

***Proposed agenda items received 24 hours before the scheduled meeting will be added to the agenda at the meeting.**

**TENTATIVE
REGULAR MEETING
BOARD AGENDA**

**July 12, 2021
7:30 PM**

1. Call Meeting to Order
 - 1.A. Roll Call taken on acknowledgement and reception of meeting notice and agenda
2. Information and Proposals
 - 2.A. Receiving of Visitors
 - 2.B. Letters and Communication
 - 2.C. Reports and Information from Administration
 - 2.C.1. Superintendent's Report
 - 2.C.2. Principal Report:

No information to report this month.
 - 2.C.3. Building and Grounds Report
3. Action Items (Discuss, Consider, May take action on the following)
4. Routine Business - Consent Agenda
 - 4.A. Excuse Absent Board Members (as necessary)
 - 4.B. Minutes
 - 4.C. Treasurers Report
 - 4.D. Claims
5. Old Business
 - 5.A. Approve the 2021-2022 Board Goals.
 - 5.B. Approve Board Policy/Handbook Updating Service.
6. New Business
 - 6.A. Approve the 2021-2022 Classified Staff Handbook.
 - 6.B. Approve the 2021-2022 Certified Staff Handbook.
 - 6.C. Approve the support staff package for 2021-2022.
 - 6.D. Approve Board Policy Updates.
7. Advance Planning
 - 7.A. Information and questions for Board Members
 - 7.B. Agenda items for next meeting
 - 7.C. Future Meeting Dates
8. Adjournment

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Suggested List of Motions

July 12, 2021

(Open Meetings Act rules posted on the north wall of the library)

1. _____ opened the meeting at _____ P.M.

2. It was moved by _____, seconded by _____
To approve the Consent Agenda items:
 1. Excuse Absent Board Members (if necessary)
 2. Minutes
 3. Treasurers Report
 4. General Fund Claims
 5. Lunch Fund Claims
 6. Special Building Fund Claims

Roll Call: Aye: _____ Nay: _____

3. It was moved by _____, seconded by _____
to approve the 2021-2022 Board of Education Goals as presented.

Roll Call: Aye: _____ Nay: _____

4. It was moved by _____, seconded by _____
to approve the board policy updating service with _____.

Roll Call: Aye: _____ Nay: _____

5. It was moved by _____, seconded by _____
to approve the 2021-2022 Classified Staff Handbook as presented.

Roll Call: Aye: _____ Nay: _____

6. It was moved by _____, seconded by _____
to approve the 2021-2022 Certified Staff Handbook as presented.

Roll Call: Aye: _____ Nay: _____

7. It was moved by _____, seconded by _____
to approve the support staff package for 2021-2022.

Roll Call: Aye: _____ Nay: _____

8. It was moved by _____, seconded by _____

to approve Board Policy Updates: 1200 Anti-Harassment, 3132 Internal Controls, Policy 4003 (and attachments) Employee Antidiscrimination, 4007 FMLA (attachments), 5002 Affidavit (disenrollment), 5401 and 5401z Equal Opportunity, and 6600 Special Education Policies.

Roll Call: Aye: _____ Nay: _____

9. _____ adjourned the meeting at _____ P.M.



LYONS-DECATUR NORTHEAST

400 SOUTH 5TH PO BOX 526
LYONS, NEBRASKA 68038-0526
PHONE NUMBER: 402-687-2363
FAX NUMBER: 402-687-2472

Superintendent Board Report July 12, 2021

1. Myra Cook has moved out of the house across the street; the fire department is planning on using the house for training before it is torn down.
2. We currently contract 80 hours/week of evening custodial service. I would like to move to hiring a full-time, day-time custodian and only contracting for 40 hours/week of evening custodial work.
3. 2021-2022 Budget considerations:
 - a. Special building tax levy to help prepare for potential facility updates.
 - b. Potential new vehicle acquisition ~ I will continue to explore the vehicle usage and determine the best recommendation moving forward.
 - c. Are there any other budget considerations from the Board?
4. I have reached out and requested a meeting with Dr. Cerny and the AD at BR to discuss Fall athletics. I am waiting to hear back on a day/time that will work for them. Mr. Knaak did email, and we have confirmed that we will be able to work out transportation with BR for softball this fall.
5. ARP (ESSER III Funding). Part of the requirements of the 3rd round of COVID money is for stakeholder input on how that money will be spent. LDNE will be receiving \$420,156. NDE is focusing on high-quality instructional materials, support for all students, whole child needs (mental health, nutrition, etc.), and utilizing engagement/partnerships for maximizing every available resource. I would welcome any thoughts and/or opinions from the board.
6. I just wanted to thank everyone for the warm welcome to the district; I have met a lot of people already and everyone has been very kind and helpful.

Corey is scheduled to review the June bills and Evan is up for July.



LYONS-DECATUR NORTHEAST

400 SOUTH 5TH PO BOX 526
LYONS, NEBRASKA 68038-0526
PHONE NUMBER: 402-687-2363
FAX NUMBER: 402-687-2472

DRAFT FORM: Updated July 12, 2021

A Plan for Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Pursuant to the Federal American Rescue Plan Act – ESSER III

The purpose of this document is to provide a framework for how the LDNE School District will address the status of the COVID-19 Pandemic for the 2021-2022 school year. The safety of our students and staff is one of our top priorities, while providing the highest quality education for every student. This plan can be adapted and updated throughout the school year; it will be re-evaluated every 6 months or more frequently, if needed.

We are asking for your input on the plan and encourage you to share your thoughts, concerns, and questions with us. You may email any thoughts, concerns, or questions to: lbeaudette@lyonsdecaturschools.org.

It is the intent of the LDNE to start the school year with as close to normal school operations as possible. The goal is to provide in-person education for all students for the entire 2021-2022 school year. Seeing our students every day in the classroom helps to meet student academic, social-emotional, and mental health needs. If it is necessary for a student to miss an extended period due to COVID-19, we will ensure the student is provided a device and connection to help keep them on track.

Required components of this plan:

- Universal and correct wearing of masks ~ Wearing of face masks will be optional for anyone on school property and anyone riding school transportation.
- Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing ~ Social distancing will be practiced when possible.
- Handwashing and respiratory etiquette ~ Personal hygiene will be stressed to all students and staff. We will teach proper handwashing and cough/sneeze etiquette. Hand sanitizer will be available to be used as needed.
- Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation ~ High touch surfaces will be disinfected frequently and routinely. When possible, shared supplies

and equipment will be sanitized between uses. Windows will be opened when able and feasible and HVAC settings will be set to maximize ventilation.

- Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State, local, territorial or Tribal health departments ~ ELVPHD requirements for contact tracing, isolation, and quarantine will be followed. Normal health and wellness procedures will be used: Students and staff shall stay home when sick, students and staff must be fever free for 24 hours (without medication) before returning to school, and students or staff experiencing COVID symptoms should contact their health care providers.
- Diagnostic and screening testing ~ Temperatures and verbal confirmation of potential symptoms will be used for any student or staff member that shows any signs of COVID-19. Students and staff who exhibit signs and symptoms of COVID-19 will be encouraged to stay home and get tested.
- Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities ~ LDNE will provide information to parents and students regarding vaccination availability within the community and surrounding area.
- Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to the health and safety policies ~ All IEP's and 504 plans will be followed. If necessary, these plans will include specific health and safety procedures related to COVID-19.
- Coordination with State and local health officials ~ LDNE will continue to communicate and collaborate with local and state health officials to monitor case levels, be up to date with COVID-19 related guidance and implement or modify protocols.

Feedback for this plan will be sought at our July 12, 2021, board meeting and via email through our school website.

This plan is created with input from parents, staff members, board members and administrators. Decisions moving forward will be made with the best interest of everyone in mind. As a district, we thank you for your cooperation and patience as we continue to navigate our way through the COVID-19 Pandemic.

The Board of Education of the Lyons-Decatur School District No. 20 met in regular session on Monday, June 14, 2021 in the Secondary Library. Notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by publishing notice in the Lyons Mirror-Sun designated method for giving notice. Meeting notices were also posted at the Superintendent's office and on the school website. Notice of the meeting was given in advance to all members and agenda was communicated in the notice to the board of this meeting. All proceedings hereinafter were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public. The open meeting laws are posted on the library wall.

Posted Locations: Lyons-Mirror Sun, lyonsdecaturschools.org, Front door of the school
Posted Date: 6/10/2021

Christiansen opened the meeting at 7:32 p.m. Roll Call: Archer, Bacon, Christiansen, Myers, Petersen and Vlach. Troutman arrived at 7:34 p.m. Brehmer and Miller arrived at 8:01 p.m.

Christiansen presented Fred Hansen a plaque to commemorate his 16 years at Lyons-Decatur Northeast as Superintendent.

Angie Whitley was present to ask for an explanation on why there would not be cheer tryouts. She also had questions regarding Viper softball.

Superintendents Report:

Mr. Hansen reported on P2T meeting and the P2T budget. The 2021 vehicle transportation report was included in the packet. We received reimbursement of \$42,000 from the state on the purchase of the school bus purchased this year. Mr. Hansen recommended that the board look into getting policies from KSB Law firm, discussed held later in the meeting. School lunches will be paid by the state again this upcoming school year. The board will approve the milk bid later in the meeting. Mr. Hansen thanked the board for the opportunity to allow him to serve as the Superintendent for 16 years.

Principals Report:

Mrs. Totten and Mr. Swanson reported on calendar events, professional learning, athletics, school achievement, the PAWS program and proposed handbook changes.

It was moved by Evan Myers, seconded by Corey Petersen, to approve the consent agenda Roll Call. Archer: Aye, Bacon: Aye, Brehmer: Aye, Christiansen: Aye, Miller: Aye, Myers: Aye, Petersen: Aye, Troutman: Aye, Vlach: Aye. Aye: 9, Nay: 0

Old Business

It was moved by James Vlach, seconded by Leah Miller, to approve the updates to the 2021-2022 Student Handbook as presented. Roll Call. Archer: Aye, Bacon: Aye, Brehmer: Aye, Christiansen: Aye, Miller: Aye, Myers: Aye, Petersen: Aye, Troutman: Aye, Vlach: Aye. Aye: 9, Nay: 0

New Business

It was moved by Jaime Bacon, seconded by Chad Brehmer, to approve increasing contract time for Jill Anderson from .6925 to .8125 starting in the 2021-2022 school year. Roll Call. Archer: Aye, Bacon: Aye, Brehmer: Aye, Christiansen: Aye, Miller: Aye, Myers: Aye, Petersen: Aye, Troutman: Aye, Vlach: Aye. Aye: 9, Nay: 0

It was moved by James Vlach, seconded by Jaime Bacon, to approve the Hiland Dairy Foods milk bid for the 2021-2022 school year as presented. Roll Call. Archer: Aye, Bacon: Aye, Brehmer: Aye, Christiansen: Aye, Miller: Aye, Myers: Aye, Petersen: Aye, Troutman: Aye, Vlach: Aye. Aye: 9, Nay: 0

Discussed updates to School Board Policies and which Law firm to use for policies and legal advice.

Building and Grounds Committee is meeting June 15th and the next regular meeting is July 12th.

Christiansen closed the meeting at 8:32 p.m.

I the undersigned, secretary of the School District of Lyons-Decatur Northeast, in the County of Burt, in the State of Nebraska, hereby certify that all of the subjects included in the foregoing proceedings were contained in the agenda for the meeting, kept continually current and available for inspection at the office of the secretary, located in the main office of the school, Lyons Center, except those items of an emergency nature added at the meeting by motion and roll call vote, that such subjects were contained in said agenda for at least 24 hours prior to said meeting that said minutes of the Board of Education of the School District of Lyons-Decatur Northeast in the County of Burt, State of Nebraska were in written form and available for inspection by the public within 24 hours and prior to the next convened meeting of said body; that all news media requesting notification concerning meeting of said body were provided advance notification of the time and place of said meeting and subjects to be discussed at said meeting.

Secretary, Board of Education

ATTEST:

President, Board of Education

Treasurer's Report

At the close of business June 30, 2021

Cash Balance on May 28, 2021 \$ (2,383.85)

Receipts for June 2021

Burt County	\$ 184,809.86
Other County	\$ 27,157.33
Medicaid	\$ 1,348.21
State of NE - SPED	\$ 63,045.00
Cares Act	\$ 2,654.00
Teacher Evaluation Grant	\$ 5,464.63
ESU # - Perkins	\$ 1,925.59
State Aid	\$ 3,168.00
Interest	\$ 0.04

Total Receipts	\$ 289,572.66
Account Transfers	\$ 187,000.00
Disbursements	\$ 478,670.15

Cash Balance as of June 30, 2021 \$ (4,481.34)

Outstanding Checks/deposits \$ 5,772.43

Ending Bank Balance as of June 30, 2021 \$ 1,291.09

SAVINGS BALANCE Beginning: \$2,039,301.38 ENDIING BALANCE \$1,852,785.06

Beth Doht

Treasurer

COMBINED ACCOUNT BALANCES
Depreciation, Employee Benefit Fund, Special Building, and Student Fee Fund
As of June 30, 2021

DEPRECIATION FUND

Balance \$112,809.72

EMPLOYEE BENEFIT FUND

Balance \$19,529.50

SPECIAL BUILDING FUND

Balance \$1,124,454.18

STUDENT FEE FUND

Balance \$3,205.00

TOTAL OF COMBINED ACCOUNTS \$1,259,956.88

GENERAL REIMBURSEMENT FUND

Checking account \$6,115.90

ACTIVITY FUND

Balance \$90,333.36

COOPERATIVE FUND

Balance \$2,888.79

Treasurer's Report
LUNCH FUND
At the close of Business June 30, 2021

Cash Balance May 28, 2021	\$52,858.79
Receipts for June	\$14,030.37
Disbursements for June	\$17,881.05
Cash Balance June 30, 2021	\$49,008.11
Ending Bank Balance June 30, 2021	\$49,008.11

Expenditures for July

Payroll	\$ 0.00
Accounts Payable	\$ 1,179.62
Total	\$ 1,179.62

Check #	Vendor Name	Invoice	Description	Amount
Checking	1			
Checking	1 Fund: 01	GENERAL FUND		
25463	ACCUCUT	12364781	DIE CUTTING MACHINE	295.00
			Vendor Total:	295.00
25464	ACTIVITY FUND	20210701ACTF	NSAA FEES REIMBURSED	1,180.00
		UND		
			Vendor Total:	1,180.00
25465	ADVANCED WATER COMPANY, INC	INV2298	BOILER TREATMENT SERVICE	687.50
			Vendor Total:	687.50
25466	AMAZON	435354887777	HEALTH SUPPLIES	242.22
25466	AMAZON	435867946889	DOCUMENT CAMERA/SUPPLIES	2,468.11
25466	AMAZON	436386375635	TECH SUPPLIES	52.02
25466	AMAZON	437985869858	STORAGE CONTAINERS-K	51.09
25466	AMAZON	445533639476	CASH BOXES	43.90
25466	AMAZON	446744337649	SCIENCE SUPPLIES-PT	66.13
25466	AMAZON	447957369398	OFFICE CHAIR-MUSIC	59.99
25466	AMAZON	447986378774	CASH BOXES	21.95
25466	AMAZON	454746998545	STORAGE CART-PAWS	153.20
25466	AMAZON	457969933447	6TH GR SUPPLIES	352.93
25466	AMAZON	463334969543	PORTABLE MEGAPHONE-MUSIC	43.11
25466	AMAZON	463588664358	LIFESKILLS	42.98
25466	AMAZON	463975645988	PAWS SUPPLIES	595.35
25466	AMAZON	464377774675	SUPPLIES -2ND 3RD GR	480.04
25466	AMAZON	464958487644	LAMINATING POUCHES-4TH GR	12.17
25466	AMAZON	465366466348	DRY ERASE POCKETS-2ND GR	27.95
25466	AMAZON	487678687538	FOOD DEYDRATER-AG	328.75
25466	AMAZON	537578373788	1ST GR SUPPLIES	191.31
25466	AMAZON	547844796446	HP TONER-ELEM SPED	103.00
25466	AMAZON	549437855693	JUMBO MAGNETIC GRID-5TH GR	55.94
25466	AMAZON	557777573959	KINDER. SUPPLIES	132.66
25467	AMAZON	559775749995	MARKER CADDY-K	118.91
25467	AMAZON	596479377553	ENGLISH SUPPLIES	28.49
25467	AMAZON	644546635359	PHYSICS SUPPLIES	59.98
25467	AMAZON	656743894845	LIFESKILLS SUPPLEIS	250.24
25467	AMAZON	656884974847	COMPRESSED AIR-TECH	49.99
25467	AMAZON	677764374699	HEADPHONE HOLDER-2ND GR	129.98
25467	AMAZON	733888374379	MONITOR & SUPPLIES TECH	159.11
25467	AMAZON	734359579445	SCIENCE SUPPLIES-GL	22.78
25467	AMAZON	744497548835	DOCUMENT CAMERA	267.00
25467	AMAZON	753598943778	SCIENCE SUPPLIES-PT	62.09
25467	AMAZON	757797457379	ELEM SPED SUPPLIES	193.76
25467	AMAZON	773335683335	LAMINATING POUCHES-K	43.26
25467	AMAZON	777684899694	GEOMETRY TEXTBOOK	65.88
25467	AMAZON	783746899794	ENGLISH SUPPLIES	284.18
25467	AMAZON	798987678763	STORAGE CONTAINERS-K	124.53
25467	AMAZON	855663967449	ROLLING CART-2ND GR	410.04
25467	AMAZON	858645753469	1ST GR SUPPLIES	9.84
25467	AMAZON	864534969669	MONITOR-TECH	99.00
25467	AMAZON	884377463796	DVD PLAYER-TECH	87.72
25467	AMAZON	885474356957	HS SPED SUPPLIES	28.42
25467	AMAZON	944784875965	ENGLISH TEXTBOOKS	239.85
		9		
25468	AMAZON	985463537945	ROLLING STORAGE CART-K	69.00
			Vendor Total:	8,328.85
25469	AMERICAN BROADBAND CABLE	20210701AMBR	PHONE SERVICE	255.11
		OAD		
			Vendor Total:	255.11

Check #	Vendor Name	Invoice	Description	Amount
25470	ASI	164654	SECURITY MONITORING	75.00
			Vendor Total:	75.00
25471	AWARDS UNLIMITED INC	47343	ENGRAVING	26.65
			Vendor Total:	26.65
25472	BIO QUIP PRODUCTS	181231	INSECT PINS-PT	33.60
			Vendor Total:	33.60
25473	CAROLINA BIOLOGICAL SUPPLY CO.	51416798RI	SCIENCE SUPPLIES	50.66
			Vendor Total:	50.66
25474	CARSON-DELLOSA PUBLISHING LLC	648249	2ND GR SUPPLIES	44.90
			Vendor Total:	44.90
25475	CASCADE SCHOOL SUPPLIES	65444	POSTER BOARD-COOP	16.32
			Vendor Total:	16.32
25476	CDW-G	D928001	HP PHOTO PAPER JS	241.61
			Vendor Total:	241.61
25477	CHRISTENSEN ELECTRIC LLC	4326	ADDING RECEPTACLES	1,619.68
			Vendor Total:	1,619.68
25478	CITY OF LYONS	20210610CITY	UTILITIES	5,171.56
			Vendor Total:	5,171.56
25479	CLASSIC CLEAN CARWASH	20210531CLAS S	VAN WASHES	6.00
			Vendor Total:	6.00
25480	CNA AUTO SERVICES	62795	BLUE MINI SERVICE	67.79
25480	CNA AUTO SERVICES	62797	TRANSIT SERVICE	55.23
25480	CNA AUTO SERVICES	63027	VAN #5 SERVICE	90.79
			Vendor Total:	213.81
25481	COMPUTERS ETC	91859	USB-SCIENCE PT	97.94
			Vendor Total:	97.94
25482	DIDAX, INC	159366	4TH GR SUPPLIES	232.40
25482	DIDAX, INC	159367	5TH GR SUPPLIES	143.51
			Vendor Total:	375.91
25483	DOHT, ELIZABETH	20210624DOHT	MILEAGE	200.36
			Vendor Total:	200.36
25484	EDUCATIONAL SERVICE UNIT #1	M-1737	POWERSCHOOL SUPPORT MAY- JULY	1,500.00
			Vendor Total:	1,500.00
25485	EDUCATIONAL SERVICE UNIT #2	PD060303	PLC INSTITUTE	225.00
			Vendor Total:	225.00
25486	ESU#10	1200	JUNE TECHNOLOGY TRAINING	200.00
			Vendor Total:	200.00
25487	FES	INV012488	JULY 21-DEC 21 SOCS HOSTING	1,080.00
			Vendor Total:	1,080.00
25488	FIRST NATIONAL BANK OMAHA	20210630FNBO	GOOGLE, ZOOM, BLINDS	830.92
			Vendor Total:	830.92
25489	FIRST NATIONAL BANK OMAHA	20210630VISA	MUSIC PLAY ONLINE-ELEM	149.95
			Vendor Total:	149.95
25490	FLINN SCIENTIFIC INC	2575017	PHYSICS SUPPLIES	33.30
			Vendor Total:	33.30
25491	FOLDSCOPE	21-130	SCIENCE SUPPLIES - PT	94.97
			Vendor Total:	94.97
25492	FOLLETT SCHOOL SOLUTIONS INC.	1438695	LIBRARY ONLINE SERVICES	922.02
			Vendor Total:	922.02
25493	FRANCISCAN HEALTHCARE	20210630FRAN	PT SERVICES	763.08
			Vendor Total:	763.08
25494	GENERAL REIMBURSEMENT FUND	20210630GENR EIM	HRA ACCT FEE	5.08
			Vendor Total:	5.08
25495	GLASS EDGE, INC, THE	71064	REPAIR WINDOW	15.00

<u>Check #</u>	<u>Vendor Name</u>	<u>Invoice</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
			Vendor Total:	15.00
25496	GOPHER	IN45832	BB NET, FLOOR TAPE	90.38
25496	GOPHER	IN51076	JUMP MAT - WEIGHTS	321.75
25496	GOPHER	IN52611	ELEM PE SUPPLIES	1,093.66
			Vendor Total:	1,505.79
25497	GREAT MINDS PBC	inv072008	EUREKA MATH-SPED K	316.08
25497	GREAT MINDS PBC	INV072009	EUREKA MATH GR 6	1,242.27
25497	GREAT MINDS PBC	INV072010	EUREKA MATH - K	856.00
25497	GREAT MINDS PBC	INV072112	EUREKA MATH - GR 4	616.32
25497	GREAT MINDS PBC	INV072113	EUREKA MATH - GR 3	770.40
			Vendor Total:	3,801.07
25498	HOME DEPOT PRO, THE	622836021	BLK STRIPPER PADS	50.40
25498	HOME DEPOT PRO, THE	622836039	SANDING SCREENS	738.24
			Vendor Total:	788.64
25499	INTELLIPREP	21067	AG SOFTWARE	960.00
			Vendor Total:	960.00
25500	KANSAS CITY AUDIO-VISUAL, INC	11540	INTERACTIVE SCREENS-ESSRS II	52,779.36
			Vendor Total:	52,779.36
25501	KB'S MINI MART, INC.	20210701KBS	GAS	703.52
			Vendor Total:	703.52
25502	KEY FACILITIES CONSULTING	20210601	CONSULTING SERVICES	1,002.71
			Vendor Total:	1,002.71
25503	LAKESHORE LEARNING MATERIALS	2442410621	2ND GR PRACTICE JOURNALS	129.09
			Vendor Total:	129.09
25504	LEARNING WITHOUT TEARS	INV109951	3RD GR SUPPLIES	241.89
			Vendor Total:	241.89
25505	LINCOLN JOURNAL-STAR	20210701LJS	39 WK SUBSCRIPTION	535.99
			Vendor Total:	535.99
25506	LYONS MIRROR SUN	195005	NOTICES	13.95
25506	LYONS MIRROR SUN	195425	NOTICES	95.85
25506	LYONS MIRROR SUN	196190	NOTICES	12.60
			Vendor Total:	122.40
25507	MANGO MATH GROUP	2692	PAWS SUPPLIES	5,732.32
			Vendor Total:	5,732.32
25508	MARYOTT, CARRIE	20210531MARY	MILEAGE TO PARENT	132.47
			Vendor Total:	132.47
25509	MATHESON TRI-GAS, INC	51817612	SUPPLIES - AG	396.25
			Vendor Total:	396.25
25510	MIDWEST TECHNOLOGY PRODUCTS	2121359-00	AG SUPPLIES	272.12
			Vendor Total:	272.12
25511	MIRACLE RECREATION EQUIPMENT CO.	833317	NET ASSEMBLY-PLAYGROUND EQUIP	3,130.82
			Vendor Total:	3,130.82
25512	MOSYLE MANAGER	2127646	DEVICE LICENSES	43.92
			Vendor Total:	43.92
25513	N A S B	INV-08123-NOW9W2	NAEP MEETING - BD	60.00
			Vendor Total:	60.00
25514	N C S A	67365	NCE CONFERENCE	150.00
			Vendor Total:	150.00
25515	NORTHWEST EVALUATION ASSOCIATION	53913	11TH GR MAPS	285.00
			Vendor Total:	285.00
25516	OAKLAND LUMBER LLC	1041	LUMBER	68.32
25516	OAKLAND LUMBER LLC	1170	LUMBER	61.00
25516	OAKLAND LUMBER LLC	12265	SUPPLIES	39.46
			Vendor Total:	168.78

Check #	Vendor Name	Invoice	Description	Amount
25517	OFFICE NET	958395-0	TEACHER DESK	457.00
25517	OFFICE NET	IN80645	COPIES	175.30
25517	OFFICE NET	IN80647	COPIES	1,265.84
			Vendor Total:	1,898.14
25518	OMAHA WORLD-HERALD	20210701OWH	BALANCE DUE ON SUBSCRIPTION	25.81
			Vendor Total:	25.81
25519	OVERHEAD DOOR COMPANY OF NORFOLK	21-841	REPAIR QUANSET DOOR	1,714.00
			Vendor Total:	1,714.00
25520	PAPER101	196756-00	PAPER-COOP	1,645.56
			Vendor Total:	1,645.56
25521	PITNEY BOWES INC	20210701PIT	POSTAGE	300.00
			Vendor Total:	300.00
25522	PLAINDEALER PUBLISHING, BURT COUNTY	20210601PLAI N	LIBRARY SUBSCRIPTION	32.00
			Vendor Total:	32.00
25523	PLUNKETT'S PEST CONTROL	7096110	PEST CONTROL	51.88
25523	PLUNKETT'S PEST CONTROL	7136707	PEST CONTROL	51.88
			Vendor Total:	103.76
25524	PRIORITY COMMUNICATIONS & SOLUTIONS, INC	4003	TROUBLE SHOOT PHONE SYSTEM	65.00
25524	PRIORITY COMMUNICATIONS & SOLUTIONS, INC	4083	REPAIR DOOR PHONE VIA PHONE	30.00
			Vendor Total:	95.00
25525	PRO-ED INC	2888439	LIFESKILLS CURRICULUM	889.90
			Vendor Total:	889.90
25526	PYRAMID SCHOOL PRODUCTS	S1427101.001	SUPPLIES	426.67
			Vendor Total:	426.67
25527	QUILL CORPORATION	171079373	CALENDARS	43.98
			Vendor Total:	43.98
25528	REALLY GOOD STUFF	7594486	ELEM SPED SUPPLIES	115.91
			Vendor Total:	115.91
25529	ROCHESTER 100 INC	INV80900	NICKYS FOLDERS	290.00
			Vendor Total:	290.00
25530	S&S LAWN CARE, LLC	6853	SPRING APPLICATION/ WEED CONTROL	2,350.00
			Vendor Total:	2,350.00
25531	SCHOOL MATE	IN000551950	HIGH SCHOOL PLANNERS	174.90
25531	SCHOOL MATE	IN000551980	ELEM PLANNERS- 4TH GR	101.25
25531	SCHOOL MATE	INV000551947	BUDGET PLANNER- 6TH GR	95.00
			Vendor Total:	371.15
25532	SCHOOL NURSE SUPPLY	0840763-IN	HEALTH SUPPLIES	159.54
			Vendor Total:	159.54
25533	SCHOOL OUTFITTERS	INV13602591	DRY ERASE PANEL	959.83
			Vendor Total:	959.83
25534	SCHOOL SPECIALTY SUPPLY INC	308103759836	CUMULATIVE FOLDERS	111.61
			Vendor Total:	111.61
25535	SCOTT'S HARDWARE	221717	SUPPLIES	28.96
			Vendor Total:	28.96
25536	SOFTWARE UNLIMITED INC	20210531-187	WEB LINK LIC FEE	1,145.00
25536	SOFTWARE UNLIMITED INC	20210531-66	ANNUAL FEES	6,095.00
			Vendor Total:	7,240.00
25537	STAPLES BUSINESS ADVANTAGE	3479026340	WINDOW CLEANER	33.24
25537	STAPLES BUSINESS ADVANTAGE	3479026342	SHARPS CONTAINER	36.26
			Vendor Total:	69.50
25538	STEINY'S GENERAL STORE	20210701STEI N	SUPPLIES	669.35
			Vendor Total:	669.35
25539	TCI	INV77615	SCIENCE CURRICULUM-ESSRS 2	41,001.45

Check #	Vendor Name	Invoice	Description	Amount
				Vendor Total: 41,001.45
25540	TEACHER DIRECT	2021/11149	SPED SUPPLIES-JA	49.04
25540	TEACHER DIRECT	2021/11150	SUPPLIES - RD	80.80
25540	TEACHER DIRECT	2021/11151	SPED SUPPLIES - MA	210.70
25540	TEACHER DIRECT	2021/11604	6TH GR SUPPLIES	63.04
				Vendor Total: 403.58
25541	TEACHING STRATEGIES, Inc.	122886	GOLD ONLINE PORTFOLIOS	418.25
				Vendor Total: 418.25
25542	UNMC	1840000736	PAWS OBSERVATION AND FEEDBACK	500.00
				Vendor Total: 500.00
25543	US BANK EQUIPMENT FINANCE	446743478	COPIER LEASE	415.79
				Vendor Total: 415.79
25544	VERIZON WIRELESS	9881965535	JET PACK SERVICE	163.76
				Vendor Total: 163.76
25545	VERNIER SOFTWARE & TECHNOLOGY	2408208-001	SCIENCE SUPPLIES-PT	50.00
25545	VERNIER SOFTWARE & TECHNOLOGY	5396365	PHYSICS SUPPLIES	503.89
				Vendor Total: 553.89
25546	VON SEGGERN, VANESSA	20210701VV	NMEA MEMBERSHIP/ALLSTATE MUSIC	135.00
				Vendor Total: 135.00
25547	WASTE CONNECTIONS OF NE, INC.	5976759	TRASH REMOVAL	481.00
				Vendor Total: 481.00
				Fund Total: 161,295.31
				Checking Account Total: 161,295.31

Checking		2			
Checking	2	Fund: 08	SPECIAL BUILDING FUND		
1155	CHRISTENSEN ELECTRIC LLC	4346	MATERIALS FOR PARKING LOT LIGHTS	4,279.09	
				Vendor Total: 4,279.09	
1156	FISHER TRACKS, INC.	7541	TRACK STRIPING	4,000.00	
				Vendor Total: 4,000.00	
				Fund Total: 8,279.09	
Checking	2	Fund: 12	STUDENT FEE FUND		
1157	KB'S MINI MART, INC.	20210701KBS	GAS	316.98	
				Vendor Total: 316.98	
				Fund Total: 316.98	
				Checking Account Total: 8,596.07	

Checking		6			
Checking	6	Fund: 06	SCHOOL LUNCH FUND		
9393	CASH-WA DISTRIBUTING	12951985	FOOD	461.86	
				Vendor Total: 461.86	
9394	EGAN SUPPLY CO.	335849	SUPPLIES	56.52	
				Vendor Total: 56.52	
9395	HILAND DAIRY FOODS COMPANY LLC	442259	FOOD	75.83	
9395	HILAND DAIRY FOODS COMPANY LLC	442317	FOOD	46.61	
				Vendor Total: 122.44	
9396	LYONS SAVEMORE MARKET	07012021	FOOD	26.32	
				Vendor Total: 26.32	
9397	PYRAMID SCHOOL PRODUCTS	S1427101.001	SUPPLIES	39.94	
9397	PYRAMID SCHOOL PRODUCTS	S1427101.001	SUPPLIES HLF	39.94	
				Vendor Total: 79.88	
9398	STAPLES BUSINESS ADVANTAGE	3479026343	SUPPLIES	173.04	
9398	STAPLES BUSINESS ADVANTAGE	3479026345	SUPPLIES	173.04	
9398	STAPLES BUSINESS ADVANTAGE	3479026346	SUPPLIES	86.52	
				Vendor Total: 432.60	

<u>Check #</u>	<u>Vendor Name</u>	<u>Invoice</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
			Fund Total:	1,179.62
			Checking Account Total:	1,179.62

Net Payroll	\$136,621.12
Employee Deductions	67,412.97
District SS/Medicare	15,140.96
District Health/Life/HSA	58,669.24
District Retirement	<u>19,629.72</u>
PAYROLL	\$297,474.01
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE	<u>\$161,295.31</u>
TOTAL GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES	\$458,769.32
STUDENT FEE FUND (Includes payroll)	\$ 2,920.80
LUNCH FUND	\$ 1,179.62
SPECIAL BUILDING FUND	\$ 8,279.09

Secretary, Board of Education

ATTEST:

President, Board of Education

Lyons-Decatur Northeast Board of Education Goals 2021-2022

July 12, 2021

The Board of Education believes that each of the following is of equal value and importance and therefore are listed in no particular order...

- Encourage and increase the use of available technology for all students to increase employment opportunities and better prepare them for his or her future and for all staff to maximize his or her proficiency and creativity in the classroom. This includes updating current technology and providing resources and training for future improvements. Promote the appropriate use of social media sources to enhance the students' education and to help the students use them as a positive, appropriate communication tool.
- Promote Lyons-Decatur Northeast School through increased public awareness of its pre K-12 educational programs (including its academies, IT classes, the one-to-one initiative and additional dual credit courses etc.) and all of the curricular and extracurricular activities via the use all public print, broadcast and digital media with special emphasis on the continually updated LDNE website, Power School and bi-monthly newsletters.
- Continue to be careful stewards of those monies entrusted to our care while providing the necessary supplies and services to our students.
- Create short term and long range plans for the future growth and development of Lyons-Decatur Northeast.
- Will make every attempt to insure the physical, mental and emotional health and well-being of every student and employee of the district.

**CLASSIFIED STAFF HANDBOOK
LYONS-DECATUR NORTHEAST SCHOOL
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CLASSIFIED STAFF HANDBOOK LYONS-DECATUR NORTHEAST

FOREWORD

Section 1 Intent of Handbook

Welcome to Lyons-Decatur Northeast Schools. This handbook is intended to be used by classified and other non-certificated staff to provide general information about Lyons-Decatur Northeast Schools and to serve as a guide to the District's policies, rules, and regulations, benefits of employment, and performance expectations.

References in this handbook to "Classified Employees" are intended to apply to all classified staff that are not required by their positions to hold a teaching or administrative certificate.

Each classified employee is responsible for becoming familiar with the handbook and knowing the information contained in it. Although the information found in this handbook is detailed and specific on many topics, the handbook is not intended to be all encompassing so as to cover every situation and circumstance that may arise. This handbook is intended to supplement other documents that deal with your employment including policies and regulations of the Board of Education. In reading this handbook, please understand that when a conflict exists, state or federal law and Board policies and regulations will control.

This handbook does not create a "contract" of employment. Classified employee positions and assignments may be ended or changed on an "at will" basis notwithstanding anything in this handbook or any other publications or statement.

The administration will be responsible for interpreting the rules contained in the handbook and shall have the right to make decisions and make rule revisions at any time. Should a situation or circumstance arise that is not specifically covered in this handbook, the administration will make a decision based upon applicable school district policies, state and federal statutes and regulations, and the best interests of the District.

This handbook will be in effect for the ~~2019-2020~~ 2021-2022 and subsequent school years unless replaced by a later edition.

Section 2 Information about Lyons-Decatur Northeast Schools Refer to the school web site www.lyonsdecaturschool.org

Section 3 School Mission Statement

The Mission of the Lyons-Decatur Northeast School is to "empower all students to achieve."

We believe all people have strengths, all people can learn, that education must adapt to societal needs, that learning is a lifelong process, that all people benefit from a safe, positive, and respectful environment, that education is a cooperative responsibility of students, families, school, and community, and that all people need to develop foundational skills.

