

March Workshop  
Monday, March 23, 2026 6:00 PM Eastern

High School/Media Center  
201 West Street  
Napoleon, Michigan 49261

Jason Breining: Present  
James Callahan: Absent  
Jeff McLain: Present  
Corey Nykamp: Absent  
Heather Swaenepoel: Present  
Bryce Wallace: Present  
Thomas Wilson: Present

Present: 5, Absent: 2.

1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance
2. Public Participation
3. 4000 Policies
  - 3.i. 4100 Policies
  - 3.ii. 4200 Policies
  - 3.iii. 4300 Policies
  - 3.iv. 4400 Policies
  - 3.v. 4500 Policies
  - 3.vi. 4600 Policies
4. 5000 Policies
  - 4.i. 5100 Policies
  - 4.ii. 5200 Policies
  - 4.iii. 5300 Policies
  - 4.iv. 5400 Policies
  - 4.v. 5500 Policies
  - 4.vi. 5600 Policies
  - 4.vii. 5700 Policies
  - 4.viii. 5800 Policies
5. Adjournment

## Series 4000: District Employment

### 4100 Employee Rights and Responsibilities

#### 4101 *Non-Discrimination*

##### A. Equal Employment Opportunity

The District is committed to equal employment opportunity and compliance with federal, state, and local laws that prohibit workplace Unlawful Discrimination, including unlawful harassment and Retaliation, based on any protected class or activity. This Policy applies to all aspects of employment, including recruiting, advertising, hiring, training, job placement, evaluation, classification, promotion, transfer, work assignment, compensation, benefits, discipline, demotion, termination, reduction in force, recall, and any other term or condition of employment.

This Policy prohibits discrimination against employees or applicants for employment based on the following protected classes: race, color, national origin, ethnicity, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, pregnancy, height, weight, marital status, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, military service, or any other legally protected class. This Policy also prohibits Retaliation based on a protected activity.

The District prohibits unlawful employment discrimination as required by applicable civil rights statutes, including:

- Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which prohibits discrimination based on race, color, religion, or national origin;
- Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which prohibits discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex (including gender identity, and sexual orientation), or national origin;
- Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, which prohibits discrimination based on sex;
- Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967 (ADEA), which prohibits discrimination based on age as to persons who are at least 40 years old;
- Equal Pay Act of 1963, which prohibits sex discrimination in payment of wages for persons performing substantially equal work in the same establishment;
- Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Section 504), which prohibits discrimination based on disability;

- Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), which prohibits discrimination against qualified persons with disabilities in employment, public service, public accommodations, and telecommunications;
- Pregnancy Discrimination Act of 1978, which prohibits discrimination based on pregnancy, childbirth, or related medical conditions;
- Pregnant Workers Fairness Act (PWFA), which requires covered employers to provide reasonable accommodations to a worker's known limitations related to pregnancy, childbirth, or related medical conditions, unless the accommodation will cause an undue hardship;
- Genetic Information Non-Discrimination Act of 2008 (GINA), which prohibits discrimination based on genetic information as to health insurance and employment;
- Michigan Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act of 1976 (ELCRA), which prohibits discrimination based on race, color, national origin, age, sex, pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, religion, height, weight, or marital status;
- Michigan Persons with Disabilities Civil Rights Act of 1976 (MPDCRA), which prohibits discrimination against qualified persons based on disability that is unrelated to that person's ability to perform the duties of a particular position or genetic information; and
- Michigan Equal Pay Act, which prohibits discriminatory wage practices based on sex.

The District also complies with and prohibits employment action that violates the following statutes:

- Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 (FMLA), which requires covered employers to provide up to 12 work weeks of unpaid, job-protected leave to eligible employees for certain family, military, and medical reasons, and up to 26 work weeks to care for a covered service member with a serious injury or illness;
- Earned Sick Time Act (ESTA), which provides eligible employees with earned sick time that may be used for certain reasons;
- Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act of 1994 (USERRA), which provides job protection and reemployment rights to individuals who voluntarily or involuntarily leave employment to undertake military service, including military reservists and National Guard members called to duty;

- Public Employment Relations Act of 1947 (PERA), which prohibits a public employer from discriminating against an employee based on membership or non-membership in a labor organization;
- Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 (FLSA), which establishes minimum wage, overtime pay, record keeping, and youth employment standards affecting employees; and
- Michigan Whistleblower Protection Act of 1980, which protects employees who report a violation or suspected violation of state, local, or federal law and employees who participate in hearings, investigations, or court actions.

## B. Reporting Requirements

Any employee who believes he/she has been subjected to behavior that violates this Policy is encouraged to file a complaint promptly with a supervisor. A complaint implicating an individual's civil rights will be investigated pursuant to the procedures outlined in Policy 4104 and 3115-3115H. A complaint alleging Title IX sexual harassment will be investigated pursuant to the procedures outlined in Policy 3118.

Employees with questions about compliance with this Policy and applicable laws should contact the Superintendent or the Employment Compliance Officer(s) identified in Policy 3115B.

Board members, administrators, and supervisors must promptly report incidents of Unlawful Discrimination and Retaliation that he/she observes or about which he/she receives information.

Board members, administrators, or supervisors who receive a complaint alleging a violation of this Policy must promptly report the complaint, in writing, to the Employment Compliance Officer(s) identified in Policy 3115B.

A failure to comply with reporting requirements may result in discipline, including discharge.

## C. Employment Discrimination Compliance Training

The District will train administrators, supervisors, and the Employment Compliance Officer(s) on how to address and investigate Unlawful Discrimination and Retaliation complaints.

The District may also provide Unlawful Discrimination and Retaliation training to Board members and employees.

Training may be provided by an outside entity or person approved by the District.

Legal authority: 20 USC 1681 et seq.; 29 USC 206 et seq., 701 et seq., 2601 et seq.; 38 USC 4301 et seq.; 42 USC 2000d et seq., 2000e et seq., 2000ff et seq., 12101 et seq.; H.R. 2617-1626, 117th Cong. § 103(1) (signed into

law December 29, 2022); MCL 37.1101 et seq., 37.2101 et seq.; MCL 423.201 et seq.; MCL 750.556; 34 CFR 106.1 et seq.; MCL 408.934b, 408.961 et seq., *Mothering Justice v Attorney General*, 2024 Mich LEXIS 1454 (July 31, 2024)

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 4000: District Employment

### 4100 Employee Rights and Responsibilities

#### 4102 *Anti-Harassment*

##### A. Policy Statement

Employees will have the opportunity to work in an atmosphere free from unlawful harassment as defined by state, federal, and local laws.

The District will promptly and thoroughly investigate complaints alleging unlawful harassment and take appropriate action, including discipline, against any person found to have engaged in unlawful harassment.

##### B. The District's procedures for investigating unlawful harassment are contained in Policy 3115-3115H. The District's procedures for investigating Title IX sexual harassment are contained in Policy 3118.

##### C. Reporting Requirements

Board members, administrators, and supervisors must promptly report incidents of unlawful harassment and Retaliation that he/she observes or about which he/she receives information.

Board members, administrators, or supervisors who receive a complaint alleging a violation of this Policy must promptly report the complaint, in writing, to the Employment Compliance Officer(s) identified in Policy 3115B.

A failure to comply with reporting requirements may result in discipline, including discharge.

Legal authority: 20 USC 1681 et seq.; 29 USC 621 et seq.; 42 USC 1983, 2000d et seq., 2000e et seq., 2000ff et seq., 6101 et seq., 12101 et seq.; 29 CFR 1604.1 et seq., 1635; 34 CFR 106.1 et seq.; MCL 37.1101 et seq., 37.2101 et seq.; MCL 380.1300a

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## **Series 4000: District Employment**

### **4100 Employee Rights and Responsibilities**

#### ***4103 Whistleblowers' Protection***

An employee shall report, on his/her own behalf or on behalf of another employee, a violation or a suspected violation of a federal, state, or local law, regulation, or rule to the employee's supervisor or the Employment Compliance Officer(s) identified in Policy 3115B. Reports must be made in good faith. An employee who makes or is about to make a report in good faith and in compliance with this Policy will not be discharged, subject to adverse employment action, or subject to other discrimination or retaliation because the employee was about to make or made a report.

If the employee's supervisor is the subject of the violation or suspected violation, the employee must report to the Employment Compliance Officer(s) or the Superintendent. If the Employment Compliance Officer(s) or the Superintendent is the subject of the violation or suspected violation, the employee must report to the President. If the President is the subject of the violation or suspected violation, the employee must report to the Vice President.

A report must be promptly submitted in writing pursuant to Policy 4101. The investigation of the alleged violation will be performed by an impartial investigator. The investigation may be referred to a third party investigator.

Legal authority: MCL 15.361 et seq.

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 4000: District Employment

### 4100 Employee Rights and Responsibilities

#### ***4104 Employment Complaint Procedure for Allegations Implicating Civil Rights***

This employment complaint procedure for allegations implicating an employee's civil rights is designed to facilitate: (1) prompt notification of alleged Unlawful Discrimination, including unlawful harassment and Retaliation; (2) a prompt and thorough investigation of good faith allegations; and (3) the implementation of appropriate corrective action, if necessary, to eliminate verified Unlawful Discrimination, harassment, and Retaliation from the workplace.

#### A. Initiating a Complaint

1. A Board member, employee, or employment applicant who believes he/she has been the subject of Unlawful Discrimination, harassment or Retaliation, must timely file a complaint, preferably within 10 business days of the alleged or suspected violation or when the reporter obtained knowledge of the alleged or suspected violation, with the Employment Compliance Officer or applicable coordinator listed in Policy 3115B.
2. A complaint of Unlawful Discrimination, including harassment or Retaliation, may be made verbally or in writing. The complaint will be memorialized on Form 3115-F-1.
3. A complaint alleging Title IX sexual harassment must be in writing. Policy 3118 governs the Title IX sexual harassment complaint procedures.

#### B. Investigation Procedures

A written or verbal report (including an anonymous report) of Unlawful Discrimination, including harassment or Retaliation, will be investigated promptly and thoroughly using the Grievance Procedure outlined in Policy 3115E, unless the Complaint is dismissed pursuant to Policy 3115F or informal resolution is reached pursuant to Policy 3115D.

A complaint alleging Title IX sexual harassment will be investigated pursuant to the process set forth in Policy 3118.

#### C. Reports to State or Federal Administrative Agencies

Any person who believes that he/she was the victim of Unlawful Discrimination, including unlawful harassment or Retaliation, may file a complaint with the Michigan Department of Civil Rights (MDCR) or the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) at any time:

Michigan Department of Civil Rights Capitol Tower Building  
110 W. Michigan Avenue, Suite 800

Lansing, MI 48933  
Phone: 517-335-3165  
Fax: 517-241-0546  
TTY: 517-241-1965  
Email: MDCR-INFO@michigan.gov

Equal Employment Opportunity Commission Patrick V. McNamara Building  
477 Michigan Avenue - Room 865  
Detroit, MI 48226  
Phone: 800-669-4000  
Fax: 313-226-4610  
TTY: 800-669-6820  
Email: info@eeoc.gov

An agency complaint may be filed before, during, or after a complaint is filed with the District, or a person may forego filing a complaint with the District and rely solely on the MDCR or EEOC. The District recommends that a person who has been subjected to Unlawful Discrimination, including unlawful harassment or Retaliation, also file a complaint with the District to ensure that the District can take steps to prevent further Unlawful Discrimination, including unlawful harassment or Retaliation, and to discipline the Respondent, if appropriate. The MDCR and EEOC do not serve as an appellate body for District decisions. An investigation by the MDCR or EEOC will occur separately from any District investigation.

Legal authority: U.S. CONST. amend. XIV; 20 USC 1681 et seq.; 29 USC 701 et seq.; 42 USC 2000d et seq., 2000e et seq., 2000ff et seq., 6101 et seq., 12101 et seq.; 29 CFR 1630; 34 CFR 104, 106.1, et seq.; MCL 15.261 et seq.; MCL 37.1101 et seq., 37.2101 et seq.

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 4000: District Employment

### 4100 Employee Rights and Responsibilities

#### ***4105 Disability Workplace Accommodations for Employees and Applicants***

The District complies with the ADA, Section 504, the MPDCRA, and other federal, state, and local laws that prohibit discrimination in employment against qualified persons with disabilities. The District does not unlawfully discriminate against otherwise qualified employees or applicants for employment with a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities, those regarded as having a disability, or those with a record of a disability.

An applicant or employee with a disability, like all other applicants and employees, must meet the District's requirements for the job, including education, training, employment experience, skills, or licenses/certifications. An applicant or employee with a disability must be able to perform the job's essential functions with or without reasonable accommodation(s). After an applicant has been given a conditional job offer, the District may ask disability-related questions about the applicant's ability to perform the essential functions of the position with or without reasonable accommodation.

An employee who requires a reasonable accommodation to perform essential job functions must promptly inform the employee's supervisor or the Superintendent or designee. An applicant who requires a reasonable accommodation to perform essential job functions must promptly inform the Superintendent or designee after receiving a conditional offer of employment. A reasonable accommodation is defined as a change in the work environment or in the methods of performing work to enable an otherwise qualified applicant or employee to perform the essential job functions of a position and to enjoy equal employment opportunities.

Upon receipt of an accommodation request, the District will begin the interactive process with the employee or applicant to consider reasonable accommodation options consistent with the ADA, Section 504, and the MPDCRA [Optional: using the interactive process form, Form 4105-F].

Reasonable accommodation requests that do not pose a direct threat to health or safety or cause undue hardship, as defined by law, will be considered for qualified applicants or employees with a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities.

After considering the relevant medical information, essential job functions, and the applicant's or employee's requested accommodations, the District will, as appropriate, implement reasonable accommodations that do not pose a direct threat to health or safety or cause an undue hardship. The District is not obligated to adopt the applicant's or employee's specific accommodation request.

The District may engage or re-engage in the interactive process, as necessary.

The District may require a medical statement supporting the requested accommodation. The District may also require an employee to undergo an independent medical examination, limited to the accommodation request, at the District's expense. Medical information will be kept confidential.

Reasonable accommodation of a disability with a limited duration may be provided.

An applicant or employee who believes he/she has been discriminated against under this Policy must promptly file a complaint using the Employment Complaint Procedure in Policy 4104.

A qualified applicant or employee with a disability who needs a reasonable accommodation to attend or participate in a public Board meeting may request an accommodation under Policy 2501.

Legal authority: 29 USC 701 et seq.; 42 USC 12101 et seq.; 29 CFR 1630; 34 CFR 104; MCL 37.1101 et seq., 37.2101 et seq.

Date adopted:

Date revised:

**Series 4000: District Employment**

**4100 Employee Rights and Responsibilities**

**4105-F Disability Workplace Accommodations for Employees and Applicants**

**CONFIDENTIAL: Guide to the Interactive Process**

To be completed by the human resources administrator in coordination with the employee’s supervisor or applicant.

**Step 1 — Gather Relevant Information**

The administrator should obtain:

- Employee’s or applicant’s written request for accommodation(s)
- Certification and other relevant information from physician/health care provider, if necessary. Medical information will be kept confidential
- Job description
- Collective bargaining agreement or individual employment contract

**Step 2 — Explain How the Physical or Mental Impairment Substantially Limits One or More Major Life Activities**

Describe the impairment: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Describe the major life activity/ies affected: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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\_\_\_\_\_  
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**Step 3 — Identify Essential Job Functions in Consultation with the Employee’s Supervisor**

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**Step 4 — Discuss with Employee or Applicant**

Document interactive discussions with employee or Applicant, including dates, names of persons present, and content of discussion.

Date	Description of Meeting
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_____	_____
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**Step 5 — Requested Accommodation(s)**

List all accommodation(s) identified in the interactive discussions:

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**Step 6 — Evaluate Proposed Accommodation(s)**

Analyze the reasonableness of the identified accommodation(s):

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**Step 7 — Accommodation(s) Offered**

Specific accommodation(s) to be provided, including dates accommodation(s) will begin and/or end:

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Reasons for denial of any accommodation(s) requested by the employee:

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**Step 8 — Evaluate Accommodation(s) Provided**

Conduct periodic checks with the employee to ensure that the accommodation(s) is effective. If not, re-engage in the interactive process. Document these discussions, noting the dates of the meeting, the content of the discussion, and next steps.

Date	Description of Meeting
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**Retain this document in the employee’s confidential personnel file or similar file for applicants.**

## Series 4000: District Employment

### 4100 Employee Rights and Responsibilities

#### **4105A *Pregnancy Workplace Accommodations for Employees and Applicants*** [Recommended for Districts with 15 or More Employees] [Note: If the Board elects not to adopt this Policy, delete the body of the policy and replace the title with “Intentionally Left Blank” after the policy number and in the Table of Contents to ensure accurate numbering of subsequent policies in the Policy Manual.]

The District complies with state and federal law prohibiting pregnancy discrimination. The District will provide reasonable accommodations to known limitations related to pregnancy, childbirth, or related medical conditions of a qualified employee absent an undue hardship. The District treats pregnancy or related conditions as any other temporary medical condition for all job-related purposes. For purposes of this policy, the term “employee” includes an applicant for employment where relevant.

For an employee who requires a reasonable accommodation due to a known limitation related to pregnancy, childbirth, or related medical conditions, the employee or the employee’s representative must make a proper District official (as identified in Pregnant Workers Fairness Act (“PWFA”) regulations) aware of the limitation.

Upon receipt of an accommodation request, the District will begin the interactive process with the employee to consider whether the employee is qualified under the PWFA and, if so, reasonable accommodation options consistent with the PWFA that do not cause undue hardship [Optional: using the interactive process form, 4105A-F].

Determining whether an employee is qualified may be a two-step inquiry. First, the District will determine whether the employee can perform the essential job functions of the employee’s position with or without a reasonable accommodation. If so, the employee is qualified. If not, then the District will consider the employee to be qualified if: (1) any inability to perform an essential job function(s) is for a temporary period, (2) the essential function(s) could be performed in the near future, and (3) the inability to perform the essential function(s) can be reasonably accommodated without an undue hardship.

Reasonable accommodation requests will not be granted if they cause an undue hardship, as defined by law. The District may require medical documentation supporting the requested accommodation where allowed by law because the information is necessary for assessing the accommodation request. Medical information will be kept confidential.

After considering any relevant medical information, essential job functions, and the employee’s requested accommodations, the District will, as appropriate, implement reasonable accommodations for a qualified employee that do not cause an undue hardship. The District is not obligated to adopt the employee’s specific accommodation request. The District may engage or re-engage in the interactive process, as necessary.

A reasonable accommodation may include a voluntary leave of absence. If an employee has insufficient leave or insufficient accrued employment time to qualify for leave, or if the

District does not maintain a leave policy applicable to the employee, the District will treat any pregnancy or related conditions as a justification for a voluntary leave of absence without pay for a reasonable period of time, at the conclusion of which the employee will be reinstated to the status held when the leave began or to a comparable position without decrease in rate of compensation or loss of promotional opportunities, or any other right or privilege of employment.

An employee who believes he/she has been discriminated against under this Policy must promptly file a complaint using the Employment Complaint Procedure in Policy 4104.

Legal authority: 42 USC 2000gg et seq.; 29 CFR 1636.1 et seq.; 34 CFR 106.57

Date adopted:

Date revised:

**Series 4000: District Employment**

**4100 Employee Rights and Responsibilities**

**4105A-F Pregnancy Workplace Accommodations for Employees and Applicants**

**CONFIDENTIAL: Guide to the Interactive Process**

To be completed by the human resources administrator in coordination with the employee’s supervisor or applicant.

**Step 1 — Gather Relevant Information**

The administrator should obtain:

- Employee’s or applicant’s written request for accommodation(s)
- Relevant information from health care provider, if permitted. Medical information will be kept confidential
- Job description
- Collective bargaining agreement or individual employment contract

**Step 2 — Identify Essential Job Functions in Consultation with the Employee’s Supervisor**

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**Step 3 — Discuss with Employee or Applicant**

Document interactive discussions with employee or applicant, including dates, names of persons present, and content of discussion.

Date	Description of Meeting
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#### **Step 4 — Requested Accommodation(s)**

List all accommodation(s) identified in the interactive discussions:

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#### **Step 5 — Evaluate Proposed Accommodation(s)**

Analyze the pros, cons, and reasonableness of the identified accommodation(s):

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Note: the following will be, in virtually all cases, reasonable accommodations that will not cause an undue hardship when they are requested as workplace accommodations by an employee who is pregnant: (i) Allowing an employee to carry or keep water near and drink, as needed; (ii) Allowing an employee to take additional restroom breaks, as needed; (iii) Allowing an employee whose work requires standing to sit and whose work requires sitting to stand, as needed; and (iv) Allowing an employee to take breaks to eat and drink, as needed. See 29 CFR 1636.3(j)(4).

#### **Step 6 — Accommodation(s) Offered**

Specific accommodation(s) to be provided, including dates accommodation(s) will begin and/or end:

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Reasons for denial of any accommodation(s) requested by the employee:

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**Step 7 — Evaluate Accommodation(s) Provided**

Conduct periodic checks with the employee to ensure that the accommodation(s) is effective. If not, re-engage in the interactive process. Document these discussions, noting the dates of the meeting, the content of the discussion, and next steps.

Date	Description of Meeting
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**Retain this document in the employee’s confidential personnel file or similar file for applicants.**

## Series 4000: District Employment

### 4100 Employee Rights and Responsibilities

#### ***4105B Religious Workplace Accommodations for Employees and Applicants***

The District complies with Title VII and state and local laws that prohibit discrimination in employment against employees or applicants for employment based on religion. The District will reasonably accommodate sincerely held religious beliefs, practices, and observances of employees and applicants for employment absent an undue hardship.

An employee or applicant for employment who requests a reasonable accommodation based on religion must promptly inform the Superintendent or designee. Upon receipt of an accommodation request, the District will begin the interactive process with the employee or applicant to consider reasonable accommodation options consistent with Title VII [Optional: using the interactive process form, Form 4105B-F]. Reasonable accommodation requests that do not pose an undue hardship will be considered.

After considering the requested accommodation and other relevant information, the District will, as appropriate, implement reasonable accommodations that do not pose an undue hardship (as defined by law). The District is not obligated to adopt the applicant's or employee's specific accommodation request.

The District may engage or re-engage in accommodation discussions, as necessary.

An applicant or employee who believes he/she has been discriminated against under this Policy must promptly file a complaint using the Employment Complaint Procedure in Policy 4104.

Legal authority: 42 USC 2000e, et seq.; *Groff v DeJoy*, 143 S Ct 646 (2023)

Date adopted:

Date revised:

**Series 4000: District Employment**

**4100 General Operations**

**4105B-F Religious Workplace Accommodations for Employees and Applicants**

**Section I (to be completed by employee or employment applicant)**

Please identify your sincerely held religious belief, practice, or observance and how it conflicts with a District requirement.

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For each District requirement for which you are requesting an accommodation, please identify your preferred accommodation.

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Please identify any other accommodations that would also eliminate the conflict between your sincerely held religious belief, practice, or observance and the applicable District requirement.

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I declare that the above information is true and accurate. I understand that knowingly providing false information on this form may subject me to criminal and civil penalties and, if I am a District employee, disciplinary action.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Person Requesting Accommodation

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name of Person Requesting Exemption

**Section II (to be completed by District Administrator)**

**Step 1 – Engage in Interactive Process**

Document discussions with employee or employment applicant, including dates, names of persons present, and content of discussion.

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**Step 2 – Evaluate Proposed Accommodations**

Analyze the reasonableness of the identified accommodations, along with whether any identified accommodations would pose an undue hardship.

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**Step 3 – Accommodations Provided**

List specific accommodations to be provided, including dates accommodation will start and end.

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## Series 4000: District Employment

### 4100 Employee Rights and Responsibilities

#### 4106 **Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA)** [Optional for Districts with Less Than 50 Employees / Required for Districts with 50 or More Employees] [Note: If the Board elects not to adopt this Policy, delete the body of the policy and replace the title with “Intentionally Left Blank” after the policy number and in the Table of Contents to ensure accurate numbering of subsequent policies in the Policy Manual.]

This Policy will be interpreted and applied consistent with the FMLA, as amended, and its regulations. This Policy should not be interpreted to conflict with an applicable collective bargaining agreement where the collective bargaining agreement provides rights or obligations beyond those conferred by FMLA and that are not prohibited by FMLA.

#### A. Qualifying for FMLA Leave

##### 1. Employee Eligibility

##### a. To be eligible for FMLA leave, an employee must:

- i. have worked at least 1,250 hours during the 12-month period immediately preceding the commencement of the leave (full-time instructional employees are presumed to meet the 1,250 hour requirement);
- ii. have completed 12 months (cumulative) of work for the District before the commencement of the leave. This includes non-consecutive intervals of employment with the District occurring up to 7 years before the commencement of the FMLA leave; and
- iii. make the request at a time when the District has 50 or more employees at, or within 75 miles of, the worksite.

##### b. The applicable 12-month period to determine an employee’s entitlement to FMLA leave (i.e., the FMLA leave year) is [Choose one: a “rolling” 12-month period measured backward from when the FMLA leave would commence / a “rolling” 12-month period measured forward from the date the employee first takes FMLA leave / the period from [ ] to [ ] / the calendar year, January 1 to December 31].

##### c. An eligible employee taking FMLA leave to care for a covered service member or veteran with a serious injury or illness is allowed to take up to 26 work weeks of leave in a single 12-month period measured forward from the date the employee first takes leave.

##### 2. Qualifying Events

##### a. An eligible employee may take FMLA leave, up to a total of 12 work weeks, during any 12-month period for any one or more of the following:

- i. the birth or care of the employee's newborn child;
  - ii. the employee's care for a newly adopted child or child placed in the employee's home for foster care;
  - iii. to care for a spouse, child (who is younger than age 18, or over 18 but incapable of self-care), a Parent (but not parent-in-law), or an individual for whom the employee stands *in loco parentis* who has a serious health condition;
  - iv. the employee's own serious health condition; or
  - v. a qualifying military exigency about an employee, the employee's spouse, child (regardless of age), or Parent.
- b. An eligible employee may take up to 26 work weeks of leave during a single 12-month period to care for a covered service member who is receiving medical treatment, recuperation, or therapy, or is in outpatient status, or is on the temporary disability retired list for a serious injury or illness. The employee must be the spouse, child, Parent (regardless of their child's age), or next of kin of the covered service member. This subsection applies to veterans of the Armed Services who suffered an injury or illness, or aggravated an injury or illness, in the line of duty on active duty if the veteran was a member of the Armed Forces at any time during the 5 years before receiving treatment.

### 3. Limitations on FMLA Leave

- a. The entitlement to leave for the birth of a child or placement of a child with an employee for the purposes of adoption or foster care expires at the end of the 12-month period beginning on the date of the birth or placement, and these circumstances do not qualify for intermittent or reduced schedule leave [Optional: unless the Superintendent or designee approves an intermittent or reduced schedule leave in writing].
- b. Concerning spouses who are both employed by the District, and both eligible for FMLA leave, they are limited to a combined total of 12 work weeks of FMLA leave for the birth or placement, or related care, of a child for adoption or foster care with the employees or the care of a Parent with a serious health condition. This limitation does not apply to the care of a spouse or child with a serious health condition or to an employee's own serious health condition.
- c. Concerning the entitlement to 26 work weeks of leave to care for a covered service member with a serious illness or injury, the 26 work week allotment may include other reasons for FMLA leave authorized by the Act. But in that allotment, an employee is not entitled to more than 12 work weeks of leave for reasons unrelated to the care for a covered service member with a serious illness or injury.

- d. Concerning spouses who are both employed by the District, and both eligible for FMLA leave to care for a covered service member, they are limited to a combined total of 26 work weeks of leave for all leaves authorized by the Act during the 12-month period commencing with FMLA leave to care for a covered service member. The spouses are subject to the 12 work week limitation for leave related to the birth or placement, or related care, of a child for adoption or foster care with the employees or the care of a Parent with a serious health condition.

## B. FMLA Notice

1. An employee must give the District notice of FMLA leave as follows:
  - a. When the need for FMLA leave is foreseeable (e.g., for the birth of a child, placement for adoption or foster care, or planned medical treatment), 30 calendar days' notice is required. If the employee fails to give 30 calendar days' notice with no reasonable excuse, the District reserves the right to deny or to delay the employee's FMLA leave. If the FMLA leave is for planned medical treatment, the employee must make reasonable efforts to schedule treatment so as not to unduly disrupt the District's operations.
  - b. When the need for FMLA leave is unexpected, the employee must provide notice to the District as soon as practicable.
2. For both foreseeable and unexpected leave, employees must comply with District Policies, work rules, collective bargaining agreement provisions, and customary absence reporting procedures. Failure to comply with these requirements may be grounds to delay or deny the employee's FMLA leave request and may result in discipline.
3. Absent extenuating circumstances, within 5 work days after an employee requests FMLA leave or the District has reasonable information that an employee may qualify for FMLA leave, the District will provide to the employee a copy of this Policy and the U.S. Department of Labor's (DOL) "Notice of Eligibility and Rights & Responsibilities" DOL Form WH-381 (as updated).
4. Once the District receives sufficient notice, including any requested medical certification (see below), that an employee's leave qualifies as FMLA leave, the District will, absent extenuating circumstances, within 5 work days, notify the employee in writing whether the leave is designated as FMLA leave using DOL Form WH-382 (as updated).

## C. Certification

1. If an employee requests FMLA leave due to the employee's serious health condition or to care for a Parent, child, or spouse with a serious health condition, the employee must provide medical certification from a health care provider of the serious health condition involved and, if applicable, verification that the employee is needed to care for the family member and the expected

duration of the leave. Employees requesting leave for a qualifying exigency or leave to care for a covered service member with a serious injury or illness must provide the appropriate certification. The District will provide the employee with the appropriate DOL form applicable to the employee's requested leave.

2. Employees must return the requested certification within 15 calendar days after the request. The District may delay or deny FMLA leave if submission of the certification is not timely.
3. Failure or refusal to provide requested medical certification within 15 calendar days may result in denial of the leave being designated as FMLA leave.
4. If an employee provides an incomplete or insufficient certification, the District will advise the employee, in writing, of the deficiencies and what additional information is needed. An employee must return the requested additional information within 7 calendar days. The District, but not the employee's direct supervisor, may contact an employee's health care provider for clarification or authentication of a certification. The District may not contact the employee's health care provider if a complete and sufficient certification, signed by the health care provider, is submitted.
5. If the District has reason to doubt the medical certification an employee submits, the District may require, at its expense, that the employee obtain a second opinion from a health care provider of the District's choice. If the second opinion differs, the District may require, at its expense, that a third opinion be obtained from a health care provider who is mutually selected by the employee and the District. The third medical certification will be final and binding on both parties. If the employee refuses to be examined by the third health care provider, the employee will be bound by the second opinion. The District may not request a second opinion for leave to care for a covered service member or veteran with a serious injury or illness.

The District may request recertification consistent with FMLA regulations. Recertification will be at the employee's expense.

The District may request recertification in less than 30 calendar days if: an employee requests an extension of FMLA leave; circumstances stated in the prior certification have changed significantly; or the District receives information that casts doubt upon the employee's stated reason for the absence or the certification's validity.

#### D. Concurrent Leave and Substitution of Paid Leave

FMLA leave provided to employees is unpaid, unless the employee has applicable paid leave. Applicable paid leave (e.g., sick, personal, business, vacation, paid time off, leave under Michigan Earned Sick Time Act (ESTA), or workers' compensation) will run concurrently with FMLA leave at the election of either the District or the employee. The ability to use paid leave concurrently with FMLA leave is subject to compliance with the procedures and conditions normally associated

with the paid leave. A medical leave of absence covered by workers' compensation runs concurrently with FMLA leave and consistent with an applicable individual employment contract or collective bargaining agreement. FMLA leave beyond an employee's applicable accrued paid leave is unpaid.

#### E. Intermittent and Reduced Schedule Leave

1. Eligible employees may take FMLA leave intermittently or on a reduced schedule when leave is taken to care for a family member with a serious health condition, for an employee's own serious health condition, because of a qualifying exigency, or to care for a covered service member or veteran, an eligible employee may take leave intermittently or on a reduced schedule when medically necessary.
2. Intermittent or reduced schedule leave will not result in a reduction in the employee's total amount of leave beyond the amount of leave actually taken. Intermittent and reduced schedule FMLA leave will be accounted for in the shortest increment used to account for leave generally within the employee's classification.

Employees must follow the District's absence reporting procedures when using intermittent leave.

3. When an instructional employee seeks to take intermittent or reduced schedule leave to care for a family member with a serious health condition, to care for a covered service member or veteran, or for the employee's own serious health condition which is foreseeable based on planned medical treatment, and the employee would be on leave for more than 20% of the total number of work days over the leave period, the District may either require the employee to take leave on a full-time basis for the duration of the requested intermittent or reduced schedule leave or temporarily transfer the employee to an alternate position with equivalent pay and benefits.
4. If an eligible employee requests intermittent or reduced schedule leave for a foreseeable medical treatment, including during a period of recovery from a serious health condition, the District may require the employee to transfer temporarily to an available alternate position for which the employee is qualified and which better accommodates recurring periods of leave than the employee's regular position. The alternate position must have equivalent pay and benefits as the employee's regular position.

#### F. Group Health Plan Benefits

1. Eligible employees are generally entitled to the continuation of District-provided group health plan benefits while on FMLA leave. Group health plan benefits include medical, dental, and optical insurance coverages in which the employee is enrolled at the time that FMLA leave is taken.

2. The District will continue paying its portion, if any, of the employee's group health plan costs and insurance premiums or representative premiums while the employee is on FMLA leave and in accordance with any applicable collective bargaining or individual employment contract. Any share or portion of the group health plan costs, insurance premiums, or representative premiums paid by the employee before FMLA leave must continue to be paid by the employee during FMLA leave. See DOL Form WH-381. An employee's failure to pay his/her portion of group health plan costs, insurance premiums, or representative premiums during FMLA leave may result in loss of coverage if the employee's contribution is more than 30 calendar days late. The District will provide the employee with written notice at least 15 calendar days before cancelling the employee's coverage because of a failure to make employee contributions.
3. As addressed in subsection I below, an employee who fails to voluntarily return to work after FMLA leave may be required to repay the District for his/her group health plan benefit costs.

#### G. Return to Work

1. At the expiration date of an employee's FMLA leave, the employee will be returned to that employee's former position or an equivalent position with the same pay, benefits, and working conditions. An employee taking FMLA leave has no greater right to reinstatement than if the employee had been continuously employed during the FMLA leave period.
2. If an employee was unable to renew a license or certification because of FMLA leave and is no longer qualified for the employee's former position, the District will provide the employee reasonable time, on unpaid status, to fulfill the necessary return to work conditions.
3. Instructional Employees
  - a. "Instructional" employees are those whose principal function is to teach and instruct students in a class, small group, or individual setting.
  - b. If an instructional employee begins FMLA leave more than 5 weeks before the end of a term or semester, the District may require the employee to take FMLA leave until the end of the term or semester if the FMLA leave is to last at least 3 weeks and the employee would return to work during the 3-week period before the end of the term or semester.
  - c. If an instructional employee begins FMLA leave during the 5-week period before the end of a term or semester because of the birth or placement for adoption or foster care of a child, to care for a spouse, child, or Parent with a serious health condition, or to care for a covered service member or veteran, the District may require that FMLA leave be taken until the end of the term or semester if the instructional employee would return to work

during the 2-week period immediately before the end of the term or semester and the leave is to last more than 2 weeks.

- d. If an instructional employee begins FMLA leave during the 3-week period before the end of a term or semester because of the birth or placement for adoption or foster care of a child, to care for a spouse, child, or Parent with a serious health condition, or to care for a covered service member or veteran, the District may require the employee to take FMLA leave until the end of the term or semester, if the leave will last more than five (5) work days.
- e. Any additional FMLA leave required of an instructional employee by the District will not count against the employee's allotment of FMLA leave.

#### 4. Fitness for Duty

The District may require that an employee returning from FMLA leave submit a fitness-for-duty certification from a health care provider which addresses the employee's ability to return to work and perform the essential functions of the employee's position. The District must provide the employee with notice of the requirement to provide a fitness-for-duty certification and the essential functions of the employee's position when the District provides the employee the designation of FMLA leave notice (DOL Form WH-382, as updated). If the employee fails to submit the fitness-for-duty certification in a timely manner, return from FMLA leave may be delayed by the District. The employee may be terminated if he/she fails to submit the fitness-for-duty certification.

5. Unless a collective bargaining agreement provides otherwise, an employee on unpaid FMLA leave is not entitled to accrue seniority, employment benefits (other than medical insurance), or any benefit conditioned on length of service or work performed.

#### H. Denial of Key Employee Restoration

1. The District reserves the right to deny restoration to the same or equivalent position to any eligible employee who is a key employee, meaning any employee who is paid a salary and is in the highest paid 10% of employees. The District may deny restoration if necessary to prevent substantial and grievous economic injury to the District's operations. If the District intends to deny restoration to a key employee, it will:
  - a. use DOL Form WH-381, as updated, to notify the employee of his/her status as a key employee in response to the employee's request for FMLA leave and provide the employee with an explanation of the consequences for the employee if the District determines that substantial and grievous injury will result to its operations if the employee is reinstated after FMLA leave;
  - b. notify the employee, in person or by certified mail, as soon as the District decides it will deny restoration and the reasons for the denial;

- c. offer the employee a reasonable opportunity to return to work from FMLA leave after giving this notice;
- d. make a final determination as to whether reinstatement will be denied at the end of the leave period if the employee then requests restoration; and
- e. the District must maintain its group health plan cost, contributions, premium, or representative premium contributions for the employee's group health plan benefits for the entire term of the employee's FMLA leave, even after giving the employee notice that restoration will be denied.

#### I. Failure to Return to Work

1. An employee's unexcused failure to return to work upon expiration of FMLA leave will subject the employee to discharge unless the District grants an extension of leave as required by law or under a collective bargaining agreement, employee handbook, or individual employment contract. An employee who requests an extension of leave due to the continuation, recurrence, or onset of the employee's serious health condition, or the serious health condition of the employee's spouse, child, Parent, or covered service member or veteran, must submit to the employee's supervisor a written request for an extension. This written request must be made as soon as possible before the expiration of the employee's FMLA leave. Medical certification or recertification will be required to support any request for leave extension.
2. If an employee is unable to perform the essential functions of the position or an equivalent position at the end of FMLA leave, the District will comply with ADA requirements, as applicable.
3. If an employee fails to return to work after his/her FMLA leave expires, the employee must reimburse the District for any group health plan costs, contributions, premiums, and representative premiums that the District paid for continuation of the employee's group health benefits coverage during FMLA leave, unless the employee does not return due to: (a) the continuation, recurrence, or onset of the serious health condition which entitled the employee to FMLA leave and the employee provides the District with sufficient certification from the proper health care provider of the continuation, recurrence, or onset of the serious health condition; or (b) other circumstances beyond the employee's control. This provision does not apply to any group health plan cost, insurance premium, or representative premium contributions made by the District for periods during which the employee used paid leave concurrently with FMLA leave.

#### J. Recordkeeping

1. The District will maintain the following records related to FMLA requests and use:
  - a. basic payroll information;

- b. dates (or hours) during which eligible employees take FMLA leave;
  - c. copies of all notices, requests, and other documents related to FMLA leave;
  - d. copies of documents evidencing group health plan cost contributions, insurance premium, and representative premium payments made by the District on behalf of an eligible employee on FMLA leave; and
  - e. documents related to disputes about eligibility or designation of FMLA leave.
2. Medical certifications and other medical documentation related to FMLA leave will be maintained in a separate, confidential file from an employee's personnel file. See Policy 4224.

#### K. Notice to Employees

The District will post the appropriate notice of rights poster in a location easily seen by employees and include a general notice of employee FMLA rights in applicable employee handbooks or by providing employees notice at their time of hire.

Legal authority: 29 USC 2601 et seq.; 29 CFR 825.100 et seq.

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 4000: District Employment

### 4100 Employee Rights and Responsibilities

#### 4107 Military Leave

The District complies with the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA), Michigan's Military Leaves Reemployment Protection Act (MLRPA), and Michigan's Public Employees Entering Armed Forces Act (MPEEAFA). The term "military service" as used in this Policy includes the "uniformed services" as defined in the USERRA, "service" as defined in the MLRPA, and "military duty" as defined in the MPEEAFA.

Military service also includes service and training in the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, Space Force, Coast Guard, applicable reserve forces, Army National Guard, Air National Guard, Commissioned Corps of the Public Health Service, and other categories of persons designated by the U.S. President in times of war.

In qualifying circumstances, eligible full- and part-time employees may take leave related to military service and are entitled to reemployment and other rights during and at the conclusion of military leave. Military leave is unpaid, but employees may use accrued applicable paid leave for all or a portion of their military leave in accordance with a collective bargaining agreement or individual employment contract.

#### A. Employee Notice and Eligibility

1. Advance notice of military service is required, unless that service prevents advance notice or notice is otherwise unreasonable or impossible.
2. Employees are eligible for military leave when called to provide military service, whether voluntary or involuntary.
3. Military leave may be taken for the purpose of active duty, active duty training, inactive duty training, full-time National Guard duty, examinations to determine fitness for duty, funeral honors duty, duty related to the National Disaster Medical System, or any other activity authorized by law.

#### B. Reemployment Rights

1. Employees returning from military leave are entitled to prompt reemployment pursuant to conditions in the law.
2. Employees may be disqualified from reemployment when: (a) discharged dishonorably or for bad conduct; (b) separation from military service is considered "other than honorable" by the applicable military branch; (c) dismissal occurs via court martial or by order of the U.S. President; or (d) the employee is dropped from the military service rolls because of an unauthorized absence from military service or imprisonment.

3. The District may deny reemployment after military leave if the District's circumstances have changed to make reemployment impossible or unreasonable.

#### C. Reemployment Positions

An employee's reemployment position upon returning from military leave depends on the length of the employee's military service, advancement if the employee had remained continuously employed, the employee's qualifications, and other factors described in the law.

#### D. Pay and Rights Upon Reemployment

1. Upon reemployment, an employee receives seniority and other rights and benefits determined by seniority that the employee had attained on the date that military leave began, plus the additional seniority and rights and benefits that the employee would have attained if the employee had remained continuously employed. An employee is entitled to any other rights and benefits not determined by seniority as are generally provided by the District to other employees having similar seniority, status, and pay when taking a non-military leave.
2. Upon reemployment, an employee's eligibility calculation for leave under the FMLA will assume that the employee worked for the District during the period of military leave.
3. Upon reemployment, an employee may not be discharged except for a reason constituting just cause for a period of up to 1 year after reemployment from military leave depending on the length and type of military service.

#### E. Benefits

1. If an employee commencing military leave has coverage under a District-provided group health benefit plan, the employee may (at the employee's expense) elect to continue coverage for the employee, the employee's spouse, and/or the employee's dependents, subject to conditions in the law.
2. If an employee's health insurance coverage is terminated consistent with the law, upon reemployment, the employee (and the employee's spouse and dependents) is immediately eligible for reinstatement of health insurance coverage.

#### F. Notice and Complaints

1. Notice of employee rights under the USERRA will be posted in an appropriate location.
2. The District will not retaliate or take adverse action against an employee based on the employee's exercise of rights under the law.

3. An employee must immediately contact the Employment Compliance Officer(s) if the employee believes the District has violated the law or this Policy. The District will investigate the complaint pursuant to Policy 4104.

Legal authority: 38 USC 4301 et seq.; MCL 32.271 et seq.; MCL 35.351 et seq.

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 4000: District Employment

### 4100 Employee Rights and Responsibilities

#### 4108 Union Activity and Representation

The District will not engage in any of the following:

- interfere with, restrain, or coerce employees in the exercise of their rights under the Public Employment Relations Act (PERA);
- discriminate in regard to hire, terms, or other conditions of employment based on membership or non-membership in a labor organization;
- discriminate against an employee because he/she has given testimony or instituted proceedings under PERA;
- initiate, create, dominate, contribute to, or interfere with the formation or administration of any labor organization; and
- use public school resources to assist a labor organization in collecting dues or service fees from wages of public school employees, unless a collective bargaining agreement expressly permits dues or service fee deductions from wages. Upon the expiration of the collective bargaining agreement, the District is not obligated to collect labor organization dues or service fees. [Optional: Unless prohibited by a collective bargaining agreement, the District may charge an administrative fee to the labor organization for collecting and processing dues and other deductions on the organization's behalf.]

This Policy must be implemented consistent with Policy 1101.

An employee who is subject to an investigatory interview that may result in discipline or reasonably believes that an investigatory interview may result in discipline may bring to the investigatory meeting another employee, or a union representative, if the employee is in an exclusively represented bargaining unit. If the employee's union representative of choice is not immediately available, the investigatory meeting need not be delayed and may proceed with another representative present.

The District may permit a union representative to attend other meetings, but is not obligated to do so unless required by law or by an applicable collective bargaining agreement. District administration is not required to inform an employee of the right to union representation.

An employee is not entitled to have legal representation present at an employment-related meeting with District administration unless the Superintendent or designee gives prior permission.

Legal authority: MCL 423.209, 423.210; *Janus v AFSCME*, Council 31, 138 S. Ct. 2448 (2018); *NLRB v J Weingarten, Inc*, 420 US 251 (1975)

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 4000: District Employment

### 4100 Employee Rights and Responsibilities

**4109 *Break Time for Nursing Mothers*** [Recommended for districts with 50 or more employees] [Note: If the Board elects not to adopt this Policy, delete the body of the policy and replace the title with “Intentionally Left Blank” after the policy number and in the Table of Contents to ensure accurate numbering of subsequent policies in the Policy Manual.]

Each time an employee needs to express breast milk during the 1-year period after the child’s birth, the District will provide reasonable break time for this purpose in a place, other than a bathroom, that is shielded from view and free from intrusion by co-workers and the public [Optional: or additional time may be granted for appropriate cause as determined by the Superintendent or designee]. For non-exempt employees, break time for expressing breast milk will be unpaid unless the employee is not completely relieved from duty during the entirety of the break, or the employee uses paid break time to which the employee is otherwise entitled under an applicable collective bargaining agreement, individual employment contract, or employee handbook. A longer accommodation may be available under the Pregnant Workers Fairness Act.

Legal authority: 29 USC 218d; 34 CFR 106.57

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## **Series 4000: District Employment**

### **4100 Employee Rights and Responsibilities**

#### ***4110 Reimbursement***

The District may reimburse an employee for actual, necessary, and reasonable expenses incurred in the performance of official or appropriately authorized duties. As a condition to reimbursement, the District may require pre-approval of an expense.

Subject to prior written approval of the Superintendent or designee, an employee may attend workshops, conferences, trainings, programs, official functions, hearings, and meetings that assist in work performance and are in the District's best interests.

Reimbursement may include expenses for registration, tuition, fees, charges, travel expenses, meals (except alcohol), lodging, or other related expenses as the Superintendent or designee deems appropriate and as permitted by law.

This Policy will not be construed in a manner that restricts reimbursement provisions in any applicable collective bargaining agreement, individual employment contract, or employee handbook.

Legal authority: MCL 380.11a(3), 380.1254(1), 380.1804

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 4000: District Employment

### 4100 Employee Rights and Responsibilities

#### 4111 *Professional Development*

##### A. General

For purposes of this Policy, “day” is defined as at least 6 hours and “year” is defined as July 1 to June 30.

##### B. Teachers

The District provides professional development for teachers in compliance with state law. At the District’s discretion and consistent with state law, professional development hours may be counted as student instructional hours, although the instructional calendar may be extended if necessary for the District to receive full state aid under federal or state law. To facilitate professional development, the District may provide a substitute, reimburse conference expenses or registration fees, or provide release time for attendance. Professional development may include working in professional learning communities or examining student data.

The District must document the following information:

- dates when professional development was provided;
- beginning and ending times; and
- topic(s) presented to participating teachers on each date.

The Superintendent or designee has the discretion to select topics for professional development. For each day that professional development is provided, the District must retain at least one of the following:

- sign-in/out sheet;
- attendance log;
- flyer/notices announcing the event;
- agenda/meeting minutes;
- travel voucher(s);
- food receipt(s); or
- District calendar (dates indicated).

The District will record teacher attendance, including probationary teachers, at professional development on the prescribed form published by MDE or a modified

form designed to assist teachers with tracking their professional development for teacher certification renewal.

In addition to the State-mandated professional development, the District is required by state law to provide 15 days of professional development to new teachers in their first 3 years of classroom teaching. Professional development should, where appropriate, align with the teacher's individual development plan.

#### C. Professional Staff

Professional staff are to participate in professional development as required under state law or the respective professional standards consistent with the professional's position. Professional development may be on a local, state, or national level. Superintendent or designee pre-approval is required before attending professional development.

#### D. Maintaining Certifications and Licenses

Teachers, Non-Teaching Professionals, Administrators, and the Superintendent must comply with professional development or continuing education obligations to maintain certifications or licenses, including the payment of any related fees. The District is not obligated to notify professionals that certifications or licenses are expiring.

#### E. Other Employees

The District may offer in-services or training on a mandatory or voluntary basis to other employees. If a training is mandated, employees will be paid and, if applicable, released for that time. If the District employs bus drivers, bus drivers will be paid for training time to keep a commercial driver's license (CDL) current.

Legal authority: MCL 257.312e, 257.1801 et seq.; MCL 380.1231, 380.1233, 380.1233a, 380.1233b, 380.1233c, 380.1246, 380.1526, 380.1527, 380.1531, 380.1536; MCL 388.1674, 388.1763

Date adopted:

Dated revised:

## **Series 4000: District Employment**

### **4100 Employee Rights and Responsibilities**

#### ***4112 Extracurricular Employees or Volunteers***

Persons employed in extracurricular activities, such as athletic coaches, advisors, or activity sponsors, and whose primary duty is instructing students in the rules, fundamentals, or techniques of the related sport or activity, but who are not otherwise employed by the District, are exempt from the Fair Labor Standards Act's minimum wage and overtime requirements.

Persons engaged as volunteers in the District's extracurricular activities may be paid a stipend at the end of the activity. Volunteer stipends must be limited to expenses incurred.

Extracurricular employees and volunteers serve on an at-will basis as determined by the Superintendent or designee.

Extracurricular employees are subject to background checks under Policy 4205. Volunteers may also be subject background checks under Policy 4205 or using another verified background check method.

Legal authority: DOL Opinion Letter FLSA 2018-6

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 4000: District Employment

### 4100 Employee Rights and Responsibilities

#### 4113 *Michigan Earned Sick Time Act (ESTA)* [Required for Districts with More Than 10 Employees] [Note: If the District has 10 or fewer employees, please contact the Thrun Board Policy Administrator to receive a different version of this ESTA policy.]

##### A. General

Eligible employees will accrue paid leave as provided by the ESTA. Applicable provisions of a collective bargaining agreement, individual employment contract, or handbook remain in place and may provide additional paid leave time that is not provided by the ESTA.

Unless otherwise agreed with union representation, the ESTA does not apply to employees subject to a conflicting collective bargaining agreement in effect on February 21, 2025, until the collective bargaining agreement expires.

The ESTA does not apply to an employee subject to a conflicting individual employment contract in effect on February 21, 2025, until that contract expires, if all of the following are satisfied:

- the District and the employee signed the contract on or before December 31, 2024;
- the contract is effective for not longer than 3 years; and
- the District notified the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity (LEO) of the contract.

##### B. Definitions

1. "ESTA benefit year" means the 12-month period from July 1 to June 30. [Optional: may adjust 12-month period]
2. "Eligible employee" means an employee engaged in service to the District. The following, however, are not eligible employees:
  - a. an unpaid trainee or unpaid intern;
  - b. a person employed in accordance with the Michigan Youth Employment Standards Act, MCL 409.101, *et seq*; or
  - c. positions when the employee may schedule their own working hours as approved by the Superintendent or designee. For those approved positions, the District will not take adverse personnel action for failure to schedule a minimum amount of working hours.

If a collective bargaining agreement or contract meets the requirements in Section A above, then an employee covered by that contract is not an eligible employee until the contract expires.

3. "Family member" is defined as:
  - a. biological, adopted, or foster child, stepchild or legal ward, a child of a domestic partner, or a child to whom the eligible employee stands *in loco parentis*;
  - b. biological parent, foster parent, stepparent, or adoptive parent or legal guardian of an eligible employee or an eligible employee's spouse (under the laws of any state) or domestic partner or a person who stood *in loco parentis* when the eligible employee was a minor child;
  - c. an individual to whom the eligible employee is legally married under the laws of any state or a domestic partner;
  - d. grandparent, grandchild, and biological, foster, or adopted sibling;
  - e. an individual related by blood; or
  - f. an individual whose close association with the eligible employee is the equivalent of a family relationship.
4. "Earned sick time" means paid leave as allowed by the ESTA.
5. All other ESTA-defined terms apply to this Policy.

#### C. Wait Period and Leave Reinstatement Upon Re-Employment

A newly hired eligible employee may not use accrued earned sick time until 120 calendar days after the employee's start date, unless otherwise provided in a collective bargaining agreement, individual employment contract, employee handbook, or the ESTA.

Upon discharge or other separation from employment, an employee automatically loses accrued earned sick time unless the employee is rehired by the District within 2 months of the separation.

Accrued earned sick time that is not used before an employee's separation from employment will have no monetary value. If an employee separates from employment and is rehired by the District not more than two (2) months after separation, the District will reinstate previously accrued and unused earned sick time and allow the employee to use that earned sick time and accrue additional earned sick time upon reinstatement. This paragraph does not apply if the District paid the employee the value of the employee's unused accrued earned sick time at the time of separation.

