

RELIGION IN THE SCHOOLS

2270

The Board of Education recognizes that religious belief and disbelief are matters of personal conviction rather than governmental authority and the students of this district are protected by the First Amendment of the United States Constitution and by Article I, Paragraph 4 of the New Jersey State Constitution from the establishment of religion in the schools. The First Amendment requires public school officials to show neither favoritism toward nor hostility against religious expression such as prayer.

The United States Department of Education's Guidance on Constitutionally Protected Prayer and Religious Expression in Public Elementary and Secondary Schools (USDOE Guidance) provides information on the current state of the law concerning religious expression in public schools.

The following activities as outlined in the USDOE Guidance will be permitted upon applying the governing constitutional principles in particular contexts related to: prayer during non-instructional time; organized prayer groups and activities; teachers, administrators, and other school employees' activities; moments of silence; accommodations for prayer during instructional time; prayer in classroom assignments; student assemblies and noncurricular events; prayer at graduation; and/or baccalaureate ceremonies.

The following activities as outlined in the USDOE Guidance will be permitted upon applying the governing constitutional principles in particular contexts related to religious expression: religious literature; teaching about religion; student dress codes and policies; and/or religious excusals.

The Equal Access Act, 20 U.S.C. Section 4071, is designed to ensure that student religious activities are afforded the same access to Federally funded public secondary school facilities as are student secular activities. The United States Department of Justice has developed guidance for interpreting the Equal Access Act's requirements outlined in the USDOE Guidance in the area of general provisions, prayer service and worship exercises, means of publicized meetings, lunch-time and recess, and leadership of religious student groups.

Any issues regarding religion in the schools and the provisions of this Policy shall be referred to the Superintendent of Schools who may consult with the Board Attorney.

U.S. Const. Amend. 1

The Equal Access Act, 20 U.S.C. Section 4071

U.S. Department of Education - Guidance on Constitutionally Protected Prayer in Public Elementary and Secondary Schools – January 16, 2020

N.J. Const. (1947) Art. 1, para. 4

N.J.S.A. 18A:35-4.6 et seq.; 18A:36-16

Adopted: 05/2021

HEAT PARTICIPATION POLICY FOR STUDENT-ATHLETE SAFETY (M)

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The Board of Education adopts this Policy as a measure to protect the safety, health, and welfare of students participating in school-sponsored athletic programs and extra-curricular activities. The Board believes practice and pre-season heat participation guidelines for students will minimize injury and enhance a student's health, performance, and well-being.

In accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:11-3.10, a school district which is a member of any voluntary association, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:11-3, which oversees activities associated with Statewide interscholastic sports programs shall adopt and implement the most current "Heat Participation Policy" required by the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association (NJSIAA) for conducting practice or games in all sports during times of high heat or humidity.

The NJSIAA Policy shall address:

1. The scheduling of practice or games during times of various heat and humidity levels;
2. The ratio of time devoted to workouts to time allotted for rest and hydration during various heat and humidity levels; and
3. The heat and humidity levels at which practice or games will be canceled.

The guidelines included in the NJSIAA Heat Participation Policy shall provide a default Policy to those responsible or sharing duties for making decisions concerning the implementation of modifications or cancellation of practices or games based on the presence of heat and humidity.

The Board of Education shall purchase a WetBulb Globe Temperature (WBGT) tool to measure the heat stress in direct sunlight at the practice or game site. Heat stress consists of temperature, humidity, wind speed, the angle of the sun, and cloud coverage.

The Board of Education shall adopt and implement the provisions of the NJSIAA Heat Participation Policy concerning the frequency and recording of WBGT measurements.

The provisions and requirements of this Policy and of the NJSIAA current Heat Participation Policy, which shall be utilized in conjunction with the current NJSIAA Pre-Season Heat Acclimatization Policy, shall be carried out by the Athletic Trainer, certified designee, or individual as appointed by the school staff member designated by the Superintendent to supervise athletics, which may include a coach or individual

responsible for sharing duties for making decisions concerning the implementation of modifications or cancellation of practices and games based on WBGT measurements.

A copy of this Policy and NJSIAA's current Heat Participation Policy and Pre-Season Heat Acclimatization Policy shall be provided to each coach, as appropriate, and reviewed with all coaches by the Principal or designee which may include, but not be limited to, the Athletic Trainer or staff member supervising athletics as designated by the Superintendent prior to the first practice session of the season for each team. The Superintendent shall designate the staff member responsible to ensure compliance with this Policy and NJSIAA's current Heat Participation Policy and Pre-Season Heat Acclimatization Policy.

This Policy and the requirements outlined in this Policy shall apply to all student-athletes in grades nine through twelve participating in Statewide high school interscholastic athletic programs.

The school district will implement provisions of this Policy as determined by the Superintendent or designee for student-athletes participating in athletic programs other than students in grades nine through twelve to include students in grades four through eight.

N.J.S.A.18A:11-3.10

New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association Heat Participation Policy and Pre-Season Heat Acclimatization Policy

Adopted: 05/2021

STUDENT ASSESSMENT (M)

2622

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The Commissioner of Education, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:7C-1 et seq. and 18A:7E-2 and 3, may implement assessments of student achievement in any grade(s) and by such assessments as he or she deems appropriate. The Commissioner shall report to the State Board of Education the results of such assessments.

The Commissioner shall implement a system and related schedule of Statewide assessments to evaluate student achievement of the New Jersey Student Learning Standards (NJSLS). The Commissioner, with the approval of the State Board of Education, shall define the scope and level of student performance on Statewide assessments that demonstrate thorough understanding of the knowledge and skills delineated by the NJSLS at grade levels three through twelve. After consultation with the Commissioner, the State Board of Education shall establish by resolution uniform Statewide criteria defining adequate school district progress toward meeting the NJSLS.

State assessments provide parents with important information about their child's progress; detailed diagnostic information about each individual student's performance that educators, parents, and students can utilize to enhance foundational knowledge and student achievement; and include item analysis which will clarify a student's level of knowledge and understanding of a particular subject or area of a subject. The data derived from State assessments will be utilized by teachers and administrators to pinpoint areas of difficulty and customize instruction accordingly. Such data can be accessed and utilized as a student progresses to successive school levels.

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:8-4.1(b) and (c), all students at grade levels three through twelve, and at any other grade(s) designated by the Commissioner pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:8-4.1(a), shall take all appropriate Statewide assessments as scheduled. There is no provision for a student to opt-out of Statewide assessments. If a student is absent on a testing date, the student will be expected to take the missed test on another school day. Parents and students will be informed of all scheduled testing dates, including make-up testing dates for students who missed the initial testing date.

Statewide Assessment System

The Superintendent of Schools shall develop and annually present to the Board for its approval an assessment program that complies with the rules of the State Board of Education.

The Board of Education shall, according to a schedule prescribed by the Commissioner, administer the applicable Statewide assessments, including the following major components: the elementary assessment component for grades three through five; the

middle school assessment component for grades six through eight; the high school end-of-course assessments; and the alternative assessment for students with disabilities; and provide notification to each student entering grades three through twelve of the Statewide assessment schedule.

The Department of Education shall implement the elementary component of the Statewide assessment of the NJSLS consisting of continued administration of mathematics and English language arts in grades three, four, and five, and of science in grade five.

The Department of Education shall implement the middle school component of the Statewide assessment of the NJSLS consisting of the following: continued administration of mathematics and English language arts in grades six, seven, and eight; and of science in grade eight.

The Department of Education shall implement a high school assessment program component of the NJSLS that assesses, at a minimum, English language arts, mathematics, and science with the exception that students may receive a waiver from the Board of Education from taking the high school end-of-course assessment in ELA 11 due to the student's participation in another English language/literature college placement assessment during the same school year.

The Board shall provide appropriate accommodations or modifications to the Statewide assessment system as specified by the Department of Education for English Language Learners (ELLs) and students with disabilities as defined in N.J.A.C. 6A:14-1.3 or eligible under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act as determined by the IEP or 504 Team in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:8-4.1(d)1. The Board may administer the Statewide assessments in mathematics to ELLs in their native language, when available, and/or English. The Board of Education shall have the option for a first-year ELL of substituting a Department of Education-approved language proficiency test only for the English language arts section of the elementary or middle school component of the Statewide assessment, when the student has entered the United States after July 1 of the calendar year prior to the test administration.

The Board of Education shall ensure students with disabilities as defined in N.J.A.C. 6A:14-1.3 participate in Statewide assessments in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:14-4.10.

At specific times prescribed by the Commissioner of Education, the Board of Education shall administer the alternative assessment for students with disabilities to students with severe disabilities who cannot participate in other assessments due to the severity of their disabilities. The Department of Education shall implement the alternative assessment for students with disabilities according to the schedules in N.J.A.C. 6A:8-4.1(c)1, 2, and 3. The alternative assessment for students with disabilities measures the progress of students who have been determined eligible for the alternative assessment for students with disabilities by the IEP team in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:14-4.10.

The Boards of Education shall implement alternative ways for students to demonstrate graduation proficiency in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:8-5.1(f).

Test Administration Procedures and Security Measures

The Board of Education shall be responsible for ensuring the security of all components of the Statewide assessment system that are administered within the school district. All Statewide assessments shall be administered in accordance with the Department of Education's required test administration procedures and security measures. Any breach of such procedures or measures shall be immediately reported to the Superintendent or designee.

Documentation of Student Achievement

The Department of Education shall provide the Superintendent with documentation of student performance after each test administration in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:8-4.2(a). Information regarding individual student test scores shall only be released in accordance with Federal and State law.

The Board of Education shall transmit within ten business days any official records, including transcripts, of students who transfer to other school districts or institutions.

The Board of Education shall maintain an accurate record of each student's performance on Statewide assessments.

The Board of Education shall maintain for every student a ninth grade through graduation transcript that contains the following, as available:

1. Results of all applicable State assessments, including assessments that satisfy graduation requirements set forth in N.J.A.C. 6A:8-5.1(a)6;
2. Results of any English language proficiency assessments according to N.J.A.C. 6A:8-5.1(h);
3. Evidence of instructional experience and performance in the NJSLs;
4. Evidence of technological literacy;
5. Evidence of career education instructional experiences and career development activities;
6. Evidence of State-issued occupational licenses and credentials, industry-recognized occupational credentials, and/or technical skill assessments for students enrolled in Department of Education-approved career and technical education programs pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:19-3.2; and

7. Any other information deemed appropriate by the Board of Education.

Accountability

The Superintendent shall report preliminary and final results of annual assessments to the Board of Education within sixty days of receipt of information from the New Jersey Department of Education pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:8-4.3(a). The Board of Education will provide parents, students, and citizens with results of annual assessments according to N.J.A.C. 6A:8-4.2.

The Board shall provide appropriate instruction to improve skills and knowledge for students performing below the established levels of student proficiency in any content area either on Statewide or local assessments. All students shall be expected to demonstrate the knowledge and skills of the NJSLS as measured by the Statewide assessment system.

Annual Review and Evaluation of School Districts

The Department of Education shall review the performance of schools and school districts in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:8-4.4.

Public Reporting

In accordance with the requirements of N.J.A.C. 6A:8-4.5, the Department of Education shall report annually to the State Board of Education and the public on the progress of all students and student subgroups in meeting the NJSLS as measured by the Statewide assessment system by publishing and distributing the Department of Education's annual New Jersey School Report Card in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:7E-2 through 5. After each test administration, the Department of Education shall report to the Board of Education on the performance of all students and of student subgroups. The Department of Education shall report performance on the APA with the same frequency and in the same detail as it reports on other Statewide assessments, including school and school district means, and the number and percentage of participating students. In public reporting of school and district performance data, the Department of Education shall not compromise the confidentiality of individual students.

Parental Notification

Parents shall be informed of the district assessment system and of any special tests that are to be administered to their children.

N.J.S.A. 18A:7C-1 et seq.; 18A:7E-1 et seq.

N.J.A.C. 6A:8-4.1 et seq.; 6A:8-5.1; 6A:14-1.1 et seq.; 6A:14-3.7;
6A:14-4.10

Adopted: 05/2021

ELIGIBILITY OF RESIDENT/NONRESIDENT STUDENTS (M)

5111

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The Board of Education shall admit to its schools, free of charge, persons over five and under twenty years of age, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1, or such younger or older student as is otherwise entitled by law to a free public education.

Eligibility to Attend School

The Board shall admit students eligible to attend school free of charge that are domiciled within the district as defined in N.J.A.C. 6A:22-3.1.

A child who is domiciled within the school district and resides with a parent or guardian who is a member of the New Jersey National Guard or a member of the reserve component of the armed forces of the United States who is ordered into active military service in a time of war or national emergency shall be permitted to remain enrolled in the school district in which the child is domiciled at the time of the parent or guardian being ordered into active military service, regardless of where the child resides during the period of active duty. Following the return of the child's parent or guardian from active military service, the child's eligibility to remain enrolled in the school district pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-3.1 shall cease at the end of the current school year unless the child is domiciled in the school district.

The Board shall also admit any student that is kept in the home of a person other than the student's parent or guardian, where the person is domiciled in the school district and is supporting the student without remuneration as if the student were his or her own child in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:22-3.2. A student is only eligible to attend school in the district pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:22-3.2 if the student's parent or guardian files, together with documentation to support its validity, a sworn statement that he or she is not capable of supporting or providing care for the student due to family or economic hardship and the student is not residing with the other person solely for the purpose of receiving a free public education. In addition, the person keeping the student must file, if so required by the Board of Education, a sworn statement that he or she: is domiciled within the school district; is supporting the child without remuneration and intends to do so for a time longer than the school term; will assume all personal obligations for the student relative to school requirements; and provides a copy of his or her lease if a tenant, a sworn landlord's statement if residing as a tenant without a written lease, or a mortgage or tax bill if an owner. Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1.c, any person who fraudulently allows a child of another person to use his or her residence and is not the primary financial supporter of that child and any person who fraudulently claims to have given up custody of his or her child to a person in another district commits a disorderly persons offense.

A student is eligible to attend school in this school district free of charge pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1.b if the student is kept in the home of a person domiciled in the school district, who is not the parent or guardian and the parent or guardian is a member of the New Jersey National Guard or the reserve component of the United States armed forces and has been ordered into active military service in the United States armed forces in time of war or national emergency. Eligibility under this provision shall cease at the end of the current school year during which the parent or guardian returns from active military duty.

A student is eligible to attend school in this school district free of charge pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1.d if the student's parent or guardian temporarily resides within the school district and elects to have the student attend the school district of temporary residence, notwithstanding the existence of a domicile elsewhere. When required by the Board of Education, the parent or guardian shall demonstrate the temporary residence is not solely for purposes of a student attending the school district of temporary residence. When one of a student's parents or guardians temporarily resides in the school district while the other is domiciled or temporarily resides elsewhere, eligibility to attend school shall be determined in accordance with the criteria of N.J.A.C. 6A:22-3.1(a)1.i.

A student is eligible to attend this school district free of charge:

1. If the student's parent or guardian moves to another school district as the result of being homeless, subject to the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:17-2 - Education of Homeless Children;
2. If the student is placed by court order or by a society, agency, or institution in the home of a school district resident pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-2;
3. If the student previously resided in the school district and if the parent or guardian is a member of the New Jersey National Guard or the United States reserves and has been ordered to active service in time of war or national emergency, resulting in the relocation of the student out of the school district, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-3.b. The school district shall not be obligated for transportation costs; and
4. If the student resides on Federal property within the State pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-7.7 et seq.

Notwithstanding the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1 or any other law, rule, or regulation to the contrary, a student who moves out of the school district as a result of domestic violence, sexual abuse, or other family crises shall be permitted to remain enrolled in the school district for the remainder of the school year in pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1.1 and in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:22-3.2(h). If the student remains enrolled in the school district for the remainder of the school year, the school district shall provide transportation services to the student, provided the student lives remote from

school, and the State shall reimburse the school district for the cost of the transportation services. Nothing in N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1.1 shall be construed to affect the rights of homeless students pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:7B-12, N.J.S.A. 18A:7B-12.1, or any other applicable State or Federal law.

A student's eligibility to attend this school shall not be affected by the physical condition of an applicant's housing or his or her compliance with local housing ordinances or terms of lease.

Except as set forth in N.J.A.C. 6A:22-3.3(b)1, immigration/visa status shall not affect eligibility to attend school and the school district shall not condition enrollment in the school district on immigration status. A student's immigration/visa status and their eligibility to attend school shall be in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:22-3.3(b) and Regulation 5111.

Proof of Eligibility

The Board of Education shall accept a combination of forms of documentation from persons attempting to demonstrate a student's eligibility for enrollment in the school district in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:22-3.4. The Board of Education shall consider the totality of information and documentation offered by an applicant, and shall not deny enrollment based on failure to provide a particular form or subset of documents without regard to other evidence presented.

The Board of Education shall not condition enrollment on the receipt of information or documents protected from disclosure by law, or pertaining to criteria that are not a legitimate basis for determining eligibility to attend school as outlined in N.J.A.C. 6A:22-3.4(d). The Board of Education may consider, in a manner consistent with Federal law, documents or information referenced in N.J.A.C. 6A:22-3.4(d) or pertinent parts thereof if voluntarily disclosed by the applicant. The Board of Education may not, directly or indirectly, require or request such disclosure as an actual or implied condition of enrollment.

In the case of a dispute between the school district and the parent of a student in regard to the student's eligibility to enroll in the school district or to remain enrolled in the school district pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1, the school district may request from the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission (NJMVC) the parent or guardian's name and address for use in verifying a student's eligibility for enrollment in the school district in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1.3. The NJMVC shall disclose to a school district the information requested in accordance with procedures established by the NJMVC. However, the school district shall not condition enrollment in the district on immigration status or on the fact that the NJMVC does not have the name or address of the parent on file.

Registration Forms and Procedures for Initial Assessment

Registration and initial determinations of eligibility will be in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:22-4.1. The Board of Education shall use Commissioner-provided registration forms or locally developed forms that are consistent with the forms provided by the Commissioner. A district-level administrator designated by the Superintendent shall be clearly identified to applicants and available to assist persons who experience difficulties with the enrollment process.

Initial eligibility determinations shall be made upon presentation of an enrollment application, and enrollment shall take place immediately except in cases of clear, uncontested denials. Enrollment shall take place immediately when an applicant has provided incomplete, unclear, or questionable information, but the applicant shall be notified that the student will be removed from the school district if defects in the application are not corrected, or an appeal is not filed, in accordance with subsequent notice to be provided pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:22-4.2.

When a student appears ineligible based on the information provided in the initial application, the school district shall issue a preliminary written notice of ineligibility, including an explanation of the right to appeal to the Commissioner of Education. Enrollment shall take place immediately if the applicant clearly indicates disagreement with the district's determination and an intent to appeal to the Commissioner of Education. An applicant whose student is enrolled pursuant to this provision shall be notified that the student will be removed, without a hearing before the Board, if no appeal is filed within the twenty-one day period established by N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1.

When enrollment is denied and no intent to appeal is indicated, applicants shall be advised they shall comply with compulsory education laws. When the student is between the ages of six and sixteen, applicants also shall be asked to complete a written statement indicating the student will be attending school in another school district or nonpublic school, or receiving instruction elsewhere than at a school pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-25. In the absence of this written statement, designated staff shall report to the school district of actual domicile or residence, or the Department of Children and Families, a potential instance of "neglect" for the purposes of ensuring compliance with compulsory education law, N.J.S.A. 9:6-1. Staff shall provide the school district or the Department of Children and Families with the student's name, the name(s) of the parent/guardian/resident, and the student's address to the extent known. Staff shall also indicate admission to the school district has been denied based on residency or domicile, and there is no evidence of intent to arrange for the child to attend school or receive instruction elsewhere.

Enrollment or attendance at the school shall not be conditioned on advance payment of tuition when enrollment is denied and an intent to appeal is indicated, or when enrollment is provisional and subject to further review or information. The Board of Education shall ensure the registration process identifies information suggesting an applicant may be homeless so procedures may be implemented in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:17-2, Education of Homeless Children. Enrollment or attendance in the school district shall not be denied based upon the absence of the certified copy of the student's birth certificate or

other proof of a student's identity as required within thirty days of initial enrollment, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:36-25.1.

Enrollment in the school district shall not be denied based upon absence of student medical information. However, actual attendance at school may be deferred until the student complies with student immunization rules set forth in N.J.A.C. 8:57-4.

When enrollment in the school district, attendance at school, or the receipt of educational services in the regular education program appears inappropriate, the student shall not be denied based upon the absence of a student's prior educational record. However, the applicant shall be advised the student's initial educational placement may be subject to revision upon the school district's receipt of records or further assessment of the student.

Notice of Ineligibility

When a student is found ineligible to attend the school district pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:22 or the student's initial application is found to be deficient upon subsequent review or investigation, the school district immediately shall provide to the applicant notice that is consistent with Commissioner-provided sample form(s) and meets requirements of N.J.A.C. 6A:22-4 et seq. Notices shall be in writing; in English and in the native language of the applicant; issued by the Superintendent; and directed to the address at which the applicant claims to reside. Notices of ineligibility shall include information as outlined in N.J.A.C. 6A:22-4.2.

Removal of Currently Enrolled Students

Nothing in N.J.A.C. 6A:22 et seq. and this Policy shall preclude the Board of Education from identifying through further investigation or periodic requests for revalidation of eligibility, students enrolled in the school district who may be ineligible for continued attendance due to error in initial assessment, changed circumstances, or newly discovered information.

When a student who is enrolled and attending school based on an initial eligibility determination is later determined to be ineligible for continued attendance, the Superintendent may apply to the Board of Education for the student's removal in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:22-4.3. No student shall be removed from school unless the parent, guardian, adult student, or resident keeping an "affidavit student" (as defined in N.J.A.C. 6A:22-1.2) has been informed of his or her entitlement to a hearing before the Board of Education. Once the hearing is held, or if the parent, guardian, adult student or resident keeping an "affidavit student", does not respond within the designated time frame to the Superintendent's notice or appear for the hearing, the Board of Education shall make a prompt determination of the student's eligibility and shall immediately provide notice in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:22-4.2. Hearings required pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:22-4.3 may be conducted by the full Board or a Board Committee, at the discretion of the full Board. If the hearing(s) is conducted by a Board Committee, the Committee shall make a recommendation to the full Board for action. No

student may be removed except by vote of the Board taken at a meeting duly convened and conducted pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq., the Open Public Meetings Act.

Appeal to the Commissioner

An applicant may appeal to the Commissioner of Education the school district's determination that a student is ineligible to attend its schools. Appeals shall be initiated by petition which shall be filed in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1 and N.J.A.C. 6A:3-8.1 and shall proceed as a contested case pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:3. Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1.b(1), appeals of "affidavit student" eligibility determinations shall be filed by the resident keeping the student.

Assessment and Calculation of Tuition

If no appeal to the Commissioner is filed following notice of an ineligibility determination, the Board of Education may assess tuition, for up to one year of a student's ineligible attendance, including the twenty-one day period provided by N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1 for appeal to the Commissioner. Tuition will be assessed and calculated in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:22-6.3 et seq. If the responsible party does not pay the tuition assessment, the Board of Education may petition the Commissioner pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:3 for an order assessing tuition, enforceable in accordance with N.J.S.A. 2A:58-10 through recording, upon request of the Board of Education pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:3-12, on the judgment docket of the Superior Court, Law Division.

If an appeal to the Commissioner is filed and the petitioner does not sustain the burden of demonstrating the student's right to attend the school district, or the petitioner withdraws the appeal, fails to prosecute, or abandons the appeal by any means other than settlement agreeing to waive or reduce tuition, the Commissioner may assess tuition in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:22-6.2(a). Upon the Commissioner's finding that an appeal has been abandoned, the Board of Education may remove the student from school and seek tuition in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:22-6.2.

Nonresident Students

The admission of a nonresident student to school free of charge must be approved by the Board. No student otherwise eligible shall be denied admission on the basis of the student's race, color, creed, religion, national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, affectational or sexual orientation or sex, social or economic status, or disability. The continued enrollment of any nonresident student shall be contingent upon the student's maintenance of good standards of citizenship and discipline.

Students whose parent or guardian have moved away from the school district on or after May 1st and twelfth grade students whose parent or guardian have moved away from the school district on or after May 1st will be permitted to finish the school year in this school district without payment of tuition.

Children of District Employees

Children of Board of Education employees who do not reside in this school district may be admitted to school in this district without payment of tuition, provided that the educational program of such children can be provided within school district facilities.

