergy Management Program

School attendance may increase a student's risk of exposure to allergens that could trigger a food-allergic reaction. A food allergy is an adverse reaction to a food protein mediated by the immune system which immediately reacts causing the release of histamine and other inflammatory chemicals and mediators. While it is not possible for the Association to completely eliminate the risks of exposure to allergens when a student is at school, a Food Allergy Management Program using a cooperative effort among students' families, staff members, and students helps the Association reduce these risks and provide accommodations and proper treatment for allergic reactions.

The Director or designee shall develop and implement a Food Allergy Management Program that:

1. Fully implements the following goals established in the School Code: (a) identifying students with food allergies, (b) preventing exposure to known allergens, (c) responding to allergic reactions with prompt recognition of symptoms and treatment, and (d) educating and training all staff about management of students with food allergies, including administration of medication with an injector, and providing an in-service training program for staff who work with students that is conducted by a person with expertise in anaphylactic reactions and management.
2. Follows and references the applicable best practices specific to the Association's needs in the joint State Board of Education and Ill. Dept. of Public Health publication *Guidelines for Managing Life-Threatening Food Allergies in Schools*, available at:  
[www.isbe.net/Documents/food\\_allergy\\_guidelines.pdf](http://www.isbe.net/Documents/food_allergy_guidelines.pdf).
3. Complies with State and federal law and is in alignment with Board policies.

LEGAL REF.:105 ILCS 5/2-3.149 and 5/10-22.39.

*Guidelines for Managing Life-Threatening Food Allergies in Schools (Guidelines)*, jointly published by the State Board of Education and Ill. Dept. of Public Health.

CROSS REF.:4:120 (Food Services), 4:170 (Safety), 5:100 (Staff Development Program), 6:120 (Education of Children with Disabilities), 6:240 (Field Trips), 7:250 (Student Support Services), 7:270 (Administering Medicines to Students), 8:100 (Relations with Other Organizations and Agencies)

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

Special Education Association of Peoria County

## 7:290 Suicide and Depression Awareness and Prevention

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

### Suicide and Depression Awareness and Prevention Program

The 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. Implementation will incorporate paragraph number 2, above, along with:
  - a. Board policy 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 Association's educational program);
  - b. Board policy 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;

- c. Board policy 7:250, *Student Support Services*, implementing the Children's Mental Health Act of 2003, 405 ILCS 49/ (requiring protocols for responding to students with social, emotional, or mental health issues that impact learning ability); and
  - d. 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-recommend resources on youth suicide awareness and prevention programs, including current contact information for such programs in the Association's Suicide and Depression Awareness and Prevention Program.

### Illinois Suicide Prevention Strategic Planning Committee

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

### Monitoring

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

### Information to Staff, Parents/Guardians, and Students

The Director shall inform each Association employee about this policy and ensure its posting on the Association's website. The Director or designee or the member district shall provide a copy of this policy to the parent or legal guardian of each student enrolled in the Association school.

### Implementation

This policy shall be implemented in a manner consistent with State and federal laws, including the Children's Mental Health Act of 2003, 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 Association, 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 Association, (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.:105 ILCS 5/2-3.166, 5/14-1.01 et seq., 5/14-7.02, and 5/14-7.02b.

745 ILCS 10/.

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

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

**Special Education Association of Peoria County**

## 7:310 Restrictions on Publications; Elementary Schools

### School-Sponsored Publications and Web Sites

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

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

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

### Non-School Sponsored Publications 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, MP3 files, flash memory, etc.), or combinations of these whether off-line (e.g., a printed book, CD-ROM, 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., data 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 Association.

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

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

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 5/27-23.7

Hazelwood v. Kuhlmeier, 108 S.Ct. 562 (1988).

Hedges v. Wauconda Community Unit School Dist. No. 118, 9 F.3d 1295 (7th Cir. 1993).

Tinker v. Des Moines Indep. Cmty. Sch. Dist., 89 S.Ct. 733 (1969).

CROSS REF.:6:235 (Access to Electronic Networks), 7:180 (Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment), 8:25 (Advertising and Distributing Materials in School Provided by Non-School Related Entities)

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

Special Education Association of Peoria County

## 7:315 Restrictions on Publications; High Schools

### Definitions

*School official* means a Building Principal or designee.

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

*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 Association 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 the Board of Control policies. Student journalists may not use 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 Association's policies, including but not limited to (1) its educational mission in policies 1:30, *Association Philosophy* and 6:10, *Educational Philosophy and Objectives*, and (2) speech that is socially inappropriate or inappropriate due to the maturity of the students pursuant to policies 6:65, *Student Social and Emotional Development*, and 7:180, *Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment*; or
  - c. Materially and substantially disrupt the orderly operation of the school.

All school-sponsored media shall comply with the ethics and rules of responsible journalism. Text that fits into numbers one (1) through four (4) above will not be tolerated and school officials and student media advisers may edit or delete such media material.

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

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 Association 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, MP3 files, flash memory, etc.), or combinations of these whether off-line (e.g., a printed book, CD-ROM, 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., data 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 Association.

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

6. Will cause a material and substantial disruption of the proper and orderly operation and discipline of the school or school activities;
7. Violates the rights of others, including but not limited to material that is libelous, slanderous or obscene, or invades the privacy of others, or infringes on a copyright;
8. 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;
9. Is reasonably viewed as promoting illegal drug use;
10. Is distributed in kindergarten through eighth grade and is primarily prepared by non-students, unless it is being used for school purposes. However, material from outside sources or the citation to such sources may be allowed, as long as the material to be distributed or accessed is primarily prepared by students; or
11. 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 5/27-23.7

Speech Rights of Student Journalists Act, 105 ILCS 80/.

Hazelwood v. Kuhlmeier, 108 S.Ct. 562 (1988).

Hedges v. Wauconda Community Unit School Dist. No. 118, 9 F.3d 1295 (7th Cir. 1993).

Tinker v. Des Moines Indep. Cmty. Sch. Dist., 89 S.Ct. 733 (1969)

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

CROSS REF.:1:30 (Association 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 School Provided by Non-School Related Entities)

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

Special Education Association of Peoria County

## 7:325 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 Education 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 Association 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 (Activity Funds), 4:120 (Food Services), 8:80 (Gifts to the Association), 8:90 (Parent Organizations and Booster Clubs)

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

# Special Education Association of Peoria County

## 7:330 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 noncurricular 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 Association 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 Education Opportunities), 8:20 (Community Use of School Facilities)

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

## 7:340 Student Records

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

1. Records kept in a staff member's sole possession.
2. Records maintained by law enforcement 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 17 years who has been arrested or taken into custody.

State and federal law grants students and parents/guardians certain rights, including the right to inspect, copy, and 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 Association may release directory information as permitted by law, but a parent/guardian shall have the right to object to the release of information regarding his or her child. However, the Association will comply with an *ex parte* court order requiring it to permit the U.S. Attorney General or designee to have access to a student's school records without notice to, or the consent of, the student's parent/guardian. Upon request, the Association discloses school student records without consent to officials of another Association in which a student has enrolled or intends to enroll, as well as to any person as specifically required 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, implemented by 34 C.F.R. Part 99.

50 ILCS 205/7.

105 ILCS 5/10-20.21b, 5/20.37, 5/20.40, and 5/14-1.01 et seq.

105 ILCS 10/, Ill. School Student Records Act.

325 ILCS 17/, Children's Privacy Protection and Parental Empowerment Act.

750 ILCS 5/602.11, Ill. Marriage and Dissolution of Marriage Act.

23 Ill.Admin.Code Parts 226 and 375.

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

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

CROSS REF.:5:100 (Staff Development Program), 5:130 (Responsibilities Concerning Internal Information), 7:15 (Student and Family Privacy Rights), 7:220 (Bus Conduct)

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

**Special Education Association of Peoria County**

**SECTION 8 - COMMUNITY RELATIONS**

Special Education Association of Peoria County

## 8:10 Connection with the Community

### Public Relations

The Board Chairperson is the official spokesperson for the Board of Control. The Director is the Association's chief spokesperson. The Director or designee shall plan and implement a Association public relations program that will:

1. Develop community understanding of Association operation.
2. Gather community attitudes and desires for the Association.
3. Secure adequate financial support for a sound educational program.
4. Help the community feel a more direct responsibility for the quality of education provided by their Association.
5. Earn the community's good will, respect, and confidence.
6. Promote a genuine spirit of cooperation between the Association and the community.
7. Keep the news media accurately informed.
8. Coordinate with the Association Safety Coordinator to provide accurate and timely information to the appropriate individuals during an emergency.

The public relations program should include:

1. Regular news releases concerning Association programs, policies, activities, and special event management for distribution by, for example, posting on the Association website or sending to the news media.
2. News conferences and interviews, as requested or needed. The Board Chairperson and Director will coordinate their respective media relations efforts. Individuals may speak for the Association only with prior approval from the Director.
3. Publications having a high quality of editorial content and effective format. All publications shall identify the Association, school, department, or classroom and shall include the name of the Director, the Building Principal, and/or the author and the publication date.
4. Other efforts that highlight the Association's programs and activities.

### 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 Association's schools or programs.

The Board, in consultation with the Director, determines the purpose(s) and objective(s) of any community engagement initiative. For each community engagement initiative, the Board will commit to the determined purpose(s) and objective(s), and provide information about the expected nature of the public's involvement; the Director or designee will identify the effective tools and tactics that will advance the Board's purpose(s) and objective(s).

CROSS REF.:2:110 (Qualifications, Term, and Duties of Board Officers)

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

Special Education Association of Peoria County

## 8:20 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 Association. The use of school facilities for school purposes has precedence over all other uses. The Association 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 Association'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.: Boy Scouts of America Equal Access Act, 20 U.S.C. §7905.

10 ILCS 5/19-2.2.

105 ILCS 5/10-20.40, 5/10-22.10, and 5/29-3.5.

Good News Club v. Milford Central School, 121 S.Ct. 2093 (2001).

Lamb's Chapel v. Center Moriches Union Free Association, 113 S.Ct. 2141 (1993).

Rosenberger v. Rector and Visitors of Univ. of Va., 515 U.S. 819 (1995).

CROSS REF.: 7:330 (Student Use of Building - 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: March 8, 2019

Special Education Association of Peoria County

## 8:25 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 Association 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 may purchase space for their advertisements in or on: (1) athletic field fences; (2) athletic, theater, or music programs; (3) student newspapers or yearbooks; (4) scoreboards; or (5) other appropriate locations. The advertisements must be consistent with this policy and its implementing procedures and be appropriate for display in a school context. Prior approval from the Board is needed for advertisements on athletic fields, scoreboards, or other building locations. Prior approval is needed from the Director or designee for advertisements on athletic, theater, or music programs; student newspapers and yearbooks; and any commercial material related to graduation, class pictures, or class rings.

No individual or entity may advertise or promote its interests by using the names or pictures of the Association, any Association school or facility, staff members, or students except as authorized by and consistent with administrative procedures and approved by the Board.

Material from candidates and political parties will not be accepted for posting or distribution, except when used as part of the curriculum.

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: March 8, 2019

Special Education Association of Peoria County

## 8:30 Visitors to and Conduct on School Property

The following definitions apply to this policy:

**School property** - Association 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 event.

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

All visitors to school property are required to report to the Building Principal's or the Association'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 and friends are invited onto school property, visitors are not required to sign in but must follow school officials' instructions. Persons on school or Association 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 by telephone or email 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 Association 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, a Board member, sports official or coach, or any other person.
2. Behave in an unsportsmanlike manner, or use vulgar or obscene language.
3. Unless specifically permitted by State law, possess a weapon, any object that can reasonably be considered a weapon or looks like a weapon, or any dangerous device.
4. Damage or threaten to damage another's property.
5. Damage or deface school property.
6. Violate any Illinois law, or town or county ordinance.
7. Smoke or otherwise use tobacco products.
8. Distribute, consume, use, possess, or be under the influence of an alcoholic beverage or illegal drug; be present when the person's alcohol or illegal drug consumption is detectable, regardless of when and/ or where the use occurred.
9. Use or possess medical cannabis.
10. Impede, delay, disrupt, or otherwise interfere with any school activity or function

(including using cellular phones in a disruptive manner).

11. Enter upon any portion of school premises at any time for purposes other than those that are lawful and authorized by the Board.
12. Operate a motor vehicle: (a) in a risky manner, (b) in excess of 20 miles per hour, or (c) in violation of an authorized Association employee's directive.
13. Engage in any risky behavior, including roller-blading, roller-skating, or skateboarding.
14. Violate other Association policies or regulations, or a directive from an authorized security officer or Association employee.
15. Engage in any conduct that interferes with, disrupts, or adversely affects the Association or a School function.

### Convicted Child Sex Offender

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

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

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.**

**For employees not covered by a current applicable bargaining agreement:**

Authorized agents of an exclusive bargaining representative, upon notifying the Building Principal's office, may meet with a school employee (or group of employees) in the school building during duty-free times of such employees.

### Enforcement

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

Any person who engages in conduct prohibited by this policy may be ejected from 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., 730 N.E.2d 96 (Ill.App.4, 2000).

Pro-Children Act of 1994, 20 U.S.C. §7181 et seq.

105 ILCS 5/10-20.5b, 5/24-24, and 5/24-25.

410 ILCS 130/, Compassionate Use of Medical Cannabis Pilot Program.

430 ILCS 66/, Firearm Concealed Carry Act.

720 ILCS 5/11-9.3.

CROSS REF.: 4:170 (Safety), 5:50 (Drug- and Alcohol-Free Workplace; Tobacco Prohibition), 6:120 (Education of Children with Disabilities), 6:250 (Community Resource Persons and Volunteers), 7:190 (Student Behavior), 8:20 (Community Use of School Facilities)

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

**Special Education Association of Peoria County**

## 8:70 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 Association 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 Association 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 Association's compliance efforts, recommend necessary modifications to the Board of Control, and maintain the Association'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 Building Principal 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 12131et 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 Expansion Programs)

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

# Special Education Association of Peoria County

## 8:80 Gifts to the Association

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 Association, 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 Association's mandate to provide equal educational and extracurricular opportunities to all students in the Association as provided in Board policy 7:10, *Equal Educational Opportunities*. State and federal laws require the Association to provide equal treatment for members of both sexes to educational programming, extracurricular activities, and athletics. This includes the distribution of athletic benefits and opportunities.
4. Permit the Association 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 Association 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 Association will provide equal treatment to all individuals and entities seeking to donate money or a gift. Upon acceptance, all gifts become the Association's property. The acceptance of a gift is not an endorsement by the Board, Association, 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: March 8, 2019

## **8:95 Parental Involvement**

In order to assure collaborative relationships between students' families and the Association, 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 Association.
4. Seek input from parents/guardians on significant Association-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: March 8, 2019

**Special Education Association of Peoria County**

## **8:100 Relations with Other Organizations and Agencies**

The Association 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 Associations

CROSS REF.:1:20 (Association Organization, Operations, and Cooperative Agreements), 4:170 (Safety), 5:90 (Abused and Neglected Child Reporting), 7:150 (Agency and Police Interviews)

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

**Special Education Association of Peoria County**

## 8:110 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 at any Association or School office. All suggestions and/or concerns will be referred to the appropriate level staff member or Association 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.

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), 6:260 (Complaints About Curriculum, Instructional Materials and Programs), 8:10 (Connection with the Community)

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

Special Education Association of Peoria County