## D. ESTA Leave Accrual and Frontloading

### 1. Leave Accrual

Unless the District frontloads earned sick time under Section D(2), an eligible employee begins accruing earned sick time on February 21, 2025 or the employee's start date, whichever is later.

An eligible employee will accrue 1 hour of earned sick time for every 30 hours worked, but the eligible employee may only use up to 72 hours of earned sick time in a single ESTA benefit year. An FLSA-exempt eligible employee is assumed to work 40 hours per workweek unless the employee's normal workweek is less than 40 hours.

Up to 72 hours of unused accrued earned sick time will carry over from ESTA benefit year to ESTA benefit year.

### 2. Frontloading Leave

For each ESTA benefit year, the District may frontload earned sick time consistent with this policy, a collective bargaining agreement, or individual employment contract.

If frontloading, the District will grant a full-time eligible employee 72 hours of earned sick time at the beginning of an ESTA benefit year. For a part-time eligible employee, the District will provide the employee with:

- a written notice of how many hours the employee is expected to work during the ESTA benefit year at the time of hire;
- an amount of earned sick time at the beginning of the ESTA benefit year that is proportional to the earned sick time the employee would accrue if the employee worked all the hours in that written notice; and
- 1 hour of earned sick time for every 30 hours worked after the employee exceeds the work hours in that written notice.

Frontloaded earned sick time will not carry over from one ESTA benefit year to the next unless authorized in the applicable collective bargaining agreement, individual employment contract, or handbook.

### 3. Compliance Presumption

The District is in compliance with this Section D if it:

- provides an eligible employee with paid time off in at least the same amounts of time off described in the ESTA that may be used for ESTA purposes or any other approved purpose, with the time used for an ESTA purpose being subject to the ESTA; or

- is a signatory to a collective bargaining agreement that requires contributions to a multiemployer plan under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act, subject to certain conditions.

#### E. Additional Absences

Additional absences, above and beyond earned sick time under the ESTA, are governed by an applicable collective bargaining agreement, individual employment contract, or Board Policy.

#### F. Permissible Uses

An eligible employee may use earned sick time for the following reasons:

1. the employee's mental or physical illness, injury, or health condition; medical diagnosis, care, or treatment of the employee's mental or physical illness, injury, or health condition; or preventative medical care for the employee;
2. for the employee's family member's mental or physical illness, injury, or health condition, medical diagnosis, care, or treatment of the employee's family member's mental or physical illness, injury, or health condition or preventative medical care for a family member of the employee;
3. if the employee or the employee's family member is a victim of domestic violence or sexual assault, for medical care or psychological or other counseling for physical or psychological injury or disability, to obtain services from a victim services organization, to relocate due to domestic violence or sexual assault, to obtain legal services, or to participate in any civil or criminal proceedings related to or resulting from the domestic violence or sexual assault;
4. for meetings at a child's school or place of care related to the child's health or disability, or the effects of domestic violence or sexual assault on the child; or
5. for closure of the employee's place of business by order of a public official due to a public health emergency, for an employee's need to care for a child whose school or place of care has been closed by order of a public official due to a public health emergency, or when it has been determined by the health authorities having jurisdiction or by a health care provider that the employee's or employee's family member's presence in the community would jeopardize the health of others because of the employee's or family member's exposure to a communicable disease, whether or not the employee or family member has actually contracted the communicable disease.

#### G. Use of Earned Sick Time

If the eligible employee's need to use leave is foreseeable, the employee must provide notice to the District of the employee's intent to use earned sick time at least 7 days prior to the date leave is to begin. If the eligible employee's need to

use leave is not foreseeable, the employee must provide notice to the District of the employee's intent to use earned sick time as soon as practicable. For leave of more than 3 consecutive days, upon District request, the eligible employee must provide the District – within 15 days after the request – reasonable documentation that earned sick time was used for an ESTA purpose. The District will be responsible for paying the eligible employee's costs in obtaining the requested documentation.

In cases of domestic violence or sexual assault, reasonable documentation includes any of the following:

- a police report indicating that the employee or the employee's family member was a victim of domestic violence or sexual assault;
- a signed statement from a victim and witness advocate affirming that the employee or the employee's family member is receiving services from a victim services organization; or
- a court document indicating that the employee or the employee's family member is involved in legal action related to domestic violence or sexual assault.

All health, sexual assault, and domestic violence information and documentation received from an employee about earned sick time remains confidential and will not be disclosed, except to the employee, with the employee's written permission, or as and to the extent required by law.

Failure to comply with notice procedures or document requests to support the use of earned sick time, or using earned sick time for a non-permissible use, may result in discipline, including discharge.

Unless otherwise provided in an employee's collective bargaining agreement, individual employment contract, or handbook:

- earned sick time must be used in [ ] [Note: Insert "hourly" or the smallest increment that the District uses to account for absences of use of other time] increments; and
- an employee using earned sick time will not receive overtime pay, holiday pay, or bonuses for the earned sick time.

#### H. Notice and Recordkeeping

The District will:

1. provide an ESTA notice created by LEO to each eligible employee at hire or by March 23, 2025, whichever is later (see 4113-F);
2. display in a conspicuous location in each of its buildings the ESTA poster created by LEO; and

3. retain for not less than 3 years records documenting hours worked and earned sick time taken by eligible employees.

Legal authority: MCL 408.934b, 408.961 et seq., *Mothering Justice v Attorney General*, 2024 Mich LEXIS 1454 (July 31, 2024)

Date adopted:

Date revised:

**EARNED SICK TIME ACT**  
**Act 338 of 2018**

AN ACT to require certain employers to provide certain employees with earned sick time that may be used for certain purposes; to specify the conditions for accruing and using earned sick time; to prohibit an employer from taking retaliatory personnel action against certain employees for certain acts; to provide for the powers and duties of certain state officers and entities; to provide for promulgation of rules; and to provide remedies and sanctions.

**History:** 2018, Act 338, Eff. Mar. 29, 2019;—Am. 2018, Act 369, Eff. Mar. 29, 2019;—2018, Act 338, Eff. Feb. 21, 2025;—Am. 2025, Act 2, Imd. Eff. Feb. 21, 2025.

**Compiler's note:** See *Mothering Justice v Attorney General*, case no. 165325, July 31, 2024. The Michigan Supreme Court held that 2018 PA 369 was unconstitutional and, therefore void and revived the original initiative as enacted by the Legislature on September 5, 2018, effective February 21, 2025.

*The People of the State of Michigan enact:*

**408.961 Short title.**

Sec. 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "earned sick time act".

**History:** 2018, Act 338, Eff. Mar. 29, 2019;—Am. 2018, Act 369, Eff. Mar. 29, 2019;—2018, Act 338, Eff. Feb. 21, 2025.

**Compiler's note:** Public Act 338 was proposed by initiative petition pursuant to Const. 1963, art 2, section 9. On September 5, 2018, the initiative petition was approved by an affirmative vote of the majority of the members of the Senate and an affirmative vote of the majority of the members of the House of Representatives, and filed with the Secretary of State on September 5, 2018.

For the transfer of powers and duties of the department of licensing and regulatory affairs to the department of labor and economic opportunity, see E.R.O. No. 2019-3, compiled at MCL 125.1998.

See *Mothering Justice v Attorney General*, case no. 165325, July 31, 2024. The Michigan Supreme Court held that 2018 PA 369 was unconstitutional and, therefore void and revived the original initiative as enacted by the Legislature on September 5, 2018, effective February 21, 2025. Therefore, the section above is as it was enacted before being amended by 2018 PA 369.

**408.962 Definitions.**

Sec. 2. As used in this act:

- (a) "Department" means the department of labor and economic opportunity.
- (b) "Director" means the director of the department or the director's designee.
- (c) "Domestic partner" means an adult in a committed relationship with another adult, including both same-sex and different-sex relationships. As used in this subdivision, "committed relationship" means a relationship in which the employee and another individual share responsibility for a significant measure of each other's common welfare, such as any relationship between individuals of the same or different sex that is granted legal recognition by a state, political subdivision, or the District of Columbia as a marriage or analogous relationship, including, but not limited to, a civil union.
- (d) "Domestic violence" means that term as defined in section 1 of 1978 PA 389, MCL 400.1501.
- (e) "Earned sick time" means time off from work that is provided by an employer to an employee, whether paid or unpaid, that can be used for the purposes described in section 4.
- (f) "Employee" means an individual engaged in service to an employer in the business of the employer. Employee does not include any of the following:
  - (i) An individual employed by the United States government.
  - (ii) An individual who works in accordance with a policy of an employer if both of the following conditions are met:
    - (A) The policy allows the individual to schedule the individual's own working hours.
    - (B) The policy prohibits the employer from taking adverse personnel action against the individual if the individual does not schedule a minimum number of working hours.
  - (iii) An unpaid trainee or unpaid intern.
  - (iv) An individual who is employed in accordance with the youth employment standards act, 1978 PA 90, MCL 409.101 to 409.124.
- (g) "Employer" means any person, firm, business, educational institution, corporation, limited liability company, government entity, or other entity that employs 1 or more individuals. Employer does not include the United States government.
- (h) "Family member" includes all of the following:
  - (i) A biological, adopted or foster child, stepchild or legal ward, a child of a domestic partner, or a child to whom the employee stands in loco parentis.
  - (ii) A biological parent, foster parent, stepparent, or adoptive parent or a legal guardian of an employee or

an employee's spouse or domestic partner or an individual who stood in loco parentis when the employee was a minor child.

(iii) An individual to whom the employee is legally married under the laws of any state or a domestic partner.

(iv) A grandparent.

(v) A grandchild.

(vi) A biological, foster, or adopted sibling.

(vii) An individual related by blood to the employee.

(viii) An individual whose close association with the employee is the equivalent of a family relationship.

(i) "Health care professional" means any of the following:

(i) A person licensed under federal law or the law of this state to provide health care services, including, but not limited to, nurses, doctors, and emergency room personnel.

(ii) A certified midwife.

(j) "Retaliatory personnel action" means any of the following:

(i) Denial of any right guaranteed under this act.

(ii) A threat, discharge, suspension, demotion, reduction of hours, or other adverse personnel action against an employee or former employee for exercise of a right guaranteed under this act.

(iii) Sanctions against an employee who is a recipient of public benefits for exercise of a right guaranteed under this act.

(iv) Interference with, or punishment for, an individual's participation in any manner in an investigation, proceeding, or hearing under this act.

(k) "Sexual assault" means any act that constitutes a violation of section 520b, 520c, 520d, 520e, or 520g of the Michigan penal code, 1931 PA 328, MCL 750.520b, 750.520c, 750.520d, 750.520e, and 750.520g.

(l) "Small business" means an employer for which 10 or fewer individuals work for compensation during a given week. In determining the number of individuals performing work for compensation during a given week, all individuals performing work for compensation on a full-time, part-time, or temporary basis must be counted, including individuals made available to work through the services of a temporary services or staffing agency or similar entity. An employer is not a small business if it maintained more than 10 employees on its payroll during any 20 or more calendar workweeks in either the current or immediately preceding calendar year.

(m) "Unpaid trainee or unpaid intern" means an individual who receives training from an employer in accordance with all of the following:

(i) The training the individual receives is similar to the experience provided in a vocational school.

(ii) The training is for the benefit of the individual.

(iii) The individual does not displace the employer's employees, but works under close supervision.

(iv) The employer receives no immediate advantage from the activities of the individual and, on occasion, the employer's operations may be impeded by the individual.

(v) The individual is not entitled to a job at the conclusion of the training.

(vi) The employer and the individual understand that the individual is not entitled to wages for time spent in training.

**History:** 2018, Act 338, Eff. Mar. 29, 2019;—Am. 2018, Act 369, Eff. Mar. 29, 2019;—2018, Act 338, Eff. Feb. 21, 2025;—Am. 2025, Act 2, Imd. Eff. Feb. 21, 2025.

**Compiler's note:** Public Act 338 was proposed by initiative petition pursuant to Const. 1963, art 2, section 9. On September 5, 2018, the initiative petition was approved by an affirmative vote of the majority of the members of the Senate and an affirmative vote of the majority of the members of the House of Representatives, and filed with the Secretary of State on September 5, 2018.

For the transfer of powers and duties of the department of licensing and regulatory affairs to the department of labor and economic opportunity, see E.R.O. No. 2019-3, compiled at MCL 125.1998.

See *Mothering Justice v Attorney General*, case no. 165325, July 31, 2024. The Michigan Supreme Court held that 2018 PA 369 was unconstitutional and, therefore void and revived the original initiative as enacted by the Legislature on September 5, 2018, effective February 21, 2025. Therefore, the section above is as it was enacted before being amended by 2018 PA 369.

#### **408.963 Earned sick time to be provided by employer; alternatives; accrual; use; carry over; "year" defined; workweek; compliance; pay rate; replacement worker not required.**

Sec. 3. (1) An employer shall provide earned sick time to each of the employer's employees in this state.

(2) Except as otherwise provided in section 12, this subsection, and subsection (4), an employee of a small business must accrue a minimum of 1 hour of paid earned sick time for every 30 hours worked, not including hours used as paid time off, but may not use more than 40 hours of paid earned sick time in a year unless the employer selects a higher limit. As an alternative to the accrual of paid earned sick time, a small business may provide an employee not less than 40 hours of paid earned sick time at the beginning of a year for immediate

use. Notwithstanding the requirements of subsection (6), this act does not require a small business to do any of the following until October 1, 2025:

- (a) Allow an employee to accrue paid earned sick time in accordance with this subsection.
- (b) Provide paid earned sick time to an employee as an alternative to the accrual of paid earned sick time.
- (c) Calculate and track an employee's accrual of paid earned sick time.

(3) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection and subsection (4), all other employees must accrue a minimum of 1 hour of paid earned sick time for every 30 hours worked, not including hours used as paid time off, but may not use more than 72 hours of paid earned sick time in a year, unless the employer selects a higher limit. As an alternative to the accrual of paid earned sick time, an employer may provide an employee not less than 72 hours of paid earned sick time at the beginning of a year for immediate use.

(4) As an alternative to the accrual of paid earned sick time, an employer that employs a part-time employee may provide paid earned sick time to the part-time employee at the beginning of a year for immediate use in accordance with all of the following requirements:

(a) The employer provides the part-time employee with a written notice of how many hours the part-time employee is expected to work for a year at the time of hire.

(b) The amount of earned sick time provided to the part-time employee at the beginning of the year is, at a minimum, proportional to the earned sick time that the part-time employee would accrue if the part-time employee worked all of the hours expected as provided in the written notice.

(c) If the part-time employee works more hours than what is expected as provided in the written notice, the employer must provide the part-time employee with additional earned sick time in accordance with the accrual requirements under this section.

(5) Subject to the requirements of this subsection, earned sick time carries over from year to year, but a small business is not required to allow an employee to use more than 40 hours of paid earned sick time in a single year, and all other employers are not required to allow an employee to use more than 72 hours of paid earned sick time in a single year. An employer shall allow an employee to carry over all of the employee's unused accrued paid earned sick time not to exceed 72 hours or, if the employer is a small business, not to exceed 40 hours from 1 year to the next year, unless the employer selects a higher limit. This act does not require an employer that provides paid earned sick time at the beginning of a year as described in subsections (2) to (4) to do any of the following:

- (a) Allow an employee to carry over any unused earned sick time from 1 year to the next year.
- (b) Calculate and track an employee's accrual of paid earned sick time.

(c) Pay the employee the value of the employee's unused accrued paid earned sick time at the end of the year in which the earned sick time was accrued.

(6) Earned sick time as provided in this section begins to accrue on the effective date of this act, or upon commencement of the employee's employment, whichever is later. An employee may use accrued earned sick time as it is accrued, except that an employer may require an employee hired after the effective date of the 2025 amendatory act that amended this section to wait until 120 calendar days after commencing employment before using accrued earned sick time.

(7) An employer is in compliance with this section if the employer meets either of the following conditions:

(a) Provides the employer's employees with paid time off in not less than the same amounts of time off as provided under this act that may be used for the purposes described in section 4 or any other purpose. If an employee uses paid time off as described in this subdivision for the purposes described in section 4, this act applies to the use of that paid time off. This act does not require an employer that provides paid time off as described in this subdivision to allow an employee to use paid time off for the purposes described in section 4 in an amount that exceeds the amounts of time off provided under this act.

(b) The employer is a signatory to a collective bargaining agreement that requires contributions to a multiemployer plan as that term is defined in section 3 of subtitle A of title I of the employee retirement income security act of 1974, 29 USC 1002, that may be used under the same conditions as provided for under this act, in an amount equal to or greater than what is required to be provided under this act, and that accrues at a rate equal to or greater than the rate described in subsections (2) and (3). This act does not require a multiemployer plan that provides benefits in accordance with this act to pay accrued paid sick leave benefits if an employer does not remit required contributions to the plan. If an employer does not make required contributions to the multiemployer plan as provided in this subdivision, the employer is not considered to be in compliance with the employer's obligations under this act.

(8) An employer shall pay each employee using paid earned sick time at a pay rate equal to the greater of either the normal hourly wage or base wage for that employee or the minimum wage established under the improved workforce opportunity wage act, 2018 PA 337, MCL 408.931 to 408.945, but not less than the

minimum wage rate established in section 4 of the improved workforce opportunity wage act, 2018 PA 337, MCL 408.934. This act does not require an employer to include overtime pay, holiday pay, bonuses, commissions, supplemental pay, piece-rate pay, tips, or gratuities in the calculation of an employee's normal hourly wage or base wage.

(9) An employer shall not require an employee to search for or secure a replacement worker as a condition for using earned sick time.

(10) For purposes of subsections (2) to (5), "year" means a regular and consecutive 12-month period, as determined by an employer.

(11) For purposes of earned sick time accrual under this act, all of the following apply:

(a) An employee who is exempt from overtime requirements under section 13(a)(1) of the fair labor standards act, 29 USC 213, is assumed to work 40 hours in each workweek unless the employee's normal workweek is less than 40 hours, in which case earned sick time accrues based on that normal workweek.

(b) An employee who is covered under 29 CFR 825.801 is assumed to have worked not less than 40 hours in each workweek or is assumed to have worked not less than 30 hours if employed by a small business.

**History:** 2018, Act 338, Eff. Mar. 29, 2019;—Am. 2018, Act 369, Eff. Mar. 29, 2019;—2018, Act 338, Eff. Feb. 21, 2025;—Am. 2025, Act 2, Imd. Eff. Feb. 21, 2025.

**Compiler's note:** Public Act 338 was proposed by initiative petition pursuant to Const. 1963, art 2, section 9. On September 5, 2018, the initiative petition was approved by an affirmative vote of the majority of the members of the Senate and an affirmative vote of the majority of the members of the House of Representatives, and filed with the Secretary of State on September 5, 2018.

For the transfer of powers and duties of the department of licensing and regulatory affairs to the department of labor and economic opportunity, see E.R.O. No. 2019-3, compiled at MCL 125.1998.

See *Mothering Justice v Attorney General*, case no. 165325, July 31, 2024. The Michigan Supreme Court held that 2018 PA 369 was unconstitutional and, therefore void and revived the original initiative as enacted by the Legislature on September 5, 2018, effective February 21, 2025. Therefore, the section above is as it was enacted before being amended by 2018 PA 369.

#### **408.963a Waiting period; exception; contributions to multiemployer plan.**

Sec. 3a. An employer that makes contributions to a multiemployer plan as described in section 3(7)(b) shall not require an employee to wait until 120 calendar days after commencing employment with that employer before using unused accrued earned sick time and nonforfeited paid sick leave benefits that were earned as a result of past service for a different employer that also made contributions to the same multiemployer plan or any paid sick leave benefits earned by working under the collective bargaining agreement for that employer. Contributions required under the collective bargaining agreement or other employment agreement for the paid sick leave plan are due on the same schedule as the other fringe benefit funds or plans to which the signatory employer must contribute.

**History:** Add. 2025, Act 2, Imd. Eff. Feb. 21, 2025.

#### **408.964 Earned sick time; permissible uses; advance notice; incremental use; documentation; disclosure of details relating to domestic violence or sexual assault or family member's medical condition; other purposes.**

Sec. 4. (1) An employer shall allow an employee to use the earned sick time accrued or provided under section 3 for any of the following purposes:

(a) The employee's mental or physical illness, injury, or health condition; medical diagnosis, care, or treatment of the employee's mental or physical illness, injury, or health condition; or preventative medical care for the employee.

(b) For the employee's family member's mental or physical illness, injury, or health condition, medical diagnosis, care, or treatment of the employee's family member's mental or physical illness, injury, or health condition or preventative medical care for a family member of the employee.

(c) If the employee or the employee's family member is a victim of domestic violence or sexual assault, for medical care or psychological or other counseling for physical or psychological injury or disability, to obtain services from a victim services organization, to relocate due to domestic violence or sexual assault, to obtain legal services, or to participate in any civil or criminal proceedings related to or resulting from the domestic violence or sexual assault.

(d) For meetings at a child's school or place of care related to the child's health or disability, or the effects of domestic violence or sexual assault on the child.

(e) For closure of the employee's place of business by order of a public official due to a public health emergency, for an employee's need to care for a child whose school or place of care has been closed by order of a public official due to a public health emergency, or when it has been determined by the health authorities having jurisdiction or by a health care provider that the employee's or employee's family member's presence in the community would jeopardize the health of others because of the employee's or family member's

exposure to a communicable disease, whether or not the employee or family member has actually contracted the communicable disease.

(2) If the employee's need to use earned sick time is foreseeable, an employer may require advance notice, not to exceed 7 days before the date the earned sick time is to begin, of the intention to use the earned sick time.

(3) If the employee's need for the earned sick time is not foreseeable, an employer, may require the employee to give notice of the intention in either of the following manners:

(a) As soon as practicable.

(b) In accordance with the employer's policy related to requesting or using sick time or leave if both of the following are met:

(i) On the date of the employee's hire, on the effective date of the 2025 amendatory act that added this subparagraph, or on the date that the employer's policy takes effect, whichever is latest, the employer provides the employee with a written copy of the policy that includes procedures for how the employee must provide notice.

(ii) The employer's notice requirement allows the employee to provide notice after the employee is aware of the need for the earned sick time.

(4) An employer that requires notice for sick time that is not foreseeable under subsection (3)(b) shall not deny an employee's use of earned sick time that is not foreseeable if either of the following conditions applies:

(a) The employer did not provide a written policy to the employee as required under subsection (3)(b)(i).

(b) The employer made a change to the written policy and did not provide notice of the change to the employee within 5 days after the change.

(5) Earned sick time may be used in 1-hour increments or the smallest increment that the employer uses to account for absences of use of other time.

(6) For earned sick time of more than 3 consecutive days, an employer may require reasonable documentation that the earned sick time has been used for a purpose described in subsection (1). Upon the employer's request, the employee must provide the documentation to the employer not more than 15 days after the employer's request. The employer shall not delay the commencement of earned sick time on the basis that the employer has not yet received documentation. Documentation signed by a health care professional indicating that earned sick time is necessary is reasonable documentation for purposes of this subsection. In cases of domestic violence or sexual assault, any of the following types of documentation selected by the employee are considered reasonable documentation:

(a) A police report indicating that the employee or the employee's family member was a victim of domestic violence or sexual assault.

(b) A signed statement from a victim and witness advocate affirming that the employee or employee's family member is receiving services from a victim services organization.

(c) A court document indicating that the employee or employee's family member is involved in legal action related to domestic violence or sexual assault.

(7) An employer shall not require that the documentation explain the nature of the illness or the details of the violence. If an employer chooses to require documentation for earned sick time, the employer is responsible for paying all out-of-pocket expenses the employee incurs in obtaining the documentation. If the employee does have health insurance, the employer is responsible for paying any costs charged to the employee by the health care provider for providing the specific documentation required by the employer.

(8) An employer shall not require disclosure of details relating to domestic violence or sexual assault or the details of an employee's or an employee's family member's medical condition as a condition of providing earned sick time under this act. If an employer possesses health information or information pertaining to domestic violence or sexual assault about an employee or employee's family member, the employer shall treat that information as confidential and shall not disclose that information except to the affected employee or with the permission of the affected employee.

(9) This act does not require an employer to provide earned sick time for any purposes other than as described in this section.

**History:** 2018, Act 338, Eff. Mar. 29, 2019;—Am. 2018, Act 369, Eff. Mar. 29, 2019;—2018, Act 338, Eff. Feb. 21, 2025;—Am. 2025, Act 2, Imd. Eff. Feb. 21, 2025.

**Compiler's note:** Public Act 338 was proposed by initiative petition pursuant to Const. 1963, art 2, section 9. On September 5, 2018, the initiative petition was approved by an affirmative vote of the majority of the members of the Senate and an affirmative vote of the majority of the members of the House of Representatives, and filed with the Secretary of State on September 5, 2018.

For the transfer of powers and duties of the department of licensing and regulatory affairs to the department of labor and economic opportunity, see E.R.O. No. 2019-3, compiled at MCL 125.1998.

See *Mothering Justice v Attorney General*, case no. 165325, July 31, 2024. The Michigan Supreme Court held that 2018 PA 369 was unconstitutional and, therefore void and revived the original initiative as enacted by the Legislature on September 5, 2018, effective Rendered Wednesday, February 26, 2025

February 21, 2025. Therefore, the section above is as it was enacted before being amended by 2018 PA 369.

**408.965 Transfer of employee to separate division, entity, or location; retention of earned sick time; reinstatement; successor employer; unused earned sick time.**

Sec. 5. (1) If an employee is transferred to a separate division, entity, or location, but remains employed by the same employer, the employee retains all earned sick time that was accrued at the prior division, entity, or location and may use all accrued earned sick time as provided in section 4. If an employee separates from employment and is rehired by the same employer not more than 2 months after the separation, the employer shall reinstate previously accrued, unused earned sick time and shall allow the reinstated employee to use that earned sick time and accrue additional earned sick time upon reinstatement. This subsection does not apply if an employer pays an employee the value of the employee's unused accrued earned sick time at the time of a transfer or separation.

(2) If a different employer succeeds or takes the place of an existing employer, the successor employer assumes the responsibility for the earned sick time rights that employees who remain employed by the successor employer accrued under the original employer. Those employees are entitled to use earned sick time previously accrued on the terms provided in this act. This subsection does not apply if an employer pays an employee the value of the employee's unused accrued earned sick time at the time of a succession.

(3) This act does not require an employer to provide financial or other reimbursement to an employee for accrued earned sick time that was not used upon the employee's termination, resignation, retirement, or other separation from employment.

**History:** 2018, Act 338, Eff. Mar. 29, 2019;—Am. 2018, Act 369, Eff. Mar. 29, 2019;—2018, Act 338, Eff. Feb. 21, 2025;—Am. 2025, Act 2, Imd. Eff. Feb. 21, 2025.

**Compiler's note:** Public Act 338 was proposed by initiative petition pursuant to Const. 1963, art 2, section 9. On September 5, 2018, the initiative petition was approved by an affirmative vote of the majority of the members of the Senate and an affirmative vote of the majority of the members of the House of Representatives, and filed with the Secretary of State on September 5, 2018.

For the transfer of powers and duties of the department of licensing and regulatory affairs to the department of labor and economic opportunity, see E.R.O. No. 2019-3, compiled at MCL 125.1998.

See *Mothering Justice v Attorney General*, case no. 165325, July 31, 2024. The Michigan Supreme Court held that 2018 PA 369 was unconstitutional and, therefore void and revived the original initiative as enacted by the Legislature on September 5, 2018, effective February 21, 2025. Therefore, the section above is as it was enacted before being amended by 2018 PA 369.

**408.966 Exercise of rights under act; interference, restraint, or denial prohibited; retaliatory personnel action or discrimination prohibited; absence control policy leading to or resulting in retaliatory personnel action prohibited; person mistakenly alleging violation.**

Sec. 6. (1) An employer or any other person shall not interfere with, restrain, or deny the exercise of, or the attempt to exercise, any right protected under this act.

(2) An employer shall not take retaliatory personnel action or discriminate against an employee because the employee has exercised a right protected under this act. Rights protected by this act include, but are not limited to, the right to use earned sick time under this act, the right to file a complaint or inform any person about any employer's alleged violation of this act, the right to cooperate with the department in the department's investigations of alleged violations of this act, and the right to inform any person of the person's rights under this act.

(3) An employer's absence control policy must not treat earned sick time taken under this act as an absence that may lead to or result in retaliatory personnel action.

(4) The protections in this section apply to any person that mistakenly but in good faith alleges a violation of this section.

(5) An employer may take adverse personnel action against an employee if the employee uses earned sick time for a purpose other than a purpose described in section 4, or violates the notice requirements under this act.

**History:** 2018, Act 338, Eff. Mar. 29, 2019;—Repealed 2018, Act 369, Eff. Mar. 29, 2019;—2018, Act 338, Eff. Feb. 21, 2025;—Am. 2025, Act 2, Imd. Eff. Feb. 21, 2025.

**Compiler's note:** The repealed section pertained to the exercise of rights and the prohibition of retaliatory personnel action or discrimination.

See *Mothering Justice v Attorney General*, case no. 165325, July 31, 2024. The Michigan Supreme Court held that 2018 PA 369 was unconstitutional and, therefore void and revived the original initiative as enacted by the Legislature on September 5, 2018, effective February 21, 2025. Therefore, the section above is as it was enacted before being repealed by 2018 PA 369.

**408.967 Violation of act; enforcement by director; civil remedies; civil fine.**

Sec. 7. (1) If an employer violates this act, the employee affected by the violation, at any time not later than 3 years after the violation, may file a claim with the department. The department shall investigate the

claim.

(2) The director shall enforce the provisions of this act. In enforcing this act, the director shall do both of the following:

(a) Establish a system that uses multiple means of communication to receive complaints that are related to noncompliance with this act.

(b) Investigate complaints received by the department in a timely manner.

(3) Any person that alleges a violation of this act has the right to file a complaint with the department. The department shall encourage reporting pursuant to this subsection by keeping confidential, to the maximum extent permitted by applicable laws, the name and other identifying information of the employee or person reporting the violation. However, if the person provides authorization to the department, the department may disclose the person's name and identifying information as necessary to enforce this act or for other appropriate purposes.

(4) Upon receiving a complaint alleging a violation of this act, the department shall investigate the complaint and attempt to resolve it through mediation between the complainant and the subject of the complaint, or other means. The department shall keep a complainant notified regarding the status of the complainant's complaint and any resultant investigation. If the department believes that a violation has occurred, it shall issue to the offending person or entity a notice of violation and the relief required of the offending person or entity. The department shall prescribe the form and wording of such notices of violation including any method of appealing the decision of the department.

(5) The department may impose penalties and grant an employee or former employee all appropriate relief, including but not limited to, payment of all earned sick time improperly withheld, any and all damages incurred by the complainant as the result of violation of this act, back pay, and reinstatement in the case of job loss.

(6) If the director determines that there is reasonable cause to believe that an employer violated this act and the department is subsequently unable to obtain voluntary compliance by the employer within a reasonable time, the department shall bring a civil action on behalf of the employee. The department may investigate and file a civil action on behalf of all employees of that employer who are similarly situated at the same worksite. Except as otherwise provided under section 12, a contract or agreement between the employer and the employee or any acceptance by the employee of a paid or unpaid leave policy that provides fewer rights or benefits than provided by this act is void and unenforceable.

(7) In addition to liability for civil remedies described in this section, an employer that takes retaliatory personnel action against an employee or former employee is subject to a civil fine of not more than \$1,000.00 for each violation.

(8) In addition to liability for civil remedies described in this section, an employer that fails to provide earned sick time to an employee in violation of this act is subject to a civil fine of not more than 8 times the employee's normal hourly wage.

(9) An employer that willfully violates a notice or posting requirement of section 8 is subject to a civil fine of not more than \$100.00 for each violation.

**History:** 2018, Act 338, Eff. Mar. 29, 2019;—Am. 2018, Act 369, Eff. Mar. 29, 2019;—2018, Act 338, Eff. Feb. 21, 2025;—Am. 2025, Act 2, Imd. Eff. Feb. 21, 2025.

**Compiler's note:** Public Act 338 was proposed by initiative petition pursuant to Const. 1963, art 2, section 9. On September 5, 2018, the initiative petition was approved by an affirmative vote of the majority of the members of the Senate and an affirmative vote of the majority of the members of the House of Representatives, and filed with the Secretary of State on September 5, 2018.

For the transfer of powers and duties of the department of licensing and regulatory affairs to the department of labor and economic opportunity, see E.R.O. No. 2019-3, compiled at MCL 125.1998.

See *Mothering Justice v Attorney General*, case no. 165325, July 31, 2024. The Michigan Supreme Court held that 2018 PA 369 was unconstitutional and, therefore void and revived the original initiative as enacted by the Legislature on September 5, 2018, effective February 21, 2025. Therefore, the section above is as it was enacted before being amended by 2018 PA 369.

#### **408.968 Written notice to employee; contents; language; display of poster; creation by department; availability.**

Sec. 8. (1) An employer subject to this act shall provide written notice to each employee at the time of hiring or not later than 30 days the effective date of the 2025 amendatory act that amended this section, whichever is later, including, but not limited to, all of the following:

(a) The amount of earned sick time required to be provided to an employee under this act.

(b) The employer's choice of how to calculate a year as that term is defined under section 3.

(c) The terms under which earned sick time may be used.

(d) That retaliatory personnel action taken by the employer against an employee for requesting or using earned sick time for which the employee is eligible is prohibited.

(e) The employee's right to file a complaint with the department for any violation of this act.

(2) The notice required under subsection (1) shall be in English, Spanish, and any language that is the first language spoken by at least 10% of the employer's workforce, if the department has translated the notice into that language.

(3) An employer shall display a poster at the employer's place of business, in a conspicuous place that is accessible to employees, that contains the information in subsection (1). The poster displayed must be in English, Spanish, and any language that is the first language spoken by not less than 10% of the employer's workforce, if the department has translated the poster into that language.

(4) The department shall create and make available to employers notices and posters that contain the information required under subsection (1) for the employers' use in complying with this section. The department shall provide the notices and posters in English, Spanish, and any other language deemed appropriate by the department.

**History:** 2018, Act 338, Eff. Mar. 29, 2019;—Am. 2018, Act 369, Eff. Mar. 29, 2019;—2018, Act 338, Eff. Feb. 21, 2025;—Am. 2025, Act 2, Imd. Eff. Feb. 21, 2025.

**Compiler's note:** Public Act 338 was proposed by initiative petition pursuant to Const. 1963, art 2, section 9. On September 5, 2018, the initiative petition was approved by an affirmative vote of the majority of the members of the Senate and an affirmative vote of the majority of the members of the House of Representatives, and filed with the Secretary of State on September 5, 2018.

For the transfer of powers and duties of the department of licensing and regulatory affairs to the department of labor and economic opportunity, see E.R.O. No. 2019-3, compiled at MCL 125.1998.

See *Mothering Justice v Attorney General*, case no. 165325, July 31, 2024. The Michigan Supreme Court held that 2018 PA 369 was unconstitutional and, therefore void and revived the original initiative as enacted by the Legislature on September 5, 2018, effective February 21, 2025. Therefore, the section above is as it was enacted before being amended by 2018 PA 369.

#### **408.969 Multilingual outreach program.**

Sec. 9. The department shall develop and implement a multilingual outreach program to inform employees, parents, and persons who are under the care of a health care provider about the availability of earned sick time under this act. This program must include distribution of notices and other written material in English and in other languages to child care and elder care providers, domestic violence shelters, schools, hospitals, community health centers, and other health care providers.

**History:** 2018, Act 338, Eff. Mar. 29, 2019;—Repealed 2018, Act 369, Eff. Mar. 29, 2019;—2018, Act 338, Eff. Feb. 21, 2025.

**Compiler's note:** The repealed section pertained to a multilingual outreach program.

See *Mothering Justice v Attorney General*, case no. 165325, July 31, 2024. The Michigan Supreme Court held that 2018 PA 369 was unconstitutional and, therefore void and revived the original initiative as enacted by the Legislature on September 5, 2018, effective February 21, 2025. Therefore, the section above is as it was enacted before being repealed by 2018 PA 369.

#### **408.970 Retention of records.**

Sec. 10. An employer shall retain for not less than 3 years records documenting the hours worked and earned sick time taken by employees. To monitor compliance with the requirements of this act, an employer shall allow the department access to those records, with appropriate notice and at a mutually agreeable time. If a question arises as to whether an employer has violated an employee's right to earned sick time under this act and the employer does not maintain or retain adequate records documenting the hours worked and earned sick time taken by the employee or does not allow the department reasonable access to those records, there is a presumption that the employer has violated the act, which can be rebutted only by clear and convincing evidence.

**History:** 2018, Act 338, Eff. Mar. 29, 2019;—Am. 2018, Act 369, Eff. Mar. 29, 2019;—2018, Act 338, Eff. Feb. 21, 2025.

**Compiler's note:** Public Act 338 was proposed by initiative petition pursuant to Const. 1963, art 2, section 9. On September 5, 2018, the initiative petition was approved by an affirmative vote of the majority of the members of the Senate and an affirmative vote of the majority of the members of the House of Representatives, and filed with the Secretary of State on September 5, 2018.

For the transfer of powers and duties of the department of licensing and regulatory affairs to the department of labor and economic opportunity, see E.R.O. No. 2019-3, compiled at MCL 125.1998.

See *Mothering Justice v Attorney General*, case no. 165325, July 31, 2024. The Michigan Supreme Court held that 2018 PA 369 was unconstitutional and, therefore void and revived the original initiative as enacted by the Legislature on September 5, 2018, effective February 21, 2025. Therefore, the section above is as it was enacted before being amended by 2018 PA 369.

#### **408.971 Other law, regulation, requirement, policy, or standard, including collective bargaining agreement; scope and limitation of act.**

Sec. 11. (1) This act provides minimum requirements pertaining to earned sick time and shall not be construed to preempt, limit, or otherwise affect the applicability of any other law, regulation, requirement, policy, or standard, including a collective bargaining agreement, that provides for greater accrual or use of time off, whether paid or unpaid, or that extends other protections to employees.

(2) This act does not do any of the following:

- (a) Prohibit an employer from providing more earned sick time than is required under this act.
- (b) Diminish any rights provided to any employee under a collective bargaining agreement.
- (c) Subject section 12, preempt or override the terms of any collective bargaining agreement in effect prior to the effective date of this act.
- (d) Prohibit an employer from establishing a policy that permits an employee to donate unused accrued earned sick time to another employee.

**History:** 2018, Act 338, Eff. Mar. 29, 2019;—Am. 2018, Act 369, Eff. Mar. 29, 2019;—2018, Act 338, Eff. Feb. 21, 2025.

**Compiler's note:** Public Act 338 was proposed by initiative petition pursuant to Const. 1963, art 2, section 9. On September 5, 2018, the initiative petition was approved by an affirmative vote of the majority of the members of the Senate and an affirmative vote of the majority of the members of the House of Representatives, and filed with the Secretary of State on September 5, 2018.

For the transfer of powers and duties of the department of licensing and regulatory affairs to the department of labor and economic opportunity, see E.R.O. No. 2019-3, compiled at MCL 125.1998.

See *Mothering Justice v Attorney General*, case no. 165325, July 31, 2024. The Michigan Supreme Court held that 2018 PA 369 was unconstitutional and, therefore void and revived the original initiative as enacted by the Legislature on September 5, 2018, effective February 21, 2025. Therefore, the section above is as it was enacted before being amended by 2018 PA 369.

#### **408.972 Collective bargaining agreement.**

Sec. 12. (1) If an employer's employees are covered by a collective bargaining agreement in effect on the effective date of this act and the collective bargaining agreement conflicts with this act, this act applies beginning on the stated expiration date in the collective bargaining agreement, notwithstanding any statement in the agreement that it continues in force until a future date or event or the execution of a new collective bargaining agreement.

(2) If an employer's employee is covered by a contract, not including an employer policy signed by the employee, and all of the following requirements are satisfied, this act applies beginning on the stated expiration date in the contract, notwithstanding any statement in the contract that the contract continues in force until a future date or event or the execution of a new contract:

- (a) The employer and employee signed the contract on or before December 31, 2024.
- (b) The contract is effective for not longer than 3 years.
- (c) The contract conflicts with this act.
- (d) The employer notifies the department of the contract.

(3) If a small business did not employ an employee on or before February 21, 2022, the small employer is not required to comply with this act until 3 years after the date that the employer first employs an employee.

**History:** 2018, Act 338, Eff. Mar. 29, 2019;—Am. 2025, Act 2, Imd. Eff. Feb. 21, 2025.

**Compiler's note:** Public Act 338 was proposed by initiative petition pursuant to Const. 1963, art 2, section 9. On September 5, 2018, the initiative petition was approved by an affirmative vote of the majority of the members of the Senate and an affirmative vote of the majority of the members of the House of Representatives, and filed with the Secretary of State on September 5, 2018.

For the transfer of powers and duties of the department of licensing and regulatory affairs to the department of labor and economic opportunity, see E.R.O. No. 2019-3, compiled at MCL 125.1998.

#### **408.973 Rules.**

Sec. 13. The director may promulgate rules in accordance with the administrative procedures act of 1969, 1969 PA 306, MCL 24.201 to 24.328, as necessary to administer this act.

**History:** 2018, Act 338, Eff. Mar. 29, 2019;—Repealed 2018, Act 369, Eff. Mar. 29, 2019;—2018, Act 338, Eff. Feb. 21, 2025.

**Compiler's note:** The repealed section pertained to the authority to promulgate rules.

See *Mothering Justice v Attorney General*, case no. 165325, July 31, 2024. The Michigan Supreme Court held that 2018 PA 369 was unconstitutional and, therefore void and revived the original initiative as enacted by the Legislature on September 5, 2018, effective February 21, 2025. Therefore, the section above is as it was enacted before being repealed by 2018 PA 369.

#### **408.974 Severability.**

Sec. 14. If any portion of this act or the application thereof to any person or circumstances shall be found to be invalid by a court, such invalidity shall not affect, impair, or invalidate the other portions or applications of the act that can be given effect without the invalid portion or application, and to this end the provisions of this act are declared to be severable.

**History:** 2018, Act 338, Eff. Mar. 29, 2019;—Am. 2018, Act 369, Eff. Mar. 29, 2019;—2018, Act 338, Eff. Feb. 21, 2025.

**Compiler's note:** Public Act 338 was proposed by initiative petition pursuant to Const. 1963, art 2, section 9. On September 5, 2018, the initiative petition was approved by an affirmative vote of the majority of the members of the Senate and an affirmative vote of the majority of the members of the House of Representatives, and filed with the Secretary of State on September 5, 2018.

For the transfer of powers and duties of the department of licensing and regulatory affairs to the department of labor and economic opportunity, see E.R.O. No. 2019-3, compiled at MCL 125.1998.

See *Mothering Justice v Attorney General*, case no. 165325, July 31, 2024. The Michigan Supreme Court held that 2018 PA 369 was unconstitutional and, therefore void and revived the original initiative as enacted by the Legislature on September 5, 2018, effective February 21, 2025.

February 21, 2025. Therefore, the section above is as it was enacted before being amended by 2018 PA 369.

## Series 4000: District Employment

### 4100 Employee Rights and Responsibilities

**4113-F Michigan Earned Sick Time Act (ESTA) Form** [For Districts with More Than 10 Employees] [Note: If the District has 10 or fewer employees, please contact the Thrun Board Policy Administrator to receive a different version of this ESTA form.]

#### ESTA Hire Notice

Pursuant to the Michigan Earned Sick Time Act (ESTA), an eligible employee generally (1) earns 1 hour of earned sick time for every 30 hours worked, but the District may cap use of earned sick time to 72 hours per ESTA benefit year, or (2) receives at least 72 hours of earned sick time at the beginning of the District's ESTA benefit year (prorated for a part-time employee under certain circumstances). The District's ESTA benefit year is the 12-month period from July 1 to June 30. [Optional: may adjust 12-month period]

[Optional (if frontloading for a part-time employee, complete the following for that employee): As a part-time employee, the District estimates that you will work approximately \_\_\_\_\_ hours during the District's ESTA benefit year, subject to the District's discretion and Board Policy].

Retaliatory personnel action by the employer against an employee for requesting or using earned sick time for which the employee is eligible is prohibited. An eligible employee may file a complaint with the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity (LEO) for any ESTA violation.

Terms under which earned sick time may be used are identified in the ESTA and in District Policy 4113, which terms are incorporated by reference into this Notice. An eligible employee may use earned sick time for the following reasons:

1. the employee's mental or physical illness, injury, or health condition; medical diagnosis, care, or treatment of the employee's mental or physical illness, injury, or health condition; or preventative medical care for the employee;
2. for the employee's family member's mental or physical illness, injury, or health condition, medical diagnosis, care, or treatment of the employee's family member's mental or physical illness, injury, or health condition or preventative medical care for a family member of the employee;
3. if the employee or the employee's family member is a victim of domestic violence or sexual assault, for medical care or psychological or other counseling for physical or psychological injury or disability, to obtain services from a victim services organization, to relocate due to domestic violence or sexual assault, to obtain legal services, or to participate in any civil or criminal proceedings related to or resulting from the domestic violence or sexual assault;

4. for meetings at a child's school or place of care related to the child's health or disability, or the effects of domestic violence or sexual assault on the child; or
5. for closure of the employee's place of business by order of a public official due to a public health emergency, for an employee's need to care for a child whose school or place of care has been closed by order of a public official due to a public health emergency, or when it has been determined by the health authorities having jurisdiction or by a health care provider that the employee's or employee's family member's presence in the community would jeopardize the health of others because of the employee's or family member's exposure to a communicable disease, whether or not the employee or family member has actually contracted the communicable disease.

A LEO ESTA brochure is attached to this notice, along with a copy of the ESTA.

**[Attach LEO Hire Notice When Published by LEO]**

## Series 4000: District Employment

### 4200 Employee Conduct and Ethics

#### 4201 *Employee Ethics and Standards*

Employees must act professionally and model high standards of behavior at all times. Employees shall perform their respective duties and responsibilities in a professional manner, using appropriate judgment. Employees must maintain a standard of behavior that reflects positively on their status as District representatives in the community and is consistent with the Michigan Code of Educational Ethics, which is incorporated herein by reference. See:

[https://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/Code\\_of\\_Ethics\\_653130\\_7.pdf](https://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/Code_of_Ethics_653130_7.pdf)

If an employee is uncertain as to a potential course of conduct, the employee should seek advice from a supervisor before proceeding.

#### A. Employee Ethical Conduct

Employees must exercise objectively sound and professional judgment when engaging with students, Parents, colleagues, administrators, Board members, and community members. This standard extends to employee conduct on and off school property. Ethical behavior generally includes, but is not limited to:

1. supporting the physical and emotional welfare and safety of students, Parents, colleagues, administrators, Board members, and community members;
2. complying with federal and state law;
3. competently and appropriately performing duties and responsibilities for which the employee is trained or assigned;
4. assigning tasks to District personnel who are qualified and hired to perform the assigned task;
5. refraining from unlawful discrimination, including unlawful harassment, and retaliation as defined by Policy;
6. immediately reporting suspected child abuse or neglect;
7. immediately reporting reasonable cause to believe or suspect abuse, neglect, or exploitation of a vulnerable adult;
8. maintaining confidential information, including student, medical, personnel, financial, and security information, as protected by statute;
9. appropriately using District funds, resources, and technology;
10. maintaining consistent and reliable work attendance, unless excused by the employee's supervisor or the Superintendent or designee, as applicable;

11. engaging in activities or behaviors that enhance the operational and instructional environment;
12. professionally communicating with students, Parents, colleagues, Board members, and community members, including through electronic means;
13. Completing time and effort reporting under 4201-AG.
14. abiding by professional, ethical, and licensing standards established by relevant governmental agencies, professional licensing boards, and professional associations, including the Michigan State Board of Education; and
15. self-reporting a criminal charge and plea or conviction, as required by law.

#### B. Conflict of Interest

Employees shall perform their duties and responsibilities free from a prohibited conflict of interest, unless authorized by the Board or designee. Prohibited conflicts of interest include, but are not limited to:

1. soliciting or accepting anything of value (such as a gift, loan, contribution, or reward), other than compensation received from the District in exchange for services provided to the District, that would influence the employee's judgment when performing the employee's duties;
2. using public funds to purchase alcoholic beverages, jewelry, gifts, fees for golf, or any item the purchase of which is illegal, except as consistent with and permitted by Policy 3205 and Revised School Code Section 1814;
3. using or authorizing the use of the employee's public employment or any confidential information received through public employment to obtain personal, professional, political, or financial gain other than compensation received from the District in exchange for services provided to the District for the employee or a member of the employee's immediate family, or a business with which the employee is associated;
4. using or authorizing the use of District personnel, resources, property, or funds under the employee's care and control other than in accordance with prescribed constitutional, statutory, and regulatory procedures, or using those items for personal, professional, political, or financial gain;
5. providing private services, lessons, tutoring, or coaching for students assigned to the employee for additional remuneration, except as permitted by Policy 4214;
6. engaging in any activity of a sexual or romantic nature with another employee(s) or contractor(s) that the employee supervises, unless the individuals are engaged to be married, married, or cohabitating;

7. engaging in any activity of a sexual or romantic nature on school property or at school-sponsored events;
8. directly or indirectly supervising, making, or contributing to an employment decision pertaining to a relative or significant other, or relative of a relative or significant other (as defined by Policy 4213); and
9. engaging in any other activity that promotes an employee's financial and pecuniary interests over those of the District.

### C. Student Fraternization

Employees must establish and maintain professional boundaries with students, including while using personal or District technology. Employees are prohibited from direct or indirect interactions with students that do not reasonably relate to an educational purpose. Employees will behave at all times in a manner supportive of the best interests of students and the District.

Conduct identified below constitutes unprofessional conduct, subjecting the employee to discipline, including discharge, absent express Board or designee authorization. The following list illustrates prohibited behavior involving students but does not describe every kind of prohibited behavior:

1. communicating about alcohol use, drug use, or sexual activity when the discussion is not appropriately related to a specific aspect of the curriculum or the employee's duties;
2. providing drugs, alcohol, tobacco, e-cigarettes, or other items students cannot possess under the District's Student Code of Conduct;
3. commenting about matters involving sex, using double entendre, or making sexually suggestive remarks with no appropriate educational purpose;
4. displaying sexually inappropriate images, materials, or objects;
5. offering or soliciting sexual advice, whether written, verbal, or physical;
6. engaging in any activity of a sexual or romantic nature, including following graduation where the relationship arises out of an employee-student relationship;
7. inappropriate kissing;
8. inappropriately intruding on a student's personal space, such as by touching unnecessarily, moving too close, or staring at a portion of the student's body;
9. communicating directly or indirectly (e.g., by phone, email, text messaging, or social media) on a matter that does not pertain to school unless the employee obtained prior parental consent. Electronic communications with students generally are to be sent simultaneously to multiple recipients and not just to

- one student except when the communication is clearly school related and inappropriate for persons other than the individual student to receive (e.g., grades);
10. permitting a specific student to engage in conduct that is not permitted or tolerated from other students;
  11. inappropriately discussing with a student the student's personal issues or problems that should normally be discussed with a Parent or counselor unless the employee is the student's family member;
  12. inappropriately giving a student a personal gift;
  13. allowing a student to live in the employee's residence without prior Parent consent unless the student is the employee's family member, a foreign exchange student placed with the employee, or if the employee serves as the student's foster parent or legal guardian;
  14. giving a student a ride in the employee's vehicle without appropriate authorization;
  15. taking a student on an activity outside of school without first obtaining the express permission of the student's Parent and a District administrator;
  16. inviting a student to the employee's home or residence without first obtaining the express permission of the student's Parent;
  17. going to a student's home when the student's Parent or an adult chaperone is not present unless the employee is the student's family member; or
  18. engaging in any other conduct which undermines the special position of trust and authority between a District employee and a student.

#### D. Abuse and Neglect

1. Children: An employee who suspects child abuse or neglect must: (a) immediately contact Children's Protective Services (CPS), (b) file an appropriate report with that agency as required by the Child Protection Law and Policy 4202, and (c) notify the Superintendent or designee and the building principal or supervisor that the report has been filed.

An employees should consult with their immediate supervisor about their duty to cooperate with CPS investigations or to disclose student records to CPS.

2. Vulnerable Adults: An employee who has reasonable cause to believe or suspect abuse, neglect, or exploitation of a vulnerable adult must: (a) immediately report the matter to Adult Protective Services (APS) consistent with Michigan's Social Welfare Act and Policy 4202, and (b) notify the Superintendent or designee and the building principal or supervisor that the report has been filed.

A reporter's identity will remain confidential unless disclosure is authorized by the reporter's consent or by court order.

An employee should consult with their immediate supervisor about their duty to cooperate with APS investigations or to disclose student records to APS.

Legal authority: MCL 380.11a, 380.601a, 380.634, 380.1308a, 380.1814; MCL 722.621 et seq.; MCL 400.11a.

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 4000: District Employment

### 4200 Employee Conduct and Ethics

#### ***4201-AG Employee Ethics and Standards – Time and Effort Reporting***

Employees who are paid, in full or in part, with federal funds must maintain time and effort records under this administrative guideline. This administrative guideline applies to employees who are paid with state or local funds, but are used to meet a required “match” in a federal program, full and part-time employees, stipends for employees administering federal programs, and substitute teachers. Time and effort records must be completed on forms provided by the District.

Employees must provide the information required by this administrative guideline on a timely basis and following all procedures.

#### A. Definitions

1. **Cost Objective:** A program, function, or activity for which cost data are desired (e.g., administrative costs).
2. **Multiple Cost Objective Employee:** Employees who work on multiple cost objectives, such as more than one federal award, a federal award with a non-federal award, or more than one activity within a federal award that is separately tracked by the District.
3. **Single Cost Objective Employee:** Employees who work exclusively on one cost objective.
4. **Employee Compensation:** All amounts paid to an employee for services rendered during the award period. Compensation includes salaries, fringe benefits, stipends, bonuses and payments made under supplemental contracts.
5. **Personnel Activity Report (PAR):** A document certifying the amount of time a multiple cost objective employee spends on each cost objective. The PAR must:
  - a. Reflect an after-the-fact distribution of the activities performed;
  - b. Account for the total activity for which the employee is compensated;
  - c. Be prepared at least monthly and coincide with one or more pay periods;  
and
  - d. Be signed by the employee.

#### B. Requirement

Charges to federal grants or awards for salaries and wages must be based on records that accurately reflect the work performed. These records must:

1. Be supported by a system of internal controls that provides reasonable assurance that the charges are accurate, allowable, and properly allocated;
2. Include verification through electronic signatures and documentation from individuals with first-hand knowledge incorporated into official records;
3. Reasonably reflect total activity for which the employee is compensated, not exceeding 100% of compensated activities;
4. Encompass both federally-assisted and all other activities compensated by the District on an integrated basis. Reported hours need to cover 100% of the employee's time, regardless of full-time versus part-time work status;
5. Comply with the established accounting policies and practices of the District; and
6. Support the distribution of the employee's salary or wages among specific activities or cost objectives.

#### C. Procedure

##### 1. Single Cost Objective Employees

An employee who works on a single cost objective must complete a semi-annual certification that indicates the employee worked solely on that cost objective for the period covered by the certification. The certification must be prepared at least every six months. Either the employee or a supervisor with first-hand knowledge of the work performed by the employee must sign the semi-annual certification.

A semi-annual certification must:

- Be executed after the work has been completed;
- State that the employee worked solely on activities related to a particular cost objective;
- Identify the cost objective;
- Specify the reporting period;
- Be signed by the employee or a supervisor with first-hand knowledge of the work performed; and
- Be dated.

The supervisory official for all single cost objective employees must complete the semi-annual certification and forward it to the [identify position].

The [identify position] will send the semi-annual certification forms to departments, schools, and offices in January and July. If an employee works on a short-term cost objective and their end date does not coincide with the normal January/July collection dates for semi-annual certifications (e.g., a supplemental contract for summer school programs), the employee must obtain a semi-annual certification from the [identify position] after the period when the work has ended.

## 2. Multiple Cost Objective Employee

Employees working on multiple cost objectives must maintain PARs or equivalent documentation indicating the amount of time spent on each cost objective for the period covered by the PAR or equivalent documentation. The PAR or equivalent documentation must be prepared at least every month. The employee must sign the PAR or equivalent documentation.

A PAR or equivalent documentation must:

- Be executed after the work has been completed (projections of how an employee is expected to work or position descriptions are not sufficient);
- Account for the total activity for which each employee is compensated, including part-time schedules or overtime (total activity means all of the time an employee works, not just the amount of time worked on a Federal program);
- Identify the cost objectives;
- Specify the reporting period;
- Be prepared at least monthly and coincide with one or more pay periods;
- Be signed by the employee (unlike a semi-annual certification, a supervisor's signature alone is not sufficient); and
- Be dated after the fact (when the work has been completed).

All multiple cost objective employees must complete the PAR, unless they receive permission from the [identify position] to use equivalent documentation instead of a PAR.

Copies of executed PARs, or approved equivalent documentation, must be forwarded to the [identify position].

## 3. Supplemental Contracts

An employee's overtime work must be reflected in the employee's time and effort record. If, however, an employee works in two distinct positions, the employee may maintain separate time and effort records for each position.

#### 4. Stipends

Employees receiving stipends for District-sponsored activities (e.g., for professional development) may satisfy time and effort records by signing the sign-in and sign-out sheets provided at the activity. Employees receiving such stipends for non-District sponsored activities should contact the [identify position] to obtain the necessary documentation.

#### D. Training

The District will provide training on the requirements related to federal timekeeping to all staff involved in federal programs through group training, one-on-one training, or informal technical assistance.

#### E. Reconciliation

It is the District's practice to charge employee compensation costs to federal programs based on budget estimates that reasonably approximate how an employee will work during the year. The District will reconcile payroll charges to the time and effort reflected in employee time and effort records at least quarterly.

If the District identifies a variance in how an employee's salary was charged and how much the employee actually worked, the District will adjust its payroll charges so that the amount charged to federal funds reflects the employee's actual time and effort. If the difference between the actual and budgeted amounts is 10% or greater, the District will adjust its accounting records at least quarterly. If the reconciled difference is less than 10%, the District will adjust the accounting records at least annually.

#### F. Document Retention

Time and effort records must be maintained for a period of five (5) years by the District.

#### G. Sanctions

Any district employee who violates this procedure will be subject to appropriate discipline as reflected by comments to be placed in their annual employee evaluation.

For violations of this procedure, the District may impose sanctions as follows:

- If time and effort records are not completed and returned on time, salary costs associated with uncertified grant activity may be removed for the individual and will be charged to a General, Special, or Vocational Education non-grant account.
- The District may suspend any new work by a non-compliant employee, or the inclusion of a non-compliant employee in projects or programs until time and effort records are up-to-date and properly completed and certified.

- Employees who complete certification of time and effort records that are inaccurate or incomplete may be subject to discipline, up to and including discharge. Employees who fail to properly complete time and effort records or who violate the procedures established in this administrative guidelines may be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including discharge.
- At the Superintendent's or designee's discretion, payment to an individual for time and effort expended on the grant may be withheld if time and effort records are not complete.

Legal authority: 2 CFR 200.430

Dated adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 4000: District Employment

### 4200 Employee Conduct and Ethics

#### 4202 *Children's Protective Services (CPS) and Adult Protective Services (APS) Reporting and Student Safety and Welfare*

During the performance of their duties, employees must exercise due care for the safety and welfare of the District's students.

##### A. Required Reports to CPS, APS, District administration, and Michigan State Police

1. A reporter must: (a) promptly notify the Superintendent or designee and the building principal of the report; and (b) submit an electronic or written report to CPS or APS within the statutory timeframe. Failure to make an immediate report or follow-up with an electronic or written report may result in discipline, including discharge, as well as criminal or civil penalties. CPS and APS may be contacted at 855-444-3911 or [www.michigan.gov/mdhhs](http://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs).

Administrators, teachers, counselors, social workers, psychologists, nurses, physical therapists, physical therapist assistants, occupational therapists, athletic trainers, and others identified as mandatory reporters pursuant to Michigan's Child Protection Law must *immediately* report all instances of suspected child abuse or neglect to CPS. Other employees are also expected to make reports to CPS of suspected child abuse or neglect.

School employees who suspect or have reasonable cause to believe that a vulnerable adult was or is being subjected to abuse, neglect, or exploitation must *immediately* report the matter to APS. A vulnerable adult means a person 18 years of age or older who is unable to protect themselves from abuse, neglect, or exploitation because of a mental or physical impairment or because of advanced age.

2. Employees must promptly report to the building principal or the Superintendent or designee any instances of injury (accidental or intentional), violence, threats of violence, self-harm, hazards, or any other situation that endangers student safety and welfare or raises reasonable concerns as to the safety of students.
3. Employees must promptly report to the building principal or the Superintendent or designee incidents of student bullying and crimes or attempted crimes involving physical violence, gang-related activity, illegal possession of a controlled substance or controlled substance analogue, or other intoxicant, trespassing, and property crimes, including theft and vandalism.

Within 24 hours of an alleged incident, an administrator must make an appropriate report to the Michigan State Police as required by law.

## B. Student Safety and Welfare

1. Employees will maintain control and supervision of students to ensure student safety and will take appropriate action if the employee observes an unsafe or dangerous situation.
2. Employees will treat students with respect and maintain appropriate professional boundaries with students both in and out of school. Employees must avoid conduct with students that potentially creates the appearance of an unprofessional, unethical, or inappropriate relationship. Romantic relationships between employees and students are prohibited regardless of the student's age, including following graduation where the relationship arises out of an employee-student relationship.
3. An employee will not assess, diagnose, prescribe, or provide therapy or counseling services to a student unless: (a) the employee is appropriately certified or licensed under Michigan law; and (b) the services are within the employee's job duties. An employee will direct students in need of these services to the appropriate District employee or community resource.
4. Employees will comply with and respect confidentiality of student records and privacy rights, including not posting student information or images online without prior authorization from the employee's supervisor.
5. Employees will not interfere with or adversely impact a Parent's right to determine and direct their student's care, wellbeing, teaching, and education.
6. [Optional: Pursuant to the state's 2013 Task Force on the Prevention of Sexual Abuse of Children, the Board authorizes the Superintendent or designee to consider and implement all of the following:
  - age-appropriate, evidence-based curriculum and instruction for students in grades pre-K to 5 concerning child sexual abuse awareness and prevention;
  - training for District personnel on child sexual abuse, including but not limited to, training on supportive, appropriate response to disclosure of abuse;
  - providing educational information to Parents on the warning signs of a child being sexually abused and information on needed assistance, referral, or resources;
  - available counseling and resources for students affected by sexual abuse;
  - emotional and educational support for a students affected by sexual abuse; and
  - a review of the system to educate and support personnel who are legally required to report child abuse or neglect.]

Legal authority: MCL 380.10, 380.1308, 380.1308a, 380.1310a, 380.1505; MCL 400.11 et seq.; MCL 722.621 et seq.

Dated adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 4000: District Employment

### 4200 Employee Conduct and Ethics

#### 4203 Corporal Punishment and Limited Use of Reasonable Force

##### A. Definition

“Corporal punishment” is defined as the deliberate infliction of physical pain by hitting, paddling, spanking, slapping, or any other physical force used as a means of discipline. Corporal punishment does not include physical pain caused by reasonable physical activity associated with athletic training.

##### B. Prohibition

Employees will not inflict, or cause to be inflicted, corporal punishment upon any student under any circumstances. Any employee who engages in corporal punishment against a student will be subject to discipline, including discharge. An administrator or supervisor will report the employee to CPS consistent with Policy 4202.

##### C. Alternatives to Corporal Punishment

The Board has reviewed and approved the administration’s list of alternatives to the use of corporal punishment. District administrators will distribute the list of alternatives to employees, volunteers, and contractors. See 4203-AG.

District employees must implement alternatives to corporal punishment. An employee may request assistance from other employees or administration when addressing student conduct.

##### D. Limited Use of Reasonable Force

Employees may use reasonable physical force upon a student as necessary to maintain order and control in a school or school-related setting for the purpose of providing an environment conducive to safety and learning. Use of reasonable force is permitted under any of the following circumstances:

1. to remove a student whose behavior is interfering with the orderly exercise and performance of school functions within a school or at a school-related activity, if that student has refused to comply with a request to refrain from further disruptive acts;
2. for self-defense or the defense of another;
3. to prevent a student from inflicting self-harm;
4. to quell a disturbance that threatens physical injury to any person;

5. to obtain possession of a weapon or other dangerous object upon, or within the control of, a student; or
6. to protect property.

Use of reasonable force upon a student must not, in light of all known factors, be excessive, unnecessary, or take place for a longer duration than is necessary to address the circumstance justifying the use of reasonable force.

#### E. Training

The District may provide training to employees on the use of reasonable force and physical intervention techniques. If the District has provided that training to an employee, the employee must comply with that training.

#### F. Seclusion and Restraint

Employees must comply with Policy 5211 on Seclusion and Restraint of students and federal and state law. An employee's illegal use of seclusion or restraint may result in discipline, including discharge.

Legal authority: MCL 380.1307, 380.1307a-h, 380.1312

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 4000: District Employment

### 4200 Employee Conduct and Ethics

#### ***4203-AG Corporal Punishment and Limited Use of Reasonable Force***

A list of alternatives to corporal punishment includes the following:

- provide direct instruction to students in social skills and problem-solving strategies;
- use positive reinforcement to teach and maintain the use of appropriate problem-solving and social skills;
- use social reinforcers, such as teacher feedback and other self-esteem enhancing activities, to support and maintain the use of problem-solving and social skills;
- apply logical consequences that will teach students personal responsibility for their actions (e.g., losing the privilege of participating in special school activities);
- consider the use of time out, which may allow students to learn to take control of their actions and, ultimately, in conjunction with instruction in social skills, to cease their undesirable behavior;
- employ problem-solving classroom meetings and/or school assemblies with honest discussion of problems to encourage student ownership of and responsibility for solutions;
- establish a variety of strategies for communicating with Parents;
- establish contractual agreements that clearly outline consequences with students and their Parents to enhance the development of self-control behavior;
- establish an in-school suspension program, supervised by a responsible adult, in which the student performs curricula-related activities;
- when necessary, refer students to a counselor, social worker, or psychologist at the local or intermediate level and coordinate services with other units of state government (e.g., public health, social services, mental health). Also, seek assistance from private institutions or agencies with appropriate services;
- evaluate and arrange appropriate curriculum and adequate support for students who need academic acceleration, special education, alternative education, or services for achieving English proficiency;
- consider and take action, in accordance with the applicable student code of conduct and due process of law, when disruptive behavior occurs; or
- consider the use of suspensions or expulsions only after other alternatives have been considered.

The Board adopts the above list. District administration will distribute this list to each employee, volunteer, and contractor.

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## **Series 4000: District Employment**

### **4200 Employee Conduct and Ethics**

#### ***4204 Confidentiality of Student Information***

Employees must maintain and protect the confidentiality of student information and student education records (as defined in Policy 5309) and recognize Parent rights to student information about their minor child(ren).

Employees must not disclose to third parties confidential student information or records, medical information, performance records, or behavior records unless appropriately authorized. This Policy prohibits disclosure to employees who do not have a legitimate educational interest in the student record.

Disclosure is appropriately authorized with a written release from the Parent or student 18 years or older in accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), implementing regulations, and state law.

Employees who receive a subpoena seeking disclosure of student records or other confidential information must immediately notify the Superintendent or designee. Employees must not speak with an attorney who does not represent the District about a student without approval from the Superintendent or designee.

Legal authority: 20 USC 1232g, 1415(b); 34 CFR 99; MCL 380.1136; MCL 600.2165

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 4000: District Employment

### 4200 Employee Conduct and Ethics

### 4205 *Hiring and Background Checks*

The District is committed to prohibiting unlawful discrimination in its hiring practices consistent with Policy 4101. Hiring decisions are based on qualifications, skills, knowledge, abilities, education, certifications/licenses, experience, demeanor, and other criteria the Board may deem relevant. In making hiring decisions, the Board or designee will consider enrollment, operational requirements, financial needs, and the District's best interests.

#### A. Advertising and Posting

Vacancies may be posted on a designated website or other location and distributed to appropriate employee groups or relevant professional associations. The posting may outline general duties, qualifications, pay range, work experience, and hours. Vacancies may be posted for at least [ ] calendar days unless a different time period is specified in a collective bargaining agreement. Applications must be submitted to the central office unless otherwise designated. The District may establish an online application process. Postings will comply with applicable collective bargaining agreements.

#### B. Hiring

The Board will determine the hiring process for the Superintendent. For all other positions, the Superintendent or designee will determine the process to consider and interview qualified applicants. The Superintendent or designee is authorized to hire non-exempt staff, temporary, and substitute employees. Teachers, Non-Teaching Professionals, Supervisors, and Administrators that the Superintendent or designee recommends for hire are subject to Board approval.

The District will not consider an applicant for employment unless the applicant provides the District with the following:

1. written consent for the criminal records division of the Michigan State Police to conduct the criminal history check required by Revised School Code Section 1230 and the criminal records check required by Revised School Code Section 1230a;
2. a signed statement that complies with Revised School Code Section 1230b(1); and
3. other required application materials.

Falsification or misrepresentation of credentials, qualifications, references, or application materials will be grounds for disqualification or discipline, including discharge.

### C. Background Checks for Employees, Contractors, and Volunteers

1. The District will conduct a background check on a selected applicant upon an offer of employment or before a person is assigned to regularly and continuously work under contract in any of its schools. The Superintendent or designee will receive and review the results of the background check before the District employs or allows the person to regularly and continuously work under contract in any of its schools, unless otherwise permitted by law.
2. “Regularly and continuously work under contract” means any of the following:
  - a. to work at school on a more than intermittent or sporadic basis as an owner or employee of an entity that has a contract with the District to provide food, custodial, transportation, counseling, or administrative services or to provide instructional services to pupils or related and auxiliary services to special education pupils;
  - b. to work at school on a more than intermittent or sporadic basis as a person under a contract with the District to provide food, custodial, transportation, counseling, or administrative services, or to provide instructional services to pupils or related and auxiliary services to special education pupils.
3. “School” means in a classroom, elsewhere on District property, or on a school bus or other school-related vehicle.
4. The background check will include:
  - a. a criminal history check pursuant to Revised School Code Section 1230;
  - b. a criminal records check pursuant to Revised School Code Section 1230a;
  - c. an unprofessional conduct check pursuant to Revised School Code Section 1230b; and
  - d. if a certification is required for the position, such as a teaching certificate or administrator certificate, District verification that the person’s certification is valid.

The background check may include any other matters the District deems relevant, such as verifying references, school transcripts, and prior employment, as may be permitted by law.

If the criminal history check report, criminal records check report, or any other report discloses that the person has been convicted of a listed offense as defined in MCL 28.722, and the District verifies the conviction using public records, the District must not employ the person or allow the person to regularly and continuously work under contract in any of its schools. If any of the reports disclose that the person was convicted of a felony as defined in MCL 761.1, and the felony is not a listed offense, and the District verifies the conviction using public records, the District must not employ the person or allow the

person to regularly and continuously work under contract in any of its schools unless the Superintendent and the Board each specifically approve the employment or assignment in writing.

Employment offers are contingent on the Superintendent's or designee's review of the background check results.

All the information the District obtains via the criminal history check report, criminal records check report, or any other report that discloses that the person has been convicted of a listed offense will be maintained pursuant to 4205-AG-1.

## 5. Confidentiality

All the information the District obtains via the criminal history check report, criminal records check report, or any other report that discloses that the person has been convicted of a listed offense are to be considered confidential and will not be released except pursuant to 4205-AG-1(C)(5). Violation of confidentiality is a misdemeanor punishable by a fine up to \$10,000.

Notification from the Michigan Department of Education or Michigan State Police about a District employee's criminal conviction is exempt from FOIA for the first fifteen (15) days until the information is verified. Once verified, only information regarding physical or sexual abuse may be released. The employee may release the information with written authorization.

## D. Other Post-Offer Considerations

The District will not make disability-related medical inquiries or inquire about an applicant's disability-related requested accommodation(s) until after a conditional job offer is made, consistent with Policy 4105. Based on the physical and mental demands of a position, an examination and/or drug test may be required following a conditional offer of employment. The examination will be performed by a health care provider identified by the Superintendent or designee at the District's expense.

Legal authority: MCL 28.722; MCL 380.1230, 380.1230a, 380.1230b; MCL 761.1

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 4000: District Employment

### 4200 Employee Conduct and Ethics

#### **4205-AG-1 Criminal Justice Information Security (Non-Criminal Justice Agency)**

The District will conduct background checks, consistent with Policy 4205(C) and Administrative Guideline 4205-AG-1, and will have the Michigan State Police (“MSP”) obtain criminal history record information (“CHRI”) from both the state and Federal Bureau of Investigation (“FBI”) for all District employees, contractors, and vendors and their employees who regularly and continuously work under contract as provided in Policy 4205(C)(2). Employees who fail to follow these procedures will be subject to discipline subject to the Superintendent’s review and written approval of any corrective action.

The District will provide employees, contractors, volunteers, and vendors and their employees for whom the District conducts background checks the most current version of the MSP RI-030 Live Scan consent form.

The District will complete and maintain a Noncriminal Justice Agency User Agreement (RI-087) provided by the Michigan State Police.

#### A. Local Agency Security Officer (“LASO”)

The District Superintendent will appoint the [REDACTED] [Note: add the position of individual. Delete this note upon designation.], a District employee, who: (1) is an authorized user, (2) has completed a fingerprint-based background check as required, (3) has been found appropriate to have access to CHRI, and (4) is directly involved in evaluating an individual’s qualifications for employment or assignment as its LASO, who is responsible for the adoption of this guidance along with data/system security. When changes in the appointed LASO/CHRIS Administrator occur, the District will complete and return a new appointment notification form (CJIS-015) to MSP-CJIC-ATS@michigan.gov.

1. The LASO is responsible for ensuring:
  - a. compliance with these regulations and laws;
  - b. personnel security screening procedures are followed under this administrative guideline;
  - c. approved and appropriate security measures are in place and functioning properly to protect CHRI;
  - d. annual Awareness Training is being completed by all personnel authorized to access CHRI;
  - e. only approved District employees have access to and are using the information in compliance with the law;
  - f. compliance with this administrative guideline;



- c. The LASO must ensure that access to the District's digital CHRI records system is disabled and the user's CHRIS account is deactivated.

## 2. Security with Transferred Authorized Users

When an authorized user is transferred or reassigned, the LASO will take steps necessary to block that individual's access to CHRI within 24 hours, unless the LASO determines that the individual must retain access.

## C. Media Protection

Authorized users may only access CHRI on authorized devices, which does not include a personally owned mobile device, cell phone, computer, or other technology, consistent with specific terms and conditions, for access. All CHRI (including digital media) will be maintained in a physically secure location or controlled area. A physically secure location or controlled area will (1) be locked whenever an authorized user is not present or supervising and (2) limit access to unauthorized users. An authorized user accessing CHRI must position the media to prevent unauthorized users from accessing or viewing CHRI. Physical CHRI will be stored in a locked filing cabinet, safe, or vault. Digital CHRI will be encrypted consistent with FBI CJIS Security Policy. If digital CHRI is stored on a storage device without encryption, it must be stored like physical CHRI.

CJI and information system hardware, software and media are located and processed in [add: location and description].

### 1. Media Transport

The LASO must approve all CHRI media transportation and will not grant approval unless transportation is reasonably justified. The LASO or LASO's designee will transport CHRI, which must be secured during transport. Physical CHRI must remain in the physical presence of authorized personnel until it is delivered. Physical CHRI must be transported in a sealed, locked, or secured medium and digital CHRI must be encrypted, and if not, secured in the same fashion as physical CHRI.

### 2. Media Disposal/Sanitization

CHRI media will be stored and retained for the duration required by law. Disposal must be made with the written approval of the LASO and the Superintendent. Only authorized users may dispose of CHRI media. Physical media will be cross-cut shredded or incinerated. Digital media must either be overwritten at least three (3) times or degaussed, passing a strong magnet over the media, before disposal or reuse. The LASO will keep written records (date and authorized user's signature) of CHRI media destroyed and the process for destroying or sanitizing CHRI media for ten (10) years.

### 3. Passwords

When the LASO assigns a unique password to an authorized user, it must have the following attributes:

- a. at least eight (8) characters;
- b. not consisting of only a proper noun or word found in a dictionary;
- c. not similar or identical to the username;
- d. not be displayed while entered or transmitted outside of the physically secure location or controlled area;
- e. expires every ninety (90) days; and
- f. cannot be the same as the previous ten (10) passwords.

#### 4. Security Awareness and Incident Response Training and Testing

- a. The District will provide all authorized users role-based security and privacy and incident response training consistent with the following roles, as applicable:

Basic Role: users with unescorted access to a physically secure location;

General Role: users with physical and logical access to CJI;

Privileged Role: information technology personnel including system administrators, security administrators, network administrators and other similar roles;

Security Role: users responsible for ensuring confidentiality, integrity, and availability of CJI and compliant implementation of technology with the Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS) Security Policy (CJISSECPOL).

- b. The District will provide users with security awareness training about the user's responsibilities and expected behavior when accessing CJI and the systems which process CJI, and on handling information security incidents as follows:
  - i. for new users, prior to accessing CJI; and
  - ii. for all users annually about the user's responsibilities and expected behavior when accessing CJI and the systems which process CJI, and on handling information security incidents;
  - iii. when required due to system changes; and
  - iv. within 30 days of any security event for individuals involved in the event.

c. The LASO will keep a current record of all users who have completed training.

5. CHRI Dissemination

The District must maintain a record of any CHRI dissemination to another authorized agency for all dissemination outside the CHRIS system, consistent with the Revised School Code, which must include (1) date of release, (2) records released, (3) means of sharing, (4) District personnel who disseminated the CHRI, (5) whether authorization to disseminate was obtained, and (6) the agency to whom the CHRI was disseminated and (7) the recipient's name.

D. Incident Handling, Monitoring, and Reporting

1. In General

The District has established operational incident handling procedures for instances of an information security breach. The LASO will track CHRI security breach incidents and will report such incidents to the superintendent and MSP ISO using the MSP CJIS-016 reporting form. The District has provided specific incident handling capabilities for CHRI, consistent with the following table:

Capabilities shall be handled according to the following description:	Physical – Hard Copy CHRI	Digital – Digitally Accessed/Saved CHRI
Preparation	The CHRI container will be locked at all times in the office in which it is stored. When office staff is not present, the office must be locked	Firewalls, anti-virus protection, and anti-malware/spyware protection will be maintained.
Detection	Physical intrusions to the building will be monitored. A [add company name of building alarm] building alarm or video surveillance will monitor for physical or unauthorized intrusions. The building must be locked at night.	Electronic intrusions will be monitored by the virus and malware/spyware detection.
Analysis	The LASO will work with police authorities to determine how the incident occurred and what data was affected.	The IT department will determine what systems or data were affected and compromised.

Containment	The LASO will lock uncompromised CHRI in a secure container or transport CHRI to a secure area.	The IT department will stop the spread of any intrusion and prevent further damage.
Eradication	The LASO will work with local law enforcement [name police department] to remove any threats that compromise CHRI data.	The IT department will remove the intrusion before restoring the system. All steps necessary to prevent recurrence will be taken before restoring the system
Recovery	Local law enforcement [name police department] will handle and oversee the recovery of stolen CHRI media. The LASO may contact MSP for assistance in re-fingerprinting, if necessary.	The IT department will restore the agency information system and media to a safe environment.

## 2. CHRI Security Breach Incident

When a CHRI security breach incident occurs, the following will take place:

- a. Notice: Personnel will notify the LASO immediately or no later than one hour after the incident was discovered.
- b. Secure Systems: The LASO or appointed authorized user will stop any unauthorized access, secure the media, and shut down the systems necessary to avoid further unauthorized exposure.
- c. Assessment: The LASO will determine whether notification to individuals is needed, assess the extent of harm, and identify any applicable privacy requirements.
- d. Automated Reporting: Using automated mechanisms, such as email, website postings with automatic updates, and automated incident response tools, the LASO will report confirmed incidents to the CJIS Systems Officer (CSO), State Identification Bureaus Chief (SIB Chief), or Interface Agency Official.
- e. Supply Chain Coordination:. The LASO will provide incident information to product or service providers or organizations involved in the supply chain or supply chain governance for systems or system components related to the incident.
- f. Records: The LASO or appointed authorized user will record all necessary information regarding the breach, the District's response to the breach, and who was involved in taking response measures.

- g. Coordination of Incident Handling and Contingency Planning: The LASO will coordinate incident handling activities with contingency planning activities and incorporate lessons learned from ongoing incident handling activities into incident response procedures, training, and testing implementing the resulting changes.
- h. Predictability: The LASO will ensure the rigor, intensity, scope, and results of incident handling activities are comparable and predictable across the organization.
- i. Review of Policy/Procedures: The LASO will review and update information security policy/procedures at least annually and after security incidents involving CHRI.
- j. Legal Action: When such incident results in legal action (either civil or criminal) against a person or the District, the local law enforcement agency shall be contacted to collect, retain, and present evidence, according to the evidentiary rules of the appropriate jurisdiction(s).

#### E. Incident Response Support and Plan

1. Response Support Resource: The District will provide a response support resource that offers advice and assistance to system users for handling and reporting incidents.
2. Automation Support: The District will use automated mechanisms, such as access to a website or to an incident response vendor, to increase availability of incident response information and support.
3. Incident Response Plan: The District will develop an incident response plan that:
  - a. provides a roadmap for implementing incident response capability;
  - b. describes the structure and organization of incident response capability;
  - c. provides high-level approach for how incident response capability fits into overall organization;
  - d. meets unique requirements of the District related to mission, size, structure and functions;
  - e. defines reportable incidents;
  - f. provides metrics for measuring District incident response capability;
  - g. defines resources and management support needed to effectively maintain and mature an incident response capability;
  - h. addresses sharing of incident information;

- i. is reviewed and approved by the superintendent annually; and
  - j. explicitly designates responsibility for incident response to District personnel with incident reporting responsibilities and CSO or CJIS WAN Official.
4. Incident Response Plan Management: The District will:
- a. distribute the incident response plan to personnel with incident handling responsibilities;
  - b. update the incident response plan to address system and organizational changes or problems during plan implementation, execution or testing;
  - c. communicate incident response plan changes to District personnel with incident handling responsibilities; and
  - d. protect the incident response plan from unauthorized disclosure and modification.
5. Incident Response Plan Breaches: The District will include in the incident response plan for breaches involving personally identifiable information:
- a. process to determine if notice to individuals or organization is needed;
  - b. assessment process to determine extent of harm, embarrassment, inconvenience, or unfairness to affected individuals and any mechanism to mitigate such harms; and
  - c. identification of applicable privacy requirements.

#### F. Audit and Accountability

1. The District develops, documents, and disseminates to organizational personnel with audit and accountability responsibilities:
- a. agency and system-level audit and accountability policy
  - b. addresses purpose, scope, roles, responsibilities, management commitment, coordination among organization entities, and compliance; and
  - c. is consistent with applicable laws, executive orders, directives, regulations, policies, standards, and guidelines
  - d. procedures to facilitate the implementation of the audit and accountability policy and the associated audit and accountability controls.
2. The District reviews and updates the current audit and accountability policy and procedures annually and following any security incidents involving unauthorized access to CJI or systems used to process, store, or transmit CJI.

3. The District identifies the types of events that the system is capable logging in support of the audit function and coordinates the event logging function with other organizational entities requiring audit-related information to guide and inform the selection criteria for events to be logged.
4. The District specifies certain event types for logging within the system, provides rationale for the adequacy of the event types selected for logging, and annually reviews and updates the selected event types.
5. The District ensures that audit records contain information that establishes the following:
  - a. What type of event occurred;
  - b. When the event occurred;
  - c. Where the event occurred;
  - d. Source of the event;
  - e. Outcome of the event; and
  - f. Identity of any individuals, subjects, or objects/entities associated with the event.
6. The District generates audit records containing the following information:
  - a. Session, connection, transaction, and activity duration;
  - b. Source and destination addresses;
  - c. Object or filename involved; and
  - d. Number of bytes received and bytes sent (for client-server transactions) in the audit records for audit events identified by type, location, or subject.
7. The District limits personally identifiable information contained in audit records to the minimum PII necessary to achieve the purpose for which it is collected.
8. The District allocates audit log storage capacity to accommodate the collection of audit logs to meet retention requirements.
9. The District alerts organizational personnel with audit and accountability responsibilities and system/network administrators within one (1) hour in the event of an audit logging process failure and restarts all audit logging processes and verifies that systems are logging properly.
10. The District reviews and analyzes system audit records weekly and reports findings of potential or actual inappropriate or unusual activity to those with the relevant responsibilities.

11. The District adjusts the level of audit record review, analysis, and reporting within the system based on changes in input from law enforcement or intelligence agencies.
12. The District integrates audit record review, analysis, and reporting processes using automated mechanisms.
13. The District analyzes and correlates audit records across different repositories to gain organization-wide situational awareness.
14. The District provides and implements an audit record reduction and report generation capability that both supports on-demand audit record review, analysis, and reporting requirements and after-the-fact investigations or incidents; and does not alter the original content or time ordering of audit records.

#### G. Access Control Policy

1. The District will develop, document, and disseminate to personnel with access control responsibilities:
  - a. Agency-level access control policy that:
    - i. addresses purpose, scope, roles, responsibilities, management commitment, coordination among organizational entities, and compliance;
    - ii. is consistent with applicable laws, executive orders, directives, regulations, policies, standards, and guidelines.
  - b. Procedures to facilitate implementation of the policy and the associated access controls.
2. The LASO will:
  - a. manage the development, documentation, and dissemination of the access control policy and procedures; and
  - b. review and update the access control policy annually and following any security breaches;

#### H. Account Management

- i. The District will:
  - a. define and document the types of accounts allowed and specifically prohibited for use within the system;
  - b. prohibit use of personally-owned information systems, including mobile devices (i.e., bring your own device [BYOD]), and publicly accessible systems for accessing, processing, storing, or transmitting CJI;

- c. assign account managers;
  - d. require conditions for group and role membership;
  - e. specify authorized users of the system, group and role membership, and access authorizations (i.e., privileges) and attributes listed for each account;
  - f. at least annually, review accounts for compliance with account management requirements;
  - g. establish and implement process for changing shared or group account authenticators (if deployed) when individuals are removed from the group; and
  - h. align account management processes with personnel termination and transfer processes.
- I. Access Enforcement
- 1. The District will:
    - a. enforce approved authorization for logical access to information and system resources will be enforced in accordance with applicable access control policies; and
    - b. provide automated or manual processes to enable individuals to access elements of their personally identifiable information.
- J. Information Flow Enforcement
- 1. The District will enforce approved authorizations for controlling the flow of information within the system and between connected systems by preventing CJI from being transmitted unencrypted across the public network, blocking outside traffic that claims to be from within the District, and not passing any web requests to the public network that are not from the District-controlled or internal boundary protection devices.
- K. Separation of Duties
- 1. The District will:
    - a. identify and document separation of duties based on specific duties, operations, or information systems, as necessary to mitigate risk to CJI; and
    - b. define system access authorizations to support separation of duties.
- L. Least Privilege

1. The District will allow only authorized accesses for users (or processes acting on behalf of users) that are necessary to accomplish assigned organizational tasks.
2. The District will:
  - a. authorize access for personnel including security administrators, system and network administrators, and other privileged users with access to system control, monitoring, or administration functions (e.g., system administrators, information security personnel, maintainers, system programmers, etc.) to:
    - i. established system accounts, configured access authorizations, set events to be audited, set intrusion detection parameters, and other security functions; and
    - ii. security-relevant information in hardware, software, and firmware.
  - b. require users of system accounts (or roles) with access to privileged security functions or security-relevant information (e.g., audit logs), use non-privileged accounts or roles, when accessing non-security functions;
  - c. restrict privileged accounts on the system to privileged users;
  - d. review annually the privileges assigned to non-privileged and privileged users to validate the need for such privileges;
  - e. reassign or remove privileges, if necessary, to correctly reflect organizational mission and business needs; and
  - f. log the execution of privileged functions.

#### M. Unsuccessful Logon Attempts

1. The District will enforce a limit of five (5) consecutive invalid logon attempts by a user during a 15-minutes time period, and automatically lock the account or node until released by an administrator when the maximum number of unsuccessful attempts is exceeded.

#### N. System Use Notification (required when access via logon interfaces with human users)

1. A system use notification message will be displayed to users before granting access to the system that provides privacy and security notices consistent with applicable laws, executive orders, directives, regulations, policies, standards, and guidelines stating that:
  - a. users are accessing a restricted information system;
  - b. system usage may be monitored, recorded, and subject to audit;

- c. unauthorized use of the system is prohibited and subject to criminal and civil penalties; and
    - d. use of the system indicates consent to monitoring and recording.
  2. The notification message or banner will be retained on the screen until users acknowledge the usage conditions and take explicit actions to log on to or further access to the system; and
  3. For publicly accessible systems, before the District grants further access to publicly accessible systems:
    - a. system use information consistent with applicable laws, executive orders, directives, regulations, policies, standards, and guidelines will be displayed;
    - b. references, if any, to monitoring, recording, or auditing that are consistent with privacy accommodations for such systems that generally prohibit those activities will be displayed; and.
    - c. a description of the authorized users of the system will be included.

O. Device Lock and Session Termination:

1. The device lock will conceal information previously visible on the display with a publicly viewable image.
2. Further access to the system will be prevented by initiating a device lock after a maximum of 30 minutes of inactivity.
3. Users must log out when a work period has been completed.
4. Users must initiate a device lock before leaving the system unattended.
5. The device lock will be retained until the user reestablishes access using established identification and authentication procedures.

P. Remote Access.

1. The District establishes and documents usage restrictions, configuration/connection requirements, and implementation guidance for each type of remote access allowed.
2. The District authorizes each type of remote access to the system prior to allowing such connections.
3. The District employs automated mechanisms to monitor and control remote access methods.
4. The District implements cryptographic mechanisms to protect the confidentiality and integrity of remote access sessions.

5. The District routes remote access through authorized and managed network access control points.
6. The District authorizes the execution of privileged commands and access to security-relevant information via remote access only in a format that provides assessable evidence and for compelling operational needs.
7. The District documents the rationale for remote access in the security plan for the system.

Q. Wireless Access. The District:

1. establishes configuration requirements, connection requirements, and implementation guidance for each type of wireless access;
2. authorizes each type of wireless access to the system prior to allowing such connections;
3. protects wireless access to the system using authentication of authorized users and agency-controlled devices, and encryption; and
4. disables wireless networking capabilities embedded within system components prior to issuance and deployment when not intended for use.

R. Access Control for Mobile Devices. The District:

1. establishes configuration requirements, connection requirements, and implementation guidance for organization-controlled mobile devices, to include when such devices are outside of controlled areas;
2. authorizes the connection of mobile devices to organizational systems; and
3. employs full-device encryption to protect the confidentiality and integrity of information on full-and limited-feature operating system mobile devices authorized to process, store, or transmit CJI.

S. Use of External Systems.

1. The District permits authorized individuals to use an external system to access the system or to process, store, or transmit organization-controlled information only after:
  - a. verification of implementation of controls on external system as specified in the District's security and privacy policies and security and privacy plans; or
  - b. retention of approved system connection or processing agreements with the organizational entity hosting the external system.

2. The District restricts the use of District-controlled portable storage devices in external systems including how the devices may be used and under what conditions the devices may be used.

T. Information Sharing. The District:

1. enables authorized users to determine whether access authorizations assigned to a sharing partner match the information's access and use restrictions as defined in an executed information exchange agreement; and
2. employs attribute-based access control or manual processes as defined in information exchange agreements to assist users in making information sharing and collaboration decisions.

U. Identification and Authentication (IA) (CJISSECPOL 5.6)

V. Physical and Environmental Protection (CJISSECPOL 5.9)

W. Systems and Communications Protection (CJISSECPOL 5.10)

X. System and Services Acquisition (CJISSECPOL 5.14)

Y. System and Information Integrity (CJISSECPOL 5.15)

Z. Maintenance (CJISSECPOL 5.16)

AA. Planning (CJISSECPOL 5.17)

BB. Contingency Planning (CJISSECPOL 5.18)

CC. Risk Assessment (CJISSECPOL 5.19)

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## **Series 4000: District Employment**

### **4200 Employee Conduct and Ethics**

#### **4206 Employment Contracts**

Professional Staff, Administrators/Supervisors, and the Superintendent, as defined in Policies 4401, 4501, and 4601, will be employed pursuant to an individual employment contract and any applicable collective bargaining agreement. Non-Exempt Staff, as defined in Policy 4301, will be employed at-will unless an applicable collective bargaining agreement or individual employment contract specifies another standard of employment security.

Employment contracts will comply with applicable laws and regulations. The President or Superintendent or designee, as applicable, should consult with Board legal counsel about contract terms and requirements to ensure compliance with state and federal law.

#### **A. Authority**

The President is authorized to execute the Superintendent's contract on behalf of the Board upon Board approval of the contract. Teacher contracts must be approved by the Board and signed on behalf of the District by a majority of the Board, the President and Secretary, or the Superintendent or designee. The Superintendent is authorized to execute employment contracts for Non-Exempt Staff and temporary and substitute employees on the Board's behalf or upon Board approval, where necessary.

#### **B. General Requirements**

Individual employment contracts required or permitted under this Policy may contain at least the following, as applicable to the category of employment:

1. employee name;
2. term of employment;
3. annual salary or hourly rate;
4. merit pay and annual evaluation for teachers and required administrator;
5. job title;
6. number of work days and general hours of work;
7. certification and licensing requirements;
8. benefits (health insurance, leave time, etc.);
9. reduction in force and recall;
10. discipline, discharge, and transfer during the contract term;

11. [Optional: a provision prohibiting an Administrator from engaging in conduct involving moral turpitude and a provision allowing the Board to void the contract if the Administrator violates the moral turpitude provision];
12. date and employee signature;
13. date and signature of authorized District representative;
14. an appeal process concerning the evaluation process and rating received as required by Revised School Code Sections 1249 (K-12 certified teachers of record) and 1249b (instructional administrators and the Superintendent); and
15. other terms as necessary to serve the District's interests or that are legally required.

### C. Specific Requirements

Professional Staff, Administrator, and Superintendent contracts must comply with the following, as applicable:

#### 1. Superintendent

The contract term will not exceed 5 years, as required by Revised School Code Section 1229.

#### 2. Administrators

For Administrators subject to Revised School Code Section 1229, the contract term will not exceed 3 years and the contract will automatically terminate if the Administrator does not hold the required certification. The Administrator will not have tenure in the administrative position.

The Superintendent or designee will ensure that Administrator contracts are consistent with any applicable collective bargaining agreement. The term "Administrator" includes instructional Supervisors and Directors.

#### 3. Non-Instructional Supervisors or Directors

Unless otherwise required by law, Non-Instructional Supervisors or Directors are not required to hold an Administrator certificate and may be subject to an individual employment contract for up to 3 years.

#### 4. Professional Staff

The Superintendent or designee will ensure that all Professional Staff contracts are consistent with any applicable collective bargaining agreement. Individual teacher contracts will comply with Revised School Code Section 1231. If a teacher seeks appointment to an extracurricular position, the District may enter into a separate written contract for the extracurricular position.

### D. Collective Bargaining Agreements

The Board, with the Superintendent or designee, will determine who will represent the Board in labor negotiations. The designated negotiator(s) may sign tentative agreements during bargaining; however, the final agreement is subject to ratification by the Board. Collective bargaining agreements may be reviewed by legal counsel before bargaining begins.

Legal authority: MCL 380.11a(3), 380.601a(1), 380.623(1)(b), 380.634, 380.1229, 380.1231, 380.1246, 380.1249, 380.1249b

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## **Series 4000: District Employment**

### **4200 Employee Conduct and Ethics**

#### ***4207 Third-Party Contracting***

This Policy must be implemented consistent with Policy 1101. Unless prohibited because of a collective bargaining agreement and to the maximum extent permitted by law, the Board or designee may contract with third parties as determined by the Board.

Any selected third-party contractor must fully comply with Policies 2202 and 4205(C).

Legal authority: MCL 380.11a(3)

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 4000: District Employment

### 4200 Employee Conduct and Ethics

#### 4208 *Applicant and Employee Criminal Arrest, Charge, Conviction*

##### A. Criminal Charge

If an applicant or employee is charged with any felony or crime listed in Revised School Code Section 1535a(1) or 1539b(1), or a substantially similar crime in another jurisdiction, the person must report to MDE and to the Superintendent that the person has been charged with that crime. The person will abide by all reporting requirements in Revised School Code Section 1230d. The reports to MDE and the Superintendent must be made within 3 business days after being charged with the crime. Failure to appropriately report will result in a referral to law enforcement and possible discipline, including discharge.

##### B. Tenured Teacher Salary Pending Criminal Charge

If criminal charges are pending against a tenured teacher, the Board may act to: (a) suspend the teacher from active performance of duty; (b) proceed on tenure charges filed against the teacher; and (c) place the teacher's salary in an escrow account. Health or life insurance benefits, or both, may be discontinued during the suspension at the Board's option.

Before placing a tenured teacher's salary in an escrow account, the Board must provide the teacher with: (a) notice of tenure charges; (b) an explanation of the District's evidence; and (c) an opportunity to respond to the charges, either in writing or in person.

If an administrative law judge issues a preliminary decision and order to reinstate the teacher or for payment of salary lost by the teacher during the suspension, the Board will release the money in the escrow account to the teacher.

##### C. Employee Criminal Convictions

An employee convicted of a "listed offense," as defined in MCL 28.722, whether a felony or misdemeanor, will be discharged after appropriate due process. An employee convicted of a felony that is not a listed offense may only continue employment with the written approval of the Superintendent and the Board. An employee convicted of a misdemeanor that is not a listed offense may be discharged, in the Board's discretion, consistent with law and the applicable collective bargaining agreement or individual employment contract.

##### D. Tenured Teacher Salary Upon Criminal Conviction

If a teacher is convicted of a felony that is not a listed offense or a misdemeanor that is a listed offense, the Board may discontinue the teacher's salary effective on

the conviction date. If the teacher is convicted of a felony that is a listed offense, the Board will discontinue the teacher's salary effective on the conviction date.

- E. This Policy does not limit the Board's or designee's discretion to proceed with employee discipline, including discharge, before completion of any criminal proceedings.

Legal authority: MCL 38.103; MCL 380.1230, 380.1230a, 380.1230d, 380.1230g, 380.1535a(1), 380.1539b(1)

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 4000: District Employment

### 4200 Employee Conduct and Ethics

**4209 *Abortion Referrals and Assistance*** [Optional] [Note: If the Board elects not to adopt this Policy, delete the body of the policy and replace the title with “Intentionally Left Blank” after the policy number and in the Table of Contents to ensure accurate numbering of subsequent policies in the Policy Manual.]

A District official, Board member, or District employee shall not refer a student for an abortion or assist a student with obtaining an abortion. This prohibition does not apply to a person who is the Parent of that student.

Legal Authority: MCL 380.11as

Date Adopted:

Date Revised:

## Series 4000: District Employment

### 4200 Employee Conduct and Ethics

#### 4210 *Drug and Alcohol Free Workplace; Tobacco Product Restrictions*

##### A. General

Employees serve as role models to students at school and in the community. Employee substance abuse constitutes a threat to the physical and mental well-being of employees and students and significantly impedes job performance and effectiveness.

The District maintains a drug and alcohol free workplace. In addition, to the extent permitted by law, the District strives to maintain a tobacco product free workplace.

##### B. Definitions

1. "Illicit substance" means any consumable alcohol; illegal drugs, including but not limited to those substances defined as "controlled substances" pursuant to federal or state law; marihuana; anabolic steroids, human growth hormones or other performance-enhancing drugs; and substances purported to be illegal, abusive, or performance-enhancing (i.e., "look-alike" drugs). This definition also includes any other substance used by an employee as an intoxicant.
2. "District premises" means District buildings, facilities, or other District property which is owned, leased, or used for a District purpose or District-owned vehicles or vehicles used for a District purpose.
3. "District purpose or function" means a District-sponsored or District-approved activity, event, function or other activity performed by an employee under the District's jurisdiction, which is within the scope of employment, duties, or job description.
4. "Tobacco product" means a form of tobacco intended to be inhaled, chewed, or placed in a person's mouth.
5. "Under the influence" means the use or misuse of an illicit substance or other intoxicant (including over-the-counter and prescription medication) by an employee that in any degree impairs, negatively affects, or tends to deprive that person of any physical or mental capacity normally possessed and required to perform job responsibilities.
6. "Reasonable suspicion" means specific, contemporaneous, and articulable observations concerning an employee's behavior, speech, appearance, and odor that suggests the employee is under the influence of an illicit substance.

##### C. Standards of Conduct

Employees are prohibited from the following conduct on District premises or at a District function:

1. manufacturing, selling, soliciting, possessing, using (including application, injection, inhalation, or ingestion), dispensing, or distributing any illicit substance;
2. being under the influence as defined in this Policy;
3. misusing over-the-counter and prescription medications;
4. manufacturing, selling, soliciting, dispensing, or distributing any tobacco product; or
5. using a tobacco product on District premises, except:
  - a. at outdoor areas including, but not limited to, an open-air stadium, on Saturdays, Sundays, and other days on which there are no regularly scheduled school hours, or
  - b. after 6 p.m. on days during which there are regularly scheduled school hours;

Violating these standards will subject an employee to discipline, including discharge.

If a reasonable suspicion exists that an employee is under the influence, the Superintendent or designee may direct the employee to submit to a drug test or breathalyzer. If the employee refuses, the employee may be subject to discipline, including discharge, based on the District's observations.

D. **[Optional: Reporting Requirements for Transportation Employees Subject to Omnibus Transportation Employee Testing Act**

**An employee subject to the Omnibus Transportation Employee Testing Act must notify the Superintendent or designee of any criminal drug conviction for a violation occurring in the workplace no later than 5 calendar days after that conviction. Upon receiving notice of an employee's conviction of a criminal drug violation occurring in the workplace, the Board or designee must take appropriate action within 30 calendar days.]**

Legal authority: 20 USC 7101 et seq.; 41 USC 8101 et seq.; 42 USC 12101 et seq.; Schedules I-V of Chapter 13 of the Controlled Substances Act, 21 USC 812; 29 USC 701 et seq.; MCL 37.1211; Schedules 1-5 of the Michigan Uniform Controlled Substances Act, MCL 333.7201 et seq.; MCL 380.11a, 380.601a; MCL 436.1101 et seq.; MCL 750.473.

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 4000: District Employment

### 4200 Employee Conduct and Ethics

#### **4211 *Alcohol and Controlled Substances for Transportation Employees Subject to the Omnibus Transportation Employee Testing Act* [Optional] [Note: If the Board elects not to adopt this Policy, delete the body of the policy and replace the title with “Intentionally Left Blank” after the policy number and in the Table of Contents to ensure accurate numbering of subsequent policies in the Policy Manual.]**

##### A. General

Employees subject to the Omnibus Transportation Employee Testing Act, as amended (OTETA), must be mentally and physically alert at all times while on duty. This Policy establishes an alcohol and controlled substances testing program for such District employees (both regular and substitute) who perform safety-sensitive functions as mandated by OTETA.

The Superintendent or designee will comply with OTETA and implement an alcohol and controlled substances testing program consistent with OTETA.

##### B. Definitions

1. “Controlled Substance” means any drug or substance, the possession or use of which is prohibited under federal or state law, or any drug that is being used illegally (e.g., a prescription drug that was not legally obtained or not used for its intended purposes or in its prescribed quantity). For purposes of this Policy, marijuana is a Controlled Substance.
2. “Covered Employee” means an employee (including a substitute) who operates or maintains a commercial motor vehicle in interstate or intrastate commerce and is subject to the commercial driver’s license requirements.
3. “Illegal Drug” means any drug or substance, including marijuana, the possession or use of which is unlawful pursuant to federal or state law or local ordinance.
4. “Safety-Sensitive Function” means all tasks associated with the operation or maintenance of District vehicles.
5. “While on Duty” means the time from which the Covered Employee begins to work or is required to be in readiness for work until the time the Covered Employee is relieved from work and all responsibility for performing work.

##### C. Standards of Conduct

Compliance with conduct standards set forth in Policy 4210, as well as with this Policy’s testing procedures, is mandatory. Disciplinary sanctions, including discharge, may be imposed on a Covered Employee for violating this Policy.

Failure to comply with testing procedures by a Covered Employee includes:

1. refusing to take a test, failing to appear to take a test, failing to provide a specimen or a sufficient specimen (absent adequate medical justification), failure to remain at the testing site until completion of the testing process, or failure to sign a test consent form;
2. failure to cooperate in the testing process;
3. in the case of direct observation or monitored collection of a Controlled Substances test, failure to permit observation or monitoring of the Covered Employee's provision of a specimen; or
4. engaging in evasive testing actions intended to compromise the validity of the test results, including switching, substituting, adulterating, or otherwise compromising test samples.

D. Authorized Use of Prescription and Over-the-Counter Medication

A Covered Employee using a prescription that has been prescribed for the Covered Employee by a health care provider or an over-the-counter medication is responsible for being aware of any potential effects the medication may have on his/her ability to safely perform his/her duties.

E. Consequences for Violating Standards of Conduct

After determining that a Covered Employee violated 1 or more of the conduct standards for alcohol or Controlled Substances, the Covered Employee will be:

1. immediately removed from any duty which involves the performance of a Safety-Sensitive Function; and
2. subject to discipline, including discharge.

F. Voluntary Requests for Alcohol or Substance Abuse Evaluation, Counseling, or Treatment

A Covered Employee who voluntarily requests to participate in alcohol or substance abuse evaluation, counseling, or treatment through the District before being tested or being requested to be tested will be referred to a substance abuse professional to determine what assistance, if any, the Covered Employee needs in resolving problems associated with alcohol misuse or Controlled Substance use.

A request for evaluation, counseling, or treatment following the performance of a Safety-Sensitive Function will not preclude discipline for substantiated misconduct or other inappropriate behavior. The District will not impose a disciplinary sanction under this Policy solely because a Covered Employee has made a voluntary admission of alcohol or Controlled Substance abuse, consistent with the Policy.

The District will allow a Covered Employee who has self-identified as an abuser of alcohol or another substance sufficient opportunity to seek evaluation and treatment.

Where a Covered Employee has self-identified, the District will require that employee to undergo return-to-duty testing for alcohol and Controlled Substances and may also require follow-up testing.

The District is not required to pay for voluntary evaluation, counseling, or treatment; or to pay an employee for time spent in a voluntary evaluation, counseling, or treatment program.

#### G. Testing for Alcohol or Controlled Substances

Alcohol or Controlled Substances testing will be administered as follows:

##### 1. Pre-Employment/Pre-Duty Testing

Before employment or the first time a Covered Employee performs a Safety-Sensitive Function, he/she must receive from a medical review officer a test result verified as negative. If a pre-employment test is positive or the pre-employment alcohol test result indicates a blood alcohol concentration of 0.02 or greater, the applicant will not be hired.