An empowered student who achieves is one who is: One that enables students to reach the following outcomes:

- Proficient in meeting the State’s academic content standards and essential learning and such additional standards as are established by the Board of Education
- Successful at each educational level and in transitioning between those levels from early childhood through postsecondary education and/or career entry
- Effective in functioning in and contributing to our culturally diverse democratic society

The District seeks to empower students by developing and maintaining:

- Qualified and competent administrative, teaching, paraprofessional, and operational staff;
- Integrated, planned curriculum that prepares students to achieve state standards and such additional standards as are established by the Board of Education and to reach the student outcomes identified above;
- Comprehensive support programs and services that meet the diverse needs of students;
- Safe, clean and supportive facilities and learning environments;
- Implementation of a curriculum that meets the following:
 - Is based on state standards in reading, writing, speaking, listening, mathematics, science and social studies/history and essential learning in visual and performing arts, world languages, technology, health and physical education, and career and technical education and such additional standards as are established by the Board of Education;
 - Is appropriate for the developmental level of the students;
 - Addresses diverse learning needs;
 - Instills a passion for learning and the importance of life-long learning;
 - Develops problem solving and critical thinking skills, decision making skills, data gathering, and critical use of information;
 - Develops expected work ethics, as well as group participation and leadership skills;
 - Incorporates character education and multicultural education, including respect for diversity;
 - Provides for application of technology in all learning areas;
 - Provides access to advanced courses; and
 - Is organized in a schedule that is functional and meets student needs in all curriculum areas.
- Providing a supportive learning environment which includes:

- A welcoming and inviting environment that is emotionally safe, nurturing, supportive, and disciplined; that promotes respect, trust, integrity, and regard for self and others; and that honors diversity;
- Learning as the central purpose with students engaged in meaningful, relevant, and productive learning experiences; and
- Implementation of policies and practices that result in an orderly environment with emphasis on consistent school-wide positive behavior.

Section 4 Members of the Board of Education *(Distributed Annually)*

Section 5 Administrative Staff *(Distributed Annually)*

Section 6 Teachers and Counselors Staff *(Distributed Annually)*

Section 7 Support Staff *(Distributed Annually)*

Article 1 – SCHOOL CALENDAR AND SCHEDULES

Section 1 School Calendar *(Distributed Annually)*

Section 2 Daily Schedule *(Distributed Annually)*

Section 3 Shortened Schedule *(Distributed Annually)*

Section 4 Severe Weather and School Cancellations

The Superintendent of schools is authorized by the Board of Education to close public schools in case of severe weather. Representatives of the Superintendent’s staff will notify local news media when inclement weather warrants such action. The information is broadcast regularly by radio and television stations. An automated call system is used for notifications in changes of school schedules.

Decision to Close Schools. A decision to close school is made when forecasts by the weather service and civil defense officials indicate that it would be unwise for students to go to school. ~~If possible, a decision about the next school day will be made by 9 P.M. for announcement during the 10 P.M. news. An early decision is not always possible because of uncertain weather conditions. School officials will periodically assess conditions during the night and will decide early in the morning (by 6 A.M. if possible). In any case, An announcement will be made to the news media when school will be closed. In some instances, schools will be open, but certain services may be cancelled (bus transportation, preschool, student activities).~~ Office and maintenance staff may be required to come to school even in the event of a school closing.

After School Starts. Every attempt will be made to avoid closing school once classes are in session. In some instances closing school during the day is inevitable if children are to safely return home before the brunt of a major storm hits. In these cases as much advance notice as possible will be given. If school is closed during the day, staff will be notified and parents will be notified via media broadcast. Teachers and designated staff will be responsible for remaining with students until all students have safely left school or the administration has made arrangements for remaining students.

Emergency Conditions. Lyons-Decatur Northeast has a signal which, when activated, includes the necessity to either evacuate the building or to move to safer areas of the building. All regular drills are held as required by law through the school year. There are Emergency Exit System, Tornado Warning System, and Critical Incident Response drills and plans established. School officials are not permitted to release students from the school building during a tornado warning. In the event of an emergency exit alert or tornado warning you should implement the school's established safety procedures.

Article 2 – EMPLOYMENT, COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS

Section 1 Employment

The superintendent or designee shall hire classified staff to meet personnel needs consistent with the district's budget, instructional needs, and non-instructional operations. He or she shall discipline and discharge (if necessary) classified staff as appropriate and in a manner consistent with board policy. Employment can only begin after all background checks have been completed. The administration will officially notify the applicant of the intent to employ him/her.

Classified employees will be given a letter of intent to return in the spring. Failure to return a signed letter will be considered a resignation of employment.

Should an employee wish to resign from employment the employee should give two weeks written notice of resignation to the Superintendent of Schools.

Classified employees are "at-will" employees, and may be terminated at any time by the school district. Notice of termination may be delivered by the administration or the Board of Education.

Section 2 Assignments

The duties to be performed by an employee with the District shall be subject to assignment by the Superintendent, or Designee. Job descriptions, when available, provide additional information about the position duties.

An employee will be expected to devote full time during days school is in session to the individual's position and to diligently and faithfully perform the assigned duties to the best of

the employee's ability.

Section 3 Attendance

Each employee is expected to work normal working hours during contracted school days or use PTO. Professional development and other job duties will be provided/assigned for the days students are not in attendance and classified staff are expected to be here. Days in attendance will be at the discretion of the administration.

Section 4 Personnel File

The District will follow the requirements of state and federal law and regulation with regard to employee personnel files. Employees are to notify the Superintendent's office of any change in contact information (address/telephone). Employees are to provide a new social security card when his/her name changes. Employees may contact the Superintendent to request a review of their personnel file.

Section 5 Grievances and Complaints

Employment related grievances or complaints shall be addressed through the administrative chain of command following the process set forth in board policy.

Section 6 Compensation

Compensation. Compensation is paid only as authorized by the Board of Education.

Salary Payments.

Pay periods begin the first day of the month and end the last day of the month. Salary is payable once per month for those months when services are performed. Employees will be paid on the 20th of the month, or the last preceding school day, if the 20th falls on a holiday or a weekend day. In no case shall the Board make an advance salary payment. Upon separation of an employee's employment or upon fulfillment of days scheduled to work the employee may, at the option of the Board, be paid all wages due in one lump sum during the next scheduled pay period. Reimbursements for mileage or other expenses will be considered separate from compensation.

Section 7 Benefits

Classified employees are provided benefits according to board approval. Employees shall make annual fringe benefit elections by September 1 of each school year. Should an employee fail to make such election, the employee election from the immediately preceding school and contract year shall be continued. Each employee is responsible for informing the Office of the Superintendent in writing of any changes in benefit status.

For the purpose of Benefits, employees will be classified as follows:

Class I - Business Manager, Head Custodian and Head Cook

Class II - Assistant Cook/Summer Custodian, 52 weeks

Class III - 52 week Employees

Class IV - 44-48 week employees, 8 hrs/day

Class V - 10 month employees (school year) working ~~7-50~~7-8 hrs per day, 5 days/week.

Class VI - 10 month employees (school year) working less than ~~7-50~~ 7 hrs per day, 5 days/week.

Class VII - less than 20 hours a week

A. Nebraska Public Employee Retirement System

Class I-VI. Employees who work at least 20 hours per week on a regular basis, must contribute to the School Employees Retirement Plan.

B. Health Insurance

a. Family Health Insurance with single dental will be offered to Class I Employees. Class II employees will receive Family Health/Single Dental starting at the beginning of 10th consecutive year of service.

b. Single Health Insurance with single dental will be offered to Class II employees with 9 years or less of consecutive service; Class III and IV employees.

~~e. Single Coverage HSA, \$4000 deductible will be offered to Class V employees. Must have three participants, per EHA group rules, to offer this coverage. The District will pay 50% of premium.~~

C. Long Term Disability Insurance (LTD) will be offered to Class I employees.

D. Life insurance (\$16,400-\$20,000) will be offered to Class I-IV employees.

Continued health insurance benefits are available through COBRA subject to certain qualifying requirements. A Notice of COBRA Continuation Coverage Rights is attached to this handbook as Appendix "A."

The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) provide rights and protections for participants and beneficiaries in group health plans. HIPAA includes protections for coverage under group health plans that limit exclusions for preexisting conditions; prohibit discrimination against employees and dependents based on their health status; and allow a special opportunity to enroll in a new plan to individuals in certain circumstances. HIPAA may also give an employee the right to purchase individual coverage if you have no group health plan coverage available, and have exhausted COBRA or other continuation coverage. Further information may be obtained from the Plan Administrator of the group health plan.

Section 8 Payroll and Payroll Deductions

Wages/salary and benefits are paid in accordance with board approval on a yearly basis.

Payroll deductions shall be made in accordance with laws and the negotiated agreement, if any. Deductions will be made for balances owed to the district, if necessary.

~~Effective with the 2019-2020 school year.~~—The starting wage for Lyons-Decatur Northeast Schools will not be less than the federal/state minimum wage.

Section 9 Expense Reimbursement

Reimbursement for authorized mileage will be paid to employees required to drive their own vehicles during their regular scheduled working hours. Claims for reimbursement should be submitted to the Superintendent's Office. The allowable rate shall be governed by Board policy, unless otherwise required by law. The District is not liable for physical damage to employee vehicles.

Necessary materials and supplies are provided by the District. If an employee needs additional materials for performance of duties, the request should be made to the employee's immediate supervisor. Employees who purchase materials or supplies without advance approval may not be reimbursed.

Reimbursement for meals or other expenses related to District-required travel must be submitted to and approved by either the Superintendent or, if the expense relates to an activity, by the Athletic Director. The request for reimbursement should include a voucher sufficient to establish that the expense was actually incurred and that the expense was reasonable and school related.

When traveling overnight for professional development, registration fee, meals and lodging will be paid by the employee. Reimbursement for expenses, must be submitted to the Superintendent for approval. Itemized receipts must be included with request. Taxes, tips and alcohol are not reimbursable items by law. Employees will be reasonable with meal and lodging expenses. Reasonable is approximately \$10 for lunch and \$15 for dinner.

Section 10 Overtime

Overtime is paid to classified employees in accordance with the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA). A publication provided by the federal government which provides more information about the FLSA is attached as Appendix "A" to this handbook.

Classified employees may be classified as either "exempt" or "non-exempt" for overtime purposes. Employees who are classified as exempt employees are not eligible for overtime while those who are "non-exempt" are eligible for overtime.

Non-exempt employees will be expected to accurately report hours worked. Falsification of timecards is a serious offense and constitutes cause for termination.

Non-exempt employees must receive prior approval from their supervisor to work additional hours beyond their regular work schedule. Non-exempt employees will be paid for each hour worked in excess of 40 hours in a workweek and are expected to accurately and timely report overtime hours to their supervisor. The regular workweek for overtime purposes is from

12:00 A.M. on Monday through 11:59 P.M. on Sunday. The administration may establish a different 7-day workweek from time to time for specified employees or employee groups.

Overtime pay for nonexempt employees will be paid at the rate of not less than 1½ times the employee’s regular rate of pay for hours worked in excess of the 40 hour workweek. Employees with two or more non-exempt positions may be eligible for overtime pay based upon the total number of hours worked in one workweek. If applicable, the employee may be given comp time at 1 ½ times the overtime hours, to be used within the school year it was accrued.

The District’s policy is to not permit improper deductions from the salary of exempt employees who are required to meet a “salaried basis” test for the overtime exemption to be applicable. An employee who feels an improper deduction affecting exemption status has occurred may submit a complaint to the Superintendent or the Superintendent’s designee, who shall promptly investigate the complaint. Reimbursement shall be made and a good faith commitment to comply in the future will be given in the event it is determined that an improper deduction affecting the overtime exemption has been made.

Article 3 – ABSENCES FROM WORK

Section 1 PTO (Paid Time Off) Leave

Classified employees will receive PTO Leave. PTO can be used at the employee’s discretion (sick or personal) with administrative approval. PTO will be paid based on the employee’s average hours worked per day. Absences will be paid in one hour increments.

PTO days that are consecutive may not exceed five (5) days without administrative approval. All PTO days must be used before any leave can be used from the employee’s available sick leave.

PTO may not be used immediately preceding or following a regularly scheduled break without written approval from administration. The availability of substitutes can be an issue for administration. Therefore, PTO leaves may be limited by substitute availability.

PTO will be given as follows for Instructional/Library aides, custodial, kitchen and office staff:

Employees working 4-7 hrs per day	6 PTO days per year
Employees working the school year, 7-8 hours per day	12 PTO days per year
Employees working 52 weeks, 8 hours per day	22 PTO days per year

Business Manager and Head Custodian receive 27 PTO days after 15 years of service.
52 week/8 hour employees receive 24 PTO days after 15 years of service.

PTO days that cannot be converted to sick days, due to the 45 day limit being met, will be paid out at \$40 per day for 7-8 hours employees, after the end of school year or August 31st, whichever is applicable.

Section 2 Sick Leave

~~Classified employees are provided with paid sick leave. During such paid leaves, classified employees shall continue to receive all wages/salary and fringe benefits when the leave is approved. Pay will be based on the number of hours employed daily.~~

- ~~➤ Employees who work at least 20 to 35 hours a week during the school year will receive 5 paid sick leave days per year accumulative to 40 days based on the number of hours employed daily. (Ex: A 4 hour a day employee (20 hours per week) receives five (5) days of sick leave at 4 hours per day)~~
- ~~➤ Employees who work 35 to 40 hours a week during the school year will receive 10 paid sick leave days per year accumulative to 40 days based on the number of hours employed daily. (Ex: A 7 hour a day employee (35 hours per week) receives ten (10) days of sick leave at 7 hours per day)~~
- ~~➤ Full Time Employees who work 40 hours a week – 52 weeks per year will receive 10 paid sick leave days per year accumulative to 40 days. (Ex: An 8 hour a day employee (40 hours per week) receives ten (10) days of sick leave at 8 hours per day)~~

~~The leave provided by the District is to be used for the purpose intended. Classified staff may use sick leave for the following: Employee illness, child illness, spouse illness, or parent illness. Sick leave is prorated for the months worked in the year. Classified staff may use sick leave time for bereavement for the loss of a child, spouse, sibling or parent as approved by the administration. Sick leave may not be used to extend a holiday or break without a doctor's note or on an approved leave. Absenteeism will affect evaluations and pay increases.~~

~~Abuse of leave privileges affects the students, other staff, and the entire District and will not be tolerated.~~

Unused PTO leave is converted to sick leave, accumulated to no more than 45 days. PTO leave must be used up before using sick leave. During such paid leaves, classified employees shall continue to receive all wages/salary and fringe benefits when the leave is approved. Pay will be based on the number of average hours employed daily.

The leave provided by the District is to be used for the purpose intended. Classified staff may

use sick leave for the following: Employee illness, or the employee's family members as designated by FMLA laws, or other family as approved by administration. Sick leave may not be used to extend a holiday or break without a doctor's note or on an approved leave. Sick leave over three(3) consecutive days, may require a doctor's note.

Absenteeism will affect evaluations and pay increases. Abuse of leave privileges affects the students, other staff, and the entire District and will not be tolerated.

For PTO and other leaves, a Request for Leave form is to be submitted to the Principal or Superintendent at least five school days prior to the leave, or as much advance notice as is practicable under the circumstances.

In leaves of more than (10) consecutive calendar days, there will be no guarantee of reinstatement to present or equivalent position, if applicable, FMLA rules will apply (If the employee position is filled while on extended leave, the employee may apply for and will be considered for any vacant position in which they are qualified.)

Absences when all available leave is used up is not acceptable. Supervisor approval will be needed. A doctor's note may be requested at any time.

Section 2 — Personal Day

~~Classified employees are allowed one (2) paid personal day per fiscal year, prorated for months worked in school or calendar year. A written request for approval must be given to the principal or superintendent in advance. Personal days will not accumulate. Personal days balance at the May 31st will be paid out at \$50 per day. Personal days may be used for snow days and other days school is not in session within the school year.~~

Section 3 Holidays

~~Employees who work at least 20-37½ hours a week during the school year will receive 5 paid holidays. Pay will be based on the number of hours employed daily. Holidays are: Labor Day; Thanksgiving Day; Christmas Day; New Year's Day, and Good Friday.~~

~~Full time employees who work 42-52 weeks and are scheduled 8 hours per day will receive 7 paid holidays. Holidays are: Labor Day; Thanksgiving Day; Christmas Day; New Year's Day; Good Friday; Memorial Day and the 4th of July. Employees working 42-44 weeks will be paid for the July 4th holiday based on hours worked in July.~~

Holidays will be paid based on the average hours worked per day. Holidays are:

Labor Day
Thanksgiving
Thanksgiving Friday
Christmas Eve*

Christmas Day
New Years Day
Good Friday
Easter Monday (if scheduled as a break)
Memorial Day*
July 4th*

*For 52 week employees

Section 4 ~~Vacation Leave~~

~~Full Time Employees working 42-48 weeks and are scheduled 8 hours per day will receive 1 week (5 days) paid vacation, to be used during the months school is in session.~~

~~Full Time Employees working 52 weeks and are scheduled 8 hours per day will receive 2 weeks (10 days) paid vacation. **After 15 years of service, employees will receive 12 days of paid vacation.**~~

~~Head Bookkeeper/Secretary and Head Maintenance will receive 3 weeks (15 days) paid vacation after 15 years of service in the district.~~

~~Vacation balances not used by August 31st will be paid out at the employee's daily rate. Vacation leave balance will be paid to an employee upon termination of employment.~~

Section 5 Bereavement

Full time employees working 37-40 hours per week will be paid up to three days bereavement leave for immediate family, as defined by FMLA laws. Leave must be approved by Administration or designee.

Requests for Leave

Advance reporting of the need to take a leave is important. Classified employees who become ill and are unable to work are to contact their supervisor, principal or superintendent's office at least ½ hour (earlier when possible) before they are to report for duty so an appropriate substitute Para-educator can be contacted. Before the end of the school day on the first day of sick leave, and on each subsequent day of absence, a report should be made to the Principal as to whether the employee will be able to return to duty on the next duty day. For illnesses or medical situations where the need for the leave can be determined in advance,

the employee is to contact his/her supervisor as soon as possible.

~~For personal and other leaves, a Request for Leave form is to be submitted to the Principal or Superintendent at least five school days prior to the leave, or as much advance notice as is practicable under the circumstances.~~

~~In leaves of more than (10) consecutive calendar days, there will be no guarantee of reinstatement to present or equivalent position, if applicable, FMLA rules will apply (If the employee position is filled while on Personal Leave, the employee may apply for and will be considered for any vacant position in which they are qualified.)~~

Absences when all available leave is used up is not acceptable. Supervisor approval will be needed. A doctor's note may be requested at any time.

Return from Leave

Upon return from leave, classified employees are to review information supplied by the classified employee as to progress made in the classified employee's area of responsibility. The substitute should be contacted directly if the written information supplied is not adequate.

A classified employee who is absent for any period of time because of injury requiring care from a physician or healthcare provider, or for a period of one week or more due to illness, must present a written statement to the Principal or Superintendent from the classified employee's physician or health care provider stating that the classified employee is physically able to return to duty. This statement is to be presented in person before the classified employee returns to duty in order that the present stage of convalescence can be observed and discussed.

Section 6 Payroll Deductions for Absences in Excess of Paid Leave

Should an employee be absent from work in excess of the employee's accumulated sick leave or other approved paid leaves, the employee's salary and fringe benefits (including the cost of premiums for group health insurance) shall be reduced by the day or days of work missed.

In the case of hourly employees the reduction will be made on an hourly basis. In the case of salaried employees the reduction will be made on a per diem basis calculated using the number of days missed as the numerator, and the total of days employed during a fiscal school year as the denominator.

Section 7 Extended Leaves of Absence

A classified employee may apply to the Board of Education for a leave of absence from the employee's duties. The Board of Education will consider such requests on a case-by-case basis. No leave of absence shall extend beyond one school year. All leaves of absence shall be without pay except for the payment of health insurance benefits as may be required under applicable state or federal laws.

Section 8 Jury Duty

An employee who is summoned for jury service shall promptly notify the Principal or Superintendent of such summons. The employee's salary will continue during time spent in jury service, and no deduction of leave time shall occur, except that the District may reduce the pay by an amount equal to any compensation, other than expenses, paid by the court for jury duty. Employees are to notify the Principal or Superintendent of the date of Jury duty and the amount received for such jury duty.

If an employee, upon reporting for jury duty in the morning, is dismissed from jury duty for the remainder of the day, the employee is to report for duty and resume duties for the balance of the day. When an employee is entirely dismissed from jury duty, the employee is directed to report for duty.

Employees are expected to promptly notify the Principal or Superintendent of any other form of legal summons which may require an absence from duty. In the event the summons involves a school-related matter, the matter shall be treated similarly to a jury duty absence. If the summons involves a personal matter, the employee will be required to use available leave days.

Section 9 Military Leave

Military and Family Military Leave

Military leave and Family military leave will be granted to the extent required by state and federal law.

Employees must notify the Superintendent as soon as they receive notification of activation.

Employees will attach a copy of their orders to a district leave request form when they prepare the request for military leave.

Employees requesting to take family military leave must notify the Superintendent at least 14 days in advance of taking such a leave if the leave will be for 5 or more consecutive days, consult with their supervisor to schedule the leave so as to not unduly disrupt operation of the school, and for leaves of less than 5 days, notify the Superintendent of the leave request as soon as practicable.

Employees who are members of the National Guard, Army Reserve, Naval Reserve, Marine Corps Reserve, Air Force Reserve, or Coast Guard Reserve (hereinafter, "reserves"), are entitled to a military leave of absence from their respective duties, without loss of pay, when employed with or without pay under the orders or authorization of competent authority in the active service of the state or of the United States. Employees who normally work or are normally scheduled to work 120 hours or more in three consecutive weeks shall receive a military leave of absence of 120 hours each calendar year. Employees who normally work or

are normally scheduled to work less than 120 hours in three consecutive weeks shall receive a military leave of absence each calendar year equal to the number of hours they normally work or would normally be scheduled to work, whichever is greater, in three consecutive weeks. Such military leave of absence may be taken in hourly increments and shall be in addition to the employee's regular annual leave.

When the governor of this state shall declare that a state of emergency exists, and any employee who is a member of the reserves is ordered to active service of the state, the employee shall be granted a state of emergency leave of absence until released from active service by competent authority. The leave of absence shall not be a military leave of absence; other forms of leave may be granted. The employee shall receive normal salary or compensation minus the state active duty base pay the employee receives in active service of the state.

Section 10 Family and Medical Leave Act

The Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) provides for 12 weeks of job-protected unpaid leave in a 12 month period to eligible employees in specified circumstances. A publication provided by the federal government which provides more information about FMLA leaves is attached as Appendix "C" to this handbook. Some specifics regarding FMLA leave at Lyons-Decatur Northeast School:

- a. The plan year for FMLA is a rolling year. A rolling year is a 12-month period measured backward from the date an employee last used any FMLA leave.
- b. Employees will be required to substitute remaining applicable paid leave prior to using unpaid leave. The total of job-protected paid and unpaid leave is 12 weeks.

If you need to take FMLA leave, or have any questions regarding an FMLA leave, you should contact the Superintendent.

Section 11 Disciplinary Suspensions

The district's policy is to authorize unpaid disciplinary suspensions of a full day or more for infractions of workplace conduct rules and to apply such policy uniformly to all similarly situated employees, including exempt employees who are required to meet a "salary basis" test for the exemption to be applicable. Unpaid disciplinary suspensions of a partial day or of a full day or more may be implemented for infractions of safety rules of major significance. Deductions of pay of a partial day or of a full day or more may be made for FMLA leaves and in the first weeks of employment. In addition, based on principles of public accountancy, deductions from pay of a partial day or a full day or more will be made for absences for illness, injury or personal reasons when accrued leave is not used or not available, and for absences due to any budget-required furlough.

Article 4 – DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Section 1 Hours of Work & Meetings

Regular, dependable attendance at work is an essential function of a classified employee's employment position.

Section 2 Arrival to Duty Assignments

Schools have different starting and ending times for the student day. Classified employees' work assignments may or may not be related to the regular school day. Classified employees are expected to know their scheduled dates and times, and to be on time for work.

Section 3 Time Clock

The time clock is to be used by all classified employees, unless an employee has exempt status. Employees will punch in at the beginning of their shift, punch in and out for unpaid meal breaks, and punch out at the end of their shift. Employees will not leave the building for personal business while punched in. Employees using phones for punching in and out, may only do so inside the school building. This privilege will be revoked if the policy is not followed. Misuse of the time clock could result in disciplinary action.

Section 4 Break Periods

1. Meal breaks

Employees are to take a minimum of thirty (30) minutes for an unpaid meal break. Breaks will be scheduled by the employee's supervisor. Employees are not allowed to work through their meal break to leave early or make up hours.

2. Rest breaks

Employees may take two (2) – fifteen (15) minute paid breaks throughout an 8 hour scheduled day. If employed less than 8 hours but more than 4 hours per day then one (1) – fifteen (15) minute paid break can be taken during the workday. Breaks should not be taken immediately after arrival or before departure of an employee's scheduled work day.

Section 5 Leaving School

Employees are to be on duty at all times during the school day. Employees may not leave school or their assigned area during duty hours without approval of the Principal or Superintendent. Employees who leave the school day during their designated lunch period must clock out. Employees who leave during their work hours for an approved absence must report to the office when leaving and returning, and must punch in and out for absence.

Section 6 School Procedures

Employees are expected to adhere to the following classroom and school procedures in the performance of their duties:

1. Use of Cell Phones

Employees shall not use personal cell phones for any non-school purpose during employee duty time.

2. Checking Out Equipment

All equipment must be checked out through the building Principal or media center. All school equipment may be used only for school purposes.

3. Requisition of Equipment and Supplies

Equipment and supplies which are needed for work duties should be requested through the Principal's or Superintendent's office. No equipment or supplies ordered through the District may be directed for personal use by any District employee.

4. E-mail

Employees may be assigned a school e-mail address for purposes of intra-school and inter-school e-mail correspondence. Employees should check for email throughout the day, and should timely respond to emails which require a response. Paraeducators and other staff assigned to work with students should avoid checking and responding to emails during instructional or supervisory time. Use of the District's email system for personal communications should be limited, and is subject to the rules governing overall computer usage found in Board policy and this handbook.

5. Employee Mailbox

Employees may be assigned a mailbox located in the workroom by the Superintendent's office. Employees should check for mail each morning and also later in the school day, if possible. If correspondence requires an answer employees are responsible for responding promptly. Employee mailboxes are to be limited to communication regarding school business.

6. Employee Meetings

Employees' meetings will be held periodically throughout the school term when needed. When notified of a meeting pertaining to your area the employee is expected to be present for the meetings, unless they are absent from school for good cause or have made prior arrangements.

Section 7 Supervision of Students

Proper supervision of students is an important responsibility of employees. Employees who have responsibilities for student supervision are expected to meet the four "P's" for student supervision and safety. All employees of the school should be familiar with these principles, to the extent they may be involved in supervision of students or interacting with students.

1. Proper Supervision

- Report to all duty assignments on time.
- Circulate through your duty area. Pay particular attention to areas and activities that
- pose an increased risk of injury.
- Be vigilant while supervising students. Never leave students unattended; the need to make a copy is not greater than the need to supervise your students. If an emergency

requires that you leave students who you are supervising, request that another nearby staff member provide supervision for you, or notify the office so someone can provide assistance. If you are assisting with recess duty, your responsibility is to supervise the students in you assigned area. When talking with other adults or students, remember that your primary duty is supervision and make sure you are aware of what all students who you are to be supervising are doing.

- Be accountable for students who are assigned to you from the beginning of the supervision assignment to the end. Do not dismiss students early. If a student needs to leave class, make sure they have a hall pass. If the student is to report to the office, inform the office to be expecting the student. If a student is returning to your class after a brief absence (e.g., after using the restroom), contact the office if the student has not returned by the time expected.
- If you have seen or have been informed that a particular student has a propensity to act dangerously or in an unpredictable manner, your supervision of that student must increase with the known risk of injury. (Remember, though, that this type of information may be confidential-do not share confidential information about students with other staff except with other staff who need to know the information to perform their jobs).
- Be careful with touching students. Use of corporal punishment is prohibited at Lyons-Decatur Northeast. Touching students should be limited to that necessary to protect the student from harm (e.g., falling from playground equipment) and that which professional educators determine appropriate for purposes of proper student relationships.
- Be careful with your language. Profanity or abusive language should not be used by you. Be a good role model for students. If a student uses such language, you should make a report of it to the student's teacher or administration.

2. Proper Instructions

- Proper instructions are important to reduce the risk of injury when students undertake an activity, especially an activity that has an increased risk of harm to students.
- Repeat the instructions on how to complete a task that has a heightened risk of danger as often as needed. Do not assume that because students heard the directions once that they will be remembered.
- When you go over safety rules with students, note it in your written records. If any students are absent when you review the rules contact the student(s) to review the same information and also note that contact in your written records.
- Review playground and recess safety rules with students at least once each semester and note when you do it in your written records. Also, if any students are absent when you review the rules contact the student(s) to review the same information and also note that contact in your written records.

3. Proper Maintenance of Buildings, Grounds, and Equipment

- Conduct periodic inspections of equipment under your control or in your area of

supervision.

- If equipment is broken and presents a risk of injury, immediately take it out of service (If it can't be moved, tape a "Do Not Use" sign) and notify the office so those repairs may be undertaken.
- Check your communication device (whether it be a school phone in your supervision area, a walkie-talkie, or a cell phone) periodically to make sure you can communicate with the office immediately in the event of an emergency.

4. Proper Warnings

- A. If you have knowledge of a hazard that can cause injury, take steps to warn other staff and students.
- B. Tell the office so additional warnings may be given.

Contact the Office for Assistance

The office administration should be contacted immediately when a situation exists which could cause injury to students or others. Examples include:

- Student fight
- Student health problem (fainting, bleeding, high temperature, difficulty breathing, etc.); if the office can not be immediately located, call 911 if the problem appears to be of immediate and serious concern
- A report or a suspicion that a student has a weapon or other dangerous item or drugs, alcohol, or other illegal substances
- Presence of an intruder (a non-student or non-staff member who refuses to go to the office)

Violations of student rules which are also violations of state law are required to be reported to law enforcement. Make a report of such conduct to the Principal so this law may be followed.

Student Searches

Office administration and the student's teacher should be contacted in the event a search of a student or their belongings is needed. Do not conduct a search yourself without a teacher or administrator being present or having given you clear directions. You may direct a student suspected of having an item in violation of school rules to wait with you until another adult is present, or to follow you to the office if you can leave your assigned area without causing risk of harm to others. Do not use physical force to detain the student or to make the student accompany you except as reasonably necessary to protect the student or others.

Student Rights

Students should be treated fairly and given the same treatment without consideration of race, color, religion, gender, or disability. Students who need special accommodations should be given those accommodations as needed to participate in school and school activities. Students have the right to have their school records kept confidential. Such information should be shared only with other school staff who need to know the information to perform their duties.

Section 8 Role of Paraprofessionals

Professionals provide valuable assistance in the educational process and allow teachers to carry out their responsibilities in a more efficient and effective manner. A Para educator must not, however, assume teaching responsibilities. The teacher must maintain the role of leadership and responsibility for the students, with the Paraprofessionals in a supportive role. Paraprofessionals may assist the teacher by, among other tasks, assisting with instructional activities under the direction of the teacher, helping to supervise students, copying tests and other written materials, organizing class materials, preparing bulletin boards, grading tests or class work, and calculating and recording grades. Para educators are to work only on their assigned work days and within their assigned workday. If a teacher requests a Para educator to work hours other than the assigned work hours or assigned work day, the administration should be contacted for approval.

Section 9 Dispensing Medication

Employees are not permitted to give any medication to students unless trained under the Medication Aid Act, Neb. Rev. Stat. §71-6718 to 71-6743. Students who need to take prescription medicine must have a signed parent release form on file in the office. Medications are to be taken in the presence of the office staff, the nurse, or medication aide and are to be stored in the office. Medical procedures are not to be administered in the classroom except in accordance with the District's Safety and Security Management Plan and the District's Emergency Protocol (asthma/anaphylaxis protocol).

If students must take medication and/or perform medical procedures prescribed by a duly licensed physician during school hours, it is the responsibility of the parents or guardians to sign permission to dispense the medicine at the school and to submit a note or prescription from the physician authorizing the medicine and/or medical procedure. School district personnel will not administer medicine, including over the counter medicine, without this signed form and note or prescription. Any medication brought to school needs to be properly labeled. The label should include the following information: Student's name, name of medication, dosage needed, and time of dispensing the medication.

Section 10 Reporting Child Abuse

Nebraska State Law and school policy mandates school officials to make a report to the proper law enforcement agency or the Department of Health and Human Services (Child Protective Services) when there is reasonable cause to believe that a child has been abused or neglected, or a child is in a situation which would reasonably result in abuse or neglect. According to Nebraska State Law, abuse or neglect means knowingly, intentionally, or negligently causing or permitting a minor child to be:

- a. Placed in a situation that endangers his or her life or physical or mental health;
- b. (cruelly confined or cruelly punished);
- c. Deprived of necessary food, clothing, shelter, or care;

- d. Left unattended in a motor vehicle if such minor child is six years of age or younger;
- e. Sexually abused; or
- f. Sexually exploited by allowing, encouraging, or forcing such person to solicit for or engage in prostitution, debauchery, public indecency, or obscene or pornographic photography, films, or depictions.

Employees are to inform their Principal or Supervisor in the event they become aware of child abuse or neglect. Be specific as possible with what, when, and where you observed the abuse or neglect and anything which you may have heard said by the student or others. It is vital that your report to school officials be made as accurately and as soon as possible. Timelines in making a report will assist in minimizing further risk to the child.

Do not talk about the matter directly with the parent or others, as that may violate confidentiality restrictions, affect the ability of authorities to investigate, create problems with relationships and create legal problems. The school administration will consider your information, conduct any further investigation needed to justify a report, and determine whether a report of child abuse or neglect is to be made. If the person who you have reported to does not make a report to the police or Child Protective Services, and you feel a report should be made, report the matter directly to the Superintendent.

Article 5 –PERSONAL CONDUCT AND PERFORMANCE

Section 1 Ethics Standards

The Lyons-Decatur Northeast expects its classified employees to adhere to ethics standards which are modified from those established by the Nebraska Department of Education for certificated employees. The classified school employment job ethics standards which classified employees are expected to adhere to include those set forth below.

Principle I - Commitment as a School Employee:

Employees shall exhibit good moral character, maintain high standards of performance and promote equality of opportunity. In fulfillment of the employee’s contractual and personal responsibilities, the employee:

- A. Shall not interfere with the exercise of political and citizenship rights and responsibilities of students, colleagues, parents, school patrons, or school board members.
- B. Shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, sex, marital status, age, national origin, ethnic background, or handicap condition.
- C. Shall not use coercive means, or promise or provide special treatment to students, colleagues, school patrons, or school board members in order to influence personal decisions.
- D. Shall not make any fraudulent statement or fail to disclose a material fact for which the employee is responsible.
- E. Shall not exploit school relationships with students, colleagues, parents, school

- patrons, or school board members for personal gain or private advantage.
- F. Shall not sexually harass students, parents or school patrons, employees, or board members.
 - G. Shall not engage in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit, or misrepresentation in the performance of professional duties.
 - H. Shall report to the Superintendent any known violation of paragraphs B or E above.
 - I. Shall seek no reprisal against any individual who has reported a violation of this rule.

Principle II - Commitment to the Student:

Mindful that an employee's classified position exists for the purpose of serving the best interests of the school district's students and patrons, the classified employee shall perform his/her job duties with genuine interest, concern, and consideration for the student. The employee shall work to stimulate the spirit of inquiry, the acquisition of knowledge and understanding, and the thoughtful formulation of worthy goals.

In fulfillment of the obligation to the student, the employee:

- A. Shall make reasonable effort to protect the student from conditions which interfere with the learning process or are harmful to health or safety.
- B. Shall keep in confidence personally identifiable information that has been obtained in the course of employment, unless disclosure is approved by the administration or is required by law.
- C. Shall not discipline students using corporal punishment.

Principle III - Commitment to the Public:

The magnitude of the responsibility inherent in the educational process requires dedication to the principles of our democratic heritage. The classified employee bears responsibility for instilling an understanding of the confidence in the rule of law, respect for individual freedom, and a responsibility to promote respect by the public for the integrity of the profession.

In fulfillment of the obligation to the public, the employee:

- A. Shall not misrepresent an institution with which the educator is affiliated, and shall take added precautions to distinguish between the employee's personal and institutional views.
- B. Shall not use institutional privileges for private gain or to promote political candidates, political issues, or partisan political activities.
- C. Shall neither offer nor accept gifts or favors that will impair judgment to be exercised in the course of employment.
- D. Shall support the principle of due process and protect the political, citizenship, and natural rights of all individuals.
- E. Shall not commit any act of moral turpitude, nor commit a felony under the laws of the United States or any state or territory.
- F. Shall, with reasonable diligence, attend to the duties of the employee's position.

Principle IV - Commitment to Classified Position Employment Practices:

The employee shall regard the employment agreement as a pledge to be executed both in

spirit and in fact. The employee shall believe that sound personal relationships with governing administration and board of education are built upon personal integrity, dignity, and mutual respect.

In fulfillment of the obligation to the profession, the educator:

- A. Shall apply for, accept, offer or assign positions of responsibility on the basis of preparation and legal qualifications.
- B. Shall not knowingly withhold information regarding a position from an applicant or employer, or misrepresent an assignment or conditions of employment.
- C. Shall give prompt notice to the employer of any change in availability of service.
- D. Shall conduct job related business through designated procedures, when available, that have been approved by the employing agency.
- E. Shall not assign to unqualified personnel, tasks for which an employee is responsible.
- F. Shall permit no commercial or personal exploitation of his or her professional position.
- G. Shall use time on duty and leave time for the purpose for which intended.

Section 2 Role Model

Employees serve as role models for students and their actions and conduct reflect the school as a whole. Employees are in all respects to conduct themselves in a manner supportive of the mission of the school district.

Section 3 Relationships

It is important for employees to maintain an effective working relationship with the administration and all co-workers, students and parents. Appropriate relationships are established by extending social courtesies, following through on commitments and promises, complying with administrative directives and Board policies, being honest and consistent, and not intruding into personal matters outside the scope of duties or gossiping or spreading rumors about others.

Section 4 Professional Attire

It is important for employees to project a responsible, adult image to students, parents and co-workers. Appropriate attire and grooming is one of the means of projecting such an image. Employees are expected to maintain conservative attire and grooming when on duty. As a minimal guide, employees should not wear clothing which students would not be permitted to wear at school. Employees should wear clothing which is safe and suitable for their work assignments; and avoid clothing which may be caught in machinery. The administration may establish more detailed guidelines for individual employees should that be necessary.

Section 5 Outside Employment

Employees shall not perform other work or engage in activities unrelated to District employment during duty hours. In addition, employees shall not engage in employment which conflicts with their school duties. Employees are not required to notify the District of

outside employment except: (1) employees who are also employed by another Nebraska school district in order to comply with Nebraska State Retirement System regulations and (2) employees who have a work-related injury in order to comply with workers' compensation requirements.

Article 6 – USE OF SCHOOL FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT

Section 1 Drug-Free Workplace

The District has established the school as a drug-free workplace. The drug-free workplace for this purpose includes school grounds, school utilized vehicles, and places in which school activities are held.

The unlawful manufacture, distribution, disposition, possession, or use of a controlled substance is prohibited in the workplace. The possession, use or distribution of illicit drugs or alcohol, the use of glue or aerosol paint or any other chemical substance for inhalation, and being under the influence of illicit drugs, alcohol, or inhalants, is prohibited in any place while employees are on duty time. Any level of impairment from illicit drugs, alcohol, or inhalants, and the presence of any odor of illicit drugs (such as marijuana) or alcohol on an employee in the workplace or on duty time shall be a violation of the drug-free workplace. The possession or distribution of a look-alike drug or look-alike controlled substance is prohibited. In addition, employees are expected to serve as role models for students and will be considered to have violated the District's expectations in the event the employee commits a criminal drug or alcohol offense off the work place or off duty time.

As a condition of employment employees will abide by the District's drug-free workplace policies and notify the Superintendent of any criminal drug statute conviction for a violation occurring in the workplace no later than 5 days after such conviction. Disciplinary sanctions up to and including termination of employment and referral for prosecution will be imposed for violations of the District's drug-free workplace policies. Sanctions may include the requirement that the employee complete an appropriate rehabilitation program, a reprimand, and termination of employment. Drug and alcohol counseling and rehabilitation and reentry programs are available through local health agencies.

Section 2 Smoke and Tobacco-Free Workplace

The Lyons-Decatur Community School is a smoke free environment effective August 10, 1993. The use of tobacco products and cigarettes is prohibited at all times in all school buildings and in school owned vehicles. This policy applies to all students, staff, patrons and visitors. Designated smoking areas outside the school buildings will be assigned by the administration.

Section 3 Weapon-Free Workplace

The District prohibits any person from being in possession of a weapon at a school attendance facility, on school property, at a school-supervised activity, or at a school-sponsored function.

Any employee found to be in violation of this policy shall be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including termination.

The term "weapon" means an instrument or object used, or which may be used, as a means of attack, defense, or destruction, including, without limitation:

- a. Any object which will, or is designed to, or may readily be converted to, expel a projectile by the action of an explosive or other means;
- b. The frame or receiver of any object described in the preceding example;
- c. Any firearm muffler or silencer;
- d. Any explosive, incendiary or gas (a) bomb, (b) grenade, (c) rocket, (d) missile, (e) mine, or similar device;
- e. Any bludgeon, sand club, metal knuckles, or throwing star;
- f. Any knife other than as used for strictly instructional or personal care or eating purposes. A pocket knife with a blade of 2-1/2 inches or more is a prohibited weapon. A switch-blade knife is prohibited regardless of size of the blade. A switch-blade knife is defined as a knife with a blade that opens automatically by hand pressure applied to a button, spring, or other device in the handle of a knife, or any knife having a blade that opens or falls or is ejected into position by the force of gravity or by an outward, downward, or centrifugal thrust or movement;
- g. Any electronic device designed to discharge immobilizing levels of electricity, commonly known as a stun gun.
- h. An employee may possess mace or other similar chemical agents in quantity and/or concentration typically designed for individual personal defensive purposes shall not be considered as possession of a weapon. Possession of larger quantities and/or concentrations of mace or other similar chemical agents than is typically designed for individual personal defensive purposes will be considered as possession of a weapon. Usage of mace or other similar chemical agents will be considered as usage of a weapon if the usage is found to be for non-defensive purposes. An employee who is negligent in their possession of mace or other similar chemical agents will be subject to disciplinary action.
- i. An employee may possess an item which may be considered a weapon where such item is used for instructional purposes and the employee has received approval of the administration to possess the item, provided it is used in the manner approved and is maintained in such manner as the administration has directed.
- j. Any other object that is designed for or intended for use as a destructive or injurious device.

The phrase "possession of a weapon" includes, without limitation, a weapon in an employee's personal possession, as well as in an employee's motor vehicle, on school property, desk, locker, briefcase, backpack, or purse.

Section 4 Use of District Computer Network and Internet

Employees have access to the District's computer network and the Internet for the enhancement and support of student instruction and performance of their duties. It is

important to remember that the equipment and the software are the property of the school district.

In using the computers and the Internet, employees are agreeing to the following:

1. Since copyright laws protect software, employees will not make unauthorized copies of software found on school computers by any means. Employees will not give, lend, or sell copies of software to others unless the original software is clearly identified as shareware or in the public domain.
2. If an employee downloads public domain programs for personal use or non-commercially redistributes a public domain program, the employee assumes all risks regarding the determination of whether a program is in the public domain.
3. Employees shall not access material that is obscene, child pornography or otherwise inappropriate matter for educational or work-related uses or contrary to the District's mission. Employees are not permitted to knowingly access information that is profane, obscene or offensive toward a group or individual based upon race, gender, national origin or religion. Further, employees are prohibited from placing such information on the Internet.
4. Employees will protect the privacy of other computer users' areas by not accessing their passwords without written permission. Employees will not copy, change, read, or use another person's files. Employees will not engage in "hacking" or otherwise attempt to gain unauthorized access to system programs or computer equipment.
5. Employees will not use computer systems to disturb or harass other computer users by sending unwanted mail or by other means.
6. Employees will not disclose their passwords and account names to anyone or attempt to ascertain or use anyone else's password and account name.
7. Employees will not attempt to login to the system as a system administrator.
8. Employees understand that the intended use of all computer equipment is to meet instructional objectives.
9. Employees will not waste or take supplies, such as paper, printer ribbons, toner, and diskettes that are provided by the District.
10. Employees will not use the network for financial gain or for any commercial or illegal activity.
11. Attempts to bypass security systems on computer workstations or servers, or vandalism will result in cancellation of privileges and may result in further consequences. Malicious attempts to harm or destroy data of another employee, or data that resides anywhere on the network or on the Internet, or the uploading or creation of computer viruses are forbidden.
12. The District will not be responsible for any liabilities, costs, expenses, or purchases incurred by the use of the District's telecommunications systems such as the Internet. This includes, but is not limited to, the purchase of online services or products. The employee is solely responsible for any such charges. The employee's acceptance of an email account is an acceptance of the employee's agreement to indemnify the District for any expenses, including legal fees, arising out of the employee's use of the system

in violation of the agreement.

13. The Internet will be supplied for your use on an "as is, as available" basis. The District does not imply or expressly warrant that any information you access will be valuable or fit for a particular purpose or that the system will operate error free.
14. The District is not responsible for the integrity of information accessed, or software downloaded from the Internet.
15. The District reserves the right to refuse posting of files, and to remove files.
16. The District further reserves the right to inspect an employee's computer and computer usage at any time. Employees have no privacy rights or expectations of privacy with regard to use of the District's computers or Internet system.
17. The computer system is not a public forum. It is provided for the limited purpose of advancing the District's mission.
18. A technology protection measure is in place that blocks and/or filters Internet access to prevent access to Internet sites that are not in accordance with policies and regulations. In addition to blocks and/or filters, the District may also use other technology protection measures or procedures as deemed appropriate. The technology protection measure that blocks and/or filters Internet access may be disabled only by an authorized staff member for bona fide research or educational purposes: (a) who has successfully completed district training on proper disabling circumstances and procedures, (b) with permission of the immediate supervisor of the staff member requesting said disabling, or (c) with the permission of a building administrator. An authorized staff member may override the technology protection measure that blocks and/or filters Internet access for a minor to access a site for bona fide research or other lawful purposes provided the minor is monitored directly by an authorized staff member.

Any violation of any part of this agreement or any other activity which school administrators deem inappropriate will be subject to disciplinary action. Discipline could include but would not be limited to, the immediate suspension or termination of the employee's Internet account and computer privileges, reprimand, suspension, or termination.

Section 5 Use of School Facilities

Employees who are issued keys or fobs to the school are expected to not lose their keys/fob and to not allow others to have access to or use their keys/fob. If your fob is lost, it will be deactivated and you will be charged \$10 for replacement. Employees are permitted to have access to school facilities during non-school time provided your Principal or supervisor has given permission and such access is for work-related purposes. When employees leave the building, they are to close all windows, lock doors, and make sure that the entry is fully closed and locked. This is especially important when employees are using the school facilities prior to the beginning of the school year and during any weekend or evening usage.

School property is to be used for approved work-related purposes and not for personal purposes or for personal gain or benefit. Use of school supplies (paper, staples, etc.), school

equipment (copiers, fax machines, telephones, etc.), and school postage is to be used for approved school-related purposes only. Excess supplies or surplus equipment, including items which have been placed in the trash, should not be removed for non-school use without prior approval from the administration.

Section 6 Care of School Property

Employees are responsible for the proper care of all books, equipment, supplies and furniture supplied by the school. If an item is in need of maintenance or repair, report it to the Principal. If you learn that a student has damaged school property or equipment, or if you are responsible for damage to school property, promptly report it to the Principal so the item may be replaced or repaired if possible and appropriate responsibility for the cost of replacement or repair may be determined.

Section 7 Use of Telephone

Personal telephone calls shall not be made during duty time except in the event of an emergency.

Section 8 Visitors

Employees are not to have visitors on school property except on a short-term basis and only with permission of the principal. Included in the definition of visitors are family members of the employee. Visitors should follow posted procedures for being on school property. Employees are not to bring their children to school with them in lieu of taking them to childcare.

Section 9 Salespersons

Employees need not allow, and should not permit, any salesperson or representative or agent of any commercial enterprise or theatrical presentation to contact the employee while engaged in the employee's duties except for such times as may be designated by the Superintendent or designee.

By law, the hours of no solicitation are between 8:00 A.M. and 4:00 P.M. on all days school is in session. If you are required to be at work earlier than 8:00 A.M. the hours are extended to that earlier time as well.

Employees shall not use classrooms, buildings or other school property for personal use or profit without specific approval from the Superintendent or designee. Employees shall not use time for which the employee is on duty or paid by the District to engage in any activity for personal financial profit. Any violation of this policy will be held to be willful insubordination.

Section 10 Security of Desks and Lockers

Offices, employee desks, lockers, file cabinets and other such storage devices ("storage devices") are owned by the school and are to be properly cared for and maintained.

Appropriate security measures should be used to protect school and personal property kept in storage devices from theft or vandalism and to protect confidential student records.

The school exercises exclusive control over school property and reserves the right to search offices and storage devices provided to or used by employees where permitted by law, such as where reasonable grounds exist for suspecting that a search will turn up evidence that the employee has committed work-related misconduct, or that a search is necessary for a non-investigatory work-related purpose, such as to retrieve a file. School-related documents or records must remain readily available to administration and other appropriate school staff. Any personal items an employee wants to have kept private should be kept in a separate personal storage device, such as a briefcase, purse or backpack.

The District is not responsible for any personal property employees may bring to school. Employees are cautioned not to bring large amounts of money or items of significant value to school.

Section 11 Video Surveillance

The Board of Education may authorize the use of video cameras on School District property to ensure the health, welfare and safety of all staff, students and visitors and to safeguard District facilities and equipment. Video cameras may be used in locations as deemed appropriate by the Superintendent.

Notice is hereby given that video surveillance may occur on District property. In the event a video surveillance recording captures a student or other building user violating school policies or rules or local, state or federal laws, the video surveillance recording may be used in appropriate disciplinary proceedings against the employee or other building user. These recordings may also be provided to law enforcement agencies.

Section 12 Bulletins and Announcements

Bulletin boards and display cases are available for school-related and approved materials to be posted and displayed. Posters to be used in the halls or materials for distribution will need to be approved by the Principal's office. Posters are not to be attached to any painted wall surfaces. The person or organization responsible for distributing the posters is responsible to see that all posters are removed within 48 hours after the event.

Section 13 Copyright and Fair Use Policy

It is the school's policy to follow the federal copyright law. Employees are reminded that, when using school equipment, they also must follow the federal copyright laws. The federal copyright law governs the reproduction of works of authorship. Copyrighted works are protected regardless of the medium in which they are created or reproduced; thus, copyright extends to digital works and works transformed into a digital format. Copyrighted works are not limited to those that bear a copyright notice.

The "fair use" doctrine allows limited reproduction of copyrighted works for educational and

research purposes. The relevant portion of the copyright statute provides that the “fair use” of a copyrighted work, including reproduction “for purposes such as criticism, news reporting, teaching (including multiple copies for classroom use), scholarship, or research” is not an infringement of copyright. The law lists the following factors to be evaluated in determining whether a particular use of a copyrighted work is a permitted “fair use,” rather than an infringement of the copyright:

- The purpose and character of the use, including whether such use is of a commercial nature or is for nonprofit educational purposes;
- The nature of the copyrighted work;
- The amount and substantiality of the portion used in relation to the copyrighted work as a whole, and
- The effect of the use upon the potential market for or value of the copyrighted work.

Although all of these factors will be considered, the last factor is the most important in determining whether a particular use is “fair.” Employees should seek assistance from their immediate supervisor or the Principal if there are any questions regarding what may be copied.

Section 14 Lost and Found

Employees who find lost articles are asked to take them to the office, where the articles can be claimed by the owner.

Section 15 Safety

Safety Program and Safety Committee

The District has established a Safety and Security Management Plan which includes safety and security plans and procedures, including plans and procedures to address emergency and crisis situations. Employees are expected to be familiar with and to comply with the Safety and Security Management Plan. The Plan may be obtained for review or copy from the Principal or the Superintendent.

The District also has a safety committee to address employee accidents, injuries and workplace conditions. A representative from each bargaining group plus representatives appointed by administration serve on the committee. If you have a desire to serve on the committee, you should contact a supervisor or the Superintendent. Employees can make suggestions and/or report concerns to the safety committee by contacting a member of the safety committee or the Superintendent.

Safety Practices

Guidelines for safe work practices which employees should follow include the following:

1. Never stand on chairs, counters, tables, etc. Only use step stools, ladders and locking stools to stand, climb, etc. to reach high places, put things on bulletin boards, etc.

2. Always wear protective equipment (i.e., goggles, aprons, gloves, and ear protection when necessary).
3. Wipe up spills or report promptly to appropriate personnel. DO NOT assume someone else will do it.
4. Be aware of your surroundings. Pick up clutter, keep your work area or room clean and free of clutter, debris, etc.
5. Identify and report all hazards (i.e., broken equipment, broken or uneven floor surfaces, non-operating tools, windows, doors, etc.). Follow up if not repaired.
6. Do not use equipment if you are not familiar with it or operate machinery without proper training.
7. Do not carry heavy or bulky objects. Get a cart, dolly or assistance. Know how to properly lift.
8. Report any injuries or medical problems to your supervisor immediately and complete the employee accident report.
9. Wear seat belts when in vehicles where provided.
10. Do not do repetitive tasks for long periods of time (i.e., keyboarding, cutting out things, filing, typing, etc.). Take breaks, learn and do stretching exercises, etc. Every accident in the school building, on the school grounds, at practice sessions, or at any athletic event sponsored by the school must be reported immediately to the Principal.

Do not engage in “horseplay.” Such conduct is a common cause of injuries and is not consistent with job duties.

As required by law, approved safety glasses will be required of every student and employee while participating in or observing vocational, technical, industrial technology, science, and art classes. All visitors to these areas must check out a pair of safety glasses when entering any of these areas.

Use of Personal Vehicles

Employees who drive school vehicles or volunteer to use their personal automobile to transport students must have a valid driver's license and proof of insurance. Employees will be provided a Driver's Certification form to verify this information and be given instruction on emergency evacuation and first aid. Employees who drive school vehicles or transport students in their personal vehicles are responsible for following safe driving practices, including use of seat belts by all occupants, and are responsible for any injury or accident. Employees are not to use cell phones while driving a school vehicle or while transporting children (when the vehicle is moving).

Accidents

Every accident which results in a personal injury must be reported to the Principal immediately. If the injury involves a student, the employee responsible for the student either as employee, coach or sponsor is responsible for making the report. If the injury occurs in the presence of the employee, the employee is also responsible for making a report.

Workers Compensation

Employees are required to immediately report any work-related injury and/or work-related medical condition to their supervisor and complete all appropriate paperwork. (Forms are available in the Superintendent's Office).

Article 7 – STATE AND FEDERAL PROGRAMS

Section 1 Notice of Nondiscrimination

The Lyons-Decatur Northeast School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion, age or other protected status in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following persons have been designated to handle inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policies:

Lindsey Beaudette, Superintendent, 400 South 5th Street, Lyons, NE 68038, lbeaudette@lyonsdecaturschools.org.

Section 2 Designation of Coordinators

Complaints or concerns involving discrimination or needs for accommodation or access should be addressed to the appropriate Coordinator. For further information about anti-discrimination laws and regulations, or to file a complaint of discrimination with the Office for Civil Rights in the U.S. Department of Education (OCR), please contact the OCR at 8930 Ward Parkway, Suite 2037, Kansas City, Missouri 64114, (816) 268-0550 (voice), or (877) 521-2172 (telecommunications device for the deaf), or ocr.kansascity@ed.gov.

Law, Policy or Program	Issue or Concern	Coordinator
Title VI	Discrimination or harassment based on race, color, or national origin; harassment	Superintendent
Title IX	Discrimination or harassment based on sex; gender equity	Superintendent
Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disability Act (ADA)	Discrimination, harassment or reasonable accommodations of persons with disabilities	Superintendent
Homeless student laws	Children who are homeless	Superintendent
Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities	Safe and drug free schools	Superintendent

Section 3 Anti-discrimination & Harassment Policy Elimination of Discrimination

The Lyons-Decatur Northeast School hereby gives this statement of compliance and intent to comply with all state and federal laws prohibiting discrimination or harassment and requiring accommodations. This school district intends to take necessary measures to assure compliance with such laws against any prohibited form of discrimination or harassment or which require accommodations.

Preventing Harassment and Discrimination

Purpose: Lyons-Decatur Northeast School is committed to offering employment and educational opportunity to its employees and students in a climate free of discrimination. Accordingly, unlawful discrimination or harassment of any kind by administrators, employees, co-workers, students or other persons is prohibited. In addition, the Lyons-Decatur Northeast School will try to protect employees and students from reported discrimination or harassment by non-employees or others in the workplace and educational environment.

For purposes of this policy, discrimination or harassment based on a person's race, color, national origin, gender, marital status, disability, religion or age is prohibited. The following are general definitions of what might constitute prohibited harassment.

In general, ethnic or racial slurs or other verbal or physical conduct relating to a person's race, color, religion, disability or national origin constitute harassment when they unreasonably interfere with the person's work performance or create an intimidating work, instructional or educational environment.

Age harassment (40 years of age and higher) has been defined by federal regulations as a form of age discrimination. It can consist of demeaning jokes, insults or intimidation based on a person's age.

Sexual harassment is defined by federal and state regulations as a form of sex discrimination. It can consist of unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, or physical or verbal conduct of a sexual nature by supervisors or others in the workplace, classroom or educational environment. Sexual harassment may exist when:

- Submission to such conduct is either an explicit or implicit term and condition of employment or of participation and enjoyment of the school's programs and activities;
- Submission to or rejection of such conduct is used or threatened as a basis for employment related decisions, such as promotion, performance, evaluation, pay adjustment, discipline, work assignment, etc., or school program or activity decisions, such as admission, credits, grades, school assignments or playing time;
- The conduct has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's work or educational performance or creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive working classroom or educational environment.

- o Sexual harassment may include explicit sexual propositions, sexual innuendo, suggestive comments, sexually oriented "kidding" or "teasing", "practical jokes", jokes about gender-specific traits, foul or obscene language or gestures, displays of foul or obscene printed or visual material, and physical contact, such as patting, pinching or brushing against another's body.

Complaint and Grievance Procedures

Employees or students should initially report all instances of discrimination or harassment to their immediate supervisor or classroom employee. However, if the employee or student is uncomfortable in presenting the problem to the supervisor or employee, or if the supervisor or employee is the problem, the employee or student is encouraged to go to the next level of supervision. In the case of a student, the Principal would be the next or alternative person to contact.

If the employee or student's complaint is not resolved to his or her satisfaction within five (5) to ten (10) calendar days, or if the discrimination or harassment continues, or if as a student you feel you need immediate help for any reason, please report your complaint to the Superintendent of Lyons-Decatur Northeast School. If a satisfactory arrangement cannot be obtained through the Superintendent, the complaint may be processed to the Board of Education.

The supervisor, employee or the Superintendent will thoroughly investigate all complaints. These situations will be treated with the utmost confidence, consistent with resolution of the problem. Based on the results of the investigation, appropriate corrective action, up to and including discharge of offending employees, and disciplinary action up to expulsion against a harassing student, may be taken. Under no circumstances will any threats or retaliation be permitted to be made against an employee or student for alleging in good faith a violation of this policy.

Section 4 Grievance Procedure for Persons with a Disability

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act address discrimination, harassment or failure to provide reasonable accommodations to persons with a disability. The following grievance procedure shall be used for resolution of complaints of alleged violations of the ADA or Section 504:

1. Complaints shall be filed with the ADA and Section 504 Coordinator. Complaints shall be made in writing, unless the Complainant's disability prevents such, in which event the Complaint can be made verbally.
2. Complaints shall set forth: (a) the name of the Complainant, (b) the address and telephone number or other such information sufficient to enable the Coordinator to contact the Complainant, (c) a brief description of the alleged violation, and (d) the relief requested by the Complainant.
3. Complaints shall be investigated by the Coordinator or the Coordinator's designee.

Investigations shall be thorough, but informal, and the Complainant shall be given a full opportunity to submit evidence relevant to the complaint.

4. The Coordinator shall make a decision on the Complaint within thirty (30) days of the filing of the Complaint, unless such time period is extended by agreement of the Complainant. The decision shall be made in writing, shall set forth the Coordinator's proposed resolution of the Complaint, and shall be forwarded to the Complainant.
5. The Complainant shall have ten (10) days from the date the Coordinator's decision is sent to the Complainant to accept or reject the Coordinator's proposed resolution, and shall be deemed to have accepted the proposed resolution unless the Complainant rejects the proposed resolution within such time period. In the event the complainant rejects the proposed resolution, the complainant shall be given the opportunity to file a request for reconsideration within ten (10) days from the date the Coordinator's decision is sent to the Complainant. The request for reconsideration shall be filed with the Coordinator. The Coordinator shall consider any additional information provided in the request for reconsideration and make a decision on the request for reconsideration within 10 (ten) days after the request for reconsideration was filed.

Section 5 Confidentiality of Student Records (FERPA)

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) gives parents and students over 18 years of age rights of access and confidentiality with respect to education records.

Employees are expected to provide access rights and maintain the confidentiality of education records in accordance with FERPA and Board policy. Further information about FERPA and the District's policies under FERPA are found in Board policy and in the student handbook.

Section 6. Breakfast and Lunch Programs

The District participates in the National School Lunch Program. Employees are expected to keep information about the participation of students in the program confidential.

Section 7. Confidentiality of Protected Health Information

It is the policy of the District to develop and implement all necessary practices, policies, and procedures to comply with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) where and to the extent applicable and to maintain the privacy of protected health information (PHI), as that term is defined by HIPAA, that it receives, obtains, or transmits for employees and students. The District designates the Superintendent as its HIPAA privacy officer. Student and employee records containing PHI shall be accessible only to those who require such information to carry out their duties.

**RECEIPT OF CLASSIFIED STAFF HANDBOOK
LYONS-DECATUR NORTHEAST SCHOOLS**

This signed receipt acknowledges receipt of the Classified Handbook of Lyons-Decatur Northeast Schools. This receipt acknowledges that I understand that I am to read and be familiar with the handbook, that I understand the handbook contains a disclaimer of contract, a drug-free workplace notice, and the District's anti-discrimination and harassment policies, and that specific complaint and grievance procedures exist in the handbook which should be used for responding to harassment or discrimination.

Classified Employee's Signature

Date

Return to:

Superintendent of Schools
Lyons-Decatur Northeast School
400 South 5th Street
P O Box 526
Lyons, NE 68038

James B. Gessford
Daniel F. Kaplan
Gregory H. Perry
Joseph F. Bachmann*
R. J. Shortridge*
Joshua J. Schauer*
Derek A. Aldridge**
Justin J. Knight***
Charles Kaplan
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Thomas M. Haase
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*Also admitted in Iowa
** Also admitted in Kansas
***Also admitted in Colorado

PERRY, GUTHERY, HAASE & GESSFORD, P.C., L.L.O.

Ernest B. Perry (1876-1962)
Arthur E. Perry (1910-1982)
R.R. Perry (1917-1999)
Edwin C. Perry (1931-2012)

MEMORANDUM

To: Bill Heimann, ESU 1 Administrator
From: Perry Law Firm
Date: May 28, 2021
RE: School District Annual Policy Service Update

The Nebraska Legislature adjourned on May 27th. This session involved several legislative bills that will require policy changes, as discussed in this memo. In addition, new federal and state auditing guidelines and procedures will require updates to school policies in certain areas. Finally, we have included several other policies that school districts may consider adopting, based upon scenarios that have occurred over the past year or so.

A. REQUIRED POLICY UPDATES

1. Policy 1200 – Anti-Harassment – Due to the enactment of LB 451, and to be consistent across policies, we have added the new non-discriminatory references to the general anti-harassment policy.

2. Policy 3132 – Internal Controls – NDE’s “Fiscal Desk Reviews” have started asking for each District’s “written Internal Controls and Policies and Procedures,” pursuant to 2 C.F.R. § 200.303, et seq. Policy 3132 includes those required policies and procedures.

3. Policy 4003 and Attachments – Employee Antidiscrimination – LB 451 adds protections under the Nebraska Fair Employment Practice Act with regard to race and hairstyles. Policy 4003 and its attachments are updated to reflect this change in the law.

4. Attachments to Policy 4007 – (FMLA) – The United States Department of Labor updated its Family and Medical Leave Act forms. To that end, the updated FMLA forms can replace the old versions of Forms 2-7. The FMLA Application itself (Form 1) remains the same.

5. Attachment to Policy 5002 – “Affidavit” – LB 528 removed the requirement that disenrollment forms be notarized for those students ages 16 through 18. NDE may issue an updated “Nebraska Withdrawal From Mandatory Attendance Form” in light of LB 528. If that occurs, we will replace the existing NDE form with the updated NDE form. No other disenrollment form needs to be changed.

6. Policy 5401 and 5401z – Equal Opportunity – Similar to Policy 1200, we have updated the new non-discrimination language to be consistent across all policies.

7. **Policy 6600 – Special Education Policies** – Recently, NDE’s special education audits have asked for more specifics and detail in policy. As such, we have updated Policy 6600 to conform with these new standards.

B. POLICY UPDATES TO CONSIDER

1. **Policy 1110 – Bulletin Boards** – As some schools move towards distributing messages electronically, each Board should revisit Policy 1110. Some districts may no longer need this Policy. Each district should review their policy to make sure it reflects current and intended practice, including what may be posted and whether outside groups may post on school bulletin boards.

2. **Policy 4025 – Professional Boundaries (NDE Model Policy)** – Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-879 requires that every school district have a professional boundaries policy to address, among other things, grooming of students. NDE has developed a model policy that a school district may adopt, though NDE’s policy itself is not required. Many school districts already have a professional boundaries policy. Our preference is to continue using our current professional boundaries policy, but each board can decide if they want to adopt NDE’s model policy or keep their existing professional boundaries policy. If a district wants to keep its current professional boundaries policy, that district should confirm that the policy includes all requirements contained in Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-879.

3. **Policy 6111 – Classroom Environment** – This year, several districts struggled with staff members who displayed controversial flags or had political posters in their classroom. To avoid this situation in the future, Boards may want to consider adding a provision in Policy 6111 to limit non-curricular posters, flags and other displays.

4. **Policy 6212 – Assessments – Academic Content Standards** – In light of the proposed health standards, Boards may want to review their policy on academic content standards. In the past, our policy has allowed Boards to automatically adopt the State Board’s recommended content standards. However, with the controversy over the proposed health standards, Boards may want to change their policy to require an affirmative vote to adopt a standard recommended by the State Board.

5. **Policy 8130 – Annual Organizational Meeting** – During this past year, a handful of school boards struggled to select their officers, including multiple votes and stalemates to elect a Board President. We have provided two options to address this apparent, ongoing problem. Option #1 is our current recommended policy, which allows Boards to decide how many votes will be taken before a stalemate is called. In some cases, this resulted in (at least the appearance of) board members “stalling” to “run out the clock.” With that in mind, we are providing Option #2, which resolves a stalemate with a coin flip. These policies are optional and will likely be district-specific on how the Board wants to handle the election of Board officers.

6. Policies 8151 & 8152 – Standing Committees – In some districts, the Board President appoints committees. In other districts, the Superintendent facilitates committee assignments. To align with each district’s practices, we have provided Policy 8151 for those districts that wish to have their Board President handle committee assignments. (Districts that prefer to delegate committee assignments to the Superintendent should review their policies to ensure that their current policies align with such practice.)

C. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

1. COVID Policy and Planning for 2021-2022. Some districts have asked about developing a COVID-related policy or Board-approved procedures for the 2021-2022 school year, including requirements (or not) for masks, quarantining, employee leaves and absences, student attendance and remote learning, and other issues related to returning to school. Given how quickly things can change with COVID, we have not yet distributed any type of draft policy and are leery of recommending a formal board policy that may need to be continually updated and revised. Instead of a new, formal policy addressing COVID and the 2021-2022 school year, we see several other options, depending on the circumstances of each district:

- a. Extend the Superintendent Authority resolution that many schools passed last March to allow the Superintendent to make decisions on a timely basis (without needing formal board approval);
- b. Follow your typical health screening process and prevent symptomatic students from attending school. (A number of current board policies should already give the school the ability to address students who are sick, including Policies 1501 (Emergency Exclusion of Persons from School), 4012 (Infectious Diseases) and 6900 (Chronic Infectious Disease Practice and Procedure); and/or
- c. Approve a general framework at a Board meeting that will indicate the Board’s intent, without giving too many specifics to “pin down” the district if the COVID situation in the community changes unexpectedly.

There are obviously pros and cons with each approach and/or a combination of these approaches. Given that we are still three months away from the beginning of the 2021-2022 school year, we may need to revisit this topic (from a policy perspective) as we get closer to August.

2. Employee Vaccinations – Employee vaccinations are a “hot topic” in the employment law world. We have not heard from any Nebraska public school district who plans to require or incentivize employees to receive the COVID-19 vaccination. However, if your district would like to discuss a policy or requirement like this, please let us know and we can talk through the logistics of what that requirement would look like. Rather than issue a blanket policy for all districts, each district’s particular circumstances will (in all likelihood) need to be incorporated into a district-specific board policy or handbook provision.

3. Purple Star Schools Program. This year, LB 5 was signed into law. LB 5 allows for school districts to designate a staff member as a “military liaison” to identify and support military-connected students. LB 5 does not impose any requirements on schools. Rather, LB 5 is optional for each district, and each Board can determine if they would like to participate in the program or not.

4. Open Meetings Act Update. LB 83 updated and modernized statutory language in the Open Meetings Act. However, LB 83 did not allow public school boards to meet virtually, except in certain emergency situations. As such, public school boards need to continue meeting in-person. Each school district will need to update their Open Meetings Act poster to conform with the new Open Meetings Act language.

5. Title IX. On May 17th, the United States Department of Education announced that it will hold public hearings in June to “gather information for improving enforcement of Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972.” If the federal government begins revising the recently enacted Title IX regulations, districts may need to update their Title IX policies in the middle of the school year. Until then, we will wait to see what happens.

6. Safety Hotline. LB 322 creates the “School Safety and Security Reporting System,” where individuals can report concerns about students to a statewide reporting system. LB 322 requires the Nebraska Department of Education to undertake certain efforts, but there is nothing in LB 322 that requires a change to board policies.

7. Substitute Teaching. LB 147 focused largely on transitioning the administration of the Omaha School Employees’ Retirement System to the Nebraska Public Employees Retirement Systems. LB 147 also included provisions that would generally allow a retired or terminated employee to substitute teach up to eight days per month. With that being said, LB 147 includes the following language: “Nothing in this subdivision precludes an employer from adopting a policy which limits or denies employees who have terminated employment from providing voluntary or substitute service within one hundred eighty days after termination.” We presume that most schools do not want a policy that limits the ability of terminated employees from volunteering or substitute teaching. However, if your district would like a policy to reflect this prohibition, please let us know.

8. Student Discipline Data. LB 154 requires the Nebraska Department of Education to implement a statewide system for tracking individual student discipline. LB 154 does not require any policy change or update, but LB 154 requires that each school “designate at least one discipline data coordinator for the purposes of gathering and reporting the discipline data required pursuant to [LB 154].” A school district can presumably designate the data coordinator without needing formal board action.

9. Transition Services. LB 527 changed the law regarding transition services. Under the old law, each school district was required to begin providing transition services to students with disabilities no later than the age of 16. LB 527 modified that law to provide that schools are now required to begin providing transition services to students to age 14. LB 527 does not require a policy change, but each district should ensure that their transition services will comply with LB 527.

10. Budget Notice. LB 528 amended 13-506, the statute governing the public hearings on proposed budgets, to require that each school district include the following statement in the notice:

For more information on statewide receipts and expenditures, and to compare cost per pupil and performance to other school districts, go to: [Insert Internet address for the web site established pursuant to section 5 of this act]. In addition, each school district shall electronically publish such statement on the school district web site. Such electronic publication shall be prominently displayed with an active link to the Internet address for the web site established pursuant to section 5 of this act to allow the public access to the information.

LB 528 requires NDE to create a website to include data and information about school district finances. We will send out the Internet address once we learn the website address.

11. Student Identification Cards. LB 528 requires that, beginning with the 2022-2023 school year, all school districts require the telephone number for a national suicide prevention hotline, a local suicide prevention hotline, or a crisis text line is printed on each new student identification card issued to a student enrolled in a middle school grade or a high school grade. LB 528 does not require schools to begin issuing student identification cards if the school does not currently issue student identification cards. If a district issues student identification cards, then that school should ensure that identification cards next year (2022-2023) comply with the new law.

12. Financial Literacy. LB 452 requires that, beginning with the 2022-2023 school year, each school district “in consultation with the State Department of Education, shall include financial literacy instruction, as appropriate, in the instructional program of its elementary and middle schools and require each student to complete at least one five-credit high school course in personal finance or financial literacy prior to graduation.” In addition, on or before December 31, 2024, each school district must “provide an annual financial literacy status report to its school board, including, but not limited to, student progress in financial literacy courses and other district determined measures of financial literacy progress from the previous school year.” Since these requirements are not effective until next school year (2022-2023), we will wait to update the associated policies until next summer (2022).

13. Seizure Safe Schools Act. LB 639 generally requires certain training and planning for students with seizures. Most schools already comply with LB 639. However, since LB 639 is not effective until the 2022-2023 school year, we will wait to update the associated policies until next summer (2022).

14. Property Tax Request Act. LB 644 generally imposes new requirements on political subdivisions seeking to increase its property tax request by the allowable growth percentage. Although LB 644 does not require any policy update, school districts will need to become familiar with these new requirements over this summer. We will provide more information on LB 644 in the coming weeks.

15. United States Supreme Court Case. Over the next month or two, the United States Supreme Court is expected to release its opinion in *Mahanoy Area School District v. B.L.* The Supreme Court's opinion will likely address how off-campus, social media speech interacts with the First Amendment. Depending on how the Court rules, we may need to update student handbooks and extracurricular handbooks to reflect the high court's ruling.

As always, please let us know if you have any questions or concerns.

Community RelationsPersonnel - All Employees and StudentsAnti-discriminationA. **Elimination of Discrimination.**

The policy of [Name] Public Schools is to not discriminate on the basis of sex, disability, race (including skin color, hair texture and protective hairstyles), color, religion, veteran status, national or ethnic origin, age, marital status, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical condition, sexual orientation or gender identity, or other protected status, in admission or access to, or treatment with regard to employment or with regard to its programs and activities.

[Name] Public Schools and its staff shall comply with all state and federal laws prohibiting discrimination. The Board of [Name] Public Schools intends to take any necessary measures to assure compliance with such laws against any prohibited form of discrimination and directs its staff to take all actions necessary to meet this objective.

The Superintendent shall be the Coordinator for anti-discrimination laws (including Title VI, Title IX; the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Section 504)) and complaints or concerns involving discrimination or compliance with those laws should be addressed to said Coordinator.

B. **Preventing Harassment and Discrimination of Employees and Students.**

1. **Purpose:** [Name] Public Schools is committed to offering employment and educational opportunity to its employees and students based on ability and performance in a climate free of discrimination. Accordingly, unlawful discrimination or harassment of any kind by administrators, teachers, co-workers or other persons is prohibited. In addition, [Name] Public Schools will try to protect employees or students from reported discrimination or harassment by non-employees or others in the work place and educational environment.

For purposes of this policy, discrimination or harassment based on a person's sex, disability, race (including skin color, hair texture and protective hairstyles), color, religion, veteran status, national or ethnic origin, age, marital status, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical condition, sexual orientation or gender identity, or other protected status, is prohibited. The following are general definitions of what might constitute prohibited harassment.

- a. In general, ethnic or racial slurs or other verbal or physical conduct relating to a person's sex, disability, race (including skin color, hair texture and protective hairstyles), color, religion, veteran status, national or ethnic origin, age, marital status, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical condition, sexual

orientation or gender identity, or other protected status, constitutes harassment when they unreasonably interfere with the person's work performance or create an intimidating work, instructional or educational environment.

- b. Age harassment has been defined by federal regulations as a form of age discrimination. It can consist of demeaning jokes, insults or intimidation based on a person's age.
- c. Sexual harassment has been defined by federal and state regulations as a form of sex discrimination. It can consist of unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, or physical or verbal conduct of a sexual nature by supervisors or others in the work place, classroom or educational environment.

Sexual harassment may exist when:

- (a) Supervisors or managers make submission to such conduct either an explicit or implicit term and condition of employment (including hiring, compensation, promotion, or retention);
- (b) Submission to or rejection of such conduct is used by supervisors or managers as a basis for employment related decisions such as promotion, performance evaluation, pay adjustment, discipline, work assignment, etc.
- (c) The conduct has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's work or educational performance or creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive working, class room or educational environment.

Sexual harassment may include explicit sexual propositions, sexual innuendo, suggestive comments, sexually oriented "kidding" or "teasing", "practical jokes", jokes about gender-specific traits, foul or obscene language or gestures, displays of foul or obscene printed or visual material, and physical contact, such as patting, pinching or brushing against another's body.

2. **Procedures:**

- a. Employees or students should initially report all instances of discrimination or harassment to their immediate supervisor or teacher. However, if the employee or student is uncomfortable in presenting the problem to the supervisor or teacher, or if the supervisor or teacher is the problem, the employee or student is encouraged to go to the next level of supervision.
- b. If the report is not satisfactorily resolved within ten calendar days, or if the discrimination or harassment continues, please report your complaint to the Superintendent of [Name] Public Schools.

- c. If a satisfactory arrangement cannot be obtained through the Superintendent, the complaint may be processed to the Board of Education.
- d. The person to whom the complaint is made is to thoroughly investigate the complaint and work with the person filing the complaint to seek an appropriate resolution so the discrimination or harassment can be remedied and put to an end.
- e. Complaints of discrimination or harassment will be treated with the utmost confidence, consistent with resolution of the problem.
- f. Based on the results of the investigation, appropriate corrective action, up to and including discharge of offending employees, etc., may be taken.
- g. Under no circumstances will a supervisor or a teacher or the Board threaten or retaliate against a person for alleging discrimination or harassment.

Legal Reference: Title VI, 42 U.S.C. Sec. 2000d, Title VII, 42 U.S.C. Sec. 2000e, Title IX; 20 U.S.C. Sec. 1681, and the Nebraska Fair Employment Practices Act, Neb. Rev. Stat. Sec. 48-1101 et seq.
Age Discrimination in Employment Act (ADEA), the Older Workers Benefit Protection Act (OWBPA), 29 U.S.C. Sec. 621 et seq., and the Nebraska Age Discrimination in Employment Act, Neb. Rev. Stat. Sec. 48-1001 et seq.;
Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), 42 U.S.C. Sec. 12101 et seq.
Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Section 504)
Pregnancy Discrimination Act, 42 U.S.C. Sec. 2000e(k)
Uniform Service Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA), 38 U.S.C. Sec. 4301 et seq.
Neb. Rev. Stat. Sec. 79-2,115, et seq

Date of Adoption: [Insert Date]

Community RelationsPersonnel - All Employees and StudentsAnti-discriminationA. **Elimination of Discrimination.**

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[Name] Public Schools and its staff shall comply with all state and federal laws prohibiting discrimination. The Board of [Name] Public Schools intends to take any necessary measures to assure compliance with such laws against any prohibited form of discrimination and directs its staff to take all actions necessary to meet this objective.

The Superintendent shall be the Coordinator for anti-discrimination laws (including Title VI, Title IX; the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Section 504)) and complaints or concerns involving discrimination or compliance with those laws should be addressed to said Coordinator.

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For purposes of this policy, discrimination or harassment based on a person's sex, disability, race (including skin color, hair texture and protective hairstyles), color, religion, veteran status, national or ethnic origin, age, marital status, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical condition, sexual orientation or gender identity, or other protected status, is prohibited. The following are general definitions of what might constitute prohibited harassment.

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orientation or gender identity, or other protected status, constitutes harassment when they unreasonably interfere with the person's work performance or create an intimidating work, instructional or educational environment.

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- c. Sexual harassment has been defined by federal and state regulations as a form of sex discrimination. It can consist of unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, or physical or verbal conduct of a sexual nature by supervisors or others in the work place, classroom or educational environment.

Sexual harassment may exist when:

- (a) Supervisors or managers make submission to such conduct either an explicit or implicit term and condition of employment (including hiring, compensation, promotion, or retention);
- (b) Submission to or rejection of such conduct is used by supervisors or managers as a basis for employment related decisions such as promotion, performance evaluation, pay adjustment, discipline, work assignment, etc.
- (c) The conduct has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's work or educational performance or creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive working, class room or educational environment.

Sexual harassment may include explicit sexual propositions, sexual innuendo, suggestive comments, sexually oriented "kidding" or "teasing", "practical jokes", jokes about gender-specific traits, foul or obscene language or gestures, displays of foul or obscene printed or visual material, and physical contact, such as patting, pinching or brushing against another's body.

2. **Procedures:**

- a. Employees or students should initially report all instances of discrimination or harassment to their immediate supervisor or teacher. However, if the employee or student is uncomfortable in presenting the problem to the supervisor or teacher, or if the supervisor or teacher is the problem, the employee or student is encouraged to go to the next level of supervision.
- b. If the report is not satisfactorily resolved within ten calendar days, or if the discrimination or harassment continues, please report your complaint to the Superintendent of [Name] Public Schools.

- c. If a satisfactory arrangement cannot be obtained through the Superintendent, the complaint may be processed to the Board of Education.
- d. The person to whom the complaint is made is to thoroughly investigate the complaint and work with the person filing the complaint to seek an appropriate resolution so the discrimination or harassment can be remedied and put to an end.
- e. Complaints of discrimination or harassment will be treated with the utmost confidence, consistent with resolution of the problem.
- f. Based on the results of the investigation, appropriate corrective action, up to and including discharge of offending employees, etc., may be taken.
- g. Under no circumstances will a supervisor or a teacher or the Board threaten or retaliate against a person for alleging discrimination or harassment.

Legal Reference: Title VI, 42 U.S.C. Sec. 2000d, Title VII, 42 U.S.C. Sec. 2000e, Title IX; 20 U.S.C. Sec. 1681, and the Nebraska Fair Employment Practices Act, Neb. Rev. Stat. Sec. 48-1101 et seq.
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Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), 42 U.S.C. Sec. 12101 et seq.
Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Section 504)
Pregnancy Discrimination Act, 42 U.S.C. Sec. 2000e(k)
Uniform Service Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA), 38 U.S.C. Sec. 4301 et seq.
Neb. Rev. Stat. Sec. 79-2,115, et seq

Date of Adoption: [Insert Date]

Business OperationsInternal Controls

The District will develop and maintain internal control procedures as required by law and in accordance with sound fiscal monitoring practices that will ensure appropriate oversight of state and federal funds. The following internal control procedures will be utilized for all federal grants:

Management requirements: The District will manage equipment (including replacement equipment), whether acquired in whole or in part under a federal award, until the District disposes of such equipment. The District will, as a minimum, meet the following requirements:

- 1) Maintain property records of the equipment (including equipment description, serial number or other identification number, source of funding, acquisition date, and the like);
- 2) Maintain a physical inventory procedure, with an inventory occurring at a minimum of every two years;
- 3) Implement a Control System procedure;
- 4) Continue to develop and implement adequate maintenance procedures for the equipment;
- 5) Continue to develop and implement sales procedures for the equipment; and
- 6) Continue to develop and implement disposition procedure for the equipment.

Legal Reference: 2 C.F.R. §§ 200.313 & 200.33.

Procurement: The District will use its own documented procurement procedures which reflect applicable State, local, and tribal laws and regulations, provided that the procurements conform to applicable Federal law and the requirement standards imposed by law, including:

- 1) A procedure for micro-purchases (Under \$10,000);
- 2) A procedure for small purchases (between \$10,000 to \$250,000);
- 3) A procedure for sealed bids;
- 4) A procedure for competitive proposals; and
- 5) A procedure for noncompetitive bids.

Legal Reference: 2 C.F.R. §§ 200.317 through 200.326.

Cross-Reference: Policies 3130 & 3131.

Record Retention: Financial records, supporting documents, statistical records, and all other related records pertinent to a federal award will be retained for a period of three years from the date of submission of the final expenditure report or, for Federal awards that are renewed quarterly or annually, from the date of the submission of the quarterly or annual financial report, respectively, as reported to the federal awarding agency or pass-through entity in the case of a sub-recipient.

For all other records, the District will retain such records for the length of time as required by law.

Legal Reference: 2 C.F.R. § 200.333.

Suspension and Debarment: The District will not contract with any entity or individual who has been debarred, suspended, or otherwise excluded from or ineligible for participation in federal assistance programs or activities. Before entering into a contract regarding a federal award, the District will verify that a vendor has not been debarred, suspended or otherwise excluded, and the District will maintain a copy of said verification.

Legal Reference: 2 C.F.R. § 200.213.

Financial Management: The District will maintain financial management systems to account for the federal funds, including records documenting compliance with federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of the federal award. These records will be sufficient to permit the District to prepare reports required by general and program-specific terms and conditions; and the tracing of funds to a level of expenditures adequate to establish that such funds have been used according to the Federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of the Federal award. The financial management system will provide for the following:

- 1) Identifying all of the federal awards received and expended and the federal programs under which they were received;
- 2) Ensuring that accurate, current, and complete disclosure of the financial results of each federal award or program are maintained in accordance with reporting requirements;
- 3) Identifying adequately the source and application of funds for federally-funded activities;
- 4) Ensuring effective controls over and accountability for all funds, property, and other assets;
- 5) Comparing actual expenditures with budget amounts for each federal award;
- 6) Ensuring payments of federal funds are made in accordance with applicable law, including 2 CFR § 200.305; and
- 7) Determining the allowability of costs in accordance with applicable law and the conditions of the federal award.

Legal Reference: 2 C.F.R. § 200.302.

Program Income: The District will consult with the federal awarding agency and refer to the applicable law and federal program terms and conditions to determine how to account for, deduct and otherwise handle income from federal programs.

Legal Reference: 2 C.F.R. § 200.307.

Cost Sharing or Matching: For all federal awards, any shared costs or matching funds and all contributions, including cash and third party in-kind contributions, must be accepted as part of the District's cost sharing or matching, when such contributions meet all of the following criteria:

- 1) Are verifiable from the District's records;
- 2) Are not included as contributions for any other Federal award;
- 3) Are necessary and reasonable for accomplishment of project or program objectives;
- 4) Are allowable under the applicable Cost Principles requirements;
- 5) Are not paid by the Federal Government under another Federal award, except where the federal statute authorizing a program specifically provides that Federal funds made

available for such program can be applied to matching or cost sharing requirements of other Federal programs;

- 6) Are provided for in the approved budget when required by the federal awarding agency; and
- 7) Conform to other provisions of the law or terms and conditions of the federal award, as applicable.

Legal Reference: 2 C.F.R. § 200.306.

Compensation: Compensation for personal services includes all remuneration for services of employees rendered during the period of performance under the federal award, including, but not limited to wages, salaries, and fringe benefits. Costs of compensation may be allowable under federal law and the federal grant to the extent that they satisfy the following requirements:

- 1) Is reasonable for the services rendered; and
- 2) Conforms to the established written expectations of the District, as applied consistently to both Federal and non-Federal activities.

If the District intends to charge compensation to federal awards, such charges will be based on records that accurately reflect the work performed, and will:

- 1) Be supported by a system of internal control which provides reasonable assurance that the charges are accurate, allowable, and properly allocated;
- 2) Be incorporated into the official records of the District;
- 3) Reasonably reflect the total activity for which the employee is compensated by the District, not exceeding 100% of compensated activities;
- 4) Encompass both federally-assisted and all other activities compensated by the District on an integrated basis, but may include the use of subsidiary records as defined in the District's written procedures;
- 5) Comply with the established accounting policies and practices of the District; and
- 6) Differentiate and account for the distribution of the employee's salary or wages among specific activities or cost objectives if the employee works on more than one Federal award; a Federal award and non-Federal award; an indirect cost activity and a direct cost activity; two or more indirect activities which are allocated using different allocation bases; or an unallowable activity and a direct or indirect cost activity.

Budget estimates will generally not be used to support charges to Federal awards but may be used for interim accounting purposes.

Legal Reference: 2 C.F.R. §§ 200.430 & 200.431.

Unexpected or Extraordinary Circumstances: For all federal awards, if the District does not currently have in place a sufficient policy that addresses extraordinary circumstances, such as those caused by COVID-19, the District may amend or create a policy at a later date in order to put emergency contingencies in place for federal and non-federal similarly situated employees. If the conditions exist for charges to be made to the federal grant, then charges may also be made to any non-federal sources that are used by the District in order to meet a matching requirement. The

District will take other steps to comply with federal award requirements in the event of unexpected or extraordinary circumstances.

Legal Reference: 2 C.F.R. §§ 200, et seq.

Date of Adoption: [Insert Date]

Personnel - All Employees (& Students)Anti-discrimination, Anti-harassment, and Anti-retaliation**A. Elimination of Discrimination.**

The [Name] Public Schools hereby gives this statement of compliance and intends to comply with all state and federal laws prohibiting discrimination. This school district intends to take any necessary measures to assure compliance with such laws against any prohibited form of discrimination.

The [Name] Public Schools does not discriminate on the basis of sex, disability, race (including skin color, hair texture and protective hairstyles), color, religion, veteran status, national or ethnic origin, age, marital status, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical condition, sexual orientation or gender identity, or other protected status in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. Reasonable accommodations will be provided to employees with disabilities and to those who are pregnant, have given birth, or have a related medical condition, as required by law. The following persons have been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies:

Students: [Name of Director], Director of Student Services [or other title], [Street Address], [City], NE [Zip Code] (____) ____ - ____ ([Email Address]).

Employees and Others: [Name of Director], Human Resources Director [or other title], [Street Address], [City], NE [Zip Code] (____) ____ - ____ ([Email Address]).

Complaints or concerns involving discrimination or needs for accommodation or access should be addressed to the appropriate Coordinator. For further information about anti-discrimination laws and regulations, or to file a complaint of discrimination with the Office of Civil Rights in the U.S. Department of Education (OCR), please contact the OCR at One Petticoat Lane, 1010 Walnut Street, 3rd Floor, Suite 320, Kansas City, Missouri 64106, (816) 268-0550 (voice), Fax (816) 268-0599, (800) 877-8339 (telecommunications device for the deaf), or ocr.kansascity@ed.gov.

B. Prohibited Harassment, Discrimination, and Retaliation of Employees, Students and Others.**1. Purpose:**

The [Name] Public Schools is committed to offering employment and educational opportunities to its employees and students in a climate free of discrimination. Accordingly, unlawful discrimination, harassment or retaliation of any kind by District employees, including, co-workers, non-employees (such as volunteers), third parties, and others is strictly prohibited and will not be tolerated.

Harassment is a form of discrimination and includes verbal, non-verbal, written, graphic, or physical conduct relating to a person's sex, disability, race (including skin color, hair texture and protective hairstyles), color, religion, veteran status, national or ethnic origin, age, marital status, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical condition, sexual orientation

or gender identity, or other protected status, that is sufficiently serious to deny, interfere with, or limit a person's ability to participate in or benefit from an educational or work program or activity, including, but not limited to:

- a. Conduct that is sufficiently severe or pervasive to create an intimidating, hostile, or abusive educational or work environment, or
- b. Requiring an individual to endure the offensive conduct as a condition of continued employment or educational programs or activities, including the receipt of aids, benefits, and services.

Educational programs and activities include all academic, educational, extracurricular, athletic, and other programs of the school, whether those programs take place in a school's facilities, on a school bus, at a class or training program sponsored by the school at another location, or elsewhere.

Discriminatory harassment because of a person's sex, disability, race (including skin color, hair texture and protective hairstyles), color, religion, veteran status, national or ethnic origin, age, marital status, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical condition, sexual orientation or gender identity, or other protected status, may include, but is not limited to:

- a. Name-calling,
- b. Teasing or taunting,
- c. Insults, slurs, or derogatory names or remarks,
- d. Demeaning jokes,
- e. Inappropriate gestures,
- f. Graffiti or inappropriate written or electronic material,
- g. Visual displays, such as cartoons, posters, or electronic images,
- h. Threats or intimidating or hostile conduct,
- i. Physical acts of aggression, assault, or violence, or
- j. Criminal offenses

The following examples are additional or more specific examples of conduct that may constitute sexual harassment:

- a. Unwelcome sexual advances or propositions,
- b. Requests or pressure for sexual favors,
- c. Comments about an individual's body, sexual activity, or sexual attractiveness,
- d. Physical contact or touching of a sexual nature, including touching intimate body parts and inappropriate patting, pinching, rubbing, or brushing against another's body,
- e. Physical sexual acts of aggression, assault, or violence, including criminal offenses (such as rape, sexual assault or battery, and sexually motivated stalking), against a person's will or where a person is incapable of giving consent due to the victim's age, intellectual disability, or use of drugs or alcohol,
- f. Requiring sexual favors or contact in exchange for aids, benefits, or services, such as grades, awards, privileges, promotions, etc., or

- g. Gender-based harassment; acts of verbal, nonverbal, written, graphic, or physical conduct based on sex or sex-stereotyping, but not involving conduct of a sexual nature.

If the District knows or reasonably should know about possible harassment, including violence, the District will conduct a prompt, adequate, reliable, thorough, and impartial investigation to determine whether unlawful harassment occurred (see section entitled “Grievance Procedures,” below), and take appropriate interim measures, if necessary. If the District determines that unlawful harassment occurred, the District will take prompt and effective action to eliminate the harassment, prevent its recurrence, and remedy its effects, if appropriate. If harassment or violence that occurs off school property creates a hostile environment at school, the District will follow this policy and grievance procedure, within the scope of its authority.

All District employees are expected to take prompt and appropriate actions to report and prevent discrimination, harassment, and retaliation by others. Employees who witness or become aware of possible discrimination, including harassment and retaliation, must immediately report the conduct to his or her supervisor or the compliance coordinator designated to handle complaints of discrimination (designated compliance coordinator).

2. Anti-retaliation:

The District prohibits retaliation, intimidation, threats, coercion, or discrimination against any person for opposing discrimination, including harassment, or for participating in the District's discrimination complaint process or making a complaint, testifying, assisting, or participating in any manner, in an investigation, proceeding, or hearing. Retaliation is a form of discrimination.

The District will take immediate steps to stop retaliation and prevent its recurrence against the alleged victim and any person associated with the alleged victim. These steps will include, but are not limited to, notifying students, employees, and others, that they are protected from retaliation, ensuring that they know how to report future complaints, and initiating follow-up contact with the complainant to determine if any additional acts of discrimination, harassment, or retaliation have occurred. If retaliation occurs, the District will take prompt and strong responsive action, including possible discipline, including expulsion or termination, if applicable.

3. Grievance (or Complaint) Procedures:

Employees or students should initially report all instances of discrimination, harassment or retaliation to their immediate supervisor or teacher or to the compliance coordinator designated to handle complaints of discrimination. If the employee or student is uncomfortable in presenting the problem to the supervisor or teacher, or if the supervisor or teacher is the problem, the employee or student may report the alleged discrimination, harassment or retaliation to the designated coordinator, or in the case of students, to another staff person (such as a counselor or principal).

Other individuals may report alleged discrimination to the designated coordinator. If the designated coordinator is the person alleged to have committed the discriminatory act, then the complaint should be submitted to the Superintendent for assignment. A discrimination complaint form is attached to this grievance procedure and is available in the office of each District building, on the District's website, and from the designated coordinators.

Under no circumstances will a person filing a complaint or grievance involving discrimination be retaliated against for filing the complaint or grievance.

i. Level 1 (Investigation and Findings):

Once the District receives a grievance, complaint or report alleging discrimination, harassment, or retaliation, or becomes aware of possible discriminatory conduct, the District will conduct a prompt, adequate, reliable, thorough, and impartial investigation to determine whether unlawful harassment occurred. If necessary, the District will take immediate, interim action or measures to protect the alleged victim and prevent further potential discrimination, harassment, or retaliation during the pending investigation. The alleged victim will be notified of his or her options to avoid contact with the alleged harasser, such as changing a class or prohibiting the alleged harasser from having any contact with the alleged victim pending the result of the District's investigation. The District will minimize any burden on the alleged victim when taking interim measures to protect the alleged victim.

The District will promptly investigate all complaints of discrimination, even if an outside entity or law enforcement agency is investigating a complaint involving the same facts and allegations. The District will not wait for the conclusion or outcome of a criminal investigation or proceeding to begin an investigation required by this grievance procedure. If the allegation(s) involve possible criminal conduct, the District will notify the complainant of his or her right to file a criminal complaint, and District employees will not dissuade the complainant from filing a criminal complaint either during or after the District's investigation.

The District will aim to complete its investigation within **ten (10) working days** after receiving a complaint or report, unless extenuating circumstances exist. Extenuating circumstances may include the unavailability of witnesses due to illness or incapacitation, or additional time needed because of the complexity of the investigation, the need for outside experts to evaluate the evidence (such as forensic evidence), or multiple complainants or victims. If extenuating circumstances exist, the extended timeframe to complete the investigation will **not exceed ten (10) additional working days without the consent of the complainant, unless the alleged victim agrees to a longer timeline.** Periodic status updates will be given to the parties, when appropriate.

The District's investigation will include, but is not limited to:

- a. Providing the parties with the opportunity to present witnesses and provide evidence.

- b. An evaluation of all relevant information and documentation relating to the alleged discriminatory conduct.
- c. For allegations involving harassment, some of the factors the District will consider include: 1) the nature of the conduct and whether the conduct was unwelcome, 2) the surrounding circumstances, expectations, and relationships, 3) the degree to which the conduct affected one or more students' education, 4) the type, frequency, and duration of the conduct, 5) the identity of and relationship between the alleged harasser and the suspect or suspects of the harassment, 6) the number of individuals involved, 7) the age (and sex, if applicable) of the alleged harasser and the alleged victim(s) of the harassment, 8) the location of the incidents and the context in which they occurred, 9) the totality of the circumstances, and 10) other relevant evidence.
- d. A review of the evidence using a "preponderance of the evidence" standard (based on the evidence, is it more likely than not that discrimination, harassment, or retaliation occurred?)

The designated compliance coordinator (or designated investigator) will complete an investigative report, which will include:

- a. A summary of the facts,
- b. Findings regarding whether discrimination, harassment or other inappropriate conduct occurred, and
- c. If a finding is made that discrimination, harassment or other inappropriate conduct occurred, the recommended remedy or remedies necessary to eliminate such discrimination, harassment or other inappropriate conduct.

If someone other than the designated compliance coordinator conducted the investigation, the compliance coordinator will review, approve, and sign the investigative report. The District will ensure that prompt, appropriate, and effective remedies are provided if a finding of discrimination, harassment, or retaliation is made. The District will maintain relevant documentation obtained during the investigation and documentation supportive of the findings and any subsequent determinations, including the investigative report, witness statements, interview summaries, and any transcripts or audio recordings, pertaining to the investigative and appeal proceedings.

The District will send concurrently to the parties written notification of the decision (findings and any remedy) regarding the complaint within **one (1) working day** after the investigation is completed. The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), 20 U.S.C. Sec. 11232g; 34 C.F.R. Part 99, permits the District to disclose relevant information to a student who was discriminated against or harassed.

ii. Level 2 (Appeal to the Superintendent):

If a party is not satisfied with the findings or remedies (or both) set forth in the decision, he or she may file an appeal in writing with the Superintendent within **five (5) working days** after receiving the decision. The Superintendent will review the appeal and the investigative documentation and decision, conduct additional investigation, if necessary,

and issue a written determination about the appeal **within ten (10) working days** after receiving the appeal. The party who filed the appeal will be sent the Superintendent's determination at the time it is issued, and a copy will be sent to the designated compliance coordinator. [If the Superintendent is the subject of the complaint, the party will file the appeal directly with the Board.]

iii. Level 3 (Appeal to the Board):

If the party is not satisfied with the Superintendent's determination, he or she may file an appeal in writing with the Board of Education **within five (5) working days** after receiving the Superintendent's determination. The Board of Education will review the appeal, the Superintendent's determination, the investigative documentation and decision, and allow the party to address the Board at a Board meeting to present his or her appeal. The party will be allowed to address the Board at the Board's next regularly scheduled Board meeting (unless the Board receives the appeal within one week of the next regularly scheduled Board meeting) or at a time and date agreed to by the Board, designated compliance officer and the party. The Board will issue a written determination about the appeal **within thirty (30) days** after the party addresses the Board. The party who filed the appeal will be sent the Board's determination at the time it is issued, and a copy will be sent to the designated compliance coordinator. The Board's determination, and any actions taken, will be final on behalf of the District.

4. Confidentiality:

The identity of the complainant will be kept confidential to the extent permitted by state and federal law. The District will notify the complainant of the anti-retaliation provisions of applicable laws and that the District will take steps to prevent retaliation and will take prompt and strong responsive actions if retaliation occurs.

If a complainant requests confidentiality or asks that the complaint not be pursued, the District will take all reasonable steps to investigate and respond to the complaint consistent with the request for confidentiality or the request not to pursue an investigation, as long as doing so does not prevent the District from responding effectively to the harassment and preventing harassment of other students. If a complainant insists that his or her name or other identifiable information not be disclosed to the alleged perpetrator, the District will inform the complainant that its ability to respond may be limited. Even if the District cannot take disciplinary action against the alleged harasser, the District will pursue other steps to limit the effects of the alleged harassment and prevent its recurrence, if warranted.

5. Training:

The District will ensure that relevant District employees are adequately trained so they understand and know how to identify acts of discrimination, harassment, and retaliation, and how to report it to appropriate District officials or employees.

In addition, the District shall ensure that employees designated to address or investigate discrimination, harassment, and retaliation, including designated compliance coordinators, receive training to promptly and effectively investigate and respond to

complaints and reports of discrimination, and to know the District's grievance procedures and the applicable confidentiality requirements.

6. Designated Compliance Coordinators:

Designated compliance coordinators will be responsible for:

- a. Coordinating efforts to comply with anti-discrimination, anti-harassment, and anti-retaliation laws and regulations.
- b. Coordinating and implementing training for students and employees pertaining to anti-discrimination, anti-harassment and anti-retaliation laws and regulations, including the training areas listed above.
- c. Investigating complaints of discrimination (unless the coordinator designates other trained individuals to investigate).
- d. Monitoring substantiated complaints or reports of discrimination, as needed (and with the assistance of other District employees, if necessary), to ensure discrimination or harassment does not recur, and that retaliation conduct does not occur or recur.
- e. Overseeing discrimination complaints, including identifying and addressing any patterns or systemic problems, and reporting such patterns or systemic problems to the Superintendent and the Board of Education.
- f. Communicating regularly with the District's law enforcement unit investigating cases and providing current information to them pertaining to anti-discrimination, anti-harassment, and anti-retaliation standards and compliance requirements.
- g. Reviewing all evidence in harassment or violence cases brought before the District's disciplinary committee or administrator to determine whether the complainants are entitled to a remedy under anti-discrimination laws and regulations that was not available in the disciplinary process.
- h. Ensuring that investigations address whether other students or employees may have been subjected to discrimination, including harassment and retaliation.
- i. Determining whether District employees with knowledge of allegations of discrimination, including harassment and retaliation, failed to carry out their duties in reporting the allegations to the designated compliance coordinator and responding to the allegations.
- j. Recommending changes to this policy and grievance procedure.
- k. Performing other duties as assigned.

7. Preventive Measures:

The District will publish and widely distribute on an ongoing basis a notice of nondiscrimination (notice) in electronic and printed formats, including prominently displaying the notice on the District's website and posting the notice at each building in the District. The District also will designate an employee to coordinate compliance with anti-discrimination laws (see Designated Compliance Coordinator section, above, for further information on compliance coordinator), and widely publish and disseminate this grievance procedure, including prominently posting it on the District's website, at each

building in the District, reprinting it in District publications, such as handbooks, and sending it electronically to members of the school community.

The District also may distribute specific harassment and violence materials (such as sexual violence), including a summary of the District's anti-discrimination, anti-harassment, and anti-retaliation policy and grievance procedure, and a list of victim resources, during events such as school assemblies and back to school nights, if recent incidents or allegations warrant additional education to the school community.

Legal Reference: Title VI, 42 U.S.C. Sec. 2000d, Title VII, 42 U.S.C. Sec. 2000e, Title IX; 20 U.S.C. Sec. 1681, and the Nebraska Fair Employment Practices Act, Neb. Rev. Stat. Sec. 48-1101 et seq.
Age Discrimination in Employment Act (ADEA), the Older Workers Benefit Protection Act (OWBPA), 29 U.S.C. Sec. 621 et seq., and the Nebraska Age Discrimination in Employment Act, Neb. Rev. Stat. Sec. 48-1001 et seq.;
Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), 42 U.S.C. Sec. 12101 et seq.
Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Section 504)
Pregnancy Discrimination Act, 42 U.S.C. Sec. 2000e(k)
Uniform Service Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA), 38 U.S.C. Sec. 4301 et seq.
Neb. Rev. Stat. Sec. 79-2,115, et seq

Date of Adoption: [Insert Date]

Personnel - All Employees (& Students)Anti-discrimination, Anti-harassment, and Anti-retaliation**A. Elimination of Discrimination.**

The [Name] Public Schools hereby gives this statement of compliance and intends to comply with all state and federal laws prohibiting discrimination. This school district intends to take any necessary measures to assure compliance with such laws against any prohibited form of discrimination.

The [Name] Public Schools does not discriminate on the basis of sex, disability, race (including skin color, hair texture and protective hairstyles), color, religion, veteran status, national or ethnic origin, age, marital status, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical condition, sexual orientation or gender identity, or other protected status in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. Reasonable accommodations will be provided to employees with disabilities and to those who are pregnant, have given birth, or have a related medical condition, as required by law. The following persons have been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies:

Students: [Name of Director], Director of Student Services [or other title], [Street Address], [City], NE [Zip Code] () - () ([Email Address]).

Employees and Others: [Name of Director], Human Resources Director [or other title], [Street Address], [City], NE [Zip Code] () - () ([Email Address]).

Complaints or concerns involving discrimination or needs for accommodation or access should be addressed to the appropriate Coordinator. For further information about anti-discrimination laws and regulations, or to file a complaint of discrimination with the Office of Civil Rights in the U.S. Department of Education (OCR), please contact the OCR at One Petticoat Lane, 1010 Walnut Street, 3rd Floor, Suite 320, Kansas City, Missouri 64106, (816) 268-0550 (voice), Fax (816) 268-0599, (800) 877-8339 (telecommunications device for the deaf), or ocr.kansascity@ed.gov.

B. Prohibited Harassment, Discrimination, and Retaliation of Employees, Students and Others.**1. Purpose:**

The [Name] Public Schools is committed to offering employment and educational opportunities to its employees and students in a climate free of discrimination. Accordingly, unlawful discrimination, harassment or retaliation of any kind by District employees, including, co-workers, non-employees (such as volunteers), third parties, and others is strictly prohibited and will not be tolerated.

Harassment is a form of discrimination and includes verbal, non-verbal, written, graphic, or physical conduct relating to a person's sex, disability, race (including skin color, hair texture and protective hairstyles), color, religion, veteran status, national or ethnic origin, age, marital status, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical condition, sexual orientation

or gender identity, or other protected status, that is sufficiently serious to deny, interfere with, or limit a person's ability to participate in or benefit from an educational or work program or activity, including, but not limited to:

- a. Conduct that is sufficiently severe or pervasive to create an intimidating, hostile, or abusive educational or work environment, or
- b. Requiring an individual to endure the offensive conduct as a condition of continued employment or educational programs or activities, including the receipt of aids, benefits, and services.

Educational programs and activities include all academic, educational, extracurricular, athletic, and other programs of the school, whether those programs take place in a school's facilities, on a school bus, at a class or training program sponsored by the school at another location, or elsewhere.

Discriminatory harassment because of a person's sex, disability, race (including skin color, hair texture and protective hairstyles), color, religion, veteran status, national or ethnic origin, age, marital status, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical condition, sexual orientation or gender identity, or other protected status, may include, but is not limited to:

- a. Name-calling,
- b. Teasing or taunting,
- c. Insults, slurs, or derogatory names or remarks,
- d. Demeaning jokes,
- e. Inappropriate gestures,
- f. Graffiti or inappropriate written or electronic material,
- g. Visual displays, such as cartoons, posters, or electronic images,
- h. Threats or intimidating or hostile conduct,
- i. Physical acts of aggression, assault, or violence, or
- j. Criminal offenses

The following examples are additional or more specific examples of conduct that may constitute sexual harassment:

- a. Unwelcome sexual advances or propositions,
- b. Requests or pressure for sexual favors,
- c. Comments about an individual's body, sexual activity, or sexual attractiveness,
- d. Physical contact or touching of a sexual nature, including touching intimate body parts and inappropriate patting, pinching, rubbing, or brushing against another's body,
- e. Physical sexual acts of aggression, assault, or violence, including criminal offenses (such as rape, sexual assault or battery, and sexually motivated stalking), against a person's will or where a person is incapable of giving consent due to the victim's age, intellectual disability, or use of drugs or alcohol,
- f. Requiring sexual favors or contact in exchange for aids, benefits, or services, such as grades, awards, privileges, promotions, etc., or

- g. Gender-based harassment; acts of verbal, nonverbal, written, graphic, or physical conduct based on sex or sex-stereotyping, but not involving conduct of a sexual nature.

If the District knows or reasonably should know about possible harassment, including violence, the District will conduct a prompt, adequate, reliable, thorough, and impartial investigation to determine whether unlawful harassment occurred (see section entitled "Grievance Procedures," below), and take appropriate interim measures, if necessary. If the District determines that unlawful harassment occurred, the District will take prompt and effective action to eliminate the harassment, prevent its recurrence, and remedy its effects, if appropriate. If harassment or violence that occurs off school property creates a hostile environment at school, the District will follow this policy and grievance procedure, within the scope of its authority.

All District employees are expected to take prompt and appropriate actions to report and prevent discrimination, harassment, and retaliation by others. Employees who witness or become aware of possible discrimination, including harassment and retaliation, must immediately report the conduct to his or her supervisor or the compliance coordinator designated to handle complaints of discrimination (designated compliance coordinator).

2. Anti-retaliation:

The District prohibits retaliation, intimidation, threats, coercion, or discrimination against any person for opposing discrimination, including harassment, or for participating in the District's discrimination complaint process or making a complaint, testifying, assisting, or participating in any manner, in an investigation, proceeding, or hearing. Retaliation is a form of discrimination.

The District will take immediate steps to stop retaliation and prevent its recurrence against the alleged victim and any person associated with the alleged victim. These steps will include, but are not limited to, notifying students, employees, and others, that they are protected from retaliation, ensuring that they know how to report future complaints, and initiating follow-up contact with the complainant to determine if any additional acts of discrimination, harassment, or retaliation have occurred. If retaliation occurs, the District will take prompt and strong responsive action, including possible discipline, including expulsion or termination, if applicable.

3. Grievance (or Complaint) Procedures:

Employees or students should initially report all instances of discrimination, harassment or retaliation to their immediate supervisor or teacher or to the compliance coordinator designated to handle complaints of discrimination. If the employee or student is uncomfortable in presenting the problem to the supervisor or teacher, or if the supervisor or teacher is the problem, the employee or student may report the alleged discrimination, harassment or retaliation to the designated coordinator, or in the case of students, to another staff person (such as a counselor or principal).

Other individuals may report alleged discrimination to the designated coordinator. If the designated coordinator is the person alleged to have committed the discriminatory act, then the complaint should be submitted to the Superintendent for assignment. A discrimination complaint form is attached to this grievance procedure and is available in the office of each District building, on the District's website, and from the designated coordinators.

Under no circumstances will a person filing a complaint or grievance involving discrimination be retaliated against for filing the complaint or grievance.

i. Level 1 (Investigation and Findings):

Once the District receives a grievance, complaint or report alleging discrimination, harassment, or retaliation, or becomes aware of possible discriminatory conduct, the District will conduct a prompt, adequate, reliable, thorough, and impartial investigation to determine whether unlawful harassment occurred. If necessary, the District will take immediate, interim action or measures to protect the alleged victim and prevent further potential discrimination, harassment, or retaliation during the pending investigation. The alleged victim will be notified of his or her options to avoid contact with the alleged harasser, such as changing a class or prohibiting the alleged harasser from having any contact with the alleged victim pending the result of the District's investigation. The District will minimize any burden on the alleged victim when taking interim measures to protect the alleged victim.

The District will promptly investigate all complaints of discrimination, even if an outside entity or law enforcement agency is investigating a complaint involving the same facts and allegations. The District will not wait for the conclusion or outcome of a criminal investigation or proceeding to begin an investigation required by this grievance procedure. If the allegation(s) involve possible criminal conduct, the District will notify the complainant of his or her right to file a criminal complaint, and District employees will not dissuade the complainant from filing a criminal complaint either during or after the District's investigation.

The District will aim to complete its investigation within **ten (10) working days** after receiving a complaint or report, unless extenuating circumstances exist. Extenuating circumstances may include the unavailability of witnesses due to illness or incapacitation, or additional time needed because of the complexity of the investigation, the need for outside experts to evaluate the evidence (such as forensic evidence), or multiple complainants or victims. If extenuating circumstances exist, the extended timeframe to complete the investigation will **not exceed ten (10) additional working days without the consent of the complainant, unless the alleged victim agrees to a longer timeline.** Periodic status updates will be given to the parties, when appropriate.

The District's investigation will include, but is not limited to:

- a. Providing the parties with the opportunity to present witnesses and provide evidence.

- b. An evaluation of all relevant information and documentation relating to the alleged discriminatory conduct.
- c. For allegations involving harassment, some of the factors the District will consider include: 1) the nature of the conduct and whether the conduct was unwelcome, 2) the surrounding circumstances, expectations, and relationships, 3) the degree to which the conduct affected one or more students' education, 4) the type, frequency, and duration of the conduct, 5) the identity of and relationship between the alleged harasser and the suspect or suspects of the harassment, 6) the number of individuals involved, 7) the age (and sex, if applicable) of the alleged harasser and the alleged victim(s) of the harassment, 8) the location of the incidents and the context in which they occurred, 9) the totality of the circumstances, and 10) other relevant evidence.
- d. A review of the evidence using a "preponderance of the evidence" standard (based on the evidence, is it more likely than not that discrimination, harassment, or retaliation occurred?)

The designated compliance coordinator (or designated investigator) will complete an investigative report, which will include:

- a. A summary of the facts,
- b. Findings regarding whether discrimination, harassment or other inappropriate conduct occurred, and
- c. If a finding is made that discrimination, harassment or other inappropriate conduct occurred, the recommended remedy or remedies necessary to eliminate such discrimination, harassment or other inappropriate conduct.

If someone other than the designated compliance coordinator conducted the investigation, the compliance coordinator will review, approve, and sign the investigative report. The District will ensure that prompt, appropriate, and effective remedies are provided if a finding of discrimination, harassment, or retaliation is made. The District will maintain relevant documentation obtained during the investigation and documentation supportive of the findings and any subsequent determinations, including the investigative report, witness statements, interview summaries, and any transcripts or audio recordings, pertaining to the investigative and appeal proceedings.

The District will send concurrently to the parties written notification of the decision (findings and any remedy) regarding the complaint within **one (1) working day** after the investigation is completed. The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), 20 U.S.C. Sec. 11232g; 34 C.F.R. Part 99, permits the District to disclose relevant information to a student who was discriminated against or harassed.

ii. Level 2 (Appeal to the Superintendent):

If a party is not satisfied with the findings or remedies (or both) set forth in the decision, he or she may file an appeal in writing with the Superintendent within **five (5) working days** after receiving the decision. The Superintendent will review the appeal and the investigative documentation and decision, conduct additional investigation, if necessary,

and issue a written determination about the appeal **within ten (10) working days** after receiving the appeal. The party who filed the appeal will be sent the Superintendent's determination at the time it is issued, and a copy will be sent to the designated compliance coordinator. [If the Superintendent is the subject of the complaint, the party will file the appeal directly with the Board.]

iii. Level 3 (Appeal to the Board):

If the party is not satisfied with the Superintendent's determination, he or she may file an appeal in writing with the Board of Education **within five (5) working days** after receiving the Superintendent's determination. The Board of Education will review the appeal, the Superintendent's determination, the investigative documentation and decision, and allow the party to address the Board at a Board meeting to present his or her appeal. The party will be allowed to address the Board at the Board's next regularly scheduled Board meeting (unless the Board receives the appeal within one week of the next regularly scheduled Board meeting) or at a time and date agreed to by the Board, designated compliance officer and the party. The Board will issue a written determination about the appeal **within thirty (30) days** after the party addresses the Board. The party who filed the appeal will be sent the Board's determination at the time it is issued, and a copy will be sent to the designated compliance coordinator. The Board's determination, and any actions taken, will be final on behalf of the District.

4. Confidentiality:

The identity of the complainant will be kept confidential to the extent permitted by state and federal law. The District will notify the complainant of the anti-retaliation provisions of applicable laws and that the District will take steps to prevent retaliation and will take prompt and strong responsive actions if retaliation occurs.

If a complainant requests confidentiality or asks that the complaint not be pursued, the District will take all reasonable steps to investigate and respond to the complaint consistent with the request for confidentiality or the request not to pursue an investigation, as long as doing so does not prevent the District from responding effectively to the harassment and preventing harassment of other students. If a complainant insists that his or her name or other identifiable information not be disclosed to the alleged perpetrator, the District will inform the complainant that its ability to respond may be limited. Even if the District cannot take disciplinary action against the alleged harasser, the District will pursue other steps to limit the effects of the alleged harassment and prevent its recurrence, if warranted.

5. Training:

The District will ensure that relevant District employees are adequately trained so they understand and know how to identify acts of discrimination, harassment, and retaliation, and how to report it to appropriate District officials or employees.

In addition, the District shall ensure that employees designated to address or investigate discrimination, harassment, and retaliation, including designated compliance coordinators, receive training to promptly and effectively investigate and respond to

complaints and reports of discrimination, and to know the District's grievance procedures and the applicable confidentiality requirements.

6. Designated Compliance Coordinators:

Designated compliance coordinators will be responsible for:

- a. Coordinating efforts to comply with anti-discrimination, anti-harassment, and anti-retaliation laws and regulations.
- b. Coordinating and implementing training for students and employees pertaining to anti-discrimination, anti-harassment and anti-retaliation laws and regulations, including the training areas listed above.
- c. Investigating complaints of discrimination (unless the coordinator designates other trained individuals to investigate).
- d. Monitoring substantiated complaints or reports of discrimination, as needed (and with the assistance of other District employees, if necessary), to ensure discrimination or harassment does not recur, and that retaliation conduct does not occur or recur.
- e. Overseeing discrimination complaints, including identifying and addressing any patterns or systemic problems, and reporting such patterns or systemic problems to the Superintendent and the Board of Education.
- f. Communicating regularly with the District's law enforcement unit investigating cases and providing current information to them pertaining to anti-discrimination, anti-harassment, and anti-retaliation standards and compliance requirements.
- g. Reviewing all evidence in harassment or violence cases brought before the District's disciplinary committee or administrator to determine whether the complainants are entitled to a remedy under anti-discrimination laws and regulations that was not available in the disciplinary process.
- h. Ensuring that investigations address whether other students or employees may have been subjected to discrimination, including harassment and retaliation.
- i. Determining whether District employees with knowledge of allegations of discrimination, including harassment and retaliation, failed to carry out their duties in reporting the allegations to the designated compliance coordinator and responding to the allegations.
- j. Recommending changes to this policy and grievance procedure.
- k. Performing other duties as assigned.

7. Preventive Measures:

The District will publish and widely distribute on an ongoing basis a notice of nondiscrimination (notice) in electronic and printed formats, including prominently displaying the notice on the District's website and posting the notice at each building in the District. The District also will designate an employee to coordinate compliance with anti-discrimination laws (see Designated Compliance Coordinator section, above, for further information on compliance coordinator), and widely publish and disseminate this grievance procedure, including prominently posting it on the District's website, at each

building in the District, reprinting it in District publications, such as handbooks, and sending it electronically to members of the school community.

The District also may distribute specific harassment and violence materials (such as sexual violence), including a summary of the District's anti-discrimination, anti-harassment, and anti-retaliation policy and grievance procedure, and a list of victim resources, during events such as school assemblies and back to school nights, if recent incidents or allegations warrant additional education to the school community.

Legal Reference: Title VI, 42 U.S.C. Sec. 2000d, Title VII, 42 U.S.C. Sec. 2000e, Title IX; 20 U.S.C. Sec. 1681, and the Nebraska Fair Employment Practices Act, Neb. Rev. Stat. Sec. 48-1101 et seq.
Age Discrimination in Employment Act (ADEA), the Older Workers Benefit Protection Act (OWBPA), 29 U.S.C. Sec. 621 et seq., and the Nebraska Age Discrimination in Employment Act, Neb. Rev. Stat. Sec. 48-1001 et seq.;
Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), 42 U.S.C. Sec. 12101 et seq.
Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Section 504)
Pregnancy Discrimination Act, 42 U.S.C. Sec. 2000e(k)
Uniform Service Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA), 38 U.S.C. Sec. 4301 et seq.
Neb. Rev. Stat. Sec. 79-2,115, et seq

Date of Adoption: [Insert Date]

Notice of Nondiscrimination

The [Name] Public School District does not discriminate on the basis of sex, disability, race (including skin color, hair texture and protective hairstyles), color, religion, veteran status, national or ethnic origin, age, marital status, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical condition, sexual orientation or gender identity, or other protected status in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following persons have been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies:

Students: [Name of Director], Director of Student Services [or other title], [Street Address], [City], NE [Zip Code] (____) ____ - ____ ([Email Address]).

Employees and Others: [Name of Director], Human Resources Director [or other title], [Street Address], [City], NE [Zip Code] (____) ____ - ____ ([Email Address]).

Complaints or concerns involving discrimination or needs for accommodation or access should be addressed to the appropriate Coordinator. For further information about anti-discrimination laws and regulations, or to file a complaint of discrimination with the OCR at One Petticoat Lane, 1010 Walnut Street, 3rd Floor, Suite 320, Kansas City, Missouri 64106, (816) 268-0550 (voice), Fax (816) 268-0599, (800) 877-8339 (telecommunications device for the deaf), or ocr.kansascity@ed.gov.

Notice of Nondiscrimination

The [Name] Public School District does not discriminate on the basis of sex, disability, race (including skin color, hair texture and protective hairstyles), color, religion, veteran status, national or ethnic origin, age, marital status, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical condition, sexual orientation or gender identity, or other protected status in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following persons have been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies:

Students: [Name of Director], Director of Student Services [or other title], [Street Address], [City], NE [Zip Code] (____) ____ - ____ ([Email Address]).

Employees and Others: [Name of Director], Human Resources Director [or other title], [Street Address], [City], NE [Zip Code] (____) ____ - ____ ([Email Address]).

Complaints or concerns involving discrimination or needs for accommodation or access should be addressed to the appropriate Coordinator. For further information about anti-discrimination laws and regulations, or to file a complaint of discrimination with the OCR at One Petticoat Lane, 1010 Walnut Street, 3rd Floor, Suite 320, Kansas City, Missouri 64106, (816) 268-0550 (voice), Fax (816) 268-0599, (800) 877-8339 (telecommunications device for the deaf), or ocr.kansascity@ed.gov.

**Complaint Form
Discrimination, Harassment or Retaliation**

The [Name] Public School District does not discriminate on the basis of sex, disability, race (including skin color, hair texture and protective hairstyles), color, religion, veteran status, national or ethnic origin, age, marital status, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical condition, sexual orientation or gender identity, or other protected status, in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. This complaint form is to be used when a person has a complaint related to discrimination, harassment or retaliation on such bases in regard to employment or the programs and activities of the school district.

Refer to Board Policy 4003 and/or 5401 for the particulars of the complaint and grievance process. You may attach additional materials to this form if needed.

The applicable coordinator may be contacted if you have questions about filling out this complaint form:
Students: [Name of Director], Director of Student Services [or other title], [Street Address], [City], NE [Zip Code] (____) ____ - ____ ([Email Address]).
Employees and Others: [Name of Director], Human Resources Director [or other title], [Street Address], [City], NE [Zip Code] (____) ____ - ____ ([Email Address]).

Name: _____ Date: _____

(1) Description of the complaint: _____

_____.

(2) Names of any witnesses to the matter being complained about: _____

_____.

(3) Identify and attach any document supporting the complaint: _____
_____.

(4) Confidentiality: I ___ do___ do not give consent to my identity being shared with the person(s) against whom I am complaining. If I do not give consent, I understand that the investigation may be hindered, but that the District will nonetheless investigate and take prompt and effective action to remediate the concerns I have raised, if appropriate.

_____.

(5) Relief requested (what I want done in response to this complaint):

_____.

The undersigned states: The facts in this complaint are true to the best of my knowledge, information and belief. I give permission for an investigation to be made into this complaint. I understand that the District will take steps to prevent me being retaliated against for filing this complaint, that I am to notify the District if any such retaliation occurs, and that the District will take prompt and strong responsive action if retaliation occurs.

Received by: _____ Signature: _____
Date: _____

**Complaint Form
Discrimination, Harassment or Retaliation**

The [Name] Public School District does not discriminate on the basis of sex, disability, race (including skin color, hair texture and protective hairstyles), color, religion, veteran status, national or ethnic origin, age, marital status, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical condition, sexual orientation or gender identity, or other protected status, in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. This complaint form is to be used when a person has a complaint related to discrimination, harassment or retaliation on such bases in regard to employment or the programs and activities of the school district.

Refer to Board Policy 4003 and/or 5401 for the particulars of the complaint and grievance process. You may attach additional materials to this form if needed.

The applicable coordinator may be contacted if you have questions about filling out this complaint form:
Students: [Name of Director], Director of Student Services [or other title], [Street Address], [City], NE [Zip Code] (____) ____ - ____ ([Email Address]).
Employees and Others: [Name of Director], Human Resources Director [or other title], [Street Address], [City], NE [Zip Code] (____) ____ - ____ ([Email Address]).

Name: _____ Date: _____

(1) Description of the complaint: _____

_____.

(2) Names of any witnesses to the matter being complained about: _____

_____.

(3) Identify and attach any document supporting the complaint: _____
_____.

(4) Confidentiality: I ___ do___ do not give consent to my identity being shared with the person(s) against whom I am complaining. If I do not give consent, I understand that the investigation may be hindered, but that the District will nonetheless investigate and take prompt and effective action to remediate the concerns I have raised, if appropriate.

_____.

(5) Relief requested (what I want done in response to this complaint):

_____.

The undersigned states: The facts in this complaint are true to the best of my knowledge, information and belief. I give permission for an investigation to be made into this complaint. I understand that the District will take steps to prevent me being retaliated against for filing this complaint, that I am to notify the District if any such retaliation occurs, and that the District will take prompt and strong responsive action if retaliation occurs.

Received by: _____ Signature: _____
Date: _____

DO NOT SEND TO THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR.
PROVIDE TO EMPLOYEE.

OMB Control Number: 1235-0003

Expires: 6/30/2023

In general, to be eligible to take leave under the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA), an employee must have worked for an employer for at least 12 months, meet the hours of service requirement in the 12 months preceding the leave, and work at a site with at least 50 employees within 75 miles. While use of this form is optional, a fully completed Form WH-381 provides employees with the information required by 29 C.F.R. §§ 825.300(b), (c) which must be provided within five business days of the employee notifying the employer of the need for FMLA leave. Information about the FMLA may be found [on the WHD website at www.dol.gov/agencies/whd/fmla](http://www.dol.gov/agencies/whd/fmla).

Date: _____ (mm/dd/yyyy)

From: _____ (Employer) To: _____ (Employee)

On _____ (mm/dd/yyyy), we learned that you need leave (beginning on) _____ (mm/dd/yyyy)
for one of the following reasons: (Select as appropriate)

- The birth of a child, or placement of a child with you for adoption or foster care, and to bond with the newborn or newly-placed child
- Your own serious health condition
- You are needed to care for your family member due to a serious health condition. Your family member is your:
 - Spouse
 - Parent
 - Child under age 18
 - Child 18 years or older and incapable of self-care because of a mental or physical disability
- A qualifying exigency arising out of the fact that your family member is on covered active duty or has been notified of an impending call or order to covered active duty status. Your family member on covered active duty is your:
 - Spouse
 - Parent
 - Child of any age
- You are needed to care for your family member who is a covered servicemember with a serious injury or illness. You are the servicemember's:
 - Spouse
 - Parent
 - Child
 - Next of kin

Spouse means a husband or wife as defined or recognized in the state where the individual was married, including in a common law marriage or same-sex marriage. The terms "child" and "parent" include *in loco parentis* relationships in which a person assumes the obligations of a parent to a child. An employee may take FMLA leave to care for an individual who assumed the obligations of a parent to the employee when the employee was a child. An employee may also take FMLA leave to care for a child for whom the employee has assumed the obligations of a parent. No legal or biological relationship is necessary.

SECTION I – NOTICE OF ELIGIBILITY

This Notice is to inform you that you are:

- Eligible** for FMLA leave. (See Section II for any Additional Information Needed and Section III for information on your Rights and Responsibilities.)
- Not eligible** for FMLA leave because: (Only one reason need be checked)
 - You have not met the FMLA's 12-month length of service requirement. As of the first date of requested leave, you will have worked approximately: _____ towards this requirement.
(months)
 - You have not met the FMLA's 1,250 hours of service requirement. As of the first date of requested leave, you will have worked approximately: _____ towards this requirement.
(hours of service)

Employee Name: _____

- You are an airline flight crew employee and you have not met the special hours of service eligibility requirements for airline flight crew employees as of the first date of requested leave (i.e., worked or been paid for at least 60% of your applicable monthly guarantee, and worked or been paid for at least 504 duty hours.)
- You do not work at and/or report to a site with 50 or more employees within 75-miles as of the date of your request.

If you have any questions, please contact: _____ (Name of employer representative)
at _____ (Contact information).

SECTION II – ADDITIONAL INFORMATION NEEDED

As explained in Section I, you meet the eligibility requirements for taking FMLA leave. Please review the information below to determine if additional information is needed in order for us to determine whether your absence qualifies as FMLA leave. Once we obtain any additional information specified below we will inform you, **within 5 business days**, whether your leave will be designated as FMLA leave and count towards the FMLA leave you have available. **If complete and sufficient information is not provided in a timely manner, your leave may be denied.**

(Select as appropriate)

- No additional information requested. If no additional information requested, go to Section III.
- We request that the leave be supported by a certification, as identified below.
 - Health Care Provider for the Employee
 - Health Care Provider for the Employee's Family Member
 - Qualifying Exigency
 - Serious Illness or Injury (Military Caregiver Leave)

Selected certification form is attached / not attached.

If requested, medical certification must be returned by _____ (mm/dd/yyyy) (Must allow at least 15 calendar days from the date the employer requested the employee to provide certification, unless it is not feasible despite the employee's diligent, good faith efforts.)

- We request that you provide reasonable documentation or a statement to establish the relationship between you and your family member, including *in loco parentis* relationships (as explained on page one). The information requested must be returned to us by _____ (mm/dd/yyyy). You may choose to provide a simple statement of the relationship or provide documentation such as a child's birth certificate, a court document, or documents regarding foster care or adoption-related activities. Official documents submitted for this purpose will be returned to you after examination.

- Other information needed (e.g. documentation for military family leave): _____
The information requested must be returned to us by _____ (mm/dd/yyyy).

If you have any questions, please contact: _____ (Name of employer representative)
at _____ (Contact information).

SECTION III – NOTICE OF RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Part A: FMLA Leave Entitlement

You have a right under the FMLA to take unpaid, job-protected FMLA leave in a 12-month period for certain family and medical reasons, including up to **12 weeks** of unpaid leave in a 12-month period for the birth of a child or placement of a child for adoption or foster care, for leave related to your own or a family member's serious health condition, or for certain qualifying exigencies related to the deployment of a military member to covered active duty. You also have a right

Employee Name: _____

under the FMLA to take up to **26 weeks** of unpaid, job-protected FMLA leave in a single 12-month period to care for a covered servicemember with a serious injury or illness (*Military Caregiver Leave*).

The 12-month period for FMLA leave is calculated as: (*Select as appropriate*)

- The calendar year (January 1st - December 31st)
- A fixed leave year based on _____
(*e.g., a fiscal year beginning on July 1 and ending on June 30*)
- The 12-month period measured forward from the date of your first FMLA leave usage.
- A “rolling” 12-month period measured backward from the date of any FMLA leave usage. (*Each time an employee takes FMLA leave, the remaining leave is the balance of the 12 weeks not used during the 12 months immediately before the FMLA leave is to start.*)

If applicable, the single 12-month period for *Military Caregiver Leave* started on _____ (*mm/dd/yyyy*).

You (*are* / *are not*) **considered a key employee** as defined under the FMLA. Your FMLA leave cannot be denied for this reason; however, we may not restore you to employment following FMLA leave if such restoration will cause substantial and grievous economic injury to us.

We (*have* / *have not*) determined that restoring you to employment at the conclusion of FMLA leave will cause substantial and grievous economic harm to us. Additional information will be provided separately concerning your status as key employee and restoration.

Part B: Substitution of Paid Leave – When Paid Leave is Used at the Same Time as FMLA Leave

You have a right under the FMLA to request that your accrued paid leave be substituted for your FMLA leave. This means that you can request that your accrued paid leave run concurrently with some or all of your unpaid FMLA leave, provided you meet any applicable requirements of our leave policy. Concurrent leave use means the absence will count against both the designated paid leave and unpaid FMLA leave at the same time. If you do not meet the requirements for taking paid leave, you remain entitled to take available unpaid FMLA leave in the applicable 12-month period. Even if you do not request it, the FMLA allows us to require you to use your available sick, vacation, or other paid leave during your FMLA absence.

(*Check all that apply*)

- Some or all of your FMLA leave will not be paid.** Any unpaid FMLA leave taken will be designated as FMLA leave and counted against the amount of FMLA leave you have available to use in the applicable 12-month period.
- You have requested to use some or all of your available paid leave** (*e.g., sick, vacation, PTO*) during your FMLA leave. Any paid leave taken for this reason will also be designated as FMLA leave and counted against the amount of FMLA leave you have available to use in the applicable 12-month period.
- We are requiring you to use some or all of your available paid leave** (*e.g., sick, vacation, PTO*) during your FMLA leave. Any paid leave taken for this reason will also be designated as FMLA leave and counted against the amount of FMLA leave you have available to use in the applicable 12-month period.
- Other:** (*e.g., short- or long-term disability, workers’ compensation, state medical leave law, etc.*) _____
Any time taken for this reason will also be designated as FMLA leave and counted against the amount of FMLA leave you have available to use in the applicable 12-month period.

The applicable conditions for use of paid leave include: _____.

For more information about conditions applicable to sick/vacation/other paid leave usage please refer to _____
_____ available at: _____.

Employee Name: _____

Part C: Maintain Health Benefits

Your health benefits must be maintained during any period of FMLA leave under the same conditions as if you continued to work. During any paid portion of FMLA leave, your share of any premiums will be paid by the method normally used during any paid leave. During any unpaid portion of FMLA leave, you must continue to make any normal contributions to the cost of the health insurance premiums. To make arrangements to continue to make your share of the premium payments on your health insurance while you are on any unpaid FMLA leave, contact _____ at _____.

You have a minimum grace period of (30-days or _____ *indicate longer period, if applicable*) in which to make premium payments. If payment is not made timely, your group health insurance may be cancelled, provided we notify you in writing at least 15 days before the date that your health coverage will lapse, or, at our option, we may pay your share of the premiums during FMLA leave, and recover these payments from you upon your return to work.

You may be required to reimburse us for our share of health insurance premiums paid on your behalf during your FMLA leave if you do not return to work following **unpaid** FMLA leave for a reason other than: the continuation, recurrence, or onset of your or your family member's serious health condition which would entitle you to FMLA leave; or the continuation, recurrence, or onset of a covered servicemember's serious injury or illness which would entitle you to FMLA leave; or other circumstances beyond your control.

Part D: Other Employee Benefits

Upon your return from FMLA leave, your other employee benefits, such as pensions or life insurance, must be resumed in the same manner and at the same levels as provided when your FMLA leave began. To make arrangements to continue your employee benefits while you are on FMLA leave, contact _____ at _____.

Part E: Return-to-Work Requirements

You must be reinstated to the same or an equivalent job with the same pay, benefits, and terms and conditions of employment on your return from FMLA-protected leave. An equivalent position is one that is virtually identical to your former position in terms of pay, benefits, and working conditions. At the end of your FMLA leave, all benefits must also be resumed in the same manner and at the same level provided when the leave began. You do not have return-to-work rights under the FMLA if you need leave beyond the amount of FMLA leave you have available to use.

Part F: Other Requirements While on FMLA Leave

While on leave you (will be / will not be) required to furnish us with periodic reports of your status and intent to return to work every _____.

(Indicate interval of periodic reports, as appropriate for the FMLA leave situation).

If the circumstances of your leave change and you are able to return to work earlier than expected, you will be required to notify us at least two workdays prior to the date you intend to report for work.

PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT NOTICE AND PUBLIC BURDEN STATEMENT

It is mandatory for employers to provide employees with notice of their eligibility for FMLA protection and their rights and responsibilities. 29 U.S.C. § 2617; 29 C.F.R. § 825.300(b), (c). It is mandatory for employers to retain a copy of this disclosure in their records for three years. 29 U.S.C. § 2616; 29 C.F.R. § 825.500. Persons are not required to respond to this collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The Department of Labor estimates that it will take an average of 10 minutes for respondents to complete this collection of information, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. If you have any comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, send them to the Administrator, Wage and Hour Division, U.S. Department of Labor, Room S-3502, 200 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20210.

DO NOT SEND THE COMPLETED FORM TO THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR. EMPLOYEE INFORMATION.

**DO NOT SEND TO THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR.
PROVIDE TO EMPLOYEE.**

OMB Control Number: 1235-0003

Expires: 6/30/2023

Leave covered under the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) must be designated as FMLA-protected and the employer must inform the employee of the amount of leave that will be counted against the employee's FMLA leave entitlement. In order to determine whether leave is covered under the FMLA, the employer may request that the leave be supported by a certification. If the certification is incomplete or insufficient, the employer must state in writing what additional information is necessary to make the certification complete and sufficient. While use of this form is optional, a fully completed Form WH-382 provides employees with the information required by 29 C.F.R. §§ 825.300(d), 825.301, and 825.305(c), which must be provided within five business days of the employer having enough information to determine whether the leave is for an FMLA-qualifying reason. Information about the FMLA may be found [on the WHD website at www.dol.gov/agencies/whd/fmla](http://www.dol.gov/agencies/whd/fmla).

SECTION I - EMPLOYER

The employer is responsible in **all** circumstances for designating leave as FMLA-qualifying and giving notice to the employee. Once an eligible employee communicates a need to take leave for an FMLA-qualifying reason, an employer may not delay designating such leave as FMLA leave, and neither the employee nor the employer may decline FMLA protection for that leave.

Date: _____ (mm/dd/yyyy)

From: _____ (Employer) To: _____ (Employee)

On _____ (mm/dd/yyyy) we received your most recent information to support your need for leave due to:
(Select as appropriate)

- The birth of a child, or placement of a child with you for adoption or foster care, and to bond with the newborn or newly-placed child
- Your own serious health condition
- The serious health condition of your spouse, child, or parent
- A qualifying exigency arising out of the fact that your spouse, child, or parent is on covered active duty or has been notified of an impending call or order to covered active duty with the Armed Forces
- A serious injury or illness of a covered servicemember where you are the servicemember's spouse, child, parent, or next of kin (Military Caregiver Leave)

We have reviewed information related to your need for leave under the FMLA along with any supporting documentation provided and decided that your FMLA leave request is: (Select as appropriate)

- Approved.** All leave taken for this reason will be designated as FMLA leave. Go to Section III for more information.
- Not Approved:** (Select as appropriate)
 - The FMLA does not apply to your leave request.
 - As of the date the leave is to start, you do not have any FMLA leave available to use.
 - Other _____
- Additional information** is needed to determine if your leave request qualifies as FMLA leave. (Go to Section II for the specific information needed. If your FMLA leave request is approved and no additional information is needed, go to Section III.)

SECTION II – ADDITIONAL INFORMATION NEEDED

We need additional information to determine whether your leave request qualifies under the FMLA. Once we obtain the additional information requested, we will inform you **within 5 business days** if your leave will or will not be designated as FMLA leave and count towards the amount of FMLA leave you have available. **Failure to provide the additional information as requested may result in a denial of your FMLA leave request.**

If you have any questions, please contact: _____ at _____
(Name of employer FMLA representative) (Contact information)

Incomplete or Insufficient Certification

The certification you have provided is incomplete and/or insufficient to determine whether the FMLA applies to your leave request.
(Select as applicable)

- The certification provided is incomplete and we are unable to determine whether the FMLA applies to your leave request. "Incomplete" means one or more of the applicable entries on the certification have not been completed.

Employee Name: _____

- The certification provided is insufficient to determine whether the FMLA applies to your leave request. “Insufficient” means the information provided is vague, unclear, ambiguous or non-responsive.

Specify the information needed to make the certification complete and/or sufficient: _____

You must provide the requested information no later than (provide at least 7 calendar days) _____ (mm/dd/yyyy), unless it is not practicable under the particular circumstances despite your diligent good faith efforts, or your leave may be denied.

Second and Third Opinions

- We request that you obtain a (second / third opinion) medical certification at our expense, and we will provide further details at a later time. Note: The employee or the employee’s family member may be requested to authorize the health care provider to release information pertaining only to the serious health condition at issue.

SECTION III – FMLA LEAVE APPROVED

As explained in Section I, your FMLA leave request is approved. All leave taken for this reason will be designated as FMLA leave and will count against the amount of FMLA leave you have available to use in the applicable 12-month period. The FMLA requires that you notify us as soon as practicable if the dates of scheduled leave change, are extended, or were initially unknown. Based on the information you have provided to date, we are providing the following information about the amount of time that will be counted against the total **amount of FMLA leave** you have available to use in the applicable 12-month period: (Select as appropriate)

- Provided there is no change from your **anticipated FMLA leave schedule**, the following number of hours, days, or weeks will be counted against your leave entitlement: _____.
- Because the leave you will need will be **unscheduled**, it is not possible to provide the hours, days, or weeks that will be counted against your FMLA entitlement at this time. You have the right to request this information once in a 30-day period (if leave was taken in the 30-day period).

Please be advised: (check all that apply)

- Some or all of your FMLA leave will not be paid.** Any unpaid FMLA leave taken will be designated as FMLA leave and counted against the amount of FMLA leave you have available to use in the applicable 12-month period.
- Based on your request, some or all of your available paid leave** (e.g., sick, vacation, PTO) **will be used during your FMLA leave.** Any paid leave taken for this reason will also be designated as FMLA leave and counted against the amount of FMLA leave you have available to use in the applicable 12-month period.
- We are requiring you to use some or all of your available paid leave** (e.g., sick, vacation, PTO) **during your FMLA leave.** Any paid leave taken for this reason will also be designated as FMLA leave and counted against the amount of FMLA leave you have available to use in the applicable 12-month period.
- Other:** _____
(e.g., Short- or long-term disability, workers’ compensation, state medical leave law, etc.) Any time taken for this reason will also be designated as FMLA leave and counted against the amount of FMLA leave you have available to use in the applicable 12-month period.

Return-to-work requirements. To be restored to work after taking FMLA leave, you (will be / will not be) required to provide a certification from your health care provider (fitness-for-duty certification) that you are able to resume work. This request for a fitness-for-duty certification is *only* with regard to the particular serious health condition that caused your need for FMLA leave. **If such certification is not timely received, your return to work may be delayed until the certification is provided.**

A list of the essential functions of your position (is / is not) attached. If attached, the fitness-for-duty certification must address your ability to perform the essential job functions.

PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT NOTICE AND PUBLIC BURDEN STATEMENT

It is mandatory for employers to inform employees in writing whether leave requested under the FMLA has been determined to be covered under the FMLA. 29 U.S.C. § 2617; 29 C.F.R. § 825.300(d), (e). It is mandatory for employers to retain a copy of this disclosure in their records for three years. 29 U.S.C. § 2616; 29 C.F.R. § 825.500. Persons are not required to respond to this collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The Department of Labor estimates that it will take an average of 10 minutes for respondents to complete this collection of information, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. If you have any comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, send them to the Administrator, Wage and Hour Division, U.S. Department of Labor, Room S-3502, 200 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20210.

DO NOT SEND THE COMPLETED FORM TO THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR. EMPLOYEE INFORMATION.

**Certification of Health Care Provider for
Employee's Serious Health Condition
under the Family and Medical Leave Act**

**U.S. Department of Labor
Wage and Hour Division**



DO NOT SEND COMPLETED FORM TO THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR.
RETURN TO THE PATIENT.

OMB Control Number: 1235-0003
Expires: 6/30/2023

The Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) provides that an employer may require an employee seeking FMLA protections because of a need for leave due to a serious health condition to submit a medical certification issued by the employee's health care provider. 29 U.S.C. §§ 2613, 2614(c)(3); 29 C.F.R. § 825.305. The employer must give the employee **at least 15 calendar days** to provide the certification. If the employee fails to provide complete and sufficient medical certification, his or her FMLA leave request may be denied. 29 C.F.R. § 825.313. Information about the FMLA may be found [on the WHD website at www.dol.gov/agencies/whd/fmla](http://www.dol.gov/agencies/whd/fmla).

SECTION I – EMPLOYER

Either the employee or the employer may complete Section I. While use of this form is optional, this form asks the health care provider for the information necessary for a complete and sufficient medical certification, which is set out at 29 C.F.R. § 825.306. **You may not ask the employee to provide more information than allowed under the FMLA regulations, 29 C.F.R. §§ 825.306-825.308.** Additionally, you **may not** request a certification for FMLA leave to bond with a healthy newborn child or a child placed for adoption or foster care.

Employers must generally maintain records and documents relating to medical information, medical certifications, recertifications, or medical histories of employees created for FMLA purposes as confidential medical records in separate files/records from the usual personnel files and in accordance with 29 C.F.R. § 1630.14(c)(1), if the Americans with Disabilities Act applies, and in accordance with 29 C.F.R. § 1635.9, if the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act applies.

(1) Employee name: _____
First Middle Last

(2) Employer name: _____ Date: _____ (mm/dd/yyyy)
(List date certification requested)

(3) The medical certification must be returned by _____ (mm/dd/yyyy)
(Must allow at least 15 calendar days from the date requested, unless it is not feasible despite the employee's diligent, good faith efforts.)

(4) Employee's job title: _____ Job description (is / is not) attached.
Employee's regular work schedule: _____
Statement of the employee's essential job functions: _____

(The essential functions of the employee's position are determined with reference to the position the employee held at the time the employee notified the employer of the need for leave or the leave started, whichever is earlier.)

SECTION II - HEALTH CARE PROVIDER

Please provide your contact information, complete all relevant parts of this Section, and sign the form. Your patient has requested leave under the FMLA. The FMLA allows an employer to require that the employee submit a timely, complete, and sufficient medical certification to support a request for FMLA leave due to the serious health condition of the employee. For FMLA purposes, a "serious health condition" means an illness, injury, impairment, or physical or mental condition that involves *inpatient care* or *continuing treatment by a health care provider*. For more information about the definitions of a serious health condition under the FMLA, see the chart on page 4.

You may, but are **not required** to, provide other appropriate medical facts including symptoms, diagnosis, or any regimen of continuing treatment such as the use of specialized equipment. Please note that some state or local laws may not allow disclosure of private medical information about the patient's serious health condition, such as providing the diagnosis and/or course of treatment.

Employee Name: _____

Health Care Provider's name: (Print) _____

Health Care Provider's business address: _____

Type of practice / Medical specialty: _____

Telephone: (____) _____ Fax: (____) _____ E-mail: _____

PART A: Medical Information

Limit your response to the medical condition(s) for which the employee is seeking FMLA leave. Your answers should be your **best estimate** based upon your medical knowledge, experience, and examination of the patient. **After completing Part A, complete Part B to provide information about the amount of leave needed.** Note: For FMLA purposes, "incapacity" means the inability to work, attend school, or perform regular daily activities due to the condition, treatment of the condition, or recovery from the condition. Do not provide information about genetic tests, as defined in 29 C.F.R. § 1635.3(f), genetic services, as defined in 29 C.F.R. § 1635.3(e), or the manifestation of disease or disorder in the employee's family members, 29 C.F.R. § 1635.3(b).

(1) State the approximate date the condition started or will start: _____ (mm/dd/yyyy)

(2) Provide your **best estimate** of how long the condition lasted or will last: _____

(3) Check the box(es) for the questions below, as applicable. For all box(es) checked, the amount of leave needed must be provided in Part B.

Inpatient Care: The patient (has been / is expected to be) admitted for an overnight stay in a hospital, hospice, or residential medical care facility on the following date(s): _____

Incapacity plus Treatment: (e.g. outpatient surgery, strep throat)

Due to the condition, the patient (has been / is expected to be) incapacitated for *more than* three consecutive, full calendar days from _____ (mm/dd/yyyy) to _____ (mm/dd/yyyy).

The patient (was / will be) seen on the following date(s): _____

The condition (has / has not) also resulted in a course of continuing treatment under the supervision of a health care provider (e.g. prescription medication (other than over-the-counter) or therapy requiring special equipment)

Pregnancy: The condition is pregnancy. List the expected delivery date: _____ (mm/dd/yyyy).

Chronic Conditions: (e.g. asthma, migraine headaches) Due to the condition, it is medically necessary for the patient to have treatment visits at least twice per year.

Permanent or Long Term Conditions: (e.g. Alzheimer's, terminal stages of cancer) Due to the condition, incapacity is permanent or long term and requires the continuing supervision of a health care provider (even if active treatment is not being provided).

Conditions requiring Multiple Treatments: (e.g. chemotherapy treatments, restorative surgery) Due to the condition, it is medically necessary for the patient to receive multiple treatments.

None of the above: If none of the above condition(s) were checked, (i.e., inpatient care, pregnancy) no additional information is needed. Go to page 4 to sign and date the form.

Employee Name: _____

- (4) If needed, briefly describe other appropriate medical facts related to the condition(s) for which the employee seeks FMLA leave. (e.g., use of nebulizer, dialysis) _____

PART B: Amount of Leave Needed

For the medical condition(s) checked in Part A, complete all that apply. Several questions seek a response as to the frequency or duration of a condition, treatment, etc. Your answer should be your **best estimate** based upon your medical knowledge, experience, and examination of the patient. Be as specific as you can; terms such as “lifetime,” “unknown,” or “indeterminate” may not be sufficient to determine FMLA coverage.

- (5) Due to the condition, the patient (had / will have) **planned medical treatment(s)** (scheduled medical visits) (e.g. psychotherapy, prenatal appointments) on the following date(s): _____

- (6) Due to the condition, the patient (was / will be) **referred to other health care provider(s)** for evaluation or treatment(s).

State the nature of such treatments: (e.g. cardiologist, physical therapy) _____

Provide your **best estimate** of the beginning date _____ (mm/dd/yyyy) and end date _____ (mm/dd/yyyy) for the treatment(s).

Provide your **best estimate** of the duration of the treatment(s), including any period(s) of recovery (e.g. 3 days/week) _____

- (7) Due to the condition, it is medically necessary for the employee to work a **reduced schedule**.

Provide your **best estimate** of the reduced schedule the employee is able to work. From _____ (mm/dd/yyyy) to _____ (mm/dd/yyyy) the employee is able to work: (e.g., 5 hours/day, up to 25 hours a week)

- (8) Due to the condition, the patient (was / will be) **incapacitated for a continuous period of time**, including any time for treatment(s) and/or recovery.

Provide your **best estimate** of the beginning date _____ (mm/dd/yyyy) and end date _____ (mm/dd/yyyy) for the period of incapacity.

- (9) Due to the condition, it (was / is / will be) medically necessary for the employee to be absent from work on an **intermittent basis** (periodically), including for any episodes of incapacity i.e., episodic flare-ups. Provide your **best estimate** of how often (frequency) and how long (duration) the episodes of incapacity will likely last.

Over the next 6 months, episodes of incapacity are estimated to occur _____ times per (day / week / month) and are likely to last approximately _____ (hours / days) per episode.

Employee Name: _____

PART C: Essential Job Functions

If provided, the information in Section I question #4 may be used to answer this question. If the employer fails to provide a statement of the employee’s essential functions or a job description, answer these questions based upon the employee’s own description of the essential job functions. An employee who must be absent from work to receive medical treatment(s), such as scheduled medical visits, for a serious health condition is considered to be *not able* to perform the essential job functions of the position during the absence for treatment(s).

(10) Due to the condition, the employee (was not able / is not able / will not be able) to perform *one or more* of the essential job function(s). Identify at least one essential job function the employee is not able to perform:

Signature of Health Care Provider _____ Date _____ (mm/dd/yyyy)

Definitions of a Serious Health Condition (See 29 C.F.R. §§ 825.113-.115)
Inpatient Care
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• An overnight stay in a hospital, hospice, or residential medical care facility.• Inpatient care includes any period of incapacity or any subsequent treatment in connection with the overnight stay.
Continuing Treatment by a Health Care Provider (any one or more of the following)
<p><u>Incapacity Plus Treatment:</u> A period of incapacity of more than three consecutive, full calendar days, and any subsequent treatment or period of incapacity relating to the same condition, that also involves either:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Two or more in-person visits to a health care provider for treatment within 30 days of the first day of incapacity unless extenuating circumstances exist. The first visit must be within seven days of the first day of incapacity; or,○ At least one in-person visit to a health care provider for treatment within seven days of the first day of incapacity, which results in a regimen of continuing treatment under the supervision of the health care provider. For example, the health provider might prescribe a course of prescription medication or therapy requiring special equipment.
<p><u>Pregnancy:</u> Any period of incapacity due to pregnancy or for prenatal care.</p>
<p><u>Chronic Conditions:</u> Any period of incapacity due to or treatment for a chronic serious health condition, such as diabetes, asthma, migraine headaches. A chronic serious health condition is one which requires visits to a health care provider (or nurse supervised by the provider) at least twice a year and recurs over an extended period of time. A chronic condition may cause episodic rather than a continuing period of incapacity.</p>
<p><u>Permanent or Long-term Conditions:</u> A period of incapacity which is permanent or long-term due to a condition for which treatment may not be effective, but which requires the continuing supervision of a health care provider, such as Alzheimer’s disease or the terminal stages of cancer.</p>
<p><u>Conditions Requiring Multiple Treatments:</u> Restorative surgery after an accident or other injury; or, a condition that would likely result in a period of incapacity of more than three consecutive, full calendar days if the patient did not receive the treatment.</p>

PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT NOTICE AND PUBLIC BURDEN STATEMENT

If submitted, it is mandatory for employers to retain a copy of this disclosure in their records for three years. 29 U.S.C. § 2616; 29 C.F.R. § 825.500. Persons are not required to respond to this collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The Department of Labor estimates that it will take an average of 15 minutes for respondents to complete this collection of information, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. If you have any comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, send them to the Administrator, Wage and Hour Division, U.S. Department of Labor, Room S-3502, 200 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20210.

DO NOT SEND COMPLETED FORM TO THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR. RETURN TO THE PATIENT.

**Certification of Health Care Provider for
Family Member's Serious Health Condition
under the Family and Medical Leave Act**

**U.S. Department of Labor
Wage Hour Division**



**DO NOT SEND COMPLETED FORM TO THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR.
RETURN TO THE PATIENT.**

OMB Control Number: 1235-0003
Expires: 6/30/2023

The Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) provides that an employer may require an employee seeking FMLA leave to care for a family member with a serious health condition to submit a medical certification issued by the family member's health care provider. 29 U.S.C. §§ 2613, 2614(c)(3); 29 C.F.R. § 825.305. The employer must give the employee **at least 15 calendar days** to provide the certification. If the employee fails to provide complete and sufficient medical certification, his or her FMLA leave request may be denied. 29 C.F.R. § 825.313. Information about the FMLA may be found [on the WHD website at www.dol.gov/agencies/whd/fmla](http://www.dol.gov/agencies/whd/fmla).

SECTION I - EMPLOYER

Either the employee or the employer may complete Section I. While use of this form is optional, this form asks the health care provider for the information necessary for a complete and sufficient medical certification, which is set out at 29 C.F.R. § 825.306. **You may not ask the employee to provide more information than allowed under the FMLA regulations, 29 C.F.R. §§ 825.306-825.308.** Additionally, you **may not** request a certification for FMLA leave to bond with a healthy newborn child or a child placed for adoption or foster care.

Employers must generally maintain records and documents relating to medical information, medical certifications, recertifications, or medical histories of employees or employees' family members created for FMLA purposes as confidential medical records in separate files/records from the usual personnel files and in accordance with 29 C.F.R. § 1630.14(c)(1), if the Americans with Disabilities Act applies, and in accordance with 29 C.F.R. § 1635.9, if the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act applies.

(1) Employee name: _____
First Middle Last

(2) Employer name: _____ Date: _____ (mm/dd/yyyy)
(List date certification requested)

(3) The medical certification must be returned by _____ (mm/dd/yyyy)
(Must allow at least 15 calendar days from the date requested, unless it is not feasible despite the employee's diligent, good faith efforts.)

SECTION II - EMPLOYEE

Please complete and sign Section II before providing this form to your family member or your family member's health care provider. The FMLA allows an employer to require that you submit a timely, complete, and sufficient medical certification to support a request for FMLA leave due to the serious health condition of your family member. If requested by your employer, your response is required to obtain or retain the benefit of the FMLA protections. 29 U.S.C. §§ 2613, 2614(c)(3). **You are responsible for making sure the medical certification is provided to your employer within the time frame requested, which must be at least 15 calendar days.** 29 C.F.R. §§ 825.305-825.306. Failure to provide a complete and sufficient medical certification may result in a denial of your FMLA leave request. 29 C.F.R. § 825.313.

(1) Name of the family member for whom you will provide care: _____

(2) Select the relationship of the family member to you. The family member is your:
 Spouse Parent Child, under age 18
 Child, age 18 or older and incapable of self-care because of a mental or physical disability

Spouse means a husband or wife as defined or recognized in the state where the individual was married, including in a common law marriage or same-sex marriage. The terms "child" and "parent" include *in loco parentis* relationships in which a person assumes the obligations of a parent to a child. An employee may take FMLA leave to care for an individual who assumed the obligations of a parent to the employee when the employee was a child. An employee may also take FMLA leave to care for a child for whom the employee has assumed the obligations of a parent. No legal or biological relationship is necessary.

Employee Name: _____

(3) Briefly describe the care you will provide to your family member: *(Check all that apply)*

- Assistance with basic medical, hygienic, nutritional, or safety needs Transportation
 Physical Care Psychological Comfort Other: _____

(4) Give your **best estimate** of the amount of leave needed to provide the care described: _____

(5) If a **reduced work schedule** is necessary to provide the care described, give your **best estimate** of the reduced schedule you are able to work. From _____ *(mm/dd/yyyy)* to _____ *(mm/dd/yyyy)*, I am able to work _____ *(hours per day)* _____ *(days per week)*.

Employee Signature _____ Date _____ *(mm/dd/yyyy)*

SECTION III - HEALTH CARE PROVIDER

Please provide your contact information, complete all relevant parts of this Section, and sign the form below. A family member of your patient has requested leave under the FMLA to care for your patient. The FMLA allows an employer to require that the employee submit a timely, complete, and sufficient medical certification to support a request for FMLA leave to care for a family member with a serious health condition. For FMLA purposes, a “serious health condition” means an illness, injury, impairment, or physical or mental condition that *involves inpatient care or continuing treatment by a health care provider*. For more information about the definitions of a serious health condition under the FMLA, see the chart at the end of the form.

You also may, but are **not required** to, provide other appropriate medical facts including symptoms, diagnosis, or any regimen of continuing treatment such as the use of specialized equipment. Please note that some state or local laws may not allow disclosure of private medical information about the patient’s serious health condition, such as providing the diagnosis and/or course of treatment.

Health Care Provider’s name: *(Print)* _____

Health Care Provider’s business address: _____

Type of practice / Medical specialty: _____

Telephone: (____) _____ Fax: (____) _____ E-mail: _____

PART A: Medical Information

Limit your response to the medical condition for which the employee is seeking FMLA leave. Your answers should be your **best estimate** based upon your medical knowledge, experience, and examination of the patient. **After completing Part A, complete Part B to provide information about the amount of leave needed.** Note: For FMLA purposes, “incapacity” means the inability to work, attend school, or perform regular daily activities due to the condition, treatment of the condition, or recovery from the condition. Do not provide information about genetic tests, as defined in 29 C.F.R. § 1635.3(f), genetic services, as defined in 29 C.F.R. § 1635.3(e), or the manifestation of disease or disorder in the employee’s family members, 29 C.F.R. § 1635.3(b).

(1) Patient’s Name: _____

(2) State the approximate date the condition started or will start: _____ *(mm/dd/yyyy)*

(3) Provide your **best estimate** of how long the condition lasted or will last: _____

(4) For FMLA to apply, care of the patient must be medically necessary. Briefly describe the type of care needed by the patient *(e.g., assistance with basic medical, hygienic, nutritional, safety, transportation needs, physical care, or psychological comfort)*.

Employee Name: _____

(5) Check the box(es) for the questions below, as applicable. For all box(es) checked, the amount of leave needed must be provided in Part B.

Inpatient Care: The patient (has been / is expected to be) admitted for an overnight stay in a hospital, hospice, or residential medical care facility on the following date(s): _____

Incapacity plus Treatment: (e.g. outpatient surgery, strep throat)

Due to the condition, the patient (has been / is expected to be) incapacitated for *more than three* consecutive, full calendar days from _____ (mm/dd/yyyy) to _____ (mm/dd/yyyy).

The patient (was / will be) seen on the following date(s): _____

The condition (has / has not) also resulted in a course of continuing treatment under the supervision of a health care provider (e.g. prescription medication (other than over-the-counter) or therapy requiring special equipment)

Pregnancy: The condition is pregnancy. List the expected delivery date: _____ (mm/dd/yyyy).

Chronic Conditions: (e.g. asthma, migraine headaches) Due to the condition, it is medically necessary for the patient to have treatment visits at least twice per year.

Permanent or Long Term Conditions: (e.g. Alzheimer's, terminal stages of cancer) Due to the condition, incapacity is permanent or long term and requires the continuing supervision of a health care provider (even if active treatment is not being provided).

Conditions requiring Multiple Treatments: (e.g. chemotherapy treatments, restorative surgery) Due to the condition, it is medically necessary for the patient to receive multiple treatments.

None of the above: If none of the above condition(s) were checked, (i.e., inpatient care, pregnancy) no additional information is needed. Go to page 4 to sign and date the form.

(6) If needed, briefly describe other appropriate medical facts related to the condition(s) for which the employee seeks FMLA leave. (e.g., use of nebulizer, dialysis) _____

PART B: Amount of Leave Needed

For the medical condition(s) checked in Part A, complete all that apply. Several questions seek a response as to the frequency or duration of a condition, treatment, etc. Your answer should be your **best estimate** based upon your medical knowledge, experience, and examination of the patient. Be as specific as you can; terms such as "lifetime," "unknown," or "indeterminate" may not be sufficient to determine if the benefits and protections of the FMLA apply.

(7) Due to the condition, the patient (had / will have) **planned medical treatment(s)** (scheduled medical visits) (e.g. psychotherapy, prenatal appointments) on the following date(s): _____

(8) Due to the condition, the patient (was / will be) **referred to other health care provider(s)** for evaluation or treatment(s).

State the nature of such treatments: (e.g. cardiologist, physical therapy) _____

Provide your **best estimate** of the beginning date _____ (mm/dd/yyyy) and end date _____ (mm/dd/yyyy) for the treatment(s).

Provide your **best estimate** of the duration of the treatment(s), including any period(s) of recovery _____ (e.g. 3 days/week)

Employee Name: _____

- (9) Due to the condition, the patient (was / will be) **incapacitated for a continuous period of time**, including any time for treatment(s) and/or recovery.

Provide your **best estimate** of the beginning date: _____ (mm/dd/yyyy) and end date _____ (mm/dd/yyyy) for the period of incapacity.

- (10) Due to the condition it, (was / is / will be) medically necessary for the employee to be absent from work to provide care for the patient on an **intermittent basis** (periodically), including for any episodes of incapacity i.e., episodic flare-ups. Provide your **best estimate** of how often (frequency) and how long (duration) the episodes of incapacity will likely last.

Over the next 6 months, episodes of incapacity are estimated to occur _____ times per (day / week / month) and are likely to last approximately _____ (hours / days) per episode.

Signature of Health Care Provider _____ Date _____ (mm/dd/yyyy)

Definitions of a Serious Health Condition (See 29 C.F.R. §§ 825.113-.115)

Inpatient Care

- An overnight stay in a hospital, hospice, or residential medical care facility.
- Inpatient care includes any period of incapacity or any subsequent treatment in connection with the overnight stay.

Continuing Treatment by a Health Care Provider (any one or more of the following)

Incapacity Plus Treatment: A period of incapacity of more than three consecutive, full calendar days, and any subsequent treatment or period of incapacity relating to the same condition, that also involves either:

- Two or more in-person visits to a health care provider for treatment within 30 days of the first day of incapacity unless extenuating circumstances exist. The first visit must be within seven days of the first day of incapacity; or,
- At least one in-person visit to a health care provider for treatment within seven days of the first day of incapacity, which results in a regimen of continuing treatment under the supervision of the health care provider. For example, the health provider might prescribe a course of prescription medication or therapy requiring special equipment.

Pregnancy: Any period of incapacity due to pregnancy or for prenatal care.

Chronic Conditions: Any period of incapacity due to or treatment for a chronic serious health condition, such as diabetes, asthma, migraine headaches. A chronic serious health condition is one which requires visits to a health care provider (or nurse supervised by the provider) at least twice a year and recurs over an extended period of time. A chronic condition may cause episodic rather than a continuing period of incapacity.

Permanent or Long-term Conditions: A period of incapacity which is permanent or long-term due to a condition for which treatment may not be effective, but which requires the continuing supervision of a health care provider, such as Alzheimer's disease or the terminal stages of cancer.

Conditions Requiring Multiple Treatments: Restorative surgery after an accident or other injury; or, a condition that would likely result in a period of incapacity of more than three consecutive, full calendar days if the patient did not receive the treatment.

PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT NOTICE AND PUBLIC BURDEN STATEMENT

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DO NOT SEND COMPLETED FORM TO THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR. RETURN TO THE PATIENT.

**Certification for Military Family Leave for
Qualifying Exigency
under the Family and Medical Leave Act**

**U.S. Department of Labor
Wage and Hour Division**



**DO NOT SEND FORM TO THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR.
RETURN THE COMPLETED FORM TO THE EMPLOYER.**

OMB Control Number: 1235-0003
Expires: 6/30/2023

The Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) provides that eligible employees may take FMLA leave for a qualifying exigency while the employee's spouse, child, or parent (the military member) is on covered active duty or has been notified of an impending call or order to covered active duty. The FMLA allows an employer to require an employee seeking FMLA leave due to a qualifying exigency to submit a certification. 29 U.S.C. §§ 2613, 2614(c)(3). The employer must give the employee **at least 15 calendar days** to provide the certification. 29 C.F.R. § 825.305(b). If the employee fails to provide complete and sufficient certification, the employee's FMLA leave request may be denied. 29 C.F.R. § 825.313. Information about the FMLA may be found [on the WHD website at http://www.dol.gov/agencies/whd/fmla](http://www.dol.gov/agencies/whd/fmla).

SECTION I - EMPLOYER

Either the employee or the employer may complete Section I. While use of this form is optional, it asks the employee for the information necessary for a complete and sufficient qualifying exigency certification, which is set out at 29 C.F.R. § 825.309. **You may not ask the employee to provide more information than allowed under the FMLA regulations, 29 C.F.R. § 825.309.**

- (1) Employee name: _____
First Middle Last
- (2) Employer name: _____ Date: _____ (mm/dd/yyyy)
(List date certification requested)
- (3) This certification must be returned by _____ (mm/dd/yyyy).
(Must allow at least 15 calendar days from the date requested, unless it is not feasible despite the employee's diligent, good faith efforts.)

SECTION II - EMPLOYEE

Please complete all Parts of Section II and sign the form before returning it to your employer. The FMLA allows an employer to require that you submit a timely, complete, and sufficient certification to support a request for FMLA leave due to a qualifying exigency. If requested by your employer, your response is required to obtain the benefits and protections of the FMLA. 29 C.F.R. § 825.309. Failure to provide a complete and sufficient certification may result in a denial of your FMLA leave request. A complete and sufficient certification to support a request for FMLA leave due to a qualifying exigency includes written documentation confirming a military member's covered active duty or call to covered active duty status. **You are responsible for making sure the certification is provided to your employer within the time frame requested, which must be at least 15 calendar days.** 29 C.F.R. § 825.313.

- (1) Provide the name of the military member on covered active duty or call to covered active duty status:

_____ *First Middle Last*

- (2) Select your relationship of the military member. The military member is your:

Spouse Parent Child, of any age

Spouse means a husband or wife as defined or recognized in the state where the individual was married, including a common law marriage or same-sex marriage. The terms "child" and "parent" include *in loco parentis* relationships in which a person assumes the obligations of a parent to a child. An employee may take FMLA leave for a qualifying exigency related a military member who assumed the obligations of a parent to the employee when the employee was a child. An employee may also take FMLA leave for a qualifying exigency related a military member for whom the employee has assumed the obligations of a parent. No legal or biological relationship is necessary.

Employee Name: _____

PART A: COVERED ACTIVE DUTY STATUS

Covered active duty or call to covered active duty in the case of a member of the Regular Armed Forces means duty during the deployment of the member with the Armed Forces to a foreign country. Covered active duty or call to covered active duty in the case of a member of the Reserve components means duty during the deployment of the member with the Armed Forces to a foreign country under a Federal call or order to active duty in support of a contingency operation pursuant to: Section 688 of Title 10 of the United States Code; Section 12301(a) of Title 10 of the United States Code; Section 12302 of Title 10 of the United States Code; Section 12304 of Title 10 of the United States Code; Section 12305 of Title 10 of the United States Code; Section 12406 of Title 10 of the United States Code; chapter 15 of Title 10 of the United States Code; or, any other provision of law during a war or during a national emergency declared by the President or Congress so long as it is in support of a contingency operation. 10 U.S.C. § 101(a)(13)(B).

An employer may require the employee to provide a copy of the military member's active duty orders or other documentation issued by the military which indicates that the military member is on covered active duty or call to covered active duty status, and the dates of the military member's covered active duty service. **This information need only be provided to the employer once, unless additional leave is needed for a different military member or different deployment.**

- (3) Provide the dates of the military member's covered active duty service: _____
- (4) Please check one of the following and attach the indicated written document to support that the military member is on covered active duty or call to covered active duty status:
 - A copy of the military member's covered active duty orders
 - Other documentation from the military indicating that the military member is on covered active duty or has been notified of an impending call to covered active duty, such as official military correspondence from the military member's chain of command
 - I have previously provided my employer with sufficient written documentation confirming the military member's covered active duty or call to covered active duty status

PART B: APPROPRIATE FACTS

Under the FMLA, leave can be taken for a number of qualifying exigencies. 29 C.F.R. § 825.126(b). Complete and sufficient certification to support a request for FMLA leave due to a qualifying exigency includes available written documentation which supports the need for leave such as a copy of a meeting announcement for informational briefings sponsored by the military, a document confirming the military member's Rest and Recuperation leave, or other documentation issued by the military which indicates that the military member has been granted Rest and Recuperation leave, or a document confirming an appointment with a third party (e.g., a counselor or school official, or staff at a care facility, a copy of a bill for services for the handling of legal or financial affairs). Please provide appropriate facts related to the particular qualifying exigency to support the FMLA leave request, including information on the type of qualifying exigency and any available written documentation of the exigency event.

- (5) Select the appropriate **Qualifying Exigency Category** and, if needed, provide additional information related to the event:
 - Short notice deployment (*i.e.*, deployment within seven or fewer days of notice)
 - Military events and related activities (*e.g.*, *official ceremonies or events, or family support and assistance programs*):

 - Childcare related activities for the child of the military member (*e.g.*, *arranging for alternative childcare*):

Employee Name: _____

- Care for the military member's parent (*e.g., admitting or transferring the parent to a new care facility*):

 - Financial and legal arrangements related to the deployment (*e.g., obtaining military identification cards*)
 - Counseling related to the deployment (*i.e., counseling provided by someone other than a health care provider*)
 - Military member's short-term, temporary Rest and Recuperation leave (R&R) (leave for this reason is limited to 15 calendar days for each instance of R&R)
 - Post deployment activities (*e.g., arrival ceremonies, or reintegration briefings and events*): _____
 - Any other event that the employee and employer agree is a qualifying exigency: _____
- (6) **Available written documentation** supporting this request for leave is (attached / not attached / not available).

PART C: AMOUNT OF LEAVE NEEDED

Provide information concerning the amount of leave that will be needed. Several questions in this section seek a response as to the frequency or duration of the qualifying exigency leave needed. Be as specific as you can; terms such as "unknown" or "indeterminate" may not be sufficient to determine FMLA coverage.

- (7) List the approximate date exigency started or will start: _____ (mm/dd/yyyy)
- (8) Provide your best estimate of how long the exigency lasted or will last:
From _____ (mm/dd/yyyy) to _____ (mm/dd/yyyy)
- (9) Due to a qualifying exigency, I need to work a **reduced schedule**. Provide your **best estimate** of the reduced schedule you are able to work:
From _____ (mm/dd/yyyy) to _____ (mm/dd/yyyy)
I am able to work _____
(*e.g., 5 hours/day, up to 25 hours a week*)
- (10) Due to a qualifying exigency, I will need to be absent from work for a **continuous period of time**. Provide your **best estimate** of the beginning and ending dates for the period of absence:
From _____ (mm/dd/yyyy) to _____ (mm/dd/yyyy)

Employee Name: _____

(11) Due to a qualifying exigency, I will need to be absent from work on an **intermittent basis** (periodically).

Provide your **best estimate** of the frequency (how often) and duration (how long) of each appointment, meeting, or leave event, including any travel time.

Over the next 6 months, absences on an **intermittent basis** are estimated to occur: _____ times per
(day / week / month) and are likely to last approximately _____ (hours / days) per episode.

(12) My leave is due to a qualifying exigency that involves **Rest and Recuperation leave** (R & R) of the military member (leave for this reason is limited to 15 calendar days for each instance of R & R leave).

List the dates of the military member's R & R leave:

From _____ (mm/dd/yyyy) to _____ (mm/dd/yyyy)

PART D: THIRD PARTY INFORMATION

If applicable, please provide information below that may be used by your employer to verify meetings or appointments with a third party related to the qualifying exigency. Examples of meetings with third parties include: arranging for childcare or parental care, to attend non-medical counseling, to attend meetings with school, childcare or parental care providers, to make financial or legal arrangements, to act as the military member's representative before a federal, state, or local agency for purposes of obtaining, arranging or appealing military service benefits, or to attend any event sponsored by the military or military service organizations. This information may be used by your employer to verify that the information contained on this form is accurate.

Individual (e.g., name and title) or Entity / Organization: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: (____) _____ Fax: (____) _____ E-mail: _____

Describe purpose of meeting: _____

Employee
Signature _____ Date _____ (mm/dd/yyyy)

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**DO NOT SEND THE COMPLETED FORM TO THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR.
RETURN FORM TO THE EMPLOYER.**

**Certification for Serious Injury or Illness of a
Current Servicemember for Military Caregiver Leave
under the Family and Medical Leave Act**

**U.S. Department of Labor
Wage Hour Division**



**DO NOT SEND COMPLETED FORM TO THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR.
RETURN TO THE PATIENT.**

OMB Control Number: 1235-0003
Expires: 6/30/2023

The Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) provides that eligible employees may take FMLA leave to care for a covered servicemember with a serious illness or injury. The FMLA allows an employer to require an employee seeking FMLA leave for this purpose to submit a medical certification. 29 U.S.C. §§ 2613, 2614(c)(3). The employer must give the employee **at least 15 calendar days** to provide the certification. If the employee fails to provide complete and sufficient certification, his or her FMLA leave request may be denied. 29 C.F.R. § 825.313. Information about the FMLA may be found [on the WHD website at www.dol.gov/agencies/whd/fmla](http://www.dol.gov/agencies/whd/fmla).

SECTION I - EMPLOYER

Either the employee or the employer may complete Section I. While use of this form is optional, it asks the health care provider for the information necessary for a complete and sufficient medical certification. **You may not ask the employee to provide more information than allowed under the FMLA regulations, 29 C.F.R. § 825.310. Recertifications are not allowed for FMLA leave to care for a covered servicemember. Where medical certification is requested by an employer, an employee may not be held liable for administrative delays in the issuance of military documents, despite the employee's diligent, good-faith efforts to obtain such documents.** An employer requiring an employee to submit a certification for leave to care for a covered servicemember **must** accept as sufficient certification invitational travel orders (ITOs) or invitational travel authorizations (ITAs) issued to any family member to join an injured or ill servicemember at the servicemember's bedside. An ITO or ITA is sufficient certification for the duration of time specified in the ITO or ITA.

Employers must generally maintain records and documents relating to medical information, medical certifications, recertifications, or medical histories of employees or employees' family members created for FMLA purposes as confidential medical records in separate files/records from the usual personnel files and in accordance with 29 C.F.R. § 1630.14(c)(1), if the Americans with Disabilities Act applies, and in accordance with 29 C.F.R. § 1635.9, if the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act applies.

- (1) Employee name: _____
First Middle Last
- (2) Employer name: _____ Date: _____ (mm/dd/yyyy)
(List date certification requested)
- (3) This certification must be returned by: _____ (mm/dd/yyyy)
(Must allow at least 15 calendar days from the date requested, unless it is not feasible despite the employee's diligent, good faith efforts.)

SECTION II - EMPLOYEE and/or CURRENT SERVICEMEMBER

Please complete all Parts of Section II before having the servicemember's health care provider complete Section III. The FMLA allows an employer to require that an employee submit a timely, complete, and sufficient certification to support a request for FMLA leave due to a serious injury or illness of a covered servicemember. If requested by your employer, your response is required to obtain or retain the benefit of FMLA-protected leave.

PART A: EMPLOYEE INFORMATION

- (1) Name of the current servicemember for whom employee is requesting leave: _____

Employee Name: _____

(2) Select your relationship to the current servicemember. You are the current servicemember's:

- Spouse Parent Child Next of Kin

Spouse means a husband or wife as defined or recognized in the state where the individual was married, including a common law marriage or same-sex marriage. The terms "child" and "parent" include *in loco parentis* relationships in which a person assumes the obligations of a parent to a child. An employee may take FMLA leave to care for a covered servicemember who assumed the obligations of a parent to the employee when the employee was a child. An employee may also take FMLA leave to care for a covered servicemember for whom the employee has assumed the obligations of a parent. No biological or legal relationship is necessary. "Next of kin" is the servicemember's nearest blood relative, other than the spouse, parent, son, or daughter, in the following order of priority: (1) a blood relative as designated in writing by the servicemember for purposes of FMLA leave, (2) blood relatives granted legal custody of the servicemember, (3) brothers and sisters, (4) grandparents, (5) aunts and uncles, and (6) first cousins.

PART B: SERVICEMEMBER INFORMATION AND CARE TO BE PROVIDED TO THE SERVICEMEMBER

(3) The servicemember (is / is not) a current member of the Regular Armed Forces, the National Guard or Reserves. If yes, provide the servicemember's military branch, rank and unit currently assigned to: _____

(4) The servicemember (is / is not) assigned to a military medical treatment facility as an outpatient or to a unit established for the purpose of providing command and control of members of the Armed Forces receiving medical care as outpatients, such as a medical hold or warrior transition unit. If yes, provide the name of the medical treatment facility or unit: _____

(5) The servicemember (is / is not) on the Temporary Disability Retired List (TDRL).

(6) Briefly describe the care you will provide to the servicemember: *(Check all that apply)*

- Assistance with basic medical, hygienic, nutritional, or safety needs
 Psychological Comfort Physical Care
 Transportation Other: _____

(7) Give your **best estimate** of the amount of leave needed to provide the care described: _____

(8) If a reduced work schedule is necessary to provide the care described, give your **best estimate** of the reduced work schedule you are able to work. From _____ (mm/dd/yyyy) to _____ (mm/dd/yyyy), I am able to work: _____ (hours per day) _____ (days per week).

SECTION III - HEALTH CARE PROVIDER

Please provide your contact information, complete all Parts of this Section fully and completely, and sign the form below. The employee listed at Section I has requested leave under the FMLA to care for a family member who is a current member of the Regular Armed Forces, the National Guard, or the Reserves who is undergoing medical treatment, recuperation, or therapy, is otherwise in outpatient status, or is otherwise on the temporary disability retired list for a serious injury or illness. Note: For purposes of FMLA leave, a serious injury or illness is one that was incurred in the line of duty on active duty in the Armed Forces or that existed before the beginning of the member's active duty and was aggravated by service in the line of duty on active duty in the Armed Forces that may render the servicemember medically unfit to perform the duties of the servicemember's office, grade, rank, or rating. "Need for care" includes both physical and psychological care. It includes situations where, for example, due to his or her serious injury or illness, the servicemember is not able to care for his or her own basic medical, hygienic, or nutritional needs or safety, or needs transportation to the doctor. It also includes providing psychological comfort and reassurance which would be beneficial to the servicemember who is receiving inpatient or home

Employee Name: _____

care. A complete and sufficient certification to support a request for FMLA leave due to a current servicemember's serious injury or illness includes written documentation confirming that the servicemember's injury or illness was incurred in the line of duty on active duty or if not, that the current servicemember's injury or illness existed before the beginning of the servicemember's active duty and was aggravated by service in the line of duty on active duty in the Armed Forces, and that the current servicemember is undergoing treatment for such injury or illness by a health care provider listed above.

PART A: HEALTH CARE PROVIDER INFORMATION

Health Care Provider's Name: *(Print)* _____

Health Care Provider's business address: _____

Type of practice/Medical specialty: _____

Telephone: (____) _____ Fax: (____) _____ E-mail: _____

Please select the type of FMLA health care provider you are:

- DOD health care provider
- VA health care provider
- DOD TRICARE network authorized private health care provider
- DOD non-network TRICARE authorized private health care provider
- Health care provider as defined in 29 C.F.R. § 825.125

PART B: MEDICAL INFORMATION

Please provide appropriate medical information of the patient as requested below. Limit your responses to the servicemember's condition for which the employee is seeking leave. If you are unable to make some of the military-related determinations contained below, you are permitted to rely upon determinations from an authorized DOD representative, such as a DOD recovery care coordinator. Do not provide information about genetic tests, as defined in 29 C.F.R. § 1635.3(f), or genetic services, as defined in 29 C.F.R. § 1635.3(e).

(1) Patient's Name: _____

(2) List the approximate date condition started or will start: _____ *(mm/dd/yyyy)*

(3) Provide your **best estimate** of how long the condition will last: _____

(4) The servicemember's injury or illness: *(Select as appropriate)*

- Was incurred in the line of duty on active duty.
- Existed before the beginning of the servicemember's active duty and was aggravated by service in the line of duty on active duty.
- None of the above.

(5) The servicemember (is / is not) undergoing medical treatment, recuperation, or therapy for this condition.

If yes, briefly describe the medical treatment, recuperation or therapy: _____

Employee Name: _____

- (6) The current servicemember's medical condition is classified as: *(Select as appropriate)*
- (VSI) Very Seriously Ill/Injured** Illness/Injury is of such a severity that life is imminently endangered. Family members are requested at bedside immediately. *Please note this is an internal DOD casualty assistance designation used by DOD healthcare providers.*
 - (SI) Seriously Ill/Injured** Illness/injury is of such severity that there is cause for immediate concern, but there is no imminent danger to life. Family members are requested at bedside. *Please note this is an internal DOD casualty assistance designation used by DOD healthcare providers.*
 - OTHER Ill/Injured** A serious injury or illness that may render the servicemember medically unfit to perform the duties of the member's office, grade, rank, or rating.
 - NONE OF THE ABOVE.** *Note to Employee: If this box is checked, you may still be eligible to take leave to care for a covered family member with a "serious health condition" under 29 C.F.R. § 825.113 of the FMLA. If such leave is requested, you may be required to complete DOL FORM WH-380-F or an employer-provided form seeking the same information.*

PART C: AMOUNT OF LEAVE NEEDED

For the medical condition checked in Part B, complete all that apply. Some questions seek a response as to the frequency or duration of a condition, treatment, etc. Your answer should be your **best estimate** based upon your medical knowledge, experience, and examination of the patient. Be as specific as you can; terms such as "lifetime," "unknown," or "indeterminate" may not be sufficient to determine FMLA coverage.

- (7) Due to the condition, the servicemember will need care for a **continuous period of time**, including any time for treatment and recovery. Provide your **best estimate** of the beginning date _____ (mm/dd/yyyy) and end date _____ (mm/dd/yyyy) for this period of time.
- (8) Due to the condition, it is medically necessary for the servicemember to attend **planned medical treatment** appointments (scheduled medical visits). Provide your **best estimate** of the duration of the treatment(s), including any period(s) of recovery _____ (e.g. 3 days/week)
- (9) Due to the condition, it is medically necessary for the servicemember to receive care on an **intermittent basis** (periodically), such as the care needed because of episodic flare-ups of the condition or assisting with the servicemember's recovery. Provide your **best estimate** of how often (frequency) and how long (the duration) the intermittent episodes will likely last.

Over the next 6 months, intermittent care is estimated to occur _____ times per
(day / week / month) and are likely to last approximately _____ (hours / days) per episode.

Signature of
Health Care Provider _____ Date _____ (mm/dd/yyyy)

PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT NOTICE AND PUBLIC BURDEN STATEMENT

If submitted, it is mandatory for employers to retain a copy of this disclosure in their records for three years, in accordance with 29 U.S.C. § 2616; 29 C.F.R. § 825.500. Persons are not required to respond to this collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The Department of Labor estimates that it will take an average of 15 minutes for respondents to complete this collection of information, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. If you have any comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, send them to the Administrator, Wage and Hour Division, U.S. Department of Labor, Room S-3502, 200 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20210.

DO NOT SEND THE COMPLETED FORM TO THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR. RETURN IT TO THE PATIENT.

RELEASE FORM
(For Child Age 6 to Not Attend School)

The undersigned, being first duly sworn, states upon oath as follows:

I am the parent or guardian of _____ (Child's name). The Child's date of birth is _____. The Child has or will reach the age of six prior to January 1 of the current school year, but will not reach age seven prior to January 1 of the current school year.

I elect to not enroll the Child in an accredited school this school year and hereby affirm (check or initial appropriate exception for attendance):

_____ the Child is participating in an education program that the parent or guardian believes will prepare the child to enter grade one for the following school year; or

_____ the parent or guardian intends for the Child to participate in a school which has elected or will elect pursuant to law not to meet accreditation or approval requirements and the parent or guardian intends to provide the Commissioner of Education with a statement pursuant to section 79-1601(3) on or before the child's seventh birthday.

Dated this ____ day of _____, 20__.

Parent or Guardian

Disenroll to Attend Homeschool

I am the parent or guardian of _____ (Child's name).

I elect to disenroll the Child from an accredited school this school year and hereby affirm _that I intend for the Child to participate in a school which has elected or will elect pursuant to law not to meet accreditation or approval requirements (a homeschool) and will provide the Commissioner of Education with a statement confirming such homeschool status.

Parent or Guardian

Date

AFFIDAVIT RELEASE FORM
(For Child Age 6 to Not Attend School)

The undersigned, being first duly sworn, states upon oath as follows:

I am the parent or guardian of _____ (Child's name). The Child's date of birth is _____. The Child has or will reach the age of six prior to January 1 of the current school year, but will not reach age seven prior to January 1 of the current school year.

I elect to not enroll the Child in an accredited school this school year and hereby affirm (check or initial appropriate exception for attendance):

_____ the Child is participating in an education program that the parent or guardian believes will prepare the child to enter grade one for the following school year; or

_____ the parent or guardian intends for the Child to participate in a school which has elected or will elect pursuant to law not to meet accreditation or approval requirements and the parent or guardian intends to provide the Commissioner of Education with a statement pursuant to section 79-1601(3) on or before the child's seventh birthday.

~~IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this affidavit is signed and acknowledged~~ **Dated** this ____ day of _____, 20__.

Parent or Guardian

~~STATE OF NEBRASKA~~ _____)
_____) ~~ss.~~
~~COUNTY OF~~ _____)

~~The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this ____ day of _____, 20__ by _____.~~

Notary Public

Disenroll to Attend Homeschool

I am the parent or guardian of _____ (Child's name).

I elect to disenroll the Child from an accredited school this school year and hereby affirm _that I intend for the Child to participate in a school which has elected or will elect pursuant to law not to meet accreditation or approval requirements (a homeschool) and will provide the Commissioner of Education with a statement confirming such homeschool status.

Parent or Guardian

Date



NEBRASKA WITHDRAWAL FROM MANDATORY ATTENDANCE FORM

_____, _____, _____ submitted a written request to
 Requester's Name Address City
 _____, _____, alleging that he/she was a
 District Name District Code
 person with legal or actual charge or control of _____, with the child's
 Child's First Name Child's Middle Name Child's Last Name
 date of birth being ____/____/____, and having a NDE Student ID _____, and that said child be withdrawn
 Month/Day/Year ID #
 from school under the provisions of section 79-202 of the Nebraska Reissue Revised Statutes. Said child currently
 attends _____.
 School of Attendance Name School of Attendance Code

An exit interview was conducted on ____ day of _____, 20____, with the following being present:
 Day Month Year

 First and Last Name of Person Making Written Request with Legal or Actual Control of Child

 First and Last Name of Child (May be Left Blank if Reason is Illness)

 First and Last Name of Principal or Designee if Child is Currently Enrolled in District

_____, _____,
 First and Last Name(s) of Other Persons Present and their Relationship to the Child

 First and Last Name of Superintendent or Designee

_____ presented evidence that (a) the person has legal or actual charge or control of the
 Name of Person Making Request
 child and (b) the child would be withdrawing due to:

- (i) financial hardships requiring the child to be employed to support the child's family or one or more dependents of the child, or
- (ii) an illness of the child making attendance impossible or impracticable.

All known alternative educational opportunities, including vocational courses of study, that are available to the child in the school district and how withdrawing from school is likely to reduce potential future earnings for the child and increase the likelihood of the child being unemployed in the future were presented and discussed.

I, being the person making the written request to withdraw the child, hereby affixes my signature representing that I attended said exit interview, all of the requirements having been presented and discussed, and I agree to the withdrawal of the child.

 Signature of Requester

 Signature of Child (May be left blank if Reason is Illness)

My signature below acknowledges that the exit interview was held, the required information was provided and discussed at the interview, and, that in my opinion, based upon the evidence presented at the exit interview, the person making the written request does in fact have legal or actual charge or control of the child, and the child is experiencing:

- (a) financial hardships requiring the child to be employed to support the child's family or one or more dependents of the child, or
- (b) an illness of the child making attendance impossible or impracticable.

 Superintendent's or Designee's Signature

 Date of Signature

79-202. (1) A person who has legal or actual charge or control of a child who is at least sixteen years of age but less than eighteen years of age may withdraw such child from school before graduation and be exempt from the mandatory attendance requirements of section 79-201 if an exit interview is conducted and the withdrawal form is signed as required by subsections (2) through (5) of this section for a child enrolled in a public, private, denominational, or parochial school or if a signed notarized release form is filed with the Commissioner of Education as required by subsection (6) of this section for a child enrolled in a school that elects pursuant to section 79-1601 not to meet accreditation or approval requirements.

(2) Upon the written request of any person who has legal or actual charge or control of a child who is at least sixteen years of age but less than eighteen years of age, the superintendent of a school district or the superintendent's designee shall conduct an exit interview if the child (a) is enrolled in a school operated by the school district or (b) resides in the school district and is enrolled in a private, denominational, or parochial school.

(3) The superintendent or the superintendent's designee shall set the time and place for the exit interview which shall be personally attended by: (a) The child, unless the withdrawal is being requested due to an illness of the child making attendance at the exit interview impossible or impracticable; (b) the person who has legal or actual charge or control of the child who requested the exit interview; (c) the superintendent or the superintendent's designee; (d) the child's principal or the principal's designee if the child at the time of the exit interview is enrolled in a school operated by the school district; and (e) any other person requested by any of the required parties who agrees to attend the exit interview and is available at the time designated for the exit interview which may include, but need not be limited to, other school district personnel or the child's principal or such principal's designee if the child is enrolled in a private, denominational, or parochial school.

(4) At the exit interview, the person making the written request pursuant to subsection (2) of this section shall present evidence that (a) the person has legal or actual charge or control of the child and (b) the child would be withdrawing due to either (i) financial hardships requiring the child to be employed to support the child's family or one or more dependents of the child or (ii) an illness of the child making attendance impossible or impracticable. The superintendent or superintendent's designee shall identify all known alternative educational opportunities, including vocational courses of study, that are available to the child in the school district and how withdrawing from school is likely to reduce potential future earnings for the child and increase the likelihood of the child being unemployed in the future. Any other relevant information may be presented and discussed by any of the parties in attendance.

(5)(a) At the conclusion of the exit interview, the person making the written request pursuant to subsection (2) of this section may sign the withdrawal form provided by the school district agreeing to the withdrawal of the child or may rescind the written request for the withdrawal. (b) Any withdrawal form signed by the person making the written request pursuant to subsection (2) of this section shall be valid only if (i) the child signs the form unless the withdrawal is being requested due to an illness of the child making attendance at the exit interview impossible or impracticable and (ii) the superintendent or superintendent's designee signs the form acknowledging that the interview was held, the required information was provided and discussed at the interview, and, in the opinion of the superintendent or the superintendent's designee, the person making the written request pursuant to subsection (2) of this section does in fact have legal or actual charge or control of the child and the child is experiencing either (A) financial hardships requiring the child to be employed to support the child's family or one or more dependents of the child or (B) an illness making attendance impossible or impracticable.

(6) A person who has legal or actual charge or control of the child who is at least sixteen years of age but less than eighteen years of age may withdraw such a child before graduation and be exempt from the mandatory attendance requirements of section 79-201 if such child has been enrolled in a school that elects pursuant to section 79-1601 not to meet the accreditation or approval requirements by filing with the State Department of Education a signed notarized release on a form prescribed by the Commissioner of Education.

(7) A child who has been withdrawn from school pursuant to this section may enroll in a school district at a later date as provided in section 79-215 or may enroll in a private, denominational, or parochial school or a school which elects pursuant to section 79-1601 not to meet accreditation or approval requirements. Any such enrollment shall void the withdrawal form previously entered, and the provisions of sections 79-201 to 79-210 shall apply to the child.

(8) The Commissioner of Education shall prescribe the required form for withdrawals pursuant to this section and determine and direct either that (a) withdrawal forms of school districts for any child who is withdrawn from school pursuant to this section and subdivision (3)(c) of section 79-201 shall be provided annually to the State Department of Education or (b) data regarding such students shall be collected under subsection (2) of section 79-528.

Students (& Employees)Anti-discrimination, Anti-harassment, and Anti-retaliation**A. Elimination of Discrimination.**

The [Name] Public School District hereby gives this statement of compliance and intends to comply with all state and federal laws prohibiting discrimination. This school district intends to take any necessary measures to assure compliance with such laws against any prohibited form of discrimination.

The [Name] Public School District does not discriminate on the basis of sex, disability, race (including skin color, hair texture and protective hairstyles), color, religion, veteran status, national or ethnic origin, age, marital status, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical condition, sexual orientation or gender identity, or other protected status in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following persons have been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies:

Students: [Name of Director], Director of Student Services [or other title], [Street Address], [City], NE [Zip Code] (____) ____ - ____ ([Email Address]).

Employees and Others: [Name of Director], Human Resources Director [or other title], [Street Address], [City], NE [Zip Code] (____) ____ - ____ ([Email Address]).

Complaints or concerns involving discrimination or needs for accommodation or access should be addressed to the appropriate Coordinator. For further information about anti-discrimination laws and regulations, or to file a complaint of discrimination with the Office for Civil Rights in the U.S. Department of Education (OCR), please contact OCR at One Petticoat Lane, 1010 Walnut Street, 3rd Floor, Suite 320, Kansas City, Missouri 64106, (816) 268-0550 (voice), Fax (816) 268-0599, (800) 877-8339 (telecommunications device for the deaf), or ocr.kansascity@ed.gov.

B. Prohibited Harassment, Discrimination, and Retaliation of Employees, Students and Others.**1. Purpose:**

The [Name] Public School District is committed to offering employment and educational opportunity to its employees and students in a climate free of discrimination. Accordingly, unlawful discrimination, harassment and retaliation of any kind by District employees, including, co-workers, non-employees (such as volunteers), third parties, and others is strictly prohibited and will not be tolerated.

Harassment is a form of discrimination and includes verbal, non-verbal, written, graphic, or physical conduct relating to a person's sex, disability, race (including skin color, hair texture and protective hairstyles), color, religion, veteran status, national or ethnic origin, age, marital status, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical condition, sexual orientation or gender identity, or other protected status, that is sufficiently serious to deny, interfere with, or limit a person's ability to participate in or benefit from an educational or work program or activity, including, but not limited to:

- a. Conduct that is sufficiently severe or pervasive to create an intimidating, hostile, or abusive educational or work environment, or
- b. Requiring an individual to endure the offensive conduct as a condition of continued employment or educational programs or activities, including the receipt of aids, benefits, and services.

Educational programs and activities include all academic, educational, extracurricular, athletic, and other programs of the school, whether those programs take place in a school's facilities, on a school bus, at a class or training program sponsored by the school at another location, or elsewhere.

Discriminatory harassment because of a person's sex, disability, race (including skin color, hair texture and protective hairstyles), color, religion, veteran status, national or ethnic origin, age, marital status, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical condition, sexual orientation or gender identity, or other protected status, may include, but is not limited to:

- a. Name-calling,
- b. Teasing or taunting,
- c. Insults, slurs, or derogatory names or remarks,
- d. Demeaning jokes,
- e. Inappropriate gestures,
- f. Graffiti or inappropriate written or electronic material,
- g. Visual displays, such as cartoons, posters, or electronic images,
- h. Threats or intimidating or hostile conduct,
- i. Physical acts of aggression, assault, or violence, or
- j. Criminal offenses

The following examples are additional or more specific examples of conduct that may constitute sexual harassment:

- a. Unwelcome sexual advances or propositions,
- b. Requests or pressure for sexual favors,
- c. Comments about an individual's body, sexual activity, or sexual attractiveness,
- d. Physical contact or touching of a sexual nature, including touching intimate body parts and inappropriate patting, pinching, rubbing, or brushing against another's body,
- e. Physical sexual acts of aggression, assault, or violence, including criminal offenses (such as rape, sexual assault or battery, and sexually motivated stalking), against a person's will or where a person is incapable of giving consent due to the victim's age, intellectual disability, or use of drugs or alcohol,
- f. Requiring sexual favors or contact in exchange for aids, benefits, or services, such as grades, awards, privileges, promotions, etc., or
- g. Gender-based harassment; acts of verbal, nonverbal, written, graphic, or physical conduct based on sex or sex-stereotyping, but not involving conduct of a sexual nature.

If the District knows or reasonably should know about possible harassment, including violence, the District will conduct a prompt, adequate, reliable, thorough, and impartial investigation to determine whether unlawful harassment occurred (see section entitled “Grievance Procedures,” below), and take appropriate interim measures, if necessary. If the District determines that unlawful harassment occurred, the District will take prompt and effective action to eliminate the harassment, prevent its recurrence, and remedy its effects, if appropriate. If harassment or violence that occurs off school property creates a hostile environment at school, the District will follow this policy and grievance procedure, within the scope of its authority.

All District employees are expected to take prompt and appropriate actions to report and prevent discrimination, harassment, and retaliation by others. Employees who witness or become aware of possible discrimination, including harassment and retaliation, must immediately report the conduct to his or her supervisor or the compliance coordinator designated to handle complaints of discrimination (designated compliance coordinator).

2. Anti-retaliation:

The District prohibits retaliation, intimidation, threats, coercion, or discrimination against any person for opposing discrimination, including harassment, or for participating in the District's discrimination complaint process or making a complaint, testifying, assisting, or participating in any manner, in an investigation, proceeding, or hearing. Retaliation is a form of discrimination.

The District will take immediate steps to stop retaliation and prevent its recurrence against the alleged victim and any person associated with the alleged victim. These steps will include, but are not limited to, notifying students, employees, and others, that they are protected from retaliation, ensuring that they know how to report future complaints, and initiating follow-up contact with the complainant to determine if any additional acts of discrimination, harassment, or retaliation have occurred. If retaliation occurs, the District will take prompt and strong responsive action, including possible discipline, including expulsion or termination, if applicable.

3. Grievance (or Complaint) Procedures:

Employees or students should initially report all instances of discrimination, harassment or retaliation to their immediate supervisor or teacher or to the compliance coordinator designated to handle complaints of discrimination (designated coordinator). If the employee or student is uncomfortable in presenting the problem to the supervisor or teacher, or if the supervisor or teacher is the problem, the employee or student may report the alleged discrimination, harassment or retaliation (“discrimination”) to the designated coordinator, or in the case of students, to another staff person (such as a counselor or principal).

Other individuals may report alleged discrimination to the designated coordinator. If the designated coordinator is the person alleged to have committed the discriminatory act, then the complaint should be submitted to the Superintendent for assignment. A discrimination complaint form is attached to this grievance procedure and is available in the office of each District building, on the District's website, and from the designated coordinators.

Under no circumstances will a person filing a complaint or grievance involving discrimination be retaliated against for filing the complaint or grievance.

i. Level 1 (Investigation and Findings):

Once the District receives a grievance, complaint or report alleging discrimination, harassment, or retaliation, or becomes aware of possible discriminatory conduct, the District will conduct a prompt, adequate, reliable, thorough, and impartial investigation to determine whether unlawful harassment occurred. If necessary, the District will take immediate, interim action or measures to protect the alleged victim and prevent further potential discrimination, harassment, or retaliation during the pending investigation. The alleged victim will be notified of his or her options to avoid contact with the alleged harasser, such as changing a class or prohibiting the alleged harasser from having any contact with the alleged victim pending the result of the District's investigation. The District will minimize any burden on the alleged victim when taking interim measures to protect the alleged victim.

The District will promptly investigate all complaints of discrimination, even if an outside entity or law enforcement agency is investigating a complaint involving the same facts and allegations. The District will not wait for the conclusion or outcome of a criminal investigation or proceeding to begin an investigation required by this grievance procedure. If the allegation(s) involve possible criminal conduct, the District will notify the complainant of his or her right to file a criminal complaint, and District employees will not dissuade the complainant from filing a criminal complaint either during or after the District's investigation.

The District will aim to complete its investigation within **ten (10) working days** after receiving a complaint or report, unless extenuating circumstances exist. Extenuating circumstances may include the unavailability of witnesses due to illness or incapacitation, or additional time needed because of the complexity of the investigation, the need for outside experts to evaluate the evidence (such as forensic evidence), or multiple complainants or victims. If extenuating circumstances exist, the extended timeframe to complete the investigation will **not exceed ten (10) additional working days without the consent of the complainant, unless the alleged victim agrees to a longer timeline.** Periodic status updates will be given to the parties, when appropriate.

The District's investigation will include, but is not limited to:

- a. Providing the parties with the opportunity to present witnesses and provide evidence.
- b. An evaluation of all relevant information and documentation relating to the alleged discriminatory conduct.
- c. For allegations involving harassment, some of the factors the District will consider include: 1) the nature of the conduct and whether the conduct was unwelcome, 2) the surrounding circumstances, expectations, and relationships, 3) the degree to which the conduct affected one or more students' education, 4) the type, frequency, and duration of the conduct, 5) the identity of and relationship between the alleged harasser and the suspect or suspects of the harassment, 6) the number of individuals

involved, 7) the age (and sex, if applicable) of the alleged harasser and the alleged victim(s) of the harassment, 8) the location of the incidents and the context in which they occurred, 9) the totality of the circumstances, and 10) other relevant evidence.

- d. A review of the evidence using a “preponderance of the evidence” standard (based on the evidence, is it more likely than not that discrimination, harassment, or retaliation occurred?)

The designated compliance coordinator (or designated investigator) will complete an investigative report, which will include:

- a. A summary of the facts,
- b. Findings regarding whether discrimination, harassment or other inappropriate conduct occurred, and
- c. If a finding is made that discrimination, harassment or other inappropriate conduct occurred, the recommended remedy or remedies necessary to eliminate discrimination, harassment or other inappropriate conduct.

If someone other than the designated compliance coordinator conducted the investigation, the compliance coordinator will review, approve, and sign the investigative report. The District will ensure that prompt, appropriate, and effective remedies are provided if a finding of discrimination, harassment, or retaliation is made. The District will maintain relevant documentation obtained during the investigation and documentation supportive of the findings and any subsequent determinations, including the investigative report, witness statements, interview summaries, and any transcripts or audio recordings, pertaining to the investigative and appeal proceedings.

The District will send concurrently to the parties written notification of the decision (findings and any remedy) regarding the complaint within **one (1) working day** after the investigation is completed. The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), 20 U.S.C. § 11232g; 34 C.F.R. Part 99, permits the District to disclose relevant information to a student who was discriminated against or harassed.

ii. Level 2 (Appeal to the Superintendent):

If a party is not satisfied with the findings or remedies (or both) set forth in the decision, he or she may file an appeal in writing with the Superintendent within **five (5) working days** after receiving the decision. The Superintendent will review the appeal and the investigative documentation and decision, conduct additional investigation, if necessary, and issue a written determination about the appeal **within ten (10) working days** after receiving the appeal. The party who filed the appeal will be sent the Superintendent’s determination at the time it is issued, and a copy will be sent to the designated compliance coordinator. [If the Superintendent is the subject of the complaint, the party will file the appeal directly with the Board.]

iii. Level 3 (Appeal to the Board):

If the party is not satisfied with the Superintendent’s determination, he or she may file an appeal in writing with the Board of Education **within five (5) working days** after receiving the Superintendent’s determination. The Board of Education will review the appeal, the Superintendent’s determination, the investigative documentation and decision,

and allow the party to address the Board at a Board meeting to present his or her appeal. The party will be allowed to address the Board at the Board's next regularly scheduled Board meeting (unless the Board receives the appeal within one week of the next regularly scheduled Board meeting) or at a time and date agreed to by the Board, designated compliance officer and the party. The Board will issue a written determination about the appeal **within thirty (30) days** after the party addresses the Board. The party who filed the appeal will be sent the Board's determination at the time it is issued, and a copy will be sent to the designated compliance coordinator. The Board's determination, and any actions taken, will be final on behalf of the District.

4. Confidentiality:

The identity of the complainant will be kept confidential to the extent permitted by state and federal law. The District will notify the complainant of the anti-retaliation provisions of applicable laws and that the District will take steps to prevent retaliation and will take prompt and strong responsive actions if retaliation occurs.

If a complainant requests confidentiality or asks that the complaint not be pursued, the District will take all reasonable steps to investigate and respond to the complaint consistent with the request for confidentiality or the request not to pursue an investigation, as long as doing so does not prevent the District from responding effectively to the harassment and preventing harassment of other students. If a complainant insists that his or her name or other identifiable information not be disclosed to the alleged perpetrator, the District will inform the complainant that its ability to respond may be limited. Even if the District cannot take disciplinary action against the alleged harasser, the District will pursue other steps to limit the effects of the alleged harassment and prevent its recurrence, if warranted,

5. Training:

The District will ensure that relevant District employees, including but not limited to officials, administrators, teachers, substitute teachers, counselors, nurses and other health personnel, coaches, assistant coaches, paraprofessionals, aides, bus drivers, and school law enforcement officers, are adequately trained so they understand and know how to identify acts of discrimination, harassment, and retaliation, and how to report it to appropriate District officials or employees.

6. Designated Compliance Coordinators:

Designated compliance coordinators will be responsible for:

- a. Coordinating efforts to comply with anti-discrimination, anti-harassment, and anti-retaliation laws and regulations.
- b. Coordinating and implementing training for students and employees pertaining to anti-discrimination, anti-harassment and anti-retaliation laws and regulations, including the training areas listed above.
- c. Investigating complaints of discrimination (unless the coordinator designates other trained individuals to investigate).
- d. Monitoring substantiated complaints or reports of discrimination, as needed (and with the assistance of other District employees, if necessary), to ensure discrimination or harassment does not recur, and that retaliation conduct does not occur or recur.

- e. Overseeing discrimination complaints, including identifying and addressing any patterns or systemic problems, and reporting such patterns or systemic problems to the Superintendent and the Board of Education.
- f. Communicating regularly with the District's law enforcement unit investigating cases and providing current information to them pertaining to anti-discrimination, anti-harassment, and anti-retaliation standards and compliance requirements.
- g. Reviewing all evidence in harassment or violence cases brought before the District's disciplinary committee or administrator to determine whether the complainants are entitled to a remedy under anti-discrimination laws and regulations that was not available in the disciplinary process.
- h. Ensuring that investigations address whether other students or employees may have been subjected to discrimination, including harassment and retaliation.
- i. Determining whether District employees with knowledge of allegations of discrimination, including harassment and retaliation, failed to carry out their duties in reporting the allegations to the designated compliance coordinator and responding to the allegations.
- j. Recommending changes to this policy and grievance procedure.
- k. Performing other duties as assigned.

The designated compliance coordinators will not have other job responsibilities that may create a conflict of interest with their coordinator responsibilities.

7. Preventive Measures:

The District will publish and widely distribute on an ongoing basis a notice of nondiscrimination (notice) in electronic and printed formats, including prominently displaying the notice on the District's website and posting the notice at each building in the District. The District also will designate an employee to coordinate compliance with anti-discrimination laws (see Designated Compliance Coordinator section, above, for further information on compliance coordinator), and widely publish and disseminate this grievance procedure, including prominently posting it on the District's website, at each building in the District, reprinting it in District publications, such as handbooks, and sending it electronically to members of the school community. The District will provide training to employees and students at the beginning of each academic year in the areas (B.6.a-g) identified in the Training section, above.

The District also may distribute specific harassment and violence materials (such as sexual violence), including a summary of the District's anti-discrimination, anti-harassment, and anti-retaliation policy and grievance procedure, and a list of victim resources, during events such as school assemblies and back to school nights, if recent incidents or allegations warrant additional education to the school community.

Date of Adoption: [Insert Date]

Students (& Employees)Anti-discrimination, Anti-harassment, and Anti-retaliation**A. Elimination of Discrimination.**

The [Name] Public School District hereby gives this statement of compliance and intends to comply with all state and federal laws prohibiting discrimination. This school district intends to take any necessary measures to assure compliance with such laws against any prohibited form of discrimination.

The [Name] Public School District does not discriminate on the basis of sex, disability, race (including skin color, hair texture and protective hairstyles), color, religion, veteran status, national or ethnic origin, age, marital status, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical condition, sexual orientation or gender identity, or other protected status in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following persons have been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies:

Students: [Name of Director], Director of Student Services [or other title], [Street Address], [City], NE [Zip Code] (____) ____ - ____ ([Email Address]).

Employees and Others: [Name of Director], Human Resources Director [or other title], [Street Address], [City], NE [Zip Code] (____) ____ - ____ ([Email Address]).

Complaints or concerns involving discrimination or needs for accommodation or access should be addressed to the appropriate Coordinator. For further information about anti-discrimination laws and regulations, or to file a complaint of discrimination with the Office for Civil Rights in the U.S. Department of Education (OCR), please contact OCR at One Petticoat Lane, 1010 Walnut Street, 3rd Floor, Suite 320, Kansas City, Missouri 64106, (816) 268-0550 (voice), Fax (816) 268-0599, (800) 877-8339 (telecommunications device for the deaf), or ocr.kansascity@ed.gov.

B. Prohibited Harassment, Discrimination, and Retaliation of Employees, Students and Others.**1. Purpose:**

The [Name] Public School District is committed to offering employment and educational opportunity to its employees and students in a climate free of discrimination. Accordingly, unlawful discrimination, harassment and retaliation of any kind by District employees, including, co-workers, non-employees (such as volunteers), third parties, and others is strictly prohibited and will not be tolerated.

Harassment is a form of discrimination and includes verbal, non-verbal, written, graphic, or physical conduct relating to a person's sex, disability, race (including skin color, hair texture and protective hairstyles), color, religion, veteran status, national or ethnic origin, age, marital status, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical condition, sexual orientation or gender identity, or other protected status, that is sufficiently serious to deny, interfere with, or limit a person's ability to participate in or benefit from an educational or work program or activity, including, but not limited to:

- a. Conduct that is sufficiently severe or pervasive to create an intimidating, hostile, or abusive educational or work environment, or
- b. Requiring an individual to endure the offensive conduct as a condition of continued employment or educational programs or activities, including the receipt of aids, benefits, and services.

Educational programs and activities include all academic, educational, extracurricular, athletic, and other programs of the school, whether those programs take place in a school's facilities, on a school bus, at a class or training program sponsored by the school at another location, or elsewhere.

Discriminatory harassment because of a person's sex, disability, race (including skin color, hair texture and protective hairstyles), color, religion, veteran status, national or ethnic origin, age, marital status, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical condition, sexual orientation or gender identity, or other protected status, may include, but is not limited to:

- a. Name-calling,
- b. Teasing or taunting,
- c. Insults, slurs, or derogatory names or remarks,
- d. Demeaning jokes,
- e. Inappropriate gestures,
- f. Graffiti or inappropriate written or electronic material,
- g. Visual displays, such as cartoons, posters, or electronic images,
- h. Threats or intimidating or hostile conduct,
- i. Physical acts of aggression, assault, or violence, or
- j. Criminal offenses

The following examples are additional or more specific examples of conduct that may constitute sexual harassment:

- a. Unwelcome sexual advances or propositions,
- b. Requests or pressure for sexual favors,
- c. Comments about an individual's body, sexual activity, or sexual attractiveness,
- d. Physical contact or touching of a sexual nature, including touching intimate body parts and inappropriate patting, pinching, rubbing, or brushing against another's body,
- e. Physical sexual acts of aggression, assault, or violence, including criminal offenses (such as rape, sexual assault or battery, and sexually motivated stalking), against a person's will or where a person is incapable of giving consent due to the victim's age, intellectual disability, or use of drugs or alcohol,
- f. Requiring sexual favors or contact in exchange for aids, benefits, or services, such as grades, awards, privileges, promotions, etc., or
- g. Gender-based harassment; acts of verbal, nonverbal, written, graphic, or physical conduct based on sex or sex-stereotyping, but not involving conduct of a sexual nature.

If the District knows or reasonably should know about possible harassment, including violence, the District will conduct a prompt, adequate, reliable, thorough, and impartial investigation to determine whether unlawful harassment occurred (see section entitled “Grievance Procedures,” below), and take appropriate interim measures, if necessary. If the District determines that unlawful harassment occurred, the District will take prompt and effective action to eliminate the harassment, prevent its recurrence, and remedy its effects, if appropriate. If harassment or violence that occurs off school property creates a hostile environment at school, the District will follow this policy and grievance procedure, within the scope of its authority.

All District employees are expected to take prompt and appropriate actions to report and prevent discrimination, harassment, and retaliation by others. Employees who witness or become aware of possible discrimination, including harassment and retaliation, must immediately report the conduct to his or her supervisor or the compliance coordinator designated to handle complaints of discrimination (designated compliance coordinator).

2. Anti-retaliation:

The District prohibits retaliation, intimidation, threats, coercion, or discrimination against any person for opposing discrimination, including harassment, or for participating in the District's discrimination complaint process or making a complaint, testifying, assisting, or participating in any manner, in an investigation, proceeding, or hearing. Retaliation is a form of discrimination.

The District will take immediate steps to stop retaliation and prevent its recurrence against the alleged victim and any person associated with the alleged victim. These steps will include, but are not limited to, notifying students, employees, and others, that they are protected from retaliation, ensuring that they know how to report future complaints, and initiating follow-up contact with the complainant to determine if any additional acts of discrimination, harassment, or retaliation have occurred. If retaliation occurs, the District will take prompt and strong responsive action, including possible discipline, including expulsion or termination, if applicable.

3. Grievance (or Complaint) Procedures:

Employees or students should initially report all instances of discrimination, harassment or retaliation to their immediate supervisor or teacher or to the compliance coordinator designated to handle complaints of discrimination (designated coordinator). If the employee or student is uncomfortable in presenting the problem to the supervisor or teacher, or if the supervisor or teacher is the problem, the employee or student may report the alleged discrimination, harassment or retaliation (“discrimination”) to the designated coordinator, or in the case of students, to another staff person (such as a counselor or principal).

Other individuals may report alleged discrimination to the designated coordinator. If the designated coordinator is the person alleged to have committed the discriminatory act, then the complaint should be submitted to the Superintendent for assignment. A discrimination complaint form is attached to this grievance procedure and is available in the office of each District building, on the District's website, and from the designated coordinators.

Under no circumstances will a person filing a complaint or grievance involving discrimination be retaliated against for filing the complaint or grievance.

i. Level 1 (Investigation and Findings):

Once the District receives a grievance, complaint or report alleging discrimination, harassment, or retaliation, or becomes aware of possible discriminatory conduct, the District will conduct a prompt, adequate, reliable, thorough, and impartial investigation to determine whether unlawful harassment occurred. If necessary, the District will take immediate, interim action or measures to protect the alleged victim and prevent further potential discrimination, harassment, or retaliation during the pending investigation. The alleged victim will be notified of his or her options to avoid contact with the alleged harasser, such as changing a class or prohibiting the alleged harasser from having any contact with the alleged victim pending the result of the District's investigation. The District will minimize any burden on the alleged victim when taking interim measures to protect the alleged victim.

The District will promptly investigate all complaints of discrimination, even if an outside entity or law enforcement agency is investigating a complaint involving the same facts and allegations. The District will not wait for the conclusion or outcome of a criminal investigation or proceeding to begin an investigation required by this grievance procedure. If the allegation(s) involve possible criminal conduct, the District will notify the complainant of his or her right to file a criminal complaint, and District employees will not dissuade the complainant from filing a criminal complaint either during or after the District's investigation.

The District will aim to complete its investigation within **ten (10) working days** after receiving a complaint or report, unless extenuating circumstances exist. Extenuating circumstances may include the unavailability of witnesses due to illness or incapacitation, or additional time needed because of the complexity of the investigation, the need for outside experts to evaluate the evidence (such as forensic evidence), or multiple complainants or victims. If extenuating circumstances exist, the extended timeframe to complete the investigation will **not exceed ten (10) additional working days without the consent of the complainant, unless the alleged victim agrees to a longer timeline.** Periodic status updates will be given to the parties, when appropriate.

The District's investigation will include, but is not limited to:

- a. Providing the parties with the opportunity to present witnesses and provide evidence.
- b. An evaluation of all relevant information and documentation relating to the alleged discriminatory conduct.
- c. For allegations involving harassment, some of the factors the District will consider include: 1) the nature of the conduct and whether the conduct was unwelcome, 2) the surrounding circumstances, expectations, and relationships, 3) the degree to which the conduct affected one or more students' education, 4) the type, frequency, and duration of the conduct, 5) the identity of and relationship between the alleged harasser and the suspect or suspects of the harassment, 6) the number of individuals

involved, 7) the age (and sex, if applicable) of the alleged harasser and the alleged victim(s) of the harassment, 8) the location of the incidents and the context in which they occurred, 9) the totality of the circumstances, and 10) other relevant evidence.

- d. A review of the evidence using a “preponderance of the evidence” standard (based on the evidence, is it more likely than not that discrimination, harassment, or retaliation occurred?)

The designated compliance coordinator (or designated investigator) will complete an investigative report, which will include:

- a. A summary of the facts,
- b. Findings regarding whether discrimination, harassment or other inappropriate conduct occurred, and
- c. If a finding is made that discrimination, harassment or other inappropriate conduct occurred, the recommended remedy or remedies necessary to eliminate discrimination, harassment or other inappropriate conduct.

If someone other than the designated compliance coordinator conducted the investigation, the compliance coordinator will review, approve, and sign the investigative report. The District will ensure that prompt, appropriate, and effective remedies are provided if a finding of discrimination, harassment, or retaliation is made. The District will maintain relevant documentation obtained during the investigation and documentation supportive of the findings and any subsequent determinations, including the investigative report, witness statements, interview summaries, and any transcripts or audio recordings, pertaining to the investigative and appeal proceedings.

The District will send concurrently to the parties written notification of the decision (findings and any remedy) regarding the complaint within **one (1) working day** after the investigation is completed. The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), 20 U.S.C. § 11232g; 34 C.F.R. Part 99, permits the District to disclose relevant information to a student who was discriminated against or harassed.

ii. Level 2 (Appeal to the Superintendent):

If a party is not satisfied with the findings or remedies (or both) set forth in the decision, he or she may file an appeal in writing with the Superintendent within **five (5) working days** after receiving the decision. The Superintendent will review the appeal and the investigative documentation and decision, conduct additional investigation, if necessary, and issue a written determination about the appeal **within ten (10) working days** after receiving the appeal. The party who filed the appeal will be sent the Superintendent’s determination at the time it is issued, and a copy will be sent to the designated compliance coordinator. [If the Superintendent is the subject of the complaint, the party will file the appeal directly with the Board.]

iii. Level 3 (Appeal to the Board):

If the party is not satisfied with the Superintendent’s determination, he or she may file an appeal in writing with the Board of Education **within five (5) working days** after receiving the Superintendent’s determination. The Board of Education will review the appeal, the Superintendent’s determination, the investigative documentation and decision,

and allow the party to address the Board at a Board meeting to present his or her appeal. The party will be allowed to address the Board at the Board's next regularly scheduled Board meeting (unless the Board receives the appeal within one week of the next regularly scheduled Board meeting) or at a time and date agreed to by the Board, designated compliance officer and the party. The Board will issue a written determination about the appeal **within thirty (30) days** after the party addresses the Board. The party who filed the appeal will be sent the Board's determination at the time it is issued, and a copy will be sent to the designated compliance coordinator. The Board's determination, and any actions taken, will be final on behalf of the District.

4. Confidentiality:

The identity of the complainant will be kept confidential to the extent permitted by state and federal law. The District will notify the complainant of the anti-retaliation provisions of applicable laws and that the District will take steps to prevent retaliation and will take prompt and strong responsive actions if retaliation occurs.

If a complainant requests confidentiality or asks that the complaint not be pursued, the District will take all reasonable steps to investigate and respond to the complaint consistent with the request for confidentiality or the request not to pursue an investigation, as long as doing so does not prevent the District from responding effectively to the harassment and preventing harassment of other students. If a complainant insists that his or her name or other identifiable information not be disclosed to the alleged perpetrator, the District will inform the complainant that its ability to respond may be limited. Even if the District cannot take disciplinary action against the alleged harasser, the District will pursue other steps to limit the effects of the alleged harassment and prevent its recurrence, if warranted,

5. Training:

The District will ensure that relevant District employees, including but not limited to officials, administrators, teachers, substitute teachers, counselors, nurses and other health personnel, coaches, assistant coaches, paraprofessionals, aides, bus drivers, and school law enforcement officers, are adequately trained so they understand and know how to identify acts of discrimination, harassment, and retaliation, and how to report it to appropriate District officials or employees.

6. Designated Compliance Coordinators:

Designated compliance coordinators will be responsible for:

- a. Coordinating efforts to comply with anti-discrimination, anti-harassment, and anti-retaliation laws and regulations.
- b. Coordinating and implementing training for students and employees pertaining to anti-discrimination, anti-harassment and anti-retaliation laws and regulations, including the training areas listed above.
- c. Investigating complaints of discrimination (unless the coordinator designates other trained individuals to investigate).
- d. Monitoring substantiated complaints or reports of discrimination, as needed (and with the assistance of other District employees, if necessary), to ensure discrimination or harassment does not recur, and that retaliation conduct does not occur or recur.

- e. Overseeing discrimination complaints, including identifying and addressing any patterns or systemic problems, and reporting such patterns or systemic problems to the Superintendent and the Board of Education.
- f. Communicating regularly with the District's law enforcement unit investigating cases and providing current information to them pertaining to anti-discrimination, anti-harassment, and anti-retaliation standards and compliance requirements.
- g. Reviewing all evidence in harassment or violence cases brought before the District's disciplinary committee or administrator to determine whether the complainants are entitled to a remedy under anti-discrimination laws and regulations that was not available in the disciplinary process.
- h. Ensuring that investigations address whether other students or employees may have been subjected to discrimination, including harassment and retaliation.
- i. Determining whether District employees with knowledge of allegations of discrimination, including harassment and retaliation, failed to carry out their duties in reporting the allegations to the designated compliance coordinator and responding to the allegations.
- j. Recommending changes to this policy and grievance procedure.
- k. Performing other duties as assigned.

The designated compliance coordinators will not have other job responsibilities that may create a conflict of interest with their coordinator responsibilities.

7. Preventive Measures:

The District will publish and widely distribute on an ongoing basis a notice of nondiscrimination (notice) in electronic and printed formats, including prominently displaying the notice on the District's website and posting the notice at each building in the District. The District also will designate an employee to coordinate compliance with anti-discrimination laws (see Designated Compliance Coordinator section, above, for further information on compliance coordinator), and widely publish and disseminate this grievance procedure, including prominently posting it on the District's website, at each building in the District, reprinting it in District publications, such as handbooks, and sending it electronically to members of the school community. The District will provide training to employees and students at the beginning of each academic year in the areas (B.6.a-g) identified in the Training section, above.

The District also may distribute specific harassment and violence materials (such as sexual violence), including a summary of the District's anti-discrimination, anti-harassment, and anti-retaliation policy and grievance procedure, and a list of victim resources, during events such as school assemblies and back to school nights, if recent incidents or allegations warrant additional education to the school community.

Date of Adoption: [Insert Date]

**Complaint Form
Discrimination, Harassment or Retaliation**

The [Name] Public School District does not discriminate on the basis of sex, disability, race (including skin color, hair texture and protective hairstyles), color, religion, veteran status, national or ethnic origin, age, marital status, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical condition, sexual orientation or gender identity, or other protected status in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. This complaint form is to be used when a person has a complaint related to discrimination, harassment or retaliation on such bases in regard to employment or the programs and activities of the school district.

Refer to Board Policy 4003 and/or 5401 for the particulars of the complaint and grievance process. You may attach additional materials to this form if needed.

The applicable coordinator may be contacted if you have questions about filling out this complaint form:
Students: [Name of Director], Director of Student Services [or other title], [Street Address], [City], NE [Zip Code] (____) ____ - ____ ([Email Address]).
Employees and Others: [Name of Director], Human Resources Director [or other title], [Street Address], [City], NE [Zip Code] (____) ____ - ____ ([Email Address]).

Name: _____ Date: _____

(1) Description of the complaint: _____

_____.

(2) Names of any witnesses to the matter being complained about: _____

_____.

(3) Identify and attach any document supporting the complaint: _____
_____.

(4) Confidentiality: I ___ do___ do not give consent to my identity being shared with the person(s) against whom I am complaining. If I do not give consent, I understand that the investigation may be hindered, but that the District will nonetheless investigate and take prompt and effective action to remediate the concerns I have raised, if appropriate.

_____.

(5) Relief requested (what I want done in response to this complaint):

_____.

The undersigned states: The facts in this complaint are true to the best of my knowledge, information and belief. I give permission for an investigation to be made into this complaint. I understand that the District will take steps to prevent me being retaliated against for filing this complaint, that I am to notify the District if any such retaliation occurs, and that the District will take prompt and strong responsive action if retaliation occurs.

Received by: _____ Signature: _____
Date: _____

Complaint Form
Discrimination, Harassment or Retaliation

The [Name] Public School District does not discriminate on the basis of sex, disability, race (including skin color, hair texture and protective hairstyles), color, religion, veteran status, national or ethnic origin, age, marital status, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical condition, sexual orientation or gender identity, or other protected status in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. This complaint form is to be used when a person has a complaint related to discrimination, harassment or retaliation on such bases in regard to employment or the programs and activities of the school district.

Refer to Board Policy 4003 and/or 5401 for the particulars of the complaint and grievance process. You may attach additional materials to this form if needed.

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Students: [Name of Director], Director of Student Services [or other title], [Street Address], [City], NE [Zip Code] (____) ____ - ____ ([Email Address]).
Employees and Others: [Name of Director], Human Resources Director [or other title], [Street Address], [City], NE [Zip Code] (____) ____ - ____ ([Email Address]).

Name: _____ Date: _____

(1) Description of the complaint: _____

_____.

(2) Names of any witnesses to the matter being complained about: _____

_____.

(3) Identify and attach any document supporting the complaint: _____
_____.

(4) Confidentiality: I ___ do___ do not give consent to my identity being shared with the person(s) against whom I am complaining. If I do not give consent, I understand that the investigation may be hindered, but that the District will nonetheless investigate and take prompt and effective action to remediate the concerns I have raised, if appropriate.

_____.

(5) Relief requested (what I want done in response to this complaint):

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The undersigned states: The facts in this complaint are true to the best of my knowledge, information and belief. I give permission for an investigation to be made into this complaint. I understand that the District will take steps to prevent me being retaliated against for filing this complaint, that I am to notify the District if any such retaliation occurs, and that the District will take prompt and strong responsive action if retaliation occurs.

Signature: _____

Received by: _____ Date: _____

InstructionSpecial Education

[Name] Public Schools adopts this special education policy with the intent that the policy maintains the District's compliance with all applicable laws affecting special education services and programs. The Superintendent or designees shall develop regulations or procedures to implement these policies. Employees and contractors of the District are expected to comply with these policies and all regulations, guidelines and procedures related to this policy in all respects.

The District will abide by all state and federal laws relating to special education. The District's special education policy and regulations, guidelines and procedures related to this policy are to be interpreted so as to be in compliance with such laws. In the event of changes in law, the school administration shall be authorized to implement modifications of practice to comply with such changes (whether the changes impose more or less stringent procedural or substantive requirements) until such time as amended policies are adopted by the Board of Education. References herein to 92 NAC 51 citations are made to Rule 51 as in effect on the date of the adoption of these policies. In the event of renumbering or other revisions to Rule 51, the policy shall be interpreted and implemented consistent with such renumbering or revisions.

1. Free Appropriate Public Education

A free appropriate public education shall be made available to all children with disabilities residing in the District from date of diagnosis through the school year in which the student reaches 21 years of age, including children with disabilities who have been suspended or expelled.

Legal Reference: 92 NAC 51-004.01 through 004.03A and 007.07C2 through 007.07C6

2. Full Educational Opportunity Goal

The District shall take steps to ensure that its children with verified disabilities have available to them the variety of educational programs and services available to children without disabilities in the areas served by the District, including art, music, industrial arts, family consumer science education, and vocational education.

Legal Reference: 92 NAC 51-004.11A

3. Child Find

All children from birth to age twenty-one (21) with disabilities residing in the District, including children with disabilities who are homeless or are wards of the state or attending nonpublic schools, regardless of the severity of their disabilities, who are in need of special education and related services, will be identified, located and evaluated and a practical method shall be developed and implemented by the administration to determine which children with disabilities are currently receiving needed special education and related services. The District will publish annual notice of any significant activity that is designed to identify, locate, or evaluate children to publicly notify parents. The District will screen and evaluate all children with suspected disabilities birth through age 21, and will implement practical methods to track which children are currently receiving special education and related services. The District will provide student referrals that are accompanied by documentation of scientific, research, or evidence-based academic and/or behavioral interventions that have been implemented as designed for the appropriate period of time

to show effect or lack of effect that demonstrates the child is not making a sufficient rate of progress to meet age or state-approved, grade-level standards within a reasonable time frame. The District will provide sustained supervision to monitor the implementation of compliant practices for the Child Find Rule. The District will use supervision and monitoring data to identify schools and/or personnel that require technical assistance to support compliant practices in the area of Child Find, paying particular attention to the communities experiencing disproportionality in the schools. All District Child Find activities will be equitably available to all children regardless of race, ethnicity, language, location, transience, income level, and access to medical care.

Legal Reference: 92 NAC 51-006.01 through 006.01A2

4. Pre-Referral Interventions

For a school age student, a general education student assistance team (SAT) or a comparable problem solving team shall be used prior to referral for multidisciplinary team evaluation. The SAT or comparable problem solving team shall utilize and document problem solving and intervention strategies to assist the teacher in the provision of general education. If the student assistance team or comparable problem solving team feels that all viable alternatives have been explored, a referral for multidisciplinary evaluation shall be completed. A referral shall include information from the SAT or comparable problem solving team, meeting the requirements of 92 NAC 51-006.01B and a listing of the members of the SAT or comparable problem solving team.

Legal Reference: 92 NAC 51-006.01B

5. Individualized Education Program (IEP)

An individualized education program, or an individualized family service plan, is to be developed, reviewed, and revised for each child with a disability in accordance with 92 NAC 51-007.

Legal Reference: 92 NAC 51-007

6. Least Restrictive Environment

To the maximum extent appropriate, children with disabilities, including children in public or private institutions or other care facilities, are to be educated with children who are not disabled, and special classes, separate schooling, or other removal of children with disabilities from the regular educational environment will occur only when the nature or severity of the disability of a child is such that education in regular classes with the use of supplementary aids and services cannot be achieved satisfactorily (the "Least Restrictive Environment Rules").

The District will: (1) develop and implement written procedures for implementation of the LRE Rules; (2) provide high quality, sustained professional learning activities on the written procedures for appropriate district and school personnel to assist with the implementation of the LRE Rules; (3) provide sustained supervision to monitor the implementation of compliant practices for the LRE Rules; (4) use the supervision and monitoring data to identify schools and/or personnel that require technical assistance to support compliant practices in the area of least restrictive environment, paying particular attention to the disproportionate group; (5) ensure that every Individualized Education Programs (IEP) team meaningfully considers various support systems and activities that could be used to assist students with disabilities (SWD) to be educated successfully in general education classes prior to the consideration of pullout special education services; (6) ensure that special education teachers provide support to general education teachers in a variety of ways including, but not limited to, consultation, implementation of accommodations or modifications, and co-teaching; (7) ensure that a continuum of alternative placements is

available to meet the needs of children with disabilities, particularly those in the disproportionate group, for special education and related services; (8) ensure that, in determining the educational placement of a child with a disability, including a preschool child with a disability, each district ensures that the placement decision is made by a group of persons including the parents, and other persons knowledgeable about the child, the meaning of the evaluation data, and the placement options. Particular attention is paid to the disproportionate group; (9) ensure that placement discussions are based upon a completed IEP developed by the IEP team, focused on individualized student needs; and (10) ensure that the IEP teams review the students' progress at least annually to determine appropriate placement and progress towards annual goals.

Legal Reference: 92 NAC 51-008.01

7. Procedural Safeguards

Children with disabilities and their parents shall be afforded the required procedural safeguards.

Legal Reference: 92 NAC 51-009.01 through 009.07; 009.10 through 009.12; 009.14, 006.07

8. Disciplinary Removal of Children with Disabilities

The District will (1) develop and implement written procedures for disciplining students with disabilities (the "Discipline Rules"); (2) provide high quality, sustained professional learning activities on the written procedures for appropriate district and school personnel to assist with the implementation of the Discipline Rules; (3) provide sustained supervision to monitor the implementation of compliant practices for the Discipline Rules; (4) use supervision and monitoring data, disaggregated by race/ethnicity, to identify schools and/or personnel that require technical assistance to support compliant practices in the area of discipline (including but not limited to: de-escalation techniques, functional behavior assessment, behavior intervention planning, and manifestation determination procedures); (5) ensure that school personnel appropriately consider unique circumstances on a case-by-case basis when determining suspension of a child with a disability, and ensure that data shows that these considerations are equitably made by race/ethnicity; (6) notify parents on the day that the decision is made to make a removal that constitutes a change in placement of a child with a disability because of violation of a code of child conduct, and send parents copies of the procedural safeguards; (7) provide educational services for students removed fewer than 10 days to enable the student to continue to participate in the general educational curriculum, although in another setting, and to progress toward meeting the goals set out in the Individualized Education Programs, with data showing that these services are equitably provided by race/ethnicity; (8) ensure that within 10 school days of any decision to change placement of a child with a disability because of a violation of a code of student conduct, the IEP Team will review all relevant information in the file to determine whether the conduct in question was caused by or had a direct and substantial relationship to the child's disability or the conduct was the direct result of the district's failure to implement the IEP, and that such determinations are made equitable by race/ethnicity; and (9) ensure that, if the IEP Team makes a determination that the conduct was a manifestation of the child's disability, then the IEP Team conducts a functional behavioral assessment, unless the District conducted a FBA before the behavior that resulted in the change of placement occurred, and implements a behavioral intervention plan.

Legal Reference: 92 NAC 51-016

9. Evaluation, Identification, and Reevaluation Procedures

Children with disabilities shall be evaluated, identified, and reevaluated in accordance with 92 NAC 51-006. The District will: (1) provide high quality, sustained professional learning activities on the written procedures for appropriate district and school personnel to assist with the implementation of the Evaluation and Reevaluation Rule; (2) provide sustained supervision to monitor the implementation of compliant practices for the Evaluation and Reevaluation Rule; (3) use the supervision and monitoring data, disaggregated by race and ethnicity, to identify schools and/or personnel that require technical assistance to support compliant practices in the area of evaluation and reevaluation, as well as the appropriate technical assistance/professional development to any schools and/or personnel identified in such data; (4) conduct a reevaluation of each child with a disability at least once every 3 years, unless the parent and the District agree that a reevaluation is unnecessary; (5) use a variety of assessment tools and strategies to gather relevant academic, functional, and developmental information about the child, including information provided by the parents, and information related to enabling the child to be involved in and progress in the general education curriculum that may assist in determining: (i) Whether the child is a child with a disability, and (ii) The content of the child's individualized education program; (6) use more than one procedure to determine whether a child has a disability and the appropriate educational program for the child; (7) use technically sound instruments to assess the relative contribution of cognitive and behavioral factors, in addition to physical or developmental factors; (8) select assessments and other evaluation materials in a manner that (i) does not discriminate on a racial or cultural basis, (ii) is provided and administered in the child's native language or other mode of communication and in the form most likely to yield accurate information on what the child knows and can do academically, developmentally, and functionally, unless it is clearly not feasible to so provide or administer, (iii) has been validated for the specific purpose for which they are used, and (iv) are administered by trained and knowledgeable personnel in accordance with any instructions provided by the producer of the assessments; and (9) provide high quality, sustained professional learning activities on the written procedures for appropriate District and school personnel to assist with the implementation of the Evaluation and Reevaluation Rule.

The District will respond to a request for an Independent Educational Evaluation without unnecessary delay. Locations of any evaluator shall be within a reasonable distance of the District. A reasonable distance means within 100 miles of the school building the child attends and within Nebraska. In the event this geographic area restriction would prevent a parent from obtaining an Independent Educational Evaluation, the location of the evaluator may be outside the specified geographic area but must be within Nebraska. The District will provide the parent(s) with a list of qualified agencies/evaluators within the geographic area. The evaluators are to have their rates approved by the Nebraska Department of Education to be authorized to conduct the evaluation.

Legal Reference: 92 NAC 51-006

10. Confidentiality of Personally Identifiable Information

The confidentiality of student records and information shall be maintained in accordance with law.

Legal Reference: 92 NAC 51-003.16, 003.20, 009.03 through 009.03M3

11. Transition of Children from Part C to Preschool Programs

Children participating in early intervention programs under Part C of the IDEA (early intervention services) and who will participate in preschool programs assisted under Part B of the IDEA (services for school-aged children) shall experience a smooth and effective transition to those preschool programs in a manner consistent with 92 NAC 52-008. The District will participate in transition planning conferences arranged by the designated lead agency.

Legal Reference: 92 NAC 52-008

12. Children in Nonpublic Schools

To the extent consistent with the number and location of children with disabilities in the District who are enrolled by their parents in nonpublic elementary and secondary schools in the District, provision will be made for the participation of those children in the programs assisted or carried out under Part B of the IDEA (services for school-aged children) by providing them with special education and related services.

Legal Reference: 92 NAC 51-012.08 and 015

13. Personnel Standards and Personnel Development

Personnel providing special education or related services to children with disabilities shall be appropriately and adequately prepared and trained in accordance with IDEA requirements and the District will take measurable steps to recruit, hire, train and retain personnel meeting the requirements of IDEA to provide such services.

Legal Reference: 92 NAC 51-010

14. Participation in and Reporting of State and District Wide Assessments

All children with disabilities shall be included in all general state and district wide assessment programs, including assessments described under section 612(a)(16)(A) of the IDEA with appropriate accommodations and alternate assessments where necessary and as indicated in their respective individualized education programs. The District will make available to the Nebraska Department of Education the information necessary to carry out its duties relating to the reporting of children with disabilities participation in assessments.

Legal Reference: 92 NAC 51-004.05

15. Suspension and Expulsion Rates

The District will examine data, including data disaggregated by race/ethnicity, gender, LEP status, and disability category, to determine if significant discrepancies are occurring in the rate of long-term suspensions and expulsions of children with disabilities.

Legal Reference: 92 NAC 51-004.06E

16. Access to Instructional Materials

As part of any printed instructional materials adoption process, procurement contract, or other practice or instrument used for purchase of printed instructional materials, the District will enter into a written contract with the publisher of the printed instructional materials to:

- A. Require the publisher to prepare and, on or before delivery of the print instructional materials, provide to the National Instructional Material Access Center, electronic files containing the contents of the printed instructional materials using the National Instructional Materials Accessibility Standard, or

- B. Purchase instructional materials from the publisher that are produced in, or may be rendered in specialized formats.

Legal Reference: 92 NAC 51-004.15

17. Over-Identification and Disproportionality

Procedures shall be in place to ensure that testing and evaluation materials and procedures utilized for the evaluation and placement of children with disabilities will be selected and administered so as not to be racially or culturally discriminatory. Such materials or procedures shall be provided and administered in the child's native language or mode of communication, unless it is clearly not feasible to do so, and no single procedure shall be the sole criterion for determining an appropriate educational program for a child. All District special education provisions will be equitably available to all children regardless of race, ethnicity, language, location, transience, income level, and access to medical care.

Legal Reference: 92 NAC 51-006.02C

18. Prohibition on Mandatory Medication

Children shall not be required to obtain a prescription for a controlled substance as a condition of attending school, receiving an evaluation to determine whether a child has a disability or the nature and extent of special education and related services the child needs, or receiving special education services.

Legal Reference: 92 NAC 51-004.11D; 21 U.S.C. §812(c)

19. Transportation

Transportation will be provided for children with disabilities who are eligible for transportation and residents of the school district as required by law.

Legal Reference: 92 NAC 51-014.01 through 014.02

20. Surrogates

A surrogate will be appointed and other action taken to ensure the rights of children with a disability as required by law.

Legal Reference: 92 NAC 51-009.10

21. Early Intervention Services – Consent

When a parent refuses to provide consent under 92 NAC 52, a meeting will be held or offered to explain to the parents how their failure to consent affects the ability of their child to receive services under 92 NAC 52.

Legal Reference: 92 NAC 52

22. Eligibility Determinations

The District will (1) develop written procedures for implementation of the Eligibility Determination Rule; (2) provide high quality, sustained professional learning activities on the written procedures for appropriate district and school personnel to assist with the implementation of the Eligibility Determination Rule; (3) provide sustained supervision to monitor the implementation of compliant practices for the Eligibility Determination Rule; (4) use the supervision and monitoring data, disaggregated by race and ethnicity, to identify schools and/or personnel that require technical assistance to support compliant practices in the area of eligibility; (5) ensure Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) are developed for children with a

determination made of having a disability that has: (a) an adverse effect on educational performance (academic, functional, and/or developmental) and (b) requires special education and related services; (6) ensure that an eligibility report, which documents the area of disability, is completed and placed in each child's special education folder, with the eligibility report providing statements for each component of the eligibility and be comprehensive enough to serve as the evaluation report when necessary; (7) ensure the completion of the administration of assessments and other measures that the Multidisciplinary Evaluation Team (a group of qualified professionals and the parents of the child) determine whether the child is a child with a disability and the educational needs of the child; (8) ensure appropriate consideration of the exclusionary factor for reading (a child is not to be determined to be a child with a disability if the primary factor for that determination is a lack of appropriate instruction in reading, including the essential components of reading instruction as defined in section 1208(3) of ESEA); (9) ensure appropriate consideration of the exclusionary factor for math (a child must not be determined to be a child with a disability if the primary factor for that determination is a lack of appropriate instruction in math); (10) ensure appropriate consideration of the exclusionary factor for Limited English Proficiency (LEP) (a child will not be determined to be a child with a disability if the primary factor for that determination is limited English proficiency); and (11) ensure (1) evaluation data draw upon information from a variety of sources, including aptitude and achievement tests, parent input, and teacher recommendations as well as the information about the child's physical condition, social or cultural background, and adaptive behavior and (2) that information obtained from all these sources is documented and carefully considered.

Legal Reference: 92 NAC 51-006.04.

Legal Reference: 34 CFR Parts 300, 303 and 304
Neb. Rev. Stat. Sec. 79-1110 to 79-1167
92 NAC 51, 52 and 55

Date of Adoption: [Insert Date]

InstructionSpecial Education

[Name] Public Schools adopts this special education policy with the intent that the policy maintains the District's compliance with all applicable laws affecting special education services and programs. The Superintendent or designees shall develop regulations or procedures to implement these policies. Employees and contractors of the District are expected to comply with these policies and all regulations, guidelines and procedures related to this policy in all respects.

The District will abide by all state and federal laws relating to special education. The District's special education policy and regulations, guidelines and procedures related to this policy are to be interpreted so as to be in compliance with such laws. In the event of changes in law, the school administration shall be authorized to implement modifications of practice to comply with such changes (whether the changes impose more or less stringent procedural or substantive requirements) until such time as amended policies are adopted by the Board of Education. References herein to 92 NAC 51 citations are made to Rule 51 as in effect on the date of the adoption of these policies. In the event of renumbering or other revisions to Rule 51, the policy shall be interpreted and implemented consistent with such renumbering or revisions.

1. Free Appropriate Public Education

A free appropriate public education shall be made available to all children with disabilities residing in the District from date of diagnosis through the school year in which the student reaches 21 years of age, including children with disabilities who have been suspended or expelled.

Legal Reference: 92 NAC 51-004.01 through 004.03A and 007.07C2 through 007.07C6

2. Full Educational Opportunity Goal

The District shall take steps to ensure that its children with verified disabilities have available to them the variety of educational programs and services available to children without disabilities in the areas served by the District, including art, music, industrial arts, family consumer science education, and vocational education.

Legal Reference: 92 NAC 51-004.11A

3. Child Find

All children from birth to age twenty-one (21) with disabilities residing in the District, including children with disabilities who are homeless or are wards of the state or attending nonpublic schools, regardless of the severity of their disabilities, who are in need of special education and related services, will be identified, located and evaluated and a practical method shall be developed and implemented by the administration to determine which children with disabilities are currently receiving needed special education and related services. The District will publish annual notice of any significant activity that is designed to identify, locate, or evaluate children to publicly notify parents. The District will screen and evaluate all children with suspected disabilities birth through age 21, and will implement practical methods to track which children are currently receiving special education and related services. The District will provide student referrals that are accompanied by documentation of scientific, research, or evidence-based academic and/or behavioral interventions that have been implemented as designed for the appropriate period of time

to show effect or lack of effect that demonstrates the child is not making a sufficient rate of progress to meet age or state-approved, grade-level standards within a reasonable time frame. The District will provide sustained supervision to monitor the implementation of compliant practices for the Child Find Rule. The District will use supervision and monitoring data to identify schools and/or personnel that require technical assistance to support compliant practices in the area of Child Find, paying particular attention to the communities experiencing disproportionality in the schools. All District Child Find activities will be equitably available to all children regardless of race, ethnicity, language, location, transience, income level, and access to medical care.

Legal Reference: 92 NAC 51-006.01 through 006.01A2

4. Pre-Referral Interventions

For a school age student, a general education student assistance team (SAT) or a comparable problem solving team shall be used prior to referral for multidisciplinary team evaluation. The SAT or comparable problem solving team shall utilize and document problem solving and intervention strategies to assist the teacher in the provision of general education. If the student assistance team or comparable problem solving team feels that all viable alternatives have been explored, a referral for multidisciplinary evaluation shall be completed. A referral shall include information from the SAT or comparable problem solving team, meeting the requirements of 92 NAC 51-006.01B and a listing of the members of the SAT or comparable problem solving team.

Legal Reference: 92 NAC 51-006.01B

4.5. Individualized Education Program (IEP)

An individualized education program, or an individualized family service plan, is to be developed, reviewed, and revised for each child with a disability in accordance with 92 NAC 51-007.

Legal Reference: 92 NAC 51-007

5.6. Least Restrictive Environment

To the maximum extent appropriate, children with disabilities, including children in public or private institutions or other care facilities, are to be educated with children who are not disabled, and special classes, separate schooling, or other removal of children with disabilities from the regular educational environment will occur only when the nature or severity of the disability of a child is such that education in regular classes with the use of supplementary aids and services cannot be achieved satisfactorily.

The District will: (1) develop and implement written procedures for implementation of the Least Restrictive Environment (LRE) Rule; (2) provide high quality, sustained professional learning activities on the written procedures for appropriate district and school personnel to assist with the implementation of the LRE Rule; (3) provide sustained supervision to monitor the implementation of compliant practices for the LRE Rule; (4) use the supervision and monitoring data to identify schools and/or personnel that require technical assistance to support compliant practices in the area of least restrictive environment, paying particular attention to the disproportionate group; (5) ensure that every Individualized Education Programs (IEP) team meaningfully considers various support systems and activities that could be used to assist students with disabilities (SWD) to be educated successfully in general education classes prior to the consideration of pullout special education services; (6) ensure that special education teachers provide support to general education teachers in a variety of ways including, but not limited to, consultation, implementation of

accommodations or modifications, and co-teaching; (7) ensure that a continuum of alternative placements is available to meet the needs of children with disabilities, particularly those in the disproportionate group, for special education and related services; (8) ensure that, in determining the educational placement of a child with a disability, including a preschool child with a disability, each district ensures that the placement decision is made by a group of persons including the parents, and other persons knowledgeable about the child, the meaning of the evaluation data, and the placement options. Particular attention is paid to the disproportionate group; (9) ensure that placement discussions are based upon a completed IEP developed by the IEP team, focused on individualized student needs; and (10) ensure that the IEP teams review the students' progress at least annually to determine appropriate placement and progress towards annual goals.

Legal Reference: 92 NAC 51-008.01 ~~through 008.011~~

6.7. Procedural Safeguards

Children with disabilities and their parents shall be afforded the required procedural safeguards.

Legal Reference: 92 NAC 51-009.01 through 009.07; 009.10 through 009.12; 009.14, 006.07 ~~and 016.01 through 016.07C~~

8. Disciplinary Removal of Children with Disabilities

The District will (1) develop and implement written procedures for disciplining students with disabilities (the "Discipline Rules"); (2) provide high quality, sustained professional learning activities on the written procedures for appropriate district and school personnel to assist with the implementation of the Discipline Rules; (3) provide sustained supervision to monitor the implementation of compliant practices for the Discipline Rules; (4) use supervision and monitoring data, disaggregated by race/ethnicity, to identify schools and/or personnel that require technical assistance to support compliant practices in the area of discipline (including but not limited to: de-escalation techniques, functional behavior assessment, behavior intervention planning, and manifestation determination procedures); (5) ensure that school personnel appropriately consider unique circumstances on a case-by-case basis when determining suspension of a child with a disability, and ensure that data shows that these considerations are equitably made by race/ethnicity; (6) notify parents on the day that the decision is made to make a removal that constitutes a change in placement of a child with a disability because of violation of a code of child conduct, and send parents copies of the procedural safeguards; (7) provide educational services for students removed fewer than 10 days to enable the student to continue to participate in the general educational curriculum, although in another setting, and to progress toward meeting the goals set out in the Individualized Education Programs, with data showing that these services are equitably provided by race/ethnicity; (8) ensure that within 10 school days of any decision to change placement of a child with a disability because of a violation of a code of student conduct, the IEP Team will review all relevant information in the file to determine whether the conduct in question was caused by or had a direct and substantial relationship to the child's disability or the conduct was the direct result of the district's failure to implement the IEP, and that such determinations are made equitable by race/ethnicity; and (9) ensure that, if the IEP Team makes a determination that the conduct was a manifestation of the child's disability, then the IEP Team conducts a functional behavioral assessment, unless the District conducted a FBA before the behavior that resulted in the change of placement occurred, and implements a behavioral intervention plan.

Legal Reference: 92 NAC 51-016

7.9. Evaluation, and Identification, and Reevaluation Procedures

Children with disabilities shall be evaluated, ~~and identified, and reevaluated~~ in accordance with 92 NAC 51-006. The District will: (1) provide high quality, sustained professional learning activities on the written procedures for appropriate district and school personnel to assist with the implementation of the Evaluation and Reevaluation Rule; (2) provide sustained supervision to monitor the implementation of compliant practices for the Evaluation and Reevaluation Rule; (3) use the supervision and monitoring data, disaggregated by race and ethnicity, to identify schools and/or personnel that require technical assistance to support compliant practices in the area of evaluation and reevaluation, as well as the appropriate technical assistance/professional development to any schools and/or personnel identified in such data; (4) conduct a reevaluation of each child with a disability at least once every 3 years, unless the parent and the District agree that a reevaluation is unnecessary; (5) use a variety of assessment tools and strategies to gather relevant academic, functional, and developmental information about the child, including information provided by the parents, and information related to enabling the child to be involved in and progress in the general education curriculum that may assist in determining: (i) Whether the child is a child with a disability, and (ii) The content of the child's individualized education program; (6) use more than one procedure to determine whether a child has a disability and the appropriate educational program for the child; (7) use technically sound instruments to assess the relative contribution of cognitive and behavioral factors, in addition to physical or developmental factors; (8) select assessments and other evaluation materials in a manner that (i) does not discriminate on a racial or cultural basis, (ii) is provided and administered in the child's native language or other mode of communication and in the form most likely to yield accurate information on what the child knows and can do academically, developmentally, and functionally, unless it is clearly not feasible to so provide or administer, (iii) has been validated for the specific purpose for which they are used, and (iv) are administered by trained and knowledgeable personnel in accordance with any instructions provided by the producer of the assessments; and (9) provide high quality, sustained professional learning activities on the written procedures for appropriate District and school personnel to assist with the implementation of the Evaluation and Reevaluation Rule.

The District will respond to a request for an Independent Educational Evaluation without unnecessary delay. Locations of any evaluator shall be within a reasonable distance of the District. A reasonable distance means within 100 miles of the school building the child attends and within Nebraska. In the event this geographic area restriction would prevent a parent from obtaining an Independent Educational Evaluation, the location of the evaluator may be outside the specified geographic area but must be within Nebraska. The District will provide the parent(s) with a list of qualified agencies/evaluators within the geographic area. The evaluators are to have their rates approved by the Nebraska Department of Education to be authorized to conduct the evaluation.

Legal Reference: 92 NAC 51-006

8.10. Confidentiality of Personally Identifiable Information

The confidentiality of student records and information shall be maintained in accordance with law.

Legal Reference: 92 NAC 51-003.16, 003.20, 009.03 through 009.03M3

9.11. Transition of Children from Part C to Preschool Programs

Children participating in early intervention programs under Part C of the IDEA (early intervention services) and who will participate in preschool programs assisted under Part B of the IDEA (services for school-aged children) shall experience a smooth and effective transition to those

preschool programs in a manner consistent with 92 NAC 52-008. The District will participate in transition planning conferences arranged by the designated lead agency.

Legal Reference: 92 NAC 52-008

10.12. Children in Nonpublic Schools

To the extent consistent with the number and location of children with disabilities in the District who are enrolled by their parents in nonpublic elementary and secondary schools in the District, provision will be made for the participation of those children in the programs assisted or carried out under Part B of the IDEA (services for school-aged children) by providing them with special education and related services.

Legal Reference: 92 NAC 51-012.08 and 015

11.13. Personnel Standards and Personnel Development

Personnel providing special education or related services to children with disabilities shall be appropriately and adequately prepared and trained in accordance with IDEA requirements and the District will take measurable steps to recruit, hire, train and retain personnel meeting the requirements of IDEA to provide such services.

Legal Reference: 92 NAC 51-010

12.14. Participation in and Reporting of State and District Wide Assessments

All children with disabilities shall be included in all general state and district wide assessment programs, including assessments described under section 612(a)(16)(A) of the IDEA with appropriate accommodations and alternate assessments where necessary and as indicated in their respective individualized education programs. The District will make available to the Nebraska Department of Education the information necessary to carry out its duties relating to the reporting of children with disabilities participation in assessments.

Legal Reference: 92 NAC 51-004.05

13.15. Suspension and Expulsion Rates

The District will examine data, including data disaggregated by race/~~and~~ ethnicity, gender, LEP status, and disability category, to determine if significant discrepancies are occurring in the rate of long-term suspensions and expulsions of children with disabilities.

Legal Reference: 92 NAC 51-004.06E

14.16. Access to Instructional Materials

As part of any printed instructional materials adoption process, procurement contract, or other practice or instrument used for purchase of print instructional materials, the District will enter into a written contract with the publisher of the printed instructional materials to:

- A. Require the publisher to prepare and, on or before delivery of the printed instructional materials, provide to the National Instructional Material Access Center, electronic files containing the contents of the printed instructional materials using the National Instructional Materials Accessibility Standard, or
- B. Purchase instructional materials from the publisher that are produced in, or may be rendered in specialized formats.

Legal Reference: 92 NAC 51-004.15

15.17. Over-Identification and Disproportionality

Procedures shall be in place to ensure that testing and evaluation materials and procedures utilized for the evaluation and placement of children with disabilities will be selected and administered so as not to be racially or culturally discriminatory. Such materials or procedures shall be provided and administered in the child's native language or mode of communication, unless it is clearly not feasible to do so, and no single procedure shall be the sole criterion for determining an appropriate educational program for a child. All District special education provisions will be equitably available to all children regardless of race, ethnicity, language, location, transience, income level, and access to medical care.

Legal Reference: 92 NAC 51-~~003.10~~;006.02C

16.18. Prohibition on Mandatory Medication

Children shall not be required to obtain a prescription for a controlled substance as a condition of attending school, receiving an evaluation to determine whether a child has a disability or the nature and extent of special education and related services the child needs, or receiving special education services.

Legal Reference: 92 NAC 51-004.11D; 21 U.S.C. §812(c)

17.19. Transportation

Transportation will be provided for children with disabilities who are eligible for transportation and residents of the school district as required by law.

Legal Reference: 92 NAC 51-014.01 through 014.02

18.20. Surrogates

A surrogate will be appointed and other action taken to ensure the rights of children with a disability as required by law.

Legal Reference: 92 NAC 51-009.10

19.21. Early Intervention Services – Consent

When a parent refuses to provide consent under 92 NAC 52, a meeting will be held or offered to explain to the parents how their failure to consent affects the ability of their child to receive services under 92 NAC 52.

Legal Reference: 92 NAC 52

22. Eligibility Determinations

The District will (1) develop written procedures for implementation of the Eligibility Determination Rule; (2) provide high quality, sustained professional learning activities on the written procedures for appropriate district and school personnel to assist with the implementation of the Eligibility Determination Rule; (3) provide sustained supervision to monitor the implementation of compliant practices for the Eligibility Determination Rule; (4) use the supervision and monitoring data, disaggregated by race and ethnicity, to identify schools and/or personnel that require technical assistance to support compliant practices in the area of eligibility; (5) ensure Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) are developed for children with a determination made of having a disability that has: (a) an adverse effect on educational performance (academic, functional, and/or developmental) and (b) requires special education and related services; (6) ensure that an eligibility report, which documents the area of disability, is completed and placed in each child's special education folder, with the eligibility report providing

statements for each component of the eligibility and be comprehensive enough to serve as the evaluation report when necessary; (7) ensure the completion of the administration of assessments and other measures that the Multidisciplinary Evaluation Team (a group of qualified professionals and the parents of the child) determine whether the child is a child with a disability and the educational needs of the child; (8) ensure appropriate consideration of the exclusionary factor for reading (a child is not to be determined to be a child with a disability if the primary factor for that determination is a lack of appropriate instruction in reading, including the essential components of reading instruction as defined in section 1208(3) of ESEA); (9) ensure appropriate consideration of the exclusionary factor for math (a child must not be determined to be a child with a disability if the primary factor for that determination is a lack of appropriate instruction in math); (10) ensure appropriate consideration of the exclusionary factor for Limited English Proficiency (LEP) (a child will not be determined to be a child with a disability if the primary factor for that determination is limited English proficiency); and (11) ensure (1) evaluation data draw upon information from a variety of sources, including aptitude and achievement tests, parent input, and teacher recommendations as well as the information about the child's physical condition, social or cultural background, and adaptive behavior and (2) that information obtained from all these sources is documented and carefully considered.

Legal Reference: 92 NAC [51-006.04](#).

Legal Reference: 34 CFR Parts 300, 303 and 304
Neb. Rev. Stat. Sec. 79-1110 to 79-1167
92 NAC 51, [52 and 55](#)

Date of Adoption: [Insert Date]