

**TEUTOPOLIS COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 50
SCHOOL BOARD POLICY MANUAL
TABLE OF CONTENTS
SECTION 2 - SCHOOL BOARD**

Governance

- 2:10 School Board Governance
- 2:20 Powers and Duties of the School Board

Board Member

- 2:30 School District Elections
- 2:40 Board Member Qualifications
- 2:50 Board Member Term of Office
- 2:60 Board Member Removal From Office
- 2:70 Vacancies on the School Board - Filling Vacancies
- 2:80 Board Member Oath and Conduct
- 2:90 **OPEN**
- 2:100 Board Member Conflict of Interest
- 2:105 Ethics and Gift Ban
- 2:110 Qualifications, Term, and Duties Board Officers
- 2:120 Board Member Development
 - 2:120-E School Board - Exhibit
- 2:125 Board Member Expenses

Board Relationships

- 2:130 Board-Superintendent Relationship
- 2:140 Communications To and From the Board
- 2:150 Committees
- 2:160 Board Attorney
- 2:170 Procurement of Architectural, Engineering, and Land Surveying Services
- 2:180 **OPEN**

Board Meetings

- 2:190 Mailing Lists for Receiving Board Material

2:200 Types of School Board Meetings

2:210 Organizational School Board Meeting

2:220 School Board Meeting Procedure

2:230 Public Participation at School Board Meetings and Petitions to the Board

Board Policy

2:240 Board Policy Development

Board Records

2:250 Access To District's Public Records

Uniform Grievance Procedure

2:260 Uniform Grievance Procedure

School Board

School District Governance

The District is governed by a School Board consisting of 7 members. The Board's powers and duties include the authority to adopt, enforce, and monitor all policies for the management and governance of the District's schools.

Official action by the School Board may only occur at a duly called and legally conducted meeting at which a quorum is physically present.

School Board members, as individuals, have no authority over school affairs, except as provided by law or as authorized by the Board.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/10-1, 5/10-10, and 5/10-20.5.
5 ILCS 120/1.02.

CROSS REF.: 1:10

ADOPTED:

EDITED: December 11, 2006

School Board

Powers and Duties of The School Board

The powers and duties of the School Board generally include:

1. Formulating, adopting, and modifying District policies, at its sole discretion, subject only to mandatory collective bargaining agreements; and State and federal law.
2. Employing a superintendent and other personnel, making employment decisions, and dismissing personnel.
3. Directing, through policy, the Superintendent, in his or her charge of the District's administration.
4. Approving the annual budget, tax levies, major expenditures, payment of obligations, annual audit, and other aspects of the District's financial operation.
5. Entering contracts using the public bidding procedure when required.
6. Providing, constructing, controlling, supervising, and maintaining adequate physical facilities.
7. Approving the curriculum, textbooks, and educational services.
8. Evaluating the educational program and approving School Improvement and District Improvement Plans when they are required to be developed or revised.
9. Establishing and supporting student discipline policies and designed to maintain an environment conducive to learning, including hearing individual student suspension or expulsion cases brought before it.
10. Establishing attendance units within the District and assigning students to the schools.
11. Establishing the school year.
12. Visiting District facilities.
13. Providing student transportation services.
14. Entering into joint agreements with other School Boards to establish cooperative educational programs or provide educational facilities.
15. Complying with requirements in the Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act. Specifically, each individual School Board member must, if an allegation is raised to the member during an open or closed School Board meeting that a student is an abused child as defined in the Act, direct or cause the School Board to direct the Superintendent or other equivalent school administrator to comply with the Act's requirements concerning the reporting of child abuse.
16. Communicating the schools' activities and operations to the community and representing the needs and desires of the community in educational matters.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/2-3.25d, 5/10-1 et seq.
Mary Doyle et al. v. Holy Cross Hospital, (1999, Ill. S.Ct.)

CROSS REF.: 1:10, 2:10, 2:240, 5:90 (Abused and Neglected Child Reporting)

ADOPTED: December 11, 2006

School Board

School District Elections

School District elections are non-partisan governed by the general election laws of the State, and include the election of School Board members, various public policy propositions, and advisory questions. School Board members are elected at the consolidated election held on the first Tuesday in April in odd-numbered years. If however, that date conflicts with the celebration of Passover, the consolidated election is postponed to the first Tuesday following the last day of Passover. The canvass of votes is conducted by the election authority within 21 days after the election.

The School Board's election duties are:

1. The Board, by proper resolution, may place public policy propositions on the ballot.
2. The Board President, Secretary, and the member with the longest continuous service, whose nominating petition is not being challenged, compose the Education Officers Electoral Board to hear and rule on objections to candidate nominating petitions and voter petitions.
3. The Board Secretary or clerk serves as the local election official, assisted by designated representatives appointed by the Board.

LEGAL REF.: 10 ILCS 5/1-3, 5/10-9, 5/22-17 and 5/28-1 et seq.
105 ILCS 5/9-1 et seq.

CROSS REF.: 2:40 (Board Member Qualifications), 2:210 (Organizational School Board Meeting)

ADOPTED:

Edited March 14,2005

Edited April 10, 2006

School Board

Board Member Qualifications

A School Board member must be, on the date of election, a United States citizen at least 18 years of age, a resident of Illinois and the District for at least one year immediately preceding election, a registered voter, be neither a school trustee nor a school treasurer, and not be a child sex offender as defined in State law. A School Board member must also have filed an economic interest statement as required by the Illinois Governmental Ethics Act.

Some persons may be ineligible for School Board membership by reason of other public offices held or certain types of State or federal employment.

LEGAL REF.: Ill. Constitution, Art. 2, ¶ 1; Art 4, ¶ 2(e); Art 6, ¶ 13(b).
105 ILCS 5/10-3 and 5/10-10.

CROSS REF.: 2:30

ADOPTED: Edited December 15, 2003

School Board

Board Member Term of Office

The term of office for a School Board member begins within immediately after both of the following occur:

1. The election authority canvasses the votes and declared the winner(s); this occurs within 21 days after the consolidated election held on the first Tuesday in April in the odd-numbered years.
2. The successful candidate takes the oath of office as provided in Board policy 2:80, *Board Member Oath and Conduct*.

The term ends 4 years later when the successor assumes office.

LEGAL REF.: 10 ILCS 5/2A-1.1.
105 ILCS 5/10-10, 5/10-16 and 5/10-16.5.

CROSS REF: 2:30 (School Board Elections), 2:80 (Board Member Oath and Conduct, 2:210 (Organizational School Board Meeting)

ADOPTED: September 11, 2000
(edited May 13, 2002)
(edited April 10, 2006)

School Board

Board Member Removal From Office

If a majority of the Board determines that a Board member has willfully failed to perform his or her official duties, it may request the Regional Superintendent to remove such member from office.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/3-15.5.

CROSS REF.: 2:70

ADOPTED:

School Board

Vacancies on School Board - Filling Vacancies

Vacancy

Elective office of a School Board member becomes vacant before the term's expiration when any of the following occurs:

1. Death of the incumbent;
2. Resignation in writing filed with the Secretary of the School Board;
3. Legal disability of the incumbent;
4. Conviction of a felony, bribery, perjury, or other infamous crime, or of any offense involving a violation of official oath or of a violent crime against a child;
5. Removal from office;
6. The decision of a competent tribunal declaring his or her election void;
7. Ceasing to be an inhabitant of the District or a particular area from which he or she was elected, if the residential requirements contained in The School Code are violated;
8. An illegal conflict of interest; or
9. Acceptance of a second public office that is incompatible with School Board membership.

Filling Vacancies

Whenever a vacancy occurs, the remaining members shall notify the Regional Superintendent of Schools of that vacancy within 5 days after its occurrence. The Board shall then advertise the position and accept applications. The Board will review applications and may even interview applicants prior to making a decision. The Board shall vote at a regular school board meeting to fill the vacancy until the next regular school board election, at which election; a successor shall be chosen to serve the unexpired term.

However, if the vacancy occurs with less than 868 days remaining and more than 88 days left in the term, the appointed person shall serve the remainder of the unexpired term, and no election to fill the vacancy shall be held.

A member appointed by the remaining members of the Board to fill vacancies shall meet any residential requirements as specified in The School Code.

The Board shall fill the vacancy within 45 days after it occurred by a public vote at a board meeting. If the Board fails to fill the vacancy in 45 days, the regional superintendent shall try to fill the office.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/10-10 and 5/10-11.

CROSS REF.: 2:40 (qualifications), 2:60 (removal)

ADOPTED: Sept 11, 2006

School Board

Board Member Oath and Conduct

Each School Board member, before taking his or her seat on the Board, shall take the following oath of office.

1. **(name) do solemnly swear** (or affirm) that I will faithfully discharge the duties of the office of member of the Board of Education (or Board of School Directors, as the case may be) of (name of School District), in accordance with Constitution of the United States, the Constitution of the State of Illinois, and the laws of the State of Illinois, to the best of my ability.

I further swear (or affirm) that:

I shall respect taxpayer interests by serving as a faithful protector of the School District's assets;

I shall encourage and respect the free expression of opinion by my fellow Board members and other who seek a hearing before the Board, while respecting the privacy of students and employees;

I shall recognize that a Board member has no legal authority as an individual and that decisions can be made only by a majority vote at a public Board meeting; and

I shall abide by majority decisions of the Board, while retaining the right to seek changes in such decisions through ethical and constructive channels.

The Board President will administer the oath in an open Board meeting; in the absence, of the President, the Vice President will administer the oath. If neither is available, the Board member with the longest service on the Board will administer the oath.

The Board adopts the Illinois Association of School Boards' "Code of Conduct for Members of School Boards." A copy of the Code shall be displayed in the regular Board meeting room.

LEG. REF.: 105 ILCS 5/10-16.5

CROSS REF.: 1:30 (District Mission Statement), 2:20 (Powers and Duties of the School Board), 2:50 (Board Member Term of Office), 2:210 (Organizational School Board Meeting)

ADOPTED:

EDITED: December 11, 2006

School Board

Exhibit - Board Member Ethics

Each member of the Teutopolis Community Unit School District 50 School Board ascribes to the following code of conduct:

1. I shall represent all school district constituents honestly and equally and refuse to surrender my responsibilities to special interest or partisan political groups.
2. I shall avoid any conflict of interest or any appearance of impropriety which could result from my position, and shall not use my School Board membership for personal gain or publicity.
3. I shall recognize that a School Board member has no legal authority as an individual and that decisions can be made only by a majority vote at a School Board meeting.
4. I shall take no private action that might compromise the Board or administration and shall respect the confidentiality of privileged information.
5. I shall abide by majority decisions of the School Board, while retaining the right to seek changes in such decisions through ethical and constructive channels.
6. I shall encourage and respect the free expression of opinion by my fellow School Board members and others who seek a hearing before the School Board.
7. I shall be involved and knowledgeable not only about local educational concerns but also about State and national issues.

In addition, I shall encourage my School Board to pursue the following goals:

1. The development of educational programs which meet the individual needs of every student, regardless of ability, race, sex, creed, social standing or disability;
2. The development of procedures for the regular and systematic evaluation of programs, staff performance and School Board operations to ensure progress toward educational and fiscal goals;
3. The development of effective School Board policies which provide direction for the operation of the schools and delegate authority to the Superintendent for their administration;
4. The development of systematic communications which ensure that the School Board, administration, staff, students and community are fully informed and that the staff understands the community's aspirations for its schools; and
5. The development of sound business practices which ensure that every dollar spent produces maximum benefits.

DELETED

School Board

Board Member Conflict of Interest

No School Board member shall have a beneficial interest directly or indirectly in any contract, work, or business of the District unless permitted by The School Code. And the Corrupt Practice Act.

School Board members must annually file a "Statement of Economic Interests" as required by the Illinois Governmental Ethics Act. Each School Board member is responsible for filing the statement with the county clerk of the county in which the District's principle office is located by May 1.

LEGAL REF.: 5 ILCS 420/4A-101, 420/4A-105, 420/4A-106, 420/4A-107, and 425/1 et seq.
50 ILCS 105/3.
105 ILCS 5/10-9.

CROSS REF.: 5:130

ADOPTED: Edited March 17, 2003
(Edited April 19, 2004)

School Board

Ethics and Gift Ban 1

Definitions

Unless otherwise stated, all terms used in this policy have the definition given in the State Officials and Employees Ethics Act, 5 ILCS 430/1-5.

With respect to an employee whose hours are not fixed, "compensated time" includes any period of time when the employee is on premises under the control of the District and any other time when the employee is executing his or her official duties, regardless of location.

Prohibited Political Activity

“Prohibited political activity” means:

1. Preparing for, organizing, or participating in any political meeting, political rally, political demonstration, or other political event.
 2. Soliciting contributions, including but not limited to the purchase of, selling, distributing, or receiving payment for tickets for any political fundraiser, political meeting, or other political event.
 3. Soliciting, planning the solicitation of, or preparing any document or report regarding anything of value intended as a campaign contribution.
 4. Planning, conducting, or participating in a public opinion poll in connection with a campaign for elective office or on behalf of a political organization for political purposes or for or against any referendum question.
 5. Surveying or gathering information from potential or actual voters in an election to determine probable vote outcome in connection with a campaign for elective office or on behalf of a political organization for political purposes or for or against any referendum question.
 6. Assisting at the polls on Election Day on behalf of any political organization or candidate for elective office or for or against any referendum question.
 7. Soliciting votes on behalf of a candidate for elective office or a political organization or for or against any referendum question or helping in an effort to get voters to the polls.
 8. Initiating for circulation, preparing, circulating, reviewing, or filing any petition on behalf of a candidate for elective office or for or against any referendum question.
 9. Making contributions on behalf of any candidate for elective office in that capacity or in connection with a campaign for elective office.
 10. Preparing or reviewing responses to candidate questionnaires.
-

11. Distributing, preparing for distribution, or mailing campaign literature, campaign signs, or other campaign material on behalf of any candidate for elective office or for or against any referendum question.
12. Campaigning for any elective office or for or against any referendum question.
13. Managing or working on a campaign for elective office or for or against any referendum question.
14. Serving as a delegate, alternate, or proxy to a political party convention.
15. Participating in any recount or challenge to the outcome of any election.

No employee shall intentionally perform any prohibited political activity during any compensated time. No Board Member or employee shall intentionally use any property or resources of the District in connection with any prohibited political activity. At no time shall any Board Member or employee intentionally require any other Board Member or employee to perform any prohibited political activity: (a) as part of that Board Member's or employee's duties, (b) as a condition of employment, or (c) during any compensated time off, i.e., as holidays, vacation or personal time off. No Board Member or employee shall be required at any time to participate in any prohibited political activity in consideration for that Board Member or employee being awarded additional compensation or any benefit, whether in the form of a salary adjustment, bonus, compensatory time off, continued employment or otherwise, nor shall any Board Member or employee be awarded additional compensation or any benefit in consideration for his or her participation in any prohibited political activity.

A Board Member or employee may engage in activities that: (1) are otherwise appropriate as part of his or her official duties, or (2) are undertaken by the individual on a voluntary basis that are not prohibited by this policy.

Limitations on Receiving Gifts

"Prohibited source" means any person or entity who:

1. Is seeking official action by: (a) a Board Member, or (b) an employee, or by the Board Member or another employee directing that employee;
2. Does business or seeks to do business with: (a) the Board Member, or (b) with an employee, or with the Board Member or another employee directing that employee;
3. Conducts activities regulated by: (a) the Board Member, or (b) by an employee or by the Board Member or another employee directing that employee; or
4. Has an interest that may be substantially affected by the performance or non-performance of the official duties of the Board Member or employee.

"Gift" means any gratuity, discount, entertainment, hospitality, loan, forbearance, or other tangible or intangible item having monetary value including, but not limited to, cash, food and drink, and honoraria for speaking engagements related to or attributable to government employment or the official position of a Board Member or employee.

Except as permitted by this policy, no Board Member or District employee, and no spouse of or immediate family member living with any Board Member or employee (collectively referred to herein as "recipients"), shall intentionally solicit or accept any gift from any prohibited source, as defined herein, or that is otherwise prohibited by law or policy. No prohibited source shall intentionally offer or make a gift that violates this policy.

The following are exceptions to the ban on accepting gifts from a prohibited source:

1. Opportunities, benefits, and services that are available on the same conditions as for the general public.
2. Anything for which the Board Member or employee, or his or her spouse or immediate family member, pays the fair market value.
3. Any: (a) contribution that is lawfully made under the Election Code, or (b) activities associated with a fund-raising event in support of a political organization or candidate.
4. Educational materials and missions.
5. Travel expenses for a meeting to discuss business.
6. A gift from a relative, meaning those people related to the individual as father, mother, son, daughter, brother, sister, uncle, aunt, great aunt, great uncle, first cousin, nephew, niece, husband, wife, grandfather, grandmother, grandson, granddaughter, father-in-law, mother-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, stepfather, stepmother, stepson, stepdaughter, stepbrother, stepsister, half brother, half sister, and including the father, mother, grandfather, or grandmother of the individual's spouse and the individual's fiancé or fiancée.
7. Anything provided by an individual on the basis of a personal friendship unless the recipient has reason to believe that, under the circumstances, the gift was provided because of the official position or employment of the recipient or his or her spouse or immediate family member and not because of the personal friendship. In determining whether a gift is provided on the basis of personal friendship, the recipient shall consider the circumstances under which the gift was offered, such as: (a) the history of the relationship between the individual giving the gift and the recipient of the gift, including any previous exchange of gifts between those individuals; (b) whether to the actual knowledge of the recipient the individual who gave the gift personally paid for the gift or sought a tax deduction or business reimbursement for the gift; and (c) whether to the actual knowledge of the recipient the individual who gave the gift also at the same time gave the same or similar gifts to other Board Members or employees, or their spouses or immediate family members.
8. Food or refreshments not exceeding \$75 per person in value on a single calendar day; provided that the food or refreshments are: (a) consumed on the premises from which they were purchased or prepared; or (b) catered. "Catered" means food or refreshments that are purchased ready to consume which are delivered by any means.
9. Food, refreshments, lodging, transportation, and other benefits resulting from outside business or employment activities (or outside activities that are not connected to the official

duties of a Board Member or employee), if the benefits have not been offered or enhanced because of the official position or employment of the Board Member or employee, and are customarily provided to others in similar circumstances.

10. Intra-governmental and inter-governmental gifts. "Intra-governmental gift" means any gift given to a Board Member or employee from another Board Member or employee, and "inter-governmental gift" means any gift given to a Board Member or employee by an officer or employee of another governmental entity.
11. Bequests, inheritances, and other transfers at death.
12. Any item or items from any one prohibited source during any calendar year having a cumulative total value of less than \$100.

Each of the listed exceptions is mutually exclusive and independent of every other.

A Board Member or employee, his or her spouse or an immediate family member living with the Board Member or employee, does not violate this policy if the recipient promptly takes reasonable action to return a gift from a prohibited source to its source or gives the gift or an amount equal to its value to an appropriate charity that is exempt from income taxation under Section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Ethics Advisor

The Superintendent shall appoint an Ethics Advisor for the School District. The Ethics Advisor shall provide guidance to the Board Members and School District employees concerning the interpretation of and compliance with this policy and State ethics laws.

Filing Complaints

Written complaints alleging a violation of this policy shall be filed with the Superintendent or School Board President.

Ethics Commission

In order to effectively manage the receipt of complaints concerning violations of this policy, as soon as possible after a complaint is filed, the Superintendent shall appoint a 3-member Ethics Commission. If the Superintendent is the subject of the complaint, the School Board President shall perform this duty. Commission members may be any District resident, except that no person shall be appointed who is related, either by blood or by marriage, up to the degree of first cousin, to the person who is the subject of the complaint.

At the Commission's first meeting, the Commissioners shall choose a chairperson from their number. Meetings shall be held at the call of the chairperson or any 2 Commissioners. A quorum shall consist of 2 Commissioners, and official action by the Commission shall require the affirmative vote of 2 members. The Commission shall have the following powers and/or duties:

1. To adopt procedures and timelines to manage a complaint and determine the complaint's disposition.

2. To investigate a complaint and receive information pertaining to it.
3. To hold a meeting, upon not less than 48 hours' public notice, with the complaining party and the person accused of violating the policy for the purpose of determining the complaint's disposition. Both parties shall be given the opportunity to provide information concerning the complaint. The meeting may be closed to the public to the extent authorized by the Open Meetings Act. To request the assistance of an attorney.
4. To issue recommendations for disciplinary actions and/or refer violations to the appropriate State's Attorney for prosecution. The Commission shall, however, act only upon the receipt of a written complaint alleging a violation of this policy and not upon its own prerogative.
5. The powers and duties of the Commission are limited to matters clearly within the purview of this policy.

If the Commission finds it more likely than not that the allegations in a complaint charging a Board Member or employee with violating this policy are true, it shall notify the appropriate State's Attorney and/or recommend disciplinary action for an employee. If the complaint is deemed not sufficient, the Commission shall send by certified mail, return receipt requested, a notice to the parties of the decision to dismiss the complaint.

LEGAL REF.: 5 ILCS 430/1-1, et seq.

Adopted April 19, 2004

School Board

Qualifications, Term, and Duties of Board Officers

The School Board officers are: President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. These officers are elected at the Board organizational meeting.

President

The School Board elects a President from its members for a 1-year term. The duties of the President are:

1. Preside at all meetings;
2. Make all Board committee appointments, unless specifically stated otherwise;
3. Be permitted to attend and observe any meeting of a Board committee;
4. Represent the Board on other boards or agencies or appoint another Board member;
5. Serve as chairperson of the Education Officers Electoral Board which hears challenges to School Board candidate nominating petitions;
6. Sign official District documents requiring the President's signature, including Board Minutes and Certificate of Tax Levy;
7. Call special meetings of the Board;
8. Review appeals of record access requests that were denied;
9. Ensure that a quorum of the Board is physically present at all Board meetings;
10. Administer the oath of office to new Board members; and
11. Serve as the Board's official spokesperson to the media

The President is permitted to participate in all Board meetings in a manner equal to all other Board members, including the ability to make and second motions.

The Vice President fills a vacancy in the Presidency.

Vice President

The School Board elects a Vice President from its members for a 1-year term. The Vice President performs the duties of the President if:

1. The office of President is vacant;
2. The President is absent; or
3. The President is unable to perform the office's duties.

A vacancy in the Vice Presidency is filled by a special Board election.

Secretary

The Secretary shall be a member of the Board who serves a 1-year term. The Secretary may receive reasonable compensation as fixed by the Board at least 180 days before the beginning of the term. The Secretary shall perform or delegate the following duties:

1. Keep Board meeting minutes;
2. Prepare Board meeting agendas and provide them, along with prior meeting minutes, to Board members before the next meeting;

3. Mail meeting notification and agenda to news media who have officially requested copies;
4. Keep records of the Board's official acts, and sign them, along with the President, before submitting them annually to the Treasurer on the First Monday of April and October and on such other times as the Treasurer requests;
5. Report to the Treasurer on or before July 7, annually, such information as the Treasurer is required to include in the Treasurer's report to the Regional Superintendent;
6. Act as the local election authority for all School Board elections;
7. Arrange public inspection of the budget before adoption;
8. Publish required notices;
9. Sign official District documents requiring the Secretary's signature; and
10. Maintain Board policy, financial reports, publicity, and correspondence.

A permanent vacancy in the office of Secretary is filled by special Board election.

Recording Secretary

The Board may appoint a Recording Secretary who is a staff member. The Recording Secretary's primary responsibility shall be the keeping of records, in bound books with numbered pages, of all transactions of the School Board in regular and special open meetings. The Recording Secretary or Superintendent shall record all closed meeting minutes and receive notification from Board members who desire to attend a Board meeting by video or audio means pursuant to Board policy 2:220, *School Board Meeting Procedure*.

Treasurer

Class I county school units and Class II county school districts that have withdrawn from the authority of the Township Treasurer.

The Treasurer of the Board shall be either an elected member of the Board who serves a 1-year term or an appointed non-Board member who serves at the Board's pleasure. A Treasurer who is a Board member may not be compensated. A Treasurer who is not a Board member may be compensated provided it is established before the appointment. An appointed Treasurer must:

1. Be at least 21 years old;
2. Not be a member of the County Board of School Trustees; and
3. Have a financial background or related experience, or 12 credit hours of college-level accounting.

The Treasurer shall:

1. Furnish a bond, which shall be approved by a majority of the full Board;
2. Maintain custody of school funds;
3. Maintain records of school funds and balances;
4. Prepare a monthly reconciliation report for the Superintendent and Board; and
5. Receive, hold, and expend District funds only upon the order of the Board.

A vacancy in the Treasurer's office is filled by Board appointment.

LEGAL REF.: 5 ILCS 420/4A-106.
105 ILCS 5/8-1, 5/8-2, 5/8-3, 5/8-6, 5/8-16, 5/8-17, 5/10-1, 5/10-5, 5/10-7, 5/10-8,
5/10-13, 5/10-13.1, 5/10-14, 5/10-16.5, and 5/17-1.

CROSS REF.: 2:80 (Board Member Oath and Conduct), 2:210 (Organizational School Board Meeting)

ADOPTED: edited (Oct 15, 2002) December 11, 2006

School Board

Board Member Development

The School Board desires that its individual members learn, understand, and practice effective governance principles. The Board is responsible for member orientation and development. Board members have an equal opportunity to attend state and national meetings designed to familiarize members with public school issues, governance, and legislation.

The Board President and/or Superintendent shall provide all Board members with information regarding pertinent educational materials, publications, and notices of training or development.

Board Self-Evaluation

The School Board will conduct periodic self-evaluations with the goal of continuous improvement.

New Board Member Orientation

The orientation process for newly elected or appointed School Board members includes:

1. The President or designee shall arrange a meeting with new Board member(s) for the purpose of explaining and answering questions about Board processes and procedures.
2. The Superintendent or designee shall give each new School Board member a copy of online access to the School Board Policy Manual, the School Board's regular meetings for the past year, and other helpful information including material explaining the School Board's roles and responsibilities.
3. The Board President may request a veteran Board member to mentor a new member.
4. All new members will be encouraged to attend workshops for new members conducted by Illinois Association of School Boards.

Candidates

The Superintendent or designee shall invite all current candidates for the office of School Board member to attend: (1) School Board meetings, except that this invitation shall not extend to any closed meetings, and (2) pre-election workshops for candidates.

CROSS REF.: 2:80, 2:125

ADOPTED: Sept. 11, 2000

(Edited Oct. 29, 2001)

(Edited Sept. 25, 2006)

School Board

Board Member Expenses

No Board member may receive compensation for services, except that the Board Secretary may be paid an amount up to the statutory limit if the Board so provides.

The School Board may advance or reimburse members the actual and necessary expenses incurred while attending:

1. Meetings sponsored by the Illinois State Board of Education or by the Regional Superintendent of Schools;
2. County or regional meetings and the annual meeting sponsored by any school board association complying with Article 23 of The School Code; and
3. Meetings sponsored by an organization in the field of public school education.

Expense reimbursement is not guaranteed and Board members should seek pre-approval of expenses, except in situations when the expense is diminutive. A member must return to the District any portion of an expense advance not used. Members must submit an itemized, signed voucher to support any expense advanced or to seek expense reimbursement. The voucher must show the amount of actual expense, attaching receipts if possible. A Board member submitting a bill for a group function should record participating members' names on the receipt. Money shall not be advanced or reimbursed for: (1) the expenses of any person except the School Board member, or (2) anyone's personal expenses.

The Superintendent shall review the submitted vouchers for compliance with this policy. If any voucher's compliance appears uncertain, the Superintendent shall notify the Board President, or Vice President if the voucher in question is from the President, as well as the Board member who submitted the voucher. The Superintendent shall include the voucher in the monthly list of bills that is presented to the School Board for approval or rejection.

Registration

When possible, registration fees will be paid by the District in advance.

Transportation

The least expensive transportation shall be used, providing that no hardship shall be caused to the Board member. Board members will be reimbursed for:

1. Air travel at the coach or single class commercial airline rate. First class air travel will be reimbursed only if emergency circumstances warrant. The emergency circumstances must be explained on the expense voucher. Copies of airline tickets must be attached to the expense voucher.
2. Rail or bus travel at actual cost. Rail or bus travel costs may not exceed the cost of coach air fare. Copies of tickets will be attached to the expense voucher to substantiate amounts.

3. Use of personal automobiles at the standard mileage rate approved by the Internal Revenue Service for income tax purposes. The reimbursement may not exceed the cost of coach air fare. Mileage for use of personal automobiles in trips to and from transportation terminals will also be reimbursed. Toll charges and parking costs will be reimbursed.
4. Automobile rental costs when the vehicle's use is warranted. The circumstances for such use must be explained on the expense voucher.
5. Taxis, airport limousines, or other local transportation costs.

Hotel/Motel Charges

Board members should request conference rate or mid-fare room accommodations. A single room rate will be reimbursed.

Board members should pay personal expenses at check-out. If that is impossible, deductions for the charges should be made on the expense voucher.

Meal Charges

Meal charges to the School District should represent "mid-fare" selections for the hotel/meeting facility or general area. Tips shall be included with the meal charges. Expense vouchers must explain the meal charges incurred.

Miscellaneous Expenses

Board members may seek reimbursement for other expenses incurred while attending a meeting sponsored by organizations described herein by fully describing the expenses on the expense vouchers, attaching receipts if possible.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/10-22.32.

CROSS REF.: 2:120

ADOPTED: 2:125 Sept. 11, 2000
(edited Oct. 29, 2001)
(edited May 13, 2002)
(edited Sept. 26, 2007)

School Board

Board-Superintendent Relationship

The School Board employs and evaluates the Superintendent and holds him or her responsible for the operation of the District in accordance with Board policies and State and federal law.

The Board-Superintendent relationship is based on mutual respect for their complementary roles. The relationship requires clear communication of expectations regarding the duties and responsibilities of both the Board and Superintendent.

The Board considers the recommendations of the Superintendent as the District Chief Executive Officer. The Board adopts policies necessary to provide general direction for the District and to encourage achievement of District goals. The Superintendent develops plans, programs, and procedures needed to implement the policies and directs the District's operations.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/10-16.7 and 5/10-21.4.

CROSS REF.: 3:40 (Superintendent)

ADOPTED:

EDITED: December 11, 2006

School Board

Communications To and From the Board

Staff members, parents, and community members should submit questions or communications to the School Board's consideration to the Superintendent. The Superintendent shall provide the Board with a summary of those questions or communications and provide, as appropriate, his or her feedback regarding the matter. If contacted individually, Board Members will refer the person to the appropriate channel of authority, except in unusual situations. Board members' questions or communications to staff or about programs will be channeled through the Superintendent's office. Board Members will not take private action that might compromise the Board or District. There is no expectation of privacy for any communication sent to the Board or its members individually, whether sent by letter, email, or other means.

Board Member Use of Electronic Mail

E-mail to, by, and between Board members, in their capacity as Board members, shall not be used for the purpose of discussing District business. Email among Board members shall be limited to:

1. Disseminating information; and
2. Messages not involving deliberation, debate, or decision-making.

Email may contain:

1. Agenda item suggestions;
2. Reminders regarding meeting times, dates, and places;
3. Board meeting agendas or information concerning agenda items; or
4. Individual responses to questions posed by community, members, subject to the other limitations in this policy

LEGAL REF.: 23 Ill. Admin. Code § 1.220.

CROSS REF.: 2:220, 3:30, 8:50, 8:110

ADOPTED:

EDITED: December 11, 2006

School Board

Committees

The School Board may establish committees to assist with the Board's governance function and, in some situations, to comply with State law requirements. These committees are known as Board committees and report directly to the Board. Committee members may include both Board members and non-Board members depending on the committee's purpose. The Board President makes all Board committee appointments unless specifically stated otherwise. Board committee meetings shall comply with Open Meetings Act. A Board committee may not take final action on behalf of the Board – it may only make recommendations to the Board.

Special Board Committees

A special committee may be created as needed for specific purposes or to investigate special issues. A special committee is automatically dissolved after presenting its final report to the Board or at the Board's discretion.

Standing Board Committees

A standing committee is created for an indefinite term although its members will fluctuate. Standing committees are:

1. Board Policy Committee: This committee researches policy issues, and provides information and recommendations to the Board.
2. Parent-Teacher Advisory Committee. This committee, which assists the development of student discipline policy and procedure, is comprised of parents and teachers, and may also include persons whose expertise or experience is needed. The committee reviews such issues as student discipline, disruptive classroom behavior, school bus safety procedures, and the dissemination of student conduct information.
3. Behavioral Interventions Committee. This committee develops, and monitors procedures for using behavioral interventions in accordance with Board Policy 7:230, *Misconduct by Students with Disabilities*. At the Board President's discretion, the Parent-Teacher Advisory Committee shall perform the duties assigned to the Behavioral Interventions Committee.

Nothing in this policy limits the authority of the Superintendent or designee to create and use committees that report to him or her or to other staff members.

LEGAL REF.: 5 ILCS 120/1 et seq.
105 ILCS 5/10-20.14 and 10/1 et seq.
23 Ill. Admin. Code § 226.115 and § 226.350 et seq.

CROSS REF.: 2:110 (Qualifications, Term, and Duties of Board of Officers), 2:200 (Types of School Board Meetings), 2:240, 5:40, 6:170, 7:190, 7:230

ADOPTED:

EDITED: (October 15, 2002)

December 11, 2006

School Board

School Attorney

The School Board may enter into an agreement for legal services with a specific attorney or law firm.

The Board Attorney serves on a retainer or other fee arrangement as determined in advance. The Board Attorney will provide services as described in the agreement for legal services. The District will only pay for legal services that are provided in accordance with the agreement for legal services or are otherwise authorized by this policy or a majority of the Board.

The Superintendent, his or her designee, or Board President, are authorized to confer with and/or seek the legal advice of the Board Attorney. The Board may authorize a specific member to confer with legal counsel on its behalf.

The Superintendent may authorize the Board Attorney to represent the District in any legal matter until the Board has an opportunity to consider the matter.

The School Board retains the right to consult with or employ other attorneys and to terminate the service of any attorney.

ADOPTED:

EDITED: May 23, 2005

School Board

Procurement of Architectural, Engineering, Land Surveying, and Computer Services

The School Board selects architectural, engineering, land surveying, and computer services firms to provide professional services to the District on the basis of demonstrated competence and qualifications, and in accordance with State law.

LEGAL REF.: 50 ILCS 510/0.01 et seq.
 105 ILCS 5/10-20.21.
 40 U.S.C. § 541.

ADOPTED: July 16, 2007

School Board

Mailing Lists For Receiving Board Material

The Superintendent shall maintain a mailing list of the names and addresses each year of persons who file a written request to be on such a list. Those persons shall be mailed copies of the following, provided they have pre-paid the subscription fee, pro-rated if subscribing less than one year:

1. Board Agenda
2. Budgets
3. Audits
4. Official Board Minutes which will be mailed within 10 days after approval

The subscription fee will be set annually to cover reproduction and mailing costs. The subscription period shall be the same as the District's fiscal year.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/10-21.6.

CROSS REF.: 2:220

ADOPTED:

School Board

Types of School Board Meetings

General

For all meetings of the School Board and its committees, the Superintendent or designee shall satisfy all notice and posting requirements contained herein, as well as in the Open Meetings Act. This shall include mailing meeting notifications to news media that have officially requested them, and to others as approved by the School Board. Unless otherwise specified, all meetings are held in the District's main office. Board policy 2:220, School Board Meeting Procedure, governs meeting quorum requirements.

Regular Meetings

The School Board announces the time and place for its regular meetings at the beginning of each fiscal year. ⁵ The Superintendent shall prepare and make available the calendar of regular School Board meetings. Meeting dates may be changed with 10 days' notice in accordance with State law.

A meeting agenda shall be posted at the District's main office and the Board's meeting room, or other location where the meeting is to be held, at least 48 hours before the meeting. Items not specifically on the agenda may still be considered during the meeting.

Closed Meetings

The School Board and School Board committees may meet in a closed meeting to consider the following subjects:

1. The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1).
2. Collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2).
3. The selection of a person to fill a public office, as defined in the Open Meetings Act, including a vacancy in a public office, when the public body is given power to appoint under law or ordinance, or the discipline, performance or removal of the occupant of a public office, when the public body is given power to remove the occupant under law or ordinance. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(3).
4. Evidence or testimony presented in open hearing, or in closed hearing where specifically authorized by law, to a quasi-adjudicative body, as defined in the Open Meeting Act, provided that the body prepares and makes available for public inspection a written decision setting forth its determinative reasoning. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(4).

5. The purchase or lease of real property for the use of the public body, including meetings held for the purpose of discussing whether a particular parcel should be acquired. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(5).
6. The setting of a price for sale or lease of property owned by the public body. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(6).
7. The sale or purchase of securities, investments, or investment contracts. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(7).
8. Security procedures and the use of personnel and equipment to respond to an actual, a threatened, or a reasonably potential danger to the safety of employees, students, staff, the public, or public property. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(8).
9. Student disciplinary cases. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(9).
10. The placement of individual students in special education programs and other matters relating to individual students. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(10).
11. Litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent, in which case the basis for the finding shall be recorded and entered into the minutes of the closed meeting. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11).
12. The establishment of reserves or settlement of claims as provided in the Local Governmental and Governmental Employees Tort Immunity Act, if otherwise the disposition of a claim or potential claim might be prejudiced, or the review or discussion of claims, loss or risk management information, records, data, advice or communications from or with respect to any insurer of the public body or any intergovernmental risk management association or self insurance pool of which the public body is a member. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(12).
13. Self-evaluation, practices and procedures, or professional ethics, when meeting with a representative of a statewide association of which the public body is a member. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(16).
14. Discussion of minutes of meetings lawfully closed under the Open Meetings Act, whether for purposes of approval by the body of the minutes or semi-annual review of the minutes as mandated by Section 2.06. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(21).

The Board may hold a closed meeting, or close a portion of a meeting, by a majority vote of a quorum, taken at an open meeting. The vote of each School Board member present, and the reason for the closed meeting, will be publicly disclosed at the time of the meeting and clearly stated in the motion and the meeting minutes.

A single motion calling for a series of closed meetings may be adopted by when such meetings will involve the same particular matters and are scheduled to be held within 3 months of the vote.

No final School Board action will be taken at a closed meeting.

Reconvened or Rescheduled Meetings

A meeting may be rescheduled or reconvened. Public notice of a rescheduled or reconvened meeting shall be given in the same manner as that for a special meeting, except that no public notice is required when the original meeting is open to the public and: (1) is to be reconvened within 24 hours, or (2) an announcement of the time and place of the reconvened meeting was made at the original meeting and there is no change in the agenda.

Special Meetings

Special meetings may be called by the President or by any 3 members of the School Board by giving notice thereof, in writing, stating the time, place, and purpose of the meeting to remaining Board members by mail at least 48 hours before the meeting, or by personal service at least 24 hours before the meeting.

Public notice of a special meeting is given by posting a notice at the District's main office at least 48 hours before the meeting and by notifying the news media that have filed a written request for notice. A meeting agenda shall accompany the notice.

No matters will be discussed, considered, or brought before the School Board at any special meeting other than such matters as were included in the stated purpose of the meeting.

Emergency Meetings

Public notice of emergency meetings shall be given as soon as practical, but in any event, before the meeting to news media that have filed a written request for notice.

Posting on the District Website

In addition to the other notices specified in this policy, the Superintendent or designee shall post the following on the District website: (1) the annual schedule of regular meetings, which shall remain posted until the Board approves a new schedule of regular meetings; (2) a public notice of all Board meetings; and (3) the agenda for each regular meeting which shall remain posted until the regular meeting is concluded.

LEGAL REF.: 5 ILCS 120/1 et seq.
105 ILCS 5/10-6 and 5/10-16.

CROSS REF.: 2:210 (Organizational School Board Meetings), 2:220 (School Board Meeting Procedure), 2:230 (Public Participation at School Board Meetings and Petitions to the Board), 6:235 (access to Electronic Networks)

ADOPTED:
2:200 (edited August 1995)
(edited March 1996)
(edited Oct 29, 2001)
(edited May 13, 2002)
(edited Oct 15, 2002)

(edited April 19, 2004)
(edited November 14, 2005)

EDITED: December 11, 1006

School Board

Organizational School Board Meeting

During a March meeting in odd-numbered years, the School Board establishes a date for its organizational meeting to be held sometime after the election authority canvasses the vote, but within 28 days after the consolidated election. The consolidated election is held on the first Tuesday in April of odd-numbered years.

At the organizational meeting the following shall occur:

1. Each successful candidate, before taking his or her seat on the Board, shall take the oath of office as provided in Board policy 2:80, Board Member Oath and Conduct.
2. The new School Board members shall be seated.
3. The School Board shall elect its officers who assume office immediately upon their election.
4. The School Board shall fix a time and date for its regular meetings

LEGAL REF.: 5 ILCS 120/2.03.
105 ILCS 5/9-18, 5/10-5, 5/10-16, and 105 ILCS 5/10-16.5.

CROSS REF.: 2:30, 2:110 (Qualifications, Term, and Duties of Board Officers), 2:200, 2:220,
2:230

ADOPTED: September 11, 2000

EDITED: May 13, 2002
October 15, 2002
March 14, 2005
April 10, 2006
December 11, 2006

School Board

School Board Meeting Procedure

Agenda

The Board President is responsible for focusing the Board meeting agendas on appropriate content. The Superintendent shall prepare agendas in consultation with the Board President. The President shall designate a portion of the agenda as a consent agenda for those items that usually do not require discussion or explanation before School Board action. Any Board member may request the withdrawal of any item under the consent agenda for independent consideration.

Items submitted by School Board members to the Superintendent or the President shall be placed on the agenda. District residents may suggest inclusions for the agenda. Items not specifically on the agenda may still be discussed during the meeting.

The Superintendent shall provide a copy of the agenda, with adequate data and background information, to each School Board member at least 48 hours before each meeting, except a meeting held in the event of an emergency. The meeting agenda shall be posted in accordance with policy 2:200, *Types of School Board Meetings*.

The order of business at regular School Board meetings shall be determined by the Board President. Upon consent of a majority of members present, the order of business at any meeting may be changed.

Voting Method

Unless otherwise provided by law, when a vote is taken upon any measure before the School Board, with a quorum being present, a majority of the votes cast shall determine its outcome. A vote of "abstain" or "present," or a vote other than "yea" or "nay," a failure to vote, is counted for the purpose of determining whether a quorum is present. A vote of "abstain" or "present" or a vote other than "yea" or "nay," or a failure to vote, however, is not counted in determining whether a measure has been passed by the Board, unless otherwise stated in law. The sequence for casting votes shall be rotated.

On all questions involving the expenditure of money and on all questions involving the closing of a meeting to the public, a roll call vote shall be taken and entered in the Board's minutes.

Minutes

The Board Secretary shall keep written minutes of all School Board meetings, (whether open or closed), which shall be signed by the President and the Secretary.

The minutes include:

1. The meeting's date, time, and place;
2. School Board members recorded as either present or absent;
3. A summary of discussion on all matters proposed, deliberated, or decided, and a record of any votes taken;

4. On all matters requiring a roll call vote, a record of who voted “yea” and “nay”;
5. If the meeting is adjourned to another date, the time and place of the adjourned meeting;
6. The vote of each member present when a vote is taken to hold a closed meeting or portion of a meeting and the reason for the closed meeting a citation to the specific exception contained in the Open Meetings Act authorizing the closed meeting;
7. A record of all motions, the member making the motion and the second; and
8. The type of meeting, including any notices and, if a reconvened meeting, the original meeting's date.

The minutes shall be submitted to the School Board for approval or modification at its next regularly scheduled open meeting. At least semi-annually in an open meeting, the Board: (1) reviews minutes from closed meetings that are currently unavailable for public release, and (2) decides which, if any, no longer require confidential treatment and are available for public inspection. The School Board may meet in a prior closed session to review the minutes from closed meetings that are currently unavailable for public release.

The official minutes are in the custody of the Board Secretary. Open meetings' minutes are available for inspection during regular office hours within 7 days after the Board's approval, they may be inspected in the District's main office, in the presence of the Secretary, the Superintendent or designee, or any School Board member. Minutes from closed meetings are likewise available, but only if the School Board has released them for public inspection. The minutes shall not be removed from the Superintendent's office except by vote of the School Board or by court order.

The Board's open meeting minutes shall be posted on the District website within 7 days after the Board approves them; the minutes will remain posted for at least 60 days.

Verbatim Record of Close Meetings

The Superintendent or the Board Secretary when the Superintendent is absent, shall audio record all closed meetings. If neither is present, the Board President or presiding officer shall assume this responsibility. After the closed meeting, the person making the audio recording shall label the recording with the date and store it in a secure location. The Superintendent shall ensure that: (1) an audio recording device and all necessary accompanying items are available to the Board for every closed meeting, and (2) a secure location for storing closed meeting audio recording is maintained close to the Board's regular meeting location.

After 18 months have passed since being made, the audio recording of closed meeting is destroyed provided the Board approved: (1) its destruction, and (2) minutes of a particular closed meeting have been approved. Individual Board members may listen to verbatim recordings when that action is germane to their responsibilities. In the interest of encouraging free and open expression by Board members during closed meetings, the recording of closed meetings should not be used by Board members to confirm or dispute the accuracy of recollections.

Quorum

A quorum of the Board must be physically present at all Board meetings. A majority of the full membership of the School Board constitutes a quorum.

Provided a quorum is physically present, a Board member may attend a meeting by video or audio conference if he or she is prevented from physically attending because of: (1) personal illness or disability, (2) employment or District business, or (3) a family or other emergency. If a member wishes to attend a meeting by video or audio means, he or she must notify the recording secretary or Superintendent at least 24 hours before the meeting unless advance notice is impractical. The recording secretary or Superintendent will inform the Board President and make appropriate arrangements. A Board member who attends a meeting by audio or video means, as provided in this policy, may participate in all aspects of the Board meeting including voting on any item.

Rules of Order

Unless State law or Board-adopted rules apply, the Board President, as the presiding officer, will use Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised, Newly Revised (10th Edition), as a guide when a question arises concerning procedure.

Broadcasting and Recording Board Meetings

Any person may record or broadcast an open School Board meeting. Requests for special needs, such as seating, writing surfaces, lighting, and access to electrical power, should be directed to the Superintendent as least 2 hours before the meeting.

Recording meetings shall not distract or disturb Board members, other meeting participants, or members of the public. The Board President may designate a location for recording equipment, may restrict the movements of individuals who are using recording equipment, or may take such other steps as are deemed necessary to preserve decorum and facilitate the meeting.

LEGAL REF.: 5 ILCS 120/2a, 120/2.02, 120/2.05, and 120/2.06.
105 ILCS 5/10-6, 5/10-7, 5/10-16, and 5/120/2.05.
Prosser v. Village of Fox Lake, 438 N.E.2d 134 (1982).

CROSS REF.: 2:200, 2:210, 2:230

ADOPTED:

EDITED: November 15, 2004
December 11, 2006

Edited December 15, 2003
Edited March 14, 2005
Edited November 14, 2005

School Board

Public Participation at School Board Meetings and Petitions to the Board

At each regular and special open meeting, the members of the public and District employees may comment on or ask questions of the Board, subject to reasonable constraints.

The individuals appearing before the Board are expected to follow these guidelines:

1. Address the Board only at the appropriate time as indicated on the agenda and when recognized by the Board President.
2. Identify him or herself and be brief. Ordinarily, such comments shall be limited to 5 minutes. In unusual circumstances, and when the person has given advance notice of the need to speak for a longer period of time, such person may be allowed to speak for more than 5 minutes.
3. The Board President may shorten or lengthen a person's opportunity to speak. The President may also deny the opportunity to speak to a person who has previously addressed the Board on the same subject within the past 2 months.
4. The Board President shall have the authority to determine procedural matters regarding public participation not otherwise defined in School Board policy.

Petitions or written correspondence to the board shall be presented to the School Board at the next regularly scheduled Board meeting. A response, when appropriate, will be given within 60 days of the meeting where the matter was discussed.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/10-6 and 5/10-16.

CROSS REF.: 2:220

ADOPTED:

School Board

Board Policy Development

The School Board governs using written policies. Written policies ensure legal compliance, establish Board processes, articulate District ends, delegate authority, and define operating limits. Board policies also provide the basis for monitoring progress toward district ends.

Policy Development

Anyone may propose new policies, changes to existing policies, or elimination of existing policies. Staff suggestions should be processed through the Superintendent. Suggestions from all others should be made to the Board President or the Superintendent.

A Board Policy Committee will consider all policy suggestions, and provide information and recommendations to the Board.

The Superintendent is responsible for: (1) providing relevant policy information and data to the Board, (2) notifying those who will implement or be affected by or required to implement a proposed policy and obtaining their advice and suggestions, and (3) having policy recommendations drafted into written form for Board deliberation. The Superintendent may seek the counsel of the Board attorney when appropriate.

Policy Adoption and Dissemination

Policies or policy revisions will not be adopted at the Board meeting at which they are first introduced, except when: (1) appropriate for a consent agenda because no Board discussion is required, or (2) necessary or prudent in order to meet emergency or special conditions or to be legally compliant. Further Board consideration will be given at a subsequent meeting(s) and after opportunity for community input. The adoption of a policy will serve to supersede all previously adopted policies on the same topic.

The School Board policies are available for public inspection in the District's main office during regular office hours. Copy requests should be made pursuant to Board policy 2:250, Access to District's Public Records.

Board Policy Review and Monitoring

The School Board will periodically review its policies for relevancy, monitor its policies for effectiveness, and consider whether any modifications are required. The Board may use an annual policy review and monitoring calendar.

Superintendent Implementation

The Board will support any reasonable interpretation of School Board policy made by the Superintendent. If reasonable minds differ, the Board will review the applicable policy and consider the need for further clarification.

In the absence of School Board policy, the Superintendent is authorized to take appropriate action.

Suspension of Policies

The Board, by a majority vote of members present at any meeting, may temporarily suspend a Board policy except those provisions that are controlled by law or contract. The failure to suspend with a specific motion does not invalidate the Board action.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/10-20.5.

CROSS REF.: 2:150, 2:250, 3:40

ADOPTED:

EDITED: December 11, 2006

School Board

Exhibit - PRESS Issue Updates

Actor	Action
Superintendent	Receives PRESS issue. Replaces current sample policies in the Policy Reference Manual with revised versions. Directs designated support staff to copy memo (blue sheets), working sheets (yellow sheets), and current district policy in those areas, and distribute them to policy committee. In the case of clean-up language (no content change), directs designated support staff to make changes to district policy manual on computer file.
Policy Committee (or Committee of the Whole)	Meets and considers recommended updates. Decides which changes require Board discussion and which do not (consent agenda items.) Policies recommended for revision are submitted to the district's legal counsel for review.
Superintendent	Directs designated support staff to include copies of recommended changes and copies of the blue memo sheets from PRESS in the monthly Board packets.
Policy Committee (or Committee of the Whole)	Presents changes to the Board at a regularly scheduled meeting.
Full Board	Discusses changes which require discussion and announces first reading of the policy updates. All interested parties, the Board, staff, parents, students, and community members have a month to consider the recommended changes. At the next regular meeting, votes to revise existing policy, delete existing policy, or add new policy per the committee's recommendation.
Superintendent	May need to change existing administrative procedures or create new ones to implement policy changes.
Superintendent	Directs designated support staff to update district policy manual on computer file, add revision date or adoption date for new policies, make copies of new policy for each manual copy, prepare update sheet with return form, and send packet to those responsible for keeping a manual updated.
Persons responsible for keeping copies of manual updated	Follow the directions on the update sheet – adding the new, replacing the revised, and removing any deleted policies. Date, sign, and send the return forms to the support staff designated to receive them.
Superintendent	Directs designated support staff to follow up on any return forms not received within a set time frame (e.g. 2 weeks).

DATED:

School Board

Exhibit - Developing Local Policy

Actor	Action
Anyone (Superintendent, Board member, staff, parent, student, community member, district's legal counsel)	Brings a concern to the attention of the district which may necessitate a change in or an addition to current Board policy
Policy Committee (or Committee of the Whole)	<p>Considers:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Does the IASB Policy Reference Manual provide guidance? 5. Is the request something that should be covered in policy (i.e. Board work) or is it something that should be handled by the staff? 6. If it is a staff matter (i.e. staff work), the committee's deliberations end here, and the matter is referred to the Superintendent. 7. If it is a policy matter, is it already covered in policy? Committee consults the alphabetical index and checks cross references in policies that cover similar or connected topics.
Policy Committee (or Committee of the Whole)	Frames the question and requests the Superintendent to research it. Then drafts, or requests the Superintendent or legal counsel to draft, language that addresses the concern and is in alignment with the District's mission, vision, goals, and objectives.
Policy Committee (or Committee of the Whole)	Decides whether the new policy language should be included in an existing policy or added to the manual as a separate policy. If adding as a new policy, decides where in the manual it most logically belongs and assigns a code number to the policy.
Superintendent	Sends the language to the District's attorney for review unless he or she prepared it.
Superintendent	Includes the draft in the Board packet and puts the policy on the agenda as a discussion item for the next regular meeting.
Full Board	Considers the draft recommended by the policy committee and announces the first reading. The Board may request the committee to change the draft.
Superintendent	Includes the draft, with any requested revisions, in the board packet and on the agenda for action at the next regular meeting.

Actor	Action
Full Board	Adopts policy.
Superintendent	Directs designated support staff to make the necessary changes to the District policy manual on the computer file – adding the necessary adoption date. Also, to make copies of revised or added policies for each manual copy, prepare update sheet with return form, and send packet to all those responsible for keeping a manual updated.
Persons responsible for keeping copies of manual updated	Follow the directions on the update sheet – adding the new or replacing the revised policy. Date, sign, and send the return forms to the support staff designated to receive them.
Superintendent	Directs designated support staff to follow up on any return forms not received within a set time frame (e.g. 2 weeks).

DATED:

School Board

Access To District's Public Records

The District's "public records" are those documents, tapes, photographs, letters, and any other recorded information or materials, regardless of physical form or characteristics, that were prepared, used, received, or possessed by, or under the control of, the District, a school, a school official, or an employee. Public records, including email messages, shall be preserved and cataloged, including, if they (1) are evidence of the District's organization, function, policies, procedures, or activities, or (2) contain informational data appropriate for preservation. Public records that are required to be preserved and cataloged may be destroyed when authorized by the Local Records Commission.

The Superintendent or designee shall respond to request made under the Illinois Freedom of Information Act from anyone desiring to inspect and/or copy of a District's public record. The Superintendent or designee shall approve the request, unless:

The requested material is:

- (a) not a "public record" as defined in this policy;
- (b) exempt from inspection and copying by the Freedom of Information Act or any other State or federal law; or
- (c) not required to be preserved or cataloged; or

2. Complying with the request would be unduly burdensome

When responding to a request for a record containing both exempt and non-exempt material, the Superintendent or designee shall delete exempt material from the record before complying with the request. The Board President or Superintendent shall report to the Board at each regular meeting any Freedom of Information Act requests as well as the status of the response.

The Superintendent shall implement this policy with administrative procedures. The Board will set copy fees periodically.

LEGAL REF.: Chicago Tribune Company v. Bd. Of the City of Chicago, 773 N.E. 2d 674

(Ill. App. 1 Dist. 2002).

5 ILCS 140/1 et seq.
105 ILCS 5/10-16.

CROSS REF.: 2:240 (Communications To and From the Board), 5:150 (Personnel Records),
7:350 (Student Records)

ADOPTED:

(Edited March 17, 2003)
(Edited Sept 25, 2006)

School Board

Uniform Grievance Procedure

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

1. Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act;
2. Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972;
3. Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973;
4. Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, 20 U.S.C. § 1400 et seq.
5. Title VI of the Civil Rights Act, 42 U.S.C. § 2000d et seq.
6. Equal Employment Opportunities Act (Title VII of the Civil Rights Act), 42 U.S.C. 2000e et seq.
7. Sexual harassment (Illinois Human Rights Act, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972);
8. Misuse of funds received for services to improve educational opportunities for educationally disadvantaged or deprived children;
9. Curriculum, instructional materials, and/or programs; or
10. Victims' Economic Security and Safety Act, 820 ILCS 180;
11. Illinois Equal Pay Act of 2003, 820 ILCS 112; or
12. Provision of services to homeless students.
13. Illinois Whistleblower Act, 740 ILCS 174/1 et seq.

For employee subject to the terms of the Agreement Between the Board of Education of Teutopolis Community Unit School District #50 and the Teutopolis Education Association, TEA-IEA-NEA, the terms of that agreement shall control

The Complaint Manager will attempt to resolve complaints without resorting to this grievance procedure and, if a complaint is filed, to address the complaint promptly and equitably. The right of a person to prompt and equitable resolution of a complaint filed hereunder shall not be impaired by the person's pursuit of other remedies. Use of this grievance procedure is not a prerequisite to the pursuit of other remedies and use of this grievance procedure does not extend any filing deadline related to the pursuit of other remedies. All deadlines may be extended by the Complaint Manager as he or she deems appropriate. As used in this policy, "school business days" means days on which the District's main office is open.

1. Filing a Complaint

A person (hereinafter Complainant) who wishes to avail him or herself of this grievance procedure may do so by filing a complaint with any District Complaint Manager. The Complainant shall not be required to file a complaint with a particular Complaint Manager and may request a Complaint Manager of the same gender. The Complaint Manager may

request the Complainant to provide a written statement regarding the nature of the complaint or require a meeting with a student's parent(s)/guardian(s). The Complaint Manager shall assist the Complainant as needed.

2. Investigation

The Complaint Manager will investigate the complaint or appoint a qualified person to undertake the investigation on his or her behalf. If the Complainant is a student, the Complaint Manager will notify his or her parent(s)/guardian(s) that they may attend any investigatory meetings in which their child is involved. The complaint and identity of the Complainant will not be disclosed except (1) as required by law this policy, or (2) as necessary to fully investigate the complaint, or (3) as authorized by the Complainant. The identity of any student witnesses will not be disclosed except: (1) as required by law or any collective bargaining agreement, or (2) as necessary to fully investigate the complaint, or (3) as authorized by the parent/guardian of the student witness, or by the student if the student is 18 years of age or older.

Within 30 school business days of the date the complaint was filed, the Complaint Manager shall file a written report of his or her findings with the Superintendent. The Complaint Manager may request an extension of time. -If a complaint of sexual harassment contains allegations involving the Superintendent, the written report shall be filed with the School Board, which will make a decision in accordance with Section 3 of this policy. The Superintendent will keep the Board informed of all complaints.

3. Decision and Appeal

Within 5 school business days after receiving of the Complaint Manager's report, the Superintendent shall mail his or her written decision to the Complainant by U. S. mail, first class, as well as the Complaint Manager.

Within 10 school business days after receiving the Superintendent's decision, the Complainant may appeal the decision to the School Board by making a written request to the Complaint Manager. The Complaint Manager shall promptly forward all materials relative to the complaint and appeal to the School Board. Within 30 school business days, the School Board shall affirm, reverse, or amend the Superintendent's decision or direct the Superintendent to gather additional information. Within 5 school business days of the Board's decision, the Superintendent shall inform the Complainant of the Board's action.

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

Appointing Complaint Managers

The Superintendent shall appoint at least two Complaint Managers, one of each gender. The District's Nondiscrimination Coordinator, if any, may be appointed a Complaint Manager. The Superintendent shall insert into this policy the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of current Complaint Managers.

School	Teutopolis Grade School	Teutopolis Jr. High School	Teutopolis High School	Lillyville School
Name	Norma Fisher	Bill Fritcher	Greg Beck	Angela Sheehan
Address	309 E. Main St. Teutopolis, IL 62467	904 W. Water St. Teutopolis, IL 62467	801 W. Main Teutopolis, IL 62467	123 CO RD 100E Sigel, IL 62462
Telephone No.	217-857-3232	217-857-6678	217-857-3139	217-844-3331

LEGAL REF.: Age Discrimination in Employment Act, 29 U.S.C. § 621 et seq.
 Americans With Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C. § 12101 et seq.
 Equal Pay Act, 29 U.S.C. § 206(d).
 Immigration Reform and Control Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1324a et seq.
 Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 U.S.C. § 791 et seq.
 Title VII of Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 U.S.C. § 2000e et seq.
 Title IX of the Education Amendments, 20 U.S.C. § 1681 et seq.
 775 ILCS 5/1-101 et seq.
 105 ILCS 5/10-20.7a, 5/10-22.5, 5/22-19, 5/24-4, and 5/27.1.
 Illinois Whistleblower Act, 740 ILCS 174/1 et seq
 23 Ill. Admin. Code §§ 1.240 and 200-40.

CROSS REF.: 5:10 (Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Recruitment), 5:20 (Sexual Harassment), 6:170 (Title I Programs), 6:260 (Complaints About Curriculum, Instructional Materials, and Programs), 7:10 (Equal Educational Opportunities), 7:180 (Preventing Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment), 7:20 (Sexual Harassment), 8:70 (Accommodating Individuals With Disabilities), 8:110 (Public Complaints).

ADOPTED:

(Edited Aug. 12, 2002)

(Edited Dec. 15, 2003)

(Edited Nov 15, 2004)

(Edited Sept. 25, 2006)

(Edited January 21, 2008)