##### 2. Post-Accident Testing

As soon as practicable following an accident, but no later than 8 hours (alcohol test) or 32 hours (controlled substances test), testing will be conducted on each Covered Employee involved in the accident if the accident resulted in loss of human life or a citation was issued for a moving traffic violation arising from the accident. A Covered Employee who is subject to post-accident testing must remain readily available for testing or, if not available, will be deemed to have refused to submit to testing.

##### 3. Return-to-Duty Testing

A Covered Employee may be required to undergo testing with a verified negative result before returning to duty in compliance with OTETA.

##### 4. Follow-Up Testing

A Covered Employee identified by a substance abuse professional as needing assistance associated with alcohol misuse or use of a controlled substance, and who has returned to duty involving the performance of a safety-sensitive function, is subject to unannounced testing (consisting of at least 6 tests) over the first 12 months after the Covered Employee's return to duty as directed by a substance abuse professional.

## 5. Reasonable Suspicion Testing

A Covered Employee will undergo testing as a result of reasonable suspicion that the Covered Employee has violated the conduct standards for alcohol or Controlled Substances based on specific, contemporaneous, articulable observations about the appearance, behavior, speech, or body odors of the Covered Employee while, just before, or just after performing a Safety-Sensitive Function.

The supervisor or person who made the reasonable suspicion determination shall not conduct the test on the Covered Employee.

A written record of the observations leading to a reasonable suspicion test must be made and signed by the supervisor or person who made the observations. This record must be made within 24 hours after the observed behavior or before the results of the test are released, whichever is earlier.

## 6. Random Testing

Each year, random testing will be used at the rate of 20% (alcohol) and 50% (controlled substances) of the average number of active Covered Employees subject to testing.

## H. Recordkeeping

The District will maintain a Covered Employee's alcohol or controlled substance testing records and results separate from the employee's personnel file in a secure location with restricted access. Record retention will be for periods and in a manner required by applicable federal regulation.

## I. Confidentiality

Except as expressly authorized by law or regulation, neither the District nor any person or agency contracting with the District for alcohol or controlled substance testing services will release information about a Covered Employee's test results without the Covered Employee's written consent.

## J. Dissemination

The Superintendent or designee is responsible for distributing this Policy and other educational materials pertinent to federal regulations to all Covered Employees. These materials will include:

1. the categories and classifications of District employees who are Covered Employees subject to this Policy;
2. the identity of those persons designated by the District to answer questions about this Policy and applicable regulations;

3. information about the Safety-Sensitive Functions performed by Covered Employees to make clear what period of the work day the employee must be in compliance with this Policy and applicable regulations;
4. specific information about conduct prohibited by the Policy and applicable regulations;
5. identification of the circumstances under which a Covered Employee will be tested for alcohol and/or Controlled Substances;
6. identification of the procedures that will be used to test for alcohol and Controlled Substances, to protect a Covered Employee, to safeguard the validity of test results, and to ensure that those results are attributed to the correct employee, including post-accident information and procedures;
7. a requirement that Covered Employees submit to alcohol and Controlled Substances testing, together with an explanation of what constitutes a refusal to submit to alcohol or Controlled Substances testing and the attendant consequences to the Covered Employee;
8. identification of the consequences for a Covered Employee's violation of this Policy, including removal from performing safety sensitive functions;
9. identification of the consequences for a Covered Employee found to have an alcohol concentration of .02 or greater but less than .04;
10. information about the effects of alcohol and Controlled Substances use on a person's health, including signs and symptoms of alcohol or Controlled Substances abuse and available methods of intervention;
11. the requirement that identified personal information collected and maintained by the District to implement this Policy and applicable regulations will be reported as required by law; and
12. information about additional District Policies (including Policy 4210) on the possession and use of alcohol and Controlled Substances, including the consequences for violation of those Policies. The information will indicate that additional Policies are based upon the District's authority independent of federal regulations requiring alcohol and Controlled Substances testing of Covered Employees.

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that each Covered Employee signs a statement certifying receipt of this Policy and the above materials.

Legal Authority: 49 USC 31301 et seq., and its promulgated regulations; MCL 257.1849; MCL 380.11a, 380.601a

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## **Series 4000: District Employment**

### **4200 Employee Conduct and Ethics**

#### ***4212 Employee Assistance Program***

The District may require an employee with performance difficulties due to substance abuse, as a condition of continued employment, to receive confidential assistance for a wide range of personal and work-related concerns. Assistance may include participation in a substance abuse assistance or rehabilitation program (Program) consistent with approved leave time, an individual employment contract, Policy, and applicable collective bargaining agreements.

The employee's health benefits plan may cover the cost of enrolling the employee in the Program. If the employee's health benefits plan does not cover the cost, the District will not be responsible for the cost to the extent permitted by law.

Seeking assistance or rehabilitation does not affect the District's authority to implement discipline, including discharge, for inappropriate conduct.

Legal authority: MCL 380.11a(3), 380.601a

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 4000: District Employment

### 4200 Employee Conduct and Ethics

#### 4213 *Anti-Nepotism*

##### A. General

Employment decisions motivated by nepotism, as defined below, are prohibited to avoid conflicts of interest, favoritism, and lost productivity. Employment decisions will be based on qualifications, experience, and other legitimate business reasons. This Policy applies to all categories of employment including regular, temporary, and part-time classifications.

##### B. Definitions

1. “Nepotism” means favoritism in the workplace based on a relationship with a relative or significant other.
2. “Relative” means a spouse, child, Parent, sibling, grandparent, grandchild, aunt, uncle, first cousin, niece, nephew, or corresponding in-law, step, or adopted relative.
3. “Significant others” means (1) persons engaged to be married, (2) persons involved in a romantic or personal relationship, or (3) persons who are cohabitating.

##### C. Employment Decisions

The District may employ relatives and significant others in the absence of nepotism. In making employment decisions, including hiring, placement, supervision, directing work, promoting, compensating, evaluating, and disciplining employees who are a relative or significant other, an employee should:

1. disclose the existence of any relationships subject to this Policy to the Superintendent or designee;
2. avoid conflicts of interest, as defined in Policy 4201, and any appearance of a conflict of interest; and
3. avoid favoritism and any appearance of favoritism.

An employee’s relative or significant other should not be hired to work in any position in which the Board or designee concludes a conflict of interest or the appearance of a conflict of interest may exist. Relatives and significant others are permitted to work at the District provided one does not report directly to, supervise, evaluate, or manage the other. The Superintendent may make exceptions to this Policy when in the District’s best interest with [Option 1: Board approval] [Option 2: prompt notice to the Board].

Supervisors and subordinates who become relatives or significant others while employed may be subject to transfer, reassignment, or other action based on the need for compliance with this Policy.

Legal authority: MCL 380.11a, 380.601a

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 4000: District Employment

### 4200 Employee Conduct and Ethics

#### 4214 *Outside Activities and Employment*

##### A. General

An employee's duties to the District take precedence over other outside obligations while performing District duties or during work hours. An employee may not engage in other activities that adversely impact school employment or operation or that interfere with the employee's duties.

Except as otherwise provided in these Policies, an employee may secure additional employment, participate in business ventures, and serve as a volunteer. Such activities must not interfere with an employee's ability to carry out the employee's responsibilities, to serve as a role model in the community, or adversely impact the District's reputation.

Employees must communicate with a supervisor before engaging in outside activities where a conflict of interest (as defined in Policy 4201) or the appearance of a conflict of interest or impropriety may exist.

##### B. Conduct Standards

Employees must fulfill their duties without conflict from outside employment or activities. Unless the Superintendent or designee grants written authorization, employees may not engage in the following outside activities:

1. provide private services, lessons, tutoring, or coaching for students assigned to the employee for additional remuneration;
2. conduct personal business during assigned duty hours;
3. represent, either expressly or by implication, that the District sponsors, sanctions, or endorses a non-District related activity, solicitation, or other endeavor;
4. sell, solicit, or promote the sale of goods or services to students or Parents when the employee's relationship with the District is used to influence the sale or may be reasonably perceived as attempting to influence the sale;
5. sell, solicit, or promote the sale of goods or services to employees over whom the employee has supervisory or managerial responsibilities in a manner that the subordinate employee could reasonably perceive as coercive;
6. use employee, student, or Parent information in connection with the solicitation, sale, or promotion of goods or services or provide that information to any person or entity for any purpose; or

7. use District personnel, facilities, resources, equipment, technology, property, or funds for personal financial gain or business activity.

### C. Intellectual Property

Intellectual property includes written or artistic works, instructional materials, textbooks, curriculum, software, inventions, procedures, ideas, innovations, systems, programs, or other work product created or developed by an employee in the course and scope of performing District employment duties or during work hours, or derivative to District intellectual property, whether published or not. Such intellectual property will be the exclusive property of the District. The District has the sole right to sell, copy, license, assign, or transfer any and all right, title, or interest in and to that intellectual property.

Legal authority: 17 USC 101 et seq.; MCL 15.321 et seq., 15.401 et seq.; MCL 380.11a, 380.601a, 380.1805(1)

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## **Series 4000: District Employment**

### **4200 Employee Conduct and Ethics**

#### ***4215 District Technology and Acceptable Use***

The Board provides students, employees, volunteers, and other authorized users access to the District's technology resources, including its computers and network resources, for educational and other District purposes, in a manner that encourages responsible use. Any use of technology resources that violates federal and state law is prohibited.

Employees have no expectation of privacy when using the District's technology resources. Information and records on the District's network may be subject to disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, and the District may monitor or access employees' electronic files, as deemed necessary.

Employees must not use District technology resources to record students, Parents, or District personnel or to record a non-public meeting, unless performed for a legitimate educational purpose. The recording must be authorized by a supervisor or Policy. Unauthorized recording or dissemination of a recording may be subject to discipline, including discharge.

Employees must not use a password other than their own to access District technology resources unless authorized by a supervisor. Employees must protect their password(s) from being used by others. An employee will be responsible for any misuse if the employee failed to adequately secure their password(s).

District technology resources are provided for District-related services. Employees must minimize personal use of District technology resources and are prohibited from using those resources when doing so interferes with the employee's job responsibilities or District operations.

Requests for District records must be promptly directed to the FOIA Coordinator under Policy 3501. Only authorized employees may disclose District records to third parties unless otherwise permitted by law.

Employees must not permit students to engage in non-instructional computer games, movies, videos, and activities during the work or school day, unless authorized by a supervisor.

Employees must not download unauthorized software or applications.

Employees must immediately notify the District's technology department of any unauthorized access to, misuse of, or interference with the District's technology resources.

Employees must abide by Policy 3116 pertaining to District Technology and Acceptable Use, including complying with the Children's Internet Protection Act and executing an Acceptable Use Agreement.

Legal authority: 47 USC 254; MCL 397.606

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 4000: District Employment

### 4200 Employee Conduct and Ethics

#### 4216 *Personal Communication Devices*

“Personal communication devices” include employee-owned cell phones, computers, tablets, or any other device that enables an employee to access the internet or engage in communications through an application, social media, or any other communication method. Employee use of personal communication devices during the work day, including school-sponsored activities, and to conduct school-related business, is limited as follows:

- A. except in emergencies, an employee’s use of personal communication devices shall not interfere with instructional activities or work-related duties. Employees taking an authorized break may use personal communication devices in a manner that does not disrupt the District’s operations or violate the confidentiality of students or others;
- B. employees shall not use personal communication devices to access inappropriate content or engage in unlawful activities while on duty, on District property, or attending a District-related event;
- C. employees must not use personal communication devices to inappropriately communicate with other employees, students, and Parents;
- D. employees must ensure that the District’s records and files, including confidential student information, are only maintained on District-provided technology and that confidentiality is maintained. District records and files must not be stored on a personal communication device;
- E. employees recognize that when a personal communication device accesses the District’s network, the employee’s use may become subject to the District’s Acceptable Use Policy;
- F. employees may not use their personal communication devices to record communications or images during the work or school day or at a school-sponsored event other than a public performance or sporting event, unless the employee has received permission from the Superintendent or designee. Dissemination of any recording is prohibited unless the Superintendent or designee approves that action in writing; or
- G. unauthorized recording of communications or images of students, Parents, co-workers, or non-public meetings is prohibited[Optional:, unless there is an educational purpose to do so,] and may result in discipline, including discharge.

Legal authority: MCL 380.11a(3), 380.601a

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 4000: District Employment

### 4200 Employee Conduct and Ethics

#### 4217 Social Media

Employee use of social media while on District property, during work hours, or while using District-owned devices must not interfere with District educational purposes or work performance and must not be used in any manner that violates this Policy, Policy 4201, or federal or state law.

“Social media” refers to any publicly accessible internet-based service that enables a user to share communications, images, or videos with others or participate in social networking. Social media includes blogs and social networking sites.

While using social media on or off duty, an employee must:

- A. not engage in criminal activity;
- B. make clear that the employee’s views or endorsement of political candidates and political parties are their own, not the District’s, as applicable;
- C. refrain from using a District email address to register on social networks, blogs, or other online tools for personal use;
- D. engage in appropriate communications with students, Parents, and District stakeholders and community members;
- E. maintain student privacy and not disclose confidential student information;
- F. report to the appropriate administrator(s) any behavior or activity which endangers student or staff security, safety, or welfare; and
- G. refrain from engaging in behavior that disrupts or adversely impacts the efficacy of the District’s operations.

Employee use of social media in violation of this Policy detracts from the District’s educational mission, adversely impacts the District, and may result in discipline, including discharge.

Legal authority: MCL 380.11a(3), 380.601a

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 4000: District Employment

### 4200 Employee Conduct and Ethics

### 4218 *Employee Dress and Appearance*

Employee attire conveys an important image to students and the community. Employees must maintain professional dress and appearance, including appropriate hygiene, cleanliness, and grooming.

Employees must, at a minimum, dress in accordance with the student dress code.

#### A. Administrators, Professionals, Paraprofessionals, and Office Employees

Administrators, professionals, paraprofessionals, and office employees must dress in business casual attire except as otherwise appropriate to their individual assignments. Attire must not distract other employees or students from the learning environment or pose a safety risk. Employees shall not dress in a manner that expresses partisan or political speech unless expressly permitted by law, a collective bargaining agreement, or approved in writing by a building administrator.

The building administrator may temporarily suspend all or a portion of the dress code when other factors support a lower dress expectation for employees (e.g., designated “casual days” or “spirit days”).

#### B. Food Service, Custodial, Maintenance, Mechanic, and Transportation Employees

Subject to any applicable collective bargaining agreement, food service, custodial, maintenance, mechanic, and transportation employees must dress in attire appropriate to the work the employee is performing and will not pose a safety risk to the employee or others.

Closed-toe shoes are required. Steel-toed shoes may be required for custodians, maintenance, and mechanics. The District reserves the right to require uniform clothing as may be appropriate.

#### C. Enforcement

The Superintendent or designee has the discretion to make determinations about appropriate staff dress and appearance. Any violation of this Policy may result in discipline, including discharge.

Legal authority: MCL 380.11a(3), 380.601a

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## **Series 4000: District Employment**

### **4200 Employee Conduct and Ethics**

#### **4219 Attendance**

Regular, reliable, and in-person attendance is an essential job function for employees, unless the Superintendent or designee approves the absence in writing. Employee absences or tardiness negatively impact the education of students and may impose unnecessary burdens on coworkers. Employees will be held accountable for adhering to their assigned schedule. Any deviation from an employee's assigned schedule must be approved in advance by the employee's supervisor or designee.

Consistent with any applicable collective bargaining agreement or individual employment contract, an employee must report absences as directed by the employee's supervisor or designee. The Superintendent or designee reserves the right to request verification for absences if reasonable grounds exist to believe that an employee is misusing leave, has misrepresented the reason(s) for the employee's absence, or a pattern of absenteeism exists. When possible, leave must be requested in advance per an applicable collective bargaining agreement, individual employment contract, employee handbook, Policy, or law.

An employee who violates this Policy may be subject to discipline, including discharge.

Legal authority: MCL 380.11a(3), 380.601a

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 4000: District Employment

### 4200 Employee Conduct and Ethics

#### 4220 *Use or Disposal of District Property*

Employees are prohibited from using District property for personal use [Optional: unless the Superintendent or designee approves the use in advance.] Employee use of District property will be consistent with Policies 3304 and 4214.

After use, District property must be immediately returned to the appropriate location or department. The property must be returned in the same condition it was in at the time of acquisition. The employee is responsible for the cost of repair or replacement if the employee negligently or intentionally damages the District's property.

Employees may not dispose of District property without the supervisor's written approval. Employees may not take possession of discarded District property without written approval from the Superintendent or designee.

State law regulates the disposal, removal, or refusal to return District books, papers, or records. Retention and disposal of District books, papers, or records must conform with the State of Michigan's Records Retention and Disposal Schedule for Michigan Public Schools.

An employee who violates this Policy may be subject to discipline, including discharge, and civil and criminal prosecution.

Legal authority: MCL 380.11a(3), 380.601a; MCL 399.811; MCL 750.491

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 4000: District Employment

### 4200 Employee Conduct and Ethics

#### 4221 Employee Speech

As role models, employees must exercise sound judgment in their interactions with students, Parents, and members of the community and maintain a high degree of professionalism and objectivity. Employees must act within the scope of their respective duties and responsibilities.

##### A. Curriculum, Instruction, and Controversial Topics

During instruction and discussion of controversial issues, employees must follow these guidelines:

1. the issues discussed must be relevant to the curriculum and be part of a planned educational program;
2. students and Parents must have free access to appropriate materials and information for analysis and evaluation of the issues;
3. employees must allow discussion of a variety of viewpoints so long as that discussion does not substantially disrupt the educational environment;
4. the topic and materials used must be within the students' range, knowledge, maturity, and competence;
5. employees must obtain pre-approval from the building principal before instructing students about sensitive or controversial issues;
6. employees must not advocate partisan causes, sectarian religious views, or self-propaganda of any kind during school or school-related functions. Employees may express a personal opinion as long as students are encouraged to reach independent decisions; and
7. if a Parent objects to their student's instructional materials, employees will refer the Parent to Policy 5407 and Form 5407-F.

Employees who are unsure of their obligations must confer with their building principal or supervisor.

##### B. Speech on Matters of Public Concern

The District respects and supports its employees' right as citizens to exercise free speech in a responsible manner.

Free speech rights are not absolute and are subject to restriction when the employee is acting within the course and scope of their employment.

When speaking as a citizen on a matter of public concern, an employee must not make written, verbal, online, or nonverbal statements that cause a substantial disruption to the school environment, violate federal or state law, or otherwise violate these Policies. An employee's right as a citizen to comment upon matters of public concern must be balanced against the District's interest in promoting the efficiency of the public services it performs through its employees.

Employees do not speak on behalf of the District or a school unless specifically authorized by the Board or Superintendent.

Legal authority: U.S. CONST. amend. I; Const 1963, art I, § 5

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## **Series 4000: District Employment**

### **4200 Employee Conduct and Ethics**

#### ***4222 Unauthorized Work Stoppage and Strikes***

Employees are prohibited from engaging in a strike. A strike is the concerted failure to report for duty, the willful absence from a person's position, the stoppage of work, the refusal to perform or volunteer for duties that had been performed in the past, or the abstinence in whole or in part from the full, faithful, and proper performance of the employment duties for the purpose of inducing, influencing, or coercing a change in employment conditions, compensation, or the rights, privileges, or obligations of employment.

Employees who violate this Policy may be subject to discipline, including discharge, and financial penalties under the Public Employment Relations Act.

The District is prohibited from engaging in a lock-out, unless operations have been ceased, in whole or in part, due to a strike in violation of this Policy.

Legal authority: MCL 423.201, 423.202

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## **Series 4000: District Employment**

### **4200 Employee Conduct and Ethics**

#### **4223 Resignation**

The Superintendent or designee is authorized to immediately accept an employee's verbal or written resignation on the Board's behalf. When the Superintendent or designee accepts a resignation from an Administrator, Supervisor, Director, Teacher, or Non-Teaching Professional, the Superintendent or designee will notify the Board of the resignation at its next meeting. The Superintendent or designee may notify the Board of Non-Exempt Staff resignations.

The Board may accept a Superintendent's verbal or written resignation.

A resignation is effective on the date of its acceptance or on a subsequent effective date specifically reflected in the offer of resignation and its acceptance.

Except as otherwise provided by law, a resignation is irrevocable upon acceptance.

Employees, other than teachers, must generally provide 30 days' advance written notice before resigning.

Teachers must provide written resignation notice at least 60 days before September 1, unless the Superintendent or designee consents to less advance notice. Otherwise, the Board may revoke the teacher's tenure rights as provided by the Teachers' Tenure Act.

Legal authority: MCL 38.111; MCL 380.11a(3)(d), 380.601a

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 4000: District Employment

### 4200 Employee Conduct and Ethics

### 4224 Personnel Files and Payroll Information

#### A. Contents

The District will maintain accurate and up-to-date personnel files. A personnel file will include the physical or electronic records kept by the District that identify an employee, to the extent that the record is used or has been used for, or may affect or be used for, that employee's qualifications for employment, hire, promotion, transfer, compensation, or discipline. Personnel files may be electronically stored, in whole or in part, by the District in a secure manner.

The District will not suppress or remove information about unprofessional conduct from a personnel file as required by Revised School Code Section 1230b, regardless of any contrary term in any applicable collective bargaining agreement, individual employment contract, resignation agreement, severance agreement, or other agreement.

#### B. Payroll Records

The District will record and maintain the following payroll information for all employees:

1. name and social security number;
2. address, including zip code;
3. birth date;
4. sex;
5. occupation;
6. time and day when work week begins;
7. hours worked each day and work week;
8. hourly pay rate;
9. total daily or weekly straight-time earnings;
10. total overtime earnings for each work week;
11. all additions to or deductions from wages;
12. total wages paid each pay period; and
13. date of payment and pay period covered by the payment.

### C. Employee Review

Employees may request to review their personnel file at a reasonable and mutually agreed upon time, with or without union representation. A central office employee will be present during the review. Employees requesting a copy of the personnel file may be charged a fee.

If there is a disagreement with information contained in a personnel file, the District and the employee may mutually agree to remove or correct that information, unless it concerns substantiated unprofessional conduct. If the District does not agree to remove or amend the information, the employee may submit a written statement explaining the employee's position (not exceeding 5 sheets of 8-1/2" x 11" paper). The written statement will be included if the information is disclosed to a third party.

### D. Third Party Disclosure

Personnel file contents may be subject to disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). Certain documents in a personnel file may be subject to mandatory or permissible disclosure exemptions under FOIA. Disclosure of other personnel file information may be specifically prohibited or limited by state and federal statute. Before releasing information in response to a FOIA request for documents within an employee's personnel file, the District will review those documents to identify permissible and mandated disclosure exemptions.

Criminal history checks, unprofessional conduct checks, drug test results, confidential personal references, medical information, and other confidential information will be maintained in a separate, secure file.

Absent an employee's written consent or authorization, the District will not release an employee's discipline records to a third party, pursuant to a FOIA request or otherwise, unless the District has provided the employee with notice via first class mail to the employee's last known address, or another consented form of communication, which will be mailed on or before the day on which the information is released. Discipline more than 4 years old will not be disclosed unless the employee has executed a written release to disclose the records or as otherwise permitted by law, including Revised School Code Section 1230b.

Legal authority: MCL 15.231 et seq.; MCL 380.1230b; MCL 408.931 et seq.; MCL 423.501 et seq.

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 4000: District Employment

### 4200 Employee Conduct and Ethics

**4225 Temporary Remote Work** [Optional] [Note: If the Board elects not to adopt this Policy, delete the body of the policy and replace the title with “Intentionally Left Blank” after the policy number and in the Table of Contents to ensure accurate numbering of subsequent policies in the Policy Manual.]

The Board recognizes that in-person work is an essential function of school employment. The Superintendent or designee may, however, permit certain employee positions to work remotely on a temporary basis during a health or safety risk declared by a local, State, or federal governmental authority or in other extraordinary circumstances.

- A. When determining whether to permit a position to work remotely in an extraordinary circumstance, the Superintendent or designee may consider the following factors:
  - 1. The duties of the position;
  - 2. The need to protect and access confidential student, personnel, and financial information;
  - 3. The need to supervise, direct, or evaluate students or personnel;
  - 4. The need to provide direct, physical services to students such as speech, physical, or occupational therapy;
  - 5. Working conditions outlined in the applicable collective bargaining agreement; and
  - 6. Other relevant factors as determined by the Superintendent or designee.
- B. If the District is providing in-person instruction, the following employees may not work remotely, unless required pursuant to Paragraph C below:
  - 1. Professional Staff;
  - 2. Administrators/Supervisors;
  - 3. Bus drivers;
  - 4. Secretaries;
  - 5. Food service employees;
  - 6. Custodians;
  - 7. School nurses;
  - 8. Daycare workers; and

9. Paraprofessionals.

- C. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Policy, an employee with a disability may request remote work as a reasonable accommodation under Policy 4105.

Granting a request to perform work remotely shall be considered temporary and does not obligate the District to grant remote work as a continuing reasonable accommodation.

- D. This Policy shall not limit the District's ability to determine the method of instruction to students or to provide instruction in the best interest of its students. The Board has the authority to determine whether students will receive instruction in-person, remotely, or through an alternative method.

Legal authority: MCL 380.11a(3); 42 USC § 12101 et seq.

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## **Series 4000: District Employment**

### **4200 Employee Conduct and Ethics**

#### ***4226 Intentionally Left Blank***

Legal Authority:

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 4000: District Employment

### 4200 Employee Conduct and Ethics

**4227 False Medicaid Claims** [Required for Districts that receive or make payments to the State Medicaid Program in an annual amount of at least \$5,000,000] [Note: If the Board elects not to adopt this Policy, delete the body of the policy and replace the title with “Intentionally Left Blank” after the policy number and in the Table of Contents to ensure accurate numbering of subsequent policies in the Policy Manual.]

Under federal law, when the District receives annual amount of at least \$5,000,000.00 in Medicaid payments, the District is required to inform all employees and contractors about legal requirements and remedies in order to comply with and prevent fraud and abuse in the Medicaid Program.

- A. The Federal False Claims Act (FCA). Medicaid prohibits individuals and organizations from submitting false or fraudulent claims to the government for payment or reimbursement. Any claim submitted by employees or contractors for Medicaid reimbursement must be accurate, correct, and complete.
1. An employee or contractor shall not knowingly submit a false claim. The term “knowingly” does not require the claimant to have actual knowledge that the claim is false. An employee violates this Policy by acting with reckless disregard or in deliberate ignorance. A violation of this Policy includes, but is not limited to:
    - a. knowingly presenting, or causing to be presented, a false or fraudulent claim for payment or approval;
    - b. knowingly making, using, or causing to be made or used, a false record or statement material to a false or fraudulent claim;
    - c. conspiring to commit a violation under the FCA;
    - d. having possession, custody, or control of property or money used, or to be used, by the government and knowingly delivering, or causing to be delivered, less than all of that money or property;
    - e. authorizing to make or deliver a document certifying receipt of property used, or to be used, by the government and, intending to defraud the government, making or delivering the receipt without completely knowing that the information on the receipt is true;
    - f. knowingly buying, or receiving as a pledge of an obligation or debt, public property from an officer or employee of the government, or a member of the Armed Forces, who lawfully may not sell or pledge property; or

- g. knowingly making, using, or causing to be made or used, a false record or statement material to an obligation to pay or transmit money or property to the government, or knowingly concealing or knowingly and improperly avoiding or decreasing an obligation to pay or transmit money or property to the government.

## 2. Penalties

- a. The FCA and Program Fraud Civil Remedies Act (“PFCRA”) provides civil and criminal remedies to individuals who violate federal law.
- b. The District reserves the right to discipline, up to and including discharge, employees who violate this Policy.
- c. The District reserves the right to terminate the contract with a third party contractor found to be in violation of this Policy.

## B. Michigan Medicaid False Claim Act (“MMFCA”) prohibits fraud in the obtaining of benefits or payments in connection with the medical assistance program.

### 1. An employee or contractor shall not knowingly:

- a. make or cause to be made a false representation of a material fact in the application for, or the determination of, Medicaid benefits;
- b. fail to report any event affecting the initial or continued right to receive a Medicaid benefit or fails to report an event affecting the initial or continued right of any other person on whose behalf the individual has applied for Medicaid benefits;
- c. solicit, offer, or receive a bribe or kickback in connection with the furnishing of goods or services for which payment is made to a Medicaid provider;
- d. make or receive a payment or the rebate of a fee for referring an individual to another for Medicaid services;
- e. enter into a conspiracy or agreement to defraud the state by obtaining a Medicaid payment for a false claim;
- f. make or cause to be made a false claim under the Social Welfare Act, Act 280 of Public Acts of 1939, as amended, to an employee or officer of the state; or
- g. make or cause to be made a claim under the Social Welfare Act, which claim represents that goods or services are medically necessary in accordance with professionally-accepted medical standards when the goods or services are not medically necessary.

## 2. Penalties

- a. The MMFCA provides civil and criminal remedies to individuals who violate federal law.
- b. The District reserves the right to discipline, up to and including discharge, employees who violate this Policy.
- c. The District reserves the right to terminate the contract with a third party contractor found to be in violation of this Policy.

Legal authority: 31 U.S.C. 3729-3733, 31 U.S.C. 3801, MCL 400.601 et seq.

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## **Series 4000: District Employment**

### **4200 Employee Conduct and Ethics**

#### ***4228 No Expectation of Privacy***

Employees have no expectation of privacy in connection with their use of District property and equipment. The District reserves the right to search District property, equipment, and technology issued or provided for the employee's use during the employee's District employment, including but not limited to the employee's office, desk, files, computer, or locker. Inspections may be conducted at any time at the District's discretion. A search of an employee's personal effects will comply with federal and state constitutional protections, laws, and regulations.

Legal Authority: U.S. Const, amend. IV

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 4000: District Employment

### 4200 Employee Conduct and Ethics

**4229 *Acceptable Use of Generative Artificial Intelligence*** [Optional] [Note: If the Board elects not to adopt this policy, delete the body of the policy and replace the title with “Intentionally Left Blank” after the policy number and in the Table of Contents to ensure accurate numbering of subsequent policies in the Policy Manual.]

Employees may use Generative Artificial Intelligence (“Generative AI”) in the school setting in compliance with this Policy and applicable law.

#### A. Definitions

1. “Generative AI” means the class of AI models that emulate the structure and characteristics of input data in order to generate derived synthetic content. This may include images, videos, audio, text, and other digital content.
2. “AI System” means any data system, software, hardware, application, tool, or utility that operates in whole or in part using AI.

#### B. Acceptable Use

Employee use of Generative AI must be appropriate for the educational environment and in compliance with all applicable laws, including, but not limited to, the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, and the Children’s Internet Protection Act. Employees must also comply with applicable Board Policies when using Generative AI, including, but not limited to, policies on District technology and acceptable use, copyright protection, student records, unlawful harassment, discrimination, and employee ethics.

[Optional: Employees must obtain prior approval from the Superintendent or designee before using Generative AI Systems for District-related purposes.]

Employees must thoroughly review AI-generated material to ensure accuracy, relevance, and appropriateness. Employees may not rely solely on Generative AI to deliver instructional or work-related material. Employee use of Generative AI in the classroom must align with the Board-approved curriculum.

#### C. Training

Employees may receive training on the legal and ethical use of Generative AI and its integration into the curriculum.

#### D. Violations

Violations of this policy may result in disciplinary action, up to and including discharge.

Legal Authority: 20 USC 1232g; 20 USC 1400 et seq.; 34 CFR 99; 47 CFR 54.520; 88  
Fed Reg 75191 (October 30, 2023)

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 4000: District Employment

### 4300 Non-Exempt Staff

#### 4301 Definition

“Non-exempt staff” may include transportation, custodial, maintenance, food service, clerical, and paraprofessional employees and other employees who do not meet an exemption under the Fair Labor Standards Act or the Michigan Improved Workforce Opportunity Wage Act. The term does not include “exempt” professional staff, administrators, supervisors, or the Superintendent (as defined in Policies 4401, 4501, and 4601). Non-exempt staff are employed at-will and their employment may be altered or terminated at any time with or without cause, unless governed by a collective bargaining agreement or individual employment contract containing a different standard of employment security.

[Optional: Unless otherwise provided by a collective bargaining agreement or individual employment contract, non-exempt staff will be subject to a probationary period of 1 work year.]

Legal authority: 29 USC 201 et seq.; MCL 380.11a(3), 380.601a; MCL 408.934a

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## **Series 4000: District Employment**

### **4300 Non-Exempt Staff**

#### ***4302 Employee Pay, Including Minimum Wage and Overtime***

Non-exempt staff will receive hourly compensation at a rate not less than the hourly minimum wage required by federal or state law, whichever is greater. Wages will be paid for all hours worked, including for training time required by the District.

Non-exempt staff will receive overtime compensation at a rate of 1.5 times his/her regular hourly rate for work more than 40 hours in a work week, unless a higher rate is established through a collective bargaining agreement or other written agreement covering the non-exempt staff member. Paid leave time (e.g., vacation, sick, or personal days) will not count as hours worked for overtime compensation, unless otherwise stated in a collective bargaining agreement or individual employment contract.

Overtime work must be pre-approved by a supervisor and properly recorded.

If the non-exempt staff member is compensated at multiple hourly wage rates during a work week, the overtime rate will be based on a weighted blend (by hours worked at each wage rate) of the wage rates earned by the employee in the applicable work week.

Collective bargaining agreements and individual employment contracts may provide for additional overtime compensation.

Legal authority: 29 USC 201 et seq.; MCL 408.931 et seq.

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 4000: District Employment

### 4300 Non-Exempt Staff

**4303 *Compensatory Time*** [Optional] [Note: If the Board elects not to adopt this Policy, delete the body of the policy and replace the title with “Intentionally Left Blank” after the policy number *and* in the Table of Contents to ensure accurate numbering of subsequent policies in the Policy Manual.]

- A. The District may offer Non-Exempt Staff compensatory time, in lieu of overtime pay, at a rate of 1.5 hours of compensatory time for 1 hour of time for which the employee earns overtime pay. The District may determine that some employee classifications are ineligible for compensatory time.
- B. For represented, Non-Exempt Staff compensatory time must be provided under a collective bargaining agreement, memorandum of understanding, or other agreement between the District and the exclusive collective bargaining representative.
- C. For non-represented, Non-Exempt Staff, the staff member must submit an express, voluntary written request to receive compensatory time in lieu of overtime pay before the performance of overtime work. This request is subject to prior approval by the District. The Non-Exempt Staff member’s written request must be kept in the payroll file for each instance of compensatory time.
- D. Compensatory time is only available to those Non-Exempt Staff members who receive 10 or more paid days of leave per year, in addition to the compensatory time. If requested by the employee and approved by the District, the terms of the compensatory time plan are subject to the following:
  - 1. acceptance of compensatory time in lieu of overtime pay is not required as a condition of employment;
  - 2. employees are permitted to use compensatory time unless it will unduly disrupt District operations;
  - 3. employees may not accrue more than 240 hours of compensatory time at any time;
  - 4. employees may, at any time, request monetary compensation for accrued compensatory time at a rate not less than the regular rate earned by the employee at the time the employee earned the compensatory time. Payment must be made within 30 days after the request; and
  - 5. upon voluntary or involuntary termination of employment, an employee who has accrued compensatory time must be paid monetary compensation for accrued compensatory time at a rate not less than the regular rate earned by the employee at the time the employee earned the compensatory time.

- E. Unless otherwise prohibited by a collective bargaining agreement, the District may terminate a compensatory time plan after providing 60 days' notice to Non-Exempt staff. Employees will receive monetary compensation for accrued compensatory time at a rate not less than the regular rate earned by the Non-Exempt Staff at the time the staff member earned the compensatory time.
- F. The District must provide Non-Exempt Staff who earn compensatory time a statement reflecting the accrual and use of compensatory time in the period that it is earned or used. The payroll records for Non-Exempt Staff who earn compensatory time must identify the accrual of compensatory time.
- G. The District will not directly or indirectly interfere with a Non-Exempt Staff member's right to request or not request compensatory time in lieu of overtime pay or require a member to use compensatory time. In assigning overtime hours, the District will not discriminate among Non-Exempt Staff within a classification based on the choice to request or not request compensatory time off in lieu of overtime pay.

Legal authority: 29 USC 207; MCL 408.414a, 408.934a

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## **Series 4000: District Employment**

### **4300 Non-Exempt Staff**

#### ***4304 Employee Timekeeping Responsibilities***

Non-Exempt Staff must record all hours worked in compliance with District procedures. Non-Exempt Staff will be compensated for authorized recorded hours worked, including preliminary and subsequent work activities and overtime. Timekeeping records must reflect actual time worked to ensure accurate payment of wages.

Substantiated falsification or misrepresentation of hours worked may result in discipline, including discharge.

Legal authority: 29 USC 201 et seq.; MCL 408.471 et seq.

Date adopted:

Date revised:

**Series 4000: District Employment**

**4300 Non-Exempt Staff**

**4305 *Intentionally Left Blank***

## **Series 4000: District Employment**

### **4300 Non-Exempt Staff**

#### ***4306 Assignment and Transfer***

The Board authorizes the Superintendent or designee to assign and transfer Non-Exempt Staff to meet identified District needs, including curricular, fiscal, personnel management, or other operating reasons. The Superintendent's or designee's authority includes assignment, transfer, and the addition or removal of Non-Exempt Staff member's duties and responsibilities. In exercising authority pursuant to this Policy, the Superintendent or designee will comply with the applicable collective bargaining agreement or individual employment contract.

Legal authority: MCL 380.11a(3), 380.601a

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## **Series 4000: District Employment**

### **4300 Non-Exempt Staff**

#### ***4307 Performance Evaluation***

The Superintendent or designee will determine the frequency of evaluations for Non-Exempt Staff not covered by a collective bargaining agreement that addresses evaluation frequency.

Unless an evaluation tool is specified in a Non-Exempt Staff member's collective bargaining agreement, the Superintendent or designee may select an evaluation tool that serves the District's best interests.

Non-Exempt Staff covered by a collective bargaining agreement or individual employment contract will be evaluated using the procedures and criteria set forth in that agreement.

Legal authority: MCL 380.11a(3), 380.601a

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 4000: District Employment

### 4300 Non-Exempt Staff

#### 4308 *Reduction and Recall of Non-Exempt Staff*

The Board, in its sole discretion, may determine that a reduction in force of a Non-Exempt Staff member is appropriate due to curricular, fiscal, personnel management, or other operating conditions. A reduction in force may consist of a reduction of hours or personnel. Reductions in force and recalls are subject to Board approval.

A. Staff Subject to a Collective Bargaining Agreement or Individual Employment Contract

If the Board determines that a reduction of Non-Exempt Staff governed by a collective bargaining agreement or individual employment contract is necessary, the Superintendent will implement a reduction in force in conformance with the applicable agreement(s).

B. Non-Exempt Staff Not Subject to a Collective Bargaining Agreement or Individual Employment Contract Containing Reduction and Recall Provisions

1. Reduction in Force

The Superintendent or designee will make reduction in force recommendations to the Board. The Superintendent's or designee's recommendation to the Board may consider the following criteria for reduction, which are not in order of priority or weight:

- a. programs and services to be offered;
- b. employee qualifications, abilities, skills, and education;
- c. federal, state, and local funding;
- d. employment experience that is relevant to an assignment;
- e. federal and state laws or regulations that may mandate certain employment practices;
- f. special or advanced training that would be of present or future value to the District;
- g. the organizational and educational effect caused by a reduction of Non-Exempt Staff member(s);
- h. formal and informal evaluation of Non-Exempt Staff performance by a supervisor;
- i. length of service with the District and within a classification; and

- j. any other criteria that are rationally related to providing effective support services and operation of or administration of the District, such as discipline record and compliance with attendance Policies and procedures.

## 2. Notification

Notice will be provided as follows:

- a. Before the Board considers a reduction in force, the Superintendent or designee will notify, in writing, each affected non-exempt staff member that the Superintendent or designee is recommending a reduction in force or hours that would affect the non-exempt staff member and the date and time of the Board meeting at which the Board will consider the reduction in force.
- b. After the Board's decision on reduction in force, the Superintendent or designee will provide written notice of the Board's action to the affected non-exempt staff member(s).
- c. A non-exempt staff member who is subject to a reduction in force must, during the period which the member is eligible for recall, provide the District with an accurate residential address, email address, and phone number and report any subsequent change in the employee's contact information. Failure to maintain current contact information may be deemed a waiver of recall rights.
- d. The District may allow a laid off non-exempt staff member to be included on the District's list of substitutes at the Superintendent's or designee's discretion. If the District uses a laid off non-exempt staff member as a substitute, remuneration will be determined by the District or an applicable collective bargaining agreement.

## C. Recall

A Non-Exempt Staff member subject to a reduction in force as described above will have preferred rights to recall to employment for a period of 12 months commencing on the date that the District implemented the reduction in force. The Non-Exempt Staff member will be recalled to any position within the member's classification. Recall decisions will be based on the criteria specified in subsection B.1 of this Policy.

A Non-Exempt Staff member who declines an offer of recall to a position comparable to that held at the time of layoff or for which he/she is otherwise qualified will be removed from the recall list and will forfeit any further employment rights with the District.

A Non-Exempt Staff member must respond within 10 days after the date the District sent notice of recall. Failure to do so may be deemed a waiver of recall rights.

Legal authority: MCL 380.11a(3), 380.601a

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 4000: District Employment

### 4300 Non-Exempt Staff

#### 4309 *Discipline and Termination*

##### A. Discipline

The Superintendent or designee may discipline non-exempt staff for behavior warranting discipline, as determined by the Superintendent or designee, provided the discipline is not for an unlawful reason. Off-duty conduct may result in discipline if it adversely affects the District and is not a legally protected activity. Before discipline is imposed, the Non-Exempt Staff member will be provided notice of the alleged inappropriate behavior and an opportunity to respond to the allegations.

A Non-Exempt Staff member governed by a collective bargaining agreement or individual employment contract will be disciplined consistent with the procedures and standards specified within that agreement.

A Non-Exempt Staff member who reasonably believes an investigatory interview may result in discipline may bring a representative consistent with Policy 4108.

The Superintendent or designee will record discipline in writing, if warranted. Written discipline will be placed in the Non-Exempt Staff member's personnel file. The Non-Exempt Staff member may submit a written rebuttal letter consistent with Policy 4224.

Consistent with Revised School Code Section 1230b, unprofessional conduct will not be suppressed or removed from a personnel file.

##### B. Termination

A Non-Exempt Staff member is employed at-will and subject to discharge by the Superintendent or designee, with or without cause, provided the discharge is not for an unlawful purpose, unless a collective bargaining agreement, individual employment contract, law, Policy, or handbook provides otherwise.

Legal authority: MCL 380.1230b(6); MCL 423.501 et seq.; *NLRB v J. Weingarten, Inc.*, 420 US 251 (1975)

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 4000: District Employment

### 4400 Professional Staff

#### 4401 Definition

##### A. General

Professional Staff primarily perform work that requires advanced knowledge or work that is intellectual in nature, consistent with the FLSA's definition of "professional." The Professional Staff member's area of expertise is related to learning or comes from prolonged course of study, including teachers and Non-Teaching Professionals, but excluding Administrators/Supervisors (as defined under Policy 4501) and the Superintendent (as defined under Policy 4601).

##### B. Teachers

Teachers are professional persons who provide or direct instruction to students and must be appropriately qualified and certified for the assigned teaching position, consistent with federal and state law and District Policies. Each teacher shall maintain required qualifications and certification as a condition of that teacher's continued employment.

A classroom teacher employed by the District must: (1) have a valid Michigan teaching certificate or authorization to teach under the Revised School Code; and (2) be assigned by the District to deliver direct instruction to students as a teacher of record.

A teacher must promptly notify the Superintendent or designee, in writing, if the teacher's certification or authorization expires, is revoked, or nullified. Failure to provide this written notice, whether willfully or negligently, may result in discipline, including discharge.

##### C. Non-Teaching Professionals

Non-Teaching Professionals are "other Professional Staff" who are not teachers and who meet the professional exemption under the FLSA, such as counselors (i.e., those counselors who are not certified teachers), social workers, teacher consultants, behavior specialists, speech pathologists (i.e. who are not certified teachers), physical or occupational therapists, nurses, and psychologists. A Non-Teaching Professional is not required by law to hold a teaching certificate or authorization for the assigned duties. Each Non-Teaching Professional must be qualified and certified as required by the Board or federal and state law. Each Non-Teaching Professional must maintain those qualifications and certifications as a condition of that person's continued employment.

A Non-Teaching Professional must promptly notify the Superintendent or designee, in writing, if the person's certification, license, or endorsement expires,

is revoked, or nullified. Failure to provide this written notice, whether willfully or negligently, may result in discipline, including discharge.

Legal authority: 29 USC 201 et seq.; MCL 38.81 et seq.; MCL 380.1231, 380.1233, 380.1233b, 380.1236, 380.1237

Date adopted:

Dated revised:

## Series 4000: District Employment

### 4400 Professional Staff

#### 4402 Placement

This Policy must be implemented consistent with Policy 1101.

- A. Teacher as Defined by Revised School Code Section 1249 (K-12 certified teachers of record)

The appropriate placement of effective teachers is an essential component in promoting student academic growth, educational outcomes, and quality educational services. The Superintendent or designee may make teacher placement decisions at their discretion consistent with this Policy.

Placement includes, but is not limited to, assignment, transfer, or the filling of a position with current staff or newly hired teachers. For vacant positions see Paragraph C (Vacancy).

Placement does not include reduction in force or recall decisions governed by Policy 4405.

1. Consistent with Revised School Code Section 1248, teacher placement decisions shall be based on the following clear and transparent factors:
  - a. Staffing the curriculum with the most effective, certified, and qualified teachers to instruct the applicable courses, grades, and school schedule.
  - b. Appropriate certification, approval, or authorization for all aspects of the assignment. The certification, approval, or authorization, as applicable, will be determined by the Revised School Code, MDE's Teacher Certification Code, MDE's Rules for Special Education Programs and Services, and other applicable statutes and regulations.
  - c. Teacher placement decisions must be made based on teacher effectiveness criteria established in Revised School Code Section 1249 and Policy 4403.
  - d. Teacher placement decisions will be guided by the following criteria:
    - i. Retaining the most effective teachers who are certified (or otherwise approved or authorized) and qualified to instruct the courses within the curriculum, academic level(s), and department(s).
    - ii. Teachers must be properly certified, approved, or authorized for all aspects of their assignments. The teacher's certification, authorization, or approval status will be:

- A) Determined by the Revised School Code, MDE's Teacher Certification Code, MDE's Rules for Special Education Programs and Services, and other applicable statutes and regulations; and
- B) Based on documentation on file with the Superintendent's office.
  - 1) A teacher must maintain valid certification, approval, or authorization, as applicable, and is responsible for filing a copy of the certificate, approval, or authorization with the Superintendent's office in compliance with Revised School Code Section 1532.
  - 2) If a teacher petitions for nullification of the teaching certificate or any endorsement, the teacher must promptly provide written notice of that petition to the Superintendent's office.
- iii. In addition, teachers must be fully qualified for all aspects of their assignments, as determined by the Board, based on documentation on file with the Superintendent's office, including:
  - A) Compliance with applicable state or federal regulatory standards, including standards established as a condition to receipt of foundation, grant, or categorical funding;
  - B) Credentials needed for District, school, or program accreditation;
  - C) District-provided professional development, training, and academic preparation for an instructional assignment that is anticipated to contribute to the teacher's effectiveness in that assignment and is integrated into instruction;
  - D) Relevant special training, other than professional development or continuing education as required by state or federal law, and integration of that training into instruction in a meaningful way;
  - E) Disciplinary record, if any;
  - F) Length of service in a grade level(s) or subject area(s);
  - G) Recency of relevant and comparable teaching assignments;
  - H) Previous effectiveness ratings;
  - I) Attendance and punctuality;
  - J) Rapport with colleagues, parents, and students;
  - K) Ability to withstand the strain of teaching;
  - L) Compliance with state and federal law; and

M) Other relevant factors as determined by the Superintendent or designee.

e. Length of service may be considered as a tiebreaker if a teacher placement decision involves 2 or more teachers and all other factors distinguishing those teachers from each other are equal.

B. Placement of Non-Teaching Professionals and Teachers Not Subject to Revised School Code Section 1249

If a collective bargaining agreement governs the employment of Non-Teaching Professionals or teachers not subject to Revised School Code Section 1249, the Superintendent or designee will comply with the applicable language on placement.

If a collective bargaining agreement or individual employment contract does not address the placement of Non-Teaching Professionals or teachers not subject to Revised School Code Section 1249, the Superintendent or designee is authorized to place those employees at their discretion.

C. Vacant Positions

1. Vacancies may be posted consistent with Policy 4205. The Superintendent or designee determines when a vacancy exists. Generally, a vacancy is an unassigned, open position or a newly created position which the District intends to permanently fill.
2. Vacancies may be filled by a certified and qualified internal or external candidate consistent with this Policy. The Superintendent or designee has full discretion to assign Professional Staff or contractors to cover employee absences consistent with business necessity and operational needs.

Legal authority: MCL 380.11a, 380.601a, 380.1248, 380.1249

Date adopted:

Dated revised:

## Series 4000: District Employment

### 4400 Professional Staff

#### 4403 Performance Evaluation

Performance evaluations are essential to provide quality educational services and to measure competency. This Policy does not diminish the Board's authority or ability to non-renew a professional staff member's contract at the end of the contract's term, consistent with applicable statutes, collective bargaining agreements, Policies, and individual employment contracts. This Policy must be implemented consistent with Policy 1101.

A. Teachers as Defined by Revised School Code Section 1249 (K-12 certified teachers of record)

Teachers will be evaluated pursuant to a performance evaluation system consistent with Revised School Code Section 1249 and the Teachers' Tenure Act. This performance evaluation system will include, as appropriate, the following:

1. a year-end evaluation process that meets statutory standards;
2. an evaluation tool that incorporates components required by law, including:
  - a. locally agreed-on student growth and assessment data or student learning objectives, as defined by Revised School Code Section 1249;
  - b. the teacher's performance; and
  - c. objective criteria.
3. an individualized development plan (IDP) with performance goals developed by the evaluator in consultation with the teacher and recommended training designed to improve the teacher's effectiveness for:
  - a. all probationary teachers;
  - b. teachers rated needing support or developing; or
  - c. at the evaluator's discretion when performance deficiencies are noted.
4. classroom observations of at least 15 minutes each which include, at a minimum, a review of the teacher's lesson plan, the state curriculum standard used in the lesson, and pupil engagement, with appropriate written feedback and a post-observation meeting between the teacher and the school administrator conducting the observation to discuss those items;
5. a mid-year progress report, if required by law, which aligns with the teacher's individualized development plan, includes specific performance goals developed by the evaluator, and any recommended training identified by the evaluator;

6. a year-end performance evaluation effectiveness rating, of effective, developing, or needing support;
7. tenured teachers rated as highly effective or effective on the 3 most recent consecutive year-end evaluations may be evaluated [Choose one: biennially or triennially], but if the teacher is not rated as effective on one of the [Choose one: biennial or triennial] year-end evaluations, the teacher must receive year-end evaluations;
8. a mentor for teachers rated developing or needing support or for teachers in the first year of probation;
9. opportunity for a tenured teacher rated needing support on a year-end evaluation to request a review consistent with Revised School Code Section 1249;
10. a tool approved by MDE, a modified MDE tool, or a local evaluation tool if adopted in compliance with Revised School Code Section 1249 and corresponding regulations;
11. website posting of required information for the evaluation tool;
12. training on the evaluation tool for teachers and evaluators as required by law; and
13. other components that the Superintendent or designee deems relevant, important, or in the District's best interests.

If a tenured teacher is rated ineffective or needing support on 3 consecutive year-end evaluations, the teacher must be discharged consistent with due process. The District is not precluded from discharging a teacher at other times as provided by the Teachers' Tenure Act.

If a teacher receives an unevaluated rating, the teacher's rating from the school year immediately before the designation must be used.

#### B. Non-Teaching Professionals Subject to the Teachers' Tenure Act

The performance evaluation system for a Non-Teaching Professional with a teaching certificate subject to the Teachers' Tenure Act must include multiple observations. An IDP will be developed during the employee's probationary period. Except during the probationary period, which must include annual evaluations, the Superintendent or designee will evaluate the employee's performance at intervals determined by the Superintendent or designee. The Superintendent or designee has discretion to select and use an evaluation tool that serves the District's best interests.

The Superintendent or designee also has discretion to implement an IDP if performance deficiencies are noted, regardless of the employee's effectiveness rating.

To the extent required by law, a tenured Non-Teaching Professional subject to the Teachers' Tenure Act rated as needing support may request a review consistent with Revised School Code 1249.

C. Non-Teaching Professionals and Teachers Not Subject to Revised School Code Section 1249

For Non-Teaching Professionals and teachers not subject to Revised School Code Section 1249, the Superintendent or designee will evaluate the employee's performance at intervals determined by the Superintendent or designee, except annual evaluation will be performed during the employee's probationary period. The Superintendent or designee has discretion to select and use an evaluation tool that serves the District's best interests.

An IDP may be established at the Superintendent's or designee's discretion.

Legal authority: MCL 38.71 et seq.; MCL 380.11a, 380.601a, 380.1233b, 380.1248, 380.1249; 380.1249a(2); MCL 423.215

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 4000: District Employment

### 4400 Professional Staff

**4404 Performance Based Compensation** [Optional] [Note: If the Board elects not to adopt this Policy, delete the body of the policy and replace the title with “Intentionally Left Blank” after the policy number and in the Table of Contents to ensure accurate numbering of subsequent policies in the Policy Manual.]

