

LITCHFIELD COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 12

1100 N. OLD ROUTE 66
Litchfield, Illinois 62056



Dr. Gregg Fuerstenau
Superintendent of Schools
gfuerstenau@litchfieldpanthers.org

Phone: (217) 324-2157
Fax: (217) 324-2158

Dear Volunteer,

Welcome to Litchfield Community School District #12. You are about to join a very important part of this school's educational team—our school volunteers. It takes an exceptional person to give his or her time and energy to help make our school stronger. Your caring enables us to work better and more productively and your involvement brings to our students the extra time and personal contact that are vital to academic success. You are sending students the powerful message that people care about them. Before you begin your volunteer assignment, please make sure you read the attached "Volunteer Information sheet". **Please complete the attached forms and return them to your child's school.**

The work of our volunteers is greatly appreciated and we truly value their assistance. Thank you again for your interest.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Gregg Fuerstenau". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping tail.

Dr. Gregg Fuerstenau
Superintendent

LITCHFIELD COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #12

1100 N OLD ROUTE 66
Litchfield, Illinois 62056

Phone (217) 324-2157
Fax (217) 324-2158

VOLUNTEER INFORMATION:

NAME: _____ PHONE: _____
 LAST FIRST MI

ADDRESS: _____
 STREET ADDRESS CITY ZIP

PERSONAL PHYSICIAN: _____ PHONE: _____

EMERGENCY ADULT CONTACT: _____ PHONE: _____

At which school(s) do you plan to volunteer: _____

Name of your child/ward attending this school: _____

WAIVER OF LIABILITY:

Litchfield Community Unit School District #12 (LCUSD #12) does not provide liability insurance coverage to non-district personnel serving as volunteers for the school district. The purpose of this waiver is to provide notice to prospective volunteers that they do not have insurance coverage by LCUSD #12 and to document the volunteer's acknowledgement that they are providing volunteer service at their own risk.

By your signature below:

- 1) You acknowledge that LCUSD #12 does not provide insurance coverage for the volunteer for any loss, injuries, illness, or death resulting from the volunteer's unpaid service to LCUSD #12.
- 2) You agree to assume all risk for death or any loss, injury, illness or damage of any nature or kind, arising out of the volunteer's supervised or unsupervised service to LCUSD #12; you agree to waive any and all claims against LCUSD #12, its officers, board members, employees, agents or assigns, for loss due to death, injury, illness, or damage of any kind arising out of the volunteer's supervised or unsupervised service to LCUSD #12.

SIGNATURE OF VOLUNTEER: _____ DATE: _____

Securing and Screening Resource Persons and Volunteers

The building principal or designee directs the use of resource persons and volunteers within his/her building. The use of any individual as a resource person or volunteer is subject to Board Policy 4:170, *Safety*; Administrative Procedure 4:170-AP2, *Criminal Offender Notification Laws*; and Board Policy 8:30, *Visitors to and Conduct on School Property*. Specifically, the principal or designee directs recruitment, screening, placement, and training within the following parameters:

Qualifications – Resource persons and volunteers may come from all backgrounds and all age groups. The main qualification is for the individual to have a desire to give his/her time and talent to enrich student learning opportunities and the school community generally.

Individuals Not Allowed to Serve as a School Volunteer or Resource Person – No individual who is a “sex offender,” as defined by the Sex Offender Registration Act, or a “violent offender against youth,” as defined in the Child Murderer and Violent Offender Against Youth Registration Act, may serve as a resource person or volunteer. Whenever an individual submits a new volunteer information form, the building principal or designee shall review the Illinois Sex Offender Registry and the Violent Offenders Against Youth database maintained by the state police (when available). The building principal will request an individual to submit to a criminal history records check if the individual will be working over a long period of time in direct contact with students where no staff member is continuously present or in other situations where a check would be prudent. In addition, the building principal or designee shall review each new list received from law enforcement containing the names of sex offenders (authorized by the Sex Offender Community Notification Law) and violent offenders against youth (authorized by the Child Murderer and Violent Offender Against Youth Community Notification Law) to determine if any resource person or volunteer appears on it.

Recruitment – School personnel may recruit resource persons and volunteers through the following resources: parents/guardians, parent organizations, retired teachers and other senior citizen groups, community businesses, local volunteer centers, and universities. If a staff member, other than the building principal recruits someone, the staff member must provide the individual’s name and address to the building principal.

Role – Resource persons and volunteers serve only in an auxiliary capacity under the direction and supervision of a staff member; they are not a substitute for a member of the school staff. Resource persons and volunteers do not have access to confidential student school records.

Selection, Placement, and Supervision – Selection and placement shall be on the basis of an individual’s qualifications and availability and the school’s needs. The individual will be assigned to a staff member only with the staff member’s consent. The relationship between an individual and staff member should be one of mutual respect and confidence.

Requirements – Each resource person and volunteer must register in the school’s main office at the beginning of each visit and wear a name tag while in the building or serving. The individual must complete an information form and waiver unless he/she has already done so during the current academic year. Absent an indication on the form that the individual may not qualify, the individual may proceed to the assigned activity. An individual is prohibited from being a resource person or volunteer if he/she behaves in any manner that demonstrates he/she is not a good role model or is otherwise detrimental to the school environment. Examples of such behavior include: swearing, failing to be dependable, failing to follow the supervisor’s instructions, committing any criminal act on school grounds or at a school activity, touching a student in a rude or overly forceful manner, failing to dress in an appropriate manner, or violating any school rule.

Training – Each academic year when an individual first completes the registration form, the principal or designee should give the individual a copy of this administrative procedure along with other pertinent information. The staff member to whom the individual is assigned is responsible for explaining what is expected of the individual. The principal or designee should arrange appropriate training opportunities for those volunteer activities requiring a skill or knowledge base, e.g., working in the computer lab.

Para información en español, visite www.consumerfinance.gov/learnmore o escribe a la Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, 1700 G Street N.W., Washington, DC 20552.

A Summary of Your Rights Under the Fair Credit Reporting Act

The federal Fair Credit Reporting Act (FCRA) promotes the accuracy, fairness, and privacy of information in the files of consumer reporting agencies. There are many types of consumer reporting agencies, including credit bureaus and specialty agencies (such as agencies that sell information about check writing histories, medical records, and rental history records). Here is a summary of your major rights under FCRA. **For more information, including information about additional rights, go to www.consumerfinance.gov/learnmore or write to: Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, 1700 G Street N.W., Washington, DC 20552.**

- **You must be told if information in your file has been used against you.** Anyone who uses a credit report or another type of consumer report to deny your application for credit, insurance, or employment – or to take another adverse action against you – must tell you, and must give you the name, address, and phone number of the agency that provided the information.
- **You have the right to know what is in your file.** You may request and obtain all the information about you in the files of a consumer reporting agency (your “file disclosure”). You will be required to provide proper identification, which may include your Social Security number. In many cases, the disclosure will be free. You are entitled to a free file disclosure if:
 - a person has taken adverse action against you because of information in your credit report;
 - you are the victim of identity theft and place a fraud alert in your file;
 - your file contains inaccurate information as a result of fraud;
 - you are on public assistance;
 - you are unemployed but expect to apply for employment within 60 days.

In addition, all consumers are entitled to one free disclosure every 12 months upon request from each nationwide credit bureau and from nationwide specialty consumer reporting agencies. See www.consumerfinance.gov/learnmore for additional information.

- **You have the right to ask for a credit score.** Credit scores are numerical summaries of your credit-worthiness based on information from credit bureaus. You may request a credit score from consumer reporting agencies that create scores or distribute scores used in residential real property loans, but you will have to pay for it. In some mortgage transactions, you will receive credit score information for free from the mortgage lender.
- **You have the right to dispute incomplete or inaccurate information.** If you identify information in your file that is incomplete or inaccurate, and report it to the consumer

reporting agency, the agency must investigate unless your dispute is frivolous. See www.consumerfinance.gov/learnmore for an explanation of dispute procedures.

- **Consumer reporting agencies must correct or delete inaccurate, incomplete, or unverifiable information.** Inaccurate, incomplete, or unverifiable information must be removed or corrected, usually within 30 days. However, a consumer reporting agency may continue to report information it has verified as accurate.
- **Consumer reporting agencies may not report outdated negative information.** In most cases, a consumer reporting agency may not report negative information that is more than seven years old, or bankruptcies that are more than 10 years old.
- **Access to your file is limited.** A consumer reporting agency may provide information about you only to people with a valid need – usually to consider an application with a creditor, insurer, employer, landlord, or other business. The FCRA specifies those with a valid need for access.
- **You must give your consent for reports to be provided to employers.** A consumer reporting agency may not give out information about you to your employer, or a potential employer, without your written consent given to the employer. Written consent generally is not required in the trucking industry. For more information, go to www.consumerfinance.gov/learnmore.
- **You may limit “prescreened” offers of credit and insurance you get based on information in your credit report.** Unsolicited “prescreened” offers for credit and insurance must include a toll-free phone number you can call if you choose to remove your name and address from the lists these offers are based on. You may opt out with the nationwide credit bureaus at 1-888-5-OPTOUT (1-888-567-8688).
- The following FCRA right applies with respect to nationwide consumer reporting agencies:

CONSUMERS HAVE THE RIGHT TO OBTAIN A SECURITY FREEZE

You have a right to place a “security freeze” on your credit report, which will prohibit a consumer reporting agency from releasing information in your credit report without your express authorization. The security freeze is designed to prevent credit, loans, and services from being approved in your name without your consent. However, you should be aware that using a security freeze to take control over who gets access to the personal and financial information in your credit report may delay, interfere with, or prohibit the timely approval of any subsequent request or application you make regarding a new loan, credit, mortgage, or any other account involving the extension of credit.

As an alternative to a security freeze, you have the right to place an initial or extended fraud alert on your credit file at no cost. An initial fraud alert is a 1-year alert that is

placed on a consumer's credit file. Upon seeing a fraud alert display on a consumer's credit file, a business is required to take steps to verify the consumer's identity before extending new credit. If you are a victim of identity theft, you are entitled to an extended fraud alert, which is a fraud alert lasting 7 years.

A security freeze does not apply to a person or entity, or its affiliates, or collection agencies acting on behalf of the person or entity, with which you have an existing account that requests information in your credit report for the purposes of reviewing or collecting the account. Reviewing the account includes activities related to account maintenance, monitoring, credit line increases, and account upgrades and enhancements.

- **You may seek damages from violators.** If a consumer reporting agency, or, in some cases, a user of consumer reports or a furnisher of information to a consumer reporting agency violates the FCRA, you may be able to sue in state or federal court.
- **Identity theft victims and active duty military personnel have additional rights.** For more information, visit www.consumerfinance.gov/learnmore.

States may enforce the FCRA, and many states have their own consumer reporting laws. In some cases, you may have more rights under state law. For more information, contact your state or local consumer protection agency or your state Attorney General. For information about your federal rights, contact:

TYPE OF BUSINESS:	CONTACT:
<p>1.a. Banks, savings associations, and credit unions with total assets of over \$10 billion and their affiliates</p> <p>b. Such affiliates that are not banks, savings associations, or credit unions also should list, in addition to the CFPB:</p>	<p>a. Consumer Financial Protection Bureau 1700 G Street, N.W. Washington, DC 20552</p> <p>b. Federal Trade Commission Consumer Response Center 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Washington, DC 20580 (877) 382-4357</p>
<p>2. To the extent not included in item 1 above:</p> <p>a. National banks, federal savings associations, and federal branches and federal agencies of foreign banks</p> <p>b. State member banks, branches and agencies of foreign banks (other than federal branches, federal agencies, and Insured State Branches of Foreign Banks), commercial lending companies owned or controlled by foreign banks, and organizations operating under section 25 or 25A of the Federal Reserve Act.</p> <p>c. Nonmember Insured Banks, Insured State Branches of Foreign Banks, and insured state savings associations</p> <p>d. Federal Credit Unions</p>	<p>a. Office of the Comptroller of the Currency Customer Assistance Group 1301 McKinney Street, Suite 3450 Houston, TX 77010-9050</p> <p>b. Federal Reserve Consumer Help Center P.O. Box 1200 Minneapolis, MN 55480</p> <p>c. FDIC Consumer Response Center 1100 Walnut Street, Box #11 Kansas City, MO 64106</p> <p>d. National Credit Union Administration Office of Consumer Financial Protection (OCFP) Division of Consumer Compliance Policy and Outreach 1775 Duke Street Alexandria, VA 22314</p>
<p>3. Air carriers</p>	<p>Asst. General Counsel for Aviation Enforcement & Proceedings Aviation Consumer Protection Division Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E. Washington, DC 20590</p>
<p>4. Creditors Subject to the Surface Transportation Board</p>	<p>Office of Proceedings, Surface Transportation Board Department of Transportation 395 E Street, S.W. Washington, DC 20423</p>
<p>5. Creditors Subject to the Packers and Stockyards Act, 1921</p>	<p>Nearest Packers and Stockyards Administration area supervisor</p>
<p>6. Small Business Investment Companies</p>	<p>Associate Deputy Administrator for Capital Access United States Small Business Administration 409 Third Street, S.W., Suite 8200 Washington, DC 20416</p>
<p>7. Brokers and Dealers</p>	<p>Securities and Exchange Commission 100 F Street, N.E. Washington, DC 20549</p>
<p>8. Federal Land Banks, Federal Land Bank Associations, Federal Intermediate Credit Banks, and Production Credit Associations</p>	<p>Farm Credit Administration 1501 Farm Credit Drive McLean, VA 22102-5090</p>
<p>9. Retailers, Finance Companies, and All Other Creditors Not Listed Above</p>	<p>Federal Trade Commission Consumer Response Center 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Washington, DC 20580 (877) 382-4357</p>



Litchfield #12

DISCLOSURE FOR CONSUMER REPORTS

READ CAREFULLY BEFORE SIGNING

Litchfield #12 ("end-user") has contracted with Bushue Background Screening in connection with my application for employment, volunteerism, contracted services, tenancy, enrollment, acceptance into a program, and/or other reasons. I understand consumer reports will be requested by you the end-user. These reports may include, as allowed by law, the following types of information, as applicable: names and dates of previous employers, reason for termination of employment, work experience, reasons for termination of tenancy, former landlords, education, accidents, licensure, credit, etc. I further understand that such reports may contain public record information such as, but not limited to: my driving record, judgments, bankruptcy proceedings, evictions, criminal records, fingerprint records etc., from federal, state, and other agencies that maintain such records.

In addition, investigative consumer reports (gathered from personal interviews, as applicable, with former employers or landlords, past or current neighbors and associates of mine, etc.) to gather information regarding my work or tenant performance, character, general reputation and personal characteristics, and mode of living (lifestyle) may be obtained.

I understand the end-user can use this disclosure in connection to obtaining consumer reports throughout my employment, volunteer services, contracted service, tenancy, enrollment, etc. with the end-user.

Signature: _____ Date: _____



Litchfield #12

AUTHORIZATION FOR CONSUMER REPORTS

READ CAREFULLY BEFORE SIGNING

I hereby authorize procurement of consumer report(s) and investigative consumer report(s) by End-User. In connection with the End-User, this authorization shall remain on file and shall serve as ongoing authorization for End-User to procure such reports at any time during my employment, contract, volunteer period, or other affiliation to the End-User. I authorize without reservation, any person, business or agency contacted by the consumer reporting agency to furnish the above-mentioned information.

This authorization is conditioned upon the following representations of my rights:

I understand that I have the right to make a request to the consumer reporting agency: (“Agency”), Bushue Background Screening, 302 E. Jefferson Avenue, Effingham, IL 62401, telephone number (217) 342-3042, upon proper identification, to obtain copies of any reports furnished to End-User by the Agency and to request the nature and substance of **all information** in its files on me at the time of my request, including the sources of information, and the Agency, on End-User’s behalf, will provide a complete and accurate disclosure of the nature and scope of the investigation covered by any investigative consumer report(s). The Agency will also disclose the recipients of any such reports on me which the Agency has previously furnished within the two year period for employment requests, and one year for other purposes preceding my request (California three years). I hereby consent to End-User obtaining the above information from the Agency. I understand that I can dispute, at any time, any information that is inaccurate in any type of report with the Agency. I may view the Agency’s privacy policy at their website: www.bushuebackgroundscreening.com.

I understand that if the Company is located in California, Minnesota or Oklahoma, that I have the right to request a copy of any report Company receives on me at the time the report is provided to Company. By checking the following box, I request a copy of all such reports be sent to me. Check here (only if this applies):

I understand that if I am applying for employment in New York, that I have the right to receive a copy of Article 23-A of the New York Correction Law _____ (initial if this applies).

I understand that if the report is provided to an employer in the State of Washington, that I can contact the following office for more information regarding my rights under Washington state law in regard to these reports: State of Washington Attorney General, Consumer Protection Division, 800 5th Ave, Ste. 2000, Seattle, Washington 98104-3188, (206) 464-7744.

I understand that I have rights under the Fair Credit Reporting Act, and I acknowledge receipt of the Summary of Rights _____ (initials).

I authorize End-User and Agency to use email communication with me to provide me with notices and information regarding any report or use of such report.

Signature: _____ Date: _____



Litchfield #12
(BHR Volunteer Screen)

*Information below is being used for background screening purposes only.

PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY					
Applicant's Legal Name (full name)	First:	Middle:		Last:	
Alias or Maiden Name	First:	Middle:		Last:	
Home Address:	Street Address:		City:	State:	Zip:
APPLICANT INFORMATION					
Date of Birth: ____ / ____ / ____			Social Security Number: ____ - ____ - ____		
Phone Number:		Email Address:			
Driver's License Number:		State of Issuance:	Names as it Appears on Driver's License:		
Eye Color:	Hair Color:	Race:	Weight:	Height: ____ ft. ____ in.	
VOLUNTEERING INFORMATION					
School/Place:			Purpose (field trip, coach, classroom, etc.):		
APPLICANT SIGNATURE AND DATE					
Signature (parent/guardian signature required if under the age of 18):				Date:	



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF MANDATED REPORTER STATUS

I, _____, understand that when I am employed as a
(Employee Name)

_____, I will become a mandated reporter under the
(Type of Employment)

Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act [325 ILCS 5/4]. This means that I am required to report or cause a report to be made to the child abuse Hotline number at 1-800-25-ABUSE (1-800-252-2873) whenever I have reasonable cause to believe that a child known to me in my professional or official capacity may be abused or neglected. I understand that there is no charge when calling the Hotline number and that the Hotline operates 24-hours per day, 7 days per week, 365 days per year.

I further understand that the privileged quality of communication between me and my patient or client is not grounds for failure to report suspected child abuse or neglect, I know that if I willfully fail to report suspected child abuse or neglect, I may be found guilty of a Class A misdemeanor. This does not apply to physicians who will be referred to the Illinois State Medical Disciplinary Board for action.

I also understand that if I am subject to licensing under but not limited to the following acts: the Illinois Nursing Act of 1987, the Medical Practice Act of 1987, the Illinois Dental Practice Act, the School Code, the Acupuncture Practice Act, the Illinois Optometric Practice Act of 1987, the Illinois Physical Therapy Act, the Physician Assistants Practice Act of 1987, the Podiatric Medical Practice Act of 1987, the Clinical Psychologist Licensing Act, the Clinical Social Work and Social Work Practice Act, the Illinois Athletic Trainers Practice Act, the Dietetic and Nutrition Services Practice Act, the Marriage and Family Therapy Act, the Naprapathic Practice Act, the Respiratory Care Practice Act, the Professional Counselor and Clinical Professional Counselor Licensing Act, the Illinois Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology Practice Act, I may be subject to license suspension or revocation if I willfully fail to report suspected child abuse or neglect.

I affirm that I have read this statement and have knowledge and understanding of the reporting requirements, which apply to me under the Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act.

Signature of Applicant/Employee

Date

CANTS 22
Rev. 8/2013

Office of the Director
406 E. Monroe Street • Springfield, Illinois 62701
www.DCFS.illinois.gov

General Personnel

5:20 Workplace Harassment Prohibited

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

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

Sexual Harassment Prohibited

The District shall provide a workplace environment free of verbal, physical, or other conduct or communications constituting harassment on the basis of sex as defined and otherwise prohibited by State and federal law. The District provides annual sexual harassment prevention training in accordance with State law. District 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 which has the effect of humiliation, embarrassment or discomfort. Sexual harassment will be evaluated in light of all the circumstances.

Making a Report or Complaint

Employees and *nonemployees* (persons who are not otherwise employees and are directly performing services for the District pursuant to a contract with the District, including contractors, and consultants) are encouraged to promptly report information regarding violations of this policy. Individuals may choose to report to a person of the individual's same gender. Every effort should be made to file such reports or complaints as soon as possible, while facts are known and potential witnesses are available. Aggrieved individuals, if they feel comfortable doing so, should directly inform the person engaging in the harassing conduct or communication that such conduct or communication is offensive and must stop.

Whom to Contact with a Report or Complaint

An employee should report claims of harassment, including making a confidential report, to any of the following: his/her immediate supervisor, the 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 claim according to that policy, in addition to any response required by this policy.

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

Nondiscrimination Coordinator:

Jennifer Thompson
1705 N. State St.
Litchfield, IL 62056
217/324-4668

Complaint Managers:

Jeremy Heigert
705 N. Jefferson St.
Litchfield, IL 62056
217/324-4034

Title IX Coordinator:

Dr. Russ Tepen
1701 North State St., Litchfield, IL. 62056
rtepen@litchfieldpanthers.org
217-324-4668

Juletta Ellis

1705 N. State St. Litchfield, IL 62056
217/324-3955

Investigation Process

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Enforcement

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 District, e.g., vendor, parent, invitee, etc. Any person making a knowingly false accusation regarding harassment will likewise be subject to disciplinary action, which for an employee may be up to and including discharge.

Retaliation Prohibited

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

An employee should report allegations of retaliation to his/her immediate supervisor, the 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 District 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 Superintendent shall also use reasonable measures to inform staff members, applicants, and nonemployees of this policy, which shall include posting on the District website and/or making this policy available in the District's administrative office, and

including this policy in the appropriate handbooks.

LEGAL REF.:

Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 U.S.C. §2000e et seq.; 29 C.F.R. §1604.11.

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, 20 U.S.C. §1681 et seq.; 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) and (E-1), 5/2-102(A), (A-10), (D-5), 5/2-102(E-5), 5/2-109, 5/5-102, and 5/5-102.2.

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).

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

Adopted: September 22, 2020

Litchfield CUSD 12

STUDENTS

7:20 Harassment of Students Prohibited

No person, including a School District 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 District will not tolerate harassing, intimidating conduct, or bullying whether verbal, physical, sexual, or visual, that affects the tangible benefits of education, that unreasonably interferes with a student's educational performance, or that creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive educational environment. Examples of prohibited conduct include name-calling, using derogatory slurs, stalking, sexual violence, causing psychological harm, threatening or causing physical harm, threatened or actual destruction of property, or wearing or possessing items depicting or implying hatred or prejudice of one of the characteristics stated above.

Sexual Harassment Prohibited

The District shall provide an educational environment free of verbal, physical, or other conduct or communications constituting harassment on the basis of sex as defined and otherwise prohibited by State and federal law. See policies 2:265, *Title IX Sexual Harassment Grievance Procedure*, and 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*.

Making a Report or Complaint

Students are encouraged to promptly report claims or incidences of bullying, intimidation, harassment, sexual harassment, or any other prohibited conduct to the Nondiscrimination Coordinator, Building Principal, a Complaint Manager, or any employee with whom the student is comfortable speaking. A student may choose to report to an employee of the student's same gender.

Reports under this policy will be considered a report under Board policy 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*, and/or Board policy 2:265, *Title IX Sexual Harassment Grievance Procedure*. The Nondiscrimination Coordinator, Title IX Coordinator, and/or Complaint Manager shall process and review the report according to the appropriate grievance procedure.

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

Nondiscrimination Coordinator:

Jennifer Thompson
1705 State St., Litchfield, IL 62056
217-324-4668

Title IX Coordinator:

Dr. Russ Tepen
1701 North State St., Litchfield, IL 62056
rtepen@litchfieldpanthers.org
217-324-4668

Complaint Managers:

Jeremy Heigert
705 N. Jefferson St.
Litchfield, IL 62056
217/324-4034

Juletta Ellis
1705 N. State St.
Litchfield, IL 62056
217/324-3955

Adam Favre
601 S. State St.
Litchfield, IL 62056
217/324-3652

The Superintendent shall use reasonable measures to inform staff members and students of this policy by including:

1. For students, age-appropriate information about the contents of this policy in the District's student handbook(s), on the District's website, and, if applicable, in any other areas where policies, rules, and standards of conduct are otherwise posted in each school.
2. For staff members, this policy in the appropriate employee handbook(s), if applicable, and/or in any other areas where

policies, rules, and standards of conduct are otherwise made available to staff.

Investigation Process

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

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

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

For any other alleged student harassment that does not require action under policy 2:265, *Title IX Sexual Harassment Grievance Procedure*, the Nondiscrimination Coordinator or a Complaint Manager or designee shall consider whether an investigation under policies 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*, and/or 7:190, *Student Behavior*, should be initiated, regardless of whether a written report or complaint is filed.

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

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

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

Enforcement

Any District employee who is determined, after an investigation, to have engaged in conduct prohibited by this policy will be subject to disciplinary action up to and including discharge. Any third party who is determined, after an investigation, to have engaged in conduct prohibited by this policy will be addressed in accordance with the authority of the Board in the context of the relationship of the third party to the District, e.g., vendor, parent, invitee, etc. Any District student who is determined, after an investigation, to have engaged in conduct prohibited by this policy will be subject to disciplinary action, including but not limited to, suspension and expulsion consistent with the behavior policy. Any person making a knowingly false accusation regarding prohibited conduct will likewise be subject to disciplinary action.

Retaliation Prohibited

Retaliation against any person for bringing complaints or providing information about harassment is prohibited (see policies 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*, and 2:265, *Title IX Sexual Harassment Grievance Procedure*).

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

LEGAL REF.:

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

105 ILCS 5/10-20.12, 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), 2:265 (Title IX Sexual Harassment Grievance Procedure), 5:20

(Workplace Harassment Prohibited), 5:90 (Abused and Neglected Child Reporting), 7:10 (Equal Educational Opportunities), 7:180 (Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment), 7:185 (Teen Dating Violence Prohibited), 7:190 (Student Behavior), 7:240 (Conduct Code for Participants in Extracurricular Activities)

Adopted: September 22, 2020

Litchfield CUSD 12

LITCHFIELD COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #12

1100 N. OLD ROUTE 66
LITCHFIELD, IL. 62056
Phone (217) 324-2157 Fax
(217) 324-2158

I have received the following Litchfield Community Unit School District No. 12
Board of Education Policies:

- 5:20 Sexual Harassment - General Personnel
- 7:20 Sexual Harassment – Students
- Internet Policy (return with signature)

I have read these policies, and I understand the contents of each.

Signature

Date

Instruction

Exhibit - Staff Authorization for Access to the District's Electronic Networks

This form accompanies Administrative Procedure 6:235-AP1, Acceptable Use of the District's Electronic Networks. Each staff member must sign this Authorization as a condition for using the District's Electronic Networks. Please submit this form to the Building Principal.

All use of the electronic networks shall be consistent with the District's goal of promoting educational excellence by facilitating resource sharing, innovation, and communication. Administrative Procedure 6:235-AP1, *Acceptable Use of the District's Electronic Networks*, does not attempt to state all required or prohibited behavior by users. However, some specific examples are provided. **The failure of any user to follow the terms of *Acceptable Use of the District's Electronic Networks*, will result in the loss of privileges, disciplinary action, and/or legal action.** The signature at the end of this document is legally binding and indicates that the individual has read the terms and conditions carefully and understands their significance.

Staff members need only sign this *Authorization for Access to the District's Electronic Networks* once while employed by the School District.

I understand and will abide by the *Acceptable Use of the District's Electronic Networks*. I understand that the District and/or its agents may access and monitor my use of the District's electronic networks, including the Internet, my email, and downloaded material, without prior notice to me. I further understand that should I commit any violation, my access privileges may be revoked, and disciplinary action and/or legal action may be taken. In consideration for using the District's electronic network connection and having access to public networks, I hereby release the School District and its School Board members, employees, and agents from any claims and damages arising from my use of, or inability to use the District's electronic networks, including the Internet.

User Name (*please print*)

User Signature

Date