## **SECTION 6 - INSTRUCTION**

## 6:10 Educational Philosophy and Objectives

The Board of Education, as the collective representative of the community, seeks to provide, within the financial limitations set by that community, the best educational opportunities to all students so that they may function with reasonable success, both personally and as participating responsible citizens. However, we recognize that schools cannot and should not attempt to replace the home as the essential element in the development of the individual child. These educational opportunities include supportive services necessary to the students' health, safety, individual achievement and well-being. The Board believes that proper administration of the schools is vital to the success of the educational program and seeks to employ the best trained and best qualified staff available to give expression to the District philosophy and to accomplish District objectives.

The District's educational program will seek to provide an opportunity for each child to develop to his or her maximum potential. The objectives for the educational program are:

- To foster self-discovery, self-awareness, and self-discipline.
- To develop an awareness of and appreciation for cultural diversity.
- To stimulate intellectual curiosity and growth.
- To provide fundamental career concepts and skills.
- To help the student develop sensitivity to the needs and values of others and a respect for individual and group differences.
- To help each student strive for excellence and instill a desire to reach the limit of his or her potential.
- To develop the fundamental skills which will provide a basis for life long learning.
- To be free of any bias concerning the protected classifications identified in policy 7:10, Equal Educational Opportunities.

The administrative staff is responsible for apprising the School Board of the educational program's current and future status. The Superintendent should prepare an annual report that includes:

- A review and evaluation of the present curriculum;
- A projection of curriculum and resource needs:
- An evaluation of, and plan to eliminate, any bias in the curriculum or instructional materials and methods concerning the classifications referred to above;
- A plan for new or revised instructional program implementation; and
- A review of present and future facility needs.

CROSS REF: 1:30 (School District Philosophy), 3:10 (Goals and Objectives), 6:15 (School Accountability), 7:10 (Equal Educational Opportunities)

Adopted: June 19, 2018

## 6:15 School Accountability

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

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

#### Quality Assurance

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

- 1. Prepare each school's annual recognition application and quality assurance appraisal, whether internal or external, to assess each school's continuous school improvement.
- 2. Continuously assess the District's and each school's overall performance in terms of both academic success and equity. This includes, without limitation, a thorough analysis of ISBE's balanced accountability measure and each school's Multiple Measure Index and corresponding Annual Measurable Objective provided by ISBE.
- 3. If applicable, develop District and School Improvement Plans, present them for Board approval, and supervise their implementation.
- 4. Prepare a school report card, present it at a regular Board meeting, and disseminate it as provided in State law.
- 5. In accordance with 105 ILCS 5/2-3.153, annually administer a climate survey on the instructional environment within the school to, at minimum, students in grades 4 through 8 and teachers.

The Superintendent shall make regular assessment reports to the Board, including projections whether the District and each school is or will be making adequate yearly progress as defined in State law. The Superintendent shall seek Board approval for each District and/or school improvement plan and otherwise when necessary or advisable.

### LEGAL REF.:

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

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

CROSS REF.:6:170 (Title I Programs), 6:340 (Student Testing and Assessment Program), 7:10 (Equal Educational Opportunities)

Adopted: April 23, 2019

## 6:20 School Year Calendar and Day

#### School Calendar

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

The calendar for the school term and any changes must be submitted to and approved by the regional superintendent before the calendar or changes may take effect.

#### Commemorative Holidays

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

## School Day

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

#### LEGAL REF.: -

105 LCS 5/10-19, 5/10-19.05, 5/10-24.46, 5/18-12, 5/18-12.5, 5/24-2, 5/27-3, 5/27-18, 5/27-19, 5/27-20, 5/27-20.1, 5/27-20.2, and 20/1.

10 ILCS 5/11-4.1.

23 III.Admin.Code §1.420(f).

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

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

Adopted: January 21, 2020

## 6:30 Organization of Instruction

The School District has instructional levels for grades Pre-school through 8. The Superintendent shall annually present to the Board a plan for organizing instructional levels and assigning them to school facilities in order to:

- 1. Support the District's educational program,
- 2. Maximize facility usage without undue overcrowding, and
- 3. Provide substantially comparable instructional programs across the District.

Students, for instructional purposes, may be placed in groups within the school which do not necessarily follow grade level designations. For purposes of attendance reporting and other records, however, each student must be identified as to grade-level placement.

#### Kindergarten

The District maintains a full-day kindergarten with an instructional program that fulfills the District's curriculum goals and objectives and the requirements of the State law. The District also offers a half-day kindergarten for those parents/guardians who request a half-day program.

LEGAL REF.:

105 ILCS 5/10-20.19a, 5/10-20.37, and 5/10-22.18.

23 III.Admin.Code §1.420.

CROSS REF.: 6:40 (Curriculum Development), 6:170 (Title I Programs), 7:30 (Student Assignment), 7:50 (School Admissions and Student Transfers To and From Non-District Schools), 7:100 (Health, Eye, and Dental Examinations; Immunizations; and Exclusion of Students)

Adopted: June 19, 2018

## 6:40 Curriculum Development

#### Adoption

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

- 1. The District's educational philosophy and goals.
- 2. Student needs as identified by research, demographics, and student achievement and other data.
- 3. The knowledge, skills, and abilities required for students to become life-long learners.
- 4. The minimum requirements of State and federal law and regulations for curriculum and graduation requirements.
- 5. The curriculum of non-District schools that feed into or from a District school, provided that the necessary cooperation and information is available.
- 6. The Illinois State Learning Standards and any District learning standards.
- 7. Any required State or federal student testing.

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

#### **Development**

The Superintendent shall develop a curriculum review program to monitor the current curriculum and promptly suggest changes to make the curriculum more effective, to take advantage of improved teaching methods and materials, and to be responsive to social change, technological developments, student needs, and community expectations.

The curriculum review program shall:

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

#### Experimental Educational Programs and Pilot Projects

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

#### Curriculum Guides and Course Outlines

The Superintendent shall develop and provide subject area curriculum guides to appropriate staff members.

#### LEGAL REF.:

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

CROSS REF.:6:60 (Curriculum Content), 6:70 (Teaching About Religions), 6:80 (Teaching About Controversial Issues), 6:100 (Experiments Upon or Dissection of Animals), 6:120 (Education of

Children with Disabilities), 6:135 (Accelerated Placement Program), 6:160 (English Learners), 7:10 (Equal Educational Opportunities), 7:15 (Student and Family Privacy Rights)

Adopted: September 17, 2019

### 6:50 School Wellness

Studer wellness, including good nutrition and physical activity, shall be promoted in the District's educational program, school-based activities, and meal programs. This policy shall be interpreted consistently with Section 204 of the Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act of 2004 and the Healthy Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 (HHFKA).

The Superintendent will ensure:

- 1. Each school building complies with this policy;
- 2. The policy is available to the community on an annual basis through copies of or online access to the Board Policy Manual; and
- 3. The community is informed about the progress of this policy's implementation.

#### Goals for Nutrition Education and Nutrition Promotion

The goals for addressing nutrition education and nutrition promotion include the following:

- Schools will support and promote sound nutrition for students.
- Schools will foster the positive relationship between sound nutrition, physical activity, and the capacity of students to develop and learn.
- Nutrition education will be part of the District's comprehensive health education curriculum. See Board policy 6:60, *Curriculum Content*.

## Goals for Physical Activity

The goals for addressing physical activity include the following:

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

## Nutrition Guidelines for Foods Available During the School Day; Marketing Prohibited

Students will be offered and schools will promote nutritious food and beverage choices during the school day that are consistent with Board policy 4:120, *Food Services* (requiring compliance with the nutrition standards specified in the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture's (USDA) *Smart Snacks* rules).

In addition, in order to promote student health and reduce childhood obesity, the Superintendent or designee shall:

- Restrict the sale of competitive foods, as defined by the USDA, in the food service areas during meal periods;
- 2. Comply with all ISBE rules; and

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

The District applies *competitive foods* standards listed in Board policy 4:120, *Food Services*, to foods available, but not sold, in schools.

#### Exempted Fundraising Day (EFD) Requests

All food and beverages sold to students on the school campuses of participating schools during the school day must comply with the "general nutrition standards for competitive foods" specified in federal law.

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

#### Guidelines for Reimbursable School Meals

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

## Monitoring

At least every three years, the Superintendent shall provide implementation data and/or reports to the Board concerning this policy's implementation sufficient to allow the Board to monitor and adjust the policy (a triennial report). This triennial report must include without limitation each of the following:

- An assessment of the District's implementation of the policy
- The extent to which schools in the District are in compliance with the policy
- The extent to which the policy compares to model local school wellness policies
- A description of the progress made in attaining the goals of the policy
- How the District will make the results of the assessment available to the public
- Where the District will retain records of the assessment

The Board will monitor and adjust the policy pursuant to policy 2:240, Board Policy Development.

#### Community Involvement

The Board and Superintendent will actively invite suggestions and comments concerning the development, implementation, periodic reviews, and updates of the school wellness policy from parents, students, representatives of the school food authority, teachers of physical education, school health professionals, the school board, school administrators, and the community. Community involvement methods shall align their suggestions and comments to policy 2:140, *Communications To and From the Board* and/or the **Community Engagement** subhead in policy 8:10, *Connection with the Community*.

#### Recordkeeping

The Superintendent shall retain records to document compliance with this policy, the District's records retention protocols, and the Local Records Act.

#### LEGAL REF.:

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

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

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

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

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

Local Records Act, 50 ILCS 205/.

105 ILCS 5/2-3.139.

23 III.Admin.Code Part 305, Food Program.

ISBE's "School Wellness Policy" Goal, adopted Oct. 2007.

CROSS REF.: 2:140 (Communications To and From the Board), 2:150 (Committees), 2:240 (Board Policy Development), 4:120 (Food Services), 5:100 (Staff Development Program), 6:60 (Curriculum Content), 7:260 (Exemption from Physical Education), 8:10 (Connection with the Community)

ADOPTED:

February 20, 2018

## 6:60 Curriculum Content

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

- 1. In each grade, subjects include: (a) language arts, (b) reading, (c) other communication skills, (d) science, (e) mathematics, (f) social studies, (g) art, (h) music, and (i) drug and substance abuse prevention. A reading opportunity of 60 minutes per day will be promoted for all students in kindergarten through grade 3 whose reading levels are one grade level or more lower than their current grade level. Before the completion of grade 5, students will be offered at least one unit of cursive instruction. Beginning with the 2020-2021 school year, in grades 6, 7, or 8, students must receive at least one semester of civics education in accordance with Illinois Learning Standards for social science.
- 2. In grades 7 and 8, as well as in interscholastic athletic programs, steroid abuse prevention must be taught.
- 3. In kindergarten through grade 8, provided it can be funded by private grants or the federal government, violence prevention and conflict resolution must be stressed, including: (a) causes of conflict, (b) consequences of violent behavior, (c) non-violent resolution, and (d) relationships between drugs, alcohol, and violence.
- 4. In grades kindergarten through 8, age-appropriate Internet safety must be taught, the scope of which shall be determined by the Superintendent or designee. The curriculum must incorporate policy 6:235, *Access to Electronic Networks* and, at a minimum, include: (a) education about appropriate online behavior, (b) interacting with other individuals on social networking websites and in chat rooms, and (c) cyberbullying awareness and response.
- 5. In all grades, character education must be taught including respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, trustworthiness, and citizenship in order to raise students' honesty, kindness, justice, discipline, respect for others, and moral courage. Instruction in all grades will include educating students about behaviors that violate policy 7:180, Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment.
- 6. In all schools, citizenship values must be taught, including: (a) patriotism, (b) democratic principles of freedom, justice, and equality, (c) proper use and display of the American flag, (d) the Pledge of Allegiance, and (e) the voting process.
- 7. In all grades, physical education must be taught including a developmentally planned and sequential curriculum that fosters the development of movement skills, enhances health-related fitness, increases students' knowledge, offers direct opportunities to learn how to work cooperatively in a group setting, and encourages healthy habits and attitudes for a healthy lifestyle. Unless otherwise exempted, all students are required to engage in a physical education course with such frequency as determined by the Board after recommendation from the Superintendent, but at a minimum of three days per five-day week. For exemptions see 7:260, Exemption from Physical Education.
- 8. In all schools, health education must be stressed, including: (a) proper nutrition, (b) physical fitness, (c) components necessary to develop a sound mind in a healthy body, (d) dangers and avoidance of abduction, and (e) age-appropriate sexual abuse and assault awareness and prevention education in all grades. The Superintendent shall implement a comprehensive health education program in accordance with State law.
- 9. In all schools, career/vocational education must be taught, including: (a) the importance of work, (b) the development of basic skills to enter the world of work and/or continue formal education, (c) good work habits and values, (d) the relationship between learning and work, and (e) if possible, a student work program that provides the student with work experience as an extension of the regular classroom. A Career Awareness and Exploration Program must be available at all grade levels.
- 10. In all schools, conservation of natural resources must be taught, including: (a) home ecology, (b) endangered species, (c) threats to the environment, and (d) the importance of the environment to

life as we know it.

11. In all schools, United States (U.S.) history must be taught, including: (a) the principles of representative government, (b) the Constitutions of the U.S. and Illinois, (c) the role of the U.S. in world affairs, (d) the role of labor unions, (e) the role and contributions of ethnic groups, including but not limited to, the African Americans, Albanians, Asian Americans, Bohemians, Czechs, French, Germans, Hispanics (including the events related to the forceful removal and illegal deportation of Mexican-American U.S. citizens during the Great Depression), Hungarians, Irish, Italians, Lithuanians, Polish, Russians, Scots, and Slovakians in the history of this country and State, (f) a study of the roles and contributions of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) people in the history of the U.S. and Illinois, and (g) Illinois history.

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

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

#### LEGAL REF.:

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

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

47 C.F.R. §54.520

5 ILCS 465/3 and 465/3a.

20 ILCS 2605/2605-480.

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

625 ILCS 5/6-408.5.

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

CROSS REF.: 6:20 (School Year Calendar and Day), 6:40 (Curriculum Development), 6:70 (Teaching

About Religions), 6:235 (Access to Electronic Networks), 7:180 (Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment), 7:185 (Teen Dating Violence Prohibited), 7:190 (Student Discipline); 7:260 (Exemption from Physical Education)

Adopted: January 21, 2020

## 6:65 Student Social and Emotional Development

Student social and emotional development shall be incorporated in the District's educational program and shall be consistent with the social and emotional development standards to be contained in the Illinois Learning Standards. The objectives for addressing the needs of students for social and emotional development through the educational programs are to:

- 1. Enhance students' school readiness, academic success, and use of good citizenship skills;
- 2. Foster a safe, supportive learning environment where students feel respected and valued;
- 3. Teach social and emotional skills to all students;
- 4. Partner with families and the community to promote students' social and emotional development; and
- 5. Prevent or minimize mental health problems in students.

#### LEGAL REF.:

Children's Mental Health Act of 2003, 405 ILCS 49/1 et seq.

CROSS REF.: 6:270 (Guidance and Counseling Program), 7:100 (Health, Eye and Dental Examinations, Immunizations, and Exclusion of Students), 7:180 (Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment), 7:250 (Student Support Services)

Adopted: April 23, 2019

## 6:70 Teaching About Religions

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

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

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

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

ADOPTED:May 16, 2017

## 6:80 Teaching About Controversial Issues

The Superintendent shall ensure that all school-sponsored presentations and discussions of controversial or sensitive topics in the instructional program, including those made by guest speakers, are:

- Age-appropriate. Proper decorum, considering the students' ages, should be followed.
- Consistent with the curriculum and serve an educational purpose.
- Informative and present a balanced view.
- Respectful of the rights and opinions of everyone. Emotional criticisms and hurtful sarcasm should be avoided.
- Not tolerant of profanity or slander. Disruptive conduct is prohibited and may subject a student to discipline.

The District specifically reserves its right to stop any school-sponsored activity that it determines violates this policy, is harmful to the District or the students, or violates State or federal law.

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

ADOPTED: June 19, 2012

## 6:100 Using Animals in the Educational Program

Animals may be brought into school facilities for educational purposes according to procedures developed by the Superintendent assuring: (a) the animal is appropriately housed, humanely cared for, and properly handled, and (b) students will not be exposed to a dangerous animal or an unhealthy environment.

#### Animal Experiments

Experiments on living animals are prohibited; however, behavior studies that do not impair an animal's health or safety are permissible.

## **Animal Dissection**

The dissection of dead animals or parts of dead animals shall be allowed in the classroom only when the dissection exercise contributes to or is a part of an illustration of pertinent study materials. All dissection of animals shall be confined to the classroom and must comply with the School Code.

Students who object to performing, participating in, or observing the dissections of animals are excused from classroom attendance without penalty during times when such activities are taking place. No student will be penalized or disciplined for refusing to perform, participate in, or observe a dissection. The Superintendent or designee shall inform students of: (1) their right to refrain from performing, participating in, or observing dissection, and (2) which courses contain a dissection unit and which of those courses offers an alternative project.

LEGAL REF.:105 ILCS 5/2-3.122, 5/27-14, and 112/1 et seq.

CROSS REF.:6:40 (Curriculum Development)

ADOPTED:October 18, 2016

## 6:110 Programs for Students At Risk of Academic Failure and/or Dropping Out of School and Graduation Incentives Program

The Superintendent or designee shall develop, maintain, and supervise a program for students at risk of academic failure or dropping out of school. The program shall include education and support services addressing individual learning styles, career development, and social needs, and may include without limitation one or more of the following:

- \* Parent-teacher conferences
- \* Counseling services by social workers and/or guidance counselor
- \* Counseling services by psychologists
- \* Psychological testing
- \* Truants' alternative and optional education program
- \* Alternative school placement
- \* Community agency services
- \* Alternative learning opportunities program, in conformity with the Alternative Learning Opportunities Law, as it may be amended from time-to-time
- \* Graduation incentives program
- \* Remediation program

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

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

#### LEGAL REF.:

105 ILCS 5/2-3.41, 5/2-3.66, 5/10-20.9a, 5/13B, 5/26-2a, 5/26-13, 5/26-14, and 5/26-16.

CROSS REF.:6:280 (Grading and Promotion), 7:70 (Attendance and Truancy)

Adopted: September 17, 2019

## 6:120 Education of Children with Disabilities

The District shall provide a free appropriate public education in the least restrictive environment and necessary related services to all children with disabilities enrolled in the District, as required by the Individuals With Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and implementing provisions of the School Code, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Americans With Disabilities Act. The term children with disabilities, as used in this policy, means children between ages 3 and 21 (inclusive) for whom it is determined, through definitions and procedures described in the III. State Board of Education (ISBE) Special Education rules, that special education services are needed.

It is the intent of the District to ensure that students who are disabled within the definition of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 are identified, evaluated, and provided with appropriate educational services. Students may be disabled within the meaning of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act even though they do not require services pursuant to the IDEA.

For students eligible for services under IDEA, the District shall follow procedures for identification, evaluation, placement, and delivery of services to children with disabilities provided in the ISBE *Special Education* rules. For those students who are not eligible for services under IDEA, but, because of disability as defined by Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, need or are believed to need special instruction or related services, the District shall establish and implement a system of procedural safeguards. The safeguards shall cover students' identification, evaluation, and educational placement. This system shall include notice, an opportunity for the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) to examine relevant records, an impartial hearing with opportunity for participation by the student's parent(s)/guardian(s), and representation by counsel, and a review procedure.

The District may maintain membership in one or more cooperative associations of school districts that shall assist the School District in fulfilling its obligations to the District's disabled students.

If necessary, students may also be placed in nonpublic special education programs or education facilities.

#### LEGAL REF.:

20 U.S.C. §1400 et seq., Individuals With Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004.

29 U.S.C. §794, Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 504.

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

34 C.F.R. §300.

105 ILCS 5/14-1.01 et seq., 5/14-7.02, and 5/14-7.02b.

23 III.Admin.Code Part 226.

CROSS REF.: 2:150 (Committees), 7:230 (Misconduct by Students with Disabilities)

Adopted: June 19, 2018

## 6:122 Behavioral Intervention for Students with Disabilities

## <u>Purpose</u>

It is the purpose of this policy to describe the procedures authorized by the Board of Education of Laraway CCSD 70-C relative to the use of behavioral interventions with students with disabilities. Laraway CCSD 70-C insists that students with identified disabilities should be held, as much as possible and reasonable, to the same behavioral and social expectations and consequences as students without disabilities. Where a student's disability prevents him or her from conforming to school rules and expectations, special consideration and procedures will be employed. A fundamental principle of this policy is that "non-restrictive" interventions - positive interventions designed to develop and strengthen desirable behaviors - shall be emphasized, and are preferable to the use of "restrictive" interventions.

#### Procedures

It is the requirement of the Board of Education of Laraway CCSD 70-C that employees charged with the implementation of this policy should incorporate procedures and methods consistent with generally accepted practice in the field of behavior intervention.

Whenever a "change in placement" is being considered for a special education, an IEP (Individualized Education Program) meeting will be convened to determine whether the behavior is related to the child's disability (a manifestation determination). The IEP can only be revised and an IEP meeting can only be convened with proper notification to parents and appropriate staff.

#### Requirements for the Creation of a Behavioral Intervention Plan

Any student receiving special education services will require a behavior management plan as part of the IEP (Individualized Education Program) when his or her disability causes the student difficulty behaving appropriately. Such disability may include, but is not limited to Behavioral Disorder, Mental Impairment, or Autism. The IEP team will decide which behavior intervention strategies are most appropriate for the student. Unless the IEP team specifically devises a behavior management plan that differs from the school's customary discipline policies, those policies shall apply, and may include the use of "restrictive" and/or "non-restrictive" interventions.

#### Monitoring the Use of Restrictive Behavioral Interventions'

The use of "restrictive" behavioral interventions shall be monitored as follows:

- 1. When expulsion is the intervention under consideration, the Board of Education shall monitor each such intervention;
- When the intervention under consideration is: being dropped from a course, in-school or out-of-school suspension, the Building Principal shall ensure that the intervention shall not constitute a change in placement, unless its use is preceded by a "manifestation determination", as described above.
- 3. When the intervention under consideration is: inhibiting devices, manual restraints, search of the student's person, time-outs, (Isolation/quiet room), or mechanical restraints (excluding restraint prescribed by physician or used as a safety procedure for transportation), I the teacher or Building Principal shall ensure that he intervention is administered in such a fashion such as to ensures the student's right to placement in the least restrictive educational environment; and considers the student's physical freedom and social interaction.
- 4. See "Behavioral Intervention Policy Committee" below.

## **Emergency Situations**

If a situation occurs in which immediate intervention is needed to protect students, staff, other

individuals or the physical site from harm, school personnel may impose an intervention that has not been delineated in the behavioral management plan, as reflected in an IEP. When such an emergency intervention has been utilized, the parents of the student shall be notified as soon as possible. A description of the intervention applied shall be documented and placed in the student's temporary file.

#### Procedural Protection

All of the procedural protections available to students with disabilities and their parents under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), including notice and consent, opportunity for participation in meetings, and right to appeal shall be observed when implementing and/or developing behavioral interventions.

### Behavioral Intervention Policy committee

Laraway CCSD 70-C shall maintain a Behavioral Intervention Policy Committee to monitor, review and make recommendations regarding the policy to the Board of Education. This committee shall meet on a regular basis and shall consist of parents of students with disabilities and other parents, teachers, administrators, advocates for persons with disabilities, and individuals with knowledge or expertise in the development and implementation of behavioral interventions for persons with disabilities.

#### ISBE Guidelines

This policy has been developed based on a review of the document entitled <u>Behavioral Intervention in Schools: Guidelines for Development of District Policies for Students with Disabilities</u>. Copies of these guidelines may be requested from the Illinois State Board of Education, 100 N. First Street, Springfield, Illinois 62777-0001.

ADOPTED: February 19, 2002

## 6:122-E1 Exhibit - Behavioral Intervention for Students with Disabilities - Appendix A: Definitions

Allow Student to Escape Task - Allow student to avoid a task or a situation (e.g., leave the area).

**Aversive mists, Aromatics, Tastes** - Use of a spray or substance with an unpleasant taste, noxious odor, or aversive physical sensation in order to terminate or control an undesired behavior (highly restrictive intervention).

**Behavioral Intervention** - Interventions by which Laraway CCSD 70-C school personnel attempt to alter inappropriate student behavior.

**Behavior Management Plan** - A written behavioral plan developed as part of the IEP to address a serious behavioral problem. It is based on a functional analysis of the students behavior, describes the interventions to be used, methods of evaluation, and provisions for coordinating with the home.

Call/Notify Parent - Contact parent to inform them of student's performance.

**Change in Placement** - Change in placement occurs when an IEP is altered so that a "substantial programmatic modification" is made, or when the new educational program is not comparable to the existing program. Placement does *not* change where slight modifications are made in the program. Thus, the introduction of new activities and change of classroom location or building within Laraway CCSD 70-C, generally do not constitute placement changes. Likewise, suspensions in aggregate of 10 days or less do not constitute a change in placement.

**Detention** - The student is required to attend school outside of normal class hours as a form of punishment.

**Differential Reinforcement** - Reinforcement of a target behavior or any behavior other than a specified inappropriate behavior (e.g., positively reinforce on-task behavior while ignoring off-task behavior).

**Direct Instruction** - A sequenced and structured teaching approach that is academically focused and marked by activities where goals are clear, allocated instructional time is sufficient, performance of students is monitored closely, teacher questions are designed to produce many correct responses, and feedback to students is immediate and academically oriented.

**Environmental Modification** - Changing the student's learning environment in order to influence a target behavior (e.g., alter seating or modify curriculum).

**Exclusion from Extracurricular Activities** - The student is prohibited from participation in extracurricular activities as a form of punishment.

**Expulsion** - Removal of the student from school for the balance of the current school term (There cannot be a cessation of services for IEP students.)

**Extinction** - Reinforcement of a previously reinforced behavior (e.g., ignoring humorous but inappropriate comments).

**Fradic Skin Shock** - The use of electrical shock to control behavior or as a punishment (prohibited intervention).

**Food Delay -** Food is contingently delayed for a specified period of time.

**Forced Physical Guidance** - Physical guidance or redirection of any body part of the student (e.g., student refuses to pick up an object, so teacher manually guides student to pick up object with hand

over hand prompts).

**Functional Analysis** - An assessment process for gathering information that is used in the development of behavioral interventions. The objective of the analysis is to understand the structure and function of a target behavior in order to develop and strengthen more appropriate behaviors.

**Highly Restrictive Interventions** - Interventions that are intrusive to an individual, produce a negative physical response, and carry a high probability of negative side effects.

**Inhibiting Devices** - Devices that do not restrain physical movement but inhibit specific actions (e.g., a baseball cap to inhibit head scratching).

**Instructional Assignment** - Create or modify an instructional assignment to increase the student's motivation, attention, success.

**Manual Restraint** - Use of the minimum amount of physical force necessary to hold or restrain an individual.

**Mechanical Restraint** - A device that physically restrains the movement of the student (e.g., harness restraint). Mechanical restraints prescribed by a physician or used as a safety procedure for transportation (e.g., seat belts) are *not* considered behavioral interventions.

**Modeling** - A process in which one person learns by observing the behavior, attitudes, or affective responses of another person.

Non-Restrictive Behavioral Interventions - "Non-Restrictive" Behavioral Interventions are techniques which do not restrict a student from access to the regular school day, the regular school program or to the same educational opportunities enjoyed by the student body at-large. NonlRestrictive behavioral interventions may include, but are not limited to, individual student counseling, reward systems (behavioral modification techniques), formal behavioral reports to parents, peer mentoring, in-school suspensions or time-out sessions in which the student is permitted to continue with his/her regular school work, and detentions which do not prevent the student from access to before-school, after-school, or Saturday school activities.

Peer Involvement - The use of a student's peers to influence behavior (e.g., cooperative groups).

**Planned Ignoring** - Type of extinction in which the teacher ignores a target inappropriate behavior (e.g., ignores student's noises).

**Positive Reinforcement** - Providing a reinforcer contingent upon a target response in order to increase the frequency of the response (e.g., praising a student for cooperative turn-taking).

**Prohibited Interventions** - Interventions prohibited by law.

**Prompting** - A cue is presented to facilitate a given response (e.g., teacher uses hand signal to remind students to stay on task.

Proximity Control - The use of physical proximity to control behavior (e.g., standing near the student).

**Punishment Writing** - Student is required to write a specified amount or for a specified period of time.

**Redirect Student (physically)** - Physically redirect student from an inappropriate to appropriate behavior activity (e.g., with hand on student's elbow, teacher walks student away from one activity to another).

**Redirect Student (verbal, nonverbal sign)** - Either by verbal or nonverbal sign, redirect the student from an inappropriate to an appropriate behavior/activity (e.g., teacher gives student hand signal when student should redirect him/herself).

Restrictive Behavioral Interventions - "Restrictive" Behavioral Interventions are techniques which restrict a student from access to the regular school day, the regular school programs, or restrict the student from the same education opportunities enjoyed by the student body at-large. Restrictive Behavioral Interventions would include, but are not limited to: out-of-school suspension, in-school suspension or time-out sessions in which the student is not permitted to continue his/her schoolwork, and detentions which prevent the participating student from access to before-school, after-school, or Saturday school activities.

**Response-Cost** - Withdrawal of specified amounts of a reinforcer in response to an inappropriate behavior (e.g., teacher takes away points for fighting).

**Restraint** - The restriction by mechanical means, physical holding, or otherwise restricting the movement of a student's limbs, head, or body.

**Self-Management** - A collection of strategies designed to increase a student's management and control of his/her own behavior.

**Serious Behavioral Problem** - Behavior which is self-injurious, assaultive, causes damage, or is grossly inappropriate to the school setting.

**Shaping** - Systematic positive reinforcement of successive approximations toward a behavioral goal.

**Suspension** - Removal from school programs by administrative action for gross disobedience for more than one full class period and not exceeding ten (10) school days.

**Teaching Alternative Behaviors** - Teach the student appropriate behaviors that are functionally equivalent to the undesired target behavior (e.g., teach student to make appropriate requests of peers to replace grabbing behavior).

**Teach Self-Reinforcement** - Teach the student to self-monitor, self-evaluate, and provide him/herself with positive reinforcement for the performance of desired target behaviors.

**Time-Out (exclusionary/physical)** - Contingent withdrawal of reinforcing stimuli by removing the student from the classroom (e.g., to the hallway). This type of time-out does not involve restricted exit.

**Time-Out (isolation/quiet room) -** Contingent withdrawal of reinforcing stimuli by removing the student from the classroom to a time-out room from which egress is restricted. The locking mechanism on a time-out room must be constructed so that it engages only when a key or handle is being held by a person. When that person takes his/her hand off the handle or key, the door unlocks and the student is able to easily and readily open the door from the inside. The door to such a room may not be one which remains closed when unattended.

**Time-Out (non-exclusionary/instructional)** - Contingent withdrawal of reinforcing stimuli while the student remains in the classroom (e.g., student is seated away from the group while remaining in the classroom).

**Token Economy** - A system of individual reinforcement in which tokens are given for target behaviors. Tokens are used to obtain backup reinforcers (e.g., prizes, school supplies, etc.).

Verbal Feedback - Providing student evaluative information about his/her performance.

**Verbal Reprimand** - Chastising a student for inappropriate behavior.

# 6:122-E2 Exhibit - Behavioral Intervention for Students with Disabilities - Appendix A: Definitions

Functional Analysis Summary Form

Student:Date:

Program:Grade:

Individual Completing Report:

- 1. Describe the target behavior of concern including data on intensity, frequency and duration of the behavior.
- 2. Describe the setting(s) in which the behavior(s) occur.
- 3. Analyze the antecedents and consequences of the behavior:
- 4. Describe the environmental modifications made in an attempt to change the target behavior.
- 5. Analyze other environmental factors that may affect the behavior (e.g., modification, medical conditions, sleep, diet, schedule, etc.).
- 6. Describe the perceived purpose of the target behavior.

DATED:February 19, 2002

## 6:130 Program for the Gifted

The Superintendent or designee shall implement an education program for gifted and talented learners that will challenge and motivate academically advanced learners and engage them in appropriately differentiated learning experiences to develop their unique abilities. If the State Superintendent of Education issues a Request for Proposals because sufficient State funding is available to support local programs of gifted education, the Superintendent or designee shall inform the Board concerning the feasibility and advisability of developing a "plan for gifted education" that would qualify for State funding.

Eligibility to participate in the gifted program shall not be conditioned upon race, religion, sex, disability, or any factor other than the student's identification as gifted or talented.

The Board of Education will monitor this program's performance by meeting periodically with the Superintendent or designee to determine and/or review the indicators and data that evidence whether the educational program for gifted and talented learners is accomplishing its goals and objectives and is otherwise in compliance with this policy.

LEGAL REF.:105 ILCS 5/14A.

23 III.Admin.Code Part 227.

ADOPTED:May 17, 2016

## 6:135 Accelerated Placement Program

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

The Superintendent or designee shall implement an APP that includes:

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

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

LEGAL REF.:

105 ILCS 5/14A.

23 III.Admin.Code Part 227, Gifted Education.

CROSS REF.: 6:10 (Educational Philosophy and Objectives), 6:130 (Program for the Gifted), 7:10 (Equal Educational Opportunities), 7:50 (School Admissions and Student Transfers To and From Non-District Schools)

Adopted: June 16, 2020

#### 6:140 Education of Homeless Children

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

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

A "homeless child" is defined as provided in the McKinney Homeless Assistance Act.

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

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

CROSS REF.:2:260 (Uniform Grievance Procedure), 4:110 (Transportation), 7:10 (Equal Educational Opportunities), 7:30 (Student Assignment), 7:50 (School Admissions and Student Transfers To and From Non-District Schools), 7:60 (Residence), 7:100 (Health, Eye and Dental Examinations, Immunizations, and Exclusion of Students)

ADOPTED:October 20, 2015

## 6:145 Migrant Students

The Superintendent will develop and implement a program to address the needs of migrant children in the District.

This program will include a means to:

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

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

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

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

LEGAL REF .: 20 U.S.C. §6391 et seq.

34 C.F.R. §200.80 et seq.

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

ADOPTED: January 17, 2017

## 6:150 Home and Hospital Instruction

A student who is absent from school, or whose physician, physician assistant, or advanced practice registered nurse anticipates that the student will be absent from school, because of a medical condition may be eligible for instruction in the student's home or hospital. Eligibility shall be determined by State law and the Illinois State Board of Education rules governing (1) the continuum of placement options for students who have been identified for special education services or (2) the home and hospital instruction provisions for students who have not been identified for special education services. Appropriate educational services from qualified staff will begin no later than five school days after receiving a written statement from: (1) a physician licensed to practice medicine in all of its branches, (2) a licensed physician assistant, or (3) a licensed advanced practice registered nurse. Instructional or related services for a student receiving special education services will be determined by the student's individualized education program.

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

#### LEGAL REF.:

105 ILCS 5/10-19.05(e), 5/10-22.6a, 5/14-13.01, and 5/18-4.5.

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

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

Adopted: January 21, 2020

### 6:160 English Learners

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

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

#### Parent Involvement

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

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

20 U.S.C. §6801 et seq.

34 C.F.R. Part 200.

105 ILCS 5/14C-1 et seq.

23 III.Admin.Code Part 228.

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

ADOPTED: January 17, 2017

## 6:170 Title I Programs

The Superintendent or designee shall pursue funding under Title I, Improving the Academic Achievement of the Disadvantaged, of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, to supplement instructional services and activities in order to improve the educational opportunities of educationally disadvantaged or deprived children.

All District schools, regardless of whether they receive Title I funds, shall provide services that, taken as a whole, are substantially comparable. Teachers, administrators, and other staff shall be assigned to schools in a manner that ensures equivalency among the District's schools. Curriculum materials and instructional supplies shall be provided in a manner that ensures equivalency among the District's schools.

## Title I Parent and Family Engagement

The District maintains programs, activities, and procedures for the engagement of parents/guardians and families of students receiving services, or enrolled in programs, under Title I. These programs, activities, and procedures are described in District-level and School-level compacts.

## District-Level Parent and Family Engagement Compact

The Superintendent or designee shall develop a *District-Level Parent and Family Engagement Compact* according to Title I requirements. The *District-Level Parent and Family Engagement Compact* shall contain: (1) the District's expectations for parent and family engagement, (2) specific strategies for effective parent and family engagement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance, and (3) other provisions as required by federal law. The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that the *Compact* is distributed to parents/guardians of students receiving services, or enrolled in programs, under Title I.

## School-Level Parent and Family Engagement Compact

Each Building Principal or designee shall develop a *School-Level Parent and Family Engagement Compact* according to Title I requirements. This *School-Level Parent and Family Engagement Compact* shall contain: (1) a process for continually involving parents/guardians in its development and implementation, (2) how parents/guardians, the entire school staff, and students share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement, (3) the means by which the school and parents/guardians build and develop a partnership to help children achieve the State's high standards, and (4) other provisions as required by federal law. Each Building Principal or designee shall ensure that the *Compact* is distributed to parents/guardians of students receiving services, or enrolled in programs, under Title I.

#### Incorporated

by Reference:6:170-AP1, E1 (District-Level Parent and Family Engagement Compact) and 6:170-AP1, E2 (School-Level Parent and Family Engagement Compact)

LEGAL REF.: Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, 20 U.S.C. § 6301-6514.

CROSS REF.: 2:260 (Uniform Grievance Procedure), 4:110 (Transportation), 5:190 (Certification), 5:280 (Duties and Qualifications), 6:15 (School Accountability), 6:140 (Education of Homeless Children), 6:145 (Migrant Students), 6:160 (English Learners), 7:10 (Equal Educational Opportunities), 7:30 (Student Assignment), 7:60 (Residence), 7:100 (Health, Eye and Dental Examinations, Immunizations, and Exclusion of Students), 8:95 (Parental Involvement)

ADOPTED: January 17, 2017

## 6:180 Extended Instructional Programs

The District may offer the following programs in accordance with State law and the District's educational philosophy:

- 1. Tutorial program.
- 2. Summer school, whether for credit or not.

LEGAL REF.:105 ILCS 5/10-22.18a, 5/10-22.18b, 5/10-22.18c, 5/10-22.20, 5/10-22.20a, 5/10-22.20b, 5/10I22.20c, 5/10-22.29, 5/10-22.33A, 5/10-22.33B, 5/10-23.2, 5/27-22.1, 5/27-22.3, 5/27-23.6, 110/3, and 433/.

CROSS REF.:6:310 (Credit for Alternative Courses and Programs, and Course Substitutions)

ADOPTED:October 17, 2017

#### 6:190 Extracurricular and Co-Curricular Activities

Extracurricular or co-curricular activities are school-sponsored programs for which some or all of the activities are outside the instructional day. They do not include field trips, homework, or occasional work required outside the school day for a scheduled class. "Co-curricular activity" refers to an activity associated with the curriculum in a regular classroom and is generally required for class credit. "Extracurricular activity" refers to an activity that is not part of the curriculum, is not graded, does not offer credit, and does not take place during classroom time; it includes competitive interscholastic activities and clubs.

The Superintendent must approve an activity in order for it to be considered a District-sponsored extracurricular or co-curricular activity, using the following criteria:

- 1. The activity will contribute to the leadership abilities, social well-being, self-realization, good citizenship, or general growth of members.
- 2. Fees are reasonable and do not exceed the actual cost of operation.
- 3. The District has sufficient financial resources for the activity.
- 4. Requests from students.
- 5. The activity will be supervised by a school-approved sponsor.

Building Principals are responsible for the scheduling and announcing of student extracurricular and co-curricular activities.

Non-school sponsored student groups are governed by the District's policy on student use of school buildings.

## Academic Criteria for Participation

For students in kindergarten through 8th grades: Selection of members or participants is at the discretion of the teachers, sponsors, or coaches, provided that the selection criteria conform to the District's policies. Students must satisfy all academic standards and must comply with the activity's rules and the student conduct code.

#### LEGAL REF.:

105 ILCS 5/10-20.30, and 5/24-24.

CROSS REF.: 4:170 (Safety), 7:10 (Equal Educational Opportunities), 7:40 (Nonpublic School Students, Including Parochial and Home-Schooled Students), 7:240 (Conduct Code for Participants in Extracurricular Activities), 7:300 (Extracurricular Athletics), 7:330 (Student Use of Buildings - Equal Access), 8:20 (Community Use of School Facilities)

Adopted: June 19, 2018

### 6:210 Instructional Materials

All District classrooms and learning centers should be equipped with an evenly-proportioned, wide assortment of instructional materials, including textbooks, workbooks, audio-visual materials, and electronic materials. These materials should provide quality learning experiences for students and:

- 1. Enrich and support the curriculum;
- 2. Stimulate growth in knowledge, literary appreciation, aesthetic values, and ethical standards;
- 3. Provide background information to enable students to make informed judgments and promote critical reading and thinking;
- 4. Depict in an accurate and unbiased way the cultural diversity and pluralistic nature of American society; and
- 5. Contribute to a sense of the worth of all people regardless of sex, race, religion, nationality, ethnic origin, sexual orientation, disability, or any other differences that may exist.

The Superintendent or designee shall annually provide a list or description of textbooks and instructional materials used in the District to the School Board. Anyone may inspect any textbook or instructional material.

Teachers are encouraged to use age-appropriate supplemental material only when it will enhance, or otherwise illustrate, the subjects being taught.

No R-rated movie shall be shown to students unless prior approval is received from the Superintendent or designee, and no movie rated NC-17 (no one 17 and under admitted) shall be shown under any circumstances. These restrictions apply to television programs and other media with equivalent ratings. The Superintendent or designee shall give parents/guardians an opportunity to request that their child not participate in a class showing a movie, television program, or other media with an R or equivalent rating.

The Superintendent shall approve the selection of all textbooks and instructional materials according to the standards described in this policy. The School Code governs the adoption and purchase of textbooks and instructional materials.

LEGAL REF.:105 ILCS 5/10-20.8 and 5/28-19.1.

CROSS REF.:6:30 (Organization of Instruction), 6:40 (Curriculum Development), 6:80 (Teaching About Controversial Issues), 6:170 (Title I Programs), 6:260 (Complaints About Curriculum, Instructional Materials, and Programs), 7:10 (Equal Educational Opportunities), 7:15 (Student and Family Privacy Rights), 8:110 (Public Suggestions and Concerns)

ADOPTED:October 17, 2017

## 6:230 Library Media Program

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

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

### LEGAL REF .:

23 III.Admin.Code §1.420(o).

CROSS REF.: 6:60 (Curriculum Content), 6:170 (Title I Programs), 6:210 (Instructional Materials)

Adopted: June 19, 2018

#### 6:235 Access to Electronic Networks

Electronic networks, including the Internet, are a part of the District's instructional program in order to promote educational excellence by facilitating resource sharing, innovation, and communication. The Superintendent or designee shall develop an implementation plan for this policy and appoint a system administrator.

The School District is not responsible for any information that may be lost, damaged, or unavailable when using the network, or for any information that is retrieved or transmitted via the Internet. Furthermore, the District will not be responsible for any unauthorized charges or fees resulting from access to the Internet.

## Curriculum and Appropriate Online Behavior

The use of the District's electronic networks shall: (1) be consistent with the curriculum adopted by the District as well as the varied instructional needs, learning styles, abilities, and developmental levels of the students, and (2) comply with the selection criteria for instructional materials and library resource center materials. As required by federal law and Board policy 6:60, *Curriculum Content*, students will be educated about appropriate online behavior, including but not limited to: (1) interacting with other individuals on social networking websites and in chat rooms, and (2) cyberbullying awareness and response. Staff members may, consistent with the Superintendent's implementation plan, use the Internet throughout the curriculum.

The District's electronic network is part of the curriculum and is not a public forum for general use.

### Acceptable Use

All use of the District's electronic network must be: (1) in support of education and/or research, and be in furtherance of the Board of Education's stated goal, or (2) for a legitimate school business purpose. Use is a privilege, not a right. Students and staff members have no expectation of privacy in any material that is stored, transmitted, or received via the District's electronic network or District computers. General rules for behavior and communications apply when using electronic networks. The District's administrative procedure, *Acceptable Use of the District's Electronic Networks*, contains the appropriate uses, ethics, and protocol. Electronic communications and downloaded material, including files deleted from a user's account but not erased, may be monitored or read by school officials.

### Internet Safety

Technology protection measures shall be used on each District computer with Internet access. They shall include a filtering device that protects against Internet access by both adults and minors to visual depictions that are: (1) obscene, (2) pornographic, or (3) harmful or inappropriate for students, as defined by the Children's Internet Protection Act and as determined by the Superintendent or designee. The Superintendent or designee shall enforce the use of such filtering devices.

The Superintendent or designee shall include measures in this policy's implementation plan to address the following:

- 1. Ensure staff supervision of student access to online electronic networks.
- 2. Restrict student access to inappropriate matter as well as restricting access to harmful materials.
- 3. Ensure student and staff privacy, safety, and security when using electronic communications,
- 4. Restrict unauthorized access, including "hacking" and other unlawful activities, and
- Restrict unauthorized disclosure, use, and dissemination of personal identification information, such as, names and addresses.

## Authorization for Electronic Network Access

Each staff member must sign the *Authorization for Access to the District's Electronic Networks* as a condition for using the District's electronic network. Each student and his or her parent(s)/guardian(s) must sign the *Authorization* before being granted unsupervised use.

All users of the District's computers to access the Internet shall maintain the confidentiality of student records. Reasonable measures to protect against unreasonable access shall be taken before confidential student information is loaded onto the network.

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

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

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

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

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

720 ILCS 5/26.5.

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

ADOPTED:September 18, 2012

# 6:240 Field Trips and Recreational Class Trips

Field trips are permissible when the experiences are an integral part of the school curriculum and/or contribute to the District's educational goals.

All field trips must have the Superintendent or designee's prior approval, except that field trips beyond a 200-mile radius of the school or extending overnight must have the prior approval of the Board. The following factors are analyzed when determining whether to approve a field trip: educational value, student safety, parent concerns, heightened security alerts, and liability concerns. On all field trips, a bus fee set by the Superintendent or designee may be charged to help defray the transportation costs.

Parents/guardians of students: (1) shall be given the opportunity to consent to their child's participation in any field trip; and (2) are responsible for all entrance fees, food, lodging, or other costs, except that the District will pay such costs for students who qualify for a fee waiver under Board policy 4:140, Waiver of Student Fees. All non-participating students shall be provided an alternative experience. Any field trip may be cancelled without notice due to danger to students, staff, or chaperons. Monies deposited may be forfeited.

Privately arranged trips, including those led by District staff members, shall not be represented as or construed to be sponsored by the District or school. The District does not provide liability protection for privately arranged trips and is not responsible for any damages arising from them.

## Recreational Class Trips

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

LEGAL REF.:

105 ILCS 5/29-3.1.

CROSS REF.: 4:140 (Waiver of Student Fees), 6:10 (Educational Philosophy and Objectives), 7:10 (Equal Educational Opportunities), 7:270 (Administering Medicines to Students)

Adopted: June 19, 2018

## 6:250 Community Resource Persons and Volunteers

The Board of Education encourages the use of volunteers to: (1) increase students' educational attainment; (2) provide enrichment experiences for students; (3) increase the effective utilization of staff time and skills; (4) give more individual attention to students; and (5) promote greater community involvement.

## Volunteers may be used:

- 1. For non-teaching duties not requiring instructional judgment or evaluation of students;
- For supervising study halls, long distance teaching reception areas used incident to instructional programs transmitted by electronic media (such as computers, video, and audio), detention and discipline areas, and school-sponsored extracurricular activities;
- 3. To assist with academic programs under a certificated teacher's immediate supervision;
- 4. To assist in times of violence or other traumatic incidents within the District by providing crisis intervention services to lessen the effects of emotional trauma on staff, students, and the community, provided the volunteer meets the qualifications established by the III. School Crisis Assistance Team Steering Committee;
- 5. As a guest lecturer or resource person under a certificated teacher's direction and with the administration's approval; or
- 6. As supervisors, chaperones, or sponsors for non-academic school activities.

The Superintendent shall follow Board policy 4:175, Convicted Child Sex Offender; Screening; Notifications, to establish procedures for securing and screening resource persons and volunteers. A person who is a sex offender, as defined by the Sex Offender Registration Act, or a violent offender against youth, as defined in the Murderer and Violent Offender Against Youth Registration Act, is prohibited from being a resource person or volunteer. All volunteer coaches must comply with the requirement to report hazing in policy 5:90, Abused and Neglected Child Reporting.

#### LEGAL REF.:

105 ILCS 5/10-22.34, 5/10-22.34a, and 5/10-22.34b.

720 ILCS 5/12C-50.1, Failure to Report Hazing.

730 ILCS 150/1 et seq., Sex Offender Registration Act.

730 ILCS 152/101 et seq., Sex Offender Community Notification Law.

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

730 ILCS 154/101 et seq., Murderer and Violent Offender Against Youth Registration Act.

CROSS REF.: 4:170 (Safety), 4:175 (Convicted Child Sex Offender; Screening; Notifications), 5:90 (Abused and Neglected Child Reporting), 5:280 (Duties and Qualifications), 8:30 (Conduct on School Property), 8:95 (Parental Involvement)

Adopted: June 19, 2018

### 6:255 Assemblies and Ceremonies

Assemblies must be approved by the Building Principal and be consistent with the District's educational objectives.

The District shall not endorse or otherwise promote invocations, benedictions, and group prayers at any school assembly, ceremony, or other school-sponsored activity.

LEGAL REF.: Lee v. Weisman, 112 S.Ct. 2649 (1992).

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

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

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

ADOPTED: August 12, 2016

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

Persons with complaints about curriculum, instructional materials, and programs should complete a curriculum objection form and use the Uniform Grievance Procedure. A parent/guardian may request that his/her child be exempt from using a particular instructional material or program by completing a curriculum objection form and using the Uniform Grievance Procedure.

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

ADOPTED: August 12, 2016

## 6:270 Guidance and Counseling Program

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

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

LEGAL REF.:105 ILCS 5/10-22,24a and 5/10-22,24b.

23 III.Admin.Code §1.420(q).

CROSS REF.: 6:50 (School Wellness), 6:65 (Student Social and Emotional Development), 6:110 (Programs for Students At Risk of Academic Failure and/or Dropping Out of School and Graduation Incentives Program), 6:120 (Education of Children with Disabilities), 6:130 (Program for the Gifted), 7:100 (Health, Eye, and Dental Examinations; Immunizations; and Exclusion of Students), 7:250 (Student Support Services), 7:290 (Suicide and Depression Awareness and Prevention)

ADOPTED:February 19, 2002

## 6:280 Grading and Promotion

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

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

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

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

LEGAL REF.:

105 ILCS 5/2-3.64a-5, 5/10-20.9a, 5/10-21.8, and 5/27-27.

CROSS REF.: 6:110 (Programs for Students At Risk of Academic Failure and/or Dropping Out of School and Graduation Incentives Program), 6:340 (Student Testing and Assessment Program), 7:50 (School Admissions and Student Transfers To and From Non-District Schools)

Adopted: June 16, 2020

## 6:282 Acceleration Policy for Advanced Learners

#### Introduction

No individual or group should be excluded from the opportunity to learn, and all students are presumed capable of learning. Every student, regardless of race, gender, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, limited English proficiency, disability or giftedness shall have access to a challenging, standards-based curriculum.

Acceleration, when used appropriately, is an effective intervention for enhancing the academic growth of advanced students. Accelerated learning opportunities shall be:

- 1. Consistent with education research and proven practices;
- 2. Appropriate to student ages, developmental needs, learning styles and abilities;
- 3. Designed to ease the transition of students from one educational environment to another.

#### **Definitions**

**Whole-Grade Acceleration:** The practice of assigning a student to a higher grade level than is typical given the student's age on a full-time basis for the purpose of providing access to appropriately challenging learning opportunities.

### Examples:

- \* After completing the first grade year, a student is placed in a third grade classroom (rather than a second grade classroom) on a full-time basis at the beginning of the next school year.
- \* After completing the fall semester of fifth grade year, a student is placed in the sixth grade at the start of the second semester of the same school year.

**Individual Subject Acceleration:** The practice of assigning a student to a higher grade level than is typical given the student's age on a full-time basis for the purpose of providing access to appropriately challenging learning opportunities in one or more subject areas.

#### Example:

\* A third grade student performing above grade level in reading and math goes to a fourth grade teacher every morning for instruction in these subjects and returns to the third grade classroom for instruction in other subjects.

**Early Admission to Kindergarten**: The practice of admitting a student to kindergarten who has not yet reached the typical age at which students are admitted to kindergarten for purpose of providing access to appropriately challenging learning opportunities.

#### Example:

\* A child who can read independently and is socially similar to typical five year-olds is admitted to kindergarten, although h will not reach his fifty birthday until the end of the school year.

## Policy on Academic Acceleration and Early Entrance to Kindergarten

This policy describes the process that shall be used for evaluating students for possible accelerated placement and indentifying students who should be granted early admission to kindergarten, accelerated in one or more individual subject areas, or promoted to a higher grade level than their same-age peers.

- 1. Referrals and Evaluation
- a. Any student residing in the district may be referred by a teacher, administrator, school psychologist, or a parent or legal guardian of the child/student to the principal of his or her school for evaluation for possible accelerated placement
- b. The principal (or his or her designee) of the referred child/student's school shall obtain written permission from the student's parent(s) or legal guardian(s) to evaluate the student for possible accelerated placement. The district shall evaluate all students who are referred for evaluation and whose parent(s) or legal guardian(s) have granted permission to evaluate the student for possible accelerated placement.
- c. Children who are referred for evaluation for possible accelerated placement sixty or more days prior to the start of the school year shall be evaluated in advance of the start of the school year so that the child may be placed in the accelerated placement on the first day of school. Children who are referred for possible accelerated placement sixty or more days prior to the start of the second semester shall be evaluated for possible accelerated placement at the start of the second semester. In all other cases, evaluations of a referred child shall be scheduled at the student's principal's discretion and placed in the accelerated setting(s) at the time recommended by the acceleration evaluation committee if the committee determines the child should be accelerated.
- d. The following measures will be used for an evaluation of ability: CogAT or Woodcock Johnson. For achievement: ISAT testing not more than one school year old. For aptitude: the Explore testing, ISAT two grade levels above or MAP testing taken two grade levels above. Using the IOWA acceleration scale, all assessments will be weighted for possible consideration in acceleration.
- e. A parent or legal guardian of the evaluated student shall be notified in writing of the outcome of the evaluation process within 45 days of the submission of the referral to the referred student's principal. This notification shall include instructions for appealing the outcome of the evaluation process.
- f. A parent or legal guardian of the referred student may appeal in writing the decision of the evaluation committee to the local Superintendent within thirty days of being notified of the committee's decision. The Superintendent shall review the appeal and notify the parent or legal guardian who filed the appeal of his or her final decision within thirty days of receiving the appeal. The Superintendent's decision shall be final. However, the student may be referred and evaluated again at the next available opportunity if he or she is again referred for evaluation by an individual eligible to make referrals as described in this policy.
- 2. Acceleration Evaluation Committee
- i. Composition
- 1. The referred student's principal (or his or her designee) shall convene an evaluation committee to determine the most appropriate available learning environment for the referred student. This committee shall be comprised of the following:
- a. A principal from the child's current school;
- b. A current teacher of the referred student (with the exception of students referred for possible early admission to kindergarten);
- c. A teacher at the grade level to which the student may be accelerated;
- d. A parent or legal guardian of the referred student or a representative designated by a parent or legal guardian of the referred student;
- e. A school psychologist with expertise in the social/emotional impact on a child/student if an accelerated placement is recommended.

- 2. The acceleration evaluation committee shall be charged with the following responsibilities:
- a. The acceleration evaluation committee shall conduct a fair and thorough evaluation of the student.
- (i) Students considered for whole-grade acceleration and early entrance to kindergarten shall be evaluated using an acceleration assessment process. The committee shall consider the student's own thoughts on possible accelerated placement in its deliberations.
- (ii) Students considered for individual subject acceleration shall be evaluated using a variety of data sources, including measures of achievement based on state academic content standards (in subjects for which the state had approved content standards) and consideration of the student's maturity and desire for accelerated placement. The committee shall consider the student's own thoughts on possible accelerated placement in its deliberations.
  - b. The acceleration evaluation committee shall issue a written decision to the principal and student's parent or legal guardian based on the outcome of the evaluation process. If a consensus recommendation cannot be reached by the committee, a decision regarding whether or not to accelerate the student will be determined by a majority vote of the committee membership.
  - c. The acceleration evaluation committee shall develop a written acceleration plan for students who will be admitted early to kindergarten, whole-grade accelerated, or accelerated in one or more individual subject areas. The parent(s) or legal guardian(s) of the student shall be provided with a copy of the written acceleration plan. The written acceleration plan shall specify:
- (i) placement of the student in an accelerated setting;
- (ii) strategies to support a successful transition to the accelerated setting;
- (iii) an appropriate transition period for accelerated placement for early entrants to kindergarten, grade-level accelerated students, and students accelerated in individual content areas.
  - d. The acceleration evaluation committee shall designate a school staff member to ensure successful implementation of the written acceleration plan and to monitor the adjustment of the student to the accelerated setting.
  - e. The team will reassemble at the end of a 30 45 day trial, if needed.
  - 3. Communication Plan
  - a. During a student's transition to an accelerated class he/she will meet daily with designated school personnel who will monitor his/her social/emotional/behavioral adjustment. The designee will communicate on a daily basis with the parents, teachers and the Principal to report progress. This communication pattern should occur for a period of the first two weeks of the transition. Additionally, the receiving teacher of the student will submit a once a week narrative report to the parents and the Principal about the student's adjustment status. Such information will be in writing and email may be used as a more efficient medium of this communication. After two weeks of daily communication from the designated school personnel who is monitoring the student's social/emotional/behavioral adjustment with the parents, the frequency of communication will be reduced to a weekly basis for the next four weeks, preferably on the last day of each school week. After this time period of adjustment, communication will be received from the teacher to the parents on an as needed basis. Nothing in the policy is intended to preclude more frequent communication among all parties involved if the need dictates.

#### 4.Accelerated Placement

a. The acceleration evaluation committee shall specify an appropriate transition period for

accelerated placement for early entrants to kindergarten; grade-level accelerated students, and students accelerated in individual subject areas.

- (i) At any time during the transition period, a parent or legal guardian of the student may request in writing that the student be withdrawn from accelerated placement. In such cases, the principal shall remove the student without repercussions from the accelerated placement.
- (ii) At any time during the transition period, a parent or legal guardian of the student may request in writing an alternative accelerated placement. In such cases, the principal shall direct the acceleration committee to consider other accelerative options and issue a decision within 30 days of receiving the request from the parent or legal guardian. If the student will be placed in an accelerated setting different from that initially recommended by the acceleration evaluation committee, the student's written acceleration plan shall be revised accordingly, an a new transition period shall be specified.
  - b. At the end of the transition period, the accelerated placement shall become permanent. The student's records shall be modified accordingly, and the acceleration implementation plan shall become part of the student's permanent record to facilitate continuous progress through the curriculum.

Work Cited: (Much of this policy was paraphrased or taken verbatim from a document entitled, "Model Student Acceleration Policy for Advanced Learners", authored by the Ohio Department of Education, 2006.

Online:		H.
(www.ode.state.oh.us/GD/Docume	ntManagement/Documentl	Download.aspx?DocumentlD=7584)
Adopted on the day of	, 2012	
Signed:		
President of Board	m rði	
Signed:		
Vice President of Board		
Signed:		
Board Secretary		

**ADOPTED: July 17, 2012** 

### 6:290 Homework

Homework is part of the District's instructional program and has the overarching goal of increasing student achievement. Homework is assigned to further a student's educational development and is an application or adaptation of a classroom experience. The Superintendent shall provide guidance to ensure that homework:

- 1. Is used to reinforce and apply previously covered concepts, principles, and skills;
- 2. Is not assigned for disciplinary purposes;
- 3. Serves as a communication link between the school and parents/guardians;
- 4. Encourages independent thought, self-direction, and self-discipline; and
- 5. Is of appropriate frequency and length, and does not become excessive, according to the teacher's best professional judgment.

Recognizing the importance of parental involvement in homework, the Superintendent or designee shall ensure that parents/guardians are informed of, (1) whom to contact with questions or concerns about homework assignments, and (2) methods to facilitate homework completion.

The Superintendent or designee shall annually report to the Board on the effectiveness of homework assignments on increasing student achievement.

ADOPTED: July 17, 2012

# 6:315 High School Credit for Students in Grade 7 or 8

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

If a program is available, students in grades 7 and 8 may enroll in a course required for a high school diploma. Students in grades 7 and 8 who successfully complete a course required for a high school diploma will receive academic credit if permitted by, and in accordance with, the policy of the district where the elementary student will attend high school.

LEGAL REF.:105 ILCS 5/10-22.43 and 5/27-22.10.

23 III.Admin.Code §1.460.

ADOPTED: January 19, 2016

# 6:330 Achievement and Awards

### Awards and Honors

The Superintendent shall maintain a uniform process for presenting awards and honors for outstanding scholarship, achievement, and/or distinguished service in school activities in such a way as to minimize bias and promote fairness. The Superintendent shall supervise the selection of the recipient(s).

All donations for awards, honors, and scholarships must receive the School Board's prior approval.

ADOPTED:June 19, 2012

## 6:340 Student Testing and Assessment Program

The District student assessment program provides information for determining individual student achievement and instructional needs, curriculum and instruction effectiveness, and school performance measured against District student learning objectives and statewide norms.

The Superintendent or designee shall manage the student assessment program that, at a minimum:

- Administers the State assessment system, known as the *Illinois Assessment of Readiness* (IAR), to all students and/or any other appropriate assessment methods and instruments, including norm and criterion-referenced achievement tests, aptitude tests, proficiency tests, and teacher-developed tests.
- 2. Informs students of the timelines and procedures applicable to their participation in every State assessment.
- 3. Provides each student's parents/guardians with the results or scores of each State assessment. See policy 6:280, *Grading and Promotion*.
- 4. Utilizes professional testing practices.

Overall student assessment data on tests required by State law will be aggregated by the District and reported, along with other information, on the District's annual report card. All reliable assessments administered by the District and scored by entities outside of the District must be (1) reported to ISBE on its form by the 30<sup>th</sup> day of each school year, and (2) made publicly available to parents/guardians of students and to the community. Board policy 7:340, *Student Records*, and its implementing procedures govern recordkeeping and access issues.

#### LEGAL REF.:

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

105 ILCS 10/, Illinois School Student Records Act.

105 ILCS 5/2-3.63, 5/2-3.64a-5, 5/10-17a, 5/22-82, and 5/27-1.

CROSS REF.:

6:15 (School Accountability), 6:280 (Grading and Promotion), 7:340 (Student

Records)

Adopted: September 17, 2019