The Superintendent or designee may implement a performance based compensation system for Professional Staff. This Policy must be implemented consistent with Policy 1101.

Legal authority: MCL 380.11a

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 4000: District Employment

### 4400 Professional Staff

#### 4405 *Reduction in Force and Recall*

This Policy must be implemented consistent with Policy 1101.

- A. Reduction in Force and Recall for Teachers as Defined by Section 1249 (K-12 certified teachers of record)

When making program and staffing decisions resulting in the elimination of a teaching position or the recall of a teacher to a vacant teaching position, the Board will retain the most effective classroom teachers who are certified and qualified to instruct courses within the applicable curriculum, academic levels, and departments. The Board has the exclusive right to determine the size of the teaching staff based on curricular, fiscal, and other operating conditions. To the extent that the determinations involve Revised School Code Section 1248 requirements, the clear and transparent procedures of this Policy guides the implementation of that statute.

#### 1. General Provisions

- a. The Superintendent is responsible, acting within the approved budget, for establishing the number and nature of teaching assignments to implement the approved curriculum. If the Superintendent determines that insufficient funds are budgeted for the existing teaching staff or that a reduction in teaching staff is necessary due to program, curricular, or other operational considerations, the Superintendent will recommend to the Board the teaching positions to be reduced.
- b. Reduction in force and recall decisions must be made based on teacher effectiveness criteria established in Revised School Code Section 1249 and Policy 4403.
- c. Decisions about the reduction and recall of teachers will be guided by the following criteria:
  - i. Retaining the most effective teachers who are certified (or otherwise approved or authorized) and qualified to instruct the courses within the curriculum, academic level(s), department(s), and school schedule(s). A probationary teacher rated as effective or highly effective on the teacher's most recent annual year-end performance evaluation is not subject to displacement by a tenured teacher solely because the other teacher is tenured under the Teachers' Tenure Act.
  - ii. Teachers must be properly certified, approved, or authorized for all aspects of their assignments. The teacher's certification, authorization, or approval status will be:

- A) Determined by the Revised School Code, MDE's Teacher Certification Code, MDE's Rules for Special Education Programs and Services, and other applicable statutes and regulations; and
- B) Based on documentation on file with the Superintendent's office.
  - 1) A teacher must maintain valid certification, approval, or authorization, as applicable, and is responsible for filing a copy of the certificate, approval, or authorization with the Superintendent's office in compliance with Revised School Code Section 1532.
  - 2) If a teacher petitions for nullification of the teaching certificate or any endorsement, the teacher must promptly provide written notice of that petition to the Superintendent's office.
- iii. In addition, teachers must be fully qualified for all aspects of their assignments, as determined by the Board, based on documentation on file with the Superintendent's office, including:
  - A) Compliance with applicable state or federal regulatory standards, including standards established as a condition to receipt of foundation, grant, or categorical funding;
  - B) Credentials needed for District, school, or program accreditation;
  - C) District-provided professional development, training, and academic preparation for an instructional assignment that is anticipated to contribute to the teacher's effectiveness in that assignment and is integrated into instruction;
  - D) Relevant special training, other than professional development or continuing education as required by state or federal law, and integration of that training into instruction in a meaningful way;
  - E) Disciplinary record, if any;
  - F) Length of service in a grade level(s) or subject area(s);
  - G) Recency of relevant and comparable teaching assignments;
  - H) Previous effectiveness ratings;
  - I) Attendance and punctuality;
  - J) Rapport with colleagues, Parents, and students;
  - K) Ability to withstand the strain of teaching;
  - L) Compliance with state and federal law; and

- M) Other relevant factors as determined by the Superintendent or designee.
- iv. Teachers must provide the District with current information and documentation supporting the teacher's certification and qualifications.
  - A) Reduction and recall decisions will be based on the teacher's certification and qualifications in the District's records at the time of the decision.
  - B) A laid off teacher must maintain current contact information (address, phone, and email address) with the Superintendent's office.
  - C) Failure to maintain current contact information may negatively impact the teacher's recall.
- v. Teacher reductions and recalls are by formal Board action.
- vi. Before the Board authorizes a teacher reduction, the Superintendent or designee will notify, in writing, the affected teacher of an opportunity to respond, either in person or in writing, to the proposed reduction.
- vii. The Superintendent or designee will provide written notice of Board reduction in force or recall decisions to each affected teacher.
- viii. A teacher's length of service with the District or tenure under the Teachers' Tenure Act will not be the sole factor in reduction in force and recall decisions.
- d. Teacher reduction in force decisions will be implemented by the following:
  - i. If 1 or more teaching positions are to be reduced, the Superintendent will first identify the academic level(s) or department(s) affected by the reduction. Among those teachers who are certified, approved, or authorized and qualified to instruct the remaining curriculum within the affected academic level(s) or department(s), selection of a teacher(s) for reduction in force will be based on the factors set forth in this Policy.
  - ii. Teachers within the affected academic level(s) or department(s) who are certified and qualified for the remaining positions will be retained consistent with the factors set forth in this Policy.
  - iii. When a teaching position is identified for reduction and there exists a concurrently vacant teaching position for which the teacher in the position to be reduced is both certified and qualified, and the teacher has received an overall rating of at least effective on that teacher's most recent year-end performance evaluation, that teacher may be assigned to the vacant position consistent with Policy 4402 unless the Superintendent or designee determines that the District's educational interests would not be furthered by that assignment.

iv. If more than 1 teacher whose position has been identified for reduction is certified and qualified for a concurrently vacant teaching assignment, the Superintendent or designee will fill the vacancy consistent with Policy 4402, unless the Superintendent determines that the District's educational interests would not be furthered by that assignment.

v. [Choose Option 1 or 2:]

[Option 1: If the reduction or recall decision involves more than 1 teacher and all other factors distinguishing those teachers from each other are equal, seniority (as established by the most recent seniority list for the bargaining unit to which the teachers belong or, if none exists, the District's records) will determine preference for reduction or recall.]

[Option 2: If the reduction or recall decision involves more than 1 teacher and multiple teachers and all factors distinguishing those teachers from each other are equal, the Board may approve and implement a tiebreaker mechanism using a discrete part(s) of the evaluation system. For example, if the reduction or recall decision involves more than one teacher and all factors distinguishing those teachers from each other are equal, the teacher with the higher year-end effectiveness score reflected in the [insert Board preference] portion of the evaluation will have preference for reduction or recall, as applicable. If this year-end effectiveness score is also tied, seniority (as established by the most recent seniority list for the bargaining unit to which the tenured teachers belong or, if none exists, the District's records) will determine preference for reduction or recall.]

[Optional: At least 30 calendar days' notice of reduction in force will be provided, absent extenuating circumstances.]

## 2. Teacher Recall Process

- a. A teacher is eligible for recall under this Policy for [ ] months [recommended: 12] from the date the District implemented the reduction in force.
- b. The Superintendent will first identify the academic level(s) or department(s) where a teaching vacancy exists.
- c. Before or in lieu of initiating the recall of a laid-off teacher, the Superintendent may reassign teachers to fill vacancies in accordance with Policy 4402.
- d. After or in lieu of any reassignment of existing teaching staff, the Superintendent may take either of the following actions to fill a vacancy:
  - i. Recall the laid-off teacher who is certified and qualified for the vacancy, provided the teacher was rated at least effective. If more than 1 laid-off

teacher is certified and qualified for recall to a vacant teaching assignment, the Superintendent or designee will fill the vacancy consistent with Policy 4402; or

- ii. Post the vacancy and consider all applicants if the Superintendent determines that:
  - A) the District's educational interests would not be furthered by recalling an otherwise eligible laid-off teacher who meets the certification and qualification standards for the position, considering the factors in Policy 4402; or
  - B) no teacher on layoff meets the certification and qualification requirements for the position as otherwise stated herein.
- e. The Superintendent or designee will provide written notice of the Board's recall decision to any recalled teachers and will establish the time within which a teacher must accept recall to preserve the teacher's employment rights.
- f. A laid-off teacher who is offered an interview for a vacancy and who fails to appear at that interview forfeits all rights to recall and continued employment.
- g. A laid-off teacher who is recalled and fails to accept recall by the time designated in the recall notice, or who does not report for work by the deadline specified in the recall notice after filing a written acceptance of recall with the Superintendent, will forfeit all rights to recall and continued employment unless the Superintendent, in the Superintendent's sole discretion, has extended the time limit in writing.

If a collective bargaining agreement or individual employment contract governs reduction in force or recall, the Superintendent or designee will adhere to the applicable language.

**B. Reduction in Force and Recall of Non-Teaching Professionals and Teachers Not Subject to Revised School Code Section 1249**

For Non-Teaching Professionals and teachers not subject to Revised School Code Section 1249 who are governed by a collective bargaining agreement, the Superintendent will implement the collective bargaining agreement's standards and procedures that pertain to reduction in force or recall when recommending a reduction in force or recall to the Board.

If no collective bargaining agreement exists, or if an existing agreement does not address reduction in force or recall of Non-Teaching Professionals and teachers not subject to Revised School Code Section 1249, the Superintendent will recommend a reduction in force or recall among those employees using the same standards and procedures as set forth in this Policy for teachers.

### C. Unemployment Compensation

A Professional Staff employee who is laid off and who is paid unemployment compensation chargeable to the District during the summer immediately following a reduction in force and who is recalled on or before the beginning of the next school year will be paid according to an annual adjusted salary rate such that the employee's unemployment compensation received plus the adjusted annual salary rate will be equal to the annual rate of salary the employee would have earned for the school year had the employee not been laid off.

Legal authority: MCL 38.71 et seq.; MCL 380.11a, 380.601a, 380.1248, 380.1249, 380.1532; MCL 423.215

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## **Series 4000: District Employment**

### **4400 Professional Staff**

#### ***4406 Professional Improvement Sabbaticals***

The Board may, in its sole discretion and consistent with Revised School Code Section 1235 and any applicable collective bargaining agreement, approve a Professional Staff member's paid or unpaid leave of absence for the purposes of pursuing professional improvement (i.e., a sabbatical) or any other similar circumstance. A Professional Staff member seeking a leave of absence must apply in writing to the Superintendent or designee for presentation to the Board at least 60 days in advance. The leave of absence will be consistent with any applicable collective bargaining agreement or individual employment contract. If necessary, the Board will negotiate a letter of agreement with the appropriate bargaining unit to approve a Professional Staff Member's paid or unpaid leave of absence for the purposes of pursuing professional improvement or any other similar circumstance.

Legal authority: MCL 380.1235

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 4000: District Employment

### 4400 Professional Staff

#### 4407 Discipline

Maintaining appropriate procedures and standards for addressing misconduct and other inappropriate behavior by Professional Staff is a critical component in furthering an effective educational environment and in providing quality educational services to students. Off-duty conduct may result in discipline if it adversely impacts the District and is not a legally protected activity. Information about substantiated unprofessional conduct will not be suppressed or removed from a personnel file consistent with Revised School Code Section 1230b. This Policy must be implemented consistent with Policy 1101.

##### A. Probationary Professional Staff

Probationary Professional Staff discipline or demotion may occur for any lawful reason.

1. If the complaint alleges suspected child abuse or neglect, the matter must be immediately reported to Children's Protective Services.
2. An employee who is subject to an investigatory interview that may result in discipline or who reasonably believes an investigatory interview may result in discipline may bring a representative consistent with Policy 4108.
3. The Superintendent or designee is authorized to place a Professional Staff member on paid, non-disciplinary administrative leave pending the completion of an investigation when, in the judgment of the Superintendent or designee, placing the Professional Staff member on leave will protect the investigatory process or work environment.
4. Disciplinary measures may include warning, reprimand, unpaid suspension, financial penalty, or discharge. This Policy does not require that disciplinary measures be applied progressively or sequentially. The District may apply appropriate disciplinary measures for the circumstances. The District may also consider preventative measures, including training, coaching, and other remedial measures.
5. Discipline will be confirmed in writing and placed in that person's personnel file. The person's year-end performance evaluation may also reflect the discipline.
6. The Superintendent or designee is authorized to impose discipline except for:
  - a. nonrenewal of a probationary teacher; or
  - b. discharge of a probationary teacher.

The Board's action may be based upon the Superintendent's or designee's written recommendation and applicable procedures set forth in the Teachers' Tenure Act.

## B. Tenured and Non-Probationary Professional Staff

Tenured teacher discipline or demotion will occur only for a reason(s) that is not arbitrary or capricious. Likewise, the disciplining of Non-Teaching Professionals will be governed by the arbitrary or capricious standard unless expressly stated otherwise in a collective bargaining agreement, employee handbook, or individual employment contract. Under the arbitrary or capricious standard, a disciplinary decision must be supported by a preponderance of the evidence and the discipline must have a rational relationship to the established misconduct or inappropriate behavior.

Before imposing discipline, the Superintendent or designee will investigate whether a Professional Staff member engaged in conduct that may justify discipline. The investigation should include discussions with witnesses determined by the Superintendent or designee to have relevant information and a review of tangible evidence (e.g., documents, video, electronic communications). The Professional Staff member will be provided an opportunity to respond to the allegation(s).

If a Professional Staff member is governed by a collective bargaining agreement or individual employment contract, the Superintendent or designee will adhere to the disciplinary standards and procedures in that agreement. If the collective bargaining agreement or individual employment contract does not have an applicable provision, then the standards and procedures outlined below will apply.

The following procedures may be used for investigating allegations of Professional Staff misconduct or inappropriate conduct:

1. The Superintendent or designee may consult with legal counsel in appropriate cases and may request that legal counsel assist with an investigation.
2. The Superintendent or designee will give the Professional Staff member oral or written notice of the allegation(s).
3. If the complaint alleges suspected child abuse or neglect, the matter must be immediately reported to Children's Protective Services.
4. The Superintendent or designee will give oral or written notice of the time, date, and location of a meeting to provide the Professional Staff member with an opportunity to respond to the allegation(s) and substantiating factor(s).
5. An employee who is subject to an investigatory interview that may result in discipline or who reasonably believes an investigatory interview may result in discipline may bring a representative consistent with Policy 4108.

6. The Superintendent or designee is authorized to place a Professional Staff member on paid, non-disciplinary administrative leave pending the completion of an investigation when, in the judgment of the Superintendent or designee, placing the Professional Staff member on leave will protect the investigatory process or work environment.
7. If an investigation concludes that a preponderance of the evidence (i.e., more likely than not) establishes that the Professional Staff member engaged in conduct warranting discipline, the appropriate level of discipline will be guided by the following:
  - a. the seriousness of the offense;
  - b. the Professional Staff member's prior disciplinary and employment record;
  - c. whether other Professional Staff members have engaged in similar or like past conduct known to the District's administration and the discipline imposed for those infractions;
  - d. the existence of aggravating or mitigating factors, as determined by the Superintendent or designee;
  - e. applicable federal or state law;
  - f. the Professional Staff member's acceptance of responsibility;
  - g. the likelihood of recurrence; and
  - h. any other factors the Superintendent or designee determine are relevant.
8. Disciplinary measures may include:
  - a. warning;
  - b. reprimand;
  - c. unpaid suspension;
  - d. financial penalty; or
  - e. discharge.

This Policy does not require that disciplinary measures be applied progressively or sequentially. The District may apply appropriate disciplinary measure. The District may consider additional preventative measures to address the misconduct, including training, coaching, and other remedial measures.

9. Discipline will be confirmed in writing and placed in that person's personnel file. The discipline imposed may also be reflected in the person's year-end performance evaluation.

10. The Superintendent or designee is authorized to impose discipline except for:
- a. the discharge of a Professional Staff member; or
  - b. the demotion of a tenured teacher, as defined in the Teachers' Tenure Act.

The Board's action may be based on the Superintendent's or designee's written recommendation and applicable procedures in the Teachers' Tenure Act.

11. A tenured teacher's salary may be escrowed after tenure charges are approved by the Board pursuant to Policy 4208.

C. Extracurricular Positions, Including Athletic Coaches

Unless otherwise provided by an applicable collective bargaining agreement or individual employment contract, employees holding extracurricular positions, including athletic coaches, may be disciplined for any lawful reason. For contracted extracurricular positions, including athletic coaches, see Policy 4207.

Legal authority: MCL 38.71 et seq.; MCL 380.11a, 380.601a; *NLRB v J Weingarten, Inc*, 420 US 251 (1975)

Date adopted:

Dated revised:

## Series 4000: District Employment

### 4400 Professional Staff

#### 4408 Termination

This Policy must be implemented consistent with Policy 1101.

##### A. Probationary Teachers

For purposes of this Policy, the “termination” of a probationary teacher occurs when the probationary teacher is discharged during the term of an existing individual employment contract between the probationary teacher and the Board. Discontinuation of a probationary teacher’s employment at the expiration of an individual employment contract is not termination for purposes of this Policy and is addressed separately in Policy 4409.

The Board may terminate a probationary teacher for misconduct, inappropriate behavior, performance that is not effective, or for any other lawful reason at any time.

The Superintendent or designee may recommend the termination of a probationary teacher to the Board. The recommendation will include the reason(s) for the proposed termination.

Probationary teachers recommended for termination by the Superintendent or designee will be provided advance notice of the allegations; an opportunity for a hearing in closed or open session before the Board; and the time, date, and location of the Board hearing.

##### B. Tenured Teachers

The Superintendent or designee may recommend the termination of a tenured teacher by filing tenure charges with the Board. The Board will consider whether to proceed on the tenure charges or modify the charges. A tenured teacher may be terminated for a reason that is not arbitrary or capricious.

The tenured teacher may challenge the Board’s decision to discharge or demote the teacher by timely filing an appeal with the State Tenure Commission.

##### C. Non-Teaching Professionals and Teachers not subject to the Teachers’ Tenure Act (preschool, GSRP, or other teachers if they did not serve a probationary period under the Tenure Act)

[Choose Option 1 or 2:]

[Option 1: Unless otherwise provided by a collective bargaining agreement or individual employment contract: (1) a Non-Teaching Professional or teacher who is not subject to the Teachers’ Tenure Act is subject to 4 years of probationary service and may be non-renewed or terminated at-will by the Board; and (2) after

4 years, the non-probationary Non-Teaching Professional or teacher may be terminated for any reason that is not arbitrary or capricious, subject to due process.]

[Option 2: Unless otherwise provided by a collective bargaining agreement or individual employment contract, a Non-Teaching Professional or teacher who is not subject to the Teachers' Tenure Act may be terminated by the Board for any reason that is not arbitrary or capricious, subject to due process.]

The Superintendent or designee may recommend the termination of a Non-Teaching Professional or teacher to the Board. The recommendation will include the reason(s) for the proposed termination.

Non-Teaching Professionals or teachers recommended for termination by the Superintendent or designee will be provided advance written notice of the allegations; an opportunity for a hearing in closed or open session before the Board; and the time, date, and location of the Board hearing.

#### D. Extracurricular Positions, Including Athletic Coaches

Unless otherwise provided by a collective bargaining agreement or individual employment contract, extracurricular positions, including athletic coaches, may be non-renewed or terminated at-will by the Superintendent or designee. For contracted extracurricular positions, including athletic coaches, see Policy 4207.

Legal authority: MCL 38.83(2), 38.101, 38.121

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 4000: District Employment

### 4400 Professional Staff

#### 4409 Non-Renewal

For purposes of this Policy, “non-renewal” of a probationary teacher refers to the discontinuation of the employment relationship between the Board and a probationary teacher at the expiration of the probationary year following the process set forth in the Teachers’ Tenure Act.

Teachers must serve a probationary period as required by the Teachers’ Tenure Act. A probationary teacher’s contract may be non-renewed for performance-based reasons or any other lawful reason.

This Policy must be implemented consistent with Policy 1101.

#### A. Probationary Period

1. A probationary teacher rated developing or needing support may be subject to non-renewal consistent with the Teachers’ Tenure Act. To attain tenure, a probationary teacher must receive a “highly effective” or “effective” rating on 3 year-end performance evaluations, including their most recent evaluation and have completed at least 4 full school years of employment. A teacher’s probationary period may extend, or the probationary teacher may be nonrenewed, if the teacher does not receive 3 consecutive effective ratings during the probationary period.

For a teacher who previously held tenure in another Michigan public school district, the teacher is subject to a 2-year probationary period, unless the Board acts to reduce the teacher’s probationary period. The Board may make such a reduction if it determines that it is in the District’s best interest considering factors such as the teacher’s employment history; certifications, approvals, or authorizations; experience in subject matter or grade level; professional development, training, and academic preparation; and any other relevant factors as determined by the Board.

2. [Optional: Unless otherwise provided by a collective bargaining agreement or individual employment contract:
  - a. Non-Teaching Professionals who are not subject to the Teachers’ Tenure Act are subject to 4 years of probationary service and may be non-renewed or terminated at-will by the Board; and
  - b. After 4 years, the non-probationary Non-Teaching Professional may be non-renewed or terminated for any reason that is not arbitrary or capricious, subject to due process.]

#### B. Non-renewal

1. Probationary teacher non-renewal is subject to the non-renewal procedures specified in the Teachers' Tenure Act. This Policy will be implemented consistent with that statute.
  2. Before non-renewing a probationary teacher, the probationary teacher must receive written notice of the Superintendent's or designee's recommendation for non-renewal and the time, date, and place of the Board meeting at which the Board will consider the recommendation. The recommendation for non-renewal will state the reason(s) for the recommendation and may include supporting documentation.
  3. The probationary teacher must receive written notice of Board action to non-renew the teacher's contract at least 15 calendar days before the end of the school year (June 30) except as provided in subsection 4 below. If the teacher is hired after the beginning of the school year, notice of non-renewal must be received at least 15 calendar days before the teacher's anniversary date of hire.
  4. For a teacher who previously held tenure in another Michigan public school district, the teacher must receive written notice of non-renewal at least 60 calendar days before the completion of the probationary period.
- C. The probationary teacher will be provided an opportunity to address the Board in open or closed session and respond to the Superintendent's or designee's recommendation to non-renew.
- D. The Board must take action in open session on the recommendation to non-renew the probationary teacher.
- E. The probationary teacher must be served with written notice of the Board's action non-renewing the teacher's employment and a copy of the Board action within the timeframe required by the Teachers' Tenure Act. The non-renewal notice will specify that a probationary teacher has the right to appeal the timeliness or legal effect of a notice of non-renewal. The appeal must be filed with the State Tenure Commission within 20 calendar days after the probationary teacher's receipt of the notice of non-renewal. A copy of the Teachers' Tenure Act should also be included with the notice.
- F. Teachers who are not subject to the Teachers' Tenure Act may be non-renewed at the discretion of the Board for any lawful reason subject to an applicable collective bargaining agreement or individual employment contract. [Option: The teacher must have advance notice that the Board is considering nonrenewal and an opportunity to be heard. The teacher will receive written notice of a nonrenewal decision.]

Legal authority: MCL 38.81 et seq., 38.91 et seq.

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 4000: District Employment

### 4500 Administrators/Supervisors

#### 4501 Definition

An Administrator, Supervisor, or Director performs duties meeting the administrative or executive exemptions under the Fair Labor Standard Act. Administrators, Supervisors, and Directors report to the Superintendent or designee.

##### A. Administrators

Administrators manage, supervise, and oversee District curriculum, instructional programs, and instructional services. As a condition of continued employment, Administrators must hold and maintain certificates, licenses, credentials, and qualifications (collectively, the "Certification") as set by the Board or required by law, including Revised School Code Sections 1246 and 1536.

1. "Administrator" includes the building principal, assistant principal, assistant superintendent, and any other person whose primary responsibility is administering instructional programs, as well as the position of "chief business official" as defined in Revised School Code Section 1246.
2. If an Administrator's Certification expires, is nullified, or is revoked, the Administrator must immediately notify the Superintendent or designee, in writing.
3. Administrators will be subject to individual employment contracts not to exceed 3 years and may be governed by a collective bargaining agreement.
4. Administrators are subject to Revised School Code Section 1229(2) for purposes of non-renewal.

##### B. Non-Instructional Supervisors or Directors

Non-Instructional Supervisors or Directors include managerial personnel who are not Administrators within the definition of this Policy and who have the authority to direct, recommend, hire, discipline, and discharge personnel they supervise, including transportation, custodial, maintenance, or food service personnel. Non-Instructional Supervisors or Directors may be provided individual employment contracts not to exceed 3 years and may also be governed by a collective bargaining agreement.

Legal authority: MCL 380.1229, 380.1246, 380.1536

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## **Series 4000: District Employment**

### **4500 Administrators/Supervisors**

#### ***4502 Assignment and Transfer***

Consistent with an applicable collective bargaining agreement or individual employment contract, the Superintendent or designee is authorized to assign or transfer an Administrator, Supervisor, or Director to another Administrator, Supervisor, or Director position and realign duties and responsibilities. The compensation will be commensurate with duties and responsibilities established by the Board.

Legal authority: MCL 380.11a(3), 380.601a, 380.653

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 4000: District Employment

### 4500 Administrators/Supervisors

#### 4503 Performance Evaluation

Performance evaluations of Administrators are an essential element of providing quality educational services and measuring an employee's competency. This Policy does not alter the Board's authority or ability to terminate an Administrator's employment during the term of an individual employment contract or to non-renew an Administrator's contract at the end of the contract's term. This Policy must be implemented consistent with Policy 1101.

##### A. Building Level and Central Office Instructional Administrators

The Superintendent or designee will ensure that building level and central office Administrators who are regularly involved in instructional matters are evaluated consistent with a performance evaluation system under Revised School Code Sections 1249 and 1249b. This performance evaluation system will include, if appropriate, the following:

1. an annual evaluation process that meets statutory standards and is based on objective criteria;
2. an annual evaluation by the Superintendent or designee, unless the Administrator qualifies for a biennial evaluation. This paragraph does not preclude more frequent Administrator evaluations as determined necessary by the Superintendent or designee;
3. an individualized improvement plan if the Administrator is rated developing or needing support or if performance deficiencies are noted;
4. student growth and assessment data or student learning objectives, as defined by Revised School Code Section 1249;
5. an evaluation and feedback provided in writing with an overall effectiveness rating of effective, developing, or needing support;
6. dismissal of an Administrator rated ineffective or needing support on 3 consecutive evaluations;
7. opportunity for an Administrator rated needing support to request a review and appeal consistent with Revised School Code 1249b;
8. a mentor for an Administrator for the first 3 years in which the Administrator is in a new administrative position;
9. a midyear progress report each year that the administrator is evaluated that includes specific performance goals for the remainder of the year and any recommended training identified by the evaluator;

10. for a building level administrator's evaluation, the evaluator will visit the school building where the administrator works, review the building level school administrator's school improvement plan, and observe classrooms with the administrator to collect evidence of school improvement plan strategies being implemented and the impact the school improvement plan has on learning;
11. an evaluation tool approved by the MDE, a modified MDE tool, or a local evaluation tool adopted in compliance with Revised School Code Sections 1249 and 1249b;
12. website posting of required information pertaining to the evaluation tool;
13. appropriate training for evaluators; and
14. other components that the Superintendent or designee deems relevant, important, or in the District's best interest.

The Administrator's individual employment contract will include an appeal process concerning the evaluation process and rating received.

**B. Non-Instructional Administrators, Supervisors, and Directors**

The Superintendent or designee may evaluate Non-Instructional Administrators, Supervisors, and Directors based on the appropriate evaluation instrument as determined by the Board and consistent with any applicable collective bargaining agreement or individual employment contract. An individual improvement plan may be implemented to remediate and enhance employee performance.

Legal authority: MCL 380.11a, 380.601a, 380.1249, 380.1249b

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 4000: District Employment

### 4500 Administrators/Supervisors

#### 4504 *Performance Based Compensation for Administrators/Supervisors* [Optional]

[Note: If the Board elects not to adopt this Policy, delete the body of the policy and replace the title with “Intentionally Left Blank” after the policy number and in the Table of Contents to ensure accurate numbering of subsequent policies in the Policy Manual.]

The Superintendent or designee may implement a performance based compensation system for Administrators, Supervisors, and Directors. This Policy must be implemented consistent with Policy 1101.

Legal authority: MCL 380.11a

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 4000: District Employment

### 4500 Administrators/Supervisors

#### 4505 *Reduction and Recall*

The Board will determine the appropriate level and number of Administrators, Supervisors, and Directors necessary for curricular, fiscal, and other operating conditions.

The Board may determine that a reduction of administrative and supervisory personnel is warranted based on the Superintendent's or designee's recommendation.

The Superintendent or designee will first identify the recommended areas where reductions in the District's administrative and supervisory structure can best be accomplished consistent with the realization of District goals and objectives.

The Superintendent or designee will consider the following in making recommendations for the reduction and recall of Administrators, Supervisors, or Directors within the approved administrative structure: relevant experience, performance, disciplinary history, evaluations, qualifications, certification, relevant contract language, and other factors deemed relevant.

In implementing a reduction or recall, the Superintendent or designee may effectuate assignments and transfers as specified in Policy 4502.

The Board will consider and act on the Superintendent's or designee's recommendation(s) in open session.

If an Administrator selected for layoff has successfully completed a probationary period under the Teachers' Tenure Act, acquired tenure as a classroom teacher with the District, and maintained a valid teaching certificate on file with the District, the Administrator will be considered for placement to a teaching position for which the Administrator is properly certified and qualified consistent with the Teachers' Tenure Act and Policies 4402 and 4405.

An Administrator, Supervisor, or Director on layoff status may be eligible for recall to a vacant Administrator, Supervisor, or Director position for which that person is certified and qualified for a period of [ ] [Choose one: months / years] after the reduction in force was approved by the Board. An Administrator, Supervisor, or Director rated effective or highly effective will receive priority for recall to a vacant Administrator, Supervisor, or Director position for which that person is otherwise qualified over an Administrator, Supervisor, or Director rated minimally effective or ineffective.

Legal authority: MCL 38.71 et seq.; MCL 380.11a, 380.601a, 380.1249, 380.1249b, 380.1532

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 4000: District Employment

### 4500 Administrators/Supervisors

#### 4506 Discipline

The Superintendent or designee may discipline Administrators, Supervisors, or Directors for misconduct, violations of contract, Policy, or law, or other inappropriate behavior. Off-duty conduct may result in discipline if it adversely impacts the District and is not otherwise a legally protected activity. This Policy does not cover termination of an Administrator, Supervisor, or Director, which is addressed in Policy 4507.

Before discipline is imposed, the Administrator, Supervisor, or Director will be provided an opportunity to respond to the allegation(s).

An Administrator, Supervisor, or Director governed by a collective bargaining agreement or individual employment contract may be disciplined consistent with applicable procedures and standards in that agreement. An employee who is subject to an investigatory interview that may result in discipline or who reasonably believes an investigatory interview may result in discipline may bring a representative consistent with Policy 4108.

If the Superintendent or designee concludes, by a preponderance of the evidence, that the conduct in question has been substantiated and that discipline is warranted, the Superintendent or designee may discipline the employee so long as the basis for the discipline follows the standard(s) identified in the employee's applicable collective bargaining agreement or individual employment contract. If the employee is not subject to a collective bargaining agreement or individual employment contract, the Superintendent or designee may implement discipline for any lawful reason. The disciplinary action may be considered in the employee's performance evaluation. Written discipline will be placed in the employee's personnel file.

A suspension without pay may be imposed as a disciplinary consequence, consistent with the Fair Labor Standards Act, for infractions of safety rules of major significance or infractions of workplace conduct rules, such as rules prohibiting unlawful harassment, workplace violence, drug or alcohol use, or for infractions of state or federal laws. Disciplinary deductions may only be made in full-day increments and must be imposed pursuant to a written Policy applicable to all employees.

Evidence of substantiated unprofessional conduct cannot be suppressed or removed from a personnel file consistent with Revised School Code Section 1230b.

The Teachers' Tenure Act shall apply if an Administrator's tenure rights are implicated by the disciplinary action.

[Optional: Discipline that results in 5 days or more of lost compensation may be reviewed by the Board.]

Legal authority: 29 CFR 541.602(b)(5); MCL 380.11a, 380.601a, 380.653, 380.1230b,  
380.1249, 380.1249b; MCL 423.209

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 4000: District Employment

### 4500 Administrators/Supervisors

#### 4507 Termination

For purposes of this Policy, “termination” refers to a proposed action to discharge or permanently discontinue the employment of an Administrator, Supervisor, or Director during the term of an individual employment contract. Non-renewal at contract expiration is not a termination under this Policy and is addressed in Policy 4508.

Unless otherwise provided by an applicable collective bargaining agreement or individual employment contract, an Administrator, Supervisor, or Director may be terminated for any lawful reason. Off-duty conduct may result in termination if it adversely impacts the District and is not a legally protected activity.

The applicable collective bargaining agreement or individual employment contract will set forth the procedure for terminating an Administrator, Supervisor, or Director. If the applicable collective bargaining agreement or individual employment contract does not set forth a procedure, then the Superintendent or designee will provide written charges in support of the recommendation for discharge and notice of the Board hearing date, time, and location, to the Administrator, Supervisor, or Director in advance of a Board meeting on the charges. The employee may request a hearing in closed session, but the Board’s decision on the termination recommendation must be made in open session. If the employee requests a hearing, the employee has the right to bring legal counsel or another representative of the employee’s choice (at the employee’s expense) to hear and contest the evidence supporting the termination recommendation and to submit evidence in support of the employee’s retention.

The Board resolution or written correspondence identifying the reason(s) for the Board’s decision on termination will be placed in the employee’s personnel file.

If the employee holds tenure rights as a classroom teacher and the District seeks to terminate those tenure rights, the District will comply with the Teachers’ Tenure Act.

Legal authority: MCL 38.71 et seq.; MCL 380.1229(2), 380.1229(3)

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 4000: District Employment

### 4500 Administrators/Supervisors

#### 4508 Administrator Non-Renewal

##### A. Administrators Subject to Revised School Code Section 1229(2)

Administrator contract non-renewal may be subject to Revised School Code Section 1229(2) depending on the person's responsibilities, duties, and certification. If the non-renewal of an Administrator is subject to Revised School Code Section 1229(2), this Policy shall be implemented consistent with that statute.

"Non-renewal" is an action to discontinue an employment contract at contract expiration. Termination during the term of an existing employment contract is addressed in Policy 4507.

If Revised School Code Section 1229(2) applies, the non-renewal of an Administrator's individual employment contract must be preceded by a notice to the employee that the Board is considering non-renewal. Written notice of consideration of non-renewal must be given to the Administrator at least 90 calendar days before the expiration date of the Administrator's contract. The Administrator will be provided notice of the Board meeting at which the consideration of non-renewal will be reviewed and may request an open or closed session, where appropriate. The Board must act in open session on the recommendation to consider non-renewal.

The Superintendent or designee will notify the Administrator of the Board's decision to consider non-renewal, including a written statement of the reason(s). The employee may request to meet with a majority of the Board to discuss the reason(s) in open or closed session, where appropriate. The meeting with the majority of the Board to discuss the reason(s) it is considering non-renewal must take place following notice to the administrator of the consideration of non-renewal and before any action of non-renewal.

There must be a minimum of 30 calendar days between the time that the administrator is provided written notice that the Board is considering non-renewal, including a statement of the reason(s) for consideration of non-renewal, and the Board's action to renew or non-renew the administrator's individual employment contract. The resolution and notice of non-renewal must be provided to the administrator not less than 60 calendar days before the expiration date of the administrator's individual employment contract.

If the non-renewal is based on a reduction in personnel and not for a performance reason, the Board's review and action must take place in open session.

If the employee holds tenure rights as a classroom teacher and the District seeks to terminate those tenure rights, the District will comply with the Teachers' Tenure Act.

B. Non-Renewal of a Supervisor or Director

A Supervisor's or Director's contract may be non-renewed in accordance with the applicable individual employment contract or collective bargaining agreement. Absent any contractual guidance, recommendation of non-renewal will be presented to the Board at least [ ] calendar days before the contract expiration, stating the reason(s) for the recommendation. Advance written notice of the recommendation, the time, date, and location of the Board meeting, and option for closed session deliberation will be provided to the Supervisor or Director.

Legal authority: MCL 380.1229

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 4000: District Employment

### 4600 The Superintendent

#### 4601 General

##### A. Employment

Except in limited circumstances as otherwise allowed by law, the Board will employ a Superintendent as the District's chief administrative officer who will report to the Board. The Superintendent's individual employment contract will not exceed 5 years. The Superintendent will maintain appropriate certification, as well as comply with continuing education requirements, as a condition of continued employment. The Superintendent must immediately notify the Board if his or her certification expires or is nullified or revoked.

##### B. Duties and Responsibilities

The Superintendent will regularly advise the Board on significant legal, educational, financial, and other school-related developments affecting the District and the Board and will demonstrate exemplary leadership and knowledge of contemporary educational philosophy and effective practices.

The Superintendent will ensure compliance with requirements imposed by federal and state law, Policy, and governmental authorities with jurisdiction over Michigan schools. The Board delegates to the Superintendent the general power and authority to do the following, within Board-approved Policy and budgetary parameters:

1. direct curriculum and take actions to maximize student safety, welfare, and educational opportunities;
2. [Option: Suspend students up to 59 days and expel students consistent with Policy 5206];
3. ensure compliance with student disciplinary standards and procedures;
4. accept all employee resignations on the Board's behalf;
5. make other employment decisions consistent with these Policies, specifically including the right to hire, recall, transfer, assign, direct, discipline, and recommend or impose termination, as applicable;
6. develop and implement recruitment, application, and selection procedures to fill vacancies for Non-Exempt Staff, Teaching Professionals, Non-Teaching Professionals, Administrators, Supervisors, and Directors and to make hiring recommendations to the Board for approval, if applicable;

7. manage District grounds, buildings, property, and equipment and make determinations about their use, maintenance, improvements, purchases, and repairs in accordance with law;
8. temporarily close one or more of the District's schools or programs or alter the school day when the Superintendent determines that the action is necessary for the health and safety of students and staff;
9. maintain adequate supplies and materials for students and staff;
10. consult with outside advisors, attorneys, auditors, and others in the best interests of the District;
11. negotiate collective bargaining agreements and other contracts, subject to Board review and ratification;
12. serve as the Board's spokesperson and community liaison;
13. develop, recommend, and implement cooperative programs and services with other public and private entities that will promote attainment of District goals and objectives;
14. implement Board policies and supervise the District's day-to-day operations;
15. take action in circumstances not authorized by Board action or Policy when required to effectively run the District's day-to-day operations, to respond to a lawful order, or to implement rules to protect health and safety. The Superintendent should (1) inform the Board of the action taken and the need for expedited action; and (2) report the action to the Board during the first meeting following the action;
16. draft administrative guidelines and forms which are consistent with these Policies or the law to effectively run the District's operations; and
17. take action as permitted or required by law or as authorized by Board action or Policy.

#### C. Fiscal Management

The Superintendent, in consultation with other District personnel, will prepare and present to the Board a proposed annual District budget for the upcoming fiscal year. Budget adoption and amendments will be subject to Board approval. The Superintendent will furnish the Board with all information requested by the Board for proper consideration of the proposed budget. After the proposed budget is adopted by the Board at a public hearing held in compliance with the Budget Hearings of Local Government Act, the Superintendent, in consultation with the individual acting in the capacity of the District's business official, will oversee and control budget expenditures to ensure compliance with the budget adopted by the Board.

Legal authority: MCL 141.411 et seq.; MCL 380.11a, 380.601a, 380.653, 380.654,  
380.1229(1), 380.1229(4), 380.1246, 380.1536

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## **Series 4000: District Employment**

### **4600 The Superintendent**

#### **4602 *Hiring***

The Board will determine and select the best candidate to serve as the Superintendent, based on qualifications, experience, and demonstrated capabilities. The Board may enlist professional consultants, employees, community members, or others to assist with the recruitment and selection process.

Qualified candidates will possess and maintain certifications, permits, and approvals required by federal and state law for the office of Superintendent. The hiring process will comply with the Michigan Open Meetings Act.

Before hiring the selected candidate, an offer of employment will be conditioned on successful completion of a background check as described in Policy 4205.

The Board should consult with legal counsel when drafting the Superintendent's employment contract.

The Superintendent's employment contract shall not exceed five years in duration. If a Superintendent vacates the position before a new Superintendent is selected, the Board shall appoint an interim Superintendent to oversee operations until a new Superintendent is selected. Hiring decisions shall be based on qualifications, skills, knowledge, abilities, education, certifications/licenses, experience, demeanor, and other criteria the Board may deem relevant.

Legal authority: MCL 15.261 et seq.; MCL 380.1229(1), 380.1536

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 4000: District Employment

### 4600 The Superintendent

#### 4603 *Performance Evaluation*

Performance evaluations for the Superintendent are an essential element of providing quality educational services and measuring job performance and effectiveness. This Policy does not diminish the Board's authority or ability to either terminate the Superintendent's employment during the term of the Superintendent's employment contract or to non-renew the Superintendent's contract at its expiration.

The Board will ensure that the Superintendent is evaluated based on a performance evaluation system described in Revised School Code Sections 1249 and 1249b and the individual employment contract. The evaluation may include, where appropriate or required by law, the following components:

- A. an annual evaluation process that meets statutory standards and is based on objective criteria;
- B. an annual evaluation by the Board, unless the Superintendent qualifies for a biennial evaluation, provided that this does not limit the Board's right to conduct more frequent evaluations where deemed appropriate by the Board;
- C. an improvement plan if the Superintendent is evaluated as developing or needing support, or otherwise at the Board's discretion;
- D. student growth and assessment data or student learning objectives, as defined by Revised School Code Section 1249;
- E. an evaluation and feedback provided in writing with an overall effectiveness rating of effective, developing, or needing support;
- F. dismissal of a Superintendent rated ineffective or needing support on 3 consecutive evaluations;
- G. a midyear progress report for each year that the Superintendent is evaluated that includes specific performance goals for the remainder of the year and any recommended training identified by the Board;
- H. a tool approved by the MDE, a modified MDE tool, or a local evaluation tool adopted in compliance with Revised School Code Sections 1249 and 1249b;
- I. opportunity for a Superintendent rated needing support to request a review consistent with the procedure for other administrators under Revised School Code 1249b;
- J. website posting of required information pertaining to the evaluation tool;
- K. providing appropriate training for Board members; and

- L. other components that the Board deems relevant, important, or in the District's best interests.

The Superintendent's individual employment contract will include an appeal process concerning the evaluation process and rating received.

The Board, in its discretion, may provide periodic scheduled feedback about the Superintendent's performance.

Legal authority: MCL 380.11a, 380.601a, 380.1249, 380.1249b

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## **Series 4000: District Employment**

### **4600 The Superintendent**

#### ***4604 Absence/Incapacity***

If the Superintendent is physically or mentally incapacitated or if there is reason to believe that the Superintendent is unable to perform the duties of the position, pursuant to the Superintendent's individual employment contract and in accordance with federal and state law, the District may require the Superintendent to provide medical information or undergo a physical examination or psychological assessment to determine the Superintendent's ability to perform the duties of the position.

The Superintendent is a key employee as defined under the Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA), whose FMLA leave is limited to 12 weeks (60 work days). See Policy 4106.

If the Superintendent is incapacitated and has not requested leave or if there is reason to believe that the Superintendent cannot perform the duties of the position, the President, after consulting with legal counsel, may place the Superintendent on paid administrative leave pending review by the entire Board. The Superintendent's placement on paid administrative leave will be temporary while the Board determines appropriate action.

The President, subject to review and approval by the entire Board, may appoint a certified and qualified person as the acting Superintendent until the Superintendent can return or a successor is hired.

To promote accountability, where the Superintendent takes leave authorized by the Superintendent employment contract or District Policy, the Superintendent will notify the President and will maintain contemporaneous absence records.

Legal authority: 42 USC 12112; 29 CFR 825.312; MCL 380.1229

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 4000: District Employment

### 4600 The Superintendent

#### 4605 *Gifts and Donations*

##### A. Accepting Gifts or Donations on Behalf of the District

The Superintendent or designee is authorized to accept donations on behalf of the Board in accordance with Policy 3303. Donations may not be accepted by a particular school or department without express permission from the Board or Superintendent or designee.

##### B. Accepting Personal Gifts

The Superintendent shall not solicit or accept anything of value for the Superintendent's direct or indirect personal benefit that may influence or reasonably be perceived to influence decision making or otherwise create an actual or perceived conflict of interest.

##### C. Gift Giving with Public Funds

Public funds may be used to purchase a plaque, medal, trophy, or other award for recognition of an employee, volunteer, or pupil if the purchase does not exceed statutory monetary limits; except, funds shall not be used to purchase alcoholic beverages, jewelry, fees for golf, or any item which is illegal, as consistent with and permitted by Policy 3205.

Legal authority: MCL 380.11a(3), 380.634, 380.1814

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## **Series 4000: District Employment**

### **4600 The Superintendent**

#### ***4606 Discipline and Termination***

The Board may discipline or discharge the Superintendent in conformance with the procedures and standards set forth in the Superintendent's individual employment contract with the Board. Where there is reason to believe that the Superintendent has engaged in conduct, performance, or behavior that warrants discipline, the President has the authority to place the Superintendent on paid administrative leave after consultation with legal counsel and pending investigation and further Board action.

If the President receives a complaint against the Superintendent that warrants review at a Board meeting, the Board may convene in open session or closed session at the Superintendent's request, to consider the complaint.

When considering whether discharge or a long-term unpaid disciplinary suspension is appropriate, the Board will provide the Superintendent with advance written notice of disciplinary charges and an opportunity for a hearing at a Board meeting. The Superintendent may request closed session consideration of the complaint or charges. If the Board is considering discharge or a long-term unpaid disciplinary suspension of the Superintendent, and the Superintendent requests a hearing, the Superintendent has the right to bring legal counsel (at the Superintendent's expense) to hear and contest the evidence supporting the discharge or long-term suspension and to submit evidence opposing the discipline.

If the Board concludes, by a preponderance of the evidence, that discharge or a long-term unpaid disciplinary suspension is warranted, the Board may discharge or suspend the Superintendent so long as the basis follows the standards identified in the Superintendent's employment contract. If the Superintendent's individual employment contract does not include a discipline provision, the Board may implement discipline for any lawful reason. Written discipline will be placed in the Superintendent's personnel file.

A suspension without pay may be imposed as a disciplinary consequence, consistent with the FLSA, for infractions of safety rules of major significance or infractions of workplace conduct rules, such as rules prohibiting unlawful harassment, workplace violence, drug or alcohol use, or for infractions of state or federal laws. Disciplinary deductions may only be made in full-day increments and must be imposed pursuant to a written Policy applicable to all employees.

The Superintendent's discharge will not negate residual rights that the Superintendent may have acquired under the Teachers' Tenure Act. Tenure charges seeking the Superintendent's discharge may be issued if appropriate.

Evidence of substantiated unprofessional conduct cannot be suppressed or removed from a personnel file consistent with Revised School Code Section 1230b.

If the Superintendent fails to comply with certification, permit, or continuing education standards as required by law, the Superintendent's contract terminates immediately.

Legal authority: 29 CFR 541.602(b)(5); MCL 15.268(a); MCL 380.11a(3)(d), 380.601a, 380.1230b

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## **Series 4000: District Employment**

### **4600 The Superintendent**

#### ***4607 Non-Renewal***

The Board may, in its discretion, non-renew the Superintendent's individual employment contract effective at the end of the contract term. The Board must provide written notice of the non-renewal to the Superintendent at least 90 days before the contract expires, as provided by Revised School Code Section 1229(1). Failure to provide at least 90 days' advance written notice of non-renewal will result in extending the Superintendent's contract for an additional 1-year period.

Legal authority: MCL 380.1229(1)

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters

### 5100 Student Rights

#### 5101 Student Expression

The District will balance student speech and expression rights with its responsibility to provide a safe, orderly learning environment.

Students may not engage in speech or expressive conduct that would materially and substantially interfere with or disrupt school operations, including school activities and educational programming. An actual disruption is not required before school officials may regulate student speech or impose discipline if they can reasonably forecast a substantial and material disruption or interference with school operations.

Students may be disciplined for speech or expressive conduct that: is materially and substantially disruptive or that school officials can reasonably forecast will create a substantial disruption; is obscene, sexually explicit, indecent, or lewd; promotes the use of or advertises illegal substances; incites violence; contains “fighting words” or constitutes a true threat of violence; [Optional: constitutes hate speech or symbols, including, but not limited to, swastikas or Confederate flags]; involves a student walkout; incites a violation of law, Board Policy, or rule; or is not constitutionally protected. Administrators will evaluate student speech on a case-by-case basis, including the location, context, and nexus to the school, before imposing discipline.

Student activism is subject to the above standards.

As used in this Policy, “fighting words” are words that tend to provoke a violent response amounting to a breach of the peace.

Legal authority: U.S. CONST. amend. I; Const 1963, art I, § 5; *Tinker v Des Moines Indep Community Sch Dist*, 393 US 503 (1969)

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## **Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters**

### **5100 Student Rights**

#### **5102 Lockers**

Lockers are District property and may be made available for student use. Lockers are assigned to students on a temporary basis, and District administration may revoke a student's locker assignment at any time. The District retains ownership of lockers notwithstanding student use.

Students have no expectation of privacy in their lockers. The building principal or designee may inspect lockers without any particularized suspicion or reasonable cause and without advance notice. Upon the building principal or designee's request, law enforcement may help search lockers.

During a locker search, student privacy rights will be respected for any items that are not illegal or against Board Policy.

The Board directs the Superintendent to include this Policy in the student code of conduct and to distribute it to Parents.

Legal authority: MCL 380.1306

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## **Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters**

### **5100 Student Rights**

#### **5103 Search and Seizure**

School officials may search a student and the student's belongings if they have reasonable suspicion that the search will reveal contraband or evidence of a violation of law, Board Policy, or rule. In rare cases, school officials may conduct a search without reasonable suspicion if there is an imminent threat of physical harm or death.

A reasonable suspicion search must be justified at its inception and reasonable in its scope. A search is justified at its inception when school officials have reasonable grounds to suspect that the search will uncover contraband or evidence of a violation of law, Policy, or rule. A search is reasonable in scope when the measures used are reasonably related to the search objectives and are not excessively intrusive in light of the student's age and sex and the nature of the infraction.

School officials are not required to have reasonable suspicion to search lockers or other District property. See Policy 5102.

The District may use detection dogs to search for contraband on District property consistent with Policy 3107.

A breath alcohol test is a search and may be administered upon reasonable suspicion that a student has consumed or is under the influence of alcohol. For voluntary, noncurricular school activities (e.g., school dances), suspicionless breath alcohol tests may be administered for student health and safety purposes if students and their Parents have been provided advance written notice.

Strip searches are prohibited.

The building principal or designee will turn over to law enforcement any confiscated dangerous weapons, as defined in Policy 5206. For all other confiscated contraband and evidence, the building principal or designee may turn the item over to law enforcement or store it in a secure place at school until a disciplinary hearing.

This Policy does not apply to any outside entity that may require drug or breath alcohol testing as a condition of participation. See Policy 5105.

Legal authority: MCL 380.1306, 380.1313(2)

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters

### 5100 Student Rights

#### 5104 Age of Majority

State law recognizes students are adults at age 18 or when otherwise legally emancipated. Except as noted below, all Board Policies, applicable codes of conduct, and any other applicable rules or behavioral expectations apply to all students regardless of age.

Unless inconsistent with a court order, students who are 18 years or older or legally emancipated may:

- A. access or control their student records as provided by law;
- B. make decisions related to special education and Section 504;
- C. request a personal curriculum;
- D. represent themselves during disciplinary conferences;
- E. have other rights or privileges as determined by the Superintendent or designee;
- F. [Optional] sign themselves in and out of school; and
- G. [Optional] provide reason(s) for their absences and tardies.

Eligible students who wish to assert these rights must notify the building principal in writing. Otherwise, sections D-G above will not apply. The building principal or designee may notify an eligible student's Parent that the eligible student has exercised the rights listed under this Policy.

Legal authority: MCL 380.1278b; MCL 722.4, 722.52

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## **Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters**

### **5100 Student Rights**

#### ***5105 Collaboration with Outside Entities***

The District may, from time to time, collaborate with outside entities to offer programming to students. Nothing in these Board Policies, including, without limitation, protocols for student searches and seizures, student discipline, interrogation of students, and seclusion and restraint, may be interpreted to interfere with any rule, regulation, or policy imposed by an outside entity with which the District cooperates or collaborates, except as otherwise prohibited by law.

Date adopted:

Date revised:

**Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters**

**5100 Student Rights**

**5106 *Intentionally Left Blank***

## Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters

### 5200 Student Conduct and Discipline

#### ***5201 Investigations, Arrests, and Other Law Enforcement Contact***

The Board desires to maintain a positive working relationship with law enforcement agencies while protecting student rights and educational needs.

“Law enforcement officer” means a county sheriff or deputy sheriff; an officer of a city, village, or township police department; a city, village, or township marshal; a constable; a Michigan State Police officer; a federal law enforcement officer; an investigator of the state Department of Attorney General; a U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agent; a Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI) agent; or any other person who has the legal authority to investigate criminal activity or to effectuate an arrest.

#### A. Student Records

District personnel may only share personally identifiable information from a student’s education record with law enforcement officers pursuant to Policy 5309 and state and federal law.

#### B. Reporting to Law Enforcement

A District administrator may contact a law enforcement officer any time the administrator suspects criminal activity; activity that threatens the health or safety of a student; or activity that disrupts or potentially disrupts the school environment.

#### C. School Related Criminal Activity

School related criminal activity is alleged or suspected criminal activity that occurs on school grounds, at a school-sponsored activity or athletic event, or in a vehicle owned or used by the District.

Law enforcement officers may contact and question students at school about school-related criminal activity as provided below.

A law enforcement officer must notify the building principal or designee before questioning a student at school. The building principal or designee must request the law enforcement officer’s identification before allowing the student to be questioned.

The building principal or designee will make reasonable attempts to contact a student’s Parent before the student is questioned by law enforcement. If the student is 18 years or older or is emancipated, the building principal will make reasonable attempts to contact the student’s Parent, if requested by the student. If a Parent cannot be reached after reasonable attempts, the student may be questioned only if the law enforcement officer identifies emergency circumstances requiring immediate questioning. A building principal or designee will be present

for the questioning. The student will be questioned in a private room and out of sight of others as much as practicable.

The law enforcement officer is responsible for advising the student of all applicable rights, including the right against self-incrimination.

If at any time the building principal or designee believes that the law enforcement officer's questioning is being conducted in an inappropriate manner, the building principal or designee will request that the questioning cease.

#### D. Non-School Related Criminal Activity

Unless specifically authorized by law, a law enforcement officer may not question a student at school about non-school related criminal activity without Parent consent or an appropriate warrant or court order.

#### E. Taking a Student into Custody

A law enforcement officer seeking to take a student into custody must contact the building principal or designee. If practicable, the building principal or designee will request that the law enforcement officer provide a copy of the warrant, written Parent consent, court order, or other document authorizing the officer to take the student into custody. If the law enforcement officer takes a student into custody, the building principal or designee will obtain and record the officer's name, badge number, and law enforcement agency; the date, time, and reason for the arrest; and the location to which the student is reportedly being taken.

Whenever practicable, a student should be taken into custody in a manner that minimizes observation by others and disruption to the educational environment.

When a law enforcement officer removes a student from school, the building principal or designee will take immediate steps to notify the student's Parent about the student's removal and the location to which the student is reportedly being taken, except when a student has been taken into custody as a victim of suspected child abuse or neglect.

#### F. [Optional: Notification to Superintendent or Designee

The building principal or designee will promptly notify the Superintendent any time a law enforcement officer seeks or demands to question a student, take a student into custody, or remove a student from school.]

#### G. Child Abuse and Neglect

This Policy does not govern child abuse and neglect investigations. See Policy 5701.

Nothing in this Policy limits the authority of District personnel to question a student about suspected misconduct or investigate suspected misconduct at school.

Legal authority: MCL 380.11a

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## **Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters**

### **5200 Student Conduct and Discipline**

#### ***5202 Unlawful Discrimination, Harassment, and Retaliation Against Students***

The District prohibits unlawful discrimination. “Unlawful Discrimination” includes unlawful harassment and retaliation, unless specifically stated otherwise. The District will investigate all allegations of Unlawful Discrimination and will take appropriate action, including discipline, against any person who, following an investigation, is determined to have engaged in Unlawful Discrimination.

Complaints alleging Unlawful Discrimination, harassment, and Retaliation against a student will be investigated using the process outlined in Policies 3115-3115H.

Complaints alleging Title IX sexual harassment will be investigated using the Grievance Process outlined in Policy 3118.

The identities of the District’s Title IX Coordinator, Section 504 Coordinator, and Civil Rights Coordinator are listed in Policy 3115B.

#### **A. Student Handbooks**

The Superintendent or designee will include in student handbooks a statement explaining the District’s policy against Unlawful Discrimination, including unlawful harassment and Retaliation. This statement must include an explanation of types of Unlawful Discrimination, examples of harassment, reporting requirements, and consequences as described in this Policy.

#### **B. Reporting Requirements**

District personnel must immediately report incidents of alleged Unlawful Discrimination, including incidents that District personnel witness or about which they receive reports or information, regardless of whether the incidents are verbal, visual, or physical, and whether the incidents also constitute harassment, bullying, or hazing.

District personnel who witness an act of Unlawful Discrimination must intervene immediately, unless circumstances would make intervention dangerous. A person who is unable to intervene should promptly attempt to find another person who is able to intervene, contact a building administrator, or contact law enforcement, as the situation requires.

Any student who witnesses an act of Unlawful Discrimination is encouraged to report it to District personnel. No student will be retaliated against based on any report of suspected Unlawful Discrimination. A student may also anonymously report an incident of Unlawful Discrimination. The District will investigate anonymous reports to the extent possible pursuant to Policies 3115-3115H or Policy 3118, as applicable. Minor students do not need Parent permission to file a

Complaint or participate in the Grievance Procedure described in Policies 3115-3115H and 3118.

### C. Office for Civil Rights

Any person who believes that he or she was the victim of Unlawful Discrimination may file a complaint with the Office for Civil Rights (OCR) at any time:

U.S. Department of Education  
Office for Civil Rights  
Cesar E. Chavez Memorial Building  
1244 Speer Boulevard, Suite 310  
Denver, CO 80204-3582  
Telephone: 303-844-5695  
FAX: 303-844-4303; TDD: 800-877-8339  
Email: [OCR.Denver@ed.gov](mailto:OCR.Denver@ed.gov)

An OCR complaint may be filed before, during, or after filing a Complaint with the District. A person may forego filing a Complaint with the District and instead file a complaint directly with OCR. The District recommends that a person who has been subjected to Unlawful Discrimination also file a Complaint with the District to ensure that the District is able to take steps to prevent any further discrimination and to discipline the alleged perpetrator, if appropriate. OCR does not serve as an appellate body for District decisions. An investigation by OCR will occur separately from any District investigation.

Legal authority: 20 USC 1400 et seq., 1681 et seq.; 29 USC 206 et seq., 621 et seq., 701 et seq., 794, 2601 et seq., 6101 et seq.; 38 USC 4301 et seq.; 42 USC 1983, 2000d et seq., 2000e et seq., 2000ff et seq., 6101 et seq., 12101 et seq.; 29 CFR 1604.1 et seq., 1635; 34 CFR 106.1, et seq.; MCL 37.1101 et seq., 37.2101 et seq.

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters

### 5200 Student Conduct and Discipline

**5206A Student Discipline - Due Process** [Note: This Policy complies with all relevant laws and rules and reflects the most common practices to address student discipline. If this Policy does not reflect your District's practices, Thrun Law Firm will work with you to modify the Policy to incorporate your District's practices consistent with applicable law.]

The District will provide students due process to the extent required by state and federal law before a student is suspended or expelled. All District administrators must respect student due process rights.

If a District administrator determines that an emergency exists that requires the immediate removal of a student from school, the administrator may contact the student's Parent or local law enforcement or take other measures to have the student safely removed from school. The administrator must, as soon as practicable thereafter, follow the procedures outlined in this Policy.

#### A. Building Administrator – 10 or Fewer School Days

Before suspending a student for 10 or fewer school days, an administrator must: (1) provide the student verbal notice of the offense the student is suspected to have committed, and (2) provide the student an informal opportunity to explain what happened. Except in emergency circumstances, an administrator will not suspend the student unless, after providing the student notice and an opportunity to explain, the administrator is reasonably certain that the student committed a violation of the student code of conduct and that suspension is the appropriate consequence.

#### B. Superintendent or Designee – 59 or Fewer School Days

Before suspending a student for more than 10 school days but less than 60 school days, the Superintendent or designee must provide the Parent or student with: (1) written notice of the offense the student is suspected to have committed; (2) an explanation of the evidence relied upon by the District in arriving at the conclusion that disciplinary action may be warranted; and (3) an opportunity for a hearing at which the student may present evidence and witnesses to show that the student did not commit the alleged offense or that suspension is not an appropriate consequence. The Superintendent or designee will provide the Parent or student at least 3 calendar days' notice before the hearing. The Parent and student may be represented, at their cost, by an attorney or another adult advocate at the hearing. The Superintendent or designee will not suspend the student unless, following the hearing, he or she is convinced by a preponderance of the evidence that the student committed a violation of the student code of conduct and that suspension is the appropriate consequence. [Optional (not required but recommended): A Parent or student may appeal the Superintendent's or

designee's decision to the Board. The appeal must be submitted to the Board within 3 calendar days of the decision. The Board will hear the appeal at its next regularly scheduled meeting. The Board's decision is final. The student's suspension will run while the appeal is pending.]

### C. Board Suspension or Expulsion

Before the Board suspends or expels a student, the Superintendent or designee must provide the Parent or student with: (1) written notice of the offense the student is suspected to have committed; (2) an explanation of the evidence relied upon by the District in arriving at the conclusion that disciplinary action may be warranted; and (3) an opportunity for a Board hearing at which the student may present evidence and witnesses to show that the student did not commit the suspected offense or that suspension or expulsion is not an appropriate consequence. The Superintendent or designee will provide the Parent or student at least 3 calendar days' notice before the hearing. The Parent and student may be represented, at their cost, by an attorney or another adult advocate at the hearing. The Board will not suspend or expel the student unless, following the hearing, a majority of the Board finds by a preponderance of the evidence that the student committed misconduct that should result in suspension or expulsion under either the student code of conduct or this Policy and that suspension or expulsion is the appropriate consequence. The Board's decision is final.

Legal authority: *Goss v Lopez*, 419 US 565 (1975)

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters

### 5200 Student Conduct and Discipline

#### ***5206B Student Discipline - Students with Disabilities***

The District will follow all applicable state and federal laws related to disciplining students with disabilities. Students with disabilities are entitled to all due process protections afforded to other students pursuant to Policy 5206A. For students with disabilities, the additional procedures and protections in this Policy also apply.

#### A. Change of Placement

On the date on which the District decides to: (1) expel a student with a disability; (2) remove a student with a disability for more than 10 consecutive school days; (3) remove a student with a disability for more than 10 cumulative school days in the same school year if a pattern of removals exists; or (4) place a student with a disability in an interim alternative educational setting (explained below), the District will notify the student's Parent of that decision, will provide the Parent a copy of applicable procedural safeguards, and will conduct a manifestation determination review (MDR) within 10 school days.

#### B. Manifestation Determination Review

The MDR team, which includes the Parent and relevant members of the student's IEP or Section 504 Team, will determine whether the student's conduct was a manifestation of the student's disability.

##### 1. Conduct Was a Manifestation

If the conduct was a manifestation of the student's disability, the District must immediately return the student to the placement from which the student was removed unless the Parent and the District agree to change the placement or the student is placed in an interim alternative educational setting for up to 45 school days (see section C).

For a student with an IEP, if the conduct was a manifestation of the student's disability, the District must either: (1) conduct a functional behavioral assessment (unless one was previously conducted) and implement a behavior intervention plan for the student; or (2) if a behavior intervention plan was already developed, review and modify the behavior intervention plan to address the conduct at issue.

If the conduct was a manifestation because the District failed to implement the student's IEP or 504 Plan, the District must take immediate steps to remedy the implementation failure.

##### 2. Conduct Was Not a Manifestation

If the conduct was not a manifestation of the student's disability, the District may proceed with the suspension or expulsion by adhering to the due process requirements in Policy 5206A.

If the student has an IEP, the District must, as appropriate, conduct a functional behavioral assessment and develop a behavior intervention plan or other behavioral modifications for the student to prevent the behavior from recurring.

### C. Interim Alternative Educational Setting ("IAES")

The District may remove a student with a disability who engages in any of the following conduct to an IAES for not more than 45 school days, even if the conduct is a manifestation of the student's disability:

1. carrying a weapon to or possessing a weapon at school, on school premises, or to or at a school function;
2. knowingly possessing or using illegal drugs, or selling or soliciting the sale of a controlled substance, while at school, on school premises, or at a school function; or
3. inflicting serious bodily injury upon another person while at school, on school premises, or at a school function.

For purposes of this section only, a "weapon" means a device, instrument, material, or substance, animate or inanimate, that is used for, or is readily capable of, causing death or serious bodily injury. A "weapon" does not include a pocket knife with a blade of less than 2½ inches in length.

No student with a disability may be removed to an IAES without first receiving the due process rights afforded under Policy 5206A.

If the student has an IEP, the District must, as appropriate, conduct a functional behavioral assessment and develop a behavior intervention plan or other behavioral modifications for the student to prevent the behavior from continuing.

### D. Dangerous Students

The District may remove a dangerous student from school as permitted by law. District administrators must follow all state and federal laws governing the removal of dangerous students with disabilities.

### E. Services During Disciplinary Removal or IAES

A student who is eligible for services under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) who is expelled or suspended for more than 10 school days during a school year or placed in a 45-school day IAES is entitled to receive programs and services, although in a setting other than the regular school setting, that are sufficient to enable the student to participate in the general education

curriculum and to progress toward meeting the goals contained in the student's IEP.

#### F. Students Not Yet IDEA Eligible

A student who is not currently identified as a student with a disability under the IDEA is entitled to the rights and procedures provided to students with disabilities if the District had knowledge that the student was a student with a disability before the misconduct occurred. The District is deemed to have knowledge that a student was a student with a disability only if: (1) the student's Parent expressed concern in writing to a school administrator that the student needed special education or related services; (2) the student's Parent requested a special education evaluation; or (3) the student's teacher or other District personnel expressed specific concerns about a pattern of behavior demonstrated by the student to the District's special education director or to other supervisory personnel. The District will not be deemed to have knowledge that the student was a student with a disability if: (1) the student's Parent refused to allow the District to evaluate the student; (2) the student's Parent refused special education for the student; or (3) the student was previously evaluated and determined to not be a student with a disability.

This Policy does not provide a comprehensive description of the disciplinary rights and procedures due to students with disabilities. District administrators must ensure that the rights of students with disabilities are protected and all procedures applicable to students with disabilities are followed as required by the IDEA, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, state law, and Board Policy.

Legal authority: 20 USC 1401 et seq., 7151; 29 USC 705, 794-794b; MCL 380.1308-1310, 380.1310a, 380.1310c, 380.1310d, 380.1311, 380.1311a, 380.1312, 380.1313

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters

### 5200 Student Conduct and Discipline

#### ***5206C Student Discipline - Reinstatement Following Expulsion***

The District will consider a petition for reinstatement from an expelled student or the Parent consistent with this Policy and Revised School Code Sections 1311 and 1311a.

##### A. Reinstatement Following Mandatory Permanent Expulsion

The Parent of a student who was in grade 5 or below at the time of expulsion and who was expelled for possessing a firearm or threatening another person with a dangerous weapon may file a petition for reinstatement 60 school days or later from the date of the expulsion. The Board, in its discretion, may reinstate a student who was in grade 5 or below at the time of expulsion and who was expelled for possessing a firearm or threatening another person with a dangerous weapon no sooner than 90 school days after the expulsion date.

The Parent of a student who was in grade 5 or below at the time of expulsion and who was expelled for possessing a dangerous weapon but not for possessing a firearm or threatening another person with a dangerous weapon, or who was expelled for committing arson or criminal sexual conduct, may file a petition for reinstatement at any time. The Board, in its discretion, may reinstate a student who was in grade 5 or below at the time of expulsion and who was expelled for possessing a dangerous weapon (unless the possession was of a firearm or involved threatening another person with a dangerous weapon) or for committing arson or criminal sexual conduct no sooner than 10 school days after the expulsion date.

The Parent of a student (or student, if emancipated or at least 18 years old) who was in grade 6 or above at the time of expulsion and who was expelled for (1) possessing a dangerous weapon; (2) committing arson; (3) criminal sexual conduct pursuant to Policy 5206 H.3 (mandatory expulsion) or (4) physically assaulting an employee, volunteer, or contractor, may file a petition for reinstatement 150 school days or later from the date of the expulsion. The Board, in its discretion, may reinstate a student who was in grade 6 or above at the time of expulsion and who was expelled for (1) possessing a dangerous weapon; (2) committing arson; (3) criminal sexual conduct pursuant to Policy 5206 H.3; or (4) physically assaulting an employee, volunteer, or contractor, no sooner than 180 school days after the expulsion date.

The Parent (or the student, if emancipated or at least 18 years old) must prepare and submit the reinstatement petition. The Superintendent or designee will provide a reinstatement petition form, upon request, for the Parent or student to use. The Board may request that the Parent or the student attach additional relevant information to the reinstatement petition.

The Board will appoint a reinstatement committee, consisting of two board members, one administrator, one teacher, and one Parent of a current District student to consider a reinstatement petition no more than 10 school days after receiving a reinstatement petition. The Superintendent must prepare and submit information to the reinstatement committee about the circumstances surrounding the student's expulsion and any factors supporting and not supporting reinstatement.

The reinstatement committee must convene not later than 10 school days following its appointment to: (1) review the reinstatement petition and supporting documentation submitted by the Parent or the student; (2) review the information submitted by the Superintendent; and (3) submit to the Board a written recommendation whether the Board should unconditionally reinstate the student, conditionally reinstate the student, or deny reinstatement to the student based on consideration of all of the following factors:

1. the extent to which reinstatement would create a risk of harm to other students or District personnel;
2. the extent to which reinstatement would create a risk of District liability or individual liability for the Board or District personnel;
3. the student's age and maturity;
4. the student's school record before the incident that caused the expulsion;
5. the student's attitude concerning the incident that caused the expulsion;
6. the student's behavior since the expulsion and the student's prospects for remediation; and
7. if the petition was filed by a Parent, the degree of cooperation that the Parent has provided the student and the degree of cooperation the Parent can be expected to provide the student if the student is reinstated.

Before making its recommendation, the reinstatement committee may request that the student and the Parent appear in person to answer questions. If the committee recommends that the student be conditionally reinstated, the committee must include in its written recommendation to the Board a list of recommended conditions.

At or before its next regularly scheduled meeting following receipt of the reinstatement committee's recommendation, the Board will consider the recommendation and make a final decision to unconditionally reinstate the student, conditionally reinstate the student, or deny reinstatement. The Board may require a student, and if the petition was filed by a Parent, the Parent, to agree in writing to specific conditions to reinstatement, including, without limitation, a behavior contract, completion of an anger management program, a "last-chance" agreement, counseling, drug treatment, or a psychological evaluation. The District

is not obligated to provide or to pay for any reinstatement condition imposed by the Board. Upon request of the District, Parents (or the student, if emancipated or at least 18 years old) will provide verification that the conditions were satisfied. The Board's decision to unconditionally grant, conditionally grant, or deny the reinstatement petition is final.

[Optional: If the Board denies reinstatement, the Parent or student may not file another petition for reinstatement until 180 school days after the date of the denial, unless the Board specifies otherwise at the time of denial.]

If the Board establishes different or additional reinstatement terms or procedures at the time of expulsion pursuant to Revised School Code Section 1310d, those terms or procedures will apply in lieu of or in addition to the procedures above.

#### B. Reinstatement Following Discretionary Permanent Expulsion

Unless otherwise expressly authorized by the Board at the time of a permanent expulsion, a student expelled for reasons other than those resulting in a mandatory permanent expulsion under Policy 5206 may not petition the Board for reinstatement until at least 150 school days after the date of the expulsion, and the student may not be reinstated until at least 180 school days after the date of the permanent expulsion. Upon receipt of a timely reinstatement petition, the Board will review and consider the petition at its next regularly scheduled meeting. The Board will also review and consider any information submitted by the Parent or student and the Superintendent or designee in either support of or opposition to the petition. The Board may unconditionally grant, conditionally grant, or deny the reinstatement petition. The District is not obligated to provide or to pay for any reinstatement condition imposed by the Board. Upon request of the District, Parents (or students who are emancipated or at least 18 years old) will provide verification that the conditions were satisfied. The Board's decision to unconditionally grant, conditionally grant, or deny the reinstatement petition is final. If the Board denies reinstatement, the Parent or student may not file another petition for reinstatement until at least 180 school days after the date of the denial, unless the Board specifies otherwise at the time of denial.

Legal authority: 18 USC 921; 20 USC 1401 et seq.; 20 USC 7151; 29 USC 705, 794-794b; MCL 380.1308-1310, 380.1310a, 380.1310c, 380.1310d, 380.1311, 380.1311a, 380.1312, 380.1313

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters

### 5200 Student Conduct and Discipline

**5206D Student Discipline - Enrollment Following Misconduct at Another Public or Nonpublic School** [Optional] [If the Board elects not to adopt this Policy, delete the body of the policy and replace the title with “Intentionally Left Blank” after the policy number *and* in the Table of Contents to ensure accurate numbering of subsequent policies in the Policy Manual.]

To the extent permitted by law, the District may deny enrollment to a student who engaged in misconduct in another public or nonpublic school and who seeks to enroll in the District either: (1) before the previous school imposes disciplinary consequences for the misconduct; or (2) while the student is suspended or expelled from the previous public or nonpublic school. The Superintendent or designee must refer the student to the Board if, under the student code of conduct, the student’s misconduct in the previous public or nonpublic school would result in a long-term suspension or expulsion from that institution and, in the Superintendent’s or designee’s opinion, the student’s enrollment in the District would jeopardize the safety or welfare of the District or substantially disrupt District operations. The Board will hold a pre-enrollment hearing following the Superintendent’s or designee’s referral to consider whether the student may enroll and, if so, any conditions on enrollment. The Board will consider any information submitted by the Parent or student and the Superintendent in either support of or opposition to the student’s enrollment.

This Policy does not apply to students seeking to enroll who are expelled for any of the following offenses:

- A. possession of a firearm or other dangerous weapon;
- B. arson;
- C. criminal sexual conduct pursuant to Policy 5206 H.3;
- D. physical assault on an employee, contractor, or volunteer if student is in grade 6 or above;
- E. physical assault of another student if student is in grade 6 or above; and
- F. a bomb threat or similar threat if student is in grade 6 or above.

Legal authority: MCL 380.11a, 380.1308-1310, 380.1310a, 380.1310c, 380.1310d, 380.1311, 380.1311a, 380.1312, 380.1313

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters

### 5200 Student Conduct and Discipline

#### ***5206E Student Discipline - Suspension from Class, Subject, or Activity by Teacher***

A teacher may suspend a student from any class, subject, or activity for up to one full school day if the teacher has good reason to believe that the student:

- A. intentionally disrupted the class, subject, or activity;
- B. jeopardized the health or safety of any of the other participants in the class, subject, or activity; or
- C. was insubordinate during the class, subject, or activity.

Any teacher who suspends a student from a class, subject, or activity must immediately report the suspension and its reason to the building principal or designee. If a student is suspended from a class, subject, or activity, but will otherwise remain at school, the building principal or designee must ensure that the student is appropriately supervised during the suspension and, if the student is a student with a disability, that all procedures applicable to students with disabilities are followed.

Any teacher who suspends a student from a class, subject, or activity must, as soon as possible following the suspension, request that the student's Parent attend a Parent-teacher conference to discuss the suspension. The building principal or designee must attend the conference if either the teacher or the Parent requests the building principal's attendance. The building principal or designee must make reasonable efforts to invite a school counselor, school psychologist, or school social worker to attend the conference.

Legal authority: MCL 380.1309

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters

### 5200 Student Conduct and Discipline

#### 5207 **Anti-Bullying Policy** [Note: Before adopting this Policy, the Board must hold a public hearing about the Policy. The hearing may be part of a regular Board meeting.]

All types of bullying, including cyberbullying, without regard to subject matter or motivating animus, are prohibited.

##### A. Prohibited Conduct

1. Bullying, including cyberbullying, a student at school is prohibited. Bullying is any written, verbal, or physical act, or electronic communication that is intended to or that a reasonable person would know is likely to harm one or more students directly or indirectly by doing any of the following:
  - a. substantially interfering with a student's educational opportunities, benefits, or programs;
  - b. adversely affecting a student's ability to participate in or benefit from the District's educational programs or activities by placing the student in reasonable fear of physical harm or by causing substantial emotional distress;
  - c. having an actual and substantial detrimental effect on a student's physical or mental health; or
  - d. causing substantial disruption in, or substantial interference with, the District's orderly operations.
2. Retaliation or false accusations against the target of bullying, anyone reporting bullying, a witness, or another person with reliable information about an act of bullying, are prohibited.

##### B. Reporting an Incident

If a student, staff member, or other person suspects there has been a bullying incident, the person must promptly report the incident to the building principal or designee, or to the Responsible School Official(s), as defined below.

A report may be made in person, by telephone, or in writing (including electronic transmissions). If a bullying incident is reported to a staff member who is not the building principal, designee, or a Responsible School Official, the staff member must promptly report the incident to the building principal, designee, or a Responsible School Official.

To encourage reporting of suspected bullying or related activities, each building principal, after consulting the Responsible School Official(s), will create, publicize,

and implement a system for anonymous reports. The system must emphasize that the District's ability to investigate anonymous reports may be limited.

Complaints that the building principal has bullied a student must be reported to the Superintendent. Complaints that the Superintendent has bullied a student must be reported to the Board President.

#### C. Investigation

All bullying complaints will be promptly investigated. The building principal or designee will conduct the investigation, unless the building principal or Superintendent is the subject of the investigation. If the building principal is the subject of the investigation, the Superintendent or designee will conduct the investigation. If the Superintendent is the subject of the investigation, the Board President will designate a neutral party to conduct the investigation.

A description of each reported incident, along with all investigation materials and conclusions reached, will be documented and retained.

#### D. Notice to Parent/Guardian

If the investigator determines that a bullying incident has occurred, the District will promptly notify the victim's and perpetrator's parent/guardian in writing.

#### E. Annual Reports

At least annually, the building principal or designee, or the Responsible School Official, must report all verified bullying incidents and the resulting consequences, including any disciplinary action or referrals, to the Board.

The District will annually report incidents of bullying to MDE in the form and manner prescribed by MDE.

#### F. Responsible School Official

The [Superintendent] is the "Responsible School Official" for this Policy and is responsible for ensuring that this Policy is properly implemented. This appointment does not reduce or eliminate the duties and responsibilities of the building principal or designee as described in this Policy.

[Note: Because the Superintendent has absolute immunity from tort liability when acting within the scope of his or her authority, we recommend naming the Superintendent as the "Responsible School Official." Boards, however, may select another individual to be the "Responsible School Official."]

#### G. Posting/Publication of Policy

The Superintendent or designee will ensure that this Policy is available on the District's website and incorporated into student handbooks and other relevant school publications.

The Superintendent or designee will submit this Policy to the MDE within 30 days after its adoption.

[Optional: Prevention Task Force. The Responsible School Official may form a bullying prevention task force. The task force will identify, develop, and recommend written materials, training programs, and initiatives to reduce bullying. In its discretion, the task force may involve school staff, students, school clubs or other student groups, administrators, volunteers, parents, law enforcement, community members, and other stakeholders.]

[Optional: Training. The Responsible School Official will provide and require annual training opportunities for District personnel who have significant contact with students on preventing, identifying, responding to, and reporting incidents of bullying.]

[Optional: Educational Programs. The Responsible School Official will periodically arrange or otherwise provide educational programs for students and parents on preventing, identifying, responding to, and reporting incidents of bullying and cyberbullying. The Responsible School Official may arrange for teachers to address these same issues within the classroom curriculum.]

## H. Definitions

1. "At school" means in a classroom, elsewhere on school premises, on a school bus or other school-related vehicle, or at a school-sponsored activity or event whether it is held on school premises. "At school" also includes any conduct using a telecommunications access device or telecommunications service provider that occurs off school premises if the device or provider is owned by or under the control of the District.
2. "Telecommunications access device" means any of the following:
  - a. any instrument, device, card, plate, code, telephone number, account number, personal identification number, electronic serial number, mobile identification number, counterfeit number, or financial transaction device defined in MCL 750.157m (e.g., an electronic funds transfer card, a credit card, a debit card, a point-of-sale card, or any other instrument or means of access to a credit, deposit, or proprietary account) that alone or with another device can acquire, transmit, intercept, provide, receive, use, or otherwise facilitate the use, acquisition, interception, provision, reception, and transmission of any telecommunications service; or
  - b. any type of instrument, device, machine, equipment, technology, or software that facilitates telecommunications or which is capable of transmitting, acquiring, intercepting, decrypting, or receiving any telephonic, electronic, data, internet access, audio, video, microwave, or radio transmissions, signals, telecommunications, or services, including the receipt, acquisition, interception, transmission, retransmission, or decryption of all telecommunications, transmissions, signals, or services

provided by or through any cable television, fiber optic, telephone, satellite, microwave, data transmission, radio, internet based or wireless distribution network, system, or facility, or any part, accessory, or component, including any computer circuit, security module, smart card, software, computer chip, pager, cellular telephone, personal communications device, transponder, receiver, modem, electronic mechanism or other component, accessory, or part of any other device that is capable of facilitating the interception, transmission, retransmission, decryption, acquisition, or reception of any telecommunications, transmissions, signals, or services.

3. "Telecommunications service provider" means any of the following:
- a. a person or entity providing a telecommunications service, whether directly or indirectly as a reseller, including, but not limited to, a cellular, paging, or other wireless communications company or other person or entity which, for a fee, supplies the facility, cell site, mobile telephone switching office, or other equipment or telecommunications service;
  - b. a person or entity owning or operating any fiber optic, cable television, satellite, internet based, telephone, wireless, microwave, data transmission, or radio distribution system, network, or facility; or
  - c. a person or entity providing any telecommunications service directly or indirectly by or through any distribution systems, networks, or facilities.

Legal authority: MCL 380.1310b; MCL 750.157m, 750.219a

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## **Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters**

### **5200 Student Conduct and Discipline**

#### ***5208 Student Acceptable Use and Internet Safety Policy***

Student use of District technology is a privilege, not a right, and is governed by Policy 3116 and the applicable acceptable use agreement. As part of its Internet Safety Policy the District must implement the rules and procedures identified in Policy 3116. A student's failure to comply with Policy 3116 and the applicable acceptable use agreement may result in discipline or loss of technology privileges.

Students have no expectation of privacy in or right to continued use of District technology resources.

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters

### 5200 Student Conduct and Discipline

#### 5209 Student Use of Cell Phone and Electronic Communication Devices

[Choose Option 1 or 2:]

[Option 1 (students permitted to use cell phones at school): Students may use cell phones or other electronic devices while at school, so long as they do so safely, responsibly, and respectfully, and comply with all other school rules while using the devices.]

Students are personally and solely responsible for the security of their cell phones and other electronic devices. The District is not responsible for theft, loss, or damage of any cell phone or other electronic device.

Students may not use cell phones or other electronic devices while they are in locker rooms, restrooms, or any other area in which others may have a reasonable expectation of privacy.

Taking, disseminating, transferring, or sharing obscene, pornographic, lewd, or otherwise illegal photographs, video, audio, or other similar data, whether by electronic data transfer or otherwise (including via cell phone or other electronic device), may constitute a crime under state or federal law. A student engaged in any of these activities at school, at a school event, or on school-provided transportation, may be subject to discipline pursuant to this Policy and the student code of conduct. A student engaged in any of these activities outside of school may be disciplined if the student's activities substantially disrupt or negatively affect the school environment.

The Superintendent, building principals, and teachers are authorized to develop building-level and classroom rules for students' use of cell phones and other electronic devices. Those rules must be clearly communicated to students. A student who violates the rules or this Policy are subject to corrective or disciplinary action, consistent with Policy and the student code of conduct.

School administrators and teachers may confiscate a student's cell phone or other electronic device if the student's use or possession of a cell phone or electronic device violates this Policy, the student code of conduct, or any applicable building or classroom rule. The building principal or designee may require a meeting with the student's Parent to discuss the rule violation before returning the cell phone or electronic device.]

[Option 2 (students prohibited from using cell phones during school hours): Students may not use cell phones or other electronic devices during school hours. Cell phones or other electronic devices must be stored in the student's locker during school hours if a student chooses to bring them to school.]

Students are personally and solely responsible for the security of their cell phones and other electronic devices. The District is not responsible for theft, loss, or damage of any cell phone or other electronic device.

Taking, disseminating, transferring, or sharing obscene, pornographic, lewd, or otherwise illegal photographs, video, audio, or other similar data, whether by electronic data transfer or otherwise (including via cell phone or other electronic device), may constitute a crime under state or federal law. A student engaged in any of these activities at school, at a school event, or on school-provided transportation, may be subject to discipline pursuant to this Policy and the student code of conduct. A student engaged in any of these activities outside of school may be disciplined if the student's activities substantially disrupt or negatively affect the school environment.

School administrators and teachers may confiscate a student's cell phone or other electronic device if the student's use or possession of a cell phone or electronic device violates this Policy, the student code of conduct, or any applicable building or classroom rule. The building principal or designee may require a meeting with the student's Parent to discuss the rule violation before returning the cell phone or electronic device.

Students who violate this Policy are subject to corrective or disciplinary action, consistent with Policy and the student code of conduct.]

Legal authority: MCL 380.1303(2)

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters

### 5200 Student Conduct and Discipline

#### 5210 *GPS Tracking Device with Audio Surveillance Capabilities* [Recommended-Note: If the Board elects not to adopt this Policy, delete the body of the policy and replace the title with “Intentionally Left Blank” after the policy number *and* in the Table of Contents to ensure accurate numbering of subsequent policies in the Policy Manual.]

A student may possess a GPS tracking device with audio surveillance capabilities at school only if the Parent disables the device’s audio surveillance capabilities during the school day while the student attends school, subject to the following provisions:

- A. The student’s Parent must sign an agreement that the device’s audio surveillance capabilities will be disabled during the school day, which includes transportation to and from school.
- B. The student’s Parent must direct the device manufacturer to promptly notify the building principal or designee if the audio surveillance capabilities are enabled during the school day.
- C. Any use of the device’s audio surveillance capabilities during the school day is prohibited, except in an emergency involving the student’s health, safety, or welfare.

Violation of this Policy will result in consequences, including but not limited to the device being confiscated or prohibited at school. If the device is confiscated, it will be returned to the student’s Parent after confirmation that the device’s audio surveillance capabilities have been disabled and no recordings have been made. A confiscated device will be labeled with the student’s name and held in a secure location until returned to the student’s Parent.

The following definitions apply to this Policy:

- A. “GPS tracking device” means a device other than a cell phone which allows a Parent to remotely track the location of a child using the Global Positioning System (GPS) or similar technology that can pinpoint longitude, latitude, ground speed, and course direction of the target.
- B. “Audio surveillance capability” means the ability of a device to remotely listen, overhear, record, amplify, or transmit audio occurring in one location to another device in another location or which has a voice monitoring or two-way call feature.

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## **Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters**

### **5200 Student Conduct and Discipline**

#### ***5211 Emergency Use of Seclusion and Restraint***

The Board adopts MDE's Policy for the Emergency Use of Seclusion and Restraint, as approved and amended by the Michigan State Board of Education and MDE. Consistent with MDE policy, the Board directs all District personnel to use positive behavior interventions and supports to enhance the academic and social behavior outcomes of all students.

In accordance with state law and MDE policy, the use of emergency seclusion and emergency physical restraint is a last resort intervention that may be used only when a student's behavior poses an imminent risk to the safety of the student or others and an immediate intervention is required. Any use of emergency seclusion or emergency physical restraint must be consistent with state law, MDE policy, and MDE guidelines.

The Board directs the Superintendent to ensure that all District personnel receive training pursuant to MDE policy.

Legal authority: MCL 380.1307 et seq.

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## **Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters**

### **5200 Student Conduct and Discipline**

#### ***5212 Registered Sex Offenders - Students***

Inclusion on the state's sex offender registry alone is not a sufficient basis to exclude a student from school. The District reserves the right, consistent with Policy 5411 and applicable law, to determine the educational placement of a student who is listed on the state's sex offender registry.

For a student who is listed on the state's sex offender registry, the building principal may establish a safety plan, which may include excluding the student from extracurricular activities.

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## **Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters**

### **5200 Student Conduct and Discipline**

#### ***5213 Personal Protection Orders Against Students***

If a student obtains a personal protection order against another student in the same building, either student's Parent should notify the building principal and provide a copy of the order. The building principal or designee may work with the families to change class schedules, lockers, lunch assignments, or bus assignments of either student. While the District will seek to work collaboratively with both families, the District will not enforce a personal protection order to which the District is not a party.

The existence of a personal protection order does not diminish a student's rights under state or federal law.

The existence of a personal protection order alone is not a sufficient basis to exclude a student from school. The District reserves the right, consistent with Policy 5411, to determine the educational placement of a student who is the subject of a personal protection order.

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters

### 5300 Student Enrollment, Attendance, and Records

#### 5301 *Compulsory Attendance, Absenteeism, and Truancy*

##### A. Required Attendance

Every person residing in the District who has legal or actual charge or control of a child who is of mandatory attendance age must ensure that the child regularly attends a public or private school or is receiving a home-school education unless the child has satisfied District graduation requirements or is otherwise exempt from Michigan's compulsory attendance requirements.

##### B. Mandatory Attendance Age

A child who is or will turn 6 years old before December 1 of the current school year and who has not turned 18 years old is of mandatory attendance age.

##### C. Exceptions

A Parent of a child who is at least 16 years old may provide the District with written notice that the child has permission to stop attending school. Upon receipt of the written notice, the child will be exempt from this Policy.

##### D. Excused Absences

[Note: This sample list is very broad in what the school considers "excused." Schools that adopt this sample list will have very few students who accrue many "unexcused" absences. Boards may eliminate any of these categories of excused absence except for illness documented by a physician and suspension/expulsion. Boards may also add additional requirements before an absence will be excused (e.g., require funeral card to verify family funeral, etc.)]

The following absences will be considered excused if they are confirmed by communication to the school from the student's Parent:

- the student's physical or mental illness (verification from a physician, physician assistant, or nurse practitioner is required after 4 consecutive days of absence for illness);
- severe weather;
- medical appointments for the student;
- death or serious illness of the student's family member;
- attendance at a funeral, wedding, or graduation;
- appearance at court or for other legal matters;

- observance of religious holidays of the student's own faith;
- college planning visits; and
- personal or family vacations.

#### E. Excessive Absenteeism and Truancy

When a student [Choose one: is absent [ ]% of the school year / has [ ] unexcused absences in any term or semester] [Note: The Board may select any number or percentage of unexcused absences to trigger the notice requirement.], the building principal or designee will provide written notice to the student's Parent encouraging the student's regular daily attendance and explaining the truancy process.

If the Superintendent or designee determines that a student is repeatedly absent from school without valid excuse, is failing, or has behavior problems, and attempts to confer with the student's Parent have not been successful, the Superintendent or designee may request the attendance officer who has jurisdiction in the District to send notice to the Parent requiring the Parent to meet with District personnel to discuss the matter.

When a student [Choose one: is absent [ ]% of the school year / is absent more than [ ] days per school year and at least [ ] of those days are not excused], [Note: The Board may select any number or percentage of excused/unexcused days to trigger truancy proceedings] the building principal or designee will notify the attendance officer who has jurisdiction in the District. Once notified, the attendance officer will investigate each case of nonattendance and will take all other steps permitted and required by law.

The building principal or designee may impose additional consequences for excessive absenteeism, consistent with the student handbook or published grading procedures.

Legal authority: MCL 380.1561 et seq.

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters

### 5300 Student Enrollment, Attendance, and Records

**5302 *Enrollment in Kindergarten*** [Optional] [Note: If the Board elects not to adopt this Policy, delete the body of the policy and replace the title with “Intentionally Left Blank” after the policy number *and* in the Table of Contents to ensure accurate numbering of subsequent policies in the Policy Manual.]

A child must be at least 5 years old on or before December 1 of the school year to enroll in kindergarten. A child who will turn 5 years old after September 1 and on or before December 1 of the school year may only enroll in kindergarten if the child’s Parent provides written notice to the District. In that circumstance, the Superintendent or designee may recommend to the Parent that the child is not ready to enroll in kindergarten. Regardless of this recommendation, the Parent retains sole discretion to enroll the child in kindergarten, so long as the child will turn 5 years old on or before December 1.

A child who will not turn 5 years old on or before December 1 of the school year may not enroll in kindergarten without the express written authorization of the Superintendent, whose decision is final. The District may charge tuition in that instance.

Legal authority: MCL 380.1147

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters

### 5300 Student Enrollment, Attendance, and Records

#### 5303 Student Enrollment and Withdrawal

##### A. Student Enrollment

The District will enroll a student who is:

- a legal resident of the District or otherwise entitled by Michigan law to enroll in the District;
- under court jurisdiction and is placed in foster care if the Department of Health and Human Services or a child placing agency determines that the child should be enrolled in the District, regardless of residency;
- eligible to enroll as a schools-of-choice student under these Policies and Michigan law;
- the resident of another district with the consent of the resident district if, in the Superintendent's discretion, the student should be enrolled;
- the resident of another district as permitted and authorized by law if, in the Superintendent's discretion, the student should be enrolled;
- homeless, if the student has a right to enroll in the District pursuant to applicable law and Policy 5307;
- the child of a custodial Parent assigned to active-duty military service if the child's noncustodial Parent or person serving *in loco parentis* for the child resides in the District and the child's custodial Parent has provided a legally valid power of attorney;
- approved as a foreign exchange student pursuant to Policy 5306;
- a legal resident of a district that has contracted with the District for the student's educational services; or
- legally entitled to attend the District on a part-time basis.

The District may independently verify a student's residency status or eligibility for enrollment. The Superintendent or designee may pursue all available legal options, including referral to law enforcement, against any person who provides false or misleading enrollment information.

A person enrolling a student must provide the following within 30 calendar days after enrollment:

- a copy of the student's birth certificate; or

- other reliable proof of the student's identity and age and an affidavit explaining the inability to produce a copy of the student's birth certificate.

If the required documentation is not timely provided, the District will, after providing 30 calendar days' notice to the person enrolling the student, refer the matter to local law enforcement. The District will immediately report to law enforcement any affidavit that appears inaccurate or suspicious.

As a condition of enrollment, a person enrolling a student must provide documentation of the student's required immunizations or a valid immunization waiver pursuant to Policy 5713. Failure to submit the required documentation will result in the student's exclusion from school.

The District will, consistent with Policy 5714, request the student's oral health assessment information during the enrollment process for students enrolling for the first time in kindergarten or first grade.

Within 14 calendar days after a transfer student enrolls, the building principal or designee must send a written request to the student's previous school requesting a copy of the student's school record.

A student who is or will be 20 years old on September 1 of the school year, or who has earned a high school diploma or GED, may not enroll in or continue to attend school in the District, except for a student with a disability, a student enrolling in an approved adult education or dropout recovery program, or when otherwise required by law.

Except for a student with a disability or a student enrolling in an approved early childhood program, a student who will not be 5 years old on December 1 of the school year may not enroll in or attend school in the District without the Superintendent's express written permission.

A student's placement, including building assignment and grade level, will be determined pursuant to Policy 5411.

## B. Student Withdrawal

The District will disenroll a student upon receipt of either written notice from a Parent of intent to withdraw or a records request from another school. If at the time of receipt of a notice of disenrollment there are pending disciplinary proceedings against the student involving potential suspension or expulsion, the District may elect to complete those proceedings.

Legal authority: MCL 380.1135, 380.1147, 380.1148, 380.1148a

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters

### 5300 Student Enrollment, Attendance, and Records

#### 5304 *Nonpublic School Students; Part-Time Attendance*

A resident student who attends a nonpublic school or who is home-schooled and who otherwise meets the enrollment requirements in Policy 5303, has the right to enroll in nonessential elective courses (including co-curricular activities associated with those courses) that the District provides to public school students in the same grade level or age group.

The District may provide instruction in nonessential elective courses to students at a nonpublic school site, consistent with state law and subject to constitutional constraints. The District may also permit nonresident, home-schooled and nonpublic school students to enroll in nonessential elective courses that the District provides to students in the same grade level or age group consistent with state law and subject to constitutional constraints.

A nonpublic, part-time student, regardless of residency and instructional location, is subject to the same course requirements and prerequisites that apply to all other District students.

A nonpublic, part-time student is subject to all District rules and applicable student codes of conduct.

The District is not required to provide transportation to a nonpublic, part-time student.

[Optional: Nonpublic, part-time students may not participate in District-provided athletics or extracurricular activities.]

The Superintendent or designee must ensure that all courses and related optional experiences offered or provided to nonpublic, part-time students satisfy the requirements of state and federal law and applicable provisions of the Michigan Pupil Accounting Manual.

Legal authority: MCL 388.1766b

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters

### 5300 Student Enrollment, Attendance, and Records

#### 5305 Schools-of-Choice

The Board will annually determine whether the District will accept schools-of-choice students who reside in the same ISD in which the District is located, who reside within an ISD contiguous to the ISD in which the District is located, or both. If the Board determines that schools-of-choice students will be accepted for enrollment, the Board will establish the grades, schools, and programs in which they may enroll and the number of schools-of-choice students the District will accept for each open grade, school, or program.

If the Board determines that the District will accept schools-of-choice students, the Superintendent or designee will ensure that applicable provisions of state law are followed, including, without limitation:

- A. publishing the grades, schools, and programs for which the District will accept schools-of-choice applicants;
- B. establishing an application period of at least 15 and no more than 30 calendar days if the Board has limited the number of schools-of-choice students who may enroll in a grade, school, or program;
- C. selecting students who may enroll in the following manner:
  1. the Superintendent or designee must give preference to an applicant who resides in the same household as a student already enrolled in the District;
  2. the Superintendent or designee may refuse to enroll a student who has been suspended from another school in the preceding 2 years or who has ever been expelled from another school or convicted of a felony;
  3. the Superintendent or designee will require that schools-of-choice students meet the same criteria that a resident student must meet to enroll in a grade or specialized/magnet school or program;
  4. if the Board determines that limited spots are available and, if, after applying the enrollment preferences and exclusions described in this Policy, there are more applicants than spots available in a particular grade, school, or program, the Superintendent or designee will select students based on a random draw lottery;
  5. except as otherwise stated in this Policy, the Superintendent or designee may not make enrollment decisions based on any other factors.
- D. following all notice and timeline requirements;

- E. allowing a student who has enrolled as a schools-of-choice student to continue to enroll in the District until the student graduates, enrolls in another school, drops out of school, or is expelled from school;
- F. requesting records from a student's previous school.

Before enrolling a student who resides outside of the ISD in which the District is located and who has been identified as a child with a disability under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, the Superintendent or designee will attempt to enter into a cost-sharing agreement with the student's resident district. If the District and the student's resident district fail to reach a cost-sharing agreement, the student will not be enrolled in the District.

If the District receives a request from another school for records about a resident student's schools-of-choice application, the Superintendent or designee will promptly respond to the request.

The Superintendent or designee may pursue all available legal options, including referral to law enforcement, against any person who provides false or misleading information on a schools-of-choice application.

Students not eligible to enroll pursuant to this Policy may only enroll consistent with Policy 5303.

Legal authority: MCL 388.1705, 388.1705c

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters

### 5300 Student Enrollment, Attendance, and Records

#### 5306 Foreign Students

All resident students, regardless of immigration or visa status, who otherwise meet Policy 5303's requirements, may enroll in the District. The District does not discriminate against students based on immigration or visa status.

A student's failure to comply with federal laws, regulations, and guidance may negatively impact the student's immigration or visa status.

A student with an F-1 visa who enrolls in the District in compliance with federal law must reimburse the District the full, unsubsidized per capita cost of providing education at the District for the period of the student's attendance.

A student with a J-1 visa who is sponsored by a formal student exchange program may enroll in the District without paying tuition if the student's host family resides in the District and the student otherwise meets the requirements of state and federal law and Policy 5303.

Nothing in this Policy should be construed to require the District to facilitate a student's visa.

All students are subject to Board Policies, rules, laws, behavioral expectations, and applicable student codes of conduct.

Legal authority: 8 USC 1184(m); MCL 380.1401; *Plyler v Doe*, 457 US 202 (1982); OAG, No. 6316, p 151 (September 25, 1985)

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters

### 5300 Student Enrollment, Attendance, and Records

#### 5307 Homeless Students

##### A. General Policy

The District will provide a free public education to homeless children and youth who are in the District and afford them the educational rights and legal protections provided by federal and state law. Homeless children and youth will not be stigmatized or segregated based on their homeless status and will have the same access to services offered to students who are not homeless. It is the intent of this Policy to remove barriers to the enrollment and retention of homeless students in the District.

##### B. Homeless Liaison

The homeless liaison will coordinate services to ensure that homeless children and youth enroll in school and have the opportunity to succeed. The liaison will also coordinate and collaborate with state homeless coordinators, community agencies, and District personnel responsible for the provision of education and related services to homeless children and youth, including unaccompanied youth. A student or Parent in a homeless situation who requires assistance should contact the District's homeless liaison:

[NAME AND POSITION OF DISTRICT'S HOMELESS LIAISON]  
[ADDRESS]  
[PHONE NUMBER]  
[EMAIL ADDRESS]

The liaison's responsibilities include ensuring that:

1. homeless children and youth are identified by District personnel through outreach and coordination activities with other entities and agencies;
2. homeless children and youth are enrolled in, and have a full and equal opportunity to succeed in, the District's schools;
3. homeless families and homeless children and youth have access to and receive educational services for which the families and students are eligible, including Head Start, early intervention services under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, and other preschool programs administered by the District;
4. homeless families and students receive referrals to health care, dental services, mental health and substance abuse services, housing services, and other appropriate services;

5. Parents of homeless children and youth, and unaccompanied youth, are informed of available educational and related opportunities and are provided with meaningful opportunities to participate;
6. public notice of the educational rights of homeless children and youth is disseminated in locations frequented by Parents of homeless children and youth, and unaccompanied youth, including schools, shelters, public libraries, and soup kitchens, in a manner and form understandable to the Parents of homeless children and youth, and unaccompanied youth;
7. enrollment disputes involving homeless children and youth are resolved as quickly as possible after receiving notice of the dispute and in accordance with any applicable state or District procedures;
8. Parents of homeless children and youth, and unaccompanied youth, are fully informed of all transportation services, including transportation to the school of origin, and are assisted in accessing transportation to the school that is selected;
9. District personnel providing services to homeless children and youth receive professional development and other support to assist in meeting the educational and related needs of homeless students;
10. unaccompanied youths who are enrolled in school have: (a) opportunities to meet the same challenging state academic standards as children and youth who are not homeless; (b) appropriate secondary education and support services, including receiving appropriate credit for full or partial coursework satisfactorily completed while attending a prior school; (c) access to counselor services and supports to prepare for and improve college readiness; and (d) notice of their status as independent students under the Higher Education Act of 1965 and that they may obtain assistance from the liaison to receive verification of that status for Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) purposes; and
11. performance of any other duties identified in this Policy and applicable federal laws or state guidelines governing the homeless liaison's duties.

The homeless liaison will participate in relevant professional development and other technical assistance activities as part of the liaison's duties and may work with other District personnel to accomplish the responsibilities described in this Policy.

### C. Definitions

1. "Homeless children and youth" means persons who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence and includes children and youth who:
  - a. are sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason; are living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or

camping grounds due to the lack of alternative accommodations; are living in emergency or transitional shelters; or are abandoned in hospitals;

- b. have a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings;
  - c. are living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings; and
  - d. are migratory children who qualify as homeless because they are living in circumstances described above.
2. “Child” and “youth” refers to persons who, if they were children of residents of the District, would be entitled to a free education.
  3. The term “unaccompanied youth” means a homeless child or youth not in the physical custody of a Parent.
  4. “School of origin” means the school that the child or youth attended when permanently housed or the school in which the child or youth was last enrolled.

#### D. District’s Obligation

In the best interest of a homeless child or youth, the District generally will:

1. continue the child’s or youth’s education in the school of origin for the duration of homelessness in any case in which a family becomes homeless between academic years or during an academic year and for the remainder of the academic year, if the child or youth becomes permanently housed during an academic year; or
2. enroll the child or youth in any public school that students who are not homeless who live in the attendance area in which the child or youth is actually living are eligible to attend.

#### E. School Stability

In determining the best interest of a homeless student, the District will presume that keeping a homeless child or youth in the student’s school of origin is in the student’s best interest unless it is contrary to the request of the student’s Parent, or in the case of an unaccompanied youth, the youth. In determining the school placement of a homeless child or youth, the District will also consider factors related to the impact of mobility on the homeless child or youth’s achievement, education, health, and safety, giving priority to the Parent’s or the unaccompanied youth’s request. In the case of an unaccompanied youth, the District will assist in placement or enrollment decisions and will give priority to the unaccompanied youth’s views.

If, after consideration of the presumption and factors above, the District determines that it is not in the student's best interest to attend the school of origin or the school requested by the Parent or unaccompanied youth, the District will provide written explanation of the reasons for its determination in a manner and form understandable to the Parent or unaccompanied youth, including information about the right to appeal.

#### F. Immediate Enrollment

The District will immediately enroll homeless children and youth, including unaccompanied youth, even if they are unable to produce records normally required for enrollment such as previous academic records, immunization records, residency documents, birth certificates, or other documentation or the child or youth has missed application or enrollment deadlines. The District will immediately contact the school last attended by the student to obtain relevant academic and other records. The District's homeless liaison will assist in obtaining any necessary immunizations or screenings or immunization or other required health records.

#### G. Comparable Services

The District will provide homeless children and youth services that are comparable to those offered to students who are not homeless, including transportation services, Title I services, programs and services for students with disabilities under IDEA and Section 504, career and technical education, programs for gifted and talented students, programs for English learners, and school nutrition programs.

#### H. Transportation

Transportation will be provided to homeless students to the extent required by law and will be comparable to that provided to students who are not homeless. At the request of the Parent (or for an unaccompanied youth, the liaison), transportation will be provided to and from the school of origin as follows:

1. If the homeless child or youth continues to live in the area served by the District, the child's or youth's transportation to and from the school of origin will be provided or arranged by the District.
2. If the homeless child's or youth's living arrangements in the area served by the District terminate and the child or youth begins living in an area served by another school district, the District and the other school district in which the homeless child or youth is living must agree on a method to apportion the responsibility and costs for providing the homeless student with transportation to and from the District. If the districts are unable to agree, the responsibility and cost for transportation will be shared equally.

#### I. Records

The District will maintain and respond to requests for enrollment records for homeless children or youth consistent with Policy 5309 and state and federal

record laws. Any information about a homeless child's or youth's living situation will be treated as a confidential education record and not directory information.

#### J. Dispute Resolution

If a dispute arises about a homeless student's eligibility, school selection, or enrollment, the homeless student, including an unaccompanied youth, must be immediately enrolled and served in the school in which enrollment is sought, pending final resolution of the dispute.

A complainant should contact the District's homeless liaison who will follow MDE-approved District dispute resolution processes or MDE dispute resolution/complaint procedures to quickly resolve the dispute.

Legal authority: 42 USC 11431 et seq.

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters

### 5300 Student Enrollment, Attendance, and Records

#### 5308 *Protection of Pupil Rights*

##### A. Surveys, Analyses, and Evaluations

Parents may inspect any survey created by a third party before that survey is administered or distributed to their student. All survey inspection requests must be made in writing to the building principal before the survey's scheduled administration date.

The District must obtain written consent from a student's Parent before the student is required to participate in a survey, analysis, or evaluation funded, in whole or in part, by the U.S. Department of Education that would reveal sensitive information. For all other surveys, analyses, or evaluations that would reveal sensitive information about a student, the District will provide prior notice to the student's Parent and an opportunity for the Parent to opt their student out.

Employees may not request or disclose the identity of a student who completes a survey, evaluation, or analysis containing sensitive information.

"Sensitive information" includes:

- political affiliations or beliefs of the student or the student's Parent;
- mental or psychological problems of the student or the student's family;
- sexual behavior or attitudes;
- illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating, or demeaning behavior;
- critical appraisals of other persons with whom the student has close family relationships;
- legally recognized privileges or analogous relationships, such as those with lawyers, physicians, and ministers;
- religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or the student's Parent; or
- income (other than that required by law to determine eligibility for participating in a program or for receiving financial assistance under that program).

##### B. Invasive Physical Examinations

Parents may refuse to allow their students to participate in any non-emergency, invasive physical examination or screening that is: (1) required as a condition of

attendance, (2) administered and scheduled by the District, and (3) not necessary to protect the immediate health and safety of a student.

“Invasive physical examination” means:

1. any medical examination that involves the exposure of private body parts; or
2. any act during an examination that includes incision, insertion, or injection into the body that does not include a hearing, vision, or scoliosis screening.

#### C. Collection of Student Personal Information for Marketing

[Note: We recommend adopting this section as written. Schools, however, are not prohibited from collecting information for marketing purposes. If your school intends to collect information for marketing purposes, additional policy language is necessary. Please contact your Thrun Law Firm attorney for that language.] No employee will administer or distribute to students a survey or other instrument for the purpose of collecting personal information for marketing or selling that information.

“Personal information” means individually identifiable information that includes:

1. student’s and Parents’ first and last name;
2. home or other physical address;
3. telephone number; or
4. Social Security Number.

This Policy does not apply to the collection, disclosure, or use of personal information for the purpose of providing educational services to students, such as:

1. post-secondary education recruitment;
2. military recruitment;
3. tests and assessments to provide cognitive, evaluative, diagnostic, or achievement information about students; or
4. student recognition programs.

#### D. Inspection of Instructional Material

Parents may inspect instructional material consistent with Policy 5401.

#### E. Notification of Rights and Procedures

The Superintendent or designee will notify Parents of:

1. this Policy and its availability upon request;

2. how to opt their child out of participation in activities as provided for in this Policy;
3. the approximate date(s) when a survey, evaluation, or analysis that would reveal sensitive information is scheduled or expected to be scheduled;
4. the approximate date(s) when the District or its agents intend to administer a non-emergency, invasive physical examination or screening required as a condition of attendance (except for hearing, vision, or scoliosis screenings); and
5. how to inspect any survey or other material described in this Policy.

This notification will be given to Parents at least annually at the beginning of the school year and within a reasonable period after any substantive change to this Policy.

Parents who believe their rights have been violated may file a complaint with:

Student Privacy Policy Office  
U.S. Department of Education  
400 Maryland Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC 20202

Legal authority: 20 USC 1232h

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters

### 5300 Student Enrollment, Attendance, and Records

#### 5309 Student Records and Directory Information

The District may collect, retain, use, and disclose student education records consistent with state and federal law.

##### A. Definitions

1. An “education record” is a record directly related to a student that the District or its agents maintain, except that an education record does not include:
  - a. records kept in the maker’s sole possession that are used as a personal memory aid and that are not accessible or revealed to any person except a temporary substitute for the maker;
  - b. records maintained by a law enforcement unit of the District, as defined by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), if the record was created for a law enforcement purpose;
  - c. records relating to a student who is at least 18 years old that are created or maintained by a psychiatrist, psychologist, or other recognized professional or paraprofessional acting or assisting in that capacity that are created or maintained only for the student’s treatment (exclusive of remedial educational activities or educational activities that are part of the District’s instructional program) and that are disclosed only to persons providing treatment (except that the records may be personally reviewed by a physician or other appropriate professional of the student’s choice);
  - d. records created or received by the District after a person is no longer a student in the District and that are not directly related to the person’s attendance as a student in the District;
  - e. grades on peer-graded papers or assignments before they are collected or recorded by a teacher; or
  - f. records relating to a person employed by the District that are maintained in the normal course of business, relate only to the person’s employment, and are not available for any other purpose. Records relating to a person employed as a result of that person’s status as a student are, however, “education records.”
2. “Personally identifiable information” means a student’s name; the name of a student’s Parent or family member; the student’s address or the address of a family member; a personal identifier, such as the student’s social security number, student number, or biometric record; other indirect identifiers, such as the student’s date of birth, place of birth, and mother’s maiden name; other

information that alone or in combination is linked or linkable to a specific student that would allow a reasonable person in the school community, who does not have personal knowledge of the relevant circumstances, to identify the student with reasonable certainty; or information requested by a person who the District reasonably believes knows the identity of the student to whom the education record relates.

3. "Directory information" is the information contained in a student's education record that would not generally be considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if disclosed. The Board designates the following as directory information [Note: The Board may add or remove items from this list, consistent with state and federal law.]:
  - a. student names, addresses, and telephone numbers;
  - b. photographs and videos depicting a student's participation in school-related activities and classes;
  - c. date and place of birth;
  - d. major field of study;
  - e. grade level;
  - f. enrollment status (e.g., full-time or part-time);
  - g. dates of attendance (e.g., 2023-2027);
  - h. participation in officially recognized activities and sports;
  - i. weight and height of athletic team members;
  - j. degrees, honors, and awards received; and
  - k. the most recent educational agency or institution attended.

The Board further designates District-assigned student email addresses as directory information for the limited purposes of: (1) facilitating the student's participation in and access to online learning platforms and applications; and (2) inclusion in internal school and District email address books.

## B. Collection and Retention of Records

School officials may collect and retain information about the District's students that is reasonably necessary for the District to perform its role as a public school district, including, without limitation, student work samples, assessments, evaluations, surveys, health and medical information, immunization records, birth certificates, proof of residence, proof of achievements and awards, behavior records, investigation reports, incident reports, attendance records, all records necessary for the District to satisfy state or federal legal obligations, and any record necessary

for the District to prove that a student was accurately counted in membership for state aid and grant purposes.

The Superintendent or designee will ensure that all student records are retained consistent with the Records Retention and Disposal Schedule for Michigan Public Schools and Policy 3502 and that reasonable steps (including, without limitation, physical or technological controls) are taken to protect education records, including those stored electronically, from inadvertent or unauthorized disclosure.

#### C. Right to Inspect and Review Education Records

Parents may inspect and review their minor child's education records, regardless of custody status, unless a court order specifically provides otherwise.

Parents may also inspect and review the education records of an "eligible student" if the student is considered a dependent under Internal Revenue Code Section 152. An "eligible student" means a student who is at least 18 years old, an emancipated minor, or a student enrolled in a postsecondary institution. Eligible students have the right to inspect and review their own education records.

The District will make arrangements for a Parent or eligible student to inspect and review the student's education records within a reasonable time from receiving a request and not more than 30 calendar days from the date of the request or, if the student whose records are requested is a child with a disability as defined by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, before any Individualized Education Program Team meeting, resolution meeting, or due process hearing.

#### D. Right to Request Explanation or Interpretation of Student Education Records

A Parent or eligible student may request, in writing, an explanation or interpretation of a student's education records. School officials will respond to any reasonable request.

#### E. Right to Request Amendment of Education Records

A Parent or eligible student may request that a student's education record be amended if the Parent or eligible student believes the record is inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy rights. The Superintendent will develop administrative guidelines explaining the process by which a Parent or eligible student may request an amendment to the student's records and that the Parent or eligible student has the right to a hearing if the District refuses the request.

#### F. Disclosure of Education Records to School Officials

A school official may receive and review personally identifiable information from a student's education record only if the school official has a legitimate educational interest in the information. A school official has a "legitimate educational interest" if the record review is necessary for the school official to perform an administrative,

supervisory, or instructional task as assigned by the District or to perform a service or benefit for the student or the student's family. For purposes of this Policy, a "school official" is any person employed by the District. The Board further designates the following persons and entities as "school officials":

1. a person or company with whom the Board has contracted to perform a specific task (such as an attorney, auditor, insurance representative, medical consultant, or online educational service provider or vendor);
2. a contractor, consultant, volunteer, or other party to whom the Board has outsourced a service or function otherwise performed by District employees (e.g., a therapist, a school resource officer, an employee of an intermediate school district, or an authorized information technology specialist);
3. a Parent or student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary, reinstatement, or grievance committee; and
4. a person, including a volunteer, who is assisting another school official in performing the official's duties.

The above-identified persons and entities must: (a) perform institutional services or functions for which the District would otherwise use its own employees, (b) be under the direct control of the District as to the use and maintenance of education records, and (c) be subject to the requirements of FERPA regulations governing the use and re-disclosure of personally identifiable information from education records.

The Superintendent or designee will adopt procedures, including physical and technological controls, to ensure that only those school officials with a legitimate educational interest may access personally identifiable information from a student's education records.

#### G. Disclosure of "Directory Information"

Except as otherwise stated in this Policy, school officials may disclose "directory information" without the prior written consent of a Parent or eligible student unless the Parent or eligible student specifically notifies the District that the Parent or eligible student does not consent to the disclosure of the student's directory information for 1 or more of the uses for which the District would commonly disclose the information.

The District will provide Parents and eligible students with a Directory Information Opt Out Form, listing all uses for which it commonly discloses student directory information. The form will allow the Parent or eligible student to elect not to have the student's directory information disclosed for 1 or more of the listed uses. Upon receipt of a completed Directory Information Opt Out Form, school officials may not release the student's directory information for any of the uses selected on the form.

The Superintendent or designee will provide the Directory Information Opt Out form to all Parents or eligible students within the first 30 days of the school year. The form will also be made available at a Parent's or eligible student's request at any time during the school year. If the Parent or eligible student does not return the form, the District may release directory information as permitted by law. The Directory Information Opt Out form will be kept on file for 1 year.

To ensure that directory information is not improperly used, the Superintendent or designee may require that a person requesting directory information execute an affidavit stating that, if disclosed, the directory information will not be used, rented, or sold for the purpose of surveys, marketing, or solicitation.

The District will not disclose a student's or Parent's phone number or address or the Parent's employment address to another person who is the subject of a court order that prohibits disclosure of the information if the District has received a copy of the order. The District will not disclose a confidential address, phone number, or email address in violation of the Address Confidentiality Program Act if the student or the student's Parent notifies the District that the student or the student's Parent has obtained a participation card issued by the department of attorney general.

#### H. Disclosure of Education Records to Another School

School officials may release or disclose personally identifiable information contained in a student's education record without the consent of the Parent or eligible student to another school or post-secondary institution in which the student seeks or intends to enroll, is enrolled, or from which the student receives services, if the disclosure is related to the student's enrollment or transfer.

#### I. Tagged Records and Record Transfers

Upon notification by a law enforcement agency that a student under age 17 is missing, the building principal or designee will tag the student's record in a manner that will alert both District and ISD personnel that the student is considered missing. Within 7 calendar days after receiving notice from a law enforcement agency that a student is no longer considered missing, the building principal or designee will remove the tag from the student's record.

Within 30 calendar days after receiving a request from a school in which a student has enrolled, the building principal or designee will forward the student's education records to the requesting school unless the student's record has been tagged as described in this Policy. If the record has been tagged, the building principal or designee will not forward the student's education records to the requesting school and will notify law enforcement.

#### J. Disclosure to a For-Profit Business Entity

School officials will not sell or otherwise provide any personally identifiable information that is part of a student's education records to a for-profit business entity, except as follows:

1. an employee or agent of a business entity acting as a “school official” as defined in this Policy;
2. pursuant to a management agreement between a public school academy and an educational management organization;
3. as necessary for standardized testing; or
4. as necessary to a person who is providing educational or educational support services to the student pursuant to a contract with the school.

#### K. Disclosure of Education Records in Response to Subpoena/Court Order

To the extent consistent with state law, including the nondisclosure requirements of Revised Judicature Act Section 2165, school officials may release or disclose personally identifiable information contained in a student’s education records without the consent of the Parent or eligible student upon receipt of a court order or lawfully issued subpoena requiring disclosure of the information. To the extent permitted or required by law, before complying with a court order or subpoena, school officials must notify the Parent or eligible student, in writing, that the District intends to comply with the court order or subpoena.

#### L. Disclosure of Education Records in Other Circumstances

Except as provided in this Policy, the District and its employees and agents are prohibited from disclosing personally identifiable information from a student’s education records without the written consent of a Parent or eligible student unless the disclosure is otherwise permitted or required by law, including, without limitation, if the disclosure is:

- necessary because of a health or safety emergency;
- to authorized state or federal officials;
- in connection with a student’s application for or receipt of financial aid;
- made for purposes of conducting a study for or on behalf of an educational agency or institution;
- to an accrediting organization;
- concerning a registered sex offender; or
- to a representative of a child welfare agency for a foster child.

A school official may not disclose personally identifiable information from a student’s education records unless disclosure is consistent with the requirements of state and federal law, including FERPA.

#### M. Disclosure Logs

The Superintendent or designee will maintain, to the extent required by law, a log of those persons to whom personally identifiable information from a student's education records has been disclosed. The record will identify the student whose information was disclosed, the person or entity who requested or received the information, the information that was disclosed, the date the Parent or eligible student provided written consent (if necessary for the disclosure), a legitimate reason for the disclosure, and any other information required by law.

Subject to the limitations below, a Parent or eligible student may request, in writing, information related to disclosure of personally identifiable information by the District. This information includes:

- the specific personally identifiable information that was disclosed by the District;
- the name and contact information of each person, agency, or organization to which the District disclosed the student's personally identifiable information; and
- the legitimate reason that the person, agency, or organization had in obtaining the personally identifiable information.

The District is not required to provide information about the disclosure of personally identifiable information if the personally identifiable information is:

1. provided to MDE or CEPI;
2. provided to the eligible student or the student's Parent;
3. provided to an intermediate school district providing services pursuant to a written agreement;
4. provided by an intermediate school district to a school district or to a public school academy in which the pupil is enrolled or to a school district or public school academy providing services to the pupil pursuant to a written agreement;
5. provided to a person, agency, or organization with the written consent of the eligible student or the student's Parent;
6. provided to a person, agency, or organization in accordance with an order, subpoena, or ex parte order issued by a court of competent jurisdiction;
7. provided as necessary for standardized assessments that measure the student's academic progress and achievement;
8. covered by the District's Directory Information Opt Out Form, unless the Parent or eligible student has signed and submitted the Opt Out Form.

#### N. Video Recordings

A video recording that is directly related to a student may be an “education record” (e.g., when it is maintained to document student conduct or misconduct, unless it is maintained by a law enforcement unit and used solely for a law enforcement purpose). The Superintendent or designee will determine, on a case-by-case basis, upon receipt of a request for the video’s disclosure, whether a particular video is an “education record” and whether it contains “personally identifiable information” about a student. If the Superintendent or designee determines that a video recording is an “education record,” its disclosure and the rights of Parents and eligible students to inspect and review the video recording are governed by this Policy, applicable laws, and relevant state and federal guidance.

#### O. Disclosure of Records to Law Enforcement

Nothing in this Policy limits a school official’s right or duty under state law or pursuant to the Statewide School Safety Information Policy to contact law enforcement to report possible criminal activity. A school official may not, however, disclose personally identifiable information from a student’s education records to law enforcement without the prior written consent of a Parent or eligible student unless disclosure is otherwise permitted or required by state or federal law (e.g., in response to a health or safety emergency or a court order or subpoena).

If a school official reports possible criminal activity of a student with a disability as defined by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, the school official must transmit a copy of the student’s special education records and disciplinary records to the authorities to whom the crime is reported in a manner consistent with FERPA (i.e., with prior written consent or a lawful exception to consent). Except for disclosures in response to a health or safety emergency, school officials must seek written consent to transmit the records of a student with a disability immediately after reporting the student’s potential criminal activity to authorities.

#### P. Disclosure of Information to Military Recruiter

The District will provide recruiters of the Armed Forces of the United States with at least the same access to the high school campus and to directory information as is provided to other entities offering educational or employment opportunities to those students, as required by state and federal law. “Armed Forces of the United States” means the armed forces of the United States and their reserve components and the United States Coast Guard.

The Directory Information Opt Out Form must include the option to opt out of the disclosure of the student’s directory information to recruiters of the Armed Forces of the United States. Upon receipt of a written “opt out,” school officials may not release the student’s directory information to recruiters of the Armed Forces of the United States. The District may charge a fee, not to exceed the actual costs of copying and mailing the requested directory information, to recruiters of the Armed Forces of the United States, to the same extent it charges other organizations.

#### Q. Annual Notice Requirements

The Superintendent or designee will send an annual notice to Parents and eligible students notifying them of the following:

1. the right to inspect and review their student's education records;
2. the right to seek amendment of their student's education records, the process for requesting amendment, and applicable hearing procedures;
3. the identity of designated "school officials" and the definition of "legitimate educational interest";
4. the definition of "directory information" and notice that their student's directory information may be disclosed without consent unless the Parent or eligible student opts out of allowing disclosure;
5. the District's practice to disclose a student's education records, including disciplinary records, to another school or post-secondary institution in which the student seeks or intends to enroll or is enrolled;
6. the right to consent to the disclosure of personally identifiable information from a student's education record before its disclosure, unless a nonconsensual disclosure is otherwise authorized by law;
7. the right to opt out of disclosure of directory information to recruiters for Armed Forces of the United States and their service academies;
8. the right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education alleging that the District violated FERPA; and
9. the right to obtain a copy of the Board's policies and administrative regulations about student records.

Legal authority: 20 USC 1401 et seq., 1232g, 7165, 7908; 26 USC 152; 34 CFR Part 99, 300; MCL 15.243(2); MCL 380.1134-1136, 380.1137a, 380.1279g; MCL 600.2165; MCL 722.30; MCL 780.855, 780.871; *Records Retention and Disposal Schedule for Michigan Public Schools*

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters

### 5400 Curriculum, Instruction, and Parent Involvement

#### 5401 Parent Involvement in Education

##### A. Parent Involvement

The District will take the following steps to encourage Parent involvement in their student's education:

1. Parents will be provided the opportunity to review District-approved curriculum, textbooks, and instructional materials, including any material that will be used in connection with a survey, analysis, or evaluation, upon request.
  - a. Requests to review curriculum, textbooks, and instructional materials must be made to the building principal.
  - b. Parents may review textbooks based on availability and may review instructional materials within a time frame determined by the building principal or designee.
2. Parents will be permitted to attend and observe instructional activities in a class or course in which their student is enrolled and present.

Parents must make an appointment with the building principal to observe instructional activities in a class or course in which the student is enrolled and present. The building principal will permit a Parent observation unless the building principal determines that the observation would disrupt the class or course. Frequent observations are likely disruptive. Absent unusual circumstances, as determined by the building principal, observations that last more than 30 minutes or occur on consecutive days will not be permitted. Parents who want to observe instructional activities also must adhere to Policy 3105.

Parents are not permitted to observe testing.

3. Parents may inspect and review their student's education records, upon written request, consistent with Policy 5309 and state and federal law.
4. A copy of this Policy must be included in the Student Handbook.
5. See Policy 5405 for Parent and Family Engagement Policy at schools receiving Title I funds.
6. [Optional: The Superintendent is directed to develop and implement parental involvement contracts with Parents. These contracts must be voluntary and must include the following:
  - a. The Parent will:

- i. review homework and offer assistance when needed;
  - ii. ensure the student arrives at school each day on time and ready to learn;
  - iii. attend school functions and support the student's school activities; and,
  - iv. make every effort to attend parent-teacher conferences.
- b. The student will:
- i. participate in class discussions;
  - ii. complete assignments in an accurate, neat, and timely manner;
  - iii. come to school each day on time;
  - iv. pay attention in class and complete assigned lessons;
  - v. obey applicable rules and codes of conduct; and
  - vi. respect teachers, school administrators, and other students.
- c. The teacher will:
- i. set high standards for quality instruction that promote grade-appropriate academic skills;
  - ii. keep accurate attendance records;
  - iii. teach students how to study;
  - iv. review basic concepts taught in class;
  - v. maintain a welcoming atmosphere; and
  - vi. provide flexible scheduling for Parent visits and participation.
- d. Ways for the Parent to explain any obstacles that prevent compliance with the contract.

If a parental involvement contract identifies obstacles to participation, the Superintendent will consider accessing possible resources to help overcome those obstacles.]

## B. Assessments and Surveys

### 1. State assessments

Pursuant to state law, the District will not approve Parent requests to opt students out of state assessments.

### 2. National Assessment of Educational Progress

As a condition of receiving federal funds and as required by state law, the District may be selected to participate in the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP). To help ensure that the District has a representative sample of students taking the NAEP, which will allow the District to assess the quality and effectiveness of its programming on a national level, the District strongly encourages all eligible students to participate. Student participation in NAEP is voluntary.

The District will notify Parents of students eligible to take the NAEP before the assessment is administered. Parents wishing to opt their students out of the NAEP assessment must notify the District in writing at least 3 school days before the assessment date to ensure that the District can coordinate supervision and alternative activities for students who have opted out.

### 3. Surveys

Parents will be notified before their student participates in surveys on certain topics in accordance with Policy 5308.

Legal authority: MCL 380.1137, 380.1280b, 380.1295, 380.1507(3)

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## **Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters**

### **5400 Curriculum, Instruction, and Parent Involvement**

#### ***5402 Communication with Parents***

The District will inform Parents of student progress, grades, and attendance through report cards, progress reports, parent-teacher conferences and Parent access to the District's student information system. The District will notify a Parent if a student is failing or close to failing a course, either through direct communication or through Parent access to the District's student information system.

Other pertinent information will be communicated to Parents by mail, electronic communication, telephone calls, personal contact, or other method deemed appropriate by the school staff member.

By providing the District with their telephone number(s), Parents agree to receive notifications from the District's automated notification system.

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## **Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters**

### **5400 Curriculum, Instruction, and Parent Involvement**

#### ***5403 Rights of Non-Custodial Parents***

Absent production of a court order that provides otherwise, District personnel will treat each Parent, regardless of custody or visitation rights, the same as to accessing student records, meeting and conferring with District personnel, visiting a child at school, and transporting a child to or from school. District personnel are not responsible for enforcing visitation or parenting time orders to which the District is not a party.

Legal authority: 34 CFR 99.3; MCL 722.30; OAG, No. 5027 (June 30, 1976)

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## **Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters**

### **5400 Curriculum, Instruction, and Parent Involvement**

#### ***5404 Free Textbooks, Materials, and Charging of Fees and Fines***

The District will provide free instruction in accordance with state law and the State Board of Education's Position Statement on Free Textbooks, Materials, and the Charging of Fees.

##### **A. Textbooks and Materials**

The District will not charge a fee for materials necessary to complete required or elective courses. Students and Parents may purchase additional supplies at their own expense. The District may charge a reasonable and refundable deposit to cover damage to textbooks and supplies.

##### **B. Fees**

The District will not charge students a fee to participate in curricular activities. The District may charge students a fee to participate in extracurricular and noncurricular activities to cover the District's reasonable costs. The District may require students to furnish specialized equipment and clothing required for participation in extracurricular and noncurricular activities or may charge a reasonable fee for the use of District-owned equipment or clothing. The activity's coach or sponsor will provide students with information about the fees charged and the equipment or clothing required.

##### **C. Fines**

The District may require students and their Parents to reimburse the District for actual costs to repair or replace District property that is lost, damaged, stolen, returned in a different condition, or not returned on time. The District may pursue legal remedies to collect unpaid fines.

##### **D. Optional Insurance**

The District may offer the opportunity for students or Parents to purchase insurance to protect against damage to District equipment or supplies. The decision to offer insurance rests with the District.

##### **E. Donations**

The District may request donations of money, materials, equipment, or clothing from Parents and community members to defray the costs of providing certain services and activities to students. Employees are directed to clearly communicate to students, Parents, and community members that donations are voluntary.

A teacher may provide a list of suggested materials that students and Parents may purchase. Purchasing materials is voluntary and not required for curricular activities.

#### F. Waivers

Students who qualify for free or reduced-price lunches under U.S. Department of Agriculture child nutrition programs will be provided a fee waiver or the necessary materials or equipment without charge for: (1) participation in extracurricular activities, (2) materials for course projects, and (3) the use of a musical instrument in elective music courses. Actual participation in the free or reduced-price lunch program is not required to qualify for these waivers. The District is not obligated to provide any particular type or quality of equipment or other material to eligible students. A student who wishes to be considered for a fee waiver must submit a completed fee waiver application to the building principal.

Legal authority: MCL 600.2913; State Board of Education's Position Statement on Free Textbooks, Materials, and the Charging of Fees (March 1972)

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters

### 5400 Curriculum, Instruction, and Parent Involvement

**5405 *Title I Parent and Family Engagement Policy*** [Optional if the District does not receive Title I Part A funding / Required for Districts that receive Title I Part A funding. Section D (Implementation) requires the District to insert the activities identified through Parent and family consultation] [Note: If the Board elects not to adopt this Policy, delete the policy language and replace title with “Intentionally Left Blank” after the policy number and in the Table of Contents to ensure accurate numbering of subsequent policies in the Policy Manual.]

[Note: If the Board adopts this policy, it must be reviewed annually, and Parents must be given an opportunity to provide input.]

#### A. Development and Annual Review

This Policy will be jointly developed and annually reviewed, amended, and distributed to Parents and family members of participating students and the local community in an understandable format, and to the extent practicable, in a language the Parents can understand.

Parents and family members must have opportunities for meaningful input during the annual review process. Information about how Parents and families may provide input will be posted on the District’s website. The annual review of this Policy’s content and effectiveness will be used to design evidence-based strategies for more effective parental involvement, to revise this Policy, and to remove barriers to Parent and family participation.

This Policy includes a School-Parent Compact jointly developed by the District and Parents that outlines how the Title I school, Parents, and students share responsibility for improved student academic achievement and the means by which the school and Parents build and develop a partnership to help students achieve state education standards.

#### B. Parent and Family Engagement

The District recognizes the unique needs of students served in its Title I program and the importance of Parent and family engagement in the Title I program.

1. Parent and family engagement means the participation of Parents through regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring that:
  - a. Parents play an integral role in assisting their child’s learning;
  - b. Parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child’s education at school;

- c. Parents are full partners in their child's education and are included, as appropriate, in decision-making and on advisory committees to assist in the education of their child; and
  - d. other activities, such as those described in section 1116 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) are carried out.
2. Parent and family engagement activities are required under this Policy and include, for example, activities such as:
- a. an annual school meeting to: inform Parents of their school's participation under Title I, Part A; clarify the requirements of Title I, Part A; and explain Parents' right to be involved. Additional meetings may be scheduled, based on need and interest;
  - b. providing Parents information about the school's Title I, Part A programs, including a description of the school's: curriculum, forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress, proficiency levels students are expected to meet, achievement levels of the state academic standards, and coordination and integration with other federal, state, and District programs;
  - c. opportunities to participate in activities to build Parent involvement capacity, such as training and providing materials to help Parents to work with their students to improve achievement and encouraging volunteer work at the school as appropriate;
  - d. opportunities for Parent-teacher conferences, in addition to those regularly scheduled by the District, if requested by the Parents or as deemed necessary by District staff;
  - e. coordination and integration of parental involvement programs and activities with other community programs. These may include cooperation with community programs such as Head Start, preschools, and other community services; and
  - f. educating teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals, and other school leaders, with the assistance of Parents, in the value and utility of parental contributions, how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with Parents as equal partners.

All Parents, including those with limited English proficiency, disabilities, or limited literacy and those who are economically disadvantaged, of a minority background, or migratory, will have opportunities to participate in Title I parent engagement activities.

Communication to Parents about student progress and other Title I matters will be provided in a language the Parent can understand, to the extent practicable. Responses to Parent concerns will be provided in a timely manner.

### C. District Obligations

The District will:

1. operate programs, activities, and procedures for the involvement of Parents in all its schools with Title I, Part A programs. Those programs, activities, and procedures will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation with Parents of participating children;
2. work with its schools to ensure that school-level Parent and family engagement practices are implemented appropriately, and include, as a component, the School-Parent Compact;
3. incorporate this Policy into its LEA plan developed under section 1112 of the ESEA;
4. provide opportunities for the informed participation of all Parents and family members, by providing information and school reports as required by law in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language Parents understand; and
5. if the LEA plan developed under this Policy is not satisfactory to the Parents of participating children, submit Parent comments when it submits the plan to the Michigan Department of Education.

### D. Implementation

1. The District will take the following actions to involve Parents in the joint development of this Policy:
  - [List additional actions]
2. The District will provide the following coordination, technical assistance, and other support to assist Title I, Part A schools in planning and implementing effective Parent and family engagement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance:
  - [List activities]
3. The District will take the following actions to conduct, with the involvement of Parents, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this Policy:
  - [List actions, such as describing how the evaluation will be conducted, identifying who will be responsible for conducting it, and explaining what role Parents will play]
4. To encourage strong Parent and family engagement, the District will:
  - a. hold an informational meeting at least annually to explain this Policy and the school's Title I programming. All Parents of participating students will be

invited to this meeting. Invitations may take the form of notes sent with students, announcements in the school newsletter, and notice posted on the school's website;

- b. provide assistance to Parents and children served by the District in understanding topics such as:
  - state academic standards;
  - state and local academic assessments including alternate assessments;
  - Title I, Part A requirements;
  - child progress monitoring; and
  - collaboration with educators.
- c. provide materials and training to help Parents work with their children to improve academic achievement and use technology to foster Parent and family engagement by:
  - [List materials and training activities]
- d. educate Employees on how to communicate and work with Parents as equal partners, implement Parent programs, and build ties between Parents and schools by:
  - [List activities]
- e. to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate Parent and family engagement programs and activities with other relevant federal, state, and local programs, and conduct other activities, such as parent resource centers, that encourage and support Parents in participating in the education of their children, by:
  - [List activities]
- f. ensure that information related to the District and Parent programs, meetings, and other activities is sent to the Parents of participating children in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language the Parents can understand by:
  - [List actions]

Legal Authority: 20 USC 6318

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## **Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters**

### **5400 Curriculum, Instruction, and Parent Involvement**

#### **5406 Title I Funds**

The District will use Title I funds (including Perkins V funds) to supplement, not supplant, state and local funds that would, in the absence of Title I funds, be spent on Title I programs. The District will ensure that Title I funds will not be used to provide services that otherwise take the place of public education services that are to be provided to all students. A student's eligibility for Title I services may not disqualify the student from any service for which the student is otherwise eligible.

The District will maintain records of Title I-funded professional development. The Superintendent or designee will ensure that professional development is aligned with the needs of the District's Title I programs. Title I-funded professional development will not duplicate that which is funded from other sources and which, in the absence of Title I funds, would be provided to all staff.

Legal Authority: 20 USC 6301 et seq.

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters

### 5400 Curriculum, Instruction, and Parent Involvement

#### 5407 Instructional Program and Curriculum Development

The District will provide students with at least the minimum number of instructional hours and days each school year required by the state for full state aid funding. The District may deviate from this requirement only as permitted by state law.

The Board, advised by the Superintendent, will adopt a curriculum and procure textbooks and materials to support the curriculum.

The Superintendent or designee is responsible for providing and directing District-wide planning for curriculum, instruction, assessment, and staff development in accordance with Policy 2203. Committees consisting of educational professionals, including administrators, and community members, may be established to design instructional strategies and assessments to implement the curriculum.

#### A. Parent Rights

As described in Policy 5401, the District will provide a Parent the opportunity to review District-approved curriculum, textbooks, and instructional materials upon request to the building principal. See Policy 5401 for appropriate procedures.

#### B. [Optional, but recommended] Complaints about Instructional Materials

If a Parent objects to their student's instructional materials, the following procedures will apply:

1. First Level – Objection to Building Principal. The Parent must submit an objection and explanation in writing to the building principal using Form 5407-F. The building principal will review the Parent's objection and the objected materials to determine whether:
  - a. the stated objection outweighs the educational and pedagogical reasons the material was selected;
  - b. the materials require the student to engage in conduct or practice that violates or substantially interferes with the student's sincerely held religious belief or religious development;
  - c. the materials lack serious educational, literary, artistic, political, or scientific value for the age range of the students in question; or
  - d. the materials are inappropriate or harmful for the age range of the students in question.

The building principal will confer with the teacher as part of their review of the Parent's objection.

The building principal will provide all parties with a written response granting or denying the Parent's objection within 10 school days. If the Parent's objection is granted, the student will be excused from this instructional material with no negative consequence.

2. [Choose Option 1 Superintendent Review or Option 2 Committee Review]

[Option 1:] Second Level - Superintendent Review. If the Parent disagrees with the building principal's response, the Parent may submit a written appeal to the Superintendent within 5 school days after receiving the building principal's response. The Superintendent will review the Parent's written objection, the building principal's written response, the Parent's written appeal, the materials being challenged, and any other information the Superintendent deems relevant. The Superintendent will issue a written decision within 30 calendar days of receiving the appeal based on the factors described in Section 1 above. The Superintendent's decision is final. If the Parent's appeal is granted, the student will be excused from this instructional material with no negative consequence.

[Option 2:] Second Level – Committee Review. If the Parent disagrees with the building principal's response, the Parent may submit a written appeal to the Superintendent within 5 school days after receiving the building principal's response. The Superintendent will create a committee to review the appeal. The committee will review the Parent's written objection, the building principal's response, the Parent's written appeal, the materials being challenged, and any other information the committee deems relevant. The committee will issue a written decision within 30 calendar days of receiving the appeal based on the factors described in Section 1 above. The committee's decision is final. If the Parent's appeal is granted, the student will be excused from this instructional material with no negative consequence.

C. [Optional, but recommended] Complaints about Library Materials

1. If a Parent objects to materials in the school library, the Parent must submit an objection and explanation in writing to the Superintendent identifying:
  - a. the basis for the objection;
  - b. any recent known use of the library materials in the school; and
  - c. any other relevant information.
2. The Superintendent will review the written objection and the materials in question in their totality to determine whether:
  - a. the materials lack serious educational, literary, artistic, political, or scientific value for the age range of the students in question; or

- b. the materials are inappropriate or harmful for the age range of the students in question.

The Superintendent may, in his or her sole discretion, designate review to another administrator or employee. The Superintendent or designee will endeavor to provide a written response to the Parent within 30 calendar days after receiving the objection. The Superintendent or designee's decision is final.

The District will not restrict access to the challenged material during the review process.

Legal Authority: MCL 380.1137; MCL 388.1706; *Mahmoud v Taylor*, 606 US \_\_ (2025)

Date adopted:

Date revised:

**Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters**

**5400 Curriculum, Instruction, and Parent Involvement**

**5407-F Instructional Materials Opt-Out Form (Not Sex Education, Family Planning, and/or Reproductive Health)**

[District Name] uses a variety of instructional materials to achieve academic objectives, follow state content and curriculum standards, and ensure students are exposed to a wide range of ideas and viewpoints. While the District strives to select materials that are inclusive for all students and acceptable to all families, there may be times when a Parent or student objects to certain materials. In these circumstances, a Parent may request their student's excusal from the instructional material. Opt-out requests will be reviewed using the procedure in Policy 5407.

***If you are seeking to opt your student out of sex education, family planning, and/or reproductive health instruction, do not use this form. Please follow the procedures described in Policy 5420.***

I request that my child, \_\_\_\_\_, be excused from the following class instruction: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please list the specific curricular material, lesson, or book from which you are seeking excusal. Failure to provide specific information will result in this request being denied.**

Reason for opt-out:

- The materials require the student to engage in conduct or practice that violates or
- substantially interferes with the student's sincerely held religious belief and/or religious development. Specific religious objection: \_\_\_\_\_
  - The materials lack serious educational, literary, artistic, political, or scientific value for the age range of the students in question.
  - The materials are inappropriate or harmful for the age range of the students in question.
  - Other. Specific objection: \_\_\_\_\_

This form must be used for all opt-out requests, excluding sex education, family planning, and/or reproductive health instruction. Failure to use this form or to fully complete this form will result in the request being denied.

Parent's Name (Print): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Date

Parent's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**Principal Response:**

- Granted
- Denied (provide denial rationale): \_\_\_\_\_

**Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters**

**5400 Curriculum, Instruction, and Parent Involvement**

**5408 *Intentionally Left Blank***

## Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters

### 5400 Curriculum, Instruction, and Parent Involvement

#### 5409 Academic Credits and Graduation

##### A. Graduation Requirements

A student must successfully complete all graduation requirements to earn a high school diploma. The Superintendent will ensure that the District's required credits and graduation criteria are consistent with state law and annually published in applicable student handbooks.

[Insert your District's academic and graduation requirements here.]

##### B. Personal Curriculum

In some cases, it may be appropriate to modify the Michigan Merit Curriculum for a student. Modifications may only be made in accordance with state law. The Parent of a student who has completed grade 9 or a student who has reached age 18 may request a personal curriculum. A Parent of a student with a disability under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act may request a personal curriculum before the student has completed grade 9.

A teacher or school counselor may request that the District consider providing a student with a personal curriculum. If requested by a teacher, the teacher must currently teach or have expertise in a subject area proposed to be modified by the personal curriculum or the building principal must determine that the teacher has qualifications relevant to developing a personal curriculum.

In all cases, a student's personal curriculum must be developed in accordance with state law.

The District will annually notify Parents of their ability to request a personal curriculum.

##### C. Earning Credit

The District will grant credit to a student who successfully completes a course. Successful completion means that the student has met content expectations of the state- or District-approved subject area content standards for the course by obtaining a D- or higher grade in the course based, in part, on at least 1 state- or District-approved assessment.

Alternatively, the District will grant equivalent credit for a required Michigan Merit Curriculum course if the student earns a qualifying score, as determined by MDE or by the District, on a state- or District-approved assessment (i.e., "testing out").

The District will grant equivalent credit for a course if the student demonstrates a reasonable level of mastery by achieving a C+ or better on the final examination

for the course or, if there is no final examination, by demonstrating subject area content knowledge by obtaining a C+ or better on an alternative assessment, such as a portfolio, performance, paper, project, presentation, or other established means. A student who earns credit in a course by “testing out” will not earn a grade in the course, and the credit will not be considered for determining grade point average or any honors earned based on grade point average.

The District will grant a student credit toward a diploma or alternative certificate if the student successfully completes, before entering high school, a state-mandated curriculum requirement by demonstrating proficiency on the content expectations for that curriculum requirement, either through successfully completing the course or by testing out.

Once a student earns credit in a course, either by successfully completing the course or by testing out, the student may not earn additional credit for the course or for a lower level course in the same subject.

The Board will recognize credits earned at other public schools and at accredited nonpublic schools. For students transferring from a home school program, the Superintendent or designee will assess whether the home school credit reflects proficiency in state and District content expectations for each course for which the student seeks to transfer credit. If the Superintendent or designee determines that the student is proficient in the subject area content, the District will award transfer credit.

Legal authority: MCL 380.1278a, 380.1278b, 380.1279b

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters

### 5400 Curriculum, Instruction, and Parent Involvement

#### 5410 Commencement

The District may conduct a commencement ceremony for eligible students at the end of the school year. Participation in the ceremony is a privilege, not a right. The Superintendent or designee may prohibit students from participating in the ceremony as a consequence for misconduct. A student's disqualification from participating in the commencement ceremony does not impact the issuance of a diploma to the student, provided that all graduation requirements have been satisfied.

"Eligible students" means those students who have completed all District graduation requirements [Recommended: or who have received a certificate of completion].

A student may participate in only 1 commencement ceremony.

[Optional: A student who needs [ ] or fewer credits to satisfy graduation requirements may participate in a commencement ceremony but will not be awarded a diploma until all graduation requirements have been met. Being permitted to participate in the ceremony does not constitute graduation, and only those students who have completed all graduation requirements will receive a diploma.]

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters

### 5400 Curriculum, Instruction, and Parent Involvement

#### 5411 *Student Promotion, Retention, and Placement*

The District has the sole discretion to make promotion, retention, and placement decisions for its students, consistent with state and federal law. The District may consider Parent requests that a student be placed in a particular classroom, building, educational program, or grade.

##### A. Student Promotion and Retention

The building principal will attempt to consult with a student's Parent before deciding to retain a student, advance a student to the next grade mid-year, or allow a student to skip a grade level. If the Parent disagrees with the building principal's decision about promotion or retention, the Superintendent or designee will make the final decision.

##### B. Student Placement

The Superintendent or designee will determine a student's classroom and building placement based on District needs, available space, and educational expertise, consistent with state and federal law. The District's placement decision is final. Nothing in this section may be construed to limit or modify rights under state or federal laws applicable to students with disabilities, including the right to have placement decisions made by an IEP or Section 504 Team.

##### C. Intradistrict Choice

A student who is the victim of a violent criminal offense at school may transfer to another public school in the District, if available. A student who is attending a persistently dangerous school may transfer to another public school in the District, if available. The Superintendent or designee will notify Parents if their student is eligible to transfer under this Policy.

This Policy incorporates the definitions for "violent criminal offense" and "persistently dangerous school" contained in the Michigan State Board of Education's Statewide Safe School Choice Policy.

##### D. Nontraditional Programs

The District may operate nontraditional programs to meet the needs of all students. Nontraditional programs may include alternative education or virtual settings. The building principal or designee will attempt to consult with a student's Parent before finalizing a decision to move a student to a nontraditional program. If the Parent disagrees with the building principal's or designee's decision, the Superintendent or designee will make the final decision, consistent with applicable law. Nothing in this section may be construed to limit or modify rights under state or federal laws

applicable to students with disabilities, including the right to have placement decisions made by an IEP or Section 504 Team.

E. Reserved

Legal authority: 20 USC 7912; MCL 380.1278a, 380.1278b, MCL 388.1621f

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters

### 5400 Curriculum, Instruction, and Parent Involvement

**5412 *Class Rank*** [Optional] [Note: If the Board elects not to adopt this Policy, delete the body of the policy and replace the title with “Intentionally Left Blank” after the policy number *and* in the Table of Contents to ensure accurate numbering of subsequent policies in the Policy Manual.]

The Superintendent or designee may establish criteria for determining student class rank, eligibility for honor roll, and other academic recognition. The criteria will be published annually in the applicable student handbook(s).

The Superintendent’s or designee’s determination of criteria under this Policy and decisions about class rank, honor roll, and other academic recognition are final.

Nothing in this Policy may be construed to require class ranking, honor roll, or other academic recognition.

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters

### 5400 Curriculum, Instruction, and Parent Involvement

**5413 Senior Recognition** [Optional] [Note: If the Board elects not to adopt this Policy, delete the body of the policy and replace the title with “Intentionally Left Blank” after the policy number *and* in the Table of Contents to ensure accurate numbering of subsequent policies in the Policy Manual.]

The District will recognize the outstanding achievement of its graduating seniors in the following manner:

[Insert your District’s process for selecting valedictorian and salutatorian or otherwise recognizing student achievement at graduation.]

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters

### 5400 Curriculum, Instruction, and Parent Involvement

**5414 Completion Certificates** [Optional] [Note: If the Board elects not to adopt this Policy, delete the body of the policy and replace the title with “Intentionally Left Blank” after the policy number *and* in the Table of Contents to ensure accurate numbering of subsequent policies in the Policy Manual.]

[Note: The Board may choose not to offer a completion certificate or to recognize fewer, more, or different completion certificates. Likewise, the Board may select different criteria for awarding a completion certificate.]

In lieu of a traditional high school diploma, the Board recognizes 3 completion certificates. Completion certificates are only available to students who are unable to satisfy District and state graduation requirements. A student who earns a completion certificate may participate in commencement and all other District graduation ceremonies and events to the same extent, and subject to the same rules, as students who have earned a traditional high school diploma. Receipt of a completion certificate does not terminate a student’s right to a free appropriate public education under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

#### A. Certificate of Academic Competence

The Board will award a Certificate of Academic Competence to a student who earns [ ] high school credits and who demonstrates college or career readiness through the Michigan Merit Examination or on a recognized career-readiness assessment, such as the Compass or WorkKeys assessment. A Certificate of Academic Competence is not a high school diploma and is intended for students who are not able to successfully complete the Michigan Merit Curriculum but who have demonstrated the requisite academic skills to be successful in a college or vocational trades program.

#### B. Certificate of Vocational Readiness

The Board will award a Certificate of Vocational Readiness to a student who completes 4 years of high school and who has demonstrated through a special education or career and technical education program the ability to perform work-related tasks. A Certificate of Vocational Readiness is not a high school diploma and is intended for students who are not able to successfully complete the Michigan Merit Curriculum or to earn a Certificate of Academic Competence but who have demonstrated the requisite job-related skills to successfully enter the workforce, with or without accommodation.

#### C. Certificate of Attendance

The Board will award a Certificate of Attendance to a student who completes 4 years of high school. A Certificate of Attendance is not a high school diploma and is intended for those students who are not able to successfully complete the

Michigan Merit Curriculum, earn a Certificate of Academic Competence, or earn a Certificate of Vocational Readiness.

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## **Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters**

### **5400 Curriculum, Instruction, and Parent Involvement**

#### ***5415 Summer School***

The District may offer a summer school program to provide additional educational opportunities for students who need remedial instruction, credit recovery, or enrichment experiences. Students enrolled in summer school are subject to Board policies, rules, laws, behavioral expectations, and applicable student codes of conduct.

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters

### 5400 Curriculum, Instruction, and Parent Involvement

#### 5416 *Homebound and Hospitalized Instruction*

The District will provide an enrolled student with instruction in the student's home, hospital, or licensed treatment facility if both of the following requirements are met:

- A. The student's Parent submits a homebound/hospitalized instruction form which includes verification by a legally authorized healthcare provider of a medical condition that requires the student to be hospitalized or confined to the home during regular school hours for a period longer than 5 consecutive school days. A student who is able to attend school for part of the day is not eligible for homebound instruction; and
- B. The student is physically able to participate in instruction while hospitalized or confined to the home.

Homebound instruction is not intended to replicate the classroom experience. For most students, the District will provide a minimum of 2 45-minute sessions per week with a certificated teacher. For students with disabilities under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), the District will provide a minimum of 2 nonconsecutive hours per week with a certificated teacher. Homebound instruction may be supplemented with a variety of in-person and distance learning services, as determined appropriate by the Superintendent or relevant educational team.

For students with disabilities under IDEA, the District will, as soon as possible, either convene an IEP Team meeting or amend a student's IEP without a meeting and with Parent agreement to consider the appropriate services to be provided in the least restrictive environment.

The District will provide homebound and hospitalized instruction consistent with state law and MDE guidance.

Legal authority: MCL 388.1709; Mich Admin Code R 340.2(11), 340.2(12), 340.1746; *Providing Homebound and Hospitalized Educational Services for Michigan Public School Pupils*, as amended; Michigan Pupil Accounting Manual

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters

### 5400 Curriculum, Instruction, and Parent Involvement

**5417 Homework** [Optional] [Note: If the Board elects not to adopt this Policy, delete the body of the policy and replace the title with “Intentionally Left Blank” after the policy number *and* in the Table of Contents to ensure accurate numbering of subsequent policies in the Policy Manual.]

Homework is intended to facilitate and support student learning of concepts or skills found in the curriculum. Building principals or designees may adopt building- or grade-specific homework guidelines, which will be communicated to students, Parents, and teachers.

Teachers will comply with any building- or grade-specific homework guidelines and should consider a student’s age and capabilities and use their professional judgment in determining length, difficulty, and student readiness when assigning homework.

Teachers may consider a student’s homework performance in determining a student’s grade.

[Optional: Teachers should strive to keep homework assignments to a minimum on Wednesday nights, which is traditionally considered “family night” in the community.]

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters

### 5400 Curriculum, Instruction, and Parent Involvement

#### 5418 Grades

The Superintendent or designee will develop and implement student grading guidelines to be used by teachers. The objective of grades is to quantify and report each student's academic achievement.

[Optional: The building principal will publish grade-change procedures, if any, for the school building in the student handbook. All procedures must be consistent with Board Policy.]

Date adopted:

Date revised:

**Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters**

**5400 Curriculum, Instruction, and Parent Involvement**

**5419 *Reading Assessments, Instruction, Intervention, and Retention***

The District will provide instruction and interventions to promote literacy, with a specific emphasis on students in grades K-3, and will follow the procedures and requirements enumerated in state law.

Legal authority: MCL 380.1280f

Date Adopted:

Date Revised:

## Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters

### 5400 Curriculum, Instruction, and Parent Involvement

#### 5420 Sex Education

Sex Education and Reproductive Health (for districts electing to provide sex and reproductive health education in addition to mandated communicable disease instruction).

##### A. Communicable Disease Instruction

The Superintendent or designee will ensure that students are taught about dangerous communicable diseases. Instruction must include the principal modes by which dangerous communicable diseases, including, but not limited to, human immunodeficiency virus infection and acquired immunodeficiency syndrome, are spread and the best methods for disease restriction and prevention.

Instruction must be provided by qualified instructors as defined by state law. Instruction must stress that abstinence from sex is: (1) a responsible and effective method of preventing sexually transmitted diseases, and (2) a positive lifestyle for unmarried young people.

##### B. Revision to Materials and Methods of Instruction

Before revising curriculum about dangerous communicable diseases, the Board will hold at least 2 public hearings occurring at least 1 week apart on the proposed revisions.

##### C. Sex Education Advisory Board

The Board will create a sex education advisory board to:

1. establish sex education program goals and objectives for student knowledge and skills that are likely to reduce the rates of sex, pregnancy, and sexually transmitted diseases;
2. review materials and methods of instruction used in the District's sex education program;
3. make recommendations to the Board for implementation of a sex education program; and
4. evaluate, measure, and report the attainment of program goals and objectives at least every 2 years.

The sex education advisory board must include the following members: Parents, students, educators, local clergy, and community health professionals. At least half of the members must be Parents who have a student in the District. A majority of those Parents must not be employed by a school district.

The sex education advisory board will have 2 co-chairs appointed by the Board. One co-chair must be a Parent of a student in the District.

The Board may, in its discretion, determine and modify terms of service for sex education advisory board members, the number of members, and the membership selection process.

Co-chairs or their designees will provide members of the sex education advisory board 2 weeks' electronic or written notice of meetings.

#### D. Sex Education Courses

The Board authorizes age-appropriate, medically-accurate instruction in sex education including, but not limited to, family planning, human sexuality, and the emotional, physical, psychological, hygienic, economic, and social aspects of family life. Instruction may also include the subjects of reproductive health and the recognition, prevention, and treatment of sexually transmitted diseases. The District's sex education curriculum must comply with state law.

Sex education instruction must be provided by qualified instructors as defined by state law. Instruction must stress that abstinence is (1) a responsible and effective method of preventing unplanned pregnancy, out-of-wedlock pregnancy, and sexually transmitted diseases, and (2) a positive lifestyle for unmarried young people.

Sex education is an elective course and is not required for graduation.

#### E. Reproductive Health Instruction

A reproductive health instruction program must be supervised by a licensed physician, a registered nurse, or other person certified by the State Board of Education as qualified.

No person may dispense or distribute a family planning drug or device on District property.

Clinical abortion is not considered a method of family planning, and abortion must not be taught as a method of reproductive health.

#### F. Revision to Materials and Methods of Instruction

Before revising sex education materials or methods of instruction, or before revising curriculum about dangerous communicable diseases, the Board will hold at least 2 public hearings occurring at least 1 week apart on the proposed revisions.

#### G. Parental Notice and Opt-Out

A student may not be enrolled in a class in which family planning or reproductive health is discussed unless the student's Parent is provided advance notice of the course content, is given a prior opportunity to review the course materials, and is

provided advance notice of the right to excuse the student from the class. If a Parent excuses a student from the class in writing, the student will not be penalized or lose academic credit for not attending the class.

A Parent may file written notice that the student is excused from all sex education offered by the District. If the District receives written notice, the student may not be enrolled in a sex education class unless authorized by the Parent in writing.

Legal authority: MCL 380.1169, 380.1506, 380.1507, 380.1507a, 380.1507b]

Date adopted: 12/8/2025

Date Revised:

## Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters

### 5400 Curriculum, Instruction, and Parent Involvement

**5421 *Work-Based Learning Experience*** [Optional] [Note: If the Board elects not to adopt this Policy, delete the body of the policy and replace the title with “Intentionally Left Blank” after the policy number *and* in the Table of Contents to ensure accurate numbering of subsequent policies in the Policy Manual.]

The District permits students to participate in approved work-based learning (WBL) experiences. All WBL experiences must comply with applicable law, regulations, and guidance, particularly those applicable to the employment of minors, workplace safety, workers’ compensation, nondiscrimination, and unlawful harassment.

A WBL experience may be paid or unpaid.

The Superintendent will designate a WBL Coordinator. The WBL Coordinator or a CTE program teacher will determine whether a proposed WBL experience complies with applicable state and federal laws, regulations, and guidance and is consistent with the student’s educational objectives.

If the WBL Coordinator or CTE program teacher denies a student’s request for a WBL experience, the student may appeal the decision to the Superintendent or designee, whose decision is final.

If the WBL Coordinator or CTE program teacher determines during the course of the WBL experience that the experience or worksite no longer complies with the approved training plan, District Policy, or state or federal laws, regulations, or guidance, the WBL Coordinator or CTE program teacher will, in consultation with the Superintendent or designee, determine whether the WBL experience should continue.

Credit for a WBL experience will be consistent with Policy 5409 and the applicable student handbook.

Legal authority: *Work-Based Learning Manual*, Michigan Department of Education

Date adopted:

Date revised:

**Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters**

**5500 School Sponsored and Extracurricular Activities**

***5501 Fundraising Activities***

Student fundraising activities are subject to review and approval by the Superintendent or designee.

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters

### 5500 School Sponsored and Extracurricular Activities

**5502 *Student Government*** [Optional] [Note: If the Board elects not to adopt this Policy, delete the body of the policy and replace the title with “Intentionally Left Blank” after the policy number *and* in the Table of Contents to ensure accurate numbering of subsequent policies in the Policy Manual.]

The purpose of student government is to provide students with leadership opportunities and experience in the representative democratic process.

Students may elect officers and representatives, conduct meetings, and engage in approved activities and functions designed to be beneficial to the student body.

A student government organization must be supervised by a staff member. A student government organization’s charter, constitution, or bylaws will be subject to review and approval by the Superintendent or designee.

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## **Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters**

### **5500 School Sponsored and Extracurricular Activities**

#### **5503 *Bulletin Boards and Other Student Postings***

Space may be provided within school buildings or on school electronic media for students and student organizations to post notices related to student groups. The following general limitations apply:

- A. All postings will be subject to the review and approval of the appropriate building administrator or designee. Students may not post material containing any statement or expression that is libelous, obscene, or vulgar; violates Board policy, including the student code of conduct; promotes illegal substances (including, but not limited to, substances that are illegal for minors to possess or consume); or is otherwise unsuitable for or disruptive to the school environment.
- B. All postings must identify the student or the student organization responsible for posting the notice.
- C. The building principal or designee may remove any approved posted material after a reasonable time, as determined in the building principal's or designee's discretion.

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## **Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters**

### **5500 School Sponsored and Extracurricular Activities**

#### ***5504 School-Sponsored Publications and Productions***

School-sponsored student publications and productions are part of the District's instructional program. The Board supports the development of student communication skills through school-sponsored student publications and productions, which may include newspapers, yearbooks, theatrical performances, and electronic media.

All school-sponsored student publications and productions are nonpublic forums and must conform to high scholastic and professional journalistic standards. The Superintendent or designee may regulate the style and content of student publications and productions for legitimate pedagogical reasons. The Superintendent or designee may review and prohibit any school-sponsored student publication or production that does not conform to these standards or that contains material considered vulgar, profane, or unsuitable for or disruptive to the school environment.

Any advertisements contained in a school-sponsored publication or production must comply with Policy 3308.

Legal authority: U.S. CONST. amend. I

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters

### 5500 School Sponsored and Extracurricular Activities

**5505 *School Attendance on Days of Scheduled Activities*** [Optional Note: If the Board elects not to adopt this Policy, delete the body of the policy and replace the title with “Intentionally Left Blank” after the policy number *and* in the Table of Contents to ensure accurate numbering of subsequent policies in the Policy Manual.]

Students who are absent from school for any part of the school day are not permitted to participate in an extracurricular activity, practice, competition, or performance on the day of absence unless the student has prior permission to participate from the building principal or designee.

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters

### 5500 School Sponsored and Extracurricular Activities

#### 5506 *Field Trips*

Field trips should generally be conducted during the school day.

##### A. General Conditions

All field trips must be pre-approved by the building principal or designee. Out-of-state and overnight trips require pre-approval from the Board or its designee. Field trips should be primarily academic in nature and related to the curriculum. The Superintendent or building principal(s) will develop procedures for approval of trips and communicate those procedures to instructional staff.

##### B. Parent Permission

Each student must submit a completed permission form signed by the student's Parent before being allowed to attend a field trip.

##### C. Supervision

Teachers must ensure that students are adequately supervised and chaperoned by a responsible adult at all times during field trips. A chaperone is prohibited from drinking alcoholic beverages or using non-prescribed controlled substances at any time during the field trip. A chaperone must adhere to all District and building volunteer requirements, including Policy 3105.

The District may deny or terminate a chaperone assignment for any reason that is not unlawful.

The District will not prohibit an eligible student from participating in a field trip solely because the student's Parent does not chaperone.

##### D. Student Conduct

A student's failure to comply with Board Policy, the student code of conduct, and any other applicable rules or behavioral expectations while on a field trip may result in disciplinary action and removal or exclusion from the trip.

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters

### 5500 School Sponsored and Extracurricular Activities

#### 5507 *Extracurricular Activities*

##### A. General Purpose

Extracurricular activities, while an important part of the total school experience, are secondary to the academic program. Participation in extracurricular activities is a privilege, not a right.

Extracurricular activities do not include:

1. co-curricular activities such as band and choir, in which students must participate as part of the requirements for enrollment in and receiving a grade for a particular course; or
2. student-initiated, noncurricular student groups, which are permitted to hold meetings and events on school premises. These groups are not school-sponsored and are governed by Policies 3304 and 5510.

##### B. Governance

The District has exclusive control over extracurricular activities including, but not limited to, formation, naming, structure, operation, financing, and discontinuance.

Students and sponsors are governed by all Policies, applicable codes of conduct, and any other applicable rules or behavioral expectations.

Extracurricular groups may use District facilities consistent with Policy 3304.

##### C. Student Eligibility

Students are encouraged to participate in extracurricular activities. Participation is open to students who meet the eligibility requirements established by the District and any applicable governing body.

Students who wish to participate in extracurricular activities must abide by Board Policy, applicable codes of conduct, and any other applicable rules or behavioral expectations. A student's failure to comply with Board Policy, applicable codes of conduct, and any other applicable rules or behavioral expectations may result in disciplinary action and exclusion from extracurricular activities.

Students who participate in interscholastic athletics may not use performance-enhancing substances. Performance-enhancing substances include any substance banned by the NCAA. Students who use performance-enhancing substances may be disciplined and excluded from the activity.

#### D. Advisors and Coaches

Each extracurricular activity must have an advisor who is a District employee or a selected community member who is qualified by virtue of education, training, experience, or special interest to serve as the advisor, as determined by the Superintendent or designee.

The Superintendent or designee will assign activity advisors. Advisors serve at the will of the Superintendent, who may remove an activity advisor in the Superintendent's sole discretion, absent contrary contractual provisions.

Sponsors may be required to develop materials, activities, and a budget; promote membership and participation; communicate with the building principal or designee, staff, students, and Parents; schedule meeting dates and locations; plan meaningful experiences; supervise students during activities; evaluate and make program recommendations; and submit a year-end report to the building principal or designee.

#### E. Fundraising Activities

Fundraising activities must comply with Policy 5501.

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## **Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters**

### **5500 School Sponsored and Extracurricular Activities**

#### ***5508 Extracurricular and Athletic Trips***

The Superintendent or designee will annually publish in the student handbook(s) procedures for student transportation to and from extracurricular and athletic events. The procedures will comply with Policy 3105.

A student's failure to comply with Board Policy, the student code of conduct, and any other applicable rules or behavioral expectations while on a trip may result in disciplinary action and exclusion from future trips.

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters

### 5500 School Sponsored and Extracurricular Activities

**5509 *Public Appearances of School Groups*** [Optional] [Note: If the Board elects not to adopt this Policy, delete the body of the policy and replace the title with “Intentionally Left Blank” after the policy number *and* in the Table of Contents to ensure accurate numbering of subsequent policies in the Policy Manual.]

The Board permits student groups to appear/perform at public events, subject to the following requirements:

- A. activity advisors must secure the permission of the building principal or designee before booking a student group at a public event;
- B. activity advisors are discouraged from booking student groups to perform on more than 1 school night (Sunday-Thursday) per week;
- C. student groups [Choose one: may / may not be required to] perform at a political rally or event;
- D. student groups [Choose one: may / may not be required to] perform at religious ceremonies; and
- E. a student’s failure to comply with Board Policy, the student code of conduct, and any other applicable rules or behavioral expectations during public appearances may result in disciplinary action and exclusion from future appearances at public events.

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## **Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters**

### **5500 School Sponsored and Extracurricular Activities**

#### ***5510 Student-Initiated, Non-Curricular Clubs***

Students may voluntarily form clubs that are not directly related to the curriculum. Membership in a student-initiated, non-curricular club must be open to all interested and eligible District students, and the club may not refuse membership to a student based on any protected classification under state or federal law.

Students seeking to create a student-initiated, non-curricular club must first obtain approval from the building principal. If the building principal denies approval, the students seeking to create the club may submit a written appeal to the Superintendent or designee within 5 school days after the denial. The Superintendent or designee must make a decision on the appeal within 15 school days after receiving the appeal. The appeal decision is final.

Student-initiated, non-curricular clubs may not conduct activities on school property without prior permission from the building principal. Student initiated, non-curricular clubs are permitted to meet on school property only before or after the school day, or during lunch periods; they are not permitted to meet during instructional time. Meetings may not materially and substantially interfere with the orderly conduct of the school's educational activities or violate any Policy or state or federal law.

The District may assign a staff member to be present in a supervisory, but not participatory, capacity at meetings or activities of student-initiated, non-curricular clubs. Persons not affiliated with the District may not direct, conduct, control, or regularly attend meetings or activities of student-initiated, non-curricular clubs.

No public funds may be expended on behalf of the student-initiated, non-curricular clubs covered by this Policy except for the incidental cost of meeting space.

The District will comply with all applicable laws related to student-initiated, non-curricular clubs, including but not limited to the provisions of the Equal Access Act and the Boy Scouts of America Equal Access Act, and will not discriminate against or deny access to clubs or other groups protected by the applicable laws.

Legal authority: 20 USC 4071; 20 USC 7905; MCL 380.1299

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## **Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters**

### **5500 School Sponsored and Extracurricular Activities**

#### **5511 *Secret Organizations***

Secret organizations are prohibited. School property or school buildings may not be used for the purpose of rushing or soliciting students to participate in any secret organization, fraternity, sorority, society, or association.

Legal authority: MCL 380.1316

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## **Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters**

### **5600 Student Support Services**

#### ***5601 Special Education***

Eligible students with disabilities under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) are entitled to a free appropriate public education through an individualized education program. The District will follow state and federal law and applicable rules and regulations in identifying, locating, evaluating, and educating students with disabilities.

IDEA-eligible students are protected from discrimination under state and federal law, including Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, as outlined in Policy 5603.

Legal authority: 20 USC 1400 et seq.; 34 CFR Part 300; MCL 380.1701 et seq.; MARSE R 340.1701 et seq.

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters

### 5600 Student Support Services

#### 5602 *Independent Educational Evaluation*

- A. An independent educational evaluation (IEE) is an evaluation conducted by a qualified examiner(s) not employed by the District.

As permitted by state and federal law, a Parent may be entitled to an IEE at District expense if the Parent disagrees with an evaluation conducted by or for the District.

- B. The District will respond to an IEE request within 7 calendar days. The Superintendent or designee will establish criteria to obtain an IEE at District expense consistent with state and federal law. An IEE that fails to meet the criteria may not be eligible for payment by the District.
- C. A list of suggested sources from which an IEE may be obtained will be provided to the Parent upon receipt of an IEE request. The Parent is not restricted to choosing an independent evaluator from that list.

An IEE will be considered by the District at an IEP Team meeting for the student.

Legal authority: 20 USC 1415(b)(1); 34 CFR 300.502; MARSE R 340.1723c

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## **Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters**

### **5600 Student Support Services**

#### **5603 Section 504**

The District does not discriminate against any student with a disability, as that term is defined in Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act (Section 504), in any District program or activity. Any claim of disability-based discrimination will be addressed pursuant to Policies 3115-3115H and 5202.

Eligible students are entitled to a free appropriate public education through a Section 504 plan. Students with disabilities who are also eligible for services under Policy 5601 will receive a free appropriate public education through an IEP.

The District will follow federal law and applicable regulations and guidance in identifying, locating, evaluating, and educating students with disabilities under Section 504. The Superintendent or designee will develop and implement procedures for identifying and serving eligible students under Section 504 that are consistent with federal law.

For purposes of this Policy, a free appropriate public education means the provision of regular or special education and related services that are designed to meet the individual educational needs of students with disabilities as adequately as the needs of students without disabilities are met, and that are provided without cost (except for District fees imposed on students without disabilities and their Parents).

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## **Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters**

### **5600 Student Support Services**

#### ***5604 Student Assistance Process***

The District may use general education student assistance teams to consider and create strategies to meet the needs of students who are struggling academically or behaviorally. District personnel who suspect that a student may have a disability under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act or the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act must immediately refer the student for an evaluation.

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters

### 5700 Student Health and Safety

#### 5701 Abuse and Neglect

##### A. Child Abuse and Neglect

Mandated reporters must immediately report all instances of suspected child abuse or neglect pursuant to Michigan's Child Protection Law and Policy 4202. All other employees, volunteers, and contractors who are not mandated reporters are also expected to immediately report all instances of suspected child abuse or neglect.

The District will cooperate with Children's Protective Services (CPS) during an investigation of suspected child abuse or neglect. Cooperation may include allowing CPS access to a student without Parent consent if CPS determines access is necessary to complete the investigation or prevent abuse or neglect. The District will not impose conditions on the investigator or investigation beyond what is permitted by law.

Before a CPS investigator is given access to a student, the building principal or designee will verify the investigator's credentials.

The building principal or designee may be present for the student's interview, at the discretion of CPS. If CPS seeks to remove a student from school, the building principal or designee will: (1) provide CPS with the student's Parent phone number and address; and (2) request that the CPS official sign a statement certifying that the student is being removed because of safety-related concerns. If the CPS official refuses to or is unable to sign the requested certification, the building principal or designee will document the removal, including the name(s) of the CPS official(s) removing the student, the stated reason(s) given for the removal, the identity of the person(s) witnessing the removal, and the date and time of the removal.

The District may share student records with CPS only as permitted by Policy 5309 and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act.

If the District makes a report to CPS, the District will maintain a copy of the written report with the reporter's identity redacted. The reporter's identity will remain confidential unless disclosure is authorized by the reporter's consent or by court order.

"Mandated reporter" means a physician, dentist, physician's assistant, registered dental hygienist, medical examiner, nurse, person licensed to provide emergency medical care, audiologist, psychologist, physical therapist, physical therapist assistant, occupational therapist, athletic trainer, marriage and family therapist, licensed professional counselor, social worker, licensed master's social worker, licensed bachelor's social worker, registered social service technician, social

service technician, a person employed in a professional capacity in any office of the friend of the court, school administrator, school counselor or teacher, law enforcement officer, member of the clergy, or regulated child care provider who has reasonable cause to suspect child abuse or child neglect.

#### B. Vulnerable Adults

All school employees must report suspected abuse, neglect, or exploitation of a vulnerable adult consistent with Michigan's Social Welfare Act.

The District will cooperate with an Adult Protective Services (APS) investigation to the extent required by law. The District may share student records with APS only as permitted by Policy 5309 and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act.

If the District makes a report to APS, the District will maintain a copy of the written report with the reporter's identity redacted. The reporter's identity will remain confidential unless disclosure is authorized by the reporter's consent or by court order.

Legal authority: 20 USC 1232g; MCL 722.621 et seq.; MCL 400.11a

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters

### 5700 Student Health and Safety

#### 5702 *Student Illness and Injury*

- A. Parents are expected to report student absences due to illness or injury to the building principal or designee. Students and Parents should communicate with school staff to minimize the impact of illness or injury-related absences on the student's educational progress. Students who will be absent for an extended period of time may be eligible for homebound or hospitalized services in accordance with Policy 5416.
- B. School employees who suspect that a student's absences may be disability-related must immediately refer the student for an evaluation under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act or the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.
- C. When the building principal or designee determines that a student is too ill or injured to remain at school, school staff will contact the student's Parent or other designated responsible adult to pick up the student from school. If the student requires immediate medical attention, the District will first attempt to contact a Parent or other designated responsible adult when reasonably possible. If contact cannot be made, the building principal or designee will take any reasonable action necessary on the student's behalf, consistent with state law.

Students showing symptoms of a communicable disease may be sent home. The District may require a statement from a licensed physician or local health official before allowing the student to return to school. The District must report the occurrence or suspected occurrence of any disease, condition, or infection identified in the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services Communicable Disease Rules to the local health department within 24 hours.

- D. Parents must submit an emergency information form for each of their students. The form must list the contact information for each Parent and designated responsible adult, any necessary emergency instructions, and any known medical conditions.

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters

### 5700 Student Health and Safety

#### 5703 Medications

##### A. General Standards

Whenever possible, Parents should arrange student medication schedules to eliminate the need for administration of medication at school. When a student requires prescription or over-the-counter medication at school, the following procedures apply:

1. The student's Parent must annually submit a written request and consent form as required by the District.
2. A building principal or designee must request that the Parent supply medications in the exact dosage required whenever feasible.
3. The building principal or designee will notify the student's Parent of any observed adverse reaction to medication.
4. All medications must be in the original container.

##### B. District-Administered Medication

1. If the student requires District-administered medication, the student's Parent must annually submit a healthcare professional's written instructions that include student name, medication name, medication dosage, and specific information about method and time of administration. A Parent must promptly communicate any changes to the healthcare professional's written instructions to the building principal or designee. A "healthcare professional" means a licensed physician, certified nurse practitioner, or physician assistant.
2. Medication must be administered by a school administrator, teacher, or other appropriately designated school employee in the presence of a second adult, unless the medication is administered by a licensed registered professional nurse employed by the District or there is an emergency that threatens the student's life or health.
3. District employees may only administer medication to a student according to the written instructions from a healthcare professional. If the written instructions are unclear, the District may require written clarification from the healthcare professional before administering the medication.
4. Medication must be stored in a container that identifies the student's name, medication name, dosage, and frequency of administration. The District will take reasonable steps to ensure all medication is properly secured.

5. Incorrectly administered medication must be reported to the building principal and the student's Parent. A written report identifying the error must be documented in the student's file.
6. The District will administer medication to students as necessary on school-sponsored field trips or school-related activities consistent with this Policy. The building administrator will designate the person responsible for administering the medication. The designee will transport the medication in its original container and record its administration on the medication administration log pursuant to this Policy.
7. Each school must maintain a medication administration log. The log must include the student's name, the name and dosage of each medication, and the date and time each dose is administered. The person administering the medication and the witness (if required) will complete and sign the log. The medication administration log must be placed in the student's file and kept until at least 1 year after the student's expected graduation date.
8. A Parent will retrieve unused medication after its expiration date, after the District is notified that the medication has been discontinued, or at the end of the school year, whichever is earliest. The District will provide the Parent notice to retrieve the medication. If the Parent does not promptly retrieve the medication, the District will appropriately dispose of the medication. The building principal or designee must check the expiration dates on prescription medications, epinephrine auto-injectors, and inhalers at least twice each school year.
9. The Superintendent or designee will ensure that all staff responsible for administering medication are appropriately trained.

#### C. Student-Administered Medication

##### 1. General Standards

Subject to this Policy's provisions specifically applicable to self-management of asthma inhalers and epinephrine auto-injectors/inhalers, a student may be permitted to self-possess and self-administer medication if the building principal has received written Parent consent to do so and the practice is authorized in writing by a healthcare professional or is otherwise permitted by this Policy.

A building administrator may deny a request for a student to self-possess or self-administer medication at school to the extent consistent with law.

A building administrator may discontinue a student's right to self-administer and self-possess following consultation with the Parent if the student misuses the medication.

A student may possess and use an FDA-approved topical substance at school or any school-related activity, provided that the Parent first provides the building principal with written approval.

## 2. Asthma Inhalers and Epinephrine Auto-Injectors/Inhalers

A student may possess and use an asthma inhaler or epinephrine auto-injector or inhaler with written approval from the student's healthcare provider. A minor student must also have written permission from the student's Parent. The required documentation must be submitted to the building principal.

If a student is authorized to self-possess or self-administer an asthma inhaler or epinephrine auto-injector or inhaler, the building principal or designee will notify the student's teachers and other staff as appropriate.

Additionally, the school must maintain a written emergency care plan drafted by a physician in collaboration with the student's Parent. The emergency care plan will contain specific instructions related to the student's needs. The physician and Parent should update the emergency care plan as necessary to meet the student's changing medical circumstances.

Legal authority: MCL 380.1178, 380.1178a, 380.1179, 380.1179a

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## **Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters**

### **5700 Student Health and Safety**

#### **5704 *Student Insurance***

The District is not a guarantor or insurer of student health or safety. Parents are encouraged to secure insurance for their students' healthcare needs, including coverage for injuries that may occur while at school and while participating in athletics and other school activities.

The District, in its sole discretion, may provide information about insurance policies available for purchase by Parents for their students from third-party vendors. Providing that information does not imply District endorsement of any insurance policy, nor is it a guarantee or warranty that coverage will be provided by the vendor in any specific instance.

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters

### 5700 Student Health and Safety

#### 5705 *Emergency Anaphylaxis*

Anaphylaxis is a severe and life-threatening allergic reaction. Anaphylaxis may occur within minutes or longer after exposure to an allergen. The most common causes of anaphylaxis are food, insect bites or stings, medications, and latex.

The symptoms of anaphylaxis may vary from person to person and may change over time. Reported symptoms include skin reactions, a feeling of warmth, constriction of the airway, a swollen tongue or throat, wheezing, trouble breathing, weak or rapid pulse, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, dizziness, or fainting.

#### A. Emergency Preparedness

1. The Superintendent or designee must obtain a prescription in the name of the Board for auto-injectable epinephrine as authorized and required by this Policy and applicable law.

Each school operated by the District must maintain at least 2 epinephrine auto-injector devices at all times, regardless of whether any student or employee has been diagnosed with allergies.

2. The epinephrine auto-injectors maintained by the school may only be used by:
  - a. a licensed registered professional nurse who is employed or contracted by the District; or
  - b. an authorized employee trained in the appropriate use of an epinephrine auto-injector.
3. The Superintendent or designee will determine, after consulting a licensed registered professional nurse or other health care provider, the appropriate dose(s) of auto-injectable epinephrine (e.g., Junior or Adult) to be maintained at each school.
4. Epinephrine auto-injectors maintained by the District will be stored according to the manufacturer's directions, at the appropriate temperature, and in a clearly labeled and unlocked container easily accessible to authorized personnel.
5. A licensed registered professional nurse who is employed or contracted by the District, or an authorized school employee who is trained in the appropriate use of an epinephrine auto-injector under this Policy, may possess and administer epinephrine by auto-injector to:
  - a. a student who has a prescription on file at the school; or

- b. any person on school grounds who is believed to be having an anaphylactic reaction.
6. The Superintendent or designee will:
  - a. ensure that each school building with an instructional and administrative staff of at least 10 has at least 2 employees who have been trained in the appropriate use of an epinephrine auto-injector; and
  - b. ensure that each school building with an instructional and administrative staff of fewer than 10 has at least 1 employee who has been trained in the appropriate use of an epinephrine auto-injector.
7. For purposes of this Policy, “trained in the appropriate use of an epinephrine auto-injector” means completing training in compliance with the Training Guidelines for Designated Staff on Allergies, Anaphylaxis, and Emergency Responses issued by MDE, conducted under the supervision of, and evaluated by, a licensed registered professional nurse.

The Superintendent or designee must maintain documentation of training completed by each employee authorized to administer an epinephrine auto-injector.

#### B. Notice and Reporting

The Superintendent or designee will:

1. promptly notify the Parent of a student to whom epinephrine has been administered and document all actual and attempted notices; and
2. at least annually report to MDE, as prescribed by MDE, all epinephrine administration to students at school.

#### C. Student Possession and Use

This Policy does not alter the rights of students authorized by law to self-possess or self-administer medication, including epinephrine, or any rights of students with disabilities under state or federal law.

Legal authority: MCL 380.1178, 380.1179, 380.1179a; MCL 333.17744a

Date adopted:

Date revised:

**Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters**

**5700 Student Health and Safety**

**5706 *Intentionally Left Blank***

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters

### 5700 Student Health and Safety

#### 5707 School Wellness Policy

The District is committed to providing a school environment that enhances opportunities for learning and lifelong wellness.

##### A. Nutrition Promotion and Education Goals

All students will receive nutrition education annually that is aligned with the Michigan Health Education Grade Level Content Expectations and the Michigan Merit Curriculum Guidelines for Health Education. Teaching healthy eating behaviors will be part of the curriculum.

The District promotes healthy food and beverage choices for students. The District will implement evidence-based healthy food promotion techniques through:

1. offering school meal programs; and
2. publicizing foods and beverages that meet or exceed the USDA Smart Snacks in School nutrition standards. The District will collaborate with public and private entities to promote student wellness.

The District will make water available to students throughout the school day.

##### B. Physical Activity Goals

The District will offer physical education programs that are designed to equip students with the knowledge, skills, and values necessary for lifelong physical activity. Physical education instruction will be aligned with the Michigan Physical Education Grade Level Content Expectations and the Michigan Merit Curriculum Guidelines for Physical Education.

Students will have the opportunity to participate regularly in supervised physical activities, either organized or unstructured, intended to maintain physical fitness and an understanding of the benefits of a physically active and healthy lifestyle.

The District strives to provide physical activity breaks for all students, including recess for elementary students and before and after school activities, and encourages students to use active transport (e.g., walking, biking).

The District encourages Parents to support their students' participation in physical activity, to be physically active role models, and to include physical activities in family events.

##### C. Goals for Other School-Based Activities Designed to Promote Student Wellness

The District may partner with community members or groups to implement this Policy. The District will also:

1. participate in state and federal child nutrition programs as appropriate;
2. allow other health-related entities to use school facilities for activities such as health clinics, screenings, and wellness events consistent with Policy 3304;
3. use evidence-based strategies to develop, structure, and support student wellness; and
4. create environments conducive to healthy eating, physical activity, and conveying consistent health messages.

D. Standards and Nutrition Guidelines for All Foods and Beverages Sold to Students on the School Campus and During the School Day

The District will ensure that students have access to foods and beverages that comply with applicable laws and guidelines including, but not limited to, the USDA Nutrition Standards for School Meals and the USDA Smart Snacks in School nutrition standards.

The District will offer students a variety of age-appropriate, healthy food and beverage selections including fruits, vegetables, and whole grains aimed at meeting the nutrition needs of students within their calorie requirements to promote student health and reduce childhood obesity.

E. Standards for All Foods and Beverages Provided, But Not Sold, to Students During the School Day

The District may provide a list of healthy food and beverage alternatives to Parents, teachers, and students for classroom parties, rewards and incentives, or classroom snacks. The District discourages the use of unhealthy food and beverages as a reward or incentive for performance or behavior.

F. Food and Beverage Marketing

Marketing and advertising is allowed on school grounds or at school activities only for foods and beverages that meet or exceed the USDA Smart Snacks in School nutrition standards. Food and beverage fundraising and marketing that occurs at events outside of school hours need not comply with the USDA Smart Snacks in School nutrition standards.

In-school fundraising events must comply with Policy 5501 and MDE's Non-Compliant Food Fundraiser Guidance, which permits 2 fundraisers per week, per school building that do not comply with USDA Smart Snacks in School nutrition standards. In-school fundraising events may last up to 1 day and may not be held in the food service area during meal times.

Equipment that currently displays noncompliant marketing materials (e.g., scoreboard with soft drink logo) need not be immediately removed or replaced. As the District reviews and considers new contracts and as durable equipment, like scoreboards, is replaced or updated, any food or beverages marketed and advertised will meet or exceed the USDA Smart Snacks in School nutrition standards.

#### G. Wellness Committee

The District will form a Wellness Committee to establish goals for, oversee, and periodically review and update school health policies and programs. The Wellness Committee will also oversee this Policy's implementation.

The Wellness Committee will represent all school buildings and include, to the extent possible, Parents, students, food service representatives, physical and health education teachers, school and community health care professionals, and community members. The Board encourages community participation in the Wellness Committee. When possible, membership will also include Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program education coordinators.

#### H. Implementation and Oversight

The Superintendent or designee is responsible for ensuring that each school building complies with this Policy.

The Board will review this Policy at least every 3 years to determine compliance, progress, and the extent to which this Policy compares to model school wellness policies. Parents, students, school employees, school health professionals, Board members, and community members may provide input to the District during the Wellness Policy review process.

A copy of this Policy will be maintained in the District's administrative offices and posted on the District's website. The Superintendent or designee will maintain all legally required documentation for implementation of this Policy.

The Superintendent or designee will annually provide notice about this Policy and any updates to the community.

#### I. School Meal Program

##### 1. Meal Modifications

The District will accommodate reasonable meal modification requests for students with disabilities, as defined in Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, with no additional cost to the student. The modification request must be related to the disability or limitations caused by the disability.

##### 2. Delinquent Meal Charge Debt and Bad Debt

The District is required to make reasonable efforts to collect unpaid meal charges of current students. The building principal or designee will contact households about unpaid meal charges and may establish payment plans and due dates by telephone, e-mail, or other written or oral communication. If these collection efforts are unsuccessful, the District may pursue any other methods to collect delinquent debt of current students as allowed by law. Collection efforts may continue into a new school year.

Unpaid meal charges of inactive students, such as graduated students and students no longer enrolled at the District, that are not collected by the end of the school year will be classified as bad debt. No later than December 31 of the following school year, non-federal funds will be used to reimburse the school meal program for the amount of bad debt.

### 3. Elimination of “Lunch Shaming”

The District will strive to eliminate any form of “lunch shaming.” “Lunch shaming” is the public identification or stigmatization of students who cannot pay for a school meal. In furtherance of this goal, the District prohibits the following:

- a. requiring a student who cannot pay for a school meal or who has unpaid meal charges to wear a wristband or handstamp;
- b. requiring a student to dispose of a meal after it has been served because the student cannot pay for the meal or has unpaid meal charges;
- c. communicating directly with a student about unpaid meal charges unless the District has attempted but has been unable to contact the student’s Parent by telephone, e-mail, or other written or oral communication;
- d. requiring a student to perform chores or other labor to pay a student meal debt; and
- e. discussing a student’s unpaid meal charges in the presence of other students.

### 4. Meal Charge Policy

The District’s policy on charged meals is: [Choose Option 1 or 2:]

[Option 1:] [If a student has no funds available to pay for a meal, the student will be provided a meal, and the student’s account will be charged.]

[Option 2:] [Insert District’s practice for charging meals]

Students who qualify for free meals will not be denied a reimbursable meal, even if they have accrued a negative balance from other food purchases.

The District will encourage Parents to complete financial eligibility forms as part of the student enrollment process to determine eligibility for free or reduced-price meals.

The Board directs the Superintendent to include this Policy in the student handbook and to distribute it to Parents.

Legal Authority: 7 CFR 210 et seq., 42 USC 1751 et seq.

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## **Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters**

### **5700 Student Health and Safety**

#### ***5708 Do Not Resuscitate Orders***

School personnel will honor a Do-Not-Resuscitate Order or POST (physician orders for scope of treatment) form executed pursuant to the Michigan Do-Not-Resuscitate Procedure Act or Public Health Code if they have actual notice of the Do-Not-Resuscitate Order or POST form.

Within five school days of receiving a request that life-sustaining care be withheld from a student, the Superintendent, applicable building administrator, or Superintendent's designee will convene a group of people knowledgeable about the student's medical and health needs to develop an emergency response plan, including an individualized resuscitation plan, for the student. The Superintendent, building administrator, or Superintendent's designee will ensure that all personnel responsible for delivering instructional or noninstructional services to a student with an individualized resuscitation plan receive, if applicable, actual notice of the Do-Not-Resuscitate Order or POST form and timely and appropriate training.

Upon actual notice that a Do-Not-Resuscitate Order or POST form has been revoked, the Superintendent, building administrator, or Superintendent's designee will provide actual notice to school personnel responsible for providing instructional or noninstructional services to the student of the revocation, at which time personnel will no longer honor the Do-Not-Resuscitate Order or POST form.

The Superintendent or designee is authorized to consult legal counsel any time the District receives a request that life-sustaining care be withheld from a student.

For purposes of this Policy, "actual notice" includes the physical presentation of an order, revocation of an order, or another written document authorized under the Michigan Do-Not-Resuscitate Procedure Act.

The Superintendent or designee will develop administrative guidelines for responding to Do-Not-Resuscitate Orders and POST forms that comply with the Michigan Do-Not-Resuscitate Procedure Act and the Revised School Code.

Legal Authority: MCL 333.1051 et seq.; MCL 380.1180, 380.1181

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters

### 5700 Student Health and Safety

#### 5708-AG *Do-Not-Resuscitate (DNR) Orders*

- A. Upon receipt of a DNR (Do-Not-Resuscitate) order or POST (physician orders for scope of treatment) form for a student, the Superintendent, building administrator, or Superintendent's designee will:
1. Within five school days coordinate a meeting with the student (if appropriate), the student's Parent and physician(s) (if available), and appropriate school personnel to develop an emergency response plan that includes an individual resuscitation plan and comfort-care measures for the student. If a physician is not available, the District will request and review written input from a physician. If any such plan is not consistent with the student's Section 504 plan or Individualized Education Program (IEP), the Superintendent, building administrator, or Superintendent's designee will ensure that a Section 504 or IEP Team meeting for the student is promptly convened. If the student does not currently have a Section 504 plan or IEP, the Superintendent, building administrator, or Superintendent's designee will consider whether to refer the student for an appropriate evaluation.
  2. Consult with District legal counsel if there are concerns that the DNR order or POST form was not obtained in a manner that complies with Michigan law or if there are concerns that the DNR order or POST form are not in the student's best interests.
  3. Maintain the DNR order, POST form, or individual emergency response plan in a separate, designated file.
  4. Provide actual notice of the DNR order, POST form, or individual emergency response plan to all personnel responsible for providing instructional and noninstructional services for the student.
  5. Ensure that all personnel, including volunteers and contractors, responsible for providing instructional and noninstructional services for the student receive training on the student's emergency response plan, including the individual resuscitation plan and comfort-care measures. The training must include notice to appropriate personnel that the Heimlich maneuver or other similar procedures used to expel an obstruction from an individual's throat does not constitute a resuscitative measure and may be performed even for a student with a DNR order or POST form.
  6. Convene a meeting of the student (if appropriate), the student's Parents and physician(s), and appropriate school personnel at the beginning of each school year to determine if the DNR order or POST form has been modified or revoked and to review and revise the student's emergency response plan as needed.

7. Contact emergency medical personnel any time a student's medical condition appears to be life threatening, even if the student has an emergency response plan that includes an individual resuscitation plan. If a health professional arrives during the emergency situation, the health professional will determine if the student has one or more vital signs.
  8. Provide emergency medical personnel a copy of any DNR order or POST form of which the Superintendent, building administrator, or Superintendent's designee has actual notice.
  9. Follow any emergency described above by debriefing with the student (if appropriate), the student's Parents and physician(s), and appropriate school personnel to review the emergency response plan and to discuss how the plan may be improved.
  10. Follow any emergency by addressing the emotional needs of other students and personnel who witnessed the emergency.
  11. Summarize all understandings in a letter to the student (if appropriate) and the student's Parents and physician(s).
- B. Pursuant to the Michigan Do-Not-Resuscitate Procedure Act, a Parent or student may revoke a DNR order or POST form at any time by providing actual notice to the Superintendent, building administrator, or Superintendent's designee. Upon receipt of such notice, the Superintendent, building administrator, or Superintendent's designee will:
1. Provide actual notice to all personnel responsible for providing instructional and noninstructional services to the student that the DNR order or POST form is no longer applicable and that personnel should follow standard emergency response policies and practices for the student.
  2. Maintain a copy of the written notice in the file created for the student's DNR orders, POST forms, or emergency response plans.
  3. Convene a meeting with the student (if appropriate), the student's Parents and physician(s), and appropriate school personnel to modify the emergency response plan, including the individual resuscitation plan and comfort-care measures. If any such plan is not consistent with the student's Section 504 plan or IEP, the Superintendent, building administrator, or Superintendent's designee will ensure that a Section 504 or IEP Team meeting for the student is promptly convened.
  4. Ensure that emergency medical personnel are made aware that the student's DNR order or POST form has been revoked and that all appropriate life-saving measures should be used if an emergency arises.

If school staff become aware that a student has expressed an intent to revoke a DNR order or POST form, the staff member must immediately report that

information to the building administrator, Superintendent, or Superintendent's designee.

- C. As used in this Administrative Guideline, actual notice includes the physical presentation of an order, a revocation of an order, or another written document authorized under the Michigan Do-Not-Resuscitate Procedure Act.
- D. The building administrator or Superintendent's designee is responsible for supervising the steps outlined above.

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters

### 5700 Student Health and Safety

#### 5709 Lice, Nits, and Bed Bugs

##### A. Lice and Nits

[Choose Option 1 or 2]

[Option 1:

A student with nits within  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch of the scalp or live lice may remain at school. The student will be restricted from activities that involve close head-to-head contact or sharing of personal items. The District will notify the student's Parent and provide educational materials on head lice prevention and treatment.

District personnel will not ostracize or embarrass a student with lice or nits and will maintain student confidentiality.

If a student has a persistent infestation after 6 weeks or 3 separate cases within 1 school year, the District will form a team that may include the student's Parents, teacher, social workers, or administrators to determine the best approach to resolve the issue.]

[Option 2:

A student with nits within  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch of the scalp or live lice may remain at school until the end of the school day. The student will be restricted from activities that involve close head-to-head contact or sharing of personal items. The District will notify the student's Parent and provide educational materials on head lice prevention and treatment.

The student will be readmitted to school after treatment so long as the Parent consents to a head examination and the examining District official does not find live lice on the student. If the District official finds nits within  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch of the student's scalp, the student may return to class, but the District must inform the student's Parent about the need to remove the nits.

District personnel will not ostracize or embarrass a student with lice or nits and will maintain student confidentiality.

If a student has a persistent infestation after 6 weeks or 3 separate cases within 1 school year, the District will form a team that may include the student's Parents, teacher, social workers, or administrators to determine the best approach to resolve the issue.]

##### B. Bed Bugs

If a District official suspects that a student's clothing or belongings contain bed bugs, the school nurse or other District official may visually inspect the student's clothing or belongings. Any bugs found should be removed and collected for identification. If a live bed bug is discovered, the District will notify the student's Parent and provide educational materials on bed bug prevention and treatment.

[Choose Option 1 or 2]

[Option 1:

No student will be excluded from school because of bed bugs unless efforts to remedy an infestation have been unsuccessful.

If bed bugs are found in a classroom or elsewhere in the school building, the building principal or designee will notify the Parents of all students in the affected building and will provide information on bed bug prevention and treatment. The school building will not be closed due to bed bug presence. If pest management is necessary, it will be provided to affected areas of the school building consistent with Policy 3406.]

[Option 2:

If a student's clothing or belongings are infested by bed bugs, the student may be excluded from school until the Parent has confirmed that successful treatment has occurred or other remedial steps have been taken to ensure that bed bugs are not brought to school.

If bed bugs are found in a classroom or elsewhere in the school building, the building principal or designee will notify the Parents of all students in the affected school building and will provide information on bed bug prevention and treatment. The school building will not be closed due to bed bug presence. If pest management is necessary, it will be provided to affected areas of the school building consistent with Policy 3406.]

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## **Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters**

### **5700 Student Health and Safety**

#### ***5710 Student Suicide Prevention***

Employees, volunteers, and contractors must immediately notify the building principal or designee if a student is exhibiting signs of unusual depression, expressing suicidal thoughts, or threatening or attempting suicide or self-harm.

The District will convene a crisis response team to investigate and develop an intervention plan for the student, if necessary.

A member of the crisis response team will immediately notify the student's Parent if the student threatens or attempts suicide.

District personnel who suspect that a student may have a disability under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act or the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act must immediately refer the student for an evaluation.

Mandatory if your District issues student identification cards for students in grades 6-12: The District will print the number of a national, state, or local suicide prevention hotline that can be accessed at any time on student identification cards for students in grades 6-12.

The District will post on its website homepage and in a conspicuous location in the school counselor's office MDHHS model information materials about suicide prevention services, suicide, depression, and anxiety.

The District will provide age-appropriate instruction and professional development about suicide prevention, consistent with Policy 2203 and state law.

Legal authority: MCL 380.1171, 380.1893

Date adopted: 12/8/2025

Date revised:

## Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters

### 5700 Student Health and Safety

#### 5712 Concussion Awareness

- A. Each coach, employee, volunteer, and other adult who works with students in an athletic activity, including physical education classes, sponsored or operated by the District, must complete the concussion awareness training program required by the Michigan Public Health Code at least once every 3 years.
- B. Before allowing a student to participate in any athletic activity, including physical education classes, the District will annually:
  - 1. provide the MHSAA- or state-approved educational materials on concussion awareness to each student and to the student's Parent; and
  - 2. obtain a statement signed by each student and respective Parent acknowledging receipt of the MHSAA- or state-approved concussion awareness educational materials. The District will maintain this signed statement for 5 years or until the student is 18, whichever is longer.
- C. A student must be removed from any practice, game, or physical education class activity when the student is reasonably suspected of sustaining a concussion during a practice or game. The student will not be permitted to participate in any school athletic activities involving physical exertion, including practices, games, or physical education class activities until the student has:
  - 1. been evaluated by a licensed physician, physician's assistant, or nurse practitioner;
  - 2. received written and signed clearance to resume participation in athletic activities from a licensed physician, physician's assistant, or nurse practitioner; and
  - 3. submitted to the school the written and signed clearance to resume participation in athletic activities, accompanied by written permission from the student's Parent to resume participation.

District officials are not required to verify the qualifications of the physician, physician's assistant, or nurse practitioner who provides the clearance.

- D. A student who has sustained a concussion may need accommodations, supports, and monitoring until the student is fully recovered. Nothing in this Policy automatically entitles a student who has sustained a concussion to an individualized plan under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act or the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. Staff should refer a student who has sustained a concussion for evaluation if they suspect the student may have a disability, consistent with Policies 5601 and 5603.

Legal authority: MCL 333.9155, 333.9156

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters

### 5700 Student Health and Safety

#### 5713 Immunizations and Communicable Diseases

##### A. Enrollment, Immunization Certification, and Exemptions

1. Subject to the exemptions stated below, for a student entering the District for the first time and when entering grade 7, a Parent must provide the building principal or designee with a certificate indicating that the student has received at least 1 dose of an immunizing agent against each disease specified by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) or other responsible agency.

The student's Parent must provide the certificate at the time of registration, or no later than the first day of school.

A Parent of a student who has not received all doses of any required immunizing agent must provide the District an updated immunization certificate demonstrating that the immunizations have been completed as required by the MDHHS. The updated certificate must be provided within 4 months of the student entering the District for the first time and upon entering grade 7.

2. A student is exempt from the above requirements if:
  - a. a physician certifies that a specific immunization is or may be inappropriate or detrimental to the student's health; or
  - b. a student's Parent, or a person acting *in loco parentis*, certifies to the building principal or designee that the child cannot be immunized as required because of religious convictions or other objection to immunization. Only waiver forms authorized, executed, and certified as required by applicable law and administrative rules will be accepted.
3. The District will not permit a student to attend school unless the Parent provides evidence of immunizations or exemptions consistent with this Policy and state law.

##### B. Emergency Exclusion Due to Outbreak

The District, in conjunction with local health department officials, may exclude students who:

- are suspected of having a communicable disease until a physician or local health official determines the student is no longer a risk; or
- lack documentation of immunity or are otherwise considered susceptible to the disease until the local health department officials determine the risk of spreading the disease has passed.

C. District Reporting Requirements

The District will report student immunization information as required by and consistent with state and federal law.

D. Homeless Children and Youth

Nothing in this Policy diminishes the rights of homeless children and youth under Policy 5307.

Legal authority: MCL 333.9206, 333.9208, 333.9215; MCL 380.1177; MCL 388.1767;  
Mich Admin Code R 325.176

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters

### 5700 Student Health and Safety

**5714 Threat Assessment and Response** [Optional] [Note: If the Board elects not to adopt this policy, delete the body of the policy and replace the title with “Intentionally Left Blank” after the policy number and in the Table of Contents to ensure accurate numbering of subsequent policies in the Policy Manual.]

[Choose Option 1 or 2]

[Option 1:

The Board is committed to providing a safe environment for all members of the school community. Our commitment to security includes creating and maintaining a safe school climate and supportive culture as a foundation for preventing violence and mitigating risk. To further that commitment, the Board directs the Superintendent to develop and implement threat assessment protocols. Those threat assessment protocols must include training for individuals who administer threat assessments and framework for determining when a threat assessment should be used.]

[Option 2:

The Board is committed to providing a safe environment for all members of the school community. To this end, the Board directs the Superintendent or designee to adopt and implement a threat assessment process.

For purposes of this Policy, a threat is defined as: [Option A: Insert the definition of a threat under your school’s threat assessment process.][Option B: Use definition from MDE/MSP joint guidance, which is: an expression of intent to physically or sexually harm someone. This expression may be spoken, written, or gestured. Threats can be expressed directly or indirectly to the victim or others, and threats may be explicit or implied. Threats sometimes, but rarely, involve guns, other weapons, or explosive devices.]

If there is a concern about student self-harm, the building principal or designee should comply with Policy 5710.

#### A. Reporting Threats

District employees, volunteers, and contractors must immediately report any threat to the Threat Assessment Coordinator. Reports may be made in person, by email, or by telephone. Threats requiring immediate intervention should also be reported to the local law enforcement.

Students are encouraged to immediately report any threat. Threats may be reported to any District employee in-person, by email, or by telephone. Students may also report threats through the OK2SAY program.

#### B. Threat Assessment Coordinator

The Board designates the following individual to serve as the District's Threat Assessment Coordinator:

[THREAT ASSESSMENT COORDINATOR NAME]  
[THREAT ASSESSMENT COORDINATOR POSITION/TITLE]  
[THREAT ASSESSMENT COORDINATOR PHONE NUMBER]  
[THREAT ASSESSMENT COORDINATOR EMAIL]

C. Threat Response

When a threat is reported, the Threat Assessment Coordinator will determine whether to initiate the District's threat assessment protocol.

Any disciplinary action must be consistent with the Student Code of Conduct and applicable law and policies.

D. Training

All District employees must receive awareness training on this Policy and the District's threat assessment process at least annually. Additional training will be provided as required by the District's threat assessment process.

E. Communication with the School Community about Reported Threats

All communications about reported threats or safety concerns will comply with applicable law, including the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act.]

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters

### 5700 Student Health and Safety

#### 5715 *Student Oral Health Assessment*

For a student entering the District for the first time in kindergarten or grade 1, at the time of registration or not later than the first day of school, a Parent must provide the building principal or designee with:

- a Kindergarten Oral Health Assessment Form (MDHHS-6067) certifying that the student has received a dental oral assessment within 6 months before the date of registration;
- a written statement that the Parent will ensure that the student receives a dental oral assessment administered through the Kindergarten Oral Health Assessment (KOHA) Program; or
- a written statement that the requirement violates the Parent's personal religious beliefs.

The District will not exclude the student from attendance for failure to provide the required information.

The building principal or designee will maintain dental report records and provide an annual summary to the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services no later than November 1 of each year.

[Optional: The District will provide the KOHA Form and information about the KOHA Program in its registration packets.]

Legal Authority: MCL 333.9316; MCL 333.9311

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters

### 5800 Miscellaneous

**5801 Closed Campus** [*Optional Note: If the Board elects not to adopt this Policy, delete the body of the policy and replace the title with “Intentionally Left Blank” after the policy number and in the Table of Contents to ensure accurate numbering of subsequent policies in the Policy Manual.*]

The school campus is a closed campus. All students must remain on campus during school hours. The building principal or designee will release a student only after confirming with an authorized adult that the student has permission to leave campus. Students who leave campus without authorization are subject to disciplinary action. Nothing in this Policy prevents the school from sending a student home when the student is ill or for disciplinary purposes.

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## **Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters**

### **5800 Miscellaneous**

#### ***5802 Student Transportation***

The District may provide student transportation to and from school.

If the District provides student transportation to and from school, the District is not required to transport or pay for transportation for a student who lives within 1.5 miles of the student's school by the nearest traveled route.

The District may establish and require students to use bus stops. The District is not responsible for supervising students at bus stops, before the bus picks the student up for school, or after the student disembarks at the end of the student's school day.

A student's failure to comply with Board Policy, applicable codes of conduct, and any other applicable rules or behavioral expectations while using District-provided transportation, including while at a designated bus stop, may result in disciplinary action and exclusion from District-provided transportation.

A student does not have a right to District-provided transportation. Nothing in this Policy, however, diminishes any right a student with a disability may have under state or federal law.

Legal authority: MCL 380.1321

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## **Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters**

### **5800 Miscellaneous**

#### ***5803 Student Driving and Parking***

Student driving and parking on District property is a privilege, not a right, that may be revoked at any time. The building principal or designee will annually publish rules and criteria for student driving and parking in the applicable student handbook(s).

A student who drives to school must register any vehicle driven to school consistent with the rules in the applicable student handbook.

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## **Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters**

### **5800 Miscellaneous**

#### **5804 *Work Permits***

The building principal or designee will issue student work permits in accordance with state law.

Legal authority: MCL 409.104

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters

### 5800 Miscellaneous

#### 5805 *Student Audio and Video Recording*

This Policy governs student audio and video recordings.

For purposes of this Policy, “recording” or “recordings” includes still photographs, video, audio, and other similar data captured in any medium.

##### A. Prohibited Recordings by Students

Unless otherwise authorized by this Policy, law, or a District employee, students may not make recordings on school property; when on a vehicle owned, leased, or contracted by the District; or at a school-sponsored activity or athletic event.

##### B. Permitted Recordings by Students

A student may make recordings of instructional activities if recording is necessary to accommodate the student’s disability pursuant to the student’s Individualized Education Program or Section 504 Plan. Students may also make recordings of instructional activities if expressly permitted by the building principal or classroom teacher.

Recordings of instructional activities permitted under this Policy may only be used by students for personal academic purposes and may not be shared or disseminated without written consent from the building principal or designee.

A student may record school-sponsored activities and athletic events as a spectator if the recording is made in a manner permitted by the District for the public. For example, students may record athletic events for their personal use in a manner similar to Parents or other spectators, but students remain subject to the District’s acceptable use and student discipline policies.

Except as otherwise permitted by this Policy, students may not make recordings of non-instructional activities without the permission of the building principal or supervising adult.

Any student recording must comply with applicable state and federal laws, codes of conduct, and Board Policy.

No recordings may be taken or made in restrooms, locker rooms, or other areas where there is a reasonable expectation of privacy.

##### C. District Recordings

Nothing in this Policy limits the District’s ability to make recordings as otherwise permitted by state and federal law or Board Policy.

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters

### 5800 Miscellaneous

#### 5806 Recording of District Meetings

A. Audio Recording of IEP Team and Section 504 Meetings [Choose Option 1 or 2:]

[Option 1: Parents of students with disabilities are permitted to audio record IEP Team and Section 504 meetings if the Parent provides notice to the District before the date of the scheduled meeting.]

[Option 2: Parents of students with disabilities are not permitted to record IEP Team and Section 504 meetings unless recording is necessary for the Parent to understand the IEP or Section 504 process.]

Parents must use their own device for any recording permitted pursuant to this Policy. If a Parent records a meeting pursuant to this Policy, the District may also record the meeting.

B. Audio Recording of Other Meetings

Parents may not record any other meeting without prior written approval of the Superintendent or designee. If a Parent is permitted to audio record a meeting, the Parent must use their own recording device. The District may also record the meeting.

C. Secret Recording of Meetings and Other Activities

Parents and students may not use secret means to record any meeting or activity at school. Student use of a device with listen-in or audio surveillance capabilities at school must comply with applicable Board policy.

D. Video Recording of Meetings

Video recording of any meeting, including IEP Team and Section 504 meetings, is prohibited. This Policy does not apply to meetings that are open to the public under the Open Meetings Act.

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## **Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters**

### **5800 Miscellaneous**

#### ***5807 Pledge of Allegiance***

The building principal or designee will provide students with an opportunity to recite the Pledge of Allegiance each school day. Student participation in the Pledge of Allegiance is voluntary. Students may not be disciplined or penalized for not reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. The building principal or designee will ensure students are not bullied for not reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Legal authority: MCL 380.1347, 380.1347a

Date adopted:

Date revised:

## Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters

### 5800 Miscellaneous

**5808 *Family Night*** [Optional Note: If the Board elects not to adopt this Policy, delete the body of the policy and replace the title with “Intentionally Left Blank” after the policy number *and* in the Table of Contents to ensure accurate numbering of subsequent policies in the Policy Manual.]

Wednesday is considered “family night” in the community. Homework assignments and school-related activities should be kept to a minimum on Wednesday nights whenever possible. The District will work with third parties (e.g., MHSAA) that plan school-related events and activities to abide by this Policy to the extent practicable.

Date adopted:

Date revised: