

BYLAWS AND POLICIES OVERVIEW

Bylaw 0168.1 – Open Meeting (Revised)

This revision clarifies that minutes can be approved at either a subsequent regular or special meeting.

This revision reflects the current state of the law and should be adopted to maintain accurate policies.

Policy 2221 - Mandatory Courses (Revised)

Recent legislative changes to M.C.L. 380.1168 require school districts to include age-and grade-appropriate instruction about genocide, including, but not limited to, the Holocaust and the Armenian Genocide. The legislature recommends a combined total of 6 hours of this instruction during grades 8 to 12.

The revision to this policy includes reference to this requirement. Although such instruction is required by law, it is the district’s choice whether to include this in policy.

Policy 2461 - Recording of District Meetings Involving Students and/or Parents (New)

This new policy provides the structure for districts to limit unauthorized recordings of meetings and other interactions with district personnel, given the availability of technology strategies identified in the Legal Alert – AngelSense Technology in Schools. This language should be considered if there is intent to control the use of such monitoring technology in District schools.

The revision to this policy is offered for consideration.

Policy 2623 – Student Assessment (Revised)

This policy has been revised to bring specific test references up to date with current requirements, including the assessments required by the new third grade reading legislation. The reference to Michigan promise grants has been left in the template on page 5 because the reference has not been deleted in statute.

These revisions reflect the current state of the law and should be adopted to maintain accurate policies.

Policy 3120.04 - Employment of Substitutes (Revised)

This policy has been revised to clarify the districts' rights and obligations under the statute with respect to the employment status of substitute teachers.

These revisions are recommended for consideration and adoption.

Policy 3121/4121 - Criminal History Record Check (Revised)

These policies have been revised in order to be consistent with compliance requirements of the Michigan State Police/Federal Bureau of Investigation (MSP/FBI) requirements for access and handling of criminal history record information.

These revisions reflect the current compliance requirements of MSP/FBI and should be adopted to maintain accurate policies.

Policy 5111.01 – Homeless Students (Replacement)

Policy 5111.03 – Children and Youth in Foster Care (New)

Policy 5517.01 - Bullying and Other Aggressive Behavior toward Students (Revised)

The revisions to this policy are optional and are based on changes to M.C.L. 380.1310b, which "encourage" Districts to include provisions for considering use of restorative practices in its anti-bullying policy. The restorative practices described in the optional language are based on newly enacted M.C.L. 380.1310c.

Policy 5610 - Emergency Removal, Suspension, and Expulsion of Nondisabled Students (Revised)

The revisions to this policy require consideration of specific factors when making decisions relating to suspensions and expulsions. The revisions are mandated by newly enacted M.C.L. 380.1310d and should be adopted, to be effective as of 8/1/2017, by the District to maintain accurate policies.

Policy 5610.01 - Expulsions/Suspensions - Required by Statute (Revised)

The revisions to this policy are also based on M.C.L. 380.1310d and include the consideration of specific factors as in Policy 5610 and standards for assessing weapons violations, to be effective as of 8/1/2017. See note regarding Policy 5610 above.

Policy 7540.02 - Web Content, Services and Apps (Revised)

The revisions to this policy add a reference to the newly passed Student Online Personal Protection Act. While SOPPA deals with what "operators" can do with data, as opposed to Districts, including reference to SOPPA in this policy is recommended.

Policy 8300 – Continuity of Organizational Operations Plan (New)

Policy 8305 – Information Security (New)

Policy 8321 – Criminal Justice Information Security (Non-Criminal Justice Agency) (Revised)

This revised policy is provided to extend weapons restrictions to individuals “under contract” to provide service to the District. Restrictions are the same as prescribed for District employees.

This policy is offered for consideration and adoption as it complies with the specifications of the Michigan State Police.

Policy 8330 – Student Records (Revised)

The revisions to this policy were made to comply with the new M.C.L. 380.1136, which prohibits the sale of personally identifiable information that is part of a student's education record (with noted exceptions), provision of information to parents about disclosure of personally identifiable information upon request, compilation of a list of data and disclosures and provision of notices, and provision of an opt-out form (see Form 8330 F17 below) for disclosure of directory information on an annual basis. These changes are required by law and should be adopted by the Districts.

Policy 8340 – Letters of Reference (Revised)

Policy 8500 – Food Services (Revised)

Revisions to this policy are in response to the requirements of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) regarding bad debt and unpaid meal charges. A detailed procedure is provided in the new AG 8500D.

Revisions to this policy reflect current USDA regulations and should be adopted to maintain accurate policies.

REVISED BYLAW 0168.1 - VOL. 31, NO. 2

0168 **Minutes**

0168.1 **Open Meeting**

The Secretary, or a temporary secretary appointed by the presiding officer, shall designate a person to keep minutes of each meeting showing the date, time, place, members present, members absent, any decisions made at a meeting open to the public, and the purpose or purposes for which a closed session is called. These minutes must be approved by the Board and endorsed by the Secretary at the next meeting. The minutes shall include all roll-call votes taken at the meeting. Proposed minutes shall be available for public inspection not later than eight (8) business days after the meeting to which the minutes refer. Approved minutes shall be available for public inspection not later than five (5) business days after the meeting at which the minutes are approved. The minutes shall be available for inspection at the Superintendent's office and shall be available for purchase at a fee estimated by the business office to cover the cost of printing and copying.

The Board Secretary shall not include in or with its minutes any personally identifiable information on any student of the District which if released, would prevent the public body from complying with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974.

The official minutes shall be bound together by years and kept in the office of the Board of Education.

Minutes of the preceding meetings shall be approved by the Board as its first order of business at its next meeting.

The minutes shall show only action taken.

REVISED POLICY - VOL. 31, NO. 2

MANDATORY COURSES

In compliance with the Michigan School Code, the Board of Education directs the Superintendent to prepare, implement, and supervise courses of instruction in the following areas:

- A. the Constitution of the United States and Michigan, and in the history and present form of government of the United States, and Michigan and its political subdivisions
- B. the principle modes by which communicable disease is spread and the best methods for the restriction and prevention of these diseases
- C. instruction in physiology and hygiene with special emphasis on drug abuse prevention
- D. Age and grade appropriate instruction in grades 8 through 12 about genocide, including, but not limited to, the Holocaust and the Armenian Genocide

The Superintendent shall prepare appropriate guidelines relative to the planning, teaching, and evaluation of these courses.

M.C.L. 380.1166, 1168, 1169, 1170

NEW POLICY - VOL. 31, NO. 2

**COVERT RECORDING OF DISTRICT MEETINGS INVOLVING STUDENTS
AND/OR PARENTS**

[SELECT OPTION # 1 OR OPTION # 2]

[OPTION #1]

Recording of IEP Team and 504 Meetings

- [] In order to facilitate parents' ability to fully participate in the IEP and/or 504 process, parents of students with disabilities are ordinarily permitted to audio record IEP Team meetings and 504 Team meetings in accordance with the following procedures:
- A. Parents wishing to audio record an IEP Team meeting or 504 Team meeting must utilize their own recording device and provide notice to the District prior to the date of the scheduled IEP Team or 504 Team meeting.
 - B. If parent(s) elects to audio record an IEP Team meeting, the District will also record the meeting.

[OPTION #2]

Recording of IEP Team and 504 Team Meetings

- [x]** The recording of IEP Team meetings and 504 Team meetings is prohibited unless it is necessary in order for a parent to understand the IEP process or 504 process and/or his/her child's IEP or 504 Plan, or otherwise necessary to implement other parental rights under the IDEIA, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, and/or the Americans with Disabilities Act, as amended.
- A. If a parent believes that audio recording an IEP Team or 504 Team meeting is necessary, s/he should notify the **Director of Special Education** in writing, preferably at least two (2) school days before the IEP Team or 504 Team meeting, of his/her desire to audio record the meeting and the reason the recording is required. The Director of Special Education will notify the parent at least one (1) school day before the meeting if s/he intends to deny the parent's request to record the meeting.
- B. If the District representative denies the request, s/he will state in writing the reasons for the denial. Authorized exceptions to the general prohibition against the audio recording of IEP Team meetings and 504 Team meetings will typically involve situations when a parent or other IEP Team or 504 Team member has a disability recognized under Section 504/ADA or a language barrier that would preclude the individual's ability to understand and/or meaningfully participate in the IEP process or 504 process. The District representative may ask for documentation of the existence of any such disability or language barrier. If a parent is permitted to audio record the meeting, s/he must use his/her own recording device and the District will similarly record the meeting.

[END OF OPTIONS]

**Covert Recording of Other District Meetings Involving Students and/or Parents
(e.g., Parent-Teacher Conferences)**

[SELECT OPTION #3 or OPTION #4]

[OPTION #3]

- Parents are permitted to audio record meetings with the District provided they notify the District prior to the date of the scheduled meeting of their intent to record the meeting. If a parent provides the requisite notice and is permitted to audio record the meeting, s/he must use his/her own recording device and the District will similarly record the meeting.

[OPTION #4]

- Parents are prohibited from audio recording meetings with the District unless a parent or District staff member has a disability recognized under Section 504/ADA or a language barrier that would preclude the individual's ability to understand and/or participate in the meeting. The District representative may ask for documentation of the existence of any such disability or language barrier. If a parent is permitted to audio record the meeting, s/he must use his/her own recording device and the District will similarly record the meeting.

[END OF OPTIONS]

Video recording any District meeting is strictly prohibited, with the exception of meetings open to the public under the Open Meetings Act.

Parents and students are expressly prohibited from using covert means to listen-in or make a recording (audio or video) of any meeting or activity at school. This includes placing recording devices, or other devices with one- or two-way audio communication technology (i.e., technology that allows a person off-site to listen to live conversations and sounds taking place in the location where the device is located), within a student's book bag, on the student's person or otherwise in an area capable of listening in or recording without express written consent of the Superintendent. Any requests to place a recording device or other device with one- or two-way audio communication technology within a student's book bag or on a student's person shall be submitted, in writing, to the Principal. The District representative shall notify the parent(s), in writing, whether such request is denied or granted within five (5) days.

If the District audio records any meeting, the resulting recording shall become a part of the student's educational record and will be maintained in accordance with State and Federal law.

REVISED POLICY - VOL. 31, NO. 2

STUDENT ASSESSMENT

The Board of Education shall, in compliance with law and rules of the State Board of Education, assess student achievement and needs in designated subject areas in order to determine the progress of students and to assist them in attaining District goals.

Each student's proficiencies and needs will be assessed by staff members upon his/her entrance into the District and annually or more frequently, as required by law, thereafter. Procedures for such assessments will include, but need not be limited to, teacher observation techniques, cumulative student records, student performance data collected through standard testing programs and/or diagnostic reading assessment systems, student portfolios, and physical examinations.

The Superintendent shall develop

- (x) and present to the Board annually
- () and the Board shall approve

a program of testing and assessment that includes:

- A. the Michigan Student Test of Educational Progress (M-STEP), the Michigan Merit Examination ("MME") (or other readiness assessment program approved by the State Superintendent) and MI-Access Alternate Assessments administered each year in accordance with the schedule established by statute and the State Department of Education;

M-STEP includes summative assessments designed to measure student growth effectively for today's students. English language arts and mathematics will be assessed in grades 3–8, science in grades 4 and 7, and social studies in grades 5 and 8. It also includes the Michigan Merit Examination in 11th grade, which consists of the SAT with essay, ACT WorkKeys, and M-STEP summative in science, and social studies.

- B. A valid and reliable screening, formative, and diagnostic third grade reading assessment system from the assessment systems approved by the Michigan Department of Education.
- C. criteria-based written and oral examinations which include use of alternative questions, demonstrations, writing exercises, individual and group projects, performances, portfolios, and samples of best work;
- D. selection of assessment instrument, data, and other District criteria that will be used to assess educational achievement of each student in grades 1 - 5;
 - (x) assessment tests;
 - (x) aptitude tests;
 - (x) achievement tests;
 - (x) vocational inventories;
 - (x) tests of mental ability.

The Board requires that:

- A. any assessment tests used shall not be a psychiatric examination, testing, or treatment; or a psychological examination, testing, or treatment in which the primary purpose is to reveal information concerning:
 - 1. political affiliations;
 - 2. mental and psychological problems potentially embarrassing to the student or his/her family;
 - 3. sexual behavior and attitude;
 - 4. illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating, and demeaning behavior;
 - 5. critical appraisals of other individuals with whom respondents have close family relationships;
 - 6. legally-recognized, privileged and analogous relationships, such as those of lawyers, physicians, and ministers;
 - 7. income without the prior consent of the adult student or without the prior written consent of the parent;
- B. any personality testing complies with Department of Education guidelines.

The Board also requires that:

- (x) tests be administered by persons who are qualified under State law and regulation;
- (x) parents be informed of the testing program of the schools and of the special tests that are to be administered to their children;
- () students who have not attained satisfactory scores on the fourth grade or seventh grade test should be provided special assistance that will enable them to bring reading skills up to grade level within a twelve (12) month period;
- (x) data regarding individual test scores be entered on the student's cumulative record, where it will be subject to the policy of this Board regarding student records;
- () the results of each school-wide, program-wide, and District-wide test be made part of the public record.

All eleventh grade students shall participate in the Michigan Merit Examination, unless excluded under the guidelines established by the State Department of Education.

A student who wants to repeat a State approved readiness assessment (other than the Michigan Merit Examination and any component) may repeat the assessment in the next school year or after graduation on a date when the District is administering the assessment. Only this type of repeat assessment testing will be without charge to the student.

The District shall administer the complete Michigan Merit Examination to a student only once and shall not administer the complete Michigan Merit Examination to the same student more than once if the student has valid scores in some or all MME components. If a student does not take the complete Michigan Merit Examination in grade 11, the District shall administer the complete Michigan Merit Examination to the student in grade 12. If a student chooses to retake the college entrance examination component of the Michigan Merit Examination, the student may do so through the provider of the college entrance examination component and the cost of the retake is the responsibility of the student unless all of the following are met:

- A. the student has taken the complete Michigan Merit Examination
- B. the student did not qualify for a Michigan promise grant based on the student's performance on the complete Michigan Merit Examination
- C. the student meets the Federal income eligibility criteria for free breakfast, lunch, or milk
- D. the student has applied to the provider of the college entrance examination component for a scholarship or fee waiver to cover the cost of the retake and that application has been denied
- E. after taking the complete Michigan Merit Examination, the student has not already received a free retake of the college entrance examination component paid for either by the State of Michigan, or through a scholarship or fee waiver by the provider

M.C.L. 380.1278a, 380.1279, 380.1279g, 390.1451 et seq., 380.1280b, 380.1280f
A.C. Rule 340.1101 et seq.

REVISED POLICY - VOL. 31, NO. 2

CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORD CHECK

Before the District hires any employee (full or part-time) or allows any individual under contract to continuously and regularly work in the schools, a criminal history records check shall be conducted in accordance with State law.

"Under contract" shall apply to individuals, as well as owners and employees of entities, who contract directly with the District or with a third party vendor, management company, or similar contracting entity to provide food, custodial, transportation, counseling or administrative services on more than an intermittent or sporadic basis. It shall also apply to individuals or entities providing instructional services to students or related auxiliary services to special education students.

Prior to allowing an individual, who is subject to the criminal history record check requirement, to work in the District, the District shall submit a fingerprint-based check on the individual, using Michigan State Police (MSP) Form RI-030 (7/2012), regardless of whether the individual will work directly for the District or be contracted through a third-party vendor, management company or similar contracting entity ("Private Contractors"). Except as provided below, the report from the MSP must be received, reviewed and approved by the District prior to the individual commencing work.

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Such Private Contractors cannot receive or retain criminal history record information ("CHRI").¹ Where the District will contract with a Private Contractor for the services of an individual, the District will notify the Private Contractor(s), after review of the MSP report, whether the individual has been approved to work within the District. The District may not give any details, including the fact that a criminal history check was run. Notice for approval to work in the District should use the Affidavit of Assignment or similar "red light/green light" procedure.

Should it be necessary to employ a person or contract for a person to maintain continuity of the program prior to receipt of the criminal history report, the Superintendent may contract on a provisional basis until the report is received. Any such provisional hire requires that:

- A. the record check has been requested;
- B. the applicant has signed a disclosure of all convictions and acknowledges that employment may be terminated if there are discrepancies; and
- C. the hiring occurs during the school year or not more than thirty (30) days before the beginning of the school year.

For substitute teachers or substitute bus drivers currently working in another district, public school academy or non-public school in the State, the Superintendent may use a report received from the State Police by such school to confirm the individual has no criminal history. Absent such confirmation, a criminal history record check shall be performed.

¹ Individuals who submit and receive such criminal history record checks on behalf of the District must be direct employees of the District. Notwithstanding this, Information Technology contractors and vendors may be granted access to CHRI subject to successful completion of a national fingerprint-based criminal history record check as detailed in Policy 8321.

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Individuals working in multiple districts may authorize the release of a prior criminal history records check with another district in lieu of an additional check for either direct employment or working regularly and consistently under contract in the schools.

Individuals who previously received a statutorily required criminal background check and who have been continuously employed by a school district, intermediate school district, public school academy or non-public school within the State, with no separation, may have their previous record check sent to the District in lieu of submitting to a new criminal background check. If this method is used, the Superintendent must confirm that the record belongs to that individual and whether there have been any additional convictions by processing the individual's name, sex and date of birth through the Internet Criminal History Access Tool (ICHAT).

"No separation," for purposes of the preceding paragraph, means a lay off or leave of absence of less than twelve (12) months with the same employer; or the employee transfers without a break in service to another school district, intermediate school district, public school academy or non-public school within the State.

All criminal history record check reports received from the State Police or produced by the State Police and received by the District from another proper source, will be maintained in the individual's personnel record.

When the District receives a report that shows an individual has been convicted of a listed offense under State statutes or any felony, the Superintendent shall take steps to verify that information using public records, in accordance with the procedures provided by the State Department of Education.

Verified convictions may result in termination of employment or rejection of an application. The District will not hire or continue to employ any individual, either directly or as a contracted employee to work regularly and continuously in the schools, who has been convicted of a "listed" offense as defined in M.C.L. 28.722. The District will not hire or continue to employ any individual, either directly or as a contracted employee to work regularly and continuously in the schools, who has been convicted of any felony unless both the Superintendent and the Board provide written approval.

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The District must report as directed by and to the State Department of Education the verified information regarding conviction for any listed offense or conviction for any felony and the action taken by the District with regard to such conviction. Such report shall be filed within sixty (60) days of receipt of the original report of the conviction.

The Superintendent shall establish the necessary procedures for obtaining from the Criminal Records Division of the State Police any criminal history on the applicant maintained by the State Police. In addition, the Superintendent shall request the State Police to obtain a criminal history records check from the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

An applicant must

submit, at no expense to the District,

or

provide, at the District's expense,

a set of fingerprints, prepared by an entity approved by the Michigan State Police, as part of his/her employment application or as required by State law for continued employment.

Confidentiality

All information and records obtained from such criminal background inquiries and disclosures are to be considered confidential and shall not be released or disseminated to those who have not been given access to CHRI by the Superintendent. Violation of confidentiality is considered a misdemeanor punishable by a fine up to \$10,000.

Any notification received from the Michigan Department of Education or Michigan State Police regarding District employees with criminal convictions shall be exempt from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) for the first fifteen (15) days until the accuracy of the information can be verified. Thereafter, only information about felony convictions or misdemeanor convictions involving physical or sexual abuse may be disclosed in reference to a FOIA request.

Criminal history reports may be released with the written authorization of the individual.

Records may also be released, in accordance with statute, upon the request of a school district, intermediate school district, public school academy or non-public school when the individual is an applicant for employment at such school and there has been no separation from service, as defined in this policy and by statute.

M.C.L. 380.1230 et. seq., 380.1535, 380.1535a, 380.1809, 28.722

REVISED POLICY - VOL. 31, NO. 2

EMPLOYMENT OF SUBSTITUTES

The Board of Education recognizes the need to procure the services of substitutes in order to continue the operation of the schools as a result of the absence of regular personnel.

Substitute personnel are subject to a criminal history record check. See Policy 3121.

The Superintendent shall employ substitutes for assignment as services are required to replace temporarily-absent regular staff members and fill new positions. Such assignment of substitutes may be terminated when their services are no longer required. A substitute, however, who is employed directly by the District for 150 days or more during a school year of not less than 180 days, except under circumstances identified in statute, shall be given, during the balance of that year as well as during the succeeding school year, the first opportunity to accept or reject a contract for which the person is certified and qualified, provided that all other District teachers have been reemployed in accordance with the negotiated, collectively-bargained agreement.

Substitutes must possess a valid Michigan professional certificate and a permit, if substitute teaching in a subject for which s/he is not certified, except under the following circumstances:

- A. The Superintendent may employ noncertificated, nonendorsed substitutes to teach, in grades 9-12, a course in computer science, foreign language, mathematics, biology, chemistry, engineering, physics, robotics, or any other course approved by the State Board, providing they meet all of the conditions established by law and by the Superintendent.
- B. The Superintendent may also employ a substitute without a valid teaching certificate if the person has at least ninety (90) semester hours of college credit from a college or university.

In order to retain well-qualified substitutes for service in this District, the Board will offer competitive compensation at a rate set annually by the Board.

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A substitute, employed directly by the District in one (1) specific teaching position, shall, after sixty (60) consecutive days in that assignment, be paid a salary not less than the minimum salary on the current salary schedule and granted the privileges provided regular staff.

- [x] The Board may enter into a contract with a person or entity (a partnership, nonprofit or business corporation, labor organization, limited liability company, or any other association, corporation, trust, or other legal entity) to furnish substitute teachers to the District as necessary to carry out the operations of the District. A contract entered into under this section shall include the following provisions:
- A. Assurance that the person or entity will furnish the School District with qualified teachers in accordance with the School Code and any implementing rules and regulations.
 - B. Assurance that the person or entity will not furnish to the School District any teacher who, if employed directly by the School District, would be ineligible for employment by the District as a substitute teacher under the School Code.
 - C. A description of the level of compensation and fringe benefits to be provided for the employees of the person or entity who are to be assigned to the District as substitute teachers.
 - D. A description of the type and amounts of insurance coverage to be secured and maintained by the person or entity and the School District.

E. Assurance that the person or entity, before assigning an individual to serve as a substitute teacher in the District, will comply with and provide to the Board the criminal history record information obtained under section 1230 and with the results of the criminal record check under section 1230a of the School Code.

[x] A school district that contracts with a person or entity to furnish substitute teachers under this section may purchase liability insurance to indemnify and protect the school district and the person or entity against losses or liabilities incurred by the district and person or entity arising out of any claim for personal injury or property damage caused by the district, its officers, employees, or agents. A district may pay premiums for the insurance out of its operating funds.

M.C.L. 380.1230, 380.1230a, 380.1230g, 380.1233, 380.1531

M.C.L. 380.1236, 380.1236a

A.C. Rule 390.1105(1), 390.1141(2). 390.1146

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CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORD CHECK

Before the District hires any employee (full or part-time) or allows any individual under contract to continuously and regularly work in the schools, a criminal history records check shall be conducted in accordance with State law.

"Under contract" shall apply to individuals, as well as owners and employees of entities, who contract directly with the District or with a third-party vendor, management company, or similar contracting entity, to provide food, custodial, transportation, counseling or administrative services on more than an intermittent or sporadic basis. It shall also apply to individuals or entities providing instructional services to students or related auxiliary services to special education students.

Prior to allowing an individual, who is subject to the criminal history record check requirement, to work in the District, the District shall submit a fingerprint-based check on the individual, using Michigan State Police (MSP) Form RI-030 (7/2012), regardless of whether the individual will work directly for the District or be contracted through a third-party vendor, management company or similar contracting entity ("Private Contractors"). Except as provided below, the report from the MSP must be received, reviewed and approved by the District prior the individual commencing work.

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Such Private Contractor(s) cannot receive or retain criminal history record information ("CHRI").¹ Where the District will contract with a Private Contractor for the services of an individual, the District will notify the Private Contractor(s), after review of the MSP report, whether the individual has been approved to work within the District. The District may not give any details, including the fact that a criminal history check was run. Notice for approval to work in the District should use the Affidavit of Assignment or similar "red light/green light" procedure.

Should it be necessary to employ a person or contract for a person to maintain continuity of the program prior to receipt of the criminal history report, the Superintendent may contract on a provisional basis until the report is received. Any such provisional hire requires that:

- A. the record check has been requested;
- B. the applicant has signed a disclosure of all convictions and acknowledges that employment may be terminated if there are discrepancies; and
- C. the hiring occurs during the school year or not more than thirty (30) days before the beginning of the school year.

¹ Individuals who submit and receive such criminal history record checks on behalf of the District must be direct employees of the District. Notwithstanding this, Information Technology contractors and vendors may be granted access to CHRI subject to successful completion of a national fingerprint-based criminal history record check as detailed in Policy 8321.

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Such an inquiry shall also be made for regular substitutes who may be employed by the District. A substitute support staff person shall be required to submit to a criminal history records check if they work in the schools, on a regular and consistent basis, even if such work is only as needed.

Individuals working in multiple districts may authorize the release of a prior criminal history records check with another district in lieu of an additional check for either direct employment or working regularly and consistently under contract in the schools.

Individuals who previously received a statutorily required criminal background check and who have been continuously employed by a school district, intermediate school district, public school academy or non-public school within the State, with no separation, may have their previous record check sent to the District in lieu of submitting to a new criminal background check. If this method is used, the Superintendent must confirm that the record belongs to that individual and whether there have been any additional convictions by processing the individual's name, sex and date of birth through the Internet Criminal History Access Tool (ICHAT).

"No separation," for purposes of the preceding paragraph, means a lay off or leave of absence of less than twelve (12) months with the same employer; or the employee transfers without a break in service to another school district, intermediate school district, public school academy or non-public school within the State.

All criminal history record check reports received from the State Police or produced by the State Police and received by the District from another proper source, will be maintained in the individual's personnel record.

When the District receives a report that shows an individual has been convicted of a listed offense under State statutes or any felony, the Superintendent shall take steps to verify that information using public records, in accordance with the procedures provided by the State Department of Education.

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Verified convictions may result in termination of employment or rejection of an application. The District will not hire or continue to employ any individual, either directly or as a contracted employee to work regularly and continuously in the schools, who has been convicted of a "listed" offense as defined in M.C.L. 28.722. The District will not hire or continue to employ any individual, either directly or as a contracted employee to work regularly and continuously in the schools, who has been convicted of any felony unless both the Superintendent and the Board provide written approval.

The District must report as directed by and to the State Department of Education the verified information regarding conviction for any listed offense or conviction for any felony and the action taken by the District with regard to such conviction. Such report shall be filed within sixty (60) days of receipt of the original report of the conviction.

The Superintendent shall establish the necessary procedures for obtaining from the Criminal Records Division of the State Police any criminal history on the applicant maintained by the State Police. In addition, the Superintendent shall request the State Police to obtain a criminal history records check from the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

An applicant must

(x) submit, at no expense to the District,

or

() provide, at the District's expense,

a set of fingerprints, prepared by an entity approved by the Michigan State Police, as part of his/her employment application or as required by State law for continued employment.

Confidentiality

All information and records obtained from such inquiries and disclosures are to be considered confidential and shall not be released or disseminated to those who have not been given access to CHRI by the Superintendent. Violation of confidentiality is considered a misdemeanor punishable by a fine up to \$10,000.

Any notification received from the Michigan Department of Education or Michigan State Police regarding District employees with criminal convictions shall be exempt from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) for the first fifteen (15) days until the accuracy of the information can be verified. Thereafter, only information about felony convictions or misdemeanor convictions involving physical or sexual abuse may be disclosed in reference to a FOIA request.

Criminal history reports may be released with the written authorization of the individual.

Records may also be released, in accordance with statute, upon the request of a school district, intermediate school district, public school academy or non-public school when the individual is an applicant for employment at such school and there has been no separation from service, as defined in this policy and by statute.

M.C.L. 380.1230 et seq., 380.1535, 380.1535a, 380.1809, 28.722

REPLACEMENT POLICY- ESSA

HOMELESS STUDENTS

Definitions

Children who are identified as meeting the Federal definition of "homeless" will be provided a free appropriate public education (FAPE) in the same manner as all other students of the District. To that end, homeless students will not be stigmatized or segregated on the basis of their status as homeless. The District shall establish safeguards that protect homeless students from discrimination on the basis of their homelessness. The District shall regularly review and revise its policies, including school discipline policies that may impact homeless students, including those who may be a member of any of the Protected Classes (Policy 2260).

Homeless children and youth are defined as individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence, and include children and youth who meet any of the following criteria:

- A. share the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or similar reason
- B. live in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to a lack of alternative adequate accommodations
- C. live in emergency or transitional shelters
- D. are abandoned in hospitals
- E. have a primary night time residence that is a public or private place not designed for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings, or
- F. live in a car, park, public space, abandoned building, substandard housing¹, bus or train station, or similar setting

Pursuant to the McKinney-Vento Act, an unaccompanied youth includes a homeless child or youth not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian.

Services to Homeless Children and Youth

The District will provide services to homeless students that are comparable to other students in the District, including:

- A. transportation services;
- B. public preschool programs and other educational programs and services for which the homeless student meets eligibility criteria including:
 - 1. programs for children with disabilities;
 - 2. programs for English Learners (ELs) (i.e., students with Limited English Proficiency (LEP));
 - 3. programs in career and technical education;
 - 4. programs for gifted and talented students;
 - 5. school nutrition programs; and
 - 6. before - and after-school programs.

Note:

¹ According to nonregulatory guidance from the U.S. Department of Education (ED), standards for adequate housing may vary by locality. Please see ED guidance for factors to consider when determining whether a child or youth is living in "substandard housing."

Education for Homeless Children and Youth Programs, Non-Regulatory Guidance, U.S. Department of Education (ED), Title VII-B of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act, at A-3 (July 27, 2016).

The Superintendent will appoint a Liaison for Homeless Children who will perform the duties as assigned by the Superintendent. Additionally, the Liaison will coordinate and collaborate with the State Coordinator for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth as well as with community and school personnel responsible for the provision of education and related services to homeless children and youths. For more information on the role of the Liaison, refer to AG 5111.01.

School Stability

Maintaining a stable school environment is crucial to a homeless student's success in school. To ensure stability, the District must make school placement determinations based on the "best interest" of the homeless child or youth based on student-centered factors. The District must:

- A. continue the student's education in the school of origin for the duration of homelessness when a family becomes homeless between academic years or during an academic year; and for the remainder of the academic year even if the child or youth becomes permanently housed during an academic year; or
- B. enroll the student in any public school that non-homeless students who live in the attendance area in which the child or youth is actually living are eligible to attend.

When determining a child or youth's best interest, the District must assume that keeping the homeless student in the school of origin is in that student's best interest, except when doing so is contrary to the request of the student's parent or guardian, or the student if s/he is an unaccompanied youth. The school of origin is the school the student attended or enrolled in when permanently housed, including a public preschool. The school of origin also includes the designated receiving school at the next level for feeder school patterns, when the student completes the final grade level at the school of origin.

When determining the student's best interest, the District must also consider student-centered factors, including the impact of mobility on achievement, education, health, and safety of homeless students and give priority to the request of the student's parent or guardian, or youth (if an unaccompanied youth). The District also considers the school placement of siblings when making this determination.

If the District finds that it is not in the student's best interest to attend the school of origin or the school requested by the parent or guardian, or unaccompanied youth, the District must provide the individual with a written explanation and reason for the determination in a manner and form understandable to the parent, guardian or unaccompanied youth. This written explanation will include appeal rights and be provided in a timely manner.

Immediate Enrollment

The District has an obligation to remove barriers to the enrollment and retention of homeless students. A school chosen on the basis of a best interest determination must immediately enroll the homeless student, even if the student does not have the documentation typically necessary for enrollment, such as immunization and other required health records, proof of residency, proof of guardianship, birth certificate or previous academic records. The homeless student must also be enrolled immediately regardless of whether the student missed application or enrollment deadlines during the period of homelessness or has outstanding fines or fees.

The enrolling school must immediately contact the school last attended by the homeless student to obtain relevant academic or other records. If the student needs immunization or other health records, the enrolling school must immediately refer the parent, guardian or unaccompanied youth to the local liaison, who will help obtain the immunizations, screenings or other required health records. Records usually maintained by the school must be kept so that they are available in a timely fashion if the child enters a new school or district. These records include immunization or other required health records, academic records, birth certificates, guardianship records, and evaluations for special services or programs. Procedures for inter-State records transfer between schools should be taken into account in order to facilitate immediate enrollment.

In addition, the District will also make sure that, once identified for services, the homeless student is attending classes and not facing barriers to accessing academic and extracurricular activities, including magnet school, summer school, career and technical education, advanced placement, online learning, and charter school programs (if available). Additionally, the District should consider giving homeless children and youths priority if there is a waitlist for these schools, programs, and activities.

Transportation

The District provides homeless students with transportation services that are comparable to those available to non-homeless students. The District also provides or arranges for transportation to and from the school of origin at the parent or guardian's request, or the liaison's request in the case of an unaccompanied youth. Transportation is arranged promptly to allow for immediate enrollment and will not create barriers to a homeless student's attendance, retention, and success.

- A. If the homeless student continues to live in the District, where the school of origin is located, transportation will be provided or arranged for the student's transportation to or from the school of origin.
- B. If the homeless student moves to an area served by another district, though continuing his/her education at the school of origin (which is in the District), the District and the district in which the student resides must agree upon a method to apportion responsibility and costs for transportation to the school of origin. If the districts cannot agree upon such a method, the responsibility and costs will be shared equally.
- C. When the student obtains permanent housing, transportation shall be provided to and from the school of origin until the end of the school year.

The District determines the mode of transportation in consultation with the parent or guardian and based on the best interest of the student.

In accordance with Federal law, the above transportation requirements still apply during the resolution of any dispute. The District will work with the State to resolve transportation disputes with other districts. If the disputing district is in another State, the District will turn to the State for assistance as Federal guidance says that both States should try to arrange an agreement for the districts.

Dispute Resolution

Homeless families and youths have the right to challenge placement and enrollment decisions. If a dispute arises between a school and a parent, guardian or unaccompanied youth regarding eligibility, school selection, or enrollment of a homeless student, the District must follow its dispute resolution procedures, consistent with the State's procedures. If such a dispute occurs, the District will immediately enroll the homeless student in the school in which enrollment is sought pending final resolution of the dispute, including all appeals. The student will receive all services for which they are eligible until all disputes and appeals are resolved.

Pursuant to State, District and Board of Education policies, the District will provide the parent, guardian or unaccompanied youth with a written explanation of all decisions regarding school selection and enrollment made by the school, District, or State, along with a written explanation of appeal rights.

The District's notice and written explanation about the reason for its decision will include, at a minimum, an explanation of how the school reached its decision regarding eligibility, school selection, or enrollment, including 1) a description of the proposed or refused action by the school, 2) an explanation of why the action is proposed or refused, 3) a description of other options the school considered and why those options were rejected, 4) a description of any other relevant factors to the school's decision and information related to the eligibility or best interest determination such as the facts, witnesses, and evidence relied upon and their sources, and 5) an appropriate timeline to ensure deadlines are not missed. The District must also include contact information for the Liaison and the State Coordinator, and a brief description of their roles. The District will also refer the parent, guardian or unaccompanied youth to the Liaison, who will carry out the dispute resolution process.

The District ensures that all decisions and notices are drafted in a language and format appropriate for low-literacy, limited vision readers, and individuals with disabilities. For children and youth and/or parents or guardians who are English learners or whose dominate language is not English, the District will provide translation and interpretation services in connection with all phases of the dispute resolution process pursuant to federal laws. The District will also provide electronic notices via email if the parent, guardian or unaccompanied youth has access to email followed by a written notice provided in person or sent by mail.

Homeless Children in Preschool

Homeless preschool-aged children and their families shall be provided equal access to the educational services for which they are eligible, including preschool programs, including Head Start programs, administered by the District. Additionally, the homeless child must remain in the public preschool of origin, unless a determination is made that it is not in the child's best interest. When making such a decision on the student's best interest, the District takes into account the same factors as it does for any student, regardless of age. It also considers pre-school age specific factors, such as 1) the child's attachment to preschool teachers and staff; 2) the impact of school climate on the child, including school safety; the quality and availability of services to meet the child's needs, including health, developmental, and social-emotional needs; and 3) travel time to and from school.

The District must also provide transportation services to the school of origin for a homeless child attending preschool. It is the District's responsibility to provide the child with transportation to the school of origin even if the homeless preschooler who is enrolled in a public preschool in the District moves to another district that does not provide widely available or universal preschool.

Public Notice

In addition to notifying the parent or guardian of the homeless student or the unaccompanied youth of the applicable rights described above, the District shall post public notice of educational rights of children and youth experiencing homelessness in each school. In addition, the District shall post public notice of the McKinney-Vento rights in places that homeless populations frequent, such as shelters, soup kitchens, and libraries in a manner and form understandable to the parents and guardians and unaccompanied youths.

Records

The local liaison will assist the homeless students and their parent(s) or guardian(s) or unaccompanied homeless students in their efforts to provide documentation to meet State and local requirements for entry into school.

All records for homeless students shall be maintained, subject to the protections of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and Policy 8330, and in such a manner so that they are available in a timely fashion and can be transferred promptly to the appropriate parties, as required. Pursuant to the McKinney-Vento Act, information regarding a homeless student's living situation is not considered directory information and must be provided the same protections as other non-directory personally identifiable information (PII) contained in student education records under FERPA. The District shall incorporate practices to protect student privacy as described in AG 5111.01, AG 8330, and in accordance with the provisions of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) and the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (FVPSA).

No Board policy, administrative procedure, or practice will be interpreted or applied in such a way as to inhibit the enrollment, attendance, or school success of homeless children.

42 U.S.C. 11431 et seq. (McKinney - Vento Homeless Act)

NEW POLICY - ESSA

CHILDREN AND YOUTH IN FOSTER CARE

The Board of Education recognizes the importance of educational stability for children and youth in foster care. Further, the Board recognizes these children and youth as a vulnerable subgroup of students in need of safeguards and supports in order to facilitate a successful transition through elementary and secondary education and into college and/or careers. To that end, the District will collaborate with the Michigan Department of Education (MDE), other schools and school districts, and the appropriate child welfare agencies to provide educational stability for children and youth in foster care.

Definitions

Children who meet the Federal definition of "in foster care" will be provided a free appropriate public education (FAPE) in the same manner as all other students of the District. To that end, students in foster care will not be stigmatized or segregated on the basis of their status. The District shall establish safeguards that protect foster care students from discrimination on the basis of their foster care status or other of the recognized Protected Classes (Policy 2260). The District shall regularly review and revise its policies, including school discipline policies that may impact students in foster care.

Consistent with the Fostering Connections Act, "foster care" means 24-hour substitute care for children placed away from their parents or guardians and for whom the child welfare agency has placement and care responsibility. This includes, but is not limited to, placements in:

- A. foster family homes;
- B. foster homes of relatives;
- C. group homes;
- D. emergency shelters;
- E. residential facilities;

- F. child care institutions; and
- G. preadoptive homes.

A child is in foster care in accordance with this definition regardless of whether the foster care facility is licensed and payments are made by the State, tribal or local agency for the care of the child, whether adoption subsidy payments are being made prior to the finalization of an adoption, or whether there is Federal matching of any payments that are made. (45 C.F.R. 1355.20 (a)).

School Stability

The District shall remove barriers to the enrollment and retention of children and youth in foster care in schools in the District. Foster care students shall be enrolled immediately, even if they do not have the necessary enrollment documentation such as immunization and health records, proof of residency or guardianship, birth certificate, school records, and other documentation.

The District shall meet the Title I requirements for educational stability for children and youth in foster care, including those awaiting foster care placement. The District shall identify which students are in foster care and shall collaborate with State and tribal child welfare agencies to provide educational stability for these children and youth. District staff will work closely with child welfare agency personnel to develop and implement processes and procedures that include these enrollment safeguards:

- A. a child/youth in foster care shall remain in his/her school of origin, unless it is determined that remaining in the school of origin is not in that child's best interest;
- B. if it is not in the child's best interest to stay in his/her school of origin, the child shall be immediately enrolled in the determined new school even if the child is unable to produce records normally required for enrollment; and
- C. the new (enrolling) school shall immediately contact the school of origin to obtain relevant academic and other records, including the student's Individualized Education Program (IEP) if applicable. (ESEA Section 1111(g)(1)(E)(i)-(iii)).

School of Origin

The school of origin is the school in which a student is enrolled at the time of placement in foster care. If a student's foster care placement changes, the school of origin would then be considered the school in which the child is enrolled at the time of the placement change. A student in foster care shall remain in his/her school of origin, if it is determined to be in the student's best interest, for the duration of the student's placement in foster care.

When a student exits foster care, the District will continue to prioritize the student's educational stability in determining placement, supports, and services deemed to be in the child's best interests.

- A student who has exited foster care shall be permitted to remain in the school of origin until the end of the school year.
- A student who has exited foster care shall be permitted to remain in the school of origin until the end of the () semester () quarter.
- A student who has exited foster care shall not be permitted to remain in the school of origin, unless there are extenuating circumstances and documentation to demonstrate that the child should remain in the school of origin through the end of the () school year () semester () quarter.

Best Interest Determination

In making the best interest determination, the District will follow the guidelines established by MDE and the State or tribal custodial agencies. The District shall utilize the prescribed process in conjunction with local custodial agencies in making best interest determinations, and shall make such determination within five (5) school days of the child's placement in foster care or change in child's living arrangement. Once a determination is made the District shall provide the decision in writing to all relevant parties, in collaboration with the appropriate custodial agency. When making decisions regarding educational placement of students with disabilities under IDEA and Section 504, the District shall provide all required special educational and related services and supports provided in the least restrictive placement where the child's unique needs, as described in the student's IEP or Section 504 plan, can be met.

If there is a dispute regarding whether the educational placement of a child in foster care is in the best interest of that child, the dispute resolution process established by the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) shall be used.

The District's representatives shall collaborate fully in this process, considering relevant information regarding academic programming and related service needs of the child, and advocating for what the District believes is in the best interest of the child.

To the extent feasible and appropriate, the child will remain in his/her school of origin while disputes are being resolved in order to minimize disruption and reduce the possible number of moves between schools. (ESEA Section 1111(g)(1)(E)(i)).

Since the custodial agency holds ultimate legal responsibility for making the best interest determination for the foster child in their care, if the dispute cannot be resolved, the custodial agency will make the final determination. Such final determination will be made within five (5) school days of the child's placement in foster care or change in the child's living arrangement.

All notifications and reports regarding foster care placement, changes in school enrollment, transportation services, and changes in the child's living arrangements shall be provided to the affected parties, in writing, in accordance with the forms, procedures, and requirements of the MDE and the State or tribal custodial agencies.

Local Point of Contact

The Superintendent shall designate and make public a local point of contact who will perform the duties as assigned by the Superintendent. The point of contact shall serve as a liaison to coordinate with child protection agencies, lead the development of a process for making the best determination for a student, facilitate the transfer of records, and oversee the enrollment and regular school attendance of students in foster care.

Records

The District shall provide privacy protections for children and families and shall facilitate appropriate data-sharing pertaining to children in foster care between child welfare and educational agencies, in accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and Policy 8330 – Student Records.

Services to Children and Youth in Foster Care

Foster care children and their families shall be provided equal access to the educational services for which they are eligible comparable to other students in the District including:

- A. educational services for which the student in foster care meets eligibility criteria including services provided under Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act or similar State and local programs, educational programs for children with disabilities, and educational programs for students with limited English proficiency;
- B. preschool programs;
- C. programs in vocational and technical education;
- D. programs for gifted and talented students;
- E. school nutrition programs; and
- F. before - and after-school programs.

Transportation Services

The District must ensure that transportation is provided for children in foster care consistent with the procedures developed by the District in collaboration with the State or local child welfare agency. These requirements apply whether or not the LEA already provides transportation for children who are not in foster care.

In order for a student in foster care in his/her school of origin, when in his/her best interest, transportation services shall be provided, arranged, and funded for the duration of the child's placement in foster care. The District's transportation services will provide that:

- A. Children in foster care needing transportation to their schools of origin will promptly receive that transportation in a cost effective manner and in accordance with Section 475(4)(A) of the Social Security Act; and

- B. If there are additional costs incurred in providing transportation to the school of origin, the District shall provide such transportation if 1) the local child welfare agency agrees to reimburse the District for the cost of such transportation; 2) the District agrees to pay for the cost; or 3) the District and the local child welfare agency agree to share the cost. (ESEA 1112(c)(5)(B)).

Additional costs incurred in providing transportation to the school of origin should reflect the difference between what the District would otherwise spend to transport a student to his/her assigned school and the cost of transporting the foster care student to the school of origin. The District will collaborate with the State Education Agency (SEA), other LEAs, and child welfare agencies to pursue possible funding sources and arrangements to deal with transportation costs.

Since foster care placements may occur across district, county, or State boundary lines, coordination among multiple agencies may be necessary. The District will work with appropriate State and local agencies to address such placement and transportation issues that arise. The District shall provide or arrange for adequate and appropriate transportation to and from the school of origin while any disputes are being resolved.

No Board policy, administrative procedure, or practice will be interpreted or applied in such a way as to inhibit the enrollment, attendance, or school success of children and youth in foster care.

45 C.F.R. 1355.20

REVISED POLICY - VOL. 31, NO. 2

**EMERGENCY REMOVAL, SUSPENSION, AND EXPULSION OF
NONDISABLED STUDENTS**

A student may be removed from the classroom, suspended or expelled for persistent disobedience or gross misconduct. If suspension or expulsion for persistent disobedience or gross misconduct is considered, the **Superintendent** shall consider the following factors:

- A. the student's age
- B. the student's disciplinary history
- C. whether the student has a disability
- D. the seriousness of the violation or behavior
- E. whether the violation or behavior committed by the student threatened the safety of any student or staff member
- F. whether restorative practices will be used to address the violation or behavior
- G. whether a lesser intervention would properly address the violation or behavior

The **Superintendent** will exercise discretion over whether or not to suspend or expel a student for persistent disobedience or gross misconduct. In exercising that discretion for a suspension of more than ten (10) days or expulsion, there is a rebuttable presumption that a suspension or expulsion is not justified unless the **Superintendent** can demonstrate that it considered each of the factors listed above. For a suspension of ten (10) days or fewer, there is no rebuttable presumption, but the **Superintendent** will still consider the factors.

A student may not be expelled or excluded from the regular school program based on pregnancy status.

- [x] In recognition of the negative impact on a student's education, the Board encourages the District's administrators to view suspensions, particularly those over ten (10) days, and permanent expulsions as discipline of last resort, except where these disciplines are required by law (Policy 5610.01). Alternatives to avoid or to improve undesirable behaviors should be explored when possible prior to implementing or requesting a suspension or expulsion.

If the District determines that it will utilize restorative practices in addition to or as an alternative to suspension or expulsion of a student, it will engage in restorative practices which emphasize repairing the harm to the victim and school community caused by the student's misconduct.

- [x] Restorative practices may include victim offender-conferences that:
- A. are initiated by the victim;
 - B. are approved by the victim's parent or legal guardian or, if the victim is at least fifteen (15), by the victim;
 - C. are attended voluntarily by the victim, a victim advocate, the offender, members of the school community, and supporters of the victim and the offender (the "restorative practices team");
 - D. would provide an opportunity for the offender to accept responsibility for the harm caused to those affected, and to participate in setting consequences to repair the harm, such as requiring the student to apologize; participate in community service, restoration of emotional or material losses, or counseling; pay restitution; or any combination of these.

The selected consequences and time limits for their completion will be incorporated into an agreement to be signed by all participants.

The Board of Education recognizes that exclusion from the educational programs of the District, whether by suspension or expulsion, is the most severe sanction that can be imposed on a student in this District and one that cannot be imposed without due process since exclusion deprives a child of the right to an education. The Board also recognizes that it may be necessary for a teacher to remove a student from class for conduct which is disruptive to the learning environment, and that such removals are not subject to a prior hearing, provided said removal is for a period of less than twenty-four (24) hours. However, if an emergency removal may result in a suspension, then due process must be ensured.

For purposes of this policy, "suspension" shall be either short-term (not more than ten (10) days) or long-term suspension (**x**) (for more than ten (10) days but less than permanent expulsion) of a student from a regular District program.

For purposes of this policy, unless otherwise defined in Federal and/or State law and Policy 5610.01, "expulsion" shall be the permanent exclusion of a student from the schools of this District. Students who are expelled permanently may petition for reinstatement under the provisions stipulated in Policy 5610.01.

[CHOOSE OPTION #1, OPTION #2, OR OPTION #3]

[] OPTION #1 [Probably current policy]

The Superintendent may recommend to the Board a long-term suspension or that a student be expelled.

OR

[] OPTION #2

The Superintendent may act as the hearing officer. The Board may suspend a student for a period longer than ten (10) days or expel a student. An appeal may be made to () the Board () the appropriate court of law if there is a claimed violation of substantive or procedural due process rights.

[x] OPTION #3

The Superintendent may suspend a student for a period longer than ten (10) days or expel a student. The Board shall act on any appeal to the decision.

In all cases resulting in short-term suspension, long-term suspension, or expulsion, appropriate due process rights described in Policy 5611 must be observed. The Superintendent shall check to make sure the student is not classified as disabled under Section 504.

No student, otherwise eligible for attendance, shall be excluded from a District program unless that student has substantially interfered with the maintenance of good order and/or the educational environment, or unless it is necessary to protect that student's or other students' physical or emotional safety and well-being.

A student may be removed from a class, subject, or activity for one (1) day by his/her teacher for certain conduct as specified in the Code of Conduct, or the student may be given a short-term suspension by the Superintendent or the Principal. A student so removed **(x) will () will not** be allowed to attend other classes taught by other teachers during the term of the one (1) day removal. A student removed from the same class for ten (10) days will receive a due process hearing for each suspension beyond ten (10) days, consistent with required due process for long-term suspensions. The Board designates the Superintendent as its representative at any hearings regarding the appeal of a suspension.

The Superintendent shall develop administrative guidelines to implement this policy which shall include:

- (x) strategies for providing special assistance to students who are in danger of being expelled and are not achieving the academic outcomes of the District's core curriculum;
- (x) promulgation of standards of behavior to all students in accordance with Board policy on student discipline;
- (x) procedures that ensure due process;
- (x) provision for make-up work at home, when appropriate.

M.C.L. 380.1301, 380.1309, 380.1310d, 380.1311
20 U.S.C. 3351

State Board of Education, Resolution to Address School Discipline Issues
Impacting Student Outcomes, Adopted June 12, 2012

REVISED POLICY - VOL. 31, NO. 2

EXPULSIONS/SUSPENSIONS - REQUIRED BY STATUTE

The Board of Education is continually concerned about the safety and welfare of District students and staff and, therefore, will not tolerate behavior that creates an unsafe environment, a threat to safety or undue disruption of the educational environment.

Weapons, Arson, Criminal Sexual Conduct

In compliance with State and Federal law, the **Superintendent** shall expel any student who possesses a dangerous weapon in a weapon-free school zone in violation of State law or commits either arson or criminal sexual conduct in a District building or on District property, including school buses and other school transportation.

For purposes of this policy, a dangerous weapon is defined as "a firearm, dagger, dirk, stiletto, knife with a blade over three (3) inches in length, pocket knife opened by a mechanical device, iron bar, or brass knuckles" or other devices designed to or likely to inflict bodily harm, including, but not limited to, air guns and explosive devices. The term "firearm" is defined as: a) any weapon (including a starter gun) which will or is designed to or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of the explosive; b) the frame or receiver of any such weapon; c) any firearm muffler or firearm silencer; or d) any destructive device. Such term does not include an antique firearm.

The **Superintendent** need not expel for possession of a dangerous weapon if the student can establish in a clear and convincing manner to the satisfaction of the **Superintendent** that:

- A. the object or instrument was not possessed for use as a weapon, or for direct or indirect delivery to another person for use as a weapon;
- B. the weapon was not knowingly possessed;
- C. the student did not know or have reason to know that the object or instrument possessed constituted a dangerous weapon; or
- D. the weapon was possessed at the suggestion, request, or direction of, or with the express permission of a District administrator or the police.

There is a rebuttable presumption that expulsion for possessing the weapon is not justified if the **Superintendent** determines in writing that the student has established that he or she fits under one of the exceptions above by clear and convincing evidence, and that the student has no previous history of suspension or expulsion.

The above exceptions will not apply to student misconduct involving sexual conduct or arson.

Physical and Verbal Assault

The Board shall permanently expel a student in grade six or above if that student commits physical assault at school against a District employee, volunteer, or contractor.

The Board shall suspend or expel a student in grade six or above for up to 180 school days if the student commits physical assault at school against another student.

Physical assault is defined as "intentionally causing or attempting to cause physical harm to another through force or violence."

The Board shall suspend or expel a student in grade six or above and may discipline, suspend or expel a student in grade five and below for a period of time as determined at the Board's discretion if the student commits verbal assault at school against a District employee, volunteer, or contractor or makes a bomb threat or similar threat directed at school building, property, or at a school-related activity.

Verbal assault is a communicated intent to inflict physical or other harm on another person, with a present intent and ability to act on the threat.

"At school" means in a classroom, elsewhere on school premises, on a school bus or other school-related vehicle, or at a school-sponsored activity or event whether or not it is held on school premises.

Factors To Be Considered Before Suspending or Expelling a Student

Prior to suspending or expelling a student for any of the above statutorily mandated reasons, except as noted below, the **Superintendent** shall consider the following factors:

- A. the student's age
- B. the student's disciplinary history
- C. whether the student has a disability
- D. the seriousness of the violation or behavior
- E. whether the violation or behavior committed by the student threatened the safety of any student or staff member
- F. whether restorative practices will be used to address the violation or behavior
- G. whether a lesser intervention would properly address the violation or behavior

The **Superintendent** will exercise discretion over whether or not to suspend or expel a student for the statutorily mandated reasons. In exercising that discretion for a suspension of more than ten (10) days or expulsion, there is a rebuttable presumption that a suspension or expulsion is not justified unless the **Superintendent** can demonstrate that it considered each of the factors listed above. For a suspension of ten (10) days or fewer, there is no rebuttable presumption, but the **Superintendent** will still consider the factors.

Exception: If a student possesses a firearm in a weapon free school zone, the student will be permanently expelled without considering the above factors, unless the student can establish mitigating factors by clear and convincing evidence.

If the District determines that it will utilize restorative practices in addition to or as an alternative to suspension or expulsion of a student, it will engage in restorative practices which emphasize repairing the harm to the victim and school community caused by the student's misconduct.

- [x] Restorative practices may include victim-offender conferences that:
- A. are initiated by the victim;
 - B. are approved by the victim's parent or legal guardian or, if the victim is at least fifteen (15), by the victim;
 - C. are attended voluntarily by the victim, a victim advocate, the offender, members of the school community, and supporters of the victim and the offender (the "restorative practices team");

- D. would provide an opportunity for the offender to accept responsibility for the harm caused to those affected, and to participate in setting consequences to repair the harm, such as requiring the student to apologize; participate in community service, restoration of emotional or material losses, or counseling; pay restitution; or any combination of these.

The selected consequences and time limits for their completion will be incorporated into an agreement to be signed by all participants.

Alternative Services

The District may provide appropriate instructional services at home for an expelled student who is not placed in an Alternative Education Program. The type of instructional services provided shall be similar to that provided to homebound or hospitalized students and shall be contracted for in the same manner.

Disabled students under IDEA or Section 504 shall be expelled only in accordance with Board Policy 5605 and Federal due process rights appropriate to these students.

For expulsions for dangerous weapons, arson, criminal sexual conduct or assault upon an employee, volunteer or contractor, the Superintendent shall provide that the expulsion is duly noted in the student's record and that the student has been referred to the Department of Human Services or Mental Health Department within three (3) school days after the expulsion and the parents have been informed of the referral. Furthermore, the Superintendent shall ensure that, if a student who is expelled is below the age of sixteen (16), then notification of the expulsion shall be given to the Juvenile Division of the Probate Court. In compliance with Federal law, the Superintendent shall also refer any student, regardless of age, expelled for possession of a dangerous weapon to the criminal justice or juvenile delinquency system serving the District. In addition, the Superintendent shall ensure that a copy of this policy and Policy 5610 is sent to the State Department of Education as well as a description of the circumstances surrounding the expulsion of a student for possessing a **(x) firearm (x) weapon** in a weapon-free school zone together with the name of the school, the number of students so expelled, and the types of **(x) firearms (x) weapons** that were brought into the weapon-free school zone and other reasons listed in Policy 8400.

The Superintendent may suspend a student for a period longer than ten (10) days or expel a student. The Board shall act on any appeal to the decision.

In all cases resulting in short-term suspension, long-term suspension, or expulsion, appropriate due process rights described in Policy 5611 must be observed. The Superintendent shall check to make sure the student is not classified as disabled under Section 504.

No student, otherwise eligible for attendance, shall be excluded from a District program unless that student has substantially interfered with the maintenance of good order and/or the educational environment, or unless it is necessary to protect that student's or other students' physical or emotional safety and well-being.

A student may be removed from a class, subject, or activity for one (1) day by his/her teacher for certain conduct as specified in the Code of Conduct, or the student may be given a short-term suspension by the Superintendent or the Principal. A student so removed (x) will () will not be allowed to attend other classes taught by other teachers during the term of the one (1) day removal. A student removed from the same class for ten (10) days will receive a due process hearing for each suspension beyond ten (10) days, consistent with required due process for long-term suspensions. The Board designates the

Superintendent as its representative at any hearings regarding the appeal of a suspension.

A student who has been expelled under this policy for dangerous weapons, arson, criminal sexual conduct or assault upon an employee, volunteer or contractor may apply for reinstatement in accordance with the following guidelines:

- A. If the student is in grade 5 or below at the time of the expulsion and was expelled for possessing a firearm or threatening another person with a dangerous weapon, the parents, legal guardian, the adult student, or the emancipated minor may submit a request for reinstatement after sixty (60) school days from the date of expulsion, but the student may not be reinstated before ninety (90) school days from the expulsion date.

- B. If the student is in grade 5 or below at the time of the expulsion and was expelled for a reason other than possessing a firearm or threatening another person with a dangerous weapon, the parents, legal guardian, the adult student, or the emancipated minor may submit a request for reinstatement at any time, but the student may not be reinstated before ten (10) school days from the expulsion date.

- C. If the student is in grade 6 or above at the time of the expulsion, the parents, legal guardian, the adult student, or the emancipated minor may submit a request for reinstatement after 150 school days from the date of the expulsion, but the student may not be reinstated before 180 school days from the expulsion date.
- D. The parent, adult student, or emancipated minor shall submit the request for reinstatement to the Superintendent on District Form 5610.01 F1.
- E. The Superintendent shall, within ten (10) school days after receiving the form, submit the request, together with any other information s/he deems pertinent to the requested reinstatement, to a Board-appointed committee consisting of two (2) Board members, a District administrator, a teacher, and a parent of a District student.
- F. The committee shall, within ten (10) school days after being appointed, review all pertinent information, and submit its recommendation to the Board. The recommendation may be for unconditional reinstatement, conditional reinstatement, or non-reinstatement, based on the committee's consideration of:
 - 1. the extent to which reinstatement would create a risk of harm to students or school personnel;
 - 2. the extent to which reinstatement would create a risk of District or individual liability for the Board or District personnel;
 - 3. the age and maturity of the student;
 - 4. the student's school record before the expulsion incident;
 - 5. the student's attitude concerning the expulsion incident;
 - 6. the student's behavior since the expulsion and the prospects for remediation;

7. if the request was filed by a parent, the degree of cooperation and support the parent has provided and will provide if the student is reinstated, including, but not limited to the parent's receptiveness toward possible conditions placed on the reinstatement. Such conditions may, as an example, include a written agreement by the student and/or a parent who filed the reinstatement request to:
 - a. abide by a behavior contract which may involve the student, his/her parents, and an outside agency;
 - b. participate in an anger management program or other counseling activities;
 - c. cooperate in processing and discussing periodic progress reviews;
 - d. meet other conditions deemed appropriate by the committee;
 - e. accept the consequences for not fulfilling the agreed-upon conditions.

The committee may also allow the parent, adult student, or emancipated minor to propose conditions as part of the request for reinstatement.

The Board shall make its decision no later than the next regular Board meeting following the committee's submission of its recommendations. The Board's decision shall be final and not subject to appeal.

In the event a student who has been permanently expelled from another school district requests admission to this District, the Board shall, in making its decision,

- () follow the same procedure it has established in paragraph A-F above for the reinstatement of a District student.
- (x) rely upon the recommendation of the Superintendent.

Students expelled for reasons other than dangerous weapons, arson, criminal sexual conduct or assault upon an employee, volunteer or contractor may also petition the Board for reinstatement. The Board may, at its discretion, consider the petition in accordance with:

(x) the procedures set forth above.

OR

() the standards and the procedures it determines to be appropriate under the circumstances.

The Superintendent shall ensure that Board policies and District guidelines regarding a student's rights to due process are adhered to when dealing with a possible suspension or expulsion under this policy.

M.C.L. 380.1310, 380.1311, 280.1310d, 380.1311a

REVISED POLICY - VOL. 31, NO. 2

**BULLYING AND OTHER AGGRESSIVE BEHAVIOR TOWARD
STUDENTS**

It is the policy of the District to provide a safe and nurturing educational environment for all of its students.

This policy protects all students from bullying/aggressive behavior regardless of the subject matter or motivation for such impermissible behavior.

Bullying or other aggressive behavior toward a student, whether by other students, staff, or third parties, including Board members, parents, guests, contractors, vendors, and volunteers, is strictly prohibited. This prohibition includes written, physical, verbal, and psychological abuse, including hazing, gestures, comments, threats, or actions to a student, which cause or threaten to cause bodily harm, reasonable fear for personal safety or personal degradation.

Demonstration of appropriate behavior, treating others with civility and respect, and refusing to tolerate harassment or bullying is expected of administrators, faculty, staff, and volunteers to provide positive examples for student behavior.

This policy applies to all "at school" activities in the District, including activities on school property, in a school vehicle, and those occurring off school property, if the student or employee is at any school-sponsored, school-approved or school-related activity or function, such as field trips or athletic events where students are under the school's control, or where an employee is engaged in school business. Misconduct occurring outside of school may also be disciplined if it interferes with the school environment.

Notification

Notice of this policy will be annually circulated to and posted in conspicuous locations in all school buildings and departments within the District and discussed with students, as well as incorporated into the teacher, student, and parent/guardian handbooks. State and Federal rights posters on discrimination and harassment shall also be posted at each building. All new hires will be required to review and sign off on this policy and the related complaint procedure.

Parents or legal guardians of the alleged victim(s), as well as of the alleged aggressor(s), shall be promptly notified of any complaint or investigation as well as the results of the investigation to the extent consistent with student confidentiality requirements. A record of the time and form of notice or attempts at notice shall be kept in the investigation file.

To the extent appropriate and/or legally permitted, confidentiality will be maintained during the investigation process. However, a proper investigation will, in some circumstances, require the disclosure of names and allegations. Further, the appropriate authorities may be notified, depending on the nature of the complaint and/or the results of the investigation.

Reporting

No later than May 30, 2015, the District shall submit to the Department of Education a copy of this Policy.

The District shall report incidents of bullying to the Department of Education on an annual basis according to the form and procedures established by the Department of Education.

Should this Policy be amended or otherwise modified, the District shall submit a copy of the amended or modified Policy to the Department of Education no later than thirty (30) days after adopting the modification.

Implementation

The Superintendent is responsible to implement this policy, and may develop further guidelines, not inconsistent with this policy.

This policy is not intended to and should not be interpreted to interfere with legitimate free speech rights of any individual. However, the District reserves the right and responsibility to maintain a safe environment for students, conducive to learning and other legitimate objectives of the school program.

Procedure

Any student who believes s/he has been or is the victim of bullying, hazing, or other aggressive behavior should immediately report the situation to the Principal or assistant principal. The student may also report concerns to a teacher or counselor who will be responsible for notifying the appropriate administrator or Board official. Complaints against the building principal should be filed with the Superintendent. Complaints against the Superintendent should be filed with the Board President.

A student may also submit a report or complaint to any of the above designated individuals through email, voicemail, regular mail or by leaving a sealed note addressed to the individual at that person's office or desk. The student may submit a report or complaint anonymously, but this may affect the ability to fully investigate the matter, when the complaining student is not available to provide additional information during the course of the investigation.

The identity of a student who reports bullying, hazing or aggressive behavior, as well as those students who provide information during an investigation will remain confidential to the extent possible and to the extent allowable by law. Only school personnel directly involved in the investigation of the complaint or responsible for remedying any violations will be provided access to the identity of the complaining student(s) and student witnesses, and then only to the extent necessary to effectively deal with the situation.

The identity of the student who files the report or complaint will not be voluntarily shared with the alleged perpetrator(s) or the witnesses unless the student (and his/her parent/guardian) give written permission to do so. Any investigation report will likewise not be voluntarily produced with the names of the reporting student(s) or witnesses. However, under certain circumstances, the District may be required by law to disclose the report and/or the student(s) names. Also, under certain circumstances, the identity of the reporting student may become obvious even without disclosure by school personnel.

Every student is encouraged, and every staff member is required, to report any situation that they believe to be aggressive behavior directed toward a student. Reports shall be made to those identified above. While reports may be made anonymously, formal disciplinary action may not be taken solely on the basis of an anonymous report without other corroborating evidence.

The Principal (or other designated administrator) shall promptly investigate and document all complaints about bullying, aggressive or other behavior that may violate this policy. The investigation must be completed as promptly as the circumstances permit after a report or complaint is made.

If the investigation finds an instance of bullying or aggressive behavior has occurred, it will result in prompt and appropriate remedial action. This may include up to expulsion for students, up to discharge for employees, exclusion for parents, guests, volunteers and contractors, and removal from any official position and/or a request to resign for Board members. Individuals may also be referred to law enforcement or other appropriate officials.

If, during an investigation of a reported act of harassment, intimidation and/or bullying/cyberbullying, the Principal or appropriate administrator believes that the reported misconduct may have created a hostile learning environment and may have constituted unlawful discriminatory harassment based on a Protected Class, the Principal will report the act of bullying and/or harassment to one of the Anti-Harassment Compliance Officers so that it may be investigated in accordance with the procedures set forth in Policy 5517 - Anti-Harassment.

The individual responsible for conducting the investigation shall document all reported incidents and report all verified incidents of bullying, aggressive or other prohibited behavior, as well as any remedial action taken, including disciplinary actions and referrals, to the Superintendent. The Superintendent shall submit a compiled report to the Board on an annual basis.

Non-Retaliation/False Reports

Retaliation or false allegations against any person who reports, is thought to have reported, files a complaint, participates in an investigation or inquiry concerning allegations of bullying or aggressive behavior (as a witness or otherwise), or is the target of the bullying or aggressive behavior being investigated, is prohibited and will not be tolerated. Such retaliation shall be considered a serious violation of Board policy, independent of whether a complaint of bullying is substantiated. Suspected retaliation should be reported in the same manner as bullying/aggressive behavior.

Making intentionally false reports about bullying/aggressive behavior for the purpose of getting someone in trouble is similarly prohibited and will not be tolerated. Retaliation and intentionally false reports may result in disciplinary action as indicated above.

- [x] The District may utilize restorative practices that emphasize repairing the harm to the victim and school community in the correction of bullying behavior, which may include victim-offender conferences that:
- A. are initiated by the victim;
 - B. are approved by the victim's parent or legal guardian or, if the victim is at least 15, by the victim;
 - C. are attended voluntarily by the victim, a victim advocate, the offender, members of the school community, and supporters of the victim and the offender (the "restorative practices team");
 - D. would provide an opportunity for the offender to accept responsibility for the harm caused to those affected, and to participate in setting consequences to repair the harm, such as requiring the student to apologize; participate in community service, restoration of emotional or material losses, or counseling; pay restitution; or any combination of these. The selected consequences and time limits for their completion will be incorporated into an agreement to be signed by all participants.

Definitions

The following definitions are provided for guidance only. If a student or other individual believes there has been bullying, hazing, harassment or other aggressive behavior, regardless of whether it fits a particular definition, s/he should report it immediately and allow the administration to determine the appropriate course of action.

"Aggressive behavior" is defined as inappropriate conduct that is repeated enough, or serious enough, to negatively impact a student's educational, physical, or emotional well-being. Such behavior includes, for example, bullying, hazing, stalking, intimidation, menacing, coercion, name-calling, taunting, making threats, and hitting/pushing/shoving.

"At School" is defined as in a classroom, elsewhere on school premises, on a school bus or other school-related vehicle, or at a school-sponsored activity or event whether or not it is held on school premises. It also includes conduct using a telecommunications access device or telecommunications service provider that occurs off school premises if either owned by or under the control of the District.

"Bullying" is defined as any written, verbal, or physical acts, including cyber bullying (i.e. any electronic communication, including, but not limited to electronically transmitted acts, such as internet, telephone or cell phone, personal digital assistant (PDA), or wireless hand held device) that, without regard to its subject matter or motivating animus, is intended or that a reasonable person would know is likely to harm one (1) or more students either directly or indirectly by doing any of the following:

- A. substantially interfering with educational opportunities, benefits, or programs of one (1) or more students;
- B. adversely affecting the ability of a student to participate in or benefit from the school district's educational programs or activities by placing the student in reasonable fear of physical harm or by causing substantial emotional distress;
- C. having an actual and substantial detrimental effect on a student's physical or mental health; and/or

- D. causing substantial disruption in, or substantial interference with, the orderly operation of the school.

Bullying can be physical, verbal, psychological, or a combination of all three. Some examples of bullying are:

- A. Physical – hitting, kicking, spitting, pushing, pulling; taking and/or damaging personal belongings or extorting money, blocking or impeding student movement, unwelcome physical contact.
- B. Verbal – taunting, malicious teasing, insulting, name calling, making threats.
- C. Psychological – spreading rumors, manipulating social relationships, coercion, or engaging in social exclusion/shunning, extortion, or intimidation. This may occur in a number of different ways, including but not limited to notes, emails, social media postings, and graffiti.

"Harassment" includes, but is not limited to, any act which subjects an individual or group to unwanted, abusive behavior of a nonverbal, verbal, written or physical nature, often on the basis of age, race, religion, color, national origin, marital status or disability, but may also include sexual orientation, physical characteristics (e.g., height, weight, complexion), cultural background, socioeconomic status, or geographic location (e.g., from rival school, different state, rural area, city, etc.).

"Intimidation/Menacing" includes, but is not limited to, any threat or act intended to: place a person in fear of physical injury or offensive physical contact; to substantially damage or interfere with person's property; or to intentionally interfere with or block a person's movement without good reason.

"Staff" includes all school employees and Board members.

"Third parties" include, but are not limited to, coaches, school volunteers, parents, school visitors, service contractors, vendors, or others engaged in District business, and others not directly subject to school control at inter-district or intra-district athletic competitions or other school events.

For further definition and instances that could possibly be construed as:

Harassment, see Policy 5517;
Hazing, see Policy 5516.

M.C.L. 380.1310b (Matt's Safe School Law, PA 241 of 2011), PA 478 of 2014
Policies on Bullying, Michigan State Board of Education
Model Anti-Bullying Policy, Michigan State Board of Education

REVISED POLICY - VOL. 31, NO. 2

WEB CONTENT, SERVICES AND APPS

Creating Web Pages/Sites/Services and Apps

The Board of Education authorizes staff members

(x) and students

to create web content, services and apps that will be hosted by the Board on its servers or District-affiliated servers and published on the Internet. For purposes of this policy, an app is defined as a self-contained program or piece of software that enables the user to perform a specific task.

The web content, services and apps must comply with State and Federal law (e.g., copyright laws, Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Section 504), Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Student Online Personal Protection Act (SOPPA) and Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA)), and reflect the professional image/brand of the District, its employees, and students. Web content, series and apps must be consistent with the Board's Mission Statement and staff-created web content, services and apps are subject to prior review and approval of the Superintendent before being published on the Internet and/or utilized with students.

[x] Student-created web content, services and apps are subject to Policy 5722-- School-Sponsored Student Publications and Productions.

[x] The creation of web content, services and apps by students must be done under the supervision of a professional staff member.

The purpose of web content, services and apps hosted by the Board on its servers or District-affiliated servers is to educate, inform, and communicate. The following criteria shall be used to guide the development of such web content, services and apps:

A. **Educate**

Content should be suitable for and usable by students and teachers to support the curriculum and the Board's Objectives as listed in the Board's Strategic Plan.

B. **Inform**

Content may inform the community about the school, teachers, students, or departments, including information about curriculum, events, class projects, student activities, and departmental policies.

C. **Communicate**

Content may communicate information about the plans, policies and operations of the District to members of the public and other persons who may be affected by District matters.

The information contained on the Board's website(s) should reflect and support the Board's Mission Statement, Educational Philosophy, and the School Improvement Process.

When the content includes a photograph or information relating to a student, the Board will abide by the provisions of Policy 8330 - Student Records.

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All links included on the Board's website(s) or web services and apps must also meet the above criteria and comply with State and Federal law (e.g. copyright laws, CIPA, Section 504, ADA, SOPPA and COPPA). Nothing in this paragraph shall prevent the District from linking the Board's website(s) to 1) recognized news/media outlets (e.g., local newspapers' websites, local television stations' websites) or 2) to websites, services and/or apps that are developed and hosted by outside commercial vendors pursuant to a contract with the Board. The Board recognizes that such third party websites may not contain age-appropriate advertisements that are consistent with the requirements of Policy 9700.01, AG 9700B, and State and Federal law.

Under no circumstances is District-created web content, services or apps to be used for commercial purposes, advertising, political lobbying, or to provide financial gains for any individual. Included in this prohibition is the fact no web content contained on the District's website may: (1 include statements or other items that support or oppose a candidate for public office, the investigation, prosecution or recall of a public official, or passage of a tax levy or bond issue; (2 link to a website of another organization if the other website includes such a message; or (3 communicate information that supports or opposes any labor organization or any action by, on behalf of, or against any labor organization.

Web content, services and apps should reflect an understanding that both internal and external audiences will be viewing the information.

School website(s), services and apps must be located on Board-owned or District-affiliated servers.

The Superintendent shall prepare administrative guidelines defining the rules and standards applicable to the use of the Board's website and the creation of web content, services and apps by staff **(x)** and students.

The Board retains all proprietary rights related to the design of web content, services and apps that are hosted on Board-owned or District-affiliated servers, absent written agreement to the contrary.

Students who want their class work to be displayed on the Board's website must have written parent permission and expressly license its display without cost to the Board.

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Prior written parental permission is necessary for a student to be identified by name on the Board's website.

Instructional Use of Web Services and Apps

The Board authorizes the use of web services and/or apps to supplement and enhance learning opportunities for students either in the classroom or for extended learning outside the classroom.

[SELECT OPTION #1 or OPTION #2]

[] [OPTION #1]

- [] The Board requires the () Superintendent () _____ pre-approve each web service and/or app that a teacher intends to use to supplement and enhance student learning. To be approved, the web service or app must have a FERPA-compliant privacy policy, as well as comply with all requirements of the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA), the Student Online Personal Protection Act (SOPPA) and the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) () and Section 504 and the ADA.

[END OF OPTION #1]

[x] [OPTION #2]

- [x] A teacher who elects to supplement and enhance student learning through the use of web services and/or apps is responsible for verifying/certifying to the Superintendent that the web service or app has a FERPA-compliant privacy policy, and it complies with all requirements of the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA), the Student Online Protection Act (SOPPA) and the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) and Section 504 and the ADA.

NEW POLICY - TECHNOLOGY UPDATE

CONTINUITY OF ORGANIZATIONAL OPERATIONS PLAN

The Continuity of Organizational Operations Plan (COOP) provides the District with the capability of conducting its essential operations under all threats and conditions with or without warning. Having a plan to recover from any type of disaster regardless of the severity and consequences of the emergency is critical to recovery of operations and can minimize the impact on the District's teaching and learning, personnel, facilities, technology, transportation, food service, and other functional resources.

Scope of the Continuity Plan

The primary objective of the COOP is to restore the District's critical operational functions and the learning environment as quickly as possible after a crisis or threat event has occurred. A COOP contains critical and sensitive information that is confidential and exempt from public disclosure.

Planning for the continuity of operations of a school system in the aftermath of a disaster is a complex task. The current changing threat environment and recent emergencies, including acts of nature, accidents, technological emergencies, and terrorist attacks and threats, have increased the need for viable continuity capabilities and plans that enable the District to resume and continue the essential functions in an all-hazards environment across a full spectrum of emergencies. Such conditions have increased the importance of having continuity plans in place that provide stability of essential functions across the various levels of public government and private enterprises.

The planning and development of continuity of an organizational operations plan, as well as the ongoing review and revision of such a plan, is important for the overall District.

The District-wide plan describes how the District will respond as a total organization to a given emergency and describes the centralized resources and how they will be organized to implement command and control necessary to function during the life cycle of the event. Individual school and departmental plans contain the details related to the continuity plan for those specific sites and functional areas to prepare for an event, communicate throughout the duration of an event, assess the impact of an event on essential functions in the unit, respond to the event, and detail what will be done to recover from the event.

Preparation for, response to, and recovery from a disaster affecting administrative, educational, and support functions of the District's operations requires the cooperative efforts of external organizations, in partnership with the functional areas supporting the business of the District. This includes local government agencies, law enforcement, emergency management, medical services, and vendors necessary to District operations. The COOP outlines and coordinates all efforts by the District in cooperation with other local and State agencies and businesses to restore the essential functions of the District to the larger local community post-disaster.

The Superintendent shall recommend the COOP for Board of Education review and approval; however, the COOP shall be considered a confidential document not subject to release under State public records laws and accordingly no copies shall be provided for public review during the adoption process.

The Superintendent shall conduct:

- (x) periodic

review of the COOP.

NEW POLICY - TECHNOLOGY UPDATE

INFORMATION SECURITY

The District collects, classifies, and retains data/information from and about students, staff, vendors/contractors, and other individuals, about programs and initiatives undertaken by the school system, and about and related to the business of the District. This information may be in hard copy or digital format, and may be stored in the District or offsite with a third party provider.

Data/information collected by the District shall be classified as Confidential, Controlled, or Published. Data/information will be considered Controlled until identified otherwise.

Protecting District Information Resources (as defined in Bylaw 0100) is of paramount importance. Information security requires everyone's active participation to keep the District's data/information secure. This includes Board of Education members, staff members/employees, students, parents, contractors/vendors, and visitors who use District Technology Resources (as defined in Bylaw 0100) and Information Resources.

Individuals who are granted access to data/information collected and retained by the District must follow established procedures so that the information is protected and preserved. Board members, administrators, and all District staff members, as well as contractors, vendors, and their employees, granted access to data/information retained by the District are required to certify annually that they shall comply with the established information security protocols pertaining to District data/information. Further, all individuals granted access to Confidential Data/Information retained by the District must certify annually that they will comply with the information security protocols pertaining to Confidential Data/Information. Completing the appropriate section of the Staff Technology Acceptable Use and Safety form (Form 7540.04F1) shall provide this certification.

All Board members, staff members/employees, students, contractors/vendors, and visitors who have access to Board-owned or managed data/information must maintain the security of that data/information and the District Technology Resources on which it is stored.

If an individual has any questions concerning whether this Policy and/or its related administrative guidelines apply to him/her or how they apply to him/her, the individual should contact the District's Technology Director or Information Technology Department/Office.

The Superintendent shall develop administrative guidelines that set forth the internal controls necessary to provide for the collection, classification, retention, access, and security of District Data/Information.

Further, the Superintendent is authorized to develop procedures that would be implemented in the event of an unauthorized release or breach of data/information. These procedures shall comply with the District's legal requirements if such a breach of personally-identifiable information occurs.

The Superintendent shall require the participation of staff members in appropriate training related to the internal controls pertaining to the data/information that they collect, to which they have access, and for which they would be responsible for the security protocols.

Third-party contractors/vendors who require access to Confidential Data/Information collected and retained by the District will be informed of relevant Board policies that govern access to and use of Information Resources, including the duty to safeguard the confidentiality of such data/information.

Failure to adhere to this Policy and its related administrative guidelines may put data/information collected and retained by the District at risk. Employees who violate this policy and/or the administrative guidelines promulgated consistent with this policy may have disciplinary consequences imposed, up to and including termination of employment, and/or referral to law enforcement. Students who violate this Policy and/or AGs will be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including expulsion, and/or referral to law enforcement. Contractors/vendors who violate this Policy and/or AGs may face termination of their business relationships with and/or legal action by the District. Parents and visitors who violate this Policy and/or AGs may be denied access to the District's Technology Resources.

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The Superintendent shall conduct

- an annual
- a periodic

assessment of risk related to the access to and security of the data/information collected and retained by the District.

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REVISED POLICY - VOL. 31, NO. 1

CRIMINAL JUSTICE INFORMATION SECURITY
(NON-CRIMINAL JUSTICE AGENCY)

The District is required by State law to have the Michigan State Police (MSP) obtain both a State and a Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) criminal history record information (CHRI) background check report for all employees of the District and contractors, vendors and their employees who work on a regular and continuous basis in the District. To assure the security, confidentiality, and integrity of the CHRI background check information received from the MSP/FBI, the following standards are established:

A. Sanctions for Non-Compliance

Employees who fail to comply with this policy and any guidelines issued to implement this policy will be subject to discipline for such violations. Discipline will range from counseling and retraining to discharge, based on the nature and severity of the violation. All violations will be recorded in writing, with the corrective action taken. The Superintendent shall review, approve, sign and date all such corrective actions.

B. Local Agency Security Officer (LASO)

The **Executive Director of Human Resources** shall be designated as the District's Security Officer and shall be responsible for overall implementation of this policy and for data and system security. This shall include:

1. ensuring that personnel security screening procedures are being followed as set forth in this policy;
2. ensuring that approved and appropriate security measures are in place and working as expected;
3. supporting policy compliance and instituting the incident response reporting procedures;

4. ensuring that the Michigan State Police are promptly informed of any security incidents involving the abuse or breach of the system and/or access to criminal justice information;
5. to the extent applicable, identifying and documenting how District equipment is connected to the Michigan State Police system;
6. to the extent applicable, identify who is using the Michigan State Police approved hardware, software and firmware, and ensuring that no unauthorized individuals have access to these items.

The District's LASO shall be designated on the appropriate form as prescribed and maintained by the Michigan State Police. A new form shall be submitted every time a new LASO is designated.

C. Agency User Agreements

The District shall enter into any User Agreement required, and future amendments, by the Michigan State Police necessary to access the required CHRI on applicants, volunteers, and all other statutorily required individuals, such as contractors and vendors and their employees assigned to the District. The LASO shall be responsible for the District's compliance with the terms of any such User Agreement.

D. Personnel Security

All individuals that have access to any criminal justice information shall be subject to the following standards:

1. Background Checks - A Michigan (or state of residency if other than Michigan) and a national fingerprint-based criminal history record check shall be conducted within thirty (30) days of assignment to a position with direct access to criminal justice information or with direct responsibility to configure and maintain computer systems and networks with direct access to criminal justice information.
 - a. A felony conviction of any kind will disqualify an individual for access to criminal justice information.
 - b. If any other results/records are returned, the individual shall not be granted access until the LASO reviews and determines access is appropriate. This includes, but is not limited to, any record which indicates the individual may be a fugitive or shows arrests without convictions. Such approval shall be recorded in writing, signed, dated and maintained with the individual's file.
 - c. Support personnel, Information Technology contractors and vendors, and custodial workers with access to physically secure locations or controlled areas (during criminal justice information processing) are subject to the same clearance standards as other individuals with access and must be escorted by authorized personnel at all times when in these locations or areas.

2. Subsequent Arrest/Conviction - If an individual granted access to criminal justice information is subsequently arrested and/or convicted, access shall be suspended immediately until the matter is reviewed by the LASO to determine if continued access is appropriate. Such determination shall be recorded in writing, signed, dated and maintained with the individual's file. In the event that the LASO has the arrest/conviction, the Superintendent (if not the designated LASO) shall make the determination. If the Superintendent is also the designated LASO, the determination shall be made by the **Executive Director of HR**. Except that, as noted in D(1)(a), individuals with a felony conviction of any kind will have their access permanently suspended.
3. Public Interest Denial - If the LASO determines that access to criminal justice information by any individual would not be in the public interest, access shall be denied whether that person is seeking access or has previously been granted access. Such decision and reasons shall be in writing, signed, dated and maintained in the individual's file.
4. Approval for Access - All requests for access to criminal justice information shall be as specified and approved by the LASO. Any such designee must be a direct employee of the District. The District must maintain a readily accessible list that includes the names of all LASO approved personnel with access to criminal justice information, as well as the reason for providing each individual access.
5. Termination of Employment/Access - Within twenty-four (24) hours of the termination of employment, all access to criminal justice information shall be terminated immediately for that individual, and steps taken to assure security of such information and any systems at the District to access such information.

6. Transfer/Re-assignment - When an individual who has been granted access to criminal justice information has been transferred or re-assigned to other duties, the LASO shall determine whether continued access is necessary and appropriate. If not, s/he shall take such steps as necessary to block further access to such information within the twenty-four (24) hour period immediately following the transfer or reassignment.

7. Information Technology Contractors and Vendors¹ – Prior to granting access to criminal justice information to an IT contractor or vendor, identification must be verified via a Michigan (or state of residency if other than Michigan) and national fingerprint-based criminal history record check. A felony conviction of any kind, as well as any outstanding arrest warrant, will disqualify an IT contractor or vendor for access to criminal justice information. A contractor or vendor with a criminal record of any other kind may be granted access if the LASO determines the nature or severity of the misdemeanor offense(s) does not warrant disqualification. If any other results/records are returned, the individual shall not be granted access until the LASO reviews and determines access is appropriate.

¹Non-Information Technology contractors or vendors shall not have access to criminal justice information.

E. Media Protection

Access to digital and physical media in all forms, which contains criminal history background information provided by the Michigan State Police through the statutory record check process, is restricted to authorized individuals only. Only individuals involved in the hiring determination of both District employees and volunteers shall be authorized to access digital and physical media containing CHRI.

1. Media Storage and Access – All digital and physical media shall be stored in a physically secure location or controlled area, such as locked office, locked cabinet or other similarly secure area(s) which can only be accessed by authorized individuals. If such security cannot be reasonably provided, then all digital CHRI background data shall be encrypted. Digital media shall be stored on a District or School server. Storage on a third party server, such as cloud service, is not permitted. Storage of digital media must conform to the requirements in AG 8321.
2. Media Transport – Digital and physical media shall be protected when being transported outside of a controlled area. Only authorized individuals shall transport the media. It shall be directly delivered to the intended person or destination and shall remain in the physical control and custody of the authorized individual at all times during transport. Access shall only be allowed to an authorized individual. To the extent possible, digital media (e.g., hard drives and removable storage devices such as disks, tapes, flash drives and memory cards) shall be either encrypted and/or be password protected during the transport process.

3. Media Disposal/Sanitization – When the CHRI background check is no longer needed, the media upon which it is stored shall either be destroyed or sanitized. The LASO and the Superintendent shall approve in writing the media to be affected. This record shall be maintained by the LASO for a period of at least five (5) years. **[Note: the regulations do not specify a specific period for maintaining this information. This time period is suggested as it will likely cover most statutes of limitation and can be retained in digital format.]**
 - a. Digital Media - Sanitization of the media and deletion of the data shall be accomplished by either overwriting at least three (3) times or by degaussing, prior to disposal or reuse of the media. If the media is inoperable or will not be reused, it shall be destroyed by shredding, cutting, or other suitable method to assure that any data will not be retrievable.
 - b. Physical Media – Disposal of documents, images or other type of physical record of the criminal history information shall be cross-cut shredded or incinerated. Physical security of the documents and their information shall be maintained during the process by authorized individuals. Documents may not be placed in a waste basket or burn bag for unauthorized individuals to later collect and dispose of.

All disposal/sanitization shall be either conducted or witnessed by authorized personnel to assure that there is no misappropriation of, or unauthorized access to, the data to be deleted. Written documentation of the steps taken to sanitize or destroy the media shall be maintained for ten (10) years, and must include the date as well as the signatures of the person(s) performing and/or witnessing the process. (See also, AG 8321.)

4. Mobile Devices – A personally owned mobile device (mobile phone, tablet, laptop, etc.) shall not be authorized to access, process, store or transmit criminal justice information unless the District has established and documented the specific terms and conditions for personally owned mobile devices.

F. CHRI Background Check Consent and Documentation

All individuals requested to complete a fingerprint-based CHRI background check must have given written consent—properly signed and dated—at time of application and be notified fingerprints will be used to check the criminal history records of the FBI, prior to completing a fingerprint-based CHRI background check. The most current and unaltered Livescan form (RI-030) will satisfy this requirement and must be retained. Individuals subject to a fingerprint-based CHRI background check shall be provided the opportunity to complete or challenge the accuracy of the individual's criminal history record.

Some type of documentation identifying the position for which a fingerprint-based CHRI background check has been obtained must be retained for every CHRI background check conducted, such as an offer letter, employment agreement, new hire checklist, employment contract, volunteer background check form, etc.

G. Controlled Area/Physical Protection

All CHRI obtained from the Michigan State Police pursuant to the statutorily required background checks shall be maintained in a physically secure and controlled area, which shall be a designated office, room, or area. The following security precautions will apply to the controlled area:

1. Limited unauthorized personnel access to the area during times that criminal justice information is being processed or viewed.
2. The controlled area shall be locked at all times when not in use or attended by an authorized individual.

3. Information systems devices (e.g., computer screens) and physical documents, when in use, shall be positioned to prevent unauthorized individuals from being able to access or view them.
4. Encryption shall be used for digital storage of criminal justice information. (See AG 8321)

H. Passwords (Standard Authentication)²

All authorized individuals with access to computer or systems where processing is conducted or containing criminal justice information must have a unique password to gain access. This password shall not be used for any other account to which the individual has access and shall comply with the following attributes and standards.

1. at least eight (8) characters long on all systems
2. not be a proper name or a word found in the dictionary
3. not be the same as the user identification
4. not be displayed when entered into the system (must use feature to hide password as typed)
5. not be transmitted in the clear outside of the secure location used for criminal justice information storage and retrieval
6. must expire and be changed every ninety (90) days
7. renewed password cannot be the same as any prior ten (10) passwords used (See also, AG 8321)

²Applicable to districts that maintain CHRI within a digital system of records, such as a digital database, filing system, record keeping software, spreadsheets, etc. Not applicable if CHRI kept solely via e-mail and/or paper copies.

I. Security Awareness Training

All individuals who are authorized by the District to have access to criminal justice information or to systems which store criminal justice information shall have basic security awareness training within six (6) months of initial assignment/authorization and every two (2) years thereafter. The training shall, to the extent possible, be received through a program approved by the Michigan State Police. A template of the training is provided on the Michigan State Police's website. At a minimum, the training shall comply with the standards established by the U.S. Department of Justice and Federal Bureau of Investigation for Criminal Justice Information Services. (See AG 8321.)

J. Secondary Dissemination of Information

If criminal history background information received from the Michigan State Police is released to another authorized agency under the sharing provision designated by The Revised School Code, a log of such releases shall be maintained and kept current indicating:

1. the date of release;
2. record disseminated;
3. method of sharing;
4. agency personnel that shared the CHRI;
5. the agency, and name of the individual at the agency, to which the information was released;
6. whether an authorization was obtained.

A log entry need not be kept if the receiving agency/entity is part of the primary information exchange agreements between the District and the Michigan State Police. A release form consenting to the sharing of CHRI shall be maintained at all relevant times.

If CHRI is received from another District or outside agency, an Internet Criminal History Access Tool (ICHAT) background check shall be performed to ensure the CHRI is based on personal identifying information, including the individual's name, sex, and date of birth, at a minimum.

K. Auditing and Accountability

The District's information system shall produce, at the application and/or operating system level, audit records containing sufficient information to establish what events occurred, the sources of the events, and the outcomes of the events. In the event the District does not use an automated system, manual recording of activities shall still take place.

The following events shall be logged:

1. Successful and unsuccessful system log-on attempts.
2. Successful and unsuccessful attempts to:
 - a. access permission on a user account, file, directory or other system resource;
 - b. create permission on a user account, file, directory or other system resource;
 - c. write permission on a user account, file, directory or other system resource;

- d. delete permission on a user account, file, directory or other system resource;
 - e. change permission on a user account, file, directory or other system resource.
- 3. Successful and unsuccessful attempts to change account passwords.
 - 4. Successful and unsuccessful actions by privileged accounts.
 - 5. Successful and unsuccessful attempts for users to:
 - a. access the audit log file;
 - b. modify the audit log file;
 - c. destroy the audit log file.

The following content shall be included with every audited event: 1) date and time of the event; 2) the component of the information system (e.g., software component, hardware component) where the event occurred; 3) type of event; 4) user identity; and 5) outcome (success or failure) of the event.

Audit Monitoring, Analysis and Reporting - The District shall designate an individual or position to review/analyze information system audit records for indications of inappropriate or unusual activity, to investigate suspicious activity or suspected violations, to report findings to appropriate officials, and to take necessary actions. Audit review/analysis shall be conducted at a minimum once a week, and should be increased if volume indicates an elevated need for audit review.

Time Stamps - The District's information system shall provide time stamps for use in audit record generation. The time stamps shall include the date and time values generated by the internal system clocks in the audit records.

Protection of Audit Information - The District's information system shall protect audit information and audit tools from modification, deletion and unauthorized access.

Audit Record Retention - The District shall retain audit records for at least one (1) year. Once the minimum retention time period has passed, the District may continue to retain audit records until it is determined they are no longer needed for administrative, legal, audit, or other operational purposes.

Ref: Criminal Justice Information Services - Security Policy (Version 5.5, 2016),
U.S. Dept. of Justice and Federal Bureau of Investigation
Noncriminal Justice Agency Compliance Audit Review, Michigan State
Police, Criminal Justice Information Center, Audit and Training Section
Conducting Criminal Background Checks, Michigan State Police, Criminal
Justice Information Center

REVISED POLICY - VOL. 31, NO. 2

STUDENT RECORDS

In order to provide appropriate educational services and programming, the Board of Education must collect, retain, and use information about individual students. Simultaneously, the Board recognizes the need to safeguard student's privacy and restrict access to student's personally identifiable information.

Student "personally identifiable information" ("PII") includes, but is not limited to: the student's name; the name of the student's parent or other family members; the address of the student or student's family; a personal identifier, such as the student's social security number, student number, or biometric record; other indirect identifiers, such as the student's date of birth, place of birth, and mother's maiden name; other information that, alone or in combination, is linked or linkable to a specific student that would allow a reasonable person in the school community, who does not have personal knowledge of the relevant circumstances, to identify the student with reasonable certainty; or information requested by a person who the District reasonably believes knows the identity of the student to whom the education record relates.

The Board of Education is responsible for maintaining records of all students attending schools in this District. Only records mandated by the State or Federal government and/or necessary and relevant to the function of the School District or specifically permitted by this Board will be compiled by Board employees. The Board hereby authorizes collection of the following student records, in addition to the membership record required by law:

- (x) observations and ratings of individual students by professional staff members acting within their sphere of competency
- (x) samples of student work

- (x) information obtained from professionally acceptable standard instruments of measurement such as:
 - (x) interest inventories and aptitude tests,
 - (x) vocational preference inventories,
 - (x) achievement tests,
 - (x) standardized intelligence tests,
 - (x) _____
- (x) authenticated information provided by a parent or eligible student concerning achievements and other school activities which the parent or student wants to make a part of the record
- (x) verified reports of serious or recurrent behavior patterns
- (x) rank in class and academic honors earned
- (x) psychological tests
- (x) attendance records
- (x) health records
- (x) custodial arrangements

In all cases, permitted, narrative information in student records shall be objectively-based on the personal observation or knowledge of the originator.

Student records shall be available only to students and their parents, eligible students, and designated school officials who have a legitimate educational interest in the information, or to other individuals or organizations as permitted by law. The term "parents" includes legal guardians or other persons standing in loco parentis (such as a grandparent or stepparent with whom the child lives, or a person who is legally responsible for the welfare of the child). The term "eligible student" refers to a student who is eighteen (18) years of age or older or a student of any age who is enrolled in a postsecondary institution.

In situations in which a student has both a custodial and a noncustodial parent, both shall have access to the student's educational records unless stipulated otherwise by court order. In the case of eligible students, parents will be allowed access to the records without the student's consent, provided the student is considered a dependent under section 152 of the Internal Revenue Code.

A school official is a person employed by the Board as an administrator, supervisor, teacher/instructor (including substitutes), or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel); and a person serving on the Board. The Board further designates the following individuals and entities as "school officials" for the purpose of FERPA:

- A. persons or companies with whom the Board has contracted to perform a specific task (such as an attorney, auditor, insurance representative, or medical consultant);
- B. contractors, consultants, volunteers or other parties to whom the Board has outsourced a service or function otherwise performed by the Board employees (e.g. a therapist, authorized information technology (IT) staff, and approved online educational service providers).

The above-identified outside parties must (a) perform institutional services or functions for which the Board would otherwise use its employees, (b) be under the direct control of the Board with respect to the use and maintenance of education records, and (c) be subject to the requirements of 34 C.F.R. 99.33(a) governing the use and re-disclosure of PII from education records.

Finally, a parent or student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee, or assisting another school official in performing his/her tasks (including volunteers) is also considered a "school official" for purposes of FERPA provided s/he meets the above-referenced criteria applicable to other outside parties.

"Legitimate educational interest" shall be defined as a "direct or delegated responsibility for helping the student achieve one (1) or more of the educational goals of the District" or if the record is necessary in order for the school official to perform an administrative, supervisory or instructional task or to perform a service or benefit for the student or the student's family. The Board directs that reasonable and appropriate methods (including but not limited to physical and/or technological access controls) are utilized to control access to student records and to make certain that school officials obtain access to only those education records in which they have legitimate educational interest.

The Board authorizes the administration to:

- A. forward student records, including any suspension and expulsion action against the student, on request to a school or school district in which a student of this District seeks or intends to enroll upon condition that the student's parents be notified of the transfer, receive a copy of the record if desired, and have an opportunity for a hearing to challenge the content of the record;
- B. forward student records, including disciplinary records with respect to suspensions and expulsions, upon request to a public school or school district in which a student in foster care is enrolled. Such records shall be transferred within one (1) school day of the enrolling school's request;
- C. provide "personally-identifiable" information to appropriate parties, including parents of an eligible student, whose knowledge of the information is necessary to protect the health or safety of the student or other individuals, if there is an articulable and significant threat to the health or safety of a student or other individuals, considering the totality of the circumstances;
- D. report a crime committed by a child with or without a disability to appropriate authorities and, with respect to reporting a crime committed by a student with a disability, to transmit copies of the student's special education records and disciplinary records including any suspension and expulsion action against the student to the authorities and school officials for their consideration;

- E. release de-identified records and information in accordance with Federal regulations;
- F. disclose personally identifiable information from education records, without consent, to organizations conducting studies "for, or on behalf of" the District for purposes of developing, validating or administering predictive tests, administering student aid programs, or improving instruction;

Information disclosed under this exception must be protected so that students and parents cannot be personally identified by anyone other than representative of the organization conducting the study, and must be destroyed when no longer needed for the study. In order to release information under this provision, the District will enter into a written agreement with the recipient organization that specifies the purpose of the study. (See Form 8330 F14.) Further, the following personally identifiable information will not be disclosed to any entity: a student or his/her family member's social security number(s); religion; political party affiliation; voting history; or biometric information.

This written agreement must include: (1) specification of the purpose, scope, duration of the study, and the information to be disclosed; (2) a statement requiring the organization to use the personally identifiable information only to meet the purpose of the study; (3) a statement requiring the organization to prohibit personal identification of parents and students by anyone other than a representative of the organization with legitimate interests; and (4) a requirement that the organization destroy all personally identifiable information when it is no longer needed for the study, along with a specific time period in which the information must be destroyed.

While the disclosure of personally identifiable information (other than social security numbers, religion, political party affiliation, voting record, or biometric information) is allowed under this exception, it is recommended that de-identified information be used whenever possible. This reduces the risk of unauthorized disclosure.

- G. disclose personally identifiable information from education records without consent, to authorized representatives of the Comptroller General, the Attorney General, and the Secretary of Education, as well as State and local educational authorities;

The disclosed records must be used to audit or evaluate a Federal or State supported education program, or to enforce or comply with Federal requirements related to those education programs. A written agreement between the parties is required under this exception. (See Form 8330 F16)

The District will verify that the authorized representative complies with FERPA regulations.

- H. request each person or party requesting access to a student's record to abide by the Federal regulations concerning the disclosure of information.

The Board will comply with a legitimate request for access to a student's records within a reasonable period of time but not more than forty-five (45) days after receiving the request or within such shorter period as may be applicable to students with disabilities. Upon the request of the viewer, a record shall be reproduced, unless said record is copyrighted, and the viewer may be charged a fee equivalent to the cost of handling and reproduction. Based upon reasonable requests, viewers of education records will receive explanation and interpretation of the records.

The Board shall maintain a record of those persons to whom information about a student has been disclosed. Such disclosure records will indicate the student, person viewing the record, information disclosed, date of disclosure, and date parental/eligible student consent was obtained (if required).

Upon written request by a student's parent or legal guardian, the District shall disclose to the parent or legal guardian any personally identifiable information concerning the student that is collected or created by the District as part of the student's education records.

If the District provides any personally identifiable information concerning the student that is collected or created by the District as part of the student's education records to any person, agency, or organization, then the District shall disclose to the student's parent or legal guardian upon his or her written request:

- A. the specific information that was disclosed;
- B. the name and contact information of each person, agency, or organization to which the information has been disclosed;
- C. the legitimate reason that the person, agency, or organization had in obtaining the information.

This information shall be provided without charge within thirty (30) days after the District receives the written request and without charge to the parent or legal guardian.

The District is not required to disclose to the parent or legal guardian, even upon written request, any personally identifiable information concerning the student that is collected or created by the District as part of the student's education records and is provided to any person, agency, or organization in any of the following situations:

- A. provision of such information to the Michigan Department of Education or CEPI
- B. provision of such information to the student's parent or legal guardian
- C. provision of such information to its authorizing body or to an educational management organization with which it has a management agreement

- D. provision of such information to or from its intermediate school district or to another intermediate school district providing services to the District or its students pursuant to a written agreement
- E. provision of such information to a person, agency, or organization with written consent from the student's parent or legal guardian or, if the student is at least age eighteen (18), the student
- F. provision of such information to a person, agency, or organization seeking or receiving records in accordance with an order, subpoena, or ex parte order issued by a court of competent jurisdiction
- G. provision of such information as necessary for standardized testing that measures the student's academic progress and achievement
- H. provision of such information that is covered by the opt-out form described above, unless the student's parent or legal guardian or, if the student is at least age eighteen (18) or is an emancipated minor, the student has signed and submitted the opt-out form referenced below

Only "directory information" regarding a student shall be released to any person or party, other than the student or his/her parent, without the written consent of the parent; or, if the student is an eligible student, the written consent of the student, except those persons or parties stipulated by the Board policy and administrative guidelines and/or those specified in the law.

The Board shall exempt from disclosure directory information, as requested for the purpose of surveys, marketing, or solicitation, unless the Board determines that the use is consistent with the educational mission of the Board and beneficial to the affected students. The Board may take steps to ensure that directory information disclosed shall not be used, rented, or sold for the purpose of surveys, marketing, or solicitations. Before disclosing the directory information, the Board may require the requester to execute an affidavit stating that directory information provided shall not be used, rented, or sold for the purpose of surveys, marketing, or solicitation.

DIRECTORY INFORMATION

Each year the Superintendent shall provide public notice to students and their parents of the District's intent to make available, upon request, certain information known as "directory information." The Board designates as student "directory information":

- (x) a student's name;
- (x) address;
- (x) telephone number;

- (x) major field of study;
- (x) participation in officially recognized activities and sports;
- (x) height and weight, if member of an athletic team;
- (x) height if member of an athletic team;
- (x) weight, if member of an athletic team which requires disclosure to participate;
- (x) dates of attendance;
- (x) date of graduation;
- (x) awards received;
- (x) honor rolls;
- (x) scholarships;
- (x) telephone numbers for inclusion in school or PTO directories;

- (x) school photographs or videos of students participating in school activities, events or programs;

[The following option should be selected if the Board assigns school email accounts to students per Policy 7540.03. *This option is provided to address potential confidentiality issues presented by Policy 7540.03 and is supported by Federal FERPA regulation 34 C.F.R. 99.37(d).]

- [x] The Board designates school-assigned e-mail accounts as “directory information” for the limited purpose of facilitating students’ registration for access to various online educational services, including mobile applications/apps that will be utilized by the student for educational purposes **(x)** and for inclusion in internal e-mail address books. School-assigned e-mail accounts shall not be released as directory information beyond this/these limited purpose(s) and to any person or entity but the specific online educational service provider and internal users of the District's Education Technology.

The Executive Director of Human Resources will also develop a list of uses for which the District commonly would disclose a student’s directory information and develop an opt-out form that lists all of the uses or instances and allows a parent or legal guardian to elect not to have his or her child’s directory information disclosed for one (1) or more of these uses.

Each student’s parent or legal guardian will be provided with the opt-out form within the first thirty (30) days of the school year. The form shall also be provided to a parent or legal guardian at other times upon request.

If an opt-out form is signed and submitted to the District by a student’s parent or legal guardian, the District shall not include the student’s directory information in any of the uses that have been opted out of in the opt-out form. A student who is at least age eighteen (18) or is an emancipated minor may act on his or her own behalf with respect to the opt-out form.

Parents and eligible students may also refuse to allow the District to disclose any or all of such "directory information" upon written notification to the District within NEED NUMBER days after receipt of the District's public notice.

Armed Forces Recruiting

The Board shall provide United States Armed Forces recruiters with at least the same access to the high school campus and to student directory information (names, addresses, and telephone listings of secondary students) as is provided to other entities offering educational or employment opportunities to those students. "Armed forces of the United States" means the armed forces of the United States and their reserve components and the United States Coast Guard.

If a student or the parent or legal guardian of a student submits a signed, written request to the Board that indicates that the student or the parent or legal guardian does not want the student's directory information to be accessible to official recruiting representatives, then the officials of the school shall not allow that access to the student's directory information. The Board shall ensure that students and parents and guardians are notified of the provisions of the opportunity to deny release of directory information.

Public notice shall be given regarding the right to refuse disclosure of any or all "directory information" including to the armed forces of the United States and the service academies of the armed forces of the United States.

A fee, not to exceed the actual costs incurred by the high school, for copying and mailing student directory information under this section, may be charged an official recruiting representative.

Directory information received under armed services authorization request shall be used only to provide information to students concerning educational and career opportunities available in the armed forces of the United States or the service academies of the armed forces of the United States. An official recruiting representative who receives student directory information under this section shall not release that information to a person who is not involved in recruiting students for the armed forces of the United States or the service academies of the armed forces of the United States.

Annually the Board will notify male students age eighteen (18) or older that they are required to register for the selective service.

Requests to the District records officer shall be presented on a standardized form developed by the armed forces of the United States requesting access to a high school campus and a time for the access. Requests should bear the signature of the ranking recruiting officer of the armed service making the request.

Whenever consent of the parent(s)/eligible student is required for the inspection and/or release of a student's education records or for the release of "directory information", either parent may provide such consent unless stipulated otherwise by court order. If the student is under the guardianship of an institution, the Superintendent shall appoint a person who has no conflicting interest to provide such written consent.

The Board may disclose "directory information" on former students without student or parental consent, unless the parent or eligible student previously submitted a request that such information not be disclosed without their prior written consent.

The Board shall not sell or otherwise provide to a for-profit business entity any personally identifiable information that is part of a student's education records. This does not apply to any of the following situations:

- A. providing the information as necessary for standardized testing that measures the student's academic progress and achievement
- B. providing the information as necessary to a person that is providing educational or educational support services to the student under a contract with the District

The parent of a student or an eligible student has the right to inspect upon request any instrument used in the collection of personal information before the instrument is administered or distributed to a student. Personal information for this section is defined as individually identifiable information including a student or parent's first and last name, a home or other physical address (including street name and the name of the city or town), a telephone number, or a Social Security identification number. In order to review the instrument, the parent or eligible students, must submit a written request to the building principal at least five (5) work days before the scheduled date of the activity. The instrument will be provided to the parent within three (3) business days of the principal receiving the request.

The Superintendent shall directly notify the parent(s) of a student and eligible students, at least annually at the beginning of the school year, of the specific or approximate dates during the school year when such activities are scheduled or expected to be scheduled.

This section does not apply to the collection, disclosure or use of personal information collected from students from the exclusive purpose of developing, evaluating, or providing educational products or service for, or to, students or educational institutions, such as the following:

- A. college or other postsecondary education recruitment, or military recruitment;
- B. book clubs, magazines, and programs providing access to low-cost literary products;
- C. curriculum and instructional materials used by elementary and secondary schools;

- D. tests and assessments used by elementary and secondary schools to provide cognitive, evaluative, diagnostic, clinical, aptitude, or achievement information about students (or to generate other statistically useful data for the purpose of securing such tests and assessments) and the subsequent analysis and public release of the aggregate data from such tests and assessments;
- E. the sale by students of products or services to raise funds for school-related or education-related activities; and
- F. student recognition programs.

The Board may establish online access for the parents or the eligible student to the student's confidential academic and attendance record. To authorize such access, the parents or the eligible student must sign a release (see Form 8330 F10). This release shall remind the parents or eligible student that the account and confidential information about the student is only as secure as they keep their account information. Neither the District nor its employees will be held responsible for any breach of this policy by the parent/eligible student or any unauthorized party.

The Superintendent shall prepare administrative guidelines to ensure that students and parents are adequately informed each year regarding their rights to:

- A. inspect and review the student's education records;
- B. request amendments if the record is inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student's rights;
- C. consent to disclosures of personally-identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to unauthorized disclosures allowed by the law;
- D. challenge the Board's noncompliance with a parent's request to amend the records through a hearing;

- E. file a complaint with the United States Department of Education;
- F. obtain a copy of the Board's policy and administrative guidelines on student records.

The Superintendent shall also develop procedural guidelines for:

- (x) the proper storage and retention of records including a list of the type and location of records;
- () informing Board employees of the Federal and State laws concerning student records.

The Board authorizes the use of the microfilm process or electromagnetic processes of reproduction for the recording, filing, maintaining, and preserving of records.

No liability shall attach to any member, officer, or employee of this District specifically as a consequence of permitting access or furnishing student records in accordance with this policy and regulations.

Any entity receiving personally identifiable information pursuant to a study, audit, evaluation or enforcement/compliance activity must comply with all FERPA regulations. Further, such an entity must enter into a written contract with the Board of Education delineating its responsibilities in safeguarding the disclosed information. Specifically, the entity must demonstrate the existence of a sound data security plan or data stewardship program, and must also provide assurances that the personally identifiable information will not be redisclosed without prior authorization from the Board. Further, the entity conducting the study, audit, evaluation or enforcement/compliance activity is required to destroy the disclosed information once it is no longer needed or when the timeframe for the activity has ended, as specified in its written agreement with the Board of Education. See Form 8330 F14 and Form 8330 F16 for additional contract requirements.

M.C.L. 380.1135, 380.1136

Letter, April 6, 2004 Jeremy Hughes, Deputy Supt. Department of Education
34 C.F.R. Part 99, 2002

Section 444 of subpart of part C of the General Education Provisions Act

Title IV of Public Law 90-247

20 U.S.C., Section 1232f through 1232i (FERPA)

20 U.S.C. 1400 et seq., Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act

20 U.S.C. 7165(b)

26 U.S.C. 152

20 U.S.C. 7908

REVISED POLICY - ESSA

LETTERS OF REFERENCE

The Board of Education recognizes that any current or former employee's request to an administrator for a letter of reference is an opportunity to share information about the staff member's performance with a prospective employer. The Board, however, does not require that such references be provided and a current or former employee should have no expectation that a letter of reference will be written upon request. The decision to comply with such a request shall be solely at the discretion of the administrator and the:

- business manager
- personnel director
- Superintendent

In accordance with State law, an administrator who, in the scope of his/her employment, provides a letter of reference is entitled to at least a qualified privilege for his/her statements provided such statements were made in good faith without malice.

All District employees, including but not limited to an administrator who prepares a letter of reference or provides an employment reference pursuant to this policy, are prohibited from assisting a District employee, contractor or agent in obtaining a new job if s/he knows or has reasonable cause to believe that such District employee, contractor or agent engaged in sexual misconduct regarding a minor or student in violation of State or Federal law. "Assisting" does not include the routine transmission of administrative and personnel files. The only exceptions permitted are those authorized by the Every Student Succeeds Act, such as where the matter has been investigated by law enforcement and the matter was officially closed due to lack of probable cause or where the individual was acquitted or otherwise exonerated of the alleged misconduct.

This policy does not excuse the District from providing responses to request for information as to Unprofessional Conduct, as required by State law.

Section 8546 of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)
M.C.L. 423.452, 380.1230(b)

REVISED POLICY - VOL. 31, NO. 2

FOOD SERVICES

The Board of Education shall provide cafeteria facilities in all school facilities where space and facilities permit, and will provide food service for the purchase and consumption of lunch for all students.

[] The Board shall also provide a breakfast program in accordance with procedures established by the Department of Education.

[x] The Board shall provide a public hearing annually for all parents prior to determining whether or not it will provide a breakfast program for all students. If it chooses not to provide such a program, the Board shall make available the reasons for its decision.

The Board does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including sexual orientation or transgender identity), disability, age (except as authorized by law), religion, military status, ancestry, or genetic information (collectively, "Protected Classes") in its educational programs or activities. Students and all other members of the School District community and third parties are encouraged to promptly report incidents of unlawful discrimination and/or retaliation to a teacher, administrator, supervisor, or other District official so that the Board may address the conduct. See Policy 2260 – Nondiscrimination and Access to Equal Educational Opportunity.

The food-service program shall comply with Federal and State regulations pertaining to the selection, preparation, delivery, consumption, and disposal of food and beverages, including but not limited to the current USDA's school meal pattern requirements for Americans and the USDA Smart Snacks in School nutrition standards, as well as to the fiscal management of the program. In addition, as required by law, a food safety program based on the principles of the Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) system shall be implemented with the intent of preventing food-borne illnesses. For added safety and security, access to the facility and the food stored and prepared therein shall be limited to food service staff and other authorized persons.

Substitutions to the standard meal requirements shall be made, at no additional charge, for students for whom a healthcare provider who has prescriptive authority in the State of Michigan has provided medical certification that the student has a disability which restricts his/her diet, in accordance with the criteria set forth in 7 CFR 15(b). To qualify for such substitutions the medical certification must identify:

- A. the student's disability and the major life activity affected by the disability;
- B. an explanation of why the disability affects the students diet; and
- C. the food(s) to be omitted from the student's diet, and the food or choice of foods that must be substituted (e.g., caloric modifications or use of liquid nutritive formula).

For non-disabled students who need a nutritional equivalent milk substitute, only a signed request by a parent or guardian is required.

Lunches sold by the school may be purchased by students and staff members and community residents in accordance with the administrative guidelines established by the Superintendent.

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
DEXTER COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT**

OPERATIONS
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The operation and supervision of the food-service program shall be the responsibility of the Food and Nutrition and the Chief Financial Officer. Food services shall be operated on a self-supporting basis with revenue from students, staff, Federal reimbursement, and surplus food. The Board shall assist the program by furnishing available space, initial major equipment, and utensils. Maintenance and replacement of equipment is the responsibility of the program.

A periodic review of the food-service accounts shall be made by the Chief Financial Officer. Any surplus funds from the National School Lunch Program shall be used to reduce the cost of the service to students or to purchase cafeteria equipment. Surplus funds from a-la-carte foods purchased using funds from the nonprofit food service account must accrue to the nonprofit food service account.

Bad debt incurred through the inability to collect lunch payment from students is not an allowable cost chargeable to any Federal program. Any related collection cost, including legal cost, arising from such bad debt after they have been determined to be uncollectable are also unallowable.

The Superintendent is authorized to develop and implement an administrative guideline regarding meal charge procedures. This guideline will provide consistent directions for students who are eligible for reduced price or paid meals but do not have funds in their account or in hand to cover the cost of their meal at the time of service.

This guideline shall be provided in writing to all households at the start of each school year and to households transferring to the school or School District during the school year.

With regard to the operation of the school food service program, the Superintendent shall require:

- A. the maintenance of sanitary, neat premises free from fire and health hazards;
- B. the preparation of food that complies with Federal food safety regulations;
- C. the planning and execution of menus in compliance with USDA requirements;
- D. the purchase of foods and supplies in accordance with State and Federal law, USDA regulations, and Board policy (See Policy 1130, Policy 3110, and Policy 4110);
- E. complying with food holds and recalls in accordance with USDA regulations;
- F. the accounting and disposition of food-service funds pursuant to Federal and State law and USDA regulations;

- G. the safekeeping and storage of food and food equipment pursuant to State and Federal law and USDA regulations;
- H. the regular maintenance and replacement of equipment;
- I. all District employees whose salaries are paid for with USDA funds or non-federal funds used to meet a match or cost share requirement must comply with the District's time and effort record-keeping policy (See Policy 6116).

The District shall serve only nutritious food as determined by the Food Service Department in compliance with the current USDA Nutrition Standards for the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs and the USDA Smart Snacks in School nutrition guidelines. Foods and beverages unassociated with the food-service program must comply with the current USDA Nutrition Standards for the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs and the USDA Smart Snacks in School nutrition guidelines, and may be vended in accordance with Board Policy 8540.

The Superintendent will require that the food service program serve foods in District schools that are wholesome and nutritious and reinforce the concepts taught in the classroom.

Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 and Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act, 42 U.S.C. 1751 et seq.
Child Nutrition Act of 1966, 42 U.S.C. 1771 et seq.
M.C.L. 380.1272, 1272a, 1272d et seq.
7 C.F.R. Parts 15b, 127, 210, 215, 220, 225, 226, 240, 245, 3015
42 U.S.C. 1758, 1760
OMB Circular No. A-87 USDA Smart Snacks in School Food Guidelines (effective July 1, 2014)
SP 32-2015 Statements Supporting Accommodations for Children with Disabilities in the Child Nutrition Programs