

Ridgeland School District 122

Administrative Center
6500 West 95th Street, Oak Lawn, IL 60453

Thursday, May 10, 2018
1:30 p.m.*

Policy Committee Meeting

AGENDA

1. Call to Order _____ (time)
2. Members Present _____
Members Absent _____
3. Approval of the Minutes of the March 8, 2018, Policy Committee Meeting
 - Recommended Motion – that the Policy Committee approve the minutes of the March 8, 2018 Policy Committee meeting

A _____

N _____

Abstain _____

Absent _____

4. Comments from Visitors Regarding Policy or Agenda Items

An individual or individual from a delegation may be heard on any matter at the Board meeting, providing such person (1) is recognized by the President; (2) states their name, address and topic; and (3) comments as briefly as the subject permits (Policy 2:230).

Visitors please note: If you wish to address the board this evening, please sign the log indicating your name, address and topic of comments. You will be called to address the Board in the order your name appears on the sign-in log. When you are called, please be seated at the front table and speak directly into the microphone. Please limit your comments to five (5) minutes so that others will have an equal opportunity to speak. If you have comments that are the same as others, please select a spokesperson for your group. Thank you.

5. Policies for Review: January/February 2018

Policy	Title
2:260	Uniform Grievance Procedure
4:40	Incurring Debt
4:40 AP	Preparing and Updat-ing Disclosures
5:20	Workplace Harassment Prohibited
5:170	Copyright

6. Closed Session (if needed) Personnel

- Recommended Motion - that the Board enter into Closed Session to discuss:
 - The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the District and legal counsel for the District, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee or against legal counsel for the District to determine its validity. 5ILCS 120/2 (c) (1)

7. Adjournment _____ (time)

- Recommended Motion – that the Policy Committee adjourn the May 10, 2018, Policy Committee meeting

A _____

N _____

Abstain _____

Absent _____

* Please note the change in time.

Ridgeland School District 122

Administrative Center
6500 West 95th Street, Oak Lawn, IL 60453

Thursday, March 8, 2018
6:00 p.m.

Policy Committee Meeting Minutes

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:15 p.m.
2. Roll Call:
Members Present: Secretary Werner, Member Reising, Superintendent Shellberg, and Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Business Operations Ogarek
Members Absent: none
3. Motion to Approve Policy Committee Meeting Minutes – February 8, 2018:
Motion was made by Member Reising, seconded by Secretary Werner to approve the Policy Committee meeting minutes of February 8, 2018. Upon roll call, the following members voted Aye: Member Reising, and Secretary Werner; Nays: none; Absent: none; Abstain: none. Motion approved.
4. Comments from Visitors Regarding Policy or Agenda Items:
There were no comments from visitors made.
5. The following Policy Updates were reviewed:

Policy	Title
7:15	Student and Family Privacy Rights
7:20	Harassment of Students Prohibited
7:70	Attendance and Truancy
7:180	Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment
7:190	Student Behavior
7:250	Student and Support Services
7:260	Exemption from Physical Education
7:270	Administering Medicines to Students
7:275	Orders to Forgo Life-Sustaining Treatment
7:305	Student Athlete Concussions and Head Injuries
7:340	Student Records

6. Closed Session (if needed):
Not Applicable
7. The meeting adjourned at 6:53 p.m.

*The complete District Policy Manual can be found on-line at
http://www.ridgeland122.com/pages/RSD122/Departments_Programs/Board_of_Education/Policy_Manual*

ISSUE 97
January/February 2018

Update Memo

Please distribute to board
members and appropriate staff.

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Online Instructions

Please follow these three easy
steps to log in to **PRESS**:

1. Go to www.iasb.com and click on **MY ACCOUNT**.
2. Log in using your email address and password:
 - If you do not know your password, do not create a new account; reset your password using your district email address.
 - If you are still having difficulty logging in, please contact your district's superintendent or administrative assistant to make sure you are listed as an authorized user on the district roster.
 - If you continue to have difficulty, please contact Linda Cala at lcala@iasb.com.
3. Under **My Account Links**, click on **PRESS Login**.

For additional help, click the ? in the upper right corner. Also available is a 10-minute video tutorial at www.iasb.com/policy.



PRESS

Policy Reference Education Subscription Service

This publication is designed to provide information only and is not a substitute for legal advice from the Board Attorney. If you have any questions, please contact Kimberly Small, IASB General Counsel and **PRESS** Editor, 630/629-3776, ext. 1226, Maryam Brotime, Assistant General Counsel and Assistant **PRESS** Editor, 630/629-3776, ext. 1219, or Debra Jacobson, Assistant General Counsel and Assistant **PRESS** Editor, 630/629-3776, ext. 1211.

Instructions

You are encouraged to share this **PRESS** Update Memo with all board members and appropriate staff.

Two other important components of **PRESS** may be viewed and downloaded from **PRESS Online** — Committee Worksheets and the updated Policy Reference Manual (PRM) pages. The Committee Worksheets show suggested changes to **PRESS** material by striking out deleted words and underscoring new words. The updated PRM pages contain all of the material in this **PRESS** issue; you can use them to update your district manuals.

Sexual Harassment

The State Officials and Employees Ethics Act, 5 ILCS 430/70-5(a), amended by P.A. 100-554, requires school districts to adopt an ordinance or resolution establishing a policy to prohibit sexual harassment by January 15, 2018. Though that date has passed, there are no penalties in the law for failing to pass the resolution by that date. The policy must include, at a minimum: (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 State Officials and Employees Ethics Act, the Whistleblower Act (740 ILCS 174/), and the Ill. Human Rights Act (775 ILCS 5/); and (4) the consequences of a violation of the prohibition on sexual harassment and the consequences for knowingly making a false report.

The following **PRESS** materials are updated:

- 2:260, Uniform Grievance Procedure
- 5:20, Workplace Harassment Prohibited
- 5:20-E, Resolution to Prohibit Sexual Harassment - **NEW**

Bond Issuance Obligations

In response to subscriber feedback, and in an effort to continuously improve the content of the PRM, 4:40, *Incurring Debt*, has been updated to address boards' obligations to comply with federal securities laws and Internal Revenue Service rules in connection with bond issues. **Note:** These updates are not being made in

response to any recent legislative changes. Boards that fail to comply with federal securities laws may face enforcement actions from the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission. The new 4:40-AP, *Preparing and Updating Disclosures*, is based on a sample document from the law firm of Chapman and Cutler, LLP, and is designed to assist districts in complying with federal securities laws for bond issues. Given the highly technical nature of these laws and obligations, boards should work closely with their board attorneys, bond counsel, and/or financial consultants to ensure they are complying with all continuing disclosure obligations related to bond issues. Finally, as explained in the footnotes of policy 4:40, *Incurring Debt*, boards may also want to work with those same professionals to establish written procedures to protect the tax-exempt (or otherwise tax-advantaged) status of bonds that they issue.

The following **PRESS** materials are updated:

4:40, *Incurring Debt*

4:40-AP, *Preparing and Updating Disclosures* – **NEW**

PRESS Editors wish to extend a special thank you to Kyle Harding, partner at Chapman and Cutler LLP, for his firm's collaboration on these materials.

Miscellaneous

5:170, *Copyright*, is updated due to a recent case law development, as detailed in the **Revisions to Policies, Administrative Procedures, and Exhibits Table** in numerical order beginning on p. 4.

Please spend time reviewing the **PRESS** online Committee Worksheets for these materials, which will provide further, more on-the-spot detailed explanations in the footnotes, along with added comment boxes by the **PRESS** Editors.

PRESS Terminology

What are the meanings of the "AP" and "E" after certain policy numbers?

The **PRESS** Policy Reference Manual (**PRM**) is an encyclopedia of sample board policies, administrative procedures, and exhibits. They are all in numerical order for easy reference. **PRESS** recommends that local school districts maintain separate board policy and administrative procedure manuals to help distinguish for the board, staff, students, parents, and community members, the distinction between board documents and staff documents, board work, and staff work.

Policy. The board develops policies with input from various sources like district administrators, the board attorney, and **PRESS** materials. The board then formally adopts the policies, often after more than one consideration.

After adoption by the board, each policy should have an adoption date.

Administrative Procedures. Administrative procedures are developed by the superintendent, administrators, and/or other district staff members. The staff develops the procedures that guide implementation of the policies. Administrative procedures are not adopted by the board, which allows the superintendent and staff the flexibility they need to keep the procedures current. **PRESS** sample procedures are numbered to correspond with the policies that they implement for easy reference. For example, policy 6:190's related administrative procedure is 6:190-AP.

It is important to remember that administrative procedures do not require formal board adoption and are not included in a board policy manual.

Exhibits. Both board policies and administrative procedures may have related exhibits. Exhibits provide information and forms intended to be helpful to the understanding or implementation of either a board policy or administrative procedure, and they do not require formal board adoption. **PRESS** sample exhibits are numbered to correspond to the related board policy or administrative procedure. For example, board policy 2:70 has a related exhibit numbered 2:70-E. Administrative procedure 7:340-AP1 has a related exhibit numbered 7:340-AP1, E.

Exhibits labeled with an "E" only may provide guidance for board work or staff work. Those providing guidance for board work should be dated for implementation by the board. Those providing guidance for the staff should be dated for implementation by the administrative staff.

Administrative procedures exhibits, always labeled with the "AP, E" format should be dated for implementation by the administrative staff.

Progress Report

The contents of this report frequently change.

Taking a Knee – Follow Up

As we reported in Issue 96, some public school student-athletes and/or coaches began “taking a knee” after seeing professional athletes, particularly NFL players, kneel during the National Anthem in protest of racial injustice. Since then, lawsuits in different parts of the country have been filed against school districts related to this hot-button issue. In V.A. v. San Pasqual Valley Unified Sch. Dist., a high school football player who kneeled at a game sued his district after it implemented a policy requiring students to stand during the National Anthem. The policy was put in place after students from an opposing team yelled racial comments at players who kneeled. Despite the district’s motives, in December, a federal court in California issued a preliminary injunction enjoining the district from enforcing the standing policy because it likely violated students’ First Amendment rights. In another case, Edina High Sch. Young Conservatives Club et al v. Edina Sch. Dist. et al, a student club of conservative students sued their school district after it banned the club because club members had criticized other students on social media who sat down in protest during the playing of the National Anthem and “Taps” during a school Veteran’s Day assembly. Both of these cases are still pending, but are not binding on Illinois school districts.

Our Response: No PRESS materials are affected by this recent trend. A reminder that in most cases, students who take a knee during the National Anthem are exercising freedom of expression and will not be subject to discipline. For purposes of maintaining order and effective school operations, however, school districts are responsible for ensuring that teachers do not advocate viewpoints that depart from the curriculum adopted by the district. This may entail standing during the National Anthem and, depending upon the circumstances, may result in discipline for failing to do so. Consult the board attorney.

Accelerated Placement Act, P.A. 100-421

Article 14A of the School Code was amended to cover *Gifted and Talented Children and Children Eligible for Accelerated Placement*. By July 1, 2018, school districts are required to have a policy that allows for accelerated placement and includes or incorporates by reference specific components set forth in the Act. *Accelerated placement* means the placement of a child in an educational setting with curriculum that is usually reserved for children who are older or in higher grades than the child. The Act expressly states that accelerated placement *shall* include early entrance to kindergarten or first grade, but this conflicts with 105 ILCS 5/10-20.12, which allows but does not require districts to permit early entrance to kindergarten or first grade.

Our Response: We are currently seeking a legislative fix for the conflict between the Accelerated Placement Act and 105 ILCS 5/10-20.12. We will address the required changes in PRESS Issue 98.

Spriesch v. City of Chicago, 2017 WL 4864913 (N.D. Ill. 10/26/17)

A fire paramedic for the City of Chicago sued the city for pregnancy discrimination and failure to accommodate her pumping and expression of breastmilk at work. The City forced her to take a leave once it was informed she was pregnant and, after she returned, the Fire Dept. did not consistently give her breaks or provide a private (non-bathroom) room for her to pump breastmilk. This case was significant because the court recognized an employee’s private right of action under the Ill. Nursing Mothers in the Workplace Act (INMWA) to sue an employer. Employers who fail to reasonably accommodate nursing mothers now face additional liability under the INMWA, in addition to the Ill. Human Rights Act, Title VII, and the Fair Labor Standards Act.

Our Response: No PRESS materials are affected.

Cursive Instruction Required

105 ILCS 5/27-20.7, added by P.A. 100-548, requires that elementary schools, beginning with the 2018-2019 school year, offer at least one unit of instruction in cursive writing.

Our Response: We will address the required changes in PRESS Issue 99.

Amendments to 23 Ill.Admin.Code Part 375, Student Records

The Ill. State Board of Education (ISBE) proposed amendments to 23 Ill.Admin.Code Part 375, Student Records, in response to P.A. 100-222, which amended 105 ILCS 5/2-3.64a-5(e) to no longer require that a student’s ISBE-administered SAT scores be entered on his/her transcript. Under the proposed amendments, a student’s academic transcript would only include scores received on college entrance examinations if allowed by district policy. Districts electing to allow this would need to notify parents/guardians of the process for including such scores on an academic transcript.

Our Response: We will respond after ISBE adopts the amendments to Part 375 with updates to policy 6:300, *Graduation Requirements*; 6:340, *Student Testing and Assessment Program*; 7:340, *Student Records*; and their corresponding materials.

Marriage and Family Counselor Endorsement

ISBE adopted rules that set standards for *school marriage and family therapists*, a newer type of school support personnel endorsement under the School Code. The School Code was amended to allow for this new endorsement in 2013, but it took several years for regulations to be finalized.

Our Response: We will respond in PRESS Issue 99 or a later Issue (when support personnel are actually able to obtain this new endorsement through educational institutions), with likely updates to policy 7:250, *Student Support Services*, and administrative procedure 7:250-AP2, *Protocol for Responding to Students with Social, Emotional, or Mental Health Problems*.

Revisions to Policies, Administrative Procedures, and Exhibits

Number and Title	Revision Descriptions	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2:260, Uniform Grievance Procedure	The policy, footnotes, Legal References, and Cross References are updated in response to 5 ILCS 430/70-5(a), amended by P.A. 100-554. New language in the Filing a Complaint subsection clarifies that for any complaint filed under this policy which alleges harassment in violation of policy 5:20, <i>Workplace Harassment Prohibited</i> , the Complaint Manager shall process and review the complaint according to both policies.	<input type="checkbox"/>
4:40, Incurring Debt	The policy, footnotes, and Legal References are updated in response to subscriber feedback and for continuous improvement to address legal obligations of school districts related to bond issues.	<input type="checkbox"/>
4:40-AP, Preparing and Updating Disclosures	NEW	<input type="checkbox"/>
5:20, Workplace Harassment Prohibited	The policy, footnotes, and Legal References are updated in response to 5 ILCS 430/70-5(a), amended by P.A. 100-554. For clarity and ease of use, the policy has been reorganized into the following subsections: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sexual Harassment Prohibited • Making a Complaint • Whom to Contact with a Report or Complaint • Investigation Process • Enforcement • Retaliation Prohibited • Recourse to State and Federal Fair Employment Practice Agencies 	<input type="checkbox"/>
5:20-E, Resolution to Prohibit Sexual Harassment	NEW	<input type="checkbox"/>
5:170, Copyright	The footnotes are updated in response to a recent court decision, <u>Shanton v. St. Charles Community Unit Sch. Dist. 303</u> , (N.D.Ill. 2017), which addresses copyright and works for hire in the K-12 context.	<input type="checkbox"/>



Office of General Counsel

The IASB Office of General Counsel's mission is to honestly, professionally, and credibly protect and preserve IASB through legal risk management and compliance services for the IASB Board of Directors and staff; promote best practices to IASB members; create educational products and services; and maintain strong, collaborative relationships with the public education community.



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Acknowledgement to PRESS Advisory Board

Before each **PRESS** issue is published, a group of distinguished individuals provides input and suggestions. We appreciate their contributions and thank them sincerely.

— **Kimberly Small, Maryam Brotine, and Debra Jacobson**

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IASB Staff Members, especially Policy Consultants and Field Services Directors

Special Acknowledgement to IASB Administrative Assistants

The following individuals provide us with excellent assistance between and during the drafting of each **PRESS** issue. We also thank them and appreciate their dedication and contributions to the quality of this service.

Christine Crilly, Policy Services, preparation, formatting, quality assurance, editor

Bridget Trojan, Office of General Counsel, State and federal regulations monitor, editor

Operational Services

Administrative Procedure - Preparing and Updating Disclosures

This sample administrative procedure has been adapted and printed with the express permission of Chapman and Cutler LLP. Chapman and Cutler LLP is pleased to provide this sample procedure as an example of factors issuers should consider under current law in preparing policies and procedures for post-issuance compliance with federal securities laws and regulations. It is intended to provide general guidance with the understanding that the provision of the sample procedure does not constitute the rendering of legal advice by Chapman and Cutler LLP or the establishment of an attorney-client relationship with any user of the sample procedure. Reference to this sample procedure should not be considered a substitute for consultation with your legal advisors. Readers should understand that the application of relevant statutory and regulatory provisions can vary based on specific facts and that changes in law or facts may impact the applicability of the sample procedure. Chapman and Cutler LLP assumes no obligation to update the sample procedure to reflect changes in law or practice.

Pursuant to the District's responsibilities under the securities laws, including its continuing disclosure undertakings (*Undertakings*) under Rule 15c2-12 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and the Securities and Exchange Commission's statements in enforcement actions, it is necessary and in the District's best interest that the District comply in all material respects with federal securities laws regarding its (i) preliminary and final official statements or offering circulars and any supplements or amendments thereto (collectively, the *Official Statements*), disseminated by the District in connection with any bonds, notes, certificates or other obligations, (ii) Annual Financial Information, as required by and defined in the Undertakings (the *Annual Financial Information*) to be filed with the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board's (MSRB) Electronic Municipal Market Access (EMMA) system, and (iii) notices of Material Events or Reportable Events, each as defined in the Undertakings, and any other required or voluntary disclosures to EMMA (each, an *EMMA Notice*). These procedures are designed to enable the District to create accurate disclosures with respect to its (i) Official Statements, (ii) Annual Financial Information, and (iii) EMMA Notices, which are collectively referred to herein as *Disclosures*.

In response to these interests, the District hereby adopts the following procedures:

- A. *Disclosure Officer*. Consistent with Board Policy 4:40, *Incurring Debt*, the Superintendent¹ (*Disclosure Officer*) is hereby designated as the officer responsible for the procedures related to Disclosures as hereinafter set forth (collectively, *Disclosure Procedures*).
- B. *Disclosure Procedures: Official Statements*. Whenever an Official Statement will be disseminated in connection with the issuance of obligations by the District, the Disclosure Officer will oversee the process of preparing the Official Statement pursuant to the following procedures:
 1. The District shall select (a) the working group for the transaction, which group may include outside professionals such as disclosure counsel, a municipal advisor, and an underwriter (the *Working Group*), and (b) the member of the Working Group responsible for preparing the first draft of the Official Statement.
 2. The Disclosure Officer shall review and make comments on the first draft of the Official Statement. Such review shall be done to determine that the Official Statement does not include any untrue statement of a material fact or omit a material fact necessary to make the

The footnotes should be removed before the material is used.

¹ Districts that employ business managers may want to substitute "Business Manager", "Chief School Business Official", or locally-another equivalent title for "Superintendent."

statements made in the Official Statement not misleading. Particular attention shall be paid to the accuracy of all descriptions, significant information, and financial data regarding the District. Examples include confirming that information relating to the District, including but not limited to demographic changes, the addition or loss of major employers, the addition or loss of major taxpayers or any other material information within the knowledge of the Disclosure Officer, is included and properly disclosed. The Disclosure Officer shall also be responsible for ensuring that the financial data presented with regard to the District is accurate and corresponds with the financial information in the District's possession, including but not limited to information regarding bonded indebtedness, notes, certificates, outstanding leases, tax rates or any other financial information of the District presented in the Official Statement.

3. After completion of the review set forth in 2, above, the Disclosure Officer shall (a) discuss the first draft of the Official Statement with the members of the Working Group and such staff and officials of the District as the Disclosure Officer deems necessary and appropriate, and (b) provide comments, as appropriate, to the members of the Working Group. The Disclosure Officer shall also consider comments from members of the Working Group and whether any additional changes to the Official Statement are necessary or desirable to make the document compliant with the requirements set forth in 2, above.
 4. The Disclosure Officer shall continue to review subsequent drafts of the Official Statement in the manner set forth in 2 and 3, above.
 5. If, in the Disclosure Officer's reasonable judgment, the Official Statement does not include any untrue statement of a material fact or omit a material fact necessary to make the statements made in the Official Statement not misleading, the Official Statement may, in the reasonable discretion of the Disclosure Officer, be released for dissemination to the public; *provided, however*, that the use of the Official Statement must be ratified, approved, and authorized by the Board.
- C. *Disclosure Procedures: Annual Financial Information.* The Disclosure Officer will oversee the process of preparing the Annual Financial Information pursuant to these procedures:
1. By December 20th² of each year (the same being at least 30 days prior to the last date on which the Annual Financial Information is required to be disseminated pursuant to the related Undertaking) the Disclosure Officer shall begin to prepare (or hire an agent to prepare) the Annual Financial Information. The Disclosure Officer shall also review the audited or unaudited financial statements, as applicable, to be filed as part of the Annual Financial Information (*Financial Statements*). In addition to the required updating of the Annual Financial Information, the Disclosure Officer should consider whether additional information needs to be added to the Annual Financial Information to make the Annual Financial Information, including the Financial Statements, taken as a whole, correct and complete in all material respects. For example, if disclosure of events that occurred subsequent to the date of the Financial Statements would be necessary to clarify, enhance or correct information presented in the Financial Statements, in order to make the Annual Financial Information, taken as a whole, correct and complete in all material respects, disclosure of such subsequent events should be made.

The footnotes should be removed before the material is used.

² The deadline for the dissemination of Annual Financial Information and/or Audited Financial Statements should be set forth in each applicable Undertaking. These procedures assume the deadline set forth in each such Undertaking is not later than 210 days after the end of a district's fiscal year (ending June 30). If one of more of a district's Undertakings provide for a different deadline, it may be appropriate or necessary to change the date in Paragraph C.1 above.

2. If, in the Disclosure Officer's reasonable judgment, the Annual Financial Information, including the Financial Statements, is correct and complete in all material respects, the Disclosure Officer shall file the Annual Financial Information with EMMA (or confirm that such filing is completed by any agent hired by the District for such purpose) within the timeframe allowed for such filing.
- D. *Disclosure Procedures: EMMA Notices.* Whenever the District determines to file an EMMA Notice, or whenever the District decides to make a voluntary filing to EMMA, the Disclosure Officer will oversee the process of preparing the EMMA Notice pursuant to these procedures:
1. The Disclosure Officer shall prepare (or hire an agent to prepare) the EMMA Notice. The EMMA Notice shall be prepared in the form required by the MSRB.
 2. In the case of a disclosure required by an Undertaking, the Disclosure Officer shall determine whether any changes to the EMMA Notice are necessary to make the document compliant with the Undertaking.
 3. If, in the Disclosure Officer's reasonable judgment, the EMMA Notice is correct and complete and, in the case of a disclosure required by an Undertaking, complies with the Undertaking, the Disclosure Officer shall file the EMMA Notice with EMMA (or confirm that such filing is completed by any agent hired by the District for such purpose) within the timeframe allowed for such filing.
- E. *Additional Responsibilities of the Disclosure Officer.* The Disclosure Officer, in addition to the specific responsibilities outlined above, shall have general oversight of the entire disclosure process, which shall include:
1. Maintaining appropriate records of compliance with these Disclosure Procedures (including proofs of EMMA filings) and decisions made with respect to issues that have been raised;
 2. Evaluating the effectiveness of the procedures contained in these Disclosure Procedures; and
 3. Informing the Board when substantive revisions or modifications are made to these Disclosure Procedures.
- F. *General Principles.*
1. All participants in the disclosure process should be encouraged to raise potential disclosure items at all times in the process.
 2. The process of revising and updating the Disclosures should not be viewed as a mechanical insertion of current numbers. While it is not anticipated that there will be major changes in the form and content of the Disclosures at the time of each update, the Disclosure Officer should consider whether such changes are necessary or desirable to make sure the Disclosure does not make any untrue statement of a material fact or omit a material fact necessary or desirable, in order to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances in which they were made, not misleading at the time of each update.
 3. Whenever the District releases information, whether in written or spoken form, that may reasonably be expected to reach investors, it is said to be "speaking to the market." When speaking to the market, District officials must be sure that the released information does not make any untrue statement of a material fact or omit a material fact necessary or desirable, in order to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances in which they were made, not misleading.

4. While care should be taken not to shortcut or eliminate any steps outlined in these Disclosure Procedures on an ad hoc basis, the review and maintenance of the Disclosures is a fluid process and recommendations for improvement of these Disclosure Procedures should be solicited and regularly considered.
5. The Disclosure Officer is authorized to request and pay for attendance at relevant conferences or presentations or annual training sessions conducted by outside counsel, consultants or experts in order to ensure a sufficient level of knowledge for the effective administration of these Disclosure Procedures.

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.

DRAFT

General Personnel

Exhibit - Resolution to Prohibit Sexual Harassment

WHEREAS, Section 10-20 of the School Code (105 ILCS 5/10-20) grants school boards 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 school districts 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 ____ day of _____, 20__.

Attested by: _____, Board President

Attested by: _____, Board Secretary

School Board

Uniform Grievance Procedure 1

A student, parent/guardian, employee, or community member should notify any District Complaint Manager if he or she believes that the School Board, its employees, or its agents have violated his or her rights guaranteed by the State or federal Constitution, State or federal statute, or Board policy², or have a complaint regarding any one of the following:³

1. Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act ⁴
2. Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972
3. Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 ⁵
4. Title VI of the Civil Rights Act, 42 U.S.C. §2000d et seq.

The footnotes are not intended to be part of the adopted policy; they should be removed before the policy is adopted.

¹ State or federal law requires this subject matter be covered by policy and controls this policy's content. This policy contains an item on which collective bargaining may be required. Any policy that impacts upon wages, hours, and terms and conditions of employment is subject to collective bargaining upon request by the employee representative, even if the policy involves an inherent managerial right. Employee grievance procedures are a mandatory subject of bargaining and cannot be changed without the employee exclusive representative's consent. This policy is in addition to, and not a substitute for, the employee grievance procedure contained in a collective bargaining agreement.

A grievance procedure is required by many civil rights acts and implementing regulations, including those listed. For the sake of consistency and ease of administration, this policy consolidates all board grievance procedures into one policy, except those contained in collective bargaining agreements. See the cross references for the policies referring to this uniform grievance procedures policy.

² Including the phrase "guaranteed by the State or federal Constitution, State or federal statute, or Board policy" broadens the scope of this policy beyond the items listed. Consult the board attorney regarding whether to retain this phrase and/or to otherwise limit the scope of this policy.

³ ~~Attorneys disagree whether~~ The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) ~~should be~~ is not included in the list of statutes that may serve as the basis of a grievance, and attorneys disagree whether it should be. Many believe that IDEA provides the exclusive remedy; others believe that including IDEA allows parents an opportunity to get their position before the board. Unique and specific complaint resolution mechanisms are expressly provided under IDEA, Article 14 of the School Code, and their respective implementing regulations. These mechanisms follow: (1) IDEA at 20 U.S.C. §1415 (procedural safeguards-mediation and due process); (2) IDEA regulations at 34 C.F.R. §§300.151-300.153 (state complaints), 300.506 (mediation), and 300.507 et seq. (due process); (3) School Code at §§14/8.02a (mediation and due process) and 14/8.02b (expedited due process); and (4) special education regulations at 23 Ill.Admin.Code §§226.560 (State complaints), 226.570 (mediation), and Subpart G (due process). A board that would like to include IDEA should consult the board attorney.

⁴ The Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act (ADAAA), Pub. L. 110-325, made significant changes to the Americans with Disabilities Act's definition of disability by broadening the scope of coverage. The ADAAA also overturned a series of U.S. Supreme Court decisions that interpreted the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 in a way that made it difficult to prove that impairments were a disability. The U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission's (EEOC) regulations, 29 C.F.R. Part 1630, at: www.eeoc.gov/laws/types/disability_regulations.cfm.

Boards should consult with their attorneys regarding how the ADAAA and its implementing regulations impact their districts.

Title II of the ADA of 1990 also includes website accessibility. Addressing website accessibility is complicated. Many entities addressing website accessibility use *Web Content Accessibility Guidelines* (WCAG) 2.0, a frequently cited accessibility standard that contains guidelines developed by a private group of accessibility experts. WCAG 2.0 is the standard the U.S. Dept. of Justice referenced in its recent Title II rulemaking; however, it is not adopted as the formal legal standard for public accommodation websites. While it is not adopted as the formal legal standard for public accommodation websites, it has been used in many consent decrees and settlement agreements. See www.w3.org/TR/WCAG20/.

⁵ See *f/n 23's* discussion of website accessibility above. To avoid allegations that a district violated Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and Title II of the ADA of 1990, many attorneys suggest that school districts' websites meet the WCAG 2.0 guidelines. But see the discussion in *f/n 2* of policy 8:70, *Accommodating Individuals with Disabilities*.

5. Equal Employment Opportunities Act (Title VII of the Civil Rights Act), 42 U.S.C. §2000e *et seq.*
6. Sexual harassment ([State Officials and Employees Ethics Act](#)⁶, Illinois Human Rights Act, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972)⁷
7. Breastfeeding accommodations for students, 105 ILCS 5/10-20.60 (~~P.A. 100-29, final citation pending~~)⁸
8. Bullying, 105 ILCS 5/27-23.7⁹
9. Misuse of funds received for services to improve educational opportunities for educationally disadvantaged or deprived children¹⁰

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⁶ 5 ILCS 430/70-5(a), amended by P.A. 100-554, requires governmental entities (including school districts) to adopt an ordinance or resolution establishing a policy to prohibit sexual harassment. Unlike the powers granted by the Ill. General Assembly to municipalities to pass ordinances, school boards govern by rules referred to as *policies*. 105 ILCS 5/10-20.5. Further, school boards may only exercise powers given to them that are consistent with the School Code that may be requisite or proper for the maintenance, operation, and development of any school or schools under the jurisdiction of the board. 105 ILCS 5/10-20.

The policy must include, at a minimum:

- (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 State Officials and Employees Ethics 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.

Id. See policy 5:20, *Workplace Harassment Prohibited*.

⁷ Consult the board attorney to ensure the district's nondiscrimination coordinator and complaint managers are trained to appropriately respond to allegations of discrimination based upon bullying and/or sexual violence under Title IX's sexual harassment umbrella. –In September 2017, the U.S. Dept. of Education (DOE) withdrew its sexual violence Title IX guidance issued in 2011 and 2014, which mandated procedures for processing student-on-student sexual conduct, including using a preponderance of the evidence standard for student discipline. The U.S. Dept. of Education DOE has issued interim guidance until new rulemaking is promulgated: *Q&A on Campus Sexual Misconduct* (OCR September 2017) at: www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/qa-title-ix-201709.pdf?utm_content=&utm_medium=email&utm_name=&utm_source=govdelivery&utm_term=. An earlier guidance document also highlights appropriate responses to sexual violence under Title IX. See *Revised Sexual Harassment Guidance: Harassment of Student by School Employees, Other Students, or Third Parties, January 2001* at: www2.ed.gov/offices/OCR/archives/pdf/sbguide.pdf.

Consult the board attorney regarding proper filing and storage of these investigation documents, including whether certain student-related investigation documents are *sole possession records*, a Family Policy Compliance Office (FPCO)-created *an* exemption to the Family Education Rights Privacy Act (FERPA). See *Letter to Ruscio*, 115 LRP 18601 (FPCO 12-17-14).

⁸ 105 ILCS 5/10-20.60 (~~final citation pending~~), added by P.A. 100-29, ~~eff. 1-1-18~~, requires schools to implement the Ill. sex equity grievance procedures when processing student complaints about breastfeeding accommodations. Complainants must be informed that the board's decision may be appealed to the Regional Superintendent and, thereafter, to the State Superintendent. 23 Ill.Admin.Code §-200.40. Note: Certain claims brought under Sec. 10-20.60 (~~final citation pending~~) may also be covered by the anti-discrimination protections of Title IX; consult the board attorney for further advice. Guidance from U.S. Dept. of Education on Title IX requirements for pregnant and parenting students (June 2013) is available at: www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/pregnancy.pdf.

⁹ All districts must have a policy on bullying, 105 ILCS 5/27-23.7. See policy 7:180, *Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment*. The inclusion of *bullying* in the list of topics that may serve as the basis of a grievance furthers the obligation to communicate this policy to students and their parents/guardians.

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/ 11
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. 12
16. Employee Credit Privacy Act, 820 ILCS 70/ 13

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10 Parents/guardians of educationally disadvantaged children may sue a district for misuse of funds allocated by State law for the benefit of such children. *Noyola v. Bd. of Educ.*, 171 Ill.2d 121 (Ill. 1997); (affirming the appellate court's conclusion in *Noyola v. Bd. of Educ.*, 284 Ill.App.3d 128 (1st Dist. 1996) that parents/guardians may pursue a claim to enforce the requirements of the School Code but holding that the proper action for enforcement is by means of mandamus not an implied right of action).

11 The Ill. ~~inois~~ Whistleblower Act (740 ILCS 174/) includes school districts in the definition of employer. It protects employees from employer retaliation for disclosing information to a government or law enforcement agency. Section 15 also contains language prohibiting employers from retaliating against employees who disclose information in a court, an administrative hearing, or before a legislative commission or committee, or in any other proceeding where the employee has reasonable cause to believe that the information reveals a violation of a State or federal law, rule or regulation. The ~~Public Act also amends the Ill.inois~~ Whistleblower Reward and Protection Act. (740 ILCS 175/). ~~includes school districts in its definition of State-includes school districts.~~ A strict interpretation of this language appears to allow school boards to collect civil penalties and costs against someone making a false claim. Before disciplining any employee, ~~B~~boards should thoroughly investigate the ramifications of ~~this Public Act-these acts~~ in consultation with their attorney and liability insurance carriers.

12 The Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act (GINA, 42 U.S.C. §2000ff et seq.) is a federal law. Title I addresses the use of genetic information pertaining to health insurance. Title II protects job applicants, current and former employees, labor union members, and apprentices and trainees from discrimination based on their genetic information. GINA covers employers with 15 or more employees.

GINA broadly defines genetic information to include information about an individual's genetic tests, their family members, and, among other things, the manifestation of a disease or disorder in the individual or the individual's family members. Information about an individual's or family member's age or gender is excluded from genetic information. Its remedies mirror those available under a Title VII of the Civil Rights Act claim: back pay, reinstatement, attorneys' fees and compensatory and punitive damages. Retaliation against an individual who brings a claim under GINA is also prohibited. Federal regulations ~~are available at 29 C.F.R. Part 1635, and background information on these regulations have been proposed and are~~ available at: www.eeoc.gov/policy/docs/ganda_geneticinfo.html. An FAQ titled, *FAQs on the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act* is available at: www.dol.gov/ebsa/faqs/faq-GINA.html.

The Ill. Genetic Information Protection Act (GIPA, 410 ILCS 513/, amended by P.A. 100-396, ~~eff. 1-1-18~~) also prohibits employers from making employment decisions on the basis of any employee's genetic testing information and from penalizing employees who do not want to disclose their genetic information as part of a workplace wellness program. GIPA includes the federal GINA's definition of genetic information and creates more stringent obligations on Ill. employers. While the federal GINA exempts small employers (those with less than 15 employees), Illinois' GIPA covers all employers, even those with one employee. GIPA also provides penalties for negligent and intentional mishandling of genetic information. Note that Title II of GINA does not preempt GIPA's greater protections to Illinois employees.

Before using any sort of genetic information, consult the board attorney for guidance regarding GINA's and GIPA's specific applications to the district and how these laws integrate with other related federal laws, such as the Family Medical Leave Act and the ADA, and State laws governing time off for sickness and workers' compensation.

13 820 ILCS 70/. Unless a satisfactory credit history is an *established bona fide occupational requirement* of a particular position, an employer may not: (1) refuse to hire, discharge, or otherwise discriminate against an individual with respect to employment because of the individual's credit history or credit report; (2) inquire about an applicant's or employee's credit history; or (3) order or obtain an applicant's or employee's credit report from a consumer reporting agency. The Act identifies circumstances that permit a satisfactory credit history to be a job requirement, such as, when the position's duties include custody of or unsupervised access to cash or marketable assets valued at \$2,500 or more. A person who is injured by a violation of this Act may bring a civil action to obtain injunctive relief and/or damages. 820 ILCS 70/25. The court must award costs and reasonable attorneys' fees to a prevailing plaintiff.

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 ~~the~~^{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 equitable¹⁴ resolution of a complaint filed ~~here~~^{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 District 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 District'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 District 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.¹⁵ 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 cyber-bullying 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.¹⁶ The Complaint Manager shall ensure both parties have an equal

¹⁴ The footnotes are not intended to be part of the adopted policy; they should be removed before the policy is adopted.

¹⁴ The phrase "prompt and equitable resolution" comes from Title IX implementing regulation 34 C.F.R. §106.8(b) which requires schools to "adopt and publish grievance procedures providing for prompt and equitable resolution of student and employee complaints" of sex discrimination.

¹⁵ This is a best practice.

¹⁶ This policy gives complaint managers the flexibility to appoint another individual to conduct an investigation, which may be appropriate in cases where the neutrality or efficacy of the complaint manager is an issue, and/or where the district wishes to have the expertise and related attorney-client and work product privileges that an in-house or outside attorney may afford an investigation. Such alternative appointments are often made in consultation with the superintendent or other district-level administrator (except in cases involving complaints about those individuals).

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 Superintendent. The Complaint Manager may request an extension of time.

The Superintendent will keep the Board informed of all complaints.

If a complaint ~~of sexual harassment~~ contains allegations involving the Superintendent, 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 Superintendent 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.¹⁷

Within 10 school business days after receiving the Superintendent'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 Superintendent's decision or direct the Superintendent to gather additional information. Within five school business days of the Board's decision, the Superintendent shall inform the Complainant and the accused of the Board's action.

For complaints containing allegations involving the Superintendent, 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.

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¹⁷ *Preponderance of evidence* is a standard of proof in civil cases. It means "evidence which is of greater weight or more convincing than the evidence which is offered in opposition to it; that is, evidence which as a whole shows that the fact sought to be proved is more probable than not." See *Black's Law Dictionary*, 9th ed. 2009.

This policy shall not be construed to create an independent right to a hearing before the Superintendent or Board. The failure to strictly follow the timelines in this grievance procedure shall not prejudice any party.¹⁸

Appointing a Nondiscrimination Coordinator and Complaint Managers ¹⁹

The Superintendent shall appoint a Nondiscrimination Coordinator to manage the District'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 District's Title IX Coordinator.²⁰

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

The Superintendent shall insert into this policy and keep current the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of the Nondiscrimination Coordinator and the Complaint Managers.²¹

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¹⁸ The Ill. sex equity regulations require districts to have "specific timelines for completion of each step and rendering of a written decision, and shall provide for final appeal of grievance decisions made at the system level to the system's governing board." 23 Ill.Admin.Code §200.40. To avoid arguments over these timelines, this sample policy provides that the failure to strictly follow the timelines does not prejudice any party. The grievance procedure is worthless if complaints are not thoroughly and promptly investigated.

¹⁹ Title IX regulations require districts to identify the name, address, and telephone number of the person who is responsible for coordinating the district's compliance efforts. OCR prefers that school districts make Title IX information and coordinators visible to the community, and it has provided materials designed to remind schools of their obligation to designate a Title IX coordinator. These materials include: (a1) a *Dear Colleague Letter on Title IX Coordinators*; (b2) a *Letter to Title IX Coordinators* that provides them with more information about their role; and (e3) a *Title IX Resource Guide* that includes an overview of Title IX's requirements with respect to several key issues. See www2.ed.gov/policy/rights/guid/ocr/title-ix-coordinators.html.

While the names and contact information are required by law to be listed, they are not part of the adopted policy and do not require board action. This allows for additions and amendments to the names and contact information when necessary. It is important for updated names and contact information to be inserted into this policy and regularly monitored.

²⁰ Best practice is that throughout the district's board policy manual, the same individual be named as Nondiscrimination Coordinator. In contrast, Complaint Managers identified in individual policies may vary depending upon local district needs.

²¹ The board may include the following option to address publication of such contact information:

"The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that students, parents/guardians, employees, and members of the community are informed of the contact information for the District's Nondiscrimination Coordinator and Complaint Managers on an annual basis."

Publicizing the contact information for the Nondiscrimination Coordinator and Complaint Managers through personnel handbooks, student handbooks, and/or on the district's website is a best practice. The Illinois Principals Association maintains a handbook service that coordinates with PRESS material, *Online Model Student Handbook (MSH)*, at: www.ilprincipals.org/resources/model-student-handbook.

Nondiscrimination Coordinator:

Name

Address

Email

Telephone

Complaint Managers:

Name

Address

Email

Telephone

Name

Address

Email

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 (P.A. 100-29, final citation pending), 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), 6:170 (Title I Programs), 6:260 (Complaints About Curriculum, Instructional Materials, and Programs), 7:10 (Equal Educational Opportunities), 7:15 (Student and Family Privacy Rights), 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)

Commented [MB1]: Added because 2:260 is cross referenced by 7:15.

Commented [MB2]: Added because 2:260 is noted in 7:310-A as a mechanism to resolve a complaint.

Commented [MB3]: Added because 2:260 is noted in 7:310-A as a mechanism to resolve a complaint, and 7:310-AP can be renumbered 7:315-AP for use by high school districts in conjunction with 7:315.

Commented [MB4]: Added because 2:260 is noted in 8:95-AP as a policy which provides opportunities for parental involvement.

Operational Services

Incurring Debt ¹

The Superintendent shall provide early notice to the School Board of the District's need to borrow money. The Superintendent or designee² shall prepare all documents and notices necessary for the Board, at its discretion, to: (1) issue State Aid Anticipation Certificates,³ tax anticipation warrants,⁴ working cash fund bonds,⁵ bonds,⁶ notes,⁷ and other evidence of indebtedness,⁸ or (2) establish a line of credit with a bank or other financial institution.⁹ The Superintendent shall notify the State Board of Education before the District 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. ¹⁰

Bond Issue Obligations ¹¹

In connection with the Board's issuance of bonds, the Superintendent shall be responsible for ensuring the District's compliance with federal securities laws, including the anti-fraud provisions of

Commented [DJ1]: For continuous improvement purposes, a new, optional section has been added to expressly address districts' obligations to comply with federal securities laws in connection with bond issues, and authorize the creation of written procedures to protect the status of tax-exempt (or otherwise tax-advantaged) bonds issued by a board. See f/n 11 for further detail.

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¹ State law controls this policy's content. School districts are subject to a statutory debt limitation (105 ILCS 5/19-1(a)); other provisions in 5/19-1 contain exceptions. Not all forms of indebtedness are subject to the statutory debt limitations. Before incurring any debt, the board must be certain that the debt will be within the district's debt limitation.

² Boards that employ business managers may want to substitute "Business Manager", "Chief School Business Official", or another locally-equivalent title for "Superintendent or designee" and "Superintendent" as they appear throughout this policy; the business manager most commonly performs the duties described in this policy.

³ 50 ILCS 420/1 et seq. and 105 ILCS 5/18-18.

⁴ 105 ILCS 5/17-16.

⁵ 105 ILCS 5/20-2, 5/20-4, and 5/20-5; 30 ILCS 305/2.

⁶ 105 ILCS 5/19-1 et seq.; 30 ILCS 350/.

⁷ 50 ILCS 420/0.01 et seq. A district may borrow money and issue bonds for the purposes stated in 105 ILCS 5/19-3, provided the board properly adopted an election referendum and subsequently the voters approved the proposition. ¹⁰ (10 ILCS 5/28-2). Districts have the authority to issue bonds for certain purposes without a referendum, e.g., School Fire Prevention and Safety Bonds, Working Cash Fund Bonds, Funding Bonds, and Insurance Reserve Bonds.

⁸ Other types of indebtedness include funding bonds and refunding bonds (105 ILCS 5/19-1 et seq.), as well as debt certificates and alternate bonds authorized by the Local Government Debt Reform Act (30 ILCS 350/).

⁹ 105 ILCS 5/17-17.

¹⁰ 105 ILCS 5/19-1.

¹¹ Optional. This subhead is offered for boards that want to: (1) expressly address their obligations to comply with federal securities laws; and (2) authorize the creation of written procedures to protect the status of tax-exempt (or otherwise tax-advantaged) bonds issued by the board. As a matter of best practice and to reduce potential future liabilities, many attorneys recommend that board policy address these obligations. Consult the board attorney and/or bond counsel for guidance.

The Internal Revenue Service strongly encourages, but does not currently require, issuers of tax-exempt bonds to establish written post-issuance compliance monitoring procedures. For guidance regarding the recommended content of such procedures, see *IRS Publication 4079, Tax-Exempt Governmental Bonds*, at: www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/p4079.pdf. Such procedures may be included in a written bond resolution for a specific bond issue, and/or they may be established more generally. Consult the board attorney and/or bond counsel regarding the establishment of such procedures for tax-exempt bonds.

If a board does not accept this subhead, delete the Administrative Procedure Reference and the following Legal References: Securities Act of 1933, 15 U.S.C. §77a et seq.; Securities Exchange Act of 1934, 15 U.S.C. §78a et seq.; and 17 C.F.R. §240.15c2-12.

the Securities Act of 1933, as amended¹² and, if applicable, the continuing disclosure obligations under Rule 15c2-12 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.¹³

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 District or bond holder to receive other federal tax benefits, the Board authorizes the Superintendent 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.¹⁴

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.-and
Bond Issue Notification Act, 30 ILCS 352/1-et seq.
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)

ADMIN. PROC.: 4:40-AP (Preparing and Updating Disclosures)

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¹² 15 U.S.C. §77g.

¹³ 17 C.F.R. §240.15c2-12. See 4:40-AP, *Preparing and Updating Disclosures*, for a detailed set of sample procedures designed to facilitate a district's compliance with disclosure requirements of federal securities laws.

¹⁴ Delete the last paragraph of this subsection if the board does not want to include a sentence in this policy that addresses the use of outside professionals for assistance with compliance. Boards that regularly utilize outside professionals to assist them in meeting bond disclosure requirements may want to include this language to memorialize their current practice. Contracts for the services of individuals possessing a high degree of professional skill, such as attorneys and financial consultants, are exempt from competitive bidding requirements. 105 ILCS 5/10-20.21(a)(i).

General Personnel

Workplace Harassment Prohibited ¹

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 race, religion², 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 District will take remedial and corrective action to address unlawful workplace harassment, including sexual harassment.

The footnotes are not intended to be part of the adopted policy; they should be removed before the policy is adopted.

¹ State or federal law controls this policy's content. Federal law requires districts to take action to prevent sexual harassment and to disseminate a policy regarding its prohibition of sex discrimination. 29 C.F.R. §1604.11(f); 34 C.F.R. §106.9. Harassment based on a protected status is a form of discrimination that violates many State and federal laws (see the policy's Legal References).

Workplace harassment policies have typically focused on *sexual* harassment since it receives the most attention. However, the broad prohibitions against discrimination in State and federal civil rights laws will cover harassing conduct that is motivated by animus against any protected status. See *Porter v. Erie Foods International, Inc.*, 576 F.3d 629 (7th Cir. 2009) (recognizing a cause of action for race harassment). For a list of protected statuses, see policy 5:10, *Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Recruitment*. This policy prohibiting harassment has a separate section on sexual harassment because of the extensive statutory and case law regarding it.

An employer is liable under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VII) for an employee's harassment of a co-worker if the employer was negligent with respect to the offensive behavior by, for example, failing to take remedial action when it knew or should have known about the harassment. 42 U.S.C. §2000e *et seq.* However, when the perpetrator is the victim's supervisor, the employer will be vicariously liable for the supervisor's actions. Lack of knowledge of a supervisor's misconduct is no defense. *Burlington Industries v. Ellerth*, 524 U.S. 742 (1998); *Faragher v. City of Boca Raton*, 524 U.S. 775 (1998). A *supervisor* is someone who has the authority to demote, discharge, or take other negative job action against the victim. *Vance v. Ball State University*, 133 S.Ct. 2434 (2013). Note that the Ill. Human Rights Act (IHRA, 775 ILCS 5/2-102(D)) imposes strict liability on the employer when an employee has been sexually harassed by supervisory personnel regardless of whether the harasser has any authority over the complainant. *Sangamon County Sheriff's Dept. v. Ill. Human Rights Com'n*, 233 Ill.2d 125 (Ill. 2009).

Not all harassing conduct is unlawful discrimination, even if it is disruptive and hurtful. If a board wants to include language in this policy prohibiting employees from engaging in intimidating or offensive conduct that is *not* a civil rights violation, it should consult the board attorney.

² Section 2-102 of the IHRA, amended by P.A. 100-100, contains a new *religious discrimination* subsection. It expressly prohibits employers from requiring a person to violate a sincerely held religious belief to obtain or retain employment unless, after engaging in a bona fide effort, the employer demonstrates that it is unable to reasonably accommodate the employee's or prospective employee's sincerely held religious belief, practice, or observance without undue hardship on the conduct of the employer's business. Religious beliefs include, but are not limited to: the wearing of any attire, clothing, or facial hair in accordance with the requirements of his/her religion. 775 ILCS 5/2-102(E-5). Employers may, however, enact a dress code or grooming policy that restricts attire, clothing, or facial hair to maintain workplace safety or food sanitation. *Id.*

Sexual Harassment Prohibited ³

The School District shall provide a workplace environment free of ~~unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal, or physical, or other~~ conduct, or communications constituting harassment on the basis of sex as defined and otherwise prohibited by State and federal 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.⁴ Sexual harassment prohibited by this policy includes, but is not limited to, verbal, ~~or 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; Enforcement ⁵

~~Employees are encouraged to promptly report information regarding violations of this policy.⁶ Employees may choose to report to a person of the employee's same gender. Every effort should be~~

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³ The IHRA (775 ILCS 5/2-102(D)) provides that sexual harassment is a civil rights violation:

For any employer, employee, agent of any employer, employment agency or labor organization to engage in sexual harassment; provided, that an employer shall be responsible for sexual harassment of the employer's employees by non-employees or non-managerial and non-supervisory employees only if the employer becomes aware of the conduct and fails to take reasonable corrective measures.

~~The State Officials and Employees Ethics Act (5 ILCS 430/70-5(a), amended by P.A. 100-554) requires governmental entities (including school districts) to adopt an ordinance or resolution establishing a policy to prohibit sexual harassment. Unlike the powers granted by the Ill. General Assembly to municipalities to pass ordinances, school boards govern by rules referred to as policies. 105 ILCS 5/10-20.5. Further, school boards may only exercise powers given to them that are consistent with the School Code that may be requisite or proper for the maintenance, operation, and development of any school or schools under the jurisdiction of the board. 105 ILCS 5/10-20.~~

~~The policy must include, at a minimum: (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 State Officials and Employees Ethics Act, the Whistleblower Act (740 ILCS 174/), and the IHRA (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. Id.~~

⁴ This definition is from State and federal law. 775 ILCS 5/2-101(E) and 29 C.F.R. §1604.11. The harassing conduct must be severe or pervasive so as to alter the conditions of the employee's work environment by creating a hostile or abusive situation. *Williams v. Waste Management*, 361 F.3d 1021 (7th Cir. 2004). The surrounding circumstances, expectations, and relationships will distinguish between teasing or rough-housing and conduct that a reasonable person would find severely hostile or abusive. In addition, while same-sex gender harassment claims are actionable, the victim must show that s/he suffered disadvantageous employment conditions to which members of the other sex were not exposed. *Oncale v. Sundown Offshore Services*, 535 U.S. 75 (1998).

⁵ See *Berry v. Delta Airlines*, 260 F.3d 803, 811 (7th Cir. 2001) ("If an employer takes reasonable steps to discover and rectify the harassment of its employees ... it has discharged its legal duty.")

~~In addition to violating other civil rights laws, a school district violates the public accommodations article in the IHRA if it fails to take corrective action to stop severe or pervasive harassment. 775 ILCS 5/5-102 and 5/5-102.2.~~

⁶ ~~School districts are not required to train employees regarding workplace harassment, including sexual harassment; however it is best practice. For districts that wish to provide such trainings, best practices suggest annual trainings work best, including on applicable board policies and procedures, what constitutes workplace harassment, complaint and enforcement mechanisms, and employees' legal rights.~~

made to file such complaints as soon as possible, while facts are known and potential witnesses are available.

Aggrieved ~~employees~~persons, ~~who 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.

~~Employees should report claims of harassment to the Nondiscrimination Coordinator and/or use Board policy 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*, and/or use the Board policy 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*. Employees may choose to report to a person of the employee's same sex. There are no express time limits for initiating complaints and grievances under this policy; however, every effort should be made to file such complaints as soon as possible, while facts are known and potential witnesses are available.~~

Whom to Contact with a Report or Complaint ⁷

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.⁸ 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 Superintendent shall insert into this policy the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of the District's current Nondiscrimination Coordinator and Complaint Managers.

Nondiscrimination Coordinator:

Name

Address

Email

Telephone

The footnotes are not intended to be part of the adopted policy; they should be removed before the policy is adopted.

⁷ Title IX regulations require districts to identify the name, address, and telephone number of the person who is responsible for coordinating the district's compliance efforts. A policy should not be adopted with a person's name in it; rather, the identifying information can be added and amended as necessary.

⁸ 5 ILCS 430/70-5(a), amended by P.A. 100-554, requires that a school board policy prohibiting sexual harassment include details for reporting an allegation of sexual harassment, including options for making a confidential report to a supervisor and an ethics officer. 5 ILCS 430/20-23 defines *ethics officers* as being designated by State agencies under the jurisdiction of the Executive Ethics Commission. School districts are not State agencies (5 ILCS 430/1-5) and do not have ethics officers; thus, this sample policy substitutes Complaint Manager for ethics officer.

Complaint Managers:

Name	Name
Address	Address
Email	Email
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 District's duty to investigate and maintain a workplace environment that is productive, respectful, and free of unlawful discrimination, including harassment. The District shall investigate alleged workplace harassment when a Complaint Manager becomes aware of an allegation, regardless of whether a written report or complaint is filed.

Enforcement⁹

A violation of this policy by an employee may result in discipline, up to and including discharge.¹⁰ 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, i.e., vendor, parent, invitee, etc. Any ~~employee~~ person making a knowingly false accusation regarding harassment will likewise be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including discharge.¹¹

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/).¹²

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⁹ See *Berry v. Delta Airlines*, 260 F.3d 803, 811 (7th Cir. 2001) ("If an employer takes reasonable steps to discover and rectify the harassment of its employees ... it has discharged its legal duty.")

In addition to violating other civil rights laws, a school district violates the *public accommodations* article in the IHRA if it fails to take corrective action to stop severe or pervasive harassment. 775 ILCS 5/5-102 and 5/5-102.2.

¹⁰ 5 ILCS 430/70-5(a), amended by P.A. 100-554 (consequences of a violation of the prohibition on sexual harassment).

¹¹ Id. (consequences for knowingly making a false report of sexual harassment).

¹² Id. (prohibition on retaliation for reporting sexual harassment allegations, including availability of whistleblower protections under the State Officials and Employees Ethics Act, the Whistleblower Act (740 ILCS 174/), and the IHRA (775 ILCS 5/)).

Crawford v. Metro. Gov't of Nashville & Davidson County, 555 U.S. 271 (2009) (holding the anti-retaliation provision in EEOA protects an employee who spoke out about harassment, not only on his or her own initiative, but also in answering questions during an employer's internal investigation).

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 ¹³

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 and applicants of this policy, which shall include reprinting this policy in the appropriate handbooks.¹⁴

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¹³ 5 ILCS 430/70-5(a), amended by P.A. 100-554, (how an individual can report an allegation of sexual harassment, including options for making a confidential report to the Inspector General or the Ill. Dept. of Human Rights). This sample policy does not reference the Inspector General because the Inspector General does not have jurisdiction over public school districts. 5 ILCS 430/1.

¹⁴ A district must notify employees of the grievance procedure and the person(s) designated to coordinate the district's compliance with Title IX. 34 C.F.R. §§106.8(a). The nondiscrimination coordinator can be the same individual for both this policy and policy 7:10, *Equal Educational Opportunities*, as well as the complaint manager in policy 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*. A comprehensive faculty handbook can provide required notices, along with other important information to recipients. The handbook can be developed by the building principal, but should be reviewed and approved by the superintendent and board. Any *working conditions* contained in the handbook may be subject to mandatory collective bargaining.

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)

General Personnel

Copyright ¹

Works Made for Hire ²

The Superintendent 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 School Board 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 District 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 District's copyright compliance procedures and to obey the copyright laws. The District is not responsible for any violations of the copyright laws by its staff or students. A staff member should contact the Superintendent or designee whenever the staff member is uncertain about whether using or copying material complies with the District'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 Superintendent or designee, install or download any program on a District-owned computer. At no time shall it be necessary for a District staff member to violate copyright laws in order to properly perform his or her duties.

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¹ State or federal law controls this policy's content. Creators of original materials, including materials posted on the Internet, are granted exclusive rights, known as *copyrights* (17 U.S.C. §101 *et seq.*). These exclusive rights include reproducing and publicly performing the work. Congress granted some exceptions to exclusive rights for schools, including §107 on fair use, §108 on library reproduction and archiving, §109 on first sale, and §110 on classroom performance and display. If not covered by an exception, the copyright owner's permission must be sought before a work can be copied or performed. The fine for failing to comply with copyright law is steep making the cost of consulting with the board attorney a bargain.

² In evaluating a work made for hire claim, courts consider a non-exhaustive list of factors, including: (1) the hiring party's right to control the manner and means by which the product is accomplished; (2) the skill required to create the material; (3) the location of the work; (4) the duration of the relationship between the parties; (5) whether the hiring party has the right to assign additional projects to the hired party; and (6) the provision of employee benefits. *Shanton v. St. Charles Community Unit Sch. Dist. 303*, 2017 WL 4865536 (N.D.Ill. 2017)(citing *Community for Creative Non-Violence v. Reid*, 490 U.S. 730 (1989)).

Copyright Infringement; Designation of District Digital Millennium Copyright Act (DMCA) Agent ³

The employee listed below receives complaints about copyright infringement within the use of the District's online services. The Superintendent or designee will register this information with the federal Copyright Office as required by federal law.

District DMCA Agent:

Name

Address

Email

Telephone

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)

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³ Optional. Before using this text, **consult the board attorney to first identify whether the District is an *online service provider* (OSP) under the DMCA.** The DMCA is an amendment to 17 U.S.C. §101 et seq. The amendment provides limitations on OSP liability for storage, at the direction of a user, of copyrighted material residing on a system or network controlled or operated by or for the OSP. This liability limitation is called the *Safe Harbor Provision* (SHP). **If a district is an OSP, the SHP provision will only not apply if the district ~~does not~~ designates, publicizes, and registers a DMCA Agent with the federal Copyright Office (at publication time, registration was ~~\$6105~~).**

Districts that may benefit from the SHP are those which operate or contract to operate the following types of websites: file and information sharing sites; blogs that allow guests to post content; social media sites; and other sites that accept, publish or host content created and submitted by other parties. For further steps to designate a DMCA agent, see 5:170-AP4, *Designation of District Digital Millennium Copyright Act (DMCA) Agent; Registration Process*.