Other Nonresident Students

Other nonresident students, otherwise eligible for attendance may be admitted to this school district with or payment of tuition and Board approval.

F-1 Visa Students

The school district is not required to, but may permit the attendance of F-1 Visa students into the school district only with the payment of full tuition and a signed tuition contract. The district may require advance payment of full tuition before providing the requested I-20 Form, in accordance with the provisions of Federal regulation 8 CFR 214.3. A F-1 Visa is granted to a foreign student through an application process that must include, but is not limited to, signed approval by the receiving school district exhibiting the receiving school district will accept the foreign student for enrollment and the foreign student's proof of financial means to pay the full tuition to the receiving school district for the academic year. The host family must be domiciled in the school district and shall submit a request to the Superintendent of Schools with supporting documentation as determined by the Superintendent or designee. A student with a F-1 Visa must be approved by the Board for attendance in the school district. The student's continued attendance in the school district shall be conditioned on a satisfactory attendance and disciplinary record.]

J-1 Visa Students

The school district is not required to, but may permit the attendance of J-1 Visa students into the school district. The host family must be domiciled in the school district and shall submit a request to the Superintendent of Schools with supporting documentation as determined by the Superintendent or designee. A student with a J-1 Visa must be approved by the Board for attendance in the school district and shall not pay tuition. The student's continued attendance in the school district shall be conditioned on a satisfactory attendance and disciplinary record.]

N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1 et seq.; 18A:38-1.3; 18A:38-3; 18A:38-3.1
N.J.A.C. 6A:14-3.3; 6A:17-2.1 et seq.; 6A:22-1.1 et seq.
8 CFR 214.3

Adopted: 05/2021

ATTENDANCE (M)

5200

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In accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:38-25, every parent, guardian, or other person having control and custody of a child between the ages of six and sixteen shall cause the child to regularly attend school. The Board of Education requires students enrolled in the school district attend school regularly in accordance with the laws of the State.

Notwithstanding the requirement of reporting student absences in the school register for State and Federal reporting purposes, "excused" and "unexcused" student absences, for the purpose of expectations and consequences regarding truancy, student conduct, promotion, and the award of course credit is a local Board decision outlined in N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.6 and Policy and Regulation 5200. In accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.6 and for the purposes of Policy and Regulation 5200, a student's absence from school will either be excused or unexcused. Unexcused absences will count toward truancy.

A parent or adult student shall provide advance notice to the school prior to the student being absent from school. In accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:36-25.6, if a student is determined to be absent from school without valid excuse, and if the reason for the student's absence is unknown to school personnel, the Principal or designee shall immediately attempt to contact the student's parent to notify the parent of the absence and determine the reason for the absence.

Students that are absent from school for any reason are responsible for the completion of assignments missed because of their absence. In accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:36-14, a student who is absent from school for observing a religious holiday shall not be deprived of any award, eligibility, or opportunity to compete for any award, or deprived of the right to take an alternate test or examination that was missed because of the absence provided there is a written excuse of such absence signed by the parent.

Prolonged or repeated absences, excused or unexcused, from school or from class, deprive students of the educational and classroom experiences deemed essential to learning and may result in retention at grade level

Students shall be subjected to the school district's response for unexcused absences that count toward truancy during the school year as outlined in N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.6(a)4 and Regulation 5200.

Unexcused absences from school or from classes within the school day may subject a student to consequences that may include the denial of a student's participation in co-curricular activities and/or athletic competition. Repeated absences from school interfere

with efforts of the Board and its staff in the maintenance of good order and the continuity of classroom instruction and such absences may result in the removal of the student from a class or course of study.

The Superintendent shall calculate and monitor the average daily attendance rate for the district and for each school in the district. Whenever the average daily attendance rate does not meet the New Jersey Department of Education requirements the Superintendent or designee shall develop a district improvement plan to improve student attendance pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:30-5.2.

N.J.S.A. 18A:36-14; 18A:36-25.6; 18A:38-25

N.J.S.A. 34:2-21.1 et seq.

N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.6; 6A:30-5.2; 6A:32-8.3

Adopted: 05/2021

IMMUNIZATION

5320

In order to safeguard the school community from the spread of certain communicable diseases and in recognition that prevention is a means of combating the spread of disease, the Board of Education requires the immunization of students against certain diseases in accordance with State statute and rules of the New Jersey State Department of Health and Senior Services.

A student shall not knowingly be admitted or retained in school if the parent has not submitted acceptable evidence of the child's immunization, according to schedules specified in N.J.A.C. 8:57-4 – Immunization of Pupils in School. However, a child may be admitted to school on a provisional basis in accordance with the requirements as outlined in N.J.A.C. 8:57-4.5 and Regulation 5320.

Medical or religious exemptions to immunizations shall be in accordance with the requirements as outlined in N.J.A.C. 8:57-4.3 and 4.4. For students with a medical exemption pursuant to N.J.A.C. 8:57-4.3, the school nurse shall annually review student immunization records to confirm the medical condition for the exemption from immunization continues to be applicable in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:16-2.3(b)3.v.

No immunization program, other than that expressly required by the rules of the New Jersey State Department of Health and Senior Services or by order of the New Jersey State Commissioner of Health and Senior Services, may be conducted in district schools without the express approval of the Board.

N.J.S.A. 18A:40-20

N.J.S.A. 26:4-6

N.J.A.C. 6A:16-2.3

N.J.A.C. 8:57-4.1 et seq.

Adopted: 05/2021

ADMINISTERING AN OPIOID ANTIDOTE (M)

5330.04

M

N.J.S.A. 18A:40-12.24.a requires schools to adopt a Policy for the emergency administration of an opioid antidote to a student, staff member, or other person who is experiencing an opioid overdose.

N.J.S.A. 18A:40-12.24.a.(1) requires schools with any of the grades nine through twelve to comply with the provisions of the law and permits schools with students in other grades to comply with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:40-12.24.a.(1). Therefore, the Board extends the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:40-12.23 through 12.27 to schools with any of the grades PreK through eight.

N.J.S.A. 18A:40-12.24 requires a school to obtain a standing order for opioid antidotes pursuant to the "Overdose Prevention Act" - N.J.S.A. 24:6J-1 et seq. The school shall maintain a supply of opioid antidotes under the standing order in a secure, but unlocked and easily accessible location. The opioid antidotes shall be accessible in the school during regular school hours and during school-sponsored functions that take place in the school or on school grounds adjacent to the school building.

The school nurse and a designated employee who volunteers to administer an opioid antidote pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:40-12.24.c. are required to be trained for the administration of an opioid antidote in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:40-12.25.b. The school nurse or a designated employee who volunteers to administer an opioid antidote shall be promptly available on site at the school during regular school hours and during school-sponsored functions that take place in the school or on school grounds adjacent to the school building at any time.

N.J.S.A. 18A:40-12.24 permits the school nurse or a designated trained employee to administer an opioid antidote to any person whom the nurse or the trained designated employee who in good faith believes is experiencing an opioid overdose.

An overdose victim shall be transported to a hospital emergency room by emergency medical responders after the administration of an opioid antidote, even if the person's symptoms appear to have resolved.

In accordance with N.J.S.A. 24:6J-4.a.(1)(f), a prescriber or other health care practitioner, as appropriate, may prescribe or dispense an opioid antidote directly or through a standing order to a school, school district, or school nurse. In accordance with N.J.S.A. 24:6J-4.a.(2)(c), whenever the law expressly authorizes or requires a school or school district to obtain a standing order for opioid antidotes, the school nurse(s) employed or engaged by the school or school district shall be presumed by the prescribing or

dispensing health care practitioner to be capable of administering the opioid antidote, consistent with the express statutory requirement.

Notwithstanding the provisions of N.J.S.A. 24:6J-4.a.(3)(b) to the contrary, if the law expressly authorizes or requires a school, school district, or school nurse to administer or dispense opioid antidotes pursuant to a standing order under N.J.S.A. 24:6J-4 et seq., the standing order issued shall be deemed to grant the authority specified by the law, even if such authority is not specifically indicated on the face of the standing order.

In accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:40-12.26, no school employee, including a school nurse or any other officer or agent of a Board of Education or charter school, or a prescriber of opioid antidotes for a school through a standing order, shall be held liable for any good faith act or omission consistent with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:40-12.23 et seq. Good faith shall not include willful misconduct, gross negligence, or recklessness.

Any school, school district, school nurse, school employee, or any other officer or agent of a Board of Education or charter school who administers or permits the administration of an opioid antidote in good faith in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:40-12.24 and pursuant to a standing order issued under N.J.S.A. 24:6J-4 shall not, as a result of any acts or omissions, be subject to any criminal or civil liability or any disciplinary action for administering, or permitting the administration of, the opioid antidote in accordance with N.J.S.A. 24:6J-1 et seq. Nothing in this Policy shall be interpreted to prohibit the administration of an opioid antidote to a student, staff member, or other person in an emergency during school hours or during on-site school-sponsored activities by an emergency medical responder or other person authorized by law to administer an opioid antidote, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 24:6J-1 et seq.

The Overdose Prevention Act provides that when a person, in good faith, seeks medical assistance for an individual believed to be experiencing a drug overdose, whether the person is seeking assistance for himself/herself or another, the person calling for help and the person experiencing the overdose shall not be arrested, charged, prosecuted, or convicted for certain criminal offenses enumerated in N.J.S.A. 2C:35-30(a)(1-6) and N.J.S.A. 2C:35-31(a)(1-6).

Notwithstanding the provisions of any law, rule, regulation, ordinance, or institutional or organizational directive to the contrary, any person or entity authorized to administer an opioid antidote pursuant to N.J.S.A. 24:6J-4, may administer to an overdose victim, with full immunity: a single dose of any type of opioid antidote that has been approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration for use in the treatment of opioid overdoses; and up to three doses of an opioid antidote that is administered through an intranasal application, or through an intramuscular auto-injector, as may be necessary to revive the overdose victim. Prior consultation with, or approval by, a third-party physician or other medical personnel shall not be required before an authorized person or entity may administer up to three doses of an opioid antidote, as provided in N.J.S.A. 24:6J-4, to the same overdose victim.

A school district may enter into a shared services arrangement with another school district for the provision of opioid antidotes pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:40-12.27 if the arrangement will result in cost savings for the districts.

This Policy and Regulation 5330.04 shall be reviewed and approved by the school physician prior to Board adoption and whenever this Policy is revised. This Policy shall be made available to school staff members, parents, and students in handbooks, on the school district's website, or through any other appropriate means of publication.

N.J.S.A. 18A:40-12.23; 18A:40-12.24; 18A:40-12.25;
18A:40-12.26; 18A:40-12.27
N.J.S.A. 24:6J-1 et seq.

Adopted: 05/2021

SUSPENSION (M)

5610

M

The Board of Education recognizes that even the temporary exclusion of a student from the educational program of this district is a severe sanction and one that cannot be imposed without due process.

Any student who is guilty of continued and willful disobedience, or of open defiance of the authority of any teacher or person having authority over him, or of the habitual use of profanity or of obscene language, or who shall cut, deface or otherwise injure any school property, shall be liable to punishment and to suspension or expulsion from school. Conduct which shall constitute good cause for suspension or expulsion of a student guilty of such conduct shall include, but not be limited to, the conduct as defined in N.J.S.A. 18A:37-2 and the school district's Student Discipline/Code of Conduct Policy and Regulation in accordance with the N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.1 et seq.

For the purposes of this Policy, "suspension" means the temporary removal of a student from the regular instructional program.

For the purposes of this Policy, "short term suspension" means a suspension for one, but not more than ten consecutive school days and "long term suspension" means a suspension for more than ten consecutive school days.

In accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:37-4, a student may be suspended only by the Principal, who shall report any suspension to the Superintendent as soon as possible. The Superintendent shall report the suspension to the Board at its next regular meeting. The suspended student may be reinstated by the Principal or by the Superintendent prior to the second regular meeting of the Board following the suspension, unless the Board reinstates the student at the first regular meeting. No student suspended for reasons of assault upon a person in authority may be reinstated before the Board has held a hearing, within thirty calendar days of the suspension, to consider that student's expulsion from school. At its second regular meeting after the suspension and thereafter, the Board alone may reinstate the student or continue the suspension.

In accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:37-2a, a student in Kindergarten through grade two shall not receive an out-of-school suspension, except when the suspension is based on conduct that is of a violent or sexual nature that endangers others. Students in preschool shall not receive an out-of-school suspension except as provided pursuant to the "Zero Tolerance for Guns Act," N.J.S.A. 18A:37-7 et seq.

The district shall implement an early detection and prevention program to identify students in preschool through grade two who are experiencing behavioral or disciplinary

problems and provide behavioral supports for these students which may include, but not be limited to, remediation of problem behaviors, positive reinforcements, supportive interventions, and referral services. An early detection program may be incorporated into the intervention and referral services required to be established in each school pursuant to State Board of Education regulations.

In each instance of a short-term suspension, the student will be provided oral or written notice of the charges and an informal hearing conducted by the Principal or designee in accordance with the procedures outlined in N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.2. To the extent the student's presence poses a continuing danger to persons or property or an ongoing threat of disrupting the educational process, the student may be immediately removed from the student's educational program and the informal hearing shall be held as soon as practical after the suspension.

In each instance of a long-term suspension, the district shall assure the rights of the student pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.3.

The district will comply with the requirements of N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.2 and 7.3, in addition to all the procedural protections set forth in N.J.A.C. 6A:14, for each student with a disability who is subject to a short-term or long-term suspension.

In each instance of a short- or long-term suspension, the district shall provide academic instruction, either in school or out of school, that addresses the New Jersey Student Learning Standards pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:8-3.1 et seq., which may include a public education program provided in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:16-9 or 10. These services shall be provided within five school days of the suspension. Educational services provided to a student with a disability shall be provided consistent with the student's Individualized Education Program, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:14.

In the event a student has experienced multiple suspensions or may be subject to a proposed expulsion from school, the Principal shall convene a meeting, as soon as practicable, between the student and a school psychologist, a school counselor, a school social worker, a student assistance coordinator, or a member of the school's intervention and referral services team in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:37-2c.

Student records are subject to challenge by parents and adult students in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:32-7.7 and Policy and Regulation 8330. The name of a disciplined student will not appear in the agenda or minutes of a public meeting or in any public record of this district; any such student will be designated by code.

N.J.S.A. 18A:37-1; 18A:37-2 et seq.; 18A:37-4; 18A:37-5
N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.2; 6A:16-7.3; 6A:32-7.7; 6A:14-2.8

Adopted: 05/2021

EXPULSION (M)

5620

M

The Board of Education recognizes that expulsion from this district is the most severe sanction that can be imposed upon a student.

The Board may expel a general education student from school, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:37-2, only after the Board has provided the following:

1. The procedural due process rights set forth in N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.1(c) 3 and 7.3, and as outlined in Policy and Regulation 5610, subsequent to a long-term suspension pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.3; and
2. An appropriate educational program or service, based on the criteria set forth under N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.3(f) and as outlined in Regulation 5610.
 - a. The educational program or service shall be consistent with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:16-9.2 - Program Criteria; N.J.A.C. 6A:16-10.2 - Home or Out-of-School Instruction for General Education Students; N.J.A.C. 6A:14-2.1 et seq. - Special Education, Procedural Safeguards; and N.J.A.C. 6A:14-4.3 - Special Education, Program Options, whichever are applicable; or
 - b. The educational services provided, either in school or out-of-school, shall be comparable to those provided in the public schools for students of similar grades and attainments, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-25.

An appeal of the Board's decision regarding the cessation of the student's general education program shall be made to the Commissioner of Education in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:6-9 and N.J.A.C. 6A:3-1.3 through 1.17. The Board shall continue to provide an appropriate educational program or service in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.4(a)2 until a final determination has been made on the appeal of the Board's action to expel a student.

In accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:37-2a, a student in Kindergarten through grade two shall not be expelled from school, except as provided pursuant to the "Zero Tolerance for Guns Act," N.J.S.A. 18A:37-7 et seq. Students in preschool shall not be expelled, except as provided pursuant to the "Zero Tolerance for Guns Act," N.J.S.A. 18A:37-7 et seq.

The district shall implement an early detection and prevention program to: identify students in preschool through grade two who are experiencing behavioral or disciplinary problems; and provide behavioral supports for these students which may include, but not be limited to, remediation of problem behaviors, positive reinforcements, supportive interventions, and referral services. An early detection program may be incorporated into the intervention and referral services required to be established in each school pursuant to State Board of Education regulations.

In accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:37-2c, in the event a student may be subject to a proposed expulsion from school, the Principal shall convene a meeting, as soon as practicable, between the student and a school psychologist, a school counselor, a school social worker, a student assistance coordinator, or a member of the school's intervention and referral services team. The purpose of the meeting shall be to identify any behavior or health difficulties experienced by the student and, where appropriate, to provide supportive interventions or referrals to school or community resources that may assist the student in addressing the identified difficulties.

The requirements of N.J.S.A. 18A:37-2c shall not apply when a student's immediate removal or suspension from the school's regular education program is required pursuant to: the provisions of the "Zero Tolerance for Guns Act," (N.J.S.A. 18A:37-7 et seq.); N.J.S.A. 18A:37-2.1 – Assault by Pupil Upon Teacher, etc; Suspension; Expulsion Proceedings; N.J.S.A. 18A:37-2.2 – Offense by Pupil Involving Assault, Removal from Schools Regular Education Program; or in any other instance in which the safety and security of other students or school staff requires the student's immediate removal from school. In these instances, the meeting required pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:37-2c shall take place as soon as practicable following the student's removal from the school's regular education program.

The provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:37-2c shall be construed in a manner consistent with the "Individuals with Disabilities Act," 20 U.S.C. § 1400 et seq.

A student with a disability shall only be expelled from his or her current program in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:14 et seq. An expulsion of a student with a disability from a receiving school shall be handled in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:14 et seq.

N.J.S.A. 18A:36A-9; 18A:37-2 et seq.
N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.4; 6A:14 et seq.

Adopted: 05/2021

PERSONNEL RECORDS (M)

8320

M

The Board of Education believes that the orderly operation of the school district requires the retention of all records bearing upon an employee's qualifications for employment and employment history.

The Board requires that sufficient records be compiled and maintained to demonstrate an employee's qualifications for the position assigned; compliance with Federal, State, and local benefit programs; conformity to district rules; the proper conduct of evaluations; and the employee's entitlement, as appropriate, to tenure and seniority.

The Superintendent shall be responsible for the custody and maintenance of personnel records. A single, central file of documents shall be maintained; temporary, subsidiary records will be permitted for ease in data gathering only. An employee's personnel file shall be maintained for six years following his/her termination of district service, provided the employment history record card is maintained a minimum of eighty years.

A Board of Education and private agencies that provide educational services by means of public funds shall make employee records and information available for public access pursuant to N.J.S.A. 47:1A-10, the Open Public Records Act, but in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:6-120.(d) and 121.(d), and as provided in Policy and Regulation 8320 - Section G.

Personnel records may be inspected by school administrators to the extent that such inspection is required in the performance of the inspector's duties.

Board members may have access to confidential information in the personnel files of only those employees recommended for or subjected to an employment action requiring a vote of the Board or where access to the information is essential for the performance of the Board member's duties. Board member access to personnel files is limited to the relevant portion of the file and is available only through the Superintendent. Board members may freely inspect employment applications filed by candidates for district positions.

An employee may inspect his/her personnel file provided that the employee requests such access in writing, reviews the record in the presence of the administrator designated to maintain the file, makes no alteration or addition to the file nor removes any material from it, and signs a log attached to the file indicating the date on which it was inspected.

An employee may appeal to the Superintendent the inclusion or exclusion of records or for appropriate administrative review of the accuracy of any record in his/her personnel file.

The Superintendent shall prepare rules enumerating the records to be maintained for each employee of this district, including, as a minimum and as appropriate to the position, the completed application form, employment contract(s), a copy of the employee's qualifying certification, transcripts, report of an employment physical examination, oath of allegiance, criminal background check, income tax forms, retirement registration, hospitalization forms, annuity forms, rate of compensation, attendance record, assignments to positions, completed evaluations, reports of disciplinary incidents, records of special awards or distinctions, and reports of annual or special physical and mental examinations.

N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-14.2; 18A:40-19; 18A:66-32
N.J.S.A. 47:1A-1 et seq.
N.J.A.C. 6A:32-4.3

Adopted: 05/2021

PROCUREMENT PROCEDURES FOR SCHOOL NUTRITION PROGRAMS (M)

8561

M

The Board of Education adopts this Policy to identify their procurement plan for the United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) School Nutrition Programs. School Nutrition Programs include, but are not limited to: the National School Lunch Program (NSLP); School Breakfast Program (SBP); Afterschool Snack Program (ASP); Special Milk Program (SMP); Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP); Seamless Summer Option (SSO) of the NSLP; Summer Food Service Program (SFSP); the At-Risk Afterschool Meals component of the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP); and the Schools/Child Nutrition USDA Foods Program.

The Board of Education is ultimately responsible for ensuring all procurement procedures for any purchases by the Board of Education and/or a food service management company (FSMC) comply with all Federal regulations, including but not limited to: 7 CFR Parts 210, 220, 225, 226, 245, 250; 2 CFR 200; State procurement statutes and administrative codes and regulations; local Board of Education procurement policies; and any other applicable State and local laws.

The procurement procedures contained in this Policy will be implemented beginning immediately, until amended. All procurements must maximize full and open competition. Source documentation will be maintained by the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary or designee and will be available to determine open competition, the reasonableness, the allowability, and the allocation of costs.

The Board of Education intentionally seeks to prohibit conflicts of interest in all procurement of goods and services.

A. General Procurement

The procurement procedures will maximize full and open competition, transparency in transactions, comparability, and documentation of all procurement activities. The school district's plan for procuring items for use in the School Nutrition Programs is as follows:

1. The School Business Administrator/Board Secretary will ensure all purchases will be in accordance with the Federal Funds Procurement Method Selection Chart – State Agency Form #358 - Appendix. Formal procurement procedures will be used as required by 2 CFR 200.318 through .326 and any State and local procurement code and regulations. Informal procurement procedures (small purchase) will be required for purchases under the most restrictive small purchase threshold.

2. The following procedures will be used for all purchases:

Product/ Services	Estimated Dollar Amount	Procurement Method	Evaluation	Contract Award Type	Contract Duration/ Frequency

B. Micro-Purchase Procedures

1. Public/Charter Schools

Purchases of supplies or services, as defined by 2 CFR 200.67, will be awarded without soliciting competitive price quotations if the price is reasonable in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-37(a) and below thresholds established by the State Treasurer for informal receipt of quotations. Purchases will be distributed equitably among qualified suppliers with reasonable prices. Records will be kept for micro-purchases.

2. Non-Public Schools

Purchases of supplies or services, within the Federal micro-purchase threshold (the aggregate amount does not exceed the Federal micro-purchase threshold as set by 2 CFR 200.67) will be awarded without soliciting competitive price quotations if the price is reasonable. Purchases will be distributed equitably among qualified suppliers with reasonable prices. Records will be kept for micro-purchases.

3. Formal bid procedures will be applied on the basis of individual school and/or State contract.
4. Because of the potential for purchasing more than public or non-public informal/small purchase threshold amount, or the Board approved threshold if less, it will be the responsibility of the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary to document the amounts to be purchased so the correct method of procurement will be followed.

C. Formal Procurement

When a formal procurement method is required, the following competitive sealed bid or an Invitation for Bid (IFB) or competitive proposal in the form of a Request for Proposal (RFP) procedures will apply:

1. An announcement of an IFB or a RFP will be placed in the Board designated official newspaper to publicize the intent of the Board of

Education to purchase needed items. The advertisement for bids/proposals or legal notice will be published in the official newspaper for at least one day in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-21.

2. An advertisement in the official newspaper for at least one day is required for all purchases over the school district's small purchase threshold as outlined in Appendix – Federal Funds Procurement Method Section Chart. The advertisement will contain the following:
 - a. A general description of items to be purchased;
 - b. The deadline for submission of questions and the date written responses will be provided, including addenda to bid specifications, terms, and conditions as needed;
 - c. The date of the pre-bid meeting, if provided, and if attendance is a requirement for bid award;
 - d. The deadline for submission of sealed bids or proposals; and
 - e. The address of the location where complete specifications and bid forms may be obtained.
3. In an IFB or RFP, each vendor will be given an opportunity to bid on the same specifications.
4. The developer of written specifications or descriptions for procurements will be prohibited from submitting bids or proposals for such products or services.
5. The IFB or RFP will clearly define the purchase conditions. The following list includes requirements, not exclusive, to be addressed in the procurement document:
 - a. Contract period for the base year and renewals as permitted;
 - b. The Board of Education is responsible for all contracts awarded (statement);
 - c. Date, time, and location of IFB/RFP opening;
 - d. How the vendor is to be informed of bid acceptance or rejection;
 - e. Delivery schedule;

- f. Requirements (terms and conditions) the bidder must fulfill in order for bid to be evaluated;
- g. Benefits to which the Board of Education will be entitled if the contractor cannot or will not perform as required;
- h. Statement assuring positive efforts will be made to involve small and minority businesses, women's business enterprises, and labor surplus area firms;
- i. Statement regarding the return of purchase incentives, discounts, rebates, and credits under a cost reimbursement FSMC contract to the Board of Education's nonprofit school food service account;
- j. Contract provisions as required in Appendix II to 2 CFR 200:
 - (1) Termination for cause and convenience – contracts in excess of \$10,000;
 - (2) Equal Opportunity Employment – “federally assisted construction contracts”;
 - (3) Davis-Bacon Act – construction contracts in excess of \$2,000;
 - (4) Contract work Hours and Safety Standards – contracts in excess of \$100,000;
 - (5) Right to inventions made under a contract or agreement – if the contract meets the definition of a “funding agreement” under 37 CFR 401.2(a);
 - (6) Clean Air Act – contracts in excess of \$150,000;
 - (7) Debarment and Suspension – all Federal awarded contracts;
 - (8) Byrd Anti Lobbying Amendment – contracts in excess of \$100,000; and
 - (9) Contracts must address administrative, contractual, or legal remedies in instances where contractors violate or breach contract terms, and provide for such sanctions and penalties as appropriate.
- k. Contract provisions as required in 7 CFR 210.21(f) for all cost reimbursable contracts;

- l. Contract provisions as required in 7 CFR 210.16(a)(1-10) and 7 CFR 250.53 for food service management company contracts;
- m. Procuring instrument to be used are purchase orders from firm fixed prices after formal bidding;
- n. Price adjustment clause for renewal of multi-year contracts as defined in N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-42. The "index rate" means the annual percentage increase rounded to the nearest half percent in the implicit price deflator for State and local government purchases of goods and services computed and published quarterly by the U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis;
- o. Method of evaluation and type of contract to be awarded (solicitations using an IFB are awarded to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder; solicitations using a RFP are awarded to the most advantageous bidder/offeror with price as the primary factor among factors considered);
- p. Method of award announcement and effective date (if intent to award is required by State or local procurement requirements);
- q. Specific bid protest procedures including contact information of person and address and the date by which a written protest must be received;
- r. Provision requiring access by duly authorized representatives of the Board of Education, New Jersey Department of Agriculture (NJDA), United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), or Comptroller General to any books, documents, papers, and records of the contractor which are directly pertinent to all negotiated contracts;
- s. Method of shipment or delivery upon contract award;
- t. Provision requiring contractor to maintain all required records for three years after final payment and all other pending matters (audits) are closed for all negotiated contracts;
- u. Description of process for enabling vendors to receive or pick up orders upon contract award;
- v. Provision requiring the contractor to recognize mandatory standards/policies related to energy efficiency contained in the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (PL 94-163);

- w. Signed statement of non-collusion;
 - x. Signed Debarment/Suspension Certificate, clause in the contract or a copy of search results from the System for Award Management (SAM);
 - y. Provision requiring “Buy American” as outlined in 7 CFR Part 210.21(d) and USDA Guidance Memo SP 38-2017, including specific instructions for prior approval and documentation of utilization of non-domestic food products only;
 - z. Specifications and estimated quantities of products and services prepared by the school district and provided to potential contractors desiring to submit bids/proposals for the products or services requested; and
 - aa. The Board of Education’s Electronic Signature Policy.
6. If any potential vendor is in doubt as to the true meaning of specifications or purchase conditions, questions may be sent to the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary. The School Business Administrator/Board Secretary or designee’s response will be provided in writing to all potential bidders within 5 days.
- a. The School Business Administrator/Board Secretary will be responsible for providing responses to questions and securing all bids or proposals.
 - b. The School Business Administrator/Board Secretary will be responsible to ensure all Board of Education procurements are conducted in compliance with applicable Federal, State, and local procurement regulations.
 - c. The following criteria will be used in awarding contracts as a result of bids/proposals. Price must be the highest weighted criteria. Examples of other possible criteria include quality, service, delivery, and availability.
7. In awarding a RFP, a set of award criteria in the form of a weighted evaluation sheet will be provided to each bidder in the initial bid document materials. Price alone is not the sole basis for award, but remains the primary consideration among all factors when awarding a contract. Following evaluation and negotiations, a firm fixed price or cost reimbursable contract is awarded.

- a. The contracts will be awarded to the responsible bidder/proposer whose bid or proposal is responsive to the invitation and is most advantageous to the Board of Education, price as the primary, and other factors considered. Any and all bids or proposals may be rejected in accordance with the law.
- b. The School Business Administrator/Board Secretary or designee is required to sign on the bid tabulation of competitive sealed bids or the evaluation criterion score sheet of competitive proposals signifying a review and approval of the selections.
- c. The School Business Administrator/Board Secretary shall review the procurement system to ensure compliance with applicable laws.
- d. The School Business Administrator/Board Secretary or designee will be responsible for documentation that the actual product specified was received.
- e. Any time an accepted item is not available, the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary will select the acceptable alternate. The contractor must inform the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary within one workday if a product is not available. In the event a nondomestic agricultural product is to be provided to the Board of Education, the contractor must obtain, in advance, written approval for the product. The School Business Administrator/Board Secretary must comply with the Buy American Provision.
- f. Full documentation regarding the reason an accepted item was unavailable, and the procedure used in determining acceptable alternates, will be available for audit and review. The person responsible for this documentation is the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary.
- g. The School Business Administrator/Board Secretary is responsible for maintaining all procurement documentation.

D. Small Purchase Procedures

If the amount of purchases for items is less than the school district's small purchase threshold as outlined in the Federal Funds Procurement Method Selection Chart – See Appendix, the following small purchase procedures including quotes will be used. Quotes from a minimum number of three qualified sources will be required.

1. Written specifications will be prepared and provided to all vendors.
2. Each vendor will be contacted and given an opportunity to provide a price quote on the same specifications. A minimum of three vendors shall be contacted.
3. The School Business Administrator/Board Secretary or designee will be responsible for contacting potential vendors when price quotes are needed.
4. The price quotes will receive appropriate confidentiality before award.
5. Quotes/Bids will be awarded by the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary. Quotes/Bids will be awarded on the following criteria. Quote/Bid price must be the highest weighted criteria. Examples of other possible criteria include quality, service, delivery, and availability.
6. The School Business Administrator/Board Secretary will be responsible for documentation of records to show selection of vendor, reasons for selection, names of all vendors contacted, price quotes from each vendor, and written specifications.
7. The School Business Administrator/Board Secretary or designee will be responsible for documentation that the actual product specified is received.
8. Any time an accepted item is not available, the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary will select the acceptable alternate. Full documentation will be made available as to the selection of the acceptable item.
9. The School Business Administrator/Board Secretary or designee is required to sign all quote tabulations, signifying a review and approval of the selections.

E. Noncompetitive Proposal Procedures

If items are available only from a single source when the award of a contract is not feasible under small purchase, sealed bid or competitive negotiation, noncompetitive proposal procedures will be used:

1. Written specifications will be prepared and provided to the vendor.
2. The School Business Administrator/Board Secretary will be responsible for the documentation of records to fully explain the decision to use the noncompetitive proposal. The records will be available for audit and review.

3. The School Business Administrator/Board Secretary or designee will be responsible for documentation that the actual product or service specified was received.
4. The School Business Administrator/Board Secretary will be responsible for reviewing the procedures to be certain all requirements for using single source or noncompetitive proposals are met.
5. The noncompetitive micro-purchase method shall be used for one-time purchases of a new food item if the amount is less than the applicable Federal or State micro-purchase threshold to determine food acceptance by students and provide samples for testing purposes. A record of noncompetitive negotiation purchase shall be maintained by the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary or designee. At a minimum, the record of noncompetitive purchases shall include: item name; dollar amount; vendor; and reason for noncompetitive procurement.
6. A member or representative of the Board of Education will approve, in advance, all procurements that result from noncompetitive negotiations.

F. Miscellaneous Provisions

1. New product evaluation procedures will include a review of product labels and ingredients; an evaluation of the nutritional value; taste tests and surveys; and any other evaluations to ensure the new product would enhance the program.
2. The Board of Education agrees the reviewing official of each transaction will be the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary.
3. Payment will be made to the vendor when the contract has been met and verified and has met the Board of Education's procedures for payment. (If prompt payment is made, discounts, etc., are accepted.)
4. Specifications will be updated as needed.
5. If the product is not as specified, the following procedure, including, but not limited to, will take place: remove product from service; contact vendor for approved alternate product; or remove product from bid.

G. Emergency Purchases

1. If it is necessary to make a one-time emergency procurement to continue service or obtain goods, and the public exigency or emergency will not permit a delay resulting from a competitive solicitation, the purchase must be authorized using a purchase order signed by the School Business

Administrator/Board Secretary. The emergency procedures to be followed for such purchases shall be those procedures used by the school district for other emergency purchases consistent with N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-7. All emergency procurements shall be approved by the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary. At a minimum, the following emergency procurement procedures shall be documented to include, but not be limited to: item name; dollar amount; vendor; and reason for emergency.

H. Purchasing Goods and Services – Cooperative Agreements, Agents, and Third-Party Services (Piggybacking)

1. When participating in intergovernmental and inter-agency agreements the Board of Education will ensure that competitive procurements are conducted in accordance with 2 CFR Part 200.318 through .326 and applicable program regulations and guidance.
2. When utilizing the services of a co-op, agent, or third party the Board of Education will ensure that the following conditions have been met and considered as one source of pricing in addition to other prices:
 - a. All procurements were subject to full and open competition and were made in accordance with Federal/State/local procurement requirements;
 - b. The existing contract allows for the inclusion of additional Board of Educations that were not contemplated in the original procurement to purchase the same supplies/equipment through the original award;
 - c. The specifications in the existing contract meets their needs and that the items being ordered are in the contract;
 - d. The awarded contract requires all the Federally required certifications; e.g. Buy American, debarment, restrictions on lobbying, etc.;
 - e. The agency will confirm the addition of their purchasing power (goods or services) to the procurement in scope or services does not create a material change, resulting in the needs to re-bid the contract;
 - f. Administrative costs (fees) for participating in the agreement are adequately defined, necessary and reasonable, and the method of allocating the cost to the participating agencies must be specified;

- g. The Buy American provisions are included in the procurement of food and agricultural products; and
- h. The agreement includes the basis for and method of allocating each discount, rebate, or credit and how they will be returned to each participating agency when utilizing a cost-reimbursable contract.

I. Records Retention

- 1. The Board of Education shall agree to retain all books, records, and other documents relative to the award of the contract for three years after final payment. If there are audit findings that have not been resolved, the records shall be retained beyond the three-year period as long as required for the resolution of the issues raised by the audit. Specifically, the Board of Education shall maintain, at a minimum, the following documents:
 - a. Written rationale for the method of procurement;
 - b. A copy of the original solicitation;
 - c. The selection of contract type;
 - d. The bidding and negotiation history and working papers;
 - e. The basis for contractor selection;
 - f. Approval from the State agency to support a lack of competition when competitive bids or offers are not obtained;
 - g. The basis for award cost or price;
 - h. The terms and conditions of the contract;
 - i. Any changes to the contract and negotiation history;
 - j. Billing and payment records;
 - k. A history of any contractor claims;
 - l. A history of any contractor breaches; and
 - m. Any other documents as required by N.J.S.A. 18A:18A – Public School Contracts Law.

J. Code of Conduct for Procurement

1. All procurements must ensure there is open and free competition and adhere to the most restrictive Federal, State, and local requirements. The Board of Education seeks to conduct all procurement procedures in compliance with stated regulations and to prohibit conflicts of interest and actions of employees engaged in the selection, award, and administration of contracts. All procurements will be in accordance with this Policy and all applicable provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:18A – Public School Contracts Law.
2. No employee, officer, or agent may participate in the selection, award, or administration of a contract supported by a Federal, State, or local award if he or she has a real or apparent conflict of interest. Such a conflict of interest would arise when the employee, officer, or agent; any member of his or her immediate family, his or her partner; or an organization which employs or is about to employ any of the parties indicated herein has a financial or other interest in or a tangible personal benefit from a firm considered for a contract.
3. The officers, employees, and agents of the non-Federal entity may neither solicit nor accept gratuities, favors, or anything of monetary value from contractors or parties to subcontracts. However, non-Federal entities may set standards for situations in which the financial interest is not substantial or the gift is an unsolicited item of nominal value.
4. The standards of conduct must provide for disciplinary actions to be applied for violations of such standards by officers, employees, or agents of the non-Federal entity. Based on the severity of the infraction, the penalties could include a written reprimand to their personnel file, a suspension with or without pay, or termination.
5. All questions and concerns regarding procurement solicitations, contract evaluations, and contract award, shall be directed to the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary.

K. Food Service Management Company (FSMC)

1. In the operation of the school district's food service program, the school district shall ensure that a FSMC complies with the requirements of the Program Agreement, the school district's Free and Reduced School Lunch Policy Statement, all applicable USDA program policies and regulations, and applicable State and local laws. In order to operate an a la carte food service program, the FSMC shall agree to offer free, reduced price, and full price reimbursable meals to all eligible children.
2. The school district shall monitor the FSMC billing invoices to ensure compliance with Federal and State procurement regulations.

3. In accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-5a.(22), RFPs are required in all solicitations for a FSMC.

N.J.S.A. 18A:18A – Public School Contracts Law
 New Jersey Department of Agriculture
 “Procurement Procedures for School Food
 Authorities” Model Policy – September 2018

APPENDIX

FEDERAL FUNDS PROCUREMENT METHOD SELECTION CHART		
THERE ARE TWO (2) PROCUREMENT METHODS, FORMAL AND INFORMAL. THE METHOD THE SCHOOL FOOD AUTHORITIES (SFA) NEEDS TO USE DEPENDS ON TWO (2) FACTORS, THE AMOUNT OF THE CONTRACT AND WHETHER THE SFA IS A PUBLIC/CHARTER OR NON-PUBLIC SCHOOL.		
NEW JERSEY PUBLIC/CHARTER SCHOOLS PURCHASING THRESHOLDS		
AMOUNT	ACTIVITY	PROCUREMENT METHOD
INFORMAL PROCUREMENT		
Below \$4,350 without QPA	N.J.S.A 18A:18A-3	Sound Business Practice *
Below \$6,000 with QPA	APPLIES TO PURCHASES BELOW THE QUOTATION THRESHOLDS	
SMALL PURCHASE QUOTATION PROCEDURES		
\$4,351 OR \$6,001 up to \$29,000 or \$40,000	N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-37 ANY PURCHASE EXCEEDING QUOTATION THRESHOLDS REQUIRES A QUOTE UP TO THE APPLICABLE N.J.S.A. BID THRESHOLDS OF \$29,000 (without a QPA*) OR \$40,000 (with a QPA*)	Quotation using SFA Internal Procurement Procedures
NOTE: ANNUAL AGGREGATE AMOUNTS		
FORMAL PROCUREMENT		
\$29,000 or \$40,000 and above	N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-37 Bid Threshold without a QPA* - \$29,000 Bid Threshold with a QPA* - \$40,000	Bid - Invitation for Bid (IFB) OR Request for Proposal (RFP)
* QUALIFIED PURCHASING AGENT		
NEW JERSEY NON-PUBLIC SCHOOL PURCHASING THRESHOLDS		
AMOUNT	ACTIVITY	PROCUREMENT METHOD
INFORMAL PROCUREMENT		
Below \$10,000 *	Micro - purchases 2 CFR 200.320(a) Single Transaction aggregate cost less than \$10,000	Sound Business Practice *
* Or LESS than \$10,000 if local SFA Procurement Policies are more restrictive		
		Quotation using

\$10,001 - \$249,999	Small purchase procedures 2 CFR 200.320(b)	SFA Internal Procurement Procedures
FORMAL PROCUREMENT		
\$250,000 and above	As per Federal requirements in 2 CFR Parts 200.317 - 200.326	Bid - Invitation for Bid (IFB) OR Request for Proposal (RFP)

Note: The Federal Funds Procurement Method Selection Chart is subject to change in accordance with the schedule set forth in N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-3 "Public School Contracts Law". A "Qualified Purchasing Agent" must be qualified in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:11-9. In order to track updates to this Chart, the source document can be located on the New Jersey Department of Agriculture's website under "Forms and Publications" it is titled, "State Agency Form #358."

Adopted: 05/2021

ELIGIBILITY OF RESIDENT/NONRESIDENT STUDENTS (M)

R 5111

M

A. Definitions

1. "Affidavit student" means a student attending, or seeking to attend, school in a district pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1.b and N.J.A.C. 6A:22-3.2(a).
2. "Appeal" means contested case proceedings before the Commissioner of Education pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:3, Controversies and Disputes.
3. "Applicant" means a parent, guardian, or a resident supporting an affidavit student who seeks to enroll a student in a school district; or an unaccompanied homeless youth or adult student who seeks to enroll in a school district.
4. "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Education or his/her designee.
5. "Guardian" means a person to whom a court of competent jurisdiction has awarded guardianship or custody of a child, provided that a residential custody order shall entitle a child to attend school in the residential custodian's school district unless it can be proven that the child does not actually live with the custodian. "Guardian" also means the Department of Children and Families for purposes of N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1.e.

B. Eligibility to Attend School – Students Domiciled in the District

1. A student over five and under twenty years of age pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1, or such younger or older student as is otherwise entitled by law to a free public education, is eligible to attend school in this school district if the student is domiciled within the district:
 - a. A student is domiciled in the school district when he or she is living with a parent or guardian whose domicile is located within the school district.
 - (1) When a student's parents or guardians are domiciled within different school districts and there is no court order or written agreement between the parents designating the school district of attendance, the student's domicile is the school district of the parent or guardian with whom the

student lives for the majority of the school year. This provision shall apply regardless of which parent has legal custody.

- (2) When a student's physical custody is shared on an equal-time, alternating week/month or other similar basis so the student is not living with one parent or guardian for a majority of the school year and there is no court order or written agreement between the parents designating the school district of attendance, the student's domicile is the present domicile of the parent or guardian with whom the student resided on the last school day prior to October 16 preceding the application date.
 - (a) When a student resided with both parents or guardians, or with neither parent or guardian, on the last school day prior to the preceding October 16, the student's domicile is the domicile of the parent or guardian with whom the parents or guardians indicate the student will be residing on the last school day prior to the ensuing October 16. When the parents or guardians do not designate or cannot agree upon the student's likely residence as of that date, or if on that date the student is not residing with the parent or guardian previously indicated, the student shall attend school in the school district of domicile of the parent or guardian with whom the student actually lives as of the last school day prior to October 16.
 - (b) When the domicile of the student with disabilities as defined in N.J.A.C. 6A:14 cannot be determined pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:22-3.1, nothing shall preclude an equitable determination of shared responsibility for the cost of such student's out-of-district placement.
- (3) When a student is living with a person other than a parent or guardian, nothing in N.J.A.C. 6A:22-3.1 is intended to limit the student's right to attend school in the parent or guardian's school district of domicile pursuant to the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:22.
- (4) No school district shall be required to provide transportation for a student residing outside the school district for all or part of the school year unless

transportation is based upon the home of the parent or guardian domiciled within the school district or otherwise required by law.

- b. A student is domiciled in the school district when he or she has reached the age of eighteen or is emancipated from the care and custody of a parent or guardian and has established a domicile within the school district.
 - c. A student is domiciled in the school district when the student has come from outside the State and is living with a person domiciled in the school district who will be applying for guardianship of the student upon expiration of the six-month "waiting period" of State residency required pursuant to N.J.S.A. 2A:34-54 ("home state" definition) and 2A:34-65.a(1). However, a student may later be subject to removal proceedings if application for guardianship is not made within a reasonable period of time following expiration of the mandatory waiting period or if guardianship is applied for and denied.
 - d. A student is domiciled in the school district when his or her parent or guardian resides within the school district on an all-year-round basis for one year or more, notwithstanding the existence of a domicile elsewhere.
 - e. A student is domiciled in the school district if the Department of Children and Families is acting as the student's guardian and has placed the student in the school district.
2. When a student's dwelling is located within two or more school districts, or bears a mailing address that does not reflect the dwelling's physical location within a municipality, the school district of domicile for school attendance purposes shall be the municipality to which the majority of the dwelling's property tax is paid, or to which the majority of the dwelling's or unit's property tax is paid.
- a. When property tax is paid in equal amounts to two or more municipalities, and there is no established assignment for students residing in the affected dwellings, the school district of domicile for school attendance purposes shall be determined through assessment of individual proofs as provided pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:22-3.4.
 - b. This provision shall not preclude the attendance of currently enrolled students who were permitted to attend the school district prior to December 17, 2001.

- c. When a student's parent or guardian elects to exercise such entitlement, nothing in N.J.A.C. 6A:22-3.1 shall exclude a student's right to attend the school district of domicile although the student is qualified to attend a different school district pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1.b or the temporary residency (less than one year) provision of N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1.d.
3. Notwithstanding the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1 or any other section of law to the contrary, a child who is domiciled within the school district and resides with a parent or guardian who is a member of the New Jersey National Guard or a member of the reserve component of the armed forces of the United States who is ordered into active military service in any of the armed forces of the United States in a time of war or national emergency, shall be permitted to remain enrolled in the school district in which the child is domiciled at the time of the parent or guardian being ordered into active military service, regardless of where the child resides during the period of active duty. The school district shall not be responsible for providing transportation for the child if the child lives outside of the district. Following the return of the child's parent or guardian from active military service, the child's eligibility to remain enrolled in the school district pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-3.1 shall cease at the end of the current school year unless the child is domiciled in the school district.

C. Eligibility to Attend School – Other Students Eligible to Attend School

1. A student over five and under twenty years of age pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1, or such younger or older student as is otherwise entitled by law to a free public education, is eligible to attend school in this school district pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1.b if that student is kept in the home of a person other than the student's parent or guardian, and the person is domiciled in the school district and is supporting the student without remuneration as if the student were his or her own child.
 - a. A student is not eligible to attend this school district pursuant to this provision unless:
 - (1) The student's parent or guardian has filed, together with documentation to support its validity, a sworn statement that he or she is not capable of supporting or providing care for the student due to family or economic hardship and that the student is not residing with the other person solely for the purpose of receiving a free public education; and
 - (2) The person keeping the student has filed, if so required by the Board of Education:

- (a) A sworn statement that he or she is domiciled within the school district, is supporting the child without remuneration and intends to do so for a longer time than the school term, and will assume all personal obligations for the student pertaining to school requirements; and
 - (b) A copy of his or her lease if a tenant, a sworn landlord's statement if residing as a tenant without a written lease, or a mortgage or tax bill if an owner.
 - b. A student shall not be deemed ineligible under this provision because required sworn statement(s) cannot be obtained when evidence is presented that the underlying requirements of the law are being met, notwithstanding the inability of the resident or student to obtain the sworn statement(s).
 - c. A student shall not be deemed ineligible under this provision when evidence is presented that the student has no home or possibility of school attendance other than with a school district resident who is not the student's parent or guardian, but is acting as the sole caretaker and supporter of the student.
 - d. A student shall not be deemed ineligible under this provision solely because a parent or guardian gives occasional gifts or makes limited contributions, financial or otherwise, toward the student's welfare provided the resident keeping the student receives from the parent or guardian no payment or other remuneration for regular maintenance of the student.
 - e. Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1.c, any person who fraudulently allows a child of another person to use his or her residence and is not the primary financial supporter of that child and any person who fraudulently claims to have given up custody of his or her child to a person in another school district commits a disorderly persons offense.
2. A student over five and under twenty years of age pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1, or such younger or older student as is otherwise entitled by law to a free public education, is eligible to attend school in this school district pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1.b if the student is kept in the home of a person domiciled in the school district, who is not the parent or guardian and the parent or guardian is a member of the New Jersey National Guard or the reserve component of the United States armed forces and has been

ordered into active military service in the United States armed forces in time of war or national emergency.

- a. Eligibility under this provision shall cease at the end of the school year during which the parent or guardian returns from active military duty.
3. A student over five and under twenty years of age pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1, or such younger or older student as is otherwise entitled by law to a free public education, is eligible to attend school in this school district pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1.d if the student's parent or guardian temporarily resides within the school district and elects to have the student attend the school district of temporary residence, notwithstanding the existence of a domicile elsewhere.
 - a. When required by the Board of Education, the parent or guardian shall demonstrate the temporary residence is not solely for purposes of the student attending the school district of temporary residence;
 - b. When one of a student's parents or guardians temporarily resides in a school district while the other is domiciled or temporarily resides elsewhere, eligibility to attend school shall be determined in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:22-3.1(a)1i. However, no student shall be eligible to attend school based upon a parent or guardian's temporary residence in a school district unless the parent or guardian demonstrates, if required by the Board of Education, the temporary residence is not solely for purposes of a student's attending the school district.
 4. A student over five and under twenty years of age pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1, or such younger or older student as is otherwise entitled by law to a free public education, is eligible to attend school in this school district pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1.f if the student's parent or guardian moves to another school district as the result of being homeless, subject to the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:17-2, Education of Homeless Children.
 5. A student over five and under twenty years of age pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1, or such younger or older student as is otherwise entitled by law to a free public education, is eligible to attend school in this school district pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-2 if the student is placed by court order or by a society, agency, or institution in the home of a school district resident pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-2. As used in this section, "court order" shall not encompass orders of residential custody under which claims of entitlement to attend a school district are governed by provisions of

N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1 and the applicable standards set forth in N.J.A.C. 6A:22.

6. A student over five and under twenty years of age pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1, or such younger or older student as is otherwise entitled by law to a free public education, is eligible to attend school in this school district pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-3.b if the student previously resided in the school district and if the parent or guardian is a member of the New Jersey National Guard or the United States reserves and has been ordered to active service in time of war or national emergency, resulting in the relocation of the student out of the school district. A school district admitting a student pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-3.b shall not be obligated for transportation costs.
7. A student over five and under twenty years of age pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1, or such younger or older student as is otherwise entitled by law to a free public education, is eligible to attend the school district pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-7.7 et seq. if the student resides on Federal property within the State.
8. In accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1.1, a student who is not considered homeless under N.J.S.A. 18A:7B-12 and who moves to a new school district during the academic year as a result of a family crisis shall be permitted to remain enrolled in the original school district of residence for the remainder of the school year without the payment of tuition. A student attending an academic program during the summer, who is otherwise eligible except for the timing of the move, shall be permitted to remain in the school district for the remainder of the summer program if it is considered an extension of the preceding academic year.
 - a. For purposes of N.J.A.C. 6A:22-3.2(h) and Policy and Regulation 5111, "family crisis" shall include, but not be limited to:
 - (1) An instance of abuse such as domestic violence or sexual abuse;
 - (2) A disruption to the family unit caused by death of a parent or guardian; or
 - (3) An unplanned displacement from the original residence such as fire, flood, hurricane, or other circumstances that render the residence uninhabitable.
 - b. Upon notification of the move by the parent or guardian, the original school district of residence shall allow the student to continue attendance and shall provide transportation services to

and from the student's new domicile in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:39-1. The original school district of residence may request from the parent or guardian and may review supporting documentation about the reason(s) for the move; however, any such review shall not interrupt the student's continued enrollment in the school district and in the current school of attendance with the provision of transportation.

- (1) Examples of documentation include, but are not limited to, newspaper articles, insurance claims, police or fire reports, notes from health professionals, custody agreements, or any other legal document.
- c. If the parent or guardian or the relevant documentation indicates the child is homeless pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:7B-12, the school district liaison shall assume the coordination of enrollment procedures pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:17-2.5 and the student shall not be eligible for enrollment under N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1.1.
- d. If the original school district of residence determines the situation does not meet the family crisis criteria outlined in 8.a. above, the Superintendent or designee shall notify the parent or guardian in writing. The notification shall inform the parent or guardian of his or her right to appeal the decision within twenty-one calendar days of his or her receipt of the notification, and shall state that if such appeal is denied, he or she may be assessed the costs for transportation provided to the new residence during the period of ineligible attendance. It shall also state whether the parent or guardian is required to withdraw the student by the end of the twenty-one day appeal period in the absence of an appeal.
- (1) The parent or guardian may appeal by submitting the request in writing with supporting documentation to the Executive County Superintendent of the county in which the original school district of residence is situated.
 - (2) Within thirty calendar days of receiving the request and documentation, the Executive County Superintendent shall issue a determination whether the situation meets the family crisis criteria set forth at 8.a. above. The original school district of residence shall continue to enroll the student and provide transportation to the current school of attendance in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:39-1 until the determination is issued.

- (3) If the Executive County Superintendent determines the situation does not constitute a family crisis, the school district may submit to the Executive County Superintendent for approval the cost of transportation to the ineligible student's new domicile. The Executive County Superintendent shall certify the transportation costs to be assessed to the parent or guardian for the period of ineligible attendance.
- e. When the original school district of residence determines the situation constitutes a family crisis pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1.1, the Superintendent or designee shall immediately notify the parent or guardian in writing.
- (1) When the original school district of residence anticipates the need to apply for reimbursement of transportation costs, it shall send to the Executive County Superintendent a request and documentation of the family crisis for confirmation the situation meets the criteria set forth at 8.a. above.
 - (2) Within thirty days of receiving the school district's request and documentation, the Executive County Superintendent shall issue a determination of whether the situation meets the criteria for a family crisis. The original school district of residence shall continue to enroll the student and provide transportation to the current school of attendance in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:39-1 until the determination is issued, and shall not be reimbursed for additional transportation costs unless the Executive County Superintendent determines the situation is a family crisis or as directed by the Commissioner upon appeal.
- f. In providing transportation to students under N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1.1, the Board shall use the most efficient and cost-effective means available and in conformance with all laws governing student transportation.
- g. At the conclusion of the fiscal year in which the Executive County Superintendent has determined the situation constitutes a family crisis, the original school district of residence may apply to the Executive County Superintendent for a reimbursement of eligible costs for transportation services.

- (1) Eligible costs shall include transportation for students who are required to be transported pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:39-1.
 - (2) The school district shall provide documentation of the transportation costs for the eligible student(s) to the Executive County Superintendent who shall review and forward the information to the Department's Office of School Facilities and Finance for reimbursement payment(s) to the school district.
 - (3) Payment to the school district shall be made in the subsequent fiscal year and shall equal the approved cost less the amount of transportation aid received for the student(s).
- h. Nothing in N.J.A.C. 6A:22-3.2 shall prevent the Board of Education from allowing a student to enroll without the payment of tuition pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-3.a.
- i. Nothing in N.J.A.C. 6A:22-3.2 shall prevent a parent or school district from appealing the Executive County Superintendent's decision(s) to the Commissioner in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:3-1.3. If the Commissioner of Education determines the situation is not a family crisis, his or her decision shall state which of the following shall pay the transportation costs incurred during the appeal process: the State, school district, or parent.

D. Housing and Immigration Status

1. A student's eligibility to attend school shall not be affected by the physical condition of an applicant's housing or his or her compliance with local housing ordinances or terms of lease.
2. Except as set forth in a. below, immigration/visa status shall not affect eligibility to attend school. Any student over five and under twenty years of age pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1, or such younger or older student as is otherwise entitled by law to a free public education, who is domiciled in the school district or otherwise eligible to attend school in the district pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:22-3.2 shall be enrolled without regard to, or inquiry concerning, immigration status.
 - a. However, the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1 and N.J.A.C. 6A:22 shall not apply to students who have obtained, or are seeking to obtain, a Certificate of Eligibility for Nonimmigrant Student Status (INS Form I-20) from the school district in order to apply to the

INS for issuance of a visa for the purpose of limited study on a tuition basis in a United States public secondary school ("F-1" Visa).

3. F-1 Visa Students

The school district is not required to, but may permit the attendance of F-1 Visa students into the school district only with the payment of full tuition and a signed tuition contract. The district may require advance payment of full tuition before providing the requested I-20 Form, in accordance with the provisions of Federal regulation 8 CFR 214.3. A F-1 Visa is granted to a foreign student through an application process that must include, but is not limited to, signed approval by the receiving school district exhibiting the receiving school district will accept the foreign student for enrollment and the foreign student's proof of financial means to pay the full tuition to the receiving school district for the academic year. The host family must be domiciled in the school district and shall submit a request to the Superintendent of Schools with documentation as determined by the Superintendent or designee. A student with a F-1 Visa must be approved by the Board for attendance in the school district. The student's continued attendance in the school district shall be conditioned on a satisfactory attendance and disciplinary record.

4. J-1 Visa Students

The school district is not required to, but may permit the attendance of J-1 Visa students into the school district. The host family must be domiciled in the school district and shall submit a request to the Superintendent of Schools with documentation as determined by the Superintendent or designee. A student with a J-1 Visa must be approved by the Board for attendance in the school district and shall not pay tuition. The student's continued attendance in the school district shall be conditioned on a satisfactory attendance and disciplinary record.]

E. Nothing in Policy and Regulation 5111 or N.J.A.C. 6A:22-3.2 shall be construed to limit the discretion of the Board to admit nonresident students, or the ability of a nonresident student to attend school with or without payment of tuition, with the consent of the district Board pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-3.a.

F. Proof of Eligibility

1. The Board of Education shall accept a combination of any of the following or similar forms of documentation from persons attempting to demonstrate a student's eligibility for enrollment in the school district:

- a. Property tax bills; deeds; contracts of sale; leases; mortgages; signed letters from landlords; and other evidence of property ownership, tenancy, or residency;
 - b. Voter registrations; licenses; permits; financial account information; utility bills; delivery receipts; and other evidence of personal attachment to a particular location;
 - c. Court orders; State agency agreements; and other evidence of court or agency placements or directives;
 - d. Receipts; bills; cancelled checks; insurance claims or payments; and other evidence of expenditures demonstrating personal attachment to a particular location, or to support the student;
 - e. Medical reports; counselor or social worker assessments; employment documents; unemployment claims; benefit statements; and other evidence of circumstances demonstrating family or economic hardship, or temporary residency;
 - f. Affidavits, certifications and sworn attestations pertaining to statutory criteria for school attendance, from the parent, guardian, person keeping an "affidavit student," adult student, person(s) with whom a family is living, or others, as appropriate;
 - g. Documents pertaining to military status and assignment; and
 - h. Any other business record or document issued by a governmental entity.
2. The Board of Education may accept forms of documentation not listed above, and shall not exclude from consideration any documentation or information presented by an applicant.
 3. The Board of Education shall consider the totality of information and documentation offered by an applicant, and shall not deny enrollment based on failure to provide a particular form or subset of documents without regard to other evidence presented.
 4. The Board of Education shall not condition enrollment on the receipt of information or documents protected from disclosure by law, or pertaining to criteria that are not a legitimate basis for determining eligibility to attend school. They include, but are not limited to:
 - a. Income tax returns;

- b. Documentation or information relating to citizenship or immigration/visa status, except as set forth in N.J.A.C. 6A:22-3.3(b);
 - c. Documentation or information relating to compliance with local housing ordinances or conditions of tenancy; and
 - d. Social security numbers.
5. The Board of Education may consider, in a manner consistent with Federal law, documents or information referenced in 4. above, or pertinent parts thereof if voluntarily disclosed by the applicant. However, the Board of Education may not, directly or indirectly, require or request such disclosure as an actual or implied condition of enrollment.
6. In the case of a dispute between the school district and the parents of a student in regard to a student's eligibility to enroll in the school district or to remain enrolled in the school district pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1, the school district may request from the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission (NJMVC) the parent or guardian's name and address for use in verifying a student's eligibility for enrollment in the school district. The NJMVC shall disclose to a school district the information requested in accordance with procedures established by the NJMVC. However, the school district shall not condition enrollment in the district on immigration status or on the fact that the NJMVC does not have the name or address of the parent on file.

G. Registration Forms and Procedures for Initial Assessment

1. The Board of Education shall use Commissioner-provided registration forms, or locally developed forms that:
- a. Are consistent with the forms provided by the Commissioner;
 - b. Do not seek information prohibited by N.J.A.C. 6A:22 or any other provision of statute or rule;
 - c. Summarize, for the applicant's reference, the criteria for attendance set forth in N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1, and specify the nature and form of any sworn statement(s) to be filed;
 - d. Clearly state the purpose for which the requested information is being sought in relation to the criteria; and
 - e. Notify applicants that an initial eligibility determination is subject to a more thorough review and evaluation, and that an assessment

of tuition is possible if an initially admitted applicant is later found ineligible.

2. The Board of Education shall make available sufficient numbers of registration forms and trained registration staff to ensure prompt eligibility determinations and enrollment. Enrollment applications may be taken by appointment, but appointments shall be promptly scheduled and shall not unduly defer a student's attendance at school.
 - a. If the school district uses separate forms for affidavit student applications rather than a single form for all types of enrollment, affidavit student forms shall comply in all respects with the provisions of G.1. above. When affidavit student forms are used, the school district shall provide them to any person attempting to register a student of whom he or she is not the parent or guardian, even if not specifically requested.
 - (1) The Board of Education or its agents shall not demand or suggest that guardianship or custody must be obtained before enrollment will be considered for a student living with a person other than the parent or guardian since such student may qualify as an affidavit student.
 - (2) The Board of Education or its agents shall not demand or suggest that an applicant seeking to enroll a student of whom the applicant has guardianship or custody produce affidavit student proofs.
 - b. A district-level administrator designated by the Superintendent shall be clearly identified to applicants and available to assist persons who experience difficulties with the enrollment process.
3. Initial eligibility determinations shall be made upon presentation of an enrollment application, and enrollment shall take place immediately except in cases of clear, uncontested denials.
 - a. Enrollment shall take place immediately when an applicant has provided incomplete, unclear, or questionable information, but the applicant shall be notified that the student will be removed from the school district if defects in the application are not corrected, or an appeal is not filed, in accordance with subsequent notice to be provided pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:22-4.2.
 - b. When a student appears ineligible based on information provided in the initial application, the school district shall issue a preliminary written notice of ineligibility, including an explanation

of the right to appeal to the Commissioner of Education. Enrollment shall take place immediately if the applicant clearly indicates disagreement with the school district's determination and intent to appeal to the Commissioner.

- (1) An applicant whose student is enrolled pursuant to this provision shall be notified that the student will be removed without a hearing before the Board if no appeal is filed within the twenty-one day period established by N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1.
4. When enrollment is denied and no intent to appeal is indicated, applicants shall be advised they shall comply with compulsory education laws. When the student is between the ages of six and sixteen, applicants also shall be asked to complete a written statement indicating the student will be attending school in another school district or nonpublic school, or receiving instruction elsewhere than at a school pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-25. In the absence of this written statement that the student will be attending school in another school district or nonpublic school, or receiving instruction elsewhere than at a school, designated staff shall report to the school district of actual domicile or residence, or the Department of Children and Families, a potential instance of "neglect" for purposes of ensuring compliance with compulsory education laws, N.J.S.A. 9:6-1. Staff shall provide the school district or the Department of Children and Families with the student's name, the name(s) of the parent/guardian/resident, and the student's address to the extent known. Staff shall also indicate admission to the school district has been denied based on residency or domicile, and there is no evidence of intent to arrange for the child to attend school or receive instruction elsewhere.
5. Enrollment or attendance in the school district shall not be conditioned on advance payment of tuition in whole or part when enrollment is denied and an intent to appeal is indicated, or when enrollment is provisional and subject to further review or information.
6. The Board of Education shall ensure the registration process identifies information suggesting an applicant may be homeless so procedures may be implemented in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:17-2 - Education of Homeless Children.
7. Enrollment or attendance in the school district shall not be denied based upon absence of a certified copy of the student's birth certificate or other proof of his or her identity as required within thirty days of initial enrollment, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:36-25.1.

8. Enrollment in the school district shall not be denied based upon absence of student medical information. However, actual attendance at school may be deferred until the student complies with student immunization rules set forth in N.J.A.C. 8:57-4.
9. When enrollment in the school district, attendance at school, or the receipt of educational services in the regular education program appears inappropriate, the student shall not be denied based upon the absence of a student's prior educational record. However, the applicant shall be advised the student's initial educational placement may be subject to revision upon the school district's receipt of records or further assessment of the student.

H. Notice of Ineligibility

1. When a student is found ineligible to attend the school district pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:22 or the student's initial application is found to be deficient upon subsequent review or investigation, the school district shall immediately provide notice to the applicant that is consistent with Commissioner-provided sample form(s) and meets the requirements of N.J.A.C. 6A:22-4 et seq.
 - a. Notices shall be in writing; in English and in the native language of the applicant; issued by the Superintendent; and directed to the address at which the applicant claims to reside.
2. Notices of ineligibility shall include:
 - a. In cases of denial, a clear description of the specific basis on which the determination of ineligibility was made:
 - (1) The description shall be sufficient to allow the applicant to understand the basis for the decision and determine whether to appeal; and
 - (2) The description shall identify the specific subsection of N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1 under which the application was decided.
 - b. In cases of provisional eligibility, a clear description of the missing documents or information that still must be provided before a final eligibility status can be attained under the applicable provision of N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1;
 - c. A clear statement of the applicant's right to appeal to the Commissioner of Education within twenty-one days of the notice

date, along with an informational document provided by the Commissioner describing how to file an appeal;

- d. A clear statement of the student's right to attend school for the twenty-one day period during which an appeal can be made to the Commissioner. It also shall state the student will not be permitted to attend school beyond the twenty-first day following the notice date if missing information is not provided or an appeal is not filed;
- e. A clear statement of the student's right to continue attending school while an appeal to the Commissioner is pending;
- f. A clear statement that, if an appeal is filed with the Commissioner and the applicant does not sustain the burden of demonstrating the student's right to attend the school district, or the applicant withdraws the appeal, fails to prosecute or abandons the appeal by any means other than settlement, the applicant may be assessed, by order of the Commissioner enforceable in Superior Court, tuition for any period of ineligible attendance, including the initial twenty-one day period and the period during which the appeal was pending before the Commissioner;
- g. A clear statement of the approximate rate of tuition, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:22-6.3, that an applicant may be assessed for the year at issue if the applicant does not prevail on appeal, or elects not to appeal:
 - (1) If removal is based on the student's move from the school district, the notice of ineligibility shall also provide information as to whether district Policy permits continued attendance, with or without tuition, for students who move from the school district during the school year.
- h. The name of a contact person in the school district who can assist in explaining the notice's contents; and
- i. When no appeal is filed, notice that the parent or guardian shall still comply with compulsory education laws. In the absence of a written statement from the parent or guardian that the student will be attending school in another school district or non-public school, or receiving instruction elsewhere than at a school, school district staff shall notify the school district of actual domicile/residence, or the Department of Children and Families, of a potential instance of "neglect" pursuant to N.J.S.A. 9:6-1. For purposes of facilitating enforcement of the State compulsory education requirement

(N.J.S.A. 18A:38-25), staff shall provide the student's name, the name(s) of the parent/guardian/resident, address to the extent known, denial of admission based on residency or domicile, and absence of evidence of intent to attend school or receive instruction elsewhere.

I. Removal of Currently Enrolled Students

1. Nothing in N.J.A.C. 6A:22 and this Regulation shall preclude the Board of Education from identifying through further investigation or periodic requests for revalidation of eligibility, students enrolled in the school district who may be ineligible for continued attendance due to error in initial assessment, changed circumstances, or newly discovered information.
2. When a student who is enrolled and attending school based on an initial eligibility determination is later determined to be ineligible for continued attendance, the Superintendent may apply to the Board of Education for the student's removal.
 - a. The Superintendent shall issue a preliminary notice of ineligibility meeting the requirements of N.J.A.C. 6A:22-4.2. However, the notice shall also provide for a hearing before the Board of Education prior to a final decision on removal.
3. No student shall be removed from school unless the parent, guardian, adult student, or resident keeping an "affidavit student," has been informed of his or her entitlement to a hearing before the Board of Education.
4. Once the hearing is held, or if the parent, guardian, adult student, or resident keeping an "affidavit student," does not respond within the designated time frame to the Superintendent's notice or appear for the hearing, the Board of Education shall make a prompt determination of the student's eligibility and shall immediately provide notice in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:22-4.2.
5. Hearings required pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:22-4.3 may be conducted by the full Board of Education or a Board committee, at the discretion of the full Board. If the hearing is conducted by a Board Committee, the Committee shall make a recommendation to the full Board for action. However, no student shall be removed except by vote of the Board of Education taken at a meeting duly convened and conducted pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq., the Open Public Meetings Act.

J. Appeal to the Commissioner

1. An applicant may appeal to the Commissioner of Education a school district determination that a student is ineligible to attend its schools. Appeals shall be initiated by petition, which shall be filed in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1 and N.J.A.C. 6A:3-8.1 and shall proceed as a contested case pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:3.
 - a. Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1.b(1), appeals of “affidavit student” ineligibility determinations shall be filed by the resident keeping the student.

K. Assessment and Calculation of Tuition

1. If no appeal to the Commissioner is filed by the parent, guardian, adult student, or school district resident keeping an “affidavit” student following notice of an ineligibility determination, the Board of Education may assess tuition for up to one year of a student’s ineligible attendance, including the twenty-one day period provided by N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1 for appeal to the Commissioner.
 - a. If the responsible party does not pay the tuition assessment, the Board of Education may petition the Commissioner pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:3 for an order assessing tuition, enforceable in accordance with N.J.S.A. 2A:58-10 through recording, upon request of the Board of Education pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:3-12, on the judgment docket of the Superior Court, Law Division.
2. If an appeal to the Commissioner is filed by the parent, guardian, adult student, or school district resident keeping an “affidavit” student and the petitioner does not sustain the burden of demonstrating the student’s right to attend the school district, or the petitioner withdraws the appeal, fails to prosecute, or abandons the appeal by any means other than settlement agreeing to waive or reduce tuition, the Commissioner may assess tuition for the period during which the hearing and decision on appeal were pending, and for up to one year of a student’s ineligible attendance in a school district prior to the appeal’s filing and including the twenty-one day period to file an appeal.
 - a. Upon the Commissioner’s finding that an appeal has been abandoned, the Board of Education may remove the student from school and seek tuition for up to one year of ineligible attendance pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:22-6.1(a) plus the period of ineligible attendance after the appeal was filed. If the record of the appeal includes a calculation reflecting the tuition rate(s) for the year(s) at issue, the per diem tuition rate for the current year and the date on which the student’s ineligible attendance began, the Commissioner may order payment of tuition as part of his or her decision. In

doing so, the Commissioner shall consider whether the ineligible attendance was due to the school district's error. If the record does not include such a calculation and the Board of Education has filed a counterclaim for tuition, the counterclaim shall proceed to a hearing notwithstanding that the petition has been abandoned.

- b. An order of the Commissioner assessing tuition is enforceable through recording, upon request of the Board of Education pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:3-12, on the judgment docket of the Superior Court, Law Division, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 2A:58-10.
3. Tuition assessed pursuant to the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:22-6 shall be calculated on a per-student basis for the period of a student's ineligible enrollment, up to one year, by applicable grade/program category and consistent with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-17.1. The individual student's record of daily attendance shall not affect the calculation.
4. Nothing in N.J.A.C. 6A:22 shall preclude an equitable determination by the Board of Education or the Commissioner that tuition shall not be assessed for all or part of any period of a student's ineligible attendance in the school district when the particular circumstances of a matter so warrant. In making the determination, the Board of Education or Commissioner shall consider whether the ineligible attendance was due to the school district's error.

Adopted: 05/2021

ATTENDANCE (M)

R 5200

M

A. Definitions

1. For the purposes of school attendance, a “day in session” shall be a day on which the school is open and students are under the guidance and direction of a teacher or teachers engaged in the teaching process. Days on which school is closed for such reasons as holidays, teachers’ institutes, and inclement weather shall not be considered as days in session.
2. A “school day” shall consist of not less than four hours, except that one continuous session of two and one-half hours may be considered a full day of Kindergarten.
3. “A day of attendance” shall be one in which the student is present for a full day under the guidance and direction of a teacher while school is in session.
 - a. Whenever over-crowded conditions make it necessary to hold two separate sessions with a different group of students in each session, a student attending for all of either session shall be regarded as having attended for the full day. An excused absence for any reason shall not be counted as a day of attendance in the school register.
4. A “half-day class” shall be considered the equivalent of a full day’s attendance only if in session for four hours or more, exclusive of recess periods or lunch periods.

B. Attendance Recording

1. Attendance Recording in the School Register (N.J.A.C. 6A:32-8.1)
 - a. The Board of Education shall be required to carefully and accurately track enrollment and attendance of all students in a manual school register format or in an electronic form of the school's choosing.
 - b. The Commissioner shall issue and publish on the Department's website school register guidance for recording student attendance in all public schools of the State operated by district Boards of Education, except adult high schools.

- c. Student attendance shall be recorded in the school register during school hours on each day school is in session.
- d. School registers shall be kept for students attending preschool, Kindergarten, grades one through five, grades six through eight, grades nine through twelve, each preschool class for the disabled, each class for the disabled, shared-time classes for regular students, shared-time classes for students with disabilities, full-time bilingual education programs and vocational day programs, and summer schools operated by the Board of Education.
- e. A student who has been placed on home instruction shall have his or her attendance status recorded on the regular register for the program in which the student is enrolled. For the period beginning the first day the student is unable to attend school and ending the day before the first instructional day at the student's place of confinement, the student shall be marked absent. No absences shall be recorded for the student while on home instruction, providing the hours of instruction are not less than required by N.J.A.C. 6A:14-4.8 and 4.9. The number of possible days of enrollment for a student on home instruction shall be the same as for other students in the program in which the student is enrolled.

2. Attendance Recording for Board Policy (N.J.A.C. 6A:32-8.3)

- a. A record of the attendance of all students on roll in a school register shall be kept each day that school is in session by a teacher or other authorized person. It shall be the duty of this person to keep the attendance records according to these rules and the specific instructions issued by the Commissioner of Education.
- b. No student shall be recorded as present unless the school is in session and the student so recorded is under the guidance and direction of a teacher in the teaching process.
- c. A student shall be recorded as absent in the school register when not in attendance at a session of the school while a member of the school, except students excused due to religious holidays who shall be recorded as excused.
- d. A student shall be recorded as either present, absent, or excused for religious observance, every day the school is in session after the student enters until the date the student is transferred to another school, transferred to an individual home instruction record, or officially leaves the school system.

- e. The Commissioner shall annually prescribe a list of religious holidays on which it shall be mandatory to excuse students for religious observance upon the written request signed by the parent or person standing in loco parentis.
- f. The mere presence of a student at roll call shall not be regarded as sufficient attendance for compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A:32-8.3. In a school which is in session during both the forenoon and the afternoon, a student shall be present at least one hour during both the forenoon and the afternoon in order to be recorded as present for the full day. In a school which is in session during either the forenoon or the afternoon, a student shall be present at least two hours in the session in order to be recorded as present for the full day.
- g. A student not present in school because of his/her participation in an approved school activity, such as a field trip, meeting, cooperative education assignment, or athletic competition will be considered to be in attendance.

C. Unexcused Absences That Count Toward Truancy/Excused Absences for Board Policy

1. Notwithstanding the requirement of reporting student absences in the school register for State and Federal reporting purposes, "excused" and "unexcused" student absences for the purpose of expectations and consequences regarding truancy, student conduct, promotion, and the award of course credit is a Board decision outlined in Policy 5200 and this Regulation.
2. N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.6(a)3 requires the Board of Education policies and procedures contain, at a minimum, a definition of unexcused absence that count toward truancy. "An unexcused absence that counts toward truancy" is a student's absence from school for a full or a portion of a day for any reason that is not an "excused absence" as defined below.
3. "An excused absence" is a student's absence from school for a full day or a portion of a day for the observance of a religious holiday pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:36-14 through 16, or any absence for the reasons listed below:

Where appropriate, when consistent with Individualized Education Programs, the Individuals with Disabilities Act, accommodation plans under 29 U.S.C. §§ 794 and 705(20), and individualized health care plans;

Take Our Children to Work Day;

An absence considered excused by the Commissioner of Education and/or a New Jersey Department of Education rule;

4. For cumulative unexcused absences of ten or more, a student between the ages of six and sixteen is truant, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-25 as determined by the Board's Attendance Policy and Regulation pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.6(a)4.iii. and the definition of school day pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:32-8.3. Any absence not listed in C.3. above shall be an unexcused absence counted toward truancy.

D. Notice to School of a Student's Absence

1. The parent or adult student shall notify the school office before the school day when the student will not be in school.
2. The parent of the student or an adult student who will attend the morning session, but will not attend the afternoon session shall provide notice to the school office before the start of the afternoon session.
3. The parent of a student or an adult student shall notify the school office of a future absence if the absence is foreseeable.
4. The parent or adult student who anticipates a future absence or anticipates that an absence will be prolonged shall notify the school office to arrange make-up work.
5. In accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:36-25.6, if a student is determined to be absent from school without valid excuse, and if the reason for the student's absence is unknown to school personnel, the Principal or designee shall immediately attempt to contact the student's parent to notify the parent of the absence and determine the reason for the absence.

E. Readmission to School After an Absence

1. A student returning from an absence of any length of time must provide a written statement that is dated and signed by the parent or adult student listing the reason for the absence.
2. A note explaining a student's absence for a noncommunicable illness for a period of more than 3 school days must be accompanied by a physician's statement of the student's illness with medical clearance to return to school.

3. A student who has been absent by reason of having or being suspected of having a communicable disease must present to the school nurse written evidence of being free of communicable disease, in accordance with Policy 8451.
4. The Superintendent of Schools or designee may require a student who has been absent from school due to a suspension or other reason concerning the student's conduct to receive a medical examination by a physician regarding the student's physical and/or mental fitness to return to school. The Superintendent or designee will notify the student's parent of the specific requirements of the medical examination prior to the student's return to school.

F. Instruction

1. Teachers shall cooperate in the preparation of home assignments for students who anticipate an excused absence of 10 school days duration. The parent or student must request such home assignments.
2. A student who anticipates an absence due to a temporary or chronic health condition may be eligible for home instruction in accordance with Policy 2412. The parent must request home instruction.
3. Students absent for any reason are expected to make up the work missed. The parent or student is responsible for requesting missed assignments and any assistance required. Teachers will provide make-up assignments as necessary.
4. In general, students will be allowed a reasonable amount of time as determined by the teacher to make up missed work.
5. A student who missed a test or an exam shall be offered an opportunity to take the test, exam, or an appropriate alternate test.

G. Denial of Course Credit

1. The teacher will determine the credit to be awarded a student for make-up work. Where class participation is a factor in the learning process, the teacher may consider a student's absence in determining a final grade, except absences for the observance of a religious holiday or absence for a student's suspension from school will not adversely affect the student's grade. The teacher may record an incomplete grade for a student who has not had a full opportunity to make up missed work.

Exceptions to this rule may be made for students who have demonstrated to the teacher through completion of make-up

assignments that they have mastered the proficiencies established for the course of study.

H. School District Response To Unexcused Absences During the School Year That Count Toward Truancy

1. For up to four cumulative unexcused absences that count toward truancy, the Principal or designee shall:
 - a. Make a reasonable attempt to notify the student's parent of each unexcused absence prior to the start of the following school day;
 - b. Make a reasonable attempt to determine the cause of the unexcused absence, including through contact with the student's parent;
 - c. Identify, in consultation with the student's parents, needed action designed to address patterns of unexcused absences, if any, and to have the child return to school and maintain regular attendance;
 - d. Proceed in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 9:6-1 et seq. and N.J.A.C. 6A:16-10, if a potentially missing or abused child situation is detected; and
 - e. Cooperate with law enforcement and other authorities and agencies, as appropriate.

2. For between five and nine cumulative unexcused absences that count toward truancy, the Principal or designee shall:
 - a. Make a reasonable attempt to notify the student's parent of each unexcused absence prior to the start of the following school day;
 - b. Make a reasonable attempt to determine the cause of the unexcused absence, including through contact with the student's parent;
 - c. Evaluate the appropriateness of action taken pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.6(a)4.i.(3) and H.1.c. above;
 - d. Develop an action plan to establish outcomes based upon the student's patterns of unexcused absences and to specify the interventions for supporting the student's return to school and regular attendance, which may include any or all of the following:
 - (1) Refer or consult with the building's Intervention and Referral Services Team, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-8;

- (2) Conduct testing, assessments, or evaluations of the student's academic, behavioral, and health needs;
 - (3) Consider an alternate educational placement;
 - (4) Make a referral to or coordinate with a community-based social and health provider agency or other community resource;
 - (5) Refer to a court or court program pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.6(a)4.iv. and H.4. below;
 - (6) Proceed in accordance with N.J.S.A. 9:6-1 et seq. and N.J.A.C. 6A:16-10, if a potential missing or abused child situation is detected; and
 - (7) Engage the student's family.
 - e. Cooperate with law enforcement and other authorities and agencies, as appropriate.
3. For ten or more cumulative unexcused absences that count toward truancy, a student between the ages of six and sixteen is truant, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-25, and the Principal or designee shall:
- a. Make a determination regarding the need for a court referral for the truancy, per N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.6(a)4.iv. and H.4. below;
 - b. Continue to consult with the parent and the involved agencies to support the student's return to school and regular attendance;
 - c. Cooperate with law enforcement and other authorities and agencies, as appropriate; and
 - d. Proceed in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:38-28 through 31, Article 3B, Compelling Attendance at School, and other applicable State and Federal statutes, as required.
4. A court referral may be made as follows:
- a. When unexcused absences that count toward truancy are determined by school officials to be violations of the compulsory education law, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-25, and the Board of Education's policies, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.6(a), the parent may be referred to Municipal Court.

- (1) A written report of the actions the school has taken regarding the student's attendance shall be forwarded to the Municipal Court; or
 - b. When there is evidence of a juvenile-family crisis, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 2A:4A-22.g, the student may be referred to Superior Court, Chancery Division, Family Part.
 - (1) A written report of the actions the school has taken regarding the student's attendance shall be forwarded to the Juvenile-Family Crisis Intervention Unit.
5. For a student with a disability, the attendance plan and its punitive and remedial procedures shall be applied, where applicable, in accordance with the student's IEP, pursuant to 20 U.S.C. §§ 1400 et seq., the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act; the procedural protections set forth in N.J.A.C. 6A:14; accommodation plan under 29 U.S.C. §§794 and 705(20); and individualized health care plan and individualized emergency healthcare plan pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-2.3(b)5.xii.
6. All receiving schools pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:14-7.1(a), shall act in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.6(a)4.i. and H.1. above for each student with up to four cumulative unexcused absences that count toward truancy.
 - a. For each student attending a receiving school with five or more cumulative unexcused absences that count toward truancy, the absences shall be reported to the sending school district.
 - (1) The sending school district shall proceed in accordance with the Board of Education's policies and procedures pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.6(a) and H.5. above and the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.6(a)4.ii. through iv. and H.2. through H.5. above, as appropriate.

I. Discipline

1. Students may be denied participation in co-curricular activities if the Board establishes attendance standards for participation.
2. Students may be denied participation in athletic competition if the Board establishes attendance standards for participation.
3. No student who is absent from school for observance of a religious holiday may be deprived of any award or of eligibility for or opportunity to compete for any award because of the absence.

J. Recording Attendance

1. Teachers must accurately record the students present, tardy, or absent each day in each session or each class. Attendance records must also record students' attendance at out-of-school curricular events such as field trips.
2. A record shall be maintained of each excused absence and each unexcused absence that counts toward truancy as defined in Policy and Regulation 5200.
3. A report card will record the number of times the student was absent and tardy in each marking period.
4. A student's absence for observance of a religious holiday will not be recorded as such on any transcript or application or employment form.

K. Appeal

1. Students may be subject to appropriate discipline for their school attendance record.
2. A student who has been retained at grade level for excessive absences may appeal that action in accordance with Policy 5410.
3. A student who has been dropped from a course and/or denied course credit for excessive absences may appeal that action in accordance with the following procedures:
 - a. The student shall file a written appeal to the Principal or designee within five school days of receiving notice of the action. The appeal should state the reasons for each absence, any documentation that may support reducing the number of absences for the purposes of course credit, and reasons why the student should either continue to be enrolled in the course or receive course credit for a class the student completed.
 - b. The Principal or designee will respond in writing no later than seven school days after receiving the student's appeal.
 - c. If the student is not satisfied, he/she may submit a written request to the Principal for consideration by an Attendance Review Committee.
 - d. On a student's request for consideration by an Attendance Review Committee, the Principal shall convene an Attendance Review Committee. The Attendance Review Committee shall meet

informally to hear the student's appeal. The student's parent and teacher(s) may attend the meeting.

- e. The Attendance Review Committee shall decide the appeal and inform the student in writing within seven school days of the meeting.
- f. The student may appeal an adverse decision of the Attendance Review Committee to the Superintendent, the Board of Education, and the Commissioner of Education in accordance with Policy 5710, Student Grievance and N.J.S.A. 18A. An appeal to the Attendance Review Committee shall be considered to have exhausted the first two steps of the grievance procedure outlined in Policy 5710.

L. Attendance Records

- 1. Attendance records for the school district and each school will be maintained and attendance rates will be calculated as required by the New Jersey Department of Education. The school district will comply with all attendance requirements and any improvement plans as required by the Department of Education.

Adopted: 05/2021

IMMUNIZATION

R 5320

A. Proof of Immunization (N.J.A.C. 8:57-4.2)

1. The Principal or designee shall not knowingly admit or retain any child whose parent has not submitted acceptable evidence of the child's immunization according to the schedule(s) set forth in N.J.A.C. 8:57 et seq. and section I. of this Regulation, unless the student is provisionally admitted as provided in paragraph B.1. below or exempted as provided in section C. and D. of this Regulation and N.J.A.C. 8:57-4.3 and 8:57-4.4.

B. Provisional Admission (N.J.A.C. 8:57-4.5)

1. A student shall be admitted to school on a provisional basis if a physician, an advanced practice nurse, (a certified registered nurse practitioner or clinical nurse specialist) or health department can document that at least one dose of each required age-appropriate vaccine(s) or antigen(s) has been administered and that the student is in the process of receiving the remaining immunizations.
2. Provisional admission for children under age five shall be granted in compliance with the specific requirements set forth in N.J.A.C. 8:57-4.10 through 4.15 and 4.18 for a period of time consistent with the current Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) of the United States Public Health Service or the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) immunization schedule, but shall not exceed seventeen months for completion of all immunization requirements.
3. Provisional admission for children five years of age or older shall be granted in compliance with the specific requirements set forth in N.J.A.C. 8:57-4.10 through 4.14 and 4.16 for a period of time consistent with the current Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) of the United States Public Health Service or the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) immunization schedule, but shall not exceed one year for completion of all immunization requirements.
4. Provisional status shall only be granted one time to children entering or transferring into schools in New Jersey. If a student on provisional status transfers, information on their status will be sent by the original school to the new school pursuant to N.J.A.C. 8:57-4.7(b).
5. Children transferring into this district from out-of-State or out-of-country shall be allowed a thirty day grace period in order to obtain past immunization documentation before provisional status shall begin. The

thirty day grace period does not apply to students transferring into this school district from within the State of New Jersey.

6. The school district shall ensure that the required vaccine/antigens are being received on schedule. If at the end of the provisional admission period the child has not completed the required immunizations, the administrative head of the school, preschool, or child care center shall exclude the child from continued school attendance until appropriate documentation has been presented.
7. Students on provisional status may be temporarily excluded from school during a vaccine-preventable disease outbreak or threatened outbreak, as determined by the State Commissioner of Health and Senior Services or designee in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 8:57-4.5.

C. Medical Exemptions (N.J.A.C. 8:57-4.3)

1. A child shall not be required to have any specific immunization(s) which are medically contraindicated.
2. A written statement submitted to the school from a physician licensed to practice medicine or osteopathy or an advanced practice nurse (certified registered nurse practitioner or clinical nurse specialist) in any jurisdiction in the United States indicating that an immunization is medically contraindicated for a specific period of time, and the reasons for the medical contraindication, based on valid medical reasons as enumerated by the ACIP standards or the AAP guidelines, will exempt a student from the specific immunization requirements by law for the stated period of time.
3. The physician's or an advanced practice nurse's (certified registered nurse practitioner or clinical nurse specialist) statement shall be retained by the school as part of the child's immunization record and shall be reviewed annually. When the child's medical condition permits immunization, this exemption shall thereupon terminate, and the child shall be required to obtain the immunization(s) from which he/she has been exempted.
4. Those children with medical exemptions to receiving specific immunizations may be excluded from school during a vaccine-preventable disease outbreak or threatened outbreak, as determined by the New Jersey Commissioner, Department of Health and Senior Services or designee.
5. As provided by N.J.S.A. 26:4-6, the school district may, on account of the prevalence of any communicable disease, or to prevent the spread of communicable diseases, prohibit the attendance of any school district

teacher or student and specify the time during which the teacher or student shall remain away from school.

- a. The Department of Health and Senior Services shall provide guidance to the school district on the appropriateness of any such prohibition.
- b. The school district shall comply with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 8:61-2.1 regarding attendance at school by students or adults infected by Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV).

D. Religious Exemptions (N.J.A.C. 8:57-4.4)

1. A child shall be exempted from mandatory immunization if the child's parent submits to the school a written, signed statement requesting an exemption pursuant to the requirements of religious exemptions established at N.J.S.A. 26:1A-9.1, on "the ground that the immunization interferes with the free exercise of the pupil's religious rights."
 - a. The school district is prohibited from exempting a child from mandatory immunization on the sole basis of a moral or philosophical objection to immunization.
2. The written statement signed by the parent(s) will be kept by the school as part of the student's immunization record.
3. The school district may exclude children with religious exemptions from receiving immunization agents from school during a vaccine-preventable disease outbreak or threatened outbreak, as determined by the State Commissioner of Health and Senior Services or designee.
4. As provided by N.J.S.A. 26:4-6, the school district may, on account of the prevalence of any communicable disease, or to prevent the spread of communicable diseases, prohibit the attendance of any school district teacher or student and specify the time during which the teacher or student shall remain away from school.
 - a. The Department of Health and Senior Services shall provide guidance to the school district on the appropriateness of any such prohibition.
 - b. The school district shall comply with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 8:61-2.1 regarding attendance at school by students or adults infected by Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV).

E. Accepted as Evidence of Immunization (N.J.A.C. 8:57-4.6)

1. The following documents shall be accepted as evidence of a child's immunization history provided that the type of immunization and the date when each immunization was administered is listed.
 - a. An official school record from any school or preschool indicating compliance with immunization requirements of N.J.A.C. 8:57-4.1 et seq.;
 - b. A record from any public health department indicating compliance with immunization requirements of N.J.A.C. 8:57-4.1 et seq.;
 - c. A certificate signed by a physician licensed to practice medicine or osteopathy or an advanced practice nurse (certified registered nurse practitioner, or clinical nurse specialist) in any jurisdiction in the United States indicating compliance with immunization requirements of N.J.A.C. 8:57-4.1 et seq.; or
 - d. The official record of immunization from the New Jersey Immunization Information System indicating compliance with immunization requirements of N.J.A.C. 8:57-4.1 et seq.
 2. All immunization records submitted by a parent in a language other than English shall be accompanied by a translation sufficient to determine compliance with the immunization requirements of N.J.A.C. 8:57-4.1 et seq. and this Regulation.
 3. Laboratory evidence of protective immunity, as enumerated by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) of the United States Public Health Service, shall be accepted as evidence of immunization if a parent cannot produce a documented history of immunization.
 4. Parental verbal history or recollection of previous immunization is unacceptable documentation or evidence of immunization.
- F. Records Required (N.J.A.C. 8:57-4.7)
1. The school district shall maintain an official State of New Jersey School Immunization Record for every student. This record shall include the date of each individual immunization and shall be separated from the child's educational record and other medical records for the purpose of immunization record audit.
 2. If a child withdraws, is promoted, or transfers to another school district, the immunization record, or a certified copy thereof, along with statements

pertaining to religious or medical exemptions and laboratory evidence of immunity, shall be sent to the new school district by the original school district or shall be given to the parent upon request, within twenty-four hours of such a request.

3. Parental verbal history or recollection of previous immunization is unacceptable documentation or evidence of immunization.
 4. When a child graduates from secondary school, the record, or a certified copy thereof, shall be sent to an institution of higher education or may be given to the parent(s) upon request.
 5. Each child's official New Jersey Immunization Record, or a certified copy thereof, shall be retained by a secondary school for a minimum of four years after the student has left the school. Each child's official New Jersey Immunization Record, or a copy thereof, shall be retained by an elementary school for a minimum of one year after the child has left the school.
 6. Any computer-generated document or list developed by the school district to record immunization information shall be considered a supplement to, not a replacement of, the official New Jersey School Immunization Record.
- G. Reports to be Sent to the Department of Health and Senior Services (N.J.A.C. 8:57-4.8)
1. A report of the immunization status of the students in each school shall be sent each year to the State Department of Health and Senior Services by the Principal or designee through mail or submitted electronically in accordance with N.J.A.C. 8:57-4.8(a).
 2. The form for the report will be provided by the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services.
 3. The report shall be submitted by January 1 of the respective academic year after a review of all appropriate immunization records.
 4. A copy of this report shall be sent to the local Board of Health in whose jurisdiction the school is located.
 5. If the school does not submit the annual report by January 1 it shall be considered delinquent. A delinquency may be referred to the New Jersey Department of Education or the New Jersey Department of Children and Families, as appropriate based on the length of time delinquent, number of

times delinquent, and efforts made toward compliance. The local health department will also be notified of the delinquency.

H. Records Available for Inspection (N.J.A.C. 8:57-4.9)

- The Principal or designee of each school shall maintain records of their children's immunization status. Upon twenty-four hour notice, these records shall be made available for inspection by authorized representatives of the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services or the local Board of Health in whose jurisdiction the school is located.

I. Immunization Requirements

- The immunization requirements for school age children shall be in accordance with the requirements of N.J.A.C. 8:57-4 – Immunization of Pupils in School as outlined below:

MINIMAL IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS FOR SCHOOL ATTENDANCE IN NEW JERSEY N.J.A.C. 8:57-4: Immunization of Pupils in School		
DISEASE(S)	REQUIREMENTS	COMMENTS
DTaP N.J.A.C. 8:57-4.10	(AGE 1-6 YEARS): 4 doses, with one dose given on or after the 4th birthday, OR any 5 doses. (AGE 7-9 YEARS): 3 doses of Td or any previously administered combination of DTP, DTaP, and DT to equal 3 doses.	Any child entering pre-school, pre-Kindergarten, or Kindergarten needs a minimum of four doses. Students after the seventh birthday should receive adult type Td. DTP/Hib vaccine and DTaP also valid DTP doses. Children 7 years of age and older, who have not been previously vaccinated with the primary DTaP series, should receive 3 doses of Tetanus, diphtheria (Td) Laboratory evidence of immunity is also acceptable.
Tdap N.J.A.C. 8:57-4.10	GRADE 6 (or comparable age level special education program with an unassigned grade): 1 dose	A child does not need a Tdap dose until FIVE years after the last DTP/DTaP or Td dose.
POLIO N.J.A.C. 8:57-4.11	(AGE 1-6 YEARS): 3 doses, with one dose given on or after the 4th birthday, OR any 4 doses. (AGE 7 or OLDER): Any 3 doses.	Either Inactivated Polio Vaccine (IPV) or Oral Polio Vaccine (OPV) separately or in combination is acceptable. Polio vaccine is not required of students 18 years of age or older. Laboratory evidence of immunity is also acceptable.
MEASLES N.J.A.C. 8:57-4.12	If born on or after 1-1-90, 2 doses of a live Measles-containing vaccine.	Any child over 15 months of age entering child care, pre-school, or pre-Kindergarten needs a minimum of 1 dose of measles vaccine. Any child entering Kindergarten needs 2 doses. Intervals between first and second measles/MMR/MR doses cannot be less than 1 month.
RUBELLA	1 dose of live Mumps-	Any child over 15 months of age

and MUMPS N.J.A.C. 8:57-4.13 N.J.A.C. 8:57-4.14	containing vaccine on or after 1st birthday. 1 dose of live Rubella-containing vaccine on or after 1st birthday.	entering child care, pre-school, or pre-Kindergarten needs 1 dose of rubella and mumps vaccine. Laboratory evidence of immunity is also acceptable.
VARICELLA N.J.A.C. 8:57-4.17	1 dose on or after the first birthday.	All children 19 months of age and older enrolled into a child care/pre-school center after 9-1-04 or children born on or after 1-1-98 entering a school for the first time in Kindergarten, Grade 1, or comparable age entry level special education program with an unassigned grade, need 1 dose of varicella vaccine. Laboratory evidence of immunity, physician's statement or a parental statement of previous varicella disease is also acceptable.
HAEMOPHILUS INFLUENZAE B (Hib) N.J.A.C. 8:57-4.15	(AGE 2-11 MONTHS)(1): 2 doses (AGE 12-59 MONTHS)(2): 1 dose	Mandated only for children enrolled in child care, pre-school, or pre-Kindergarten. (1) Minimum of 2 doses of Hib vaccine is needed if between the ages of 2-11 months. (2) Minimum of 1 dose of Hib vaccine is needed after the first birthday. DTP/Hib and Hib/Hep B also valid Hib doses.
HEPATITIS B N.J.A.C. 8:57-4.16	(K-GRADE 12): 3 doses or 2 doses (1)	(1) If a child is between 11-15 years of age and has not received 3 prior doses of Hepatitis B then the child is eligible to receive 2-dose Hepatitis B Adolescent formulation. Laboratory evidence of immunity is also acceptable.
PNEUMOCOCCAL N.J.A.C. 8:57-4.18	(AGE 2-11 MONTHS)(1): 2 doses (AGE 12-59 MONTHS)(2): 1 dose	Children enrolled in child care or pre-school on or after 9-1-08. (1) Minimum of 2 doses of Pneumococcal vaccine is needed if between the ages of 2-11 months. (2) Minimum of 1 dose of Pneumococcal vaccine is needed on or after the first birthday.
MENINGOCOCCAL N.J.A.C. 8:57-4.20	(Entering GRADE 6 (or comparable age level Special Ed program with an unassigned grade): 1 dose (1) (Entering a four-year college or university, previously unvaccinated and residing in a campus dormitory): 1 dose (2)	(1) For students entering Grade 6 on or after 9-1-08 and born on or after 1-1-97. (2) Previously unvaccinated students entering a four-year college or university after 9-1-04 and who reside in a campus dormitory, need 1 dose of meningococcal vaccine. Documentation of one prior dose is acceptable.
INFLUENZA N.J.A.C. 8:57-4.19	(AGES 6-59 MONTHS): 1 dose ANNUALLY	For children enrolled in child care, pre-school or pre-Kindergarten on or after 9-1-08. 1 dose to be given between September 1 and December 31 of each year.

AGE APPROPRIATE VACCINATIONS (FOR LICENSED CHILD CARE CENTERS/PRE-SCHOOLS)	
CHILD'S AGE	NUMBER OF DOSES CHILD SHOULD HAVE (BY AGE):
2-3 Months	1 dose DTaP, 1 dose Polio,

	1 dose Hib, 1 dose PCV7
4-5 Months	2 doses DTaP, 2 doses Polio, 2 doses Hib, 2 doses PCV7
6-7 Months	3 doses DTaP, 2 doses Polio, 2-3 doses Hib, 2-3 doses PCV7, 1 dose Influenza
8-11 Months	3 doses DTaP, 2 doses Polio, 2-3 doses Hib, 2-3 doses PCV7, 1 dose Influenza
12-14 Months	3 doses DTaP, 2 doses Polio, 1 dose Hib, 2-3 doses PCV7, 1 dose Influenza
15-17 Months	3 doses DTaP, 2 doses Polio, 1 dose MMR, 1 dose Hib, 1 dose PCV7, 1 dose Influenza
18 Months – 4 Years	4 doses DTaP, 3 doses Polio, 1 dose MMR, 1 dose Hib, 1 dose Varicella, 1 dose PCV7, 1 dose Influenza

PROVISIONAL ADMISSION:

Provisional admission allows a child to enter/attend school but must have a minimum of one dose of each of the required vaccines. Students must be actively in the process of completing the series. If a student is less than 5 years of age, they have 17 months to complete the immunization requirements.

If a student is 5 years of age and older, they have 12 months to complete the immunization requirements.

GRACE PERIODS:

- 4-day grace period: All vaccine doses administered less than or equal to four days before either the specified minimum age or dose spacing interval shall be counted as valid and shall not require revaccination in order to enter or remain in a school, pre-school or child care facility.

- 30-day grace period: Those children transferring into a New Jersey school, pre-school, or child care center from out of State/out of country may be allowed a 30-day grace period in order to obtain past immunization documentation before provisional status shall begin.

2. The immunization requirements outlined in I.1. above may be revised by Statute, administrative code, and/or the Commission of Health and Senior Services.

J. Emergency Powers of the Commissioner of Health and Senior Services

1. If an outbreak or threatened outbreak of disease or other public health immunization emergency exists, as determined by the State Commissioner of Health and Senior Services or designee, the State Commissioner or designee may issue either additional immunization requirements to control the outbreak or threat of an outbreak or modify immunization requirements to meet the emergency.
2. All children failing to meet the additional immunization requirements of N.J.A.C. 8:57-4.22 shall be excluded from school until the outbreak or threatened outbreak is over. These requirements shall remain in effect as outlined in J.3. below and N.J.A.C. 8:57-4.22(c).
3. These requirements or amendments shall remain in effect until such time as the Commissioner, Department of Health and Senior Services or designee determines that an outbreak or a threatened outbreak no longer exists or the emergency is declared over, or for three months after the declaration of the emergency whichever one comes first. The Commissioner, Department of Health and Senior Services or designee may declare a state of emergency if the emergency has not ended.

4. The Commissioner of Health and Senior Services or designee may temporarily suspend an immunization requirement for the particular immunization in accordance with the reasons outlined in N.J.A.C. 8:57-4.22(d).

Issued: 05/2021

ADMINISTERING AN OPIOID ANTIDOTE (M)

R 5330.04

M

A. Definitions

1. "Opioid antidote" means any drug, regardless of dosage amount or method of administration, which has been approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for the treatment of an opioid overdose. "Opioid antidote" includes, but is not limited to, naloxone hydrochloride, in any dosage amount, which is administered through nasal spray or any other FDA-approved means or methods.
2. "Opioid overdose" means an acute condition including, but not limited to, extreme physical illness, decreased level of consciousness, respiratory depression, coma, or death resulting from the consumption or use of an opioid drug or another substance with which an opioid drug was combined, and that a layperson would reasonably believe to require medical assistance.
3. "School-sponsored function" means any activity, event, or program occurring on or off school grounds, whether during or outside of regular school hours, that is organized or supported by the school.
 - a. The requirements of N.J.S.A. 18A:40-12.23 through 12.27 only apply to school-sponsored functions that take place in the school or on school grounds adjacent to the school building.

B. Acquisition, Maintenance, Accessibility, and Documentation of an Opioid Antidote

1. In accordance with N.J.S.A. 24:6J-4(a)(1)(f) and N.J.S.A. 24:6J-4(a)(2)(c), the school physician may prescribe or dispense an opioid antidote through a standing order to the school district, school, or certified school nurse for administration to overdose victims. The school physician's standing order must specify, at a minimum, the following:
 - a. The certified school nurse is authorized to directly administer the opioid antidote to overdose victims in the event of an emergency; and
 - b. The school district, school or certified school nurse may also dispense or grant access, in emergency situations, to other persons employed by the district or school who have certified to having

received training in the administration of the opioid antidote and overdose prevention information.

2. The school nurse in each school that includes any of the grades designated by the Board in Policy 5330.04 shall obtain a standing order for opioid antidotes pursuant to the “Overdose Prevention Act” – N.J.S.A. 24:6J-1 et seq.
 - a. Written standing orders shall be reviewed and reissued before the beginning of the school year in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:16-2.3(a)4(vi).
 3. The school nurse shall be responsible to:
 - a. Maintain a supply of opioid antidotes that have been prescribed under a standing order in a safe and secure, but unlocked and easily accessible location in the school:
 - (1) The opioid antidotes shall be accessible in the school during regular school hours and during school-sponsored functions that take place in the school or on school grounds adjacent to the school building.
 - b. Document the administration of an opioid antidote on a student’s health record;
 - c. Monitor the on-site inventory and replacement of the opioid antidote supply;
 - d. Ensure the replacement of the opioid antidote supply following use or expiration of the opioid antidote; and
 - e. Plan for the disposal of administered opioid antidote and expired opioid antidote applicators.
 4. Opioid antidotes shall be maintained by a school pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:40-12.24.b.(1) in quantities and types deemed adequate by the Board, in consultation with the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) and the Department of Human Services.
- C. Authorization and Training for Administering an Opioid Antidote
1. The school nurse shall have the primary responsibility for the emergency administration of an opioid antidote.

2. However, the Board upon the recommendation of the Superintendent shall designate additional employees who volunteer to administer an opioid antidote in the event that a person experiences an opioid overdose when the nurse is not physically present at the scene.
3. The school nurse and designated employees shall only be authorized to administer opioid antidotes after receiving the training required under N.J.S.A. 18A:40-12.25.b and N.J.S.A. 24:6J-5.

- a. Each certified school nurse and each employee designated to administer an opioid antidote pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:40-12.24.c.(1) and N.J.S.A. 24:6J-5 shall receive training on standard protocols from the school physician issuing the standing order or through a written agreement by the school physician with an organization that addresses medical or social issues related to drug addiction.

The training must address overdose prevention information, including but not limited to, the following:

- (1) Information on opioid overdose prevention and recognition;
- (2) Instruction on how to perform rescue breathing and resuscitation;
- (3) Information on opioid dosage and instruction on opioid antidote administration;
- (4) Information describing the importance of calling 911 emergency telephone service for assistance with an opioid overdose; and
- (5) Instructions for appropriate care of an overdose victim after administration of the opioid antidote.

- b. The district shall collect and maintain written evidence of satisfactory completion of the required training program before a certified school nurse or an employee is approved to administer opioid antidote.

4. In the event a licensed athletic trainer volunteers to administer an opioid antidote pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:40-12.23 through 12.27, it shall not constitute a violation of the "Athletic Training Licensure Act" – N.J.S.A. 45:9-37.35 et seq.

D. Administration of an Opioid Antidote

1. The school nurse or a trained employee designated pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:40-12.24.c.(1) shall be authorized to administer an opioid antidote to any person whom the nurse or trained employee in good faith believes is experiencing an opioid overdose.
 - a. The school nurse or a trained employee designated pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:40-12.24.c.(1) shall be promptly available on site at the school during regular school hours and during school-sponsored functions that take place in the school or on school grounds adjacent to the school building at any time.
 - b. Upon receiving a report or observing a possible opioid overdose in the school or at a school-sponsored function that takes place in a school or on school grounds adjacent to the school building at any time, the Principal or designee or any staff member present will immediately call the school nurse, if present, or a designated staff member who volunteered and was trained to administer an opioid antidote, and emergency medical responders.
2. The certified school nurse or employee designated to administer an opioid antidote pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:40-12.24.c.(1) and N.J.S.A. 24:6J-5 shall determine, in addition to the opioid antidote, whether any other emergency medical response is necessary, including but not limited to, cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), Rescue Breaths, or the use of an automated external defibrillator (AED).
3. The certified school nurse and/or other staff member(s) shall monitor the person who has received an opioid antidote and keep the individual who may be experiencing an opioid overdose comfortable until emergency medical responders arrive on the scene.
4. An individual shall be transported to a hospital emergency room by emergency medical responders after the administration of an opioid antidote, even if the person's symptoms appear to have resolved. A student transported to the hospital shall be transported in accordance with the Board's Policy required in treating alcohol or other drug-affected students pursuant to N.J.A.C. 16-4.1(c)5.
5. The Principal or designee shall notify the Superintendent or designee whenever an opioid antidote is administered.
6. The Principal or designee shall notify, as soon as practical, the parent of any student or a family member or other contact person for a staff member who may be experiencing an opioid overdose or has been administered an opioid antidote.

7. Nothing in Regulation 5330.04 shall be interpreted to prohibit the administration of an opioid antidote to a student, staff member, or other person in an emergency during school hours or during on-site school-sponsored activities by an emergency medical responder or other person authorized by law to administer an opioid antidote, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 24:6J-1 et seq.

E. Use of Controlled Dangerous Substances

1. Any student or staff member who is found to be under the influence of a controlled dangerous substance shall be subject to the provisions of any applicable statutes and administrative codes and Board Policies and Regulations prohibiting the use of a controlled dangerous substance.

F. Limitation of Liability

1. Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 24:6J-4, the school district, school physician, certified school nurse, and other approved designees shall not, as a result of any acts or omissions, be subject to any criminal or civil liability for administering an opioid antidote.
2. Any person or entity authorized under N.J.S.A. 18A:40-12.23 through 12.28 to administer an opioid antidote, may administer to an overdose victim with full immunity:
 - a. A single dose of any type of FDA approved opioid antidote for use in treatment of opioid overdoses; and
 - b. Up to three doses of an intramuscular auto injector or an intranasal application of opioid antidote, as needed to revive the overdose victim.

Adopted: 05/2021

SUSPENSION PROCEDURES (M)

R 5610

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A. Short-Term Suspensions

1. In each instance of a short-term suspension, the Principal or designee, shall assure the rights of a student suspended for one, but not more than ten consecutive school days by providing for the following:
 - a. As soon as practicable, oral or written notice of charges to the student.
 - (1) When charges are denied, an explanation of the evidence forming the basis of the charges also shall be provided.
 - b. Prior to the suspension, an informal hearing during which the student is given the opportunity to present his or her version of the events regarding his or her actions leading to the short-term suspension and is provided notice of the school district's actions taken pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.1(c)2 and 5.
 - (1) The informal hearing shall be conducted by a school administrator or designee;
 - (2) To the extent that a student's presence poses a continuing danger to persons or property or an ongoing threat of disrupting the educational process, the student may be immediately removed from the student's educational program and the informal hearing shall be held as soon as practical after the suspension;
 - (3) The informal hearing should take place even when a school staff member has witnessed the conduct forming the basis of the charge; and
 - (4) The informal hearing and the notice given may take place at the same time.
 - c. Oral or written notification to the student's parent of the student's removal from the student's educational program prior to the end of the school day on which the Principal decides to suspend the student. The notification shall include an explanation of:

- (1) The specific charges;
 - (2) The facts on which the charges are based;
 - (3) The provision(s) of the code of student conduct the student is accused of violating;
 - (4) The student's due process rights, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.1(c)3 and N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.2; and
 - (5) The terms and conditions of the suspension.
- d. Appropriate supervision of the student while waiting for the student's parent to remove the student from school during the school day; and
- e. Academic instruction, either in school or out of school, that addresses the New Jersey Student Learning Standards.
- (1) The student's academic instruction shall be provided within five school days of the suspension.
 - (2) At the completion of a short-term suspension, the Board of Education shall return a general education student to the general education program for which he or she was suspended.
 - (3) The academic instruction provided to a student with a disability shall be provided consistent with N.J.A.C. 6A:14.
2. The Principal suspending the student shall immediately report the suspension to the Superintendent, who shall report it to the Board of Education at its next regular meeting, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:37-4.
 3. An appeal of the Board's decision affecting the general education student's educational program shall be made to the Commissioner, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:37-2.4 and N.J.A.C. 6A:3-1.3 through 1.17.
 4. For a student with a disability, the provisions set forth in N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.2 shall be provided in addition to all procedural protections set forth in N.J.A.C. 6A:14.

B. Long-Term Suspensions

1. In each instance of a long-term suspension, the Principal or designee shall assure the rights of a student suspended for more than ten consecutive school days by providing the following:
 - a. Notification to the student of the charges prior to the student's removal from school;
 - b. Prior to the suspension, an informal hearing during which the student is given the opportunity to present his or her version of events regarding his or her actions leading to the long-term suspension and is provided notice of the school district's actions taken pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.1(c)2 and 5;
 - c. Immediate notification to the student's parent of the student's removal from school;
 - d. Appropriate supervision of the student while waiting for the student's parent to remove the student from school during the school day;
 - e. Written notification to the parent by the Superintendent or designee within two school days of the initiation of the suspension, stating:
 - (1) The specific charges;
 - (2) The facts on which the charges are based;
 - (3) The student's due process rights, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.1(c)3 and N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.3; and
 - (4) Further engagement by the student in conduct warranting expulsion, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:37-2, shall amount to a knowing and voluntary waiver of the student's right to a free public education, in the event that a decision to expel the student is made by the Board, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:37-2 and N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.4.
 - (a) The Board shall request from the parent and student written acknowledgement of the notification provided pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.3(a)5.iv subsequent to the removal of the student from his or her educational program, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.3.

- f. A list of witnesses and their statements or affidavits, if any, no later than five days prior to the formal hearing, pursuant to j. below;
- g. For a student with a disability, a manifestation determination, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:14-2.8 and the Federal regulations;
- h. Information on the student's right to secure an attorney and legal resources available in the community identified pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.1(c)7;
- i. Either in- or out-of-school educational services that are comparable to those provided in the public schools for students of similar grades and attainments, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-25, which may include a public education program provided in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:16-9 or 10.
 - (1) The student's educational services shall be provided within five school days of the suspension.
 - (2) The Board shall make decisions regarding the appropriate educational program and support services for the suspended general education student based on the New Jersey Student Learning Standards and the following considerations:
 - (a) A behavioral assessment or evaluation including, but not limited to, a referral to the Child Study Team, as appropriate;
 - (b) The results of relevant testing, assessments, or evaluations of the student;
 - (c) The student's academic, health, and behavioral records;
 - (d) The recommendation of the Superintendent, Principal, or other relevant school or community resource;
 - (e) Considerations of parental input; or
 - (f) Consultation with the Intervention and Referral Services Team, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:16-8.

- (3) Educational services provided to a student with a disability shall be provided consistent with N.J.A.C. 6A:14.
- j. A formal hearing before the Board that shall, at a minimum:
- (1) Be conducted by the Board or delegated by the Board to a Board committee, a school administrator, or an impartial hearing officer for the purpose of determining facts or making recommendations.
 - (a) Before taking final action, the Board as a whole shall receive and consider either a transcript or detailed report on the hearing.
 - (2) Include the opportunity for the student to:
 - (a) Confront and cross-examine witnesses, if there is a question of fact; and
 - (b) Present his or her own defense, and produce oral testimony or written supporting affidavits.
 - (3) Take place no later than thirty calendar days following the day the student is suspended from the general education program; and
 - (4) Result in the Board's decision that shall be based, at a minimum, on the preponderance of competent and credible evidence.
- k. A written statement to the student's parent regarding the Board's decision within five school days after the close of the hearing. The statement shall include at a minimum:
- (1) The charges considered;
 - (2) A summary of the documentary or testimonial evidence from both the student and the administration that was brought before the Board at the hearing;
 - (3) Factual findings relative to each charge and the Board's determination of each charge;
 - (4) Identification of the educational services to be provided to the student, pursuant to i. above;

- (5) The terms and conditions of the suspension; and
 - (6) The right to appeal to the Commissioner of Education the Board's decision regarding the student's general education program, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:37-2.4 and N.J.A.C. 6A:3-1.3 through 1.17.
 - l. If at any time it is found that the student did not commit the offense, the student shall be immediately returned to the program from which he or she was removed; and
 - m. At the completion of a long-term suspension, the Board shall return the general education student to the general education program.
 2. An appeal of the Board's decision regarding the general education student's program shall be made to the Commissioner of Education, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:37-2.4 and N.J.A.C. 6A:3-1.3 through 1.17.
 3. Suspension of a general education student shall not be continued beyond the Board's second regularly scheduled meeting following the suspension, unless the Board so determines, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:37-5.
 - a. The Board shall determine whether to continue the suspension, pursuant to B.1. above, based on the following criteria:
 - (1) The nature and severity of the offense;
 - (2) The Board's removal decision;
 - (3) The results of relevant testing, assessments, or evaluations of the student; and
 - (4) The recommendation of the Superintendent, after considering input from the Principal or Director of the alternative education program or home or other in-school or out-of-school instruction program in which the student has been placed.
 - b. The Board shall develop and adopt policies and procedures providing for action on the continuation of student suspensions in the event of cancellation of the first or second regular Board meeting pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:37-4 and 5. In this unlikely event, a special committee of the Board, which will include the

Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee, will be appointed by the Board President to make a decision on the continuation of the suspension. The committee's decision will be implemented subject to ratification of the committee's decision at the next regularly scheduled Board meeting.

4. When the Board votes to continue a general education student's suspension, it shall review the case, in consultation with the Superintendent, at each subsequent Board meeting for the purpose of determining:
 - a. The status of the student's suspension;
 - b. The appropriateness of the suspended student's current educational program; and
 - c. Whether the suspended student's current placement, pursuant to i. above, should continue or whether the student should return to the general education program.
5. When the Board votes to continue a general education student's suspension, it shall make, in consultation with the Superintendent, the final determination on:
 - a. When the student is prepared to return to the general education program;
 - b. Whether the student will remain in an alternative education program or receive home or other in-school or out-of-school instruction, based on the criteria set forth in B.3.a.(1) through (4) above; or
 - c. Whether to initiate expulsion proceedings in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:37-2, N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.4, and Policy 5620.
6. The Board shall provide a general education student suspended under N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.3 with an appropriate educational program or services, based on the criteria set forth under B.1.i.(2) above, until the student graduates from high school or reaches the age of twenty, whichever comes first.
 - a. The educational program shall be consistent with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:16-9.2 and 10.2 and 6A:14-2 and 4.3, whichever is applicable; or

b. The educational services provided, either in-school or out-of-school, shall be comparable to those provided in the public schools for students of similar grades and attainments, pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:38-25.

7. For a student with a disability who receives a long-term suspension, the Board shall proceed in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:14 in determining or changing the student's educational placement to an interim or alternate educational setting.

a. All procedural protections set forth in N.J.A.C. 6A:14 and N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.3 shall be afforded to a student with a disability who is subjected to a long-term suspension.

b. All decisions concerning the student's educational program or placement shall be made by the student's Individualized Education Program team.

c. The provisions of B.2. through B.6. above shall not apply to students with disabilities.

C. Meeting with Student - Multiple Suspensions or Possible Expulsion

1. In accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:37-2c, in the event a student has experienced multiple suspensions or may be subject to a proposed expulsion from school, the Principal shall convene a meeting, as soon as practicable, between the student and a school psychologist, a school counselor, a school social worker, a student assistance coordinator, or a member of the school's intervention and referral services team.

a. The Principal may convene such a meeting, if after the student has been suspended for the first time, the Principal upon evaluation deems such a meeting appropriate.

b. The purpose of the meeting shall be to identify any behavior or health difficulties experienced by the student and, where appropriate, to provide supportive interventions or referrals to school or community resources that may assist the student in addressing the identified difficulties.

2. The requirements of C.1. above shall not apply when a student's immediate removal or suspension from the school's regular education program is required pursuant to:

a. The provisions of the "Zero Tolerance for Guns Act," (N.J.S.A. 18A:37-7 et seq.);

- b. N.J.S.A. 18A:37-2.1 – Assault by Pupil Upon Teacher, etc.; Suspension; Expulsion Proceedings;
 - c. N.J.S.A. 18A:37-2.2 – Offense by Pupil Involving Assault, Removal from Schools Regular Education Program; or
 - d. In any other instance in which the safety and security of other students or school staff requires the student's immediate removal from school.
- 3. In the instances provided in C.2.a. through d. above, the meeting required in C.1. above shall take place as soon as practicable following the student's removal from the school's regular education program.
 - 4. The provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:37-2c and C. of this Regulation shall be construed in a manner consistent with the "Individuals with Disabilities Act," 20 U.S.C. § 1400 et seq.

Adopted: 05/2021

R 8320

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A. Content of Record

1. A personnel file shall be assembled and maintained for each person employed by this district. Each file shall contain the original or copies, as appropriate, of the following documents regarding the employee:
 - a. The employee's current correct name, address, telephone number, and birthdate;
 - b. Application form, including transcripts of all academic work, records of prior military service, and other supporting documents;
 - c. Annual employment contract and/or annual salary notice, signed by the employee;
 - d. Certificates and/or licenses required for employment;
 - e. Documentation of fulfillment of requirements for any change in salary classification;
 - f. Income tax forms;
 - g. Retirement registration;
 - h. Hospitalization forms;
 - i. Annuity forms;
 - j. Rate of compensation;
 - k. Attendance record, including the starting and ending dates of all leaves of absence, whether the leave was paid or unpaid, and the purpose for which such leaves were granted;
 - l. Assignment to positions, including position title and building to which assigned;
 - m. Completed evaluations;
 - n. Reports of disciplinary incidents;

- o. Records of special awards, commendations, or distinctions;
 - p. Oath of allegiance;
 - q. Reports of routine physical examinations; and
 - r. Reports of physical and mental examinations required for cause.
2. No information will be placed in an employees' file that does not pertain to the employee's position in this district and the performance of the employee's duties.
 3. The content of personnel files will be reviewed annually and material no longer required will be destroyed.
- B. Custodian of Personnel Records
1. The Superintendent is custodian of all personnel records.
 2. Personnel records shall be maintained in the office of the Superintendent, who shall be records manager responsible for the day-to-day maintenance of the files and for supervising access to the files.
- C. Notice of Content of Files
1. Each employee shall be informed of the content of his/her personnel file.
 2. Each employee will be notified of the inclusion in his/her file of any document that was not received from the employee or at the direction of the employee.
 - a. No evaluation form will be placed in a personnel file until it has been reviewed and signed by the employee.
 - b. No copy of a memorandum or letter sent by an administrator or other school official to an employee will be placed in the employee's file unless the original and copy include the notation "cc: Personnel File" or other clear indication of the author's intention to place the memorandum or letter in the employee's file.
 - c. No report or letter or memorandum from any source, other than documents referred to in paragraph C2b above, may be placed in an employee's file until a copy of the same has been delivered to the employee.
- D. Employee Access to Personnel Records

1. Each employee shall be granted access to his/her personnel file in accordance with these regulations, except as may have been negotiated with the employee's majority representative.
2. Written request for access shall be submitted to the Superintendent. Except in unusual circumstances, access shall be granted only during the regular working hours of the office in which the file is kept.
3. The employee shall review the record in the presence of the Superintendent and, at the employee's request, a representative of the employee.
4. No alteration or addition or deletion may be made to the file, except that the employee may append to any document in the file his/her comment on that document.
5. The employee may hand copy any portion of his/her file and may receive photocopies of records on payment of the copying fees established for copies of public records.

E. Appeal of Content of the File

1. The employee may appeal to the Superintendent the exclusion or inclusion of any portion of his/her personnel file or the accuracy of any information in the file.
2. An appeal must be made in writing on a form available in the office of the Superintendent.
3. The Superintendent shall render a decision on the appeal as soon as possible, but not later than 10 working days from the time the written appeal is submitted. The Superintendent's decision shall be in writing and shall be delivered to the employee and the records manager responsible for the employee's file.
4. Except as may be otherwise provided by contract negotiated with the employee's majority representative, the appellant may appeal the Superintendent's decision to the Board; a decision of the Board may be appealed to the Commissioner of Education.

F. Access by Board Members and School Officials

1. Personnel files may be inspected by school officials only as required in the discharge of their professional or statutory duties and to the extent required in the discharge of those duties.

2. Personnel files may be inspected by Board members when such inspection relates to the Superintendent's recommendation of a candidate for employment, promotion, transfer, dismissal, or discipline.
3. Much of the information included in an employee's file is confidential; access to the employee's file for professional reasons necessarily imposes on the person reviewing the file the duty to respect the confidentiality of the record.

G. Public Access to Employee Records and Information

1. A Board of Education and private agencies that provide educational services by means of public funds shall make employee records and information available for public access, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 47:1A-10, the Open Public Records Act, but in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:6-120(d) and 121.(d) in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:32-4.3 and as outlined in this Regulation.
2. In accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 47:1A-10, notwithstanding the provisions of N.J.S.A. 47:1A-1 et seq. or any other law to the contrary, the personnel or pension records of any individual in the possession of a public agency, including but not limited to, records relating to any grievance filed by or against an individual, shall not be considered a government record and shall not be made available for public access, except that:
 - a. An individual's name, title, position, salary, payroll record, length of service, date of separation and the reason therefore, and the amount and type of any pension received shall be a government record;
 - b. Personnel or pension records of any individual shall be accessible when required to be disclosed by another law, when disclosure is essential to the performance of official duties of a person duly authorized by the State of New Jersey or the United States, or when authorized by an individual in interest; and
 - c. Data contained in information which disclose conformity with specific experiential, educational, or medical qualification required for government employment or for receipt of a public pension, but not including any detailed medical or psychological information, shall be a government record.
3. Information related to the evaluation of a particular employee shall be maintained by the school district, be confidential, and not be accessible to

the public pursuant to N.J.S.A. 47:1A-1 et seq., as amended and supplemented, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:6-120.d and 18A:6-121.d.

Adopted: 05/2021

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Administrative Employment Contracts

Sept 20

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[See POLICY ALERT Nos. 182, 184, 188 and 221]

1620 ADMINISTRATIVE EMPLOYMENT CONTRACTS

The Executive County Superintendent shall review and approve for all Superintendents of Schools, **Superintendents of Schools reappointed pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:17-20.1**, Deputy Superintendents of Schools, Assistant Superintendents of Schools, and School Business Administrators, **including any interim, acting, or person otherwise serving in these positions**, in school districts, county vocational school districts, county special services school districts and other districts, except charters, within the County under the supervision of the Executive County Superintendent:

1. New employment contracts, including contracts that replace expired contracts for existing tenured and non-tenured employees;
2. Renegotiations, extensions, amendments, or other alterations of the terms of existing employment contracts that have been previously approved by the Executive County Superintendent; and
3. Provisions for contract extensions where such terms were not included in the original employment contract or are different from the provisions contained in the original approved employment contract.

In counties where there is no Executive County Superintendent, **an Executive County Superintendent from another county shall be designated by the Commissioner to** ~~or Acting Executive County Superintendent, the Assistant Commissioner for Field Services~~ shall review and approve all above contracts listed above.

The contract review and approval shall take place prior to any required public notice and hearing pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:11-11 and prior to the Board of **Education** approval and execution of ~~those~~ **the** contracts to ensure compliance with all applicable laws, including but not limited to N.J.S.A. 18A:30-3.5, 18A:30-9, 18A:17-15.1 and 18A:11-12.

~~The public notice and public hearing required pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:11-11 is applicable to a Board that renegotiates, extends, amends, or otherwise alters the terms of an existing contract with the Superintendent of Schools, Deputy Superintendent, Assistant Superintendents, or School Business Administrator.~~



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{Select One Option

~~_____ The public notice and public hearing requirements of N.J.S.A. 18A:11-11 do not apply to new contracts that replace expired contracts for existing employees in one of these positions, whether tenured or not tenured.~~

~~_____ Although the public notice and public hearing requirements of N.J.S.A. 18A:11-11 do not apply to new contracts and contracts that replace expired contracts for existing employees in one of these positions, whether tenured or not tenured, the Board may issue a public notice and/or hold a public hearing on new contracts, including new contracts that replace expired contracts for existing tenured and non-tenured employees.~~

In accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:11-11 and N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-3.1(c)1, the public notice and public hearing required shall be applicable to a Board of Education that renegotiates, extends, amends, or otherwise alters the terms of an existing contract with a Superintendent of Schools, Deputy Superintendent of Schools, Assistant Superintendent of Schools, or School Business Administrator. In accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:11-11, notice must be provided to the public at least thirty days prior to the scheduled action by the Board. The Board shall also hold a public hearing and shall not take any action on the matter until the hearing has been held. The Board shall provide the public with at least ten days' notice of the public hearing.

In accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-3.1(c)1, the public notice and public hearing required pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:11-11 shall not apply to new contracts, including contracts that replace expired contracts for existing employees in one of these positions, whether tenured or not tenured. Nothing shall preclude a Board from issuing a public notice and/or holding a public hearing on new contracts, including new contracts that replace expired contracts for existing tenured and non-tenured employees.

The public notice and public hearing required pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:11-11 is also required in the event an existing contract for a Superintendent of Schools, Deputy Superintendent of Schools, Assistant Superintendent of Schools, or School Business Administrator is rescinded or terminated by the Board of Education before it is due to expire and the parties agree to new employment terms.



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Administrative Employment Contracts

In connection with the Executive County Superintendent's review of the contract, the Board shall provide the Executive County Superintendent with a detailed statement setting forth the total cost of the contract for each applicable year, including salary, longevity (if applicable), benefits, and all other emoluments.

The review and approval of **the employment contracts of Superintendents of Schools, Deputy Superintendents of Schools, Assistant Superintendents of Schools, and School Business Administrators conducted by the Executive County Superintendent** shall be consistent with the following additional standards outlined in N.J.S.A. 18A:7-8.1 and N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-3.1:

1. Contracts for each class of administrative position shall be comparable with the salary, benefits and other emoluments contained in the contracts of similarly credentialed and experienced administrators in other school districts in the region with similar enrollment, academic achievement levels and challenges, and grade span.
2. No contract shall include provisions that are inconsistent with the travel requirements pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:11-12 and N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7 including, but not limited to, the provisions for mileage reimbursement and reimbursement for meals and lodging in New Jersey. Any contractual provision that is inconsistent with law is superseded by the law.
3. No contract shall include provisions for the reimbursement or payment of employee contributions that are either required by law or by a contract in effect in the **school** district with other teaching staff members, such as payment of the employee's State or Federal taxes, or of the employee's contributions to FICA, Medicare, State pensions and annuities (TPAF), life insurance, disability insurance (if offered), and health benefit costs.
4. No contract shall contain a payment as a condition of separation from service that is deemed by the Executive County Superintendent to be prohibited or excessive in nature. The payment cannot exceed the lesser of the calculation of three months pay for every year remaining on the contract with pro-ration for partial years, not to exceed twelve months, or the remaining salary amount due under the contract.



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5. No contract shall include benefits that supplement or duplicate benefits that are otherwise available to the employee by operation of law, an existing group plan, or other means; e.g., an annuity or life insurance plan that supplements or duplicates a plan already made available to the employee. Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, a contract may contain an annuity where those benefits are already contained in the existing contract between the employee and the district.
6. Contractual provisions regarding accumulation of sick leave and supplemental compensation for accumulated sick leave shall be consistent with N.J.S.A. 18A:30-3.5. Supplemental payment for accumulated sick leave shall be payable only at the time of retirement and shall not be paid to the individual's estate or beneficiaries in the event of the individual's death prior to retirement. Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:30-3.2, a new Board of Education contract may include credit of unused sick leave in accordance with the new Board of Education's policy on sick leave credit for all employees.
7. Contractual provisions regarding accumulation of unused vacation leave and supplemental compensation for accumulated unused vacation leave shall be consistent with N.J.S.A. 18A:30-9. Contractual provisions for payments of accumulated vacation leave prior to separation can be included but only for leave accumulated prior to June 8, 2007 and remaining unused at the time of payment. Supplemental payments for unused vacation leave accrued consistent with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:30-9 after June 8, 2007 as well as unused vacation leave accumulated prior to June 8, 2007 that has not been paid, shall be payable at the time of separation and may be paid to the individual's estate or beneficiaries in the event of the individual's death prior to separation.
8. Contractual provisions that include a calculation of per diem for twelve month employees shall be based on a two hundred sixty day work year.



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9. ~~No provision for a bonus shall be made except where payment is contingent upon achievement of measurable specific performance objectives expressly contained in a contract approved pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A 3.1, where compensation is deemed reasonable relative to the established performance objectives, and achievement of the performance objectives has been documented to the satisfaction of the Board of Education. No provision for a merit bonus shall be made except where payment is contingent upon achievement of quantitative merit criterion and/or qualitative merit criterion:~~
- a. **A contract may include no more than three quantitative merit criteria and two qualitative merit criteria per contract year.**
 - b. **The Executive County Superintendent shall approve or disapprove the selection of quantitative merit and qualitative merit criteria and the data that forms the basis of measuring the achievement of quantitative merit and qualitative merit criteria.**
 - c. **A contract may provide for merit bonuses in an amount not exceeding 3.33 percent of annual salary for each quantitative merit criterion achieved and 2.5 percent of annual salary for each qualitative merit criterion achieved. Any such merit bonus shall be considered "extra compensation" for purpose of N.J.A.C. 17:3-4.1 and shall not be cumulative.**
 - d. **The Board of Education shall submit to the Executive County Superintendent a resolution certifying that a quantitative merit criterion or a qualitative merit criterion has been satisfied and shall await confirmation of the satisfaction of that criterion from the Executive County Superintendent prior to payment of any merit bonus.**



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10. ~~No provision for payment at the time of separation or retirement shall be made for work not performed except as otherwise authorized above.~~ **No provision for a bonus shall be made except where payment is contingent upon achievement of measurable specific performance objectives expressly contained in a contract approved pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-3.1, where compensation is deemed reasonable relative to the established performance objectives and achievement of the performance objectives has been documented to the satisfaction of the Board of Education.**
11. **No provision for payment at the time of separation or retirement shall be made for work not performed except as otherwise authorized in N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-3.1 and N.J.S.A. 18A:7-8.1.**
1211. ~~No contract shall include a provision for a monthly allowance except for a reasonable car allowance. A reasonable car allowance shall not eannot exceed the monthly cost of the average monthly miles traveled for business purposes multiplied by the allowable mileage reimbursement pursuant to applicable law and regulation and New Jersey Office of Management and Budget (NJOMB) circulars. If such allowance is included, the employee shall not eannot be reimbursed for business travel mileage nor assigned permanently a car for official district business. Any provision of a car for official district business must conform with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-6.12 and be supported by detailed justification. No contract shall ean include a provision of a dedicated driver or chauffeur.~~
1312. **All Superintendent contracts shall include the required provision pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:17-15.1 which states that in the event the Superintendent's certificate is revoked, the contract is null and void.**



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1413. No contract shall include a provision for additional compensation upon the acquisition of a graduate degree unless the graduate degree is conferred by a **regionally** duly accredited **college or university institution of higher education** as defined in **applicable regulations N.J.A.C. 6A:9-2.1**. No contract shall include a provision for assistance, or tuition reimbursement, or for additional compensation for graduate school coursework, unless **the such** coursework culminates in the acquisition of a graduate degree conferred by a **regionally** duly accredited **college or university institution of higher education** as defined in **applicable regulations N.J.A.C. 6A:9-2.1**.

The review and approval of an employment contract for the Superintendent of Schools shall not include maximum salary amounts pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:7-8.j.

Any actions by the Executive County Superintendent undertaken pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:7-8.1, N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-3.1, and this Policy may be appealed to the Commissioner of Education pursuant to the procedures set forth at N.J.A.C. 6A:3, **Controversies and Disputes**.

N.J.S.A. 18A:7-8; 18A:7-8.1; 18A:11-11
N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-3.1; 6A:23A-7 et seq.

Adopted:



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M

[See POLICY ALERT Nos. 102, 120, 139, 157, 164, 168, 196,
198, 208, 215 and 221]

2431 ATHLETIC COMPETITION

The Board of Education recognizes the value of athletic competition as an integral part of the total school experience. ~~Game activities and practice sessions~~ **Sports and other athletic activities** provide opportunities to learn the values of competition and good sportsmanship.

For the purpose of this Policy, programs of athletic competition include all activities relating to competitive sports contests, games, events, or sports exhibitions involving individual students or teams of students when such events occur within or between schools within this district or with any schools outside this district. The programs of athletic competition shall include, but are not limited to, high school interscholastic athletic programs, middle school interscholastic athletic programs where school teams or squads play teams or squads from other school districts, intramural athletic programs within a school or among schools in the district, and any cheerleading program or activity in the school district.

Eligibility Standards

A student who wishes to participate in a program of athletic competition must submit, on a form provided by the district, the signed consent of his/her parent. The consent of the parent of a student who wishes to participate in a program of athletic competition will include an acknowledgment of the physical hazards that may be encountered in the activity **in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:32-9.1(d) and (e)**.

Student participation in a program of athletic competition shall be governed by the following eligibility standards:



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[For School Districts with High School Students and NJSIAA Athletics]

1. To be eligible for participation in the interscholastic athletic program of a New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association (NJSIAA) member school, all high school students must meet, at a minimum, all the eligibility requirements of the Constitution, Bylaws, and Rules and Regulations of the NJSIAA.]

[Home School Options for High School Students and NJSIAA Athletics]

_____ Home schooled children are not eligible to participate in the high school interscholastic athletic program of this district.

_____ Home schooled children are eligible to participate in the high school interscholastic athletic program of this district only if the school district, the parent, and the home schooled child comply with the Guidelines, Constitution, Bylaws, Rules and Regulations of NJSIAA, and the policies and regulations of the Board of Education.]

[Options for School Districts with Elementary and Middle School Students]

2. _____ A student in grades 5 through 8 is eligible for participation in school district sponsored programs of athletic competition if he/she passed all courses required for promotion or graduation in the preceding _____ (**semester, marking period, or other**).

_____ A student in grades _____ through _____ is eligible for participation in school district sponsored programs of athletic competition if he/she _____

_____. Remove

_____ Home schooled children in grades 5 through 8 are (eligible X not eligible) to participate in school district sponsored programs of athletic competition of this district.]

Current policy



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[Options for All Students]

3. ___ A student in any grade must maintain a satisfactory record of attendance to be eligible for participation in school district sponsored programs of athletic competition. An attendance record is unsatisfactory if the number of unexcused absences exceed ___10___ school days in the (___ school year ___X___ marking period ___ semester ___ other ___) prior to the student commencing participation in school district sponsored programs of athletic competition.

___ A student who is absent (___ with an excused absence ___X___ with an unexcused absence) for a school day may not participate in school district sponsored programs of athletic competition the afternoon or evening of that school day. **Current Policy**

___ A student who is serving an (___ in-school ___ out-of-school ___X___ in-school or out-of-school) suspension may not participate in school district sponsored programs of athletic competition while serving the suspension.] **Current Policy**

[Optional]

4. A student in any grade who fails to observe school rules for student conduct may forfeit his/her eligibility for participation in school district sponsored programs of athletic competition.] **Include – Current Policy**

Notice of the school district's eligibility requirements shall be available to students.

Required Examinations – Interscholastic or Intramural Team or Squad

Students enrolled in grades six to twelve must receive a medical examination, in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:40-41.7, prior to participation on a school-sponsored interscholastic or intramural team or squad and any cheerleading program or activity.



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The examination shall be conducted within 365 days prior to the first day of official practice in an athletic season with examinations being conducted at the medical home of the student. The “medical home” is defined as a health care provider and that provider’s practice site chosen by the student’s parent for the provision of health care pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-1.3. If a student does not have a medical home, the school district shall provide the examination at the school physician’s office or other comparably equipped facility. The parent may choose either the school physician or their own private physician to provide this medical examination. The medical examination required prior to participation shall be in accordance with the requirements as outlined in N.J.A.C. 6A:16-2.2(h)1 and Regulation 2431.2 and shall be documented using the Preparticipation Physical Evaluation form required by the Department of Education.

The school district shall distribute the Commissioner of Education developed sudden cardiac arrest pamphlet to a student participating in or desiring to participate in an athletic activity, as defined in N.J.S.A. 18A:40-41.e., and the student’s parent(s) shall each year and prior to participation by the student in an athletic activity comply with the requirements of N.J.S.A. 18A:40-41.d.

The school district shall annually distribute the Commissioner of Education developed educational fact sheet relative to use and misuse of opioid drugs for sports related injuries to parents of students who participate in athletic activities and comply with the requirements of N.J.S.A. 18A:40-41.10.

Information concerning a student’s HIV/AIDS status shall not be required as part of the medical examination or health history pursuant to N.J.S.A. 26:5C-1 et seq. The health findings of this medical examination shall be maintained as part of the student’s health record.

Emergency Procedures

Athletic coaches shall be trained in first aid to include sports-related concussion and head injuries, the use of a defibrillator, the identification of student-athletes who are injured or disabled in the course of any athletic program or activity, and any other first aid procedures or other health related trainings required by law or the Superintendent.



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[Required for School Districts with any of the Grades Six through Twelve

The Superintendent or designee shall establish and implement an emergency action plan for responding to a serious or potentially life-threatening sports-related injury in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:40-41.11. The plan shall document the proper procedures to be followed when a student sustains a serious injury while participating in sports or other athletic activity in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:40-41.11.

The emergency action plan shall be reviewed annually and updated as necessary. The plan shall be rehearsed annually in each school by the individuals who will be responsible for executing the plan in an emergency pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:40-41.11.]

~~The Superintendent or designee shall prepare and present to the Board for its approval procedures for the emergency treatment of~~ **responding to a non-serious or non-life-threatening injury sustained by a student while participating in sports or other athletic activity.** ~~injuries and disabilities that occur in the course of any athletic program or activity. Emergency~~ **These** procedures shall be reviewed **annually, updated as necessary, not less than once in each school year** and ~~shall be disseminated to appropriate staff members.~~

Interscholastic Standards

The Board shall approve annually a program of interscholastic athletics and shall require that all facilities utilized in that program, whether or not the property of this Board, properly safeguard both players and spectators and are kept free from hazardous conditions.

The Board adopts the Constitution, Bylaws, Rules, and Regulations of the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association as Board policy and shall review such rules on a regular basis to ascertain they continue to be in conformity with the objectives of this Board.



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**[For School Districts with High School Students and NJSIAA Athletics –
Remove**

The Superintendent shall annually prepare, approve, and present to the Board for its consideration a program of interscholastic athletics that includes a complete schedule of athletic events.]

[District may choose one of the following options if above is included:

_____ and may inform the Board of changes in that schedule.

_____ and shall request Board approval of any changes in the schedule.]

N.J.S.A. 2C:21-11

N.J.S.A. 18A:11-3 et seq.; 18A:40-41; 18A:40-41.10; **18A:40-41.11**

N.J.A.C. 6A:7-1.7(d); 6A:16-1.3; 6A:16-2.1 et seq.; **6A:32-9.1**



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Adopted:

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Gifted and Talented Students
Sept 20
M

[See POLICY ALERT Nos. 95, 153, 161, 164, 211 and 221]

2464 GIFTED AND TALENTED STUDENTS

The Board of Education recognizes its responsibility to identify gifted and talented students within the school district and to provide these students with appropriate instructional adaptations and services. To that end, the Board directs each such student in the school district be identified and offered an appropriate educational program and services.

For purposes of this Policy, “gifted and talented students” means students who possess or demonstrate high levels of ability in one or more content areas when compared to their chronological peers in the district and who require modification of their educational program if they are to achieve in accordance with their capabilities.

For the purpose of this Policy, “instructional adaptation” means an adjustment or modification to instruction enabling a student who is gifted and talented to participate in, benefit from, and demonstrate knowledge and application of the New Jersey Student Learning Standards in one or more content areas at the instructional level of the student, not just the student’s grade level.

The Superintendent of Schools or designee shall ensure that the appropriate instructional adaptations are designed for students who are gifted and talented.

~~The Superintendent will develop appropriate curricular and instructional modifications used for gifted and talented students indicating content, process, products, and learning environments.~~

The Superintendent or designee will develop procedures for an ongoing Kindergarten through grade twelve identification process for gifted and talented students that includes multiple measures in order to identify student strengths in intellectual ability, creativity, or a specific academic area. The district shall ensure equal access to a continuum of gifted and talented education services. The identification process shall include consideration of all



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students, including those who are English language learners and those with Individualized Education Plans or 504 Plans. Multiple measures may include,

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~~but are not limited to: achievement test scores; grades; student performance or products; intelligence testing; parent, student, and/or teacher recommendation; and other appropriate measures. The identification methodology will be developmentally appropriate, non-discriminatory, and related to the programs and services offered by the district. The identification procedures will be reviewed annually.~~

The Superintendent or designee will develop and document appropriate curricular and instructional modifications used for gifted and talented students indicating content, process, products, and learning environments, and including, but not limited to, additional education activities such as academic competitions, guest speakers, and lessons with a specialist.

~~The Superintendent or designee will take into consideration the Pre-Kindergarten through Grade Twelve Gifted Programming Standards of the National Association for Gifted Children, Position Statements, and White Papers of the National Association for Gifted Children in identifying and serving gifted and talented students in developing programs for gifted and talented students. The educational program offered to gifted and talented students will encourage and challenge them in the specific areas of their abilities, but will not replace the basic instructional program of the various grades of this district. The program offered to gifted and talented students may include, but are not limited to: pull-out programs; classroom differentiated instruction; acceleration; flexible pacing; compacted curricula; distance learning; advanced classes; or individual programs infused into the student's regular instructional program, provided that a written description of the infusion has been prepared and filed in the student's record.~~

The district will provide the time and resources to develop, review, and enhance instructional tools with modifications for helping gifted and talented students acquire and demonstrate mastery of the required knowledge and skills specified by the standards at the instructional level of the student.

The district will actively assist and support professional development for teachers, educational services staff, and school leaders in the area of gifted and talented instruction.



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Gifted and Talented Students

The district shall file with the New Jersey Department of Education Coordinator for Gifted and Talented Services a report by October 1, 2020 and thereafter on a schedule that coincides with the school district's New Jersey Quality Single Accountability Continuum (QSAC) review pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:7A-11. The report shall include, but not be limited to, the gifted and talented continuum of services, policies, and procedures implemented in the school district; the total number of students receiving gifted and talented services in each grade level Kindergarten through grade twelve disaggregated by race, gender, special education designation, and English language learner designation; the professional development opportunities provided for teachers, educational services staff, and school leaders about gifted and talented students, their needs, and educational development; and the number of staff employed by the school district whose job responsibilities include identification of and providing services to gifted and talented students. Programs for gifted and talented students will be periodically evaluated for their continuing efficacy and adjusted accordingly.

The parent of any student identified as gifted or talented shall be consulted regarding any program designed to address the student's particular needs.

An individual who believes the district has not complied with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:35-34 et seq. may file a complaint with the Board of Education. This policy for filing a complaint shall be linked to the homepage of the Board's Internet website. The Board shall issue a decision, in writing, to affirm, reject, or modify the district's action in the matter. The individual may then file a petition of appeal of the Board's written decision to the Commissioner of Education through the Office of Controversies and Disputes in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:6-9 and the procedures set forth in State Board of Education regulations.



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The district shall make detailed information available on its website regarding the policies and procedures used to identify students as gifted and talented and the continuum of services offered to gifted and talented students. The information shall include the criteria used for consideration for eligibility for the gifted and talented services, including the multiple measures used in the identification process to match a student's needs with services, and any applicable timelines in the identification process.

N.J.S.A. 18A:61A-2; 18A:35-4.16; **18A:35-34 through 39**
N.J.A.C. 6A:8-1.3; 6A:8-3.1(a)5
P.L. 108-382, Sec. 10201 et seq.



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Adopted:

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Seizure Action Plan
Sept 20
M

[See POLICY ALERT No. 221]

5330.05 SEIZURE ACTION PLAN

The Board of Education requires the development of a seizure action plan, an individualized health care plan, and an individualized emergency health care plan for students with epilepsy or a seizure disorder to care for and treat these students while at school pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:40-12.34 et seq.

In accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:40-12.35, the parent of the student with epilepsy or a seizure disorder seeking epilepsy or seizure disorder care while at school shall submit the student's seizure action plan annually to the school nurse.

The school nurse shall develop an individualized health care plan and an individualized emergency health care plan for the student, provided the parents annually provide to the Board written authorization for the provision of epilepsy or seizure disorder care. The school nurse shall update these plans on an annual basis and as necessary in the event there is a change in the health status of the student. These plans shall include the information outlined in N.J.S.A. 18A:40-12.35.

In accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:40-12.35, all staff members including staff working with school-sponsored programs outside the regular school day shall be trained in the care of students with epilepsy and seizure disorders. All school bus drivers, contracted and district-employed, shall be provided notice and information if they are transporting a student with epilepsy or a seizure disorder pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:40-12.36. The school nurse shall obtain a release from the parent of the student to authorize the sharing of medical information in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:40-12.37.

No school employee, including a school nurse, school bus driver, school bus aid, or any other officer or agent of the Board, shall be held liable for any good faith act or omission consistent with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:40-12.34 through N.J.S.A. 18A:40-12.38, nor shall an action before the New Jersey State Board of Nursing lie against a school nurse for any such action taken by a person trained in good faith by the school nurse pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:40-12.34 through N.J.S.A. 18A:40-12.38. Good faith shall not include willful misconduct, gross negligence, or recklessness.



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N.J.S.A. 18A:40-12.34 et seq.

Adopted:

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Cooperative Purchasing
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[See POLICY ALERT Nos. 144, 168 and 221]

6440 COOPERATIVE PURCHASING

The Board of Education recognizes that centralized, cooperative purchasing tends to **may** maximize the value received for each dollar spent. The **Board of Education Administration** is encouraged to seek savings that may accrue to **this the school** district by means of joint agreements for the purchase of goods or services with the governing body of **any the** municipality or **the** county **within** whose boundaries the school district is wholly or partly located, or by means of contracts entered into by the New Jersey State Treasury Department, Division of Purchase and Property.

For the purpose of this Policy, A “cooperative pricing system” **means** is a purchasing system in which the lead agency advertises for bids, awards a master contract to the vendor providing for its own needs **quantities** and for the **estimated quantities submitted by the individual registered members** ~~prices to be extended to registered members, and notifies them of the bid prices awarded.~~ The registered members then contract directly with the vendor for their own needs, subject to the specifications in the master contract.

For the purpose of this Policy, “cooperative purchasing system” means a cooperative pricing system, joint purchasing system, commodity resale system, county cooperative contract purchasing system, or regional cooperative pricing system which has been approved and registered subject to N.J.A.C. 5:34-7.1 et seq.

For the purpose of this Policy, “electronic data processing” means the storage, retrieval, combination, or collation of items of information by means of electronic equipment involving the translation of words, numbers, and other symbolic elements into electrical impulses or currents.

For the purpose of this Policy, A—“joint purchasing system” **means** is a cooperative purchasing system in which the lead agency **serves as the purchasing agent for the membership of the system with all of the duties and responsibilities attendant.** The lead agency advertises for bids and awards a



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single contract to a vendor providing for the payment to the contractor for

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its own needs and for the needs of the participating registered members of the system. ~~The only contractual relationship is between the lead agency and the vendor. has complete purchasing responsibility for the registered members, and the only contractual relationship is between the lead agency and the vendor.~~

For the purpose of this Policy, “lead agency” means the contracting unit which is responsible for the management of the cooperative purchasing system.

For the purpose of this Policy, “registered members” means Boards of Education who have been approved by the Director of the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs for participation in the cooperative purchasing system.

~~A “cooperative purchasing system” is either a joint purchasing or cooperative pricing system.~~

When the lead agency is a Board of Education or Educational Service Commission and the entire membership of the cooperative purchasing system established and properly registered with the New Jersey Division of Local Government Services **in the Department of Community Affairs** are Boards of Education, the **provision and performance of goods or services** ~~purchase of work, materials or supplies~~ shall be conducted pursuant to the Public Schools Contract Law. (N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-11 et seq.)

The **School Business Administrator/Board Secretary** _____ is hereby authorized to negotiate such joint agreements for goods and services which the Board may determine to be required and which the Board may otherwise lawfully purchase for itself with such approved contracting units as may be appropriate in accordance with State law, the policies of this Board, and the dictates of sound purchasing procedures.

In accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-12, a ~~No~~ cooperative or joint purchase agreement(s) shall be entered into by resolution adopted ~~may be entered without Board approval by each participating Board of Education, municipality, or county, and shall set forth of an agreement that specifies the categories of goods or services to be provided or performed work, materials~~



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and supplies to be purchased; the manner of advertising for bids and the awarding of contracts; the method by which of payment will be made by each participating

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Board of Education, municipality or county, and such other **matters** terms deemed necessary to carry out the purposes of the agreement. Agreements for cooperative and joint purchasing will be subject to all bidding requirements imposed by law. Purchases made through the State Treasury Department may be made without bid.

Each participant's share of expenditures for purchases under any such agreement shall be appropriated and paid in the manner set forth in the agreement and in the **same** manner as for other expenses of the participant.

In accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-14.2, tThe Board may by contract or lease provide electronic data processing services for the Board of Education of another school district; and may undertake with such other Board, the joint operation of electronic data processing of their official records and other information relative to their official activities, services and responsibilities. The records and other information originating with any Board participating in such contract or lease may be combined, compiled, and conjoined with the records and other information of any and all participating local units for the purposes of such electronic data processing; and any provisions of law requiring such records to be kept confidential or to be retained by any Board or any officer or agency thereof shall be deemed to be isolated thereby.

A contract or lease to provide electronic data processing services shall set forth the charge for all services provided, or in the case of a joint undertaking the proportion of the cost each party thereto shall assume and specify all the details of the management of the joint undertaking, and any other matters that may be deemed necessary for insertion therein, and may be amended from time to time by the contracting parties **in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-14.3.**

For the purpose of carrying into execution a contract or lease for a joint enterprise under N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-14.4, aAny party to such a contract for joint operation of electronic data processing services may act as agent for any or all parties in acquiring, by lease, purchase or otherwise, any property, facilities or services, in appointing such officers and employees as may be necessary and directing its activities, to the same extent as a Board of Education is authorized to do separately.



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Cooperative Purchasing

In the event that any controversy or dispute shall arise among the parties (except a municipality or a county) to any such **contract agreement**, the same shall be referred to the **Executive** County Superintendent of the county in which the districts are situated for determination and the determination shall be binding, subject to appeal to the Commissioner of Education and the State Board pursuant to law. In the event the districts are in more than one county, the controversy or dispute shall be referred to the **Executive** County Superintendents of the counties for joint determination, and if they shall be unable to agree upon a joint determination within thirty days, the controversy or dispute shall be referred to the Commissioner of Education for determination.

~~In a cooperative purchasing system established and properly registered with the New Jersey Division of Local Government Services where the lead agency is a Board of Education or Educational Service Commission and the membership of the system is Boards of Education and local contracting units as defined in N.J.S.A. 40A:11-2(1), the purchase of any work, materials or supplies shall be conducted pursuant to the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq.) and N.J.A.C. 5:34-7.~~

N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-10 11 through 14
N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq.
N.J.A.C. 5:34-7
N.J.A.C. 6A:23-7.423A-21.5



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Adopted:

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Electronic Funds Transfer and
Claimant Certification
Sept 20
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[See POLICY ALERT No. 221]

6470.01 ELECTRONIC FUNDS TRANSFER AND CLAIMANT CERTIFICATION

The Board of Education permits the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary to use standard electronic funds transfer (EFT) technologies for EFTs for payment of claims pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:30-9A.1 et seq. and 5:31-4.1, implementing N.J.S.A. 40A:5-16.5.

“Electronic funds transfer” for the purpose of Policy and Regulation 6470.01 means any approved method of transferring moneys permitted by N.J.A.C. 5:30-9A.1 et seq. that does not involve the physical presentation of a paper check, draft, or similar paper instrument including, but not limited to, wire transfers, e-checks, automated clearing house (ACH) transfers, and transactions initiated by phone or fax.

In accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:5-16.5.b.(1), the Board of Education authorizes the use of only the forms of standard EFT technologies that are approved to be used by a Board of Education for EFTs for payment of claims. A Board of Education may not utilize procurement cards, charge cards, charge accounts, or any payment services such as PayPal or Venmo.

In accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:5-16.5.b.(2), the Board designates the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary as being responsible for the oversight and administration of the provisions of N.J.S.A. 40A:5-16.5, N.J.A.C. 5:30-9A.1 et seq.; N.J.A.C. 5:31-4.1, and Policy and Regulation 6470.01.

The Board of Education will only initiate and approve electronic funds in accordance with N.J.A.C. 5:30-9A.1 et seq. Standard EFT technologies shall incorporate, at a minimum, the features and safeguards outlined in N.J.A.C. 5:30-9A.4(a). The Board will only utilize standard EFT technologies upon instituting, at a minimum, the fiscal and operational controls outlined in N.J.A.C. 5:30-9A.4(b).



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The School Business Administrator/Board Secretary shall initiate a claim for payment by presenting a claim that has been approved by the Board, to be paid using an EFT technology. The School Business Administrator/Board Secretary

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Electronic Funds Transfer and
Claimant Certification

shall submit the claim for payment with all supporting documentation to the Superintendent of Schools or a designee who is not under the direct supervision of the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, who shall review the claim for payment and authorize, in writing, the EFT claim using an EFT method.

The Board of Education shall annually approve the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary as the person authorized to initiate a claim for payment and the Superintendent of Schools or a designee not under the direct supervision of the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary as the person responsible to review a claim for payment presented by the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary and authorize payment using an approved EFT method.

On no less than a weekly basis, activity reports on all transactions utilizing standard EFT technologies shall be reviewed by an individual designated and approved by the Board that is not under the direct supervision of the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary and is not empowered to initiate or authorize EFTs.

Claimant certification for a Board of Education shall be in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:19-3 and rules promulgated by the New Jersey Department of Education.

Providers of ACH and wire transfer services must be financial institutions chartered by a State or Federal agency, with the further requirement that these financial institutions providing ACH and wire transfer services be covered under the Governmental Unit Deposit Protection Act (GUDPA), N.J.S.A. 17:9-41 et seq.

EFTs through ACH must utilize Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) technology, which provide transaction related details including invoice numbers, pay dates, and other identifying information as appropriate for each transaction. The Board must approve an ACH Origination Agreement with the financial institution(s).

N.J.S.A. 18A:19-3



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N.J.S.A. 40A:5-16.5
N.J.A.C. 5:30-9A.1 et seq.

Adopted:

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[See POLICY ALERT Nos. 96, 214, 217, 218 and 221]

7440 SCHOOL DISTRICT SECURITY

The Board of Education believes the buildings and facilities of the school district represent a substantial community investment. The Board directs the development and implementation of a plan for school district security to protect the school community's investment in the school buildings and facilities. The Board will comply with the security measures required in N.J.S.A. 18A:7G-5.2 for new school construction and for existing school buildings.

The school district security program will include: maintenance of facilities that are secure against unwelcome intrusion; protection against fire hazards and faulty equipment; and compliance with safe practices in the use of electrical, plumbing, heating, and other school building equipment.

The Board shall provide to local law enforcement authorities a copy of the current blueprints and maps for all schools and school grounds within the school district or nonpublic school. In the case of a school building located in a municipality in which there is no municipal police department, a copy of the blueprints and maps shall be provided to an entity designated by the Superintendent of the New Jersey State Police. The Board shall provide revised copies to the applicable law enforcement authorities or designated entities any time that there is a change to the blueprints or maps.

The Board directs close cooperation of district officials with law enforcement, fire officials, and other emergency agencies.

Each public elementary and secondary school building shall be equipped with at least one panic alarm for use in a school security emergency pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:41-10 through 13.



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The Superintendent of Schools shall designate a school administrator, or a school employee with expertise in school safety and security, as a School Safety Specialist for the district in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:17-43.3. The School Safety Specialist shall be required to acquire a New Jersey Department of Education School Safety Specialist certification in

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accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:17-43.2. The School Safety Specialist shall also serve as the school district's liaison with local law enforcement and national, State, and community agencies and organizations in matters of school safety and security.

Access to school buildings and grounds outside the hours school is in session shall be limited to personnel whose employment requires their presence in the facility. An adequate key control system will be established to limit building access to authorized personnel and guard against the potential of intrusion by unauthorized persons who have obtained access improperly.

In accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:7G-5.2.b.(15), propping open doors to buildings on school grounds is strictly prohibited and students and staff shall not open a door for any individual. All persons seeking entry into the main building shall be directed to the main entrance.

Building records and funds shall be kept in a safe place and secured as appropriate and necessary.

Protective devices designed to be used as safeguards against illegal entry and vandalism may be installed when appropriate. The Board may approve the employment of school resource officers, school security officers, and/or law enforcement officers in situations in which special risks are involved.

The school district shall annually conduct a school safety audit for each school building in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:41-14.

N.J.S.A. 18A:7G-5.2; 18A:17-43.1; 18A:17-43.2; 18A:17-43.3;
18A:41-7.1; 18A:41-10; 18A:41-11; 18A:41-12; 18A:41-13; **18A:41-14**
N.J.A.C. 6A:16-1.3; 6A:26-1.2



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Adopted:

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[See POLICY ALERT No. 221]

7450 PROPERTY INVENTORY

~~As steward of this district's school property,~~ The Board of Education recognizes that efficient management and the replacement of lost, damaged, or stolen property depends upon an accurate inventory and properly maintained ~~property~~ records.

~~The Board shall conduct~~ **The district shall maintain** a complete inventory by physical count of all district-owned equipment ~~and supplies through a perpetual inventory.~~

~~For purposes of this policy, "equipment" means a unit of furniture or furnishings, an instrument, a machine, an apparatus, or a set of articles that retains its shape and appearance with use, is nonconsumable, costs at least \$500 as a single unit, and does not lose its identity when incorporated into a more complex unit.~~

For the purpose of this Policy, "equipment" shall mean any instrument, machine, apparatus, or set of articles which meets all of the following criteria and the cost is above \$2,000:

- 1. It retains its original shape, appearance, and character with use;**
- 2. It does not lose its identity through fabrication or incorporation into a different more complex unit or substance;**
- 3. It is nonexpendable; that is, if the item is damaged or some of its parts are lost or worn out, it is more feasible to repair the item than to replace it with an entirely new unit; and**



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4. Under normal conditions of use, including reasonable care and maintenance, it can be expected to serve its principal purpose for at least one year.

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Property Inventory

Unless otherwise bound by Federal, State, or local law, the school district will use the criteria above for their equipment classification decisions.

The **School Business Administrator/Board Secretary or designee** _____ shall ensure that inventories are systematically and accurately recorded and that property records of equipment are adjusted annually. Major items of equipment shall be subject to annual spot check inventory. ~~to determine loss, mislocation, or depreciation;~~ **A** any major loss shall be reported to the Board.

Property records of consumable supplies shall be maintained on a continuous inventory basis. **An item should be classified as a “supply” if it does not meet all the stated equipment criteria outlined above and the cost is not more than the capitalization threshold of \$2,000.**

The **School Business Administrator/Board Secretary or designee** _____ shall maintain a system of property records that show, as appropriate to the item recorded, description and identification, manufacturer, year of purchase, initial cost, location, condition and depreciation, and current evaluation in conformity with insurance requirements.

N.J.S.A. 18A:4-14

~~N.J.A.C. 6:20-4.3~~ **New Jersey Department of Education – “The Uniform Minimum Chart of Accounts for New Jersey Public Schools and Approved Private Schools for Students with Disabilities” 2020-2021 Edition**



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Adopted:

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Use of School Facilities
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[See POLICY ALERT Nos. 196 and 221]

7510 USE OF SCHOOL FACILITIES

The Board of Education believes the school facilities of this district should be made available for community purposes, provided that such use does not interfere with the educational and co-curricular programs of the school district. For the purpose of this policy, "school facilities" also includes school grounds.

The Board will permit the use of school facilities when such permission has been requested in writing and has been approved by the _____ **School Business Administrator/Board Secretary or designee** _____. The Board reserves the right to withdraw permission after it has been granted in the event circumstances change requiring such school facilities or school grounds will be needed for a school district purpose or due to a school closing due to weather or other emergency.

In weighing competing requests for the use of school facilities, the Board will give priority to the following uses, in the descending order given:

Number the following uses in the appropriate order

- 1 Uses and groups directly related to the schools and the operations of the schools, including student and teacher groups;
- 2 Uses and organizations indirectly related to the schools, including the P.T.A., P.T.O., Home-School Association, and other school-parent related organizations;
- 5 Departments and agencies of the municipal government;
- 6 Governmental agencies;
- 4 Community organizations formed for charitable, civic, social, or educational purposes;



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- 7 Community political organizations;
- 3 Community church groups;
- 8 Private groups and organizations;
- _____ (other).

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Use of School Facilities

[Optional – I would include

The use of school facilities will not be granted for the advantage of any commercial or profit-making organization, partisan political activity, or any private social function.]

The use of school facilities will not be granted for any purpose that is prohibited by law.

Each user shall present evidence of the purchase of organizational liability insurance to the limit as prescribed by district regulations. Each user shall inspect any facility or school grounds to be used prior to such use and shall notify a district representative of any existing safety or dangerous conditions. In the event such conditions exist, the district may cancel or modify the user’s access to the school facility until such conditions are addressed. Users shall be financially liable for damage to the facilities and for proper chaperonage as required by the school district administration.

Use of school equipment in conjunction with the use of school facilities must be specifically requested in writing and may be granted in accordance with Policy No. 7520. The users of school equipment must accept liability for any damage or loss to such equipment that occurs while it is in their use, regardless of any assignment of negligence. Where rules so specify, certain items of equipment may only be used by a qualified operator approved by the school district administration.

The Board shall approve annually a schedule of fees for the use of school facilities based upon the following guidelines:

1. The use of school facilities for activities directly related to the educational program and district operations

Optional - Remove

[and use by _____ (list organizations)]



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shall be without cost to the user except that the user shall be responsible for any custodial costs incurred by the use and any fees charged by a law enforcement agency in connection with the use.

2. All other organizations or persons granted the use of school shall pay in advance the scheduled fee and the cost of any additional staff services required by the use.

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Use of School Facilities

The school district shall provide a copy of Policy and Regulation 2431.4 – Prevention and Treatment of Sports-Related Concussions and Head Injuries to all youth sports team organizations that operate on school grounds or in school facilities. In accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:40-41.5, the school district shall not be liable for the injury or death of a person due to the action or inaction of persons employed by, or under contract with, a youth sports team organization that uses school facilities or operates on school grounds if the youth sports team organization provides the school district proof of an insurance policy in the amount of not less than \$50,000 per person, per occurrence; insuring the youth sports team organization against liability for any bodily injury suffered by a person. The youth sports team organization must also provide a statement of compliance with the school district’s Policy and Regulation 2431.4 - Prevention and Treatment of Sports-Related Concussions and Head Injuries.

For the purpose of this Policy, a “youth sports team organization” means one or more sports teams organized pursuant to a nonprofit or similar charter or which are member teams in a league organized by or affiliated with a county or municipal recreation department.

The Board shall provide to all persons who supervise youth programs that are not sponsored by the school district, but operate a program in a district building before or after school hours, on the weekend, or during a period when school is not in session, information on the district’s school practices and procedures in the event of a school safety or security incident at a school including non-confidential information on evacuation procedures, emergency response protocols, and emergency contact information in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:41-7.

The Superintendent shall develop regulations for the use of school facilities; such regulations shall be distributed to every user of the facilities and every applicant for the use of school facilities. Permission to use school facilities shall be granted only to persons and organizations that agree to the terms of Policy and Regulation



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7510, the requirements as outlined in the use of school facilities application, and in accordance with the terms outlined in the approval granted by the school district.

N.J.S.A. 18A:20-20; 18A:20-34; **18A:41-7**

Adopted:

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[See POLICY ALERT Nos. 140, 172, 189, 191 and 221]

8420 EMERGENCY AND CRISIS SITUATIONS

The Board of Education recognizes its responsibility to provide for the safety and security in each school building in the district. The district will develop and implement written plans and procedures to provide for the protection of health, safety, security, and welfare of the school population; the prevention of, intervention in, response to and recovery from emergency and crisis situations; the establishment and maintenance of a climate of civility; and supportive services for staff, students, and their families.

The Superintendent of Schools or designee shall consult with law enforcement agencies, health and social services provider agencies, emergency management planners, and school and community resources, as appropriate, in the development of the school district's plans, procedures, and mechanisms for school safety and security. The plans, procedures, and mechanisms shall be consistent with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:16-5.1 and the format and content established by the Domestic Security Preparedness Task Force, pursuant to N.J.S.A. App. A:9-64 et seq., and the Commissioner of Education and shall be reviewed annually, and updated as appropriate.

A copy of the school district's school safety and security plan shall be disseminated to all school district employees. New employees shall receive a copy of the school district's safety and security plan, as appropriate, within sixty days of the effective date of their employment. All employees shall be briefed in writing, as appropriate, regarding updates and changes to the school safety and security plan.

The school district shall develop and provide an in-service training program for all school district employees to enable them to recognize and appropriately respond to safety and security concerns, including emergencies and crisis, consistent with the school district's plans, procedures, and mechanisms for school



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safety and security and the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:16-5.1. New employees shall receive this in-service training, as appropriate, within sixty days of the effective date of their employment. This in-service training program shall be reviewed annually and updated, as appropriate.

The Board shall ensure individuals employed in the district in a substitute capacity are provided with information and training on the district's

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Emergency and Crisis Situations

practices and procedures on school safety and security including instruction on school security drills, evacuation procedures, and emergency response protocols in the district and the school building where the individuals are employed in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:41-7.

In accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:41-1, at least one fire drill and one school security drill will be conducted each month within school hours, including any summer months, which the school is open for instructional programs. A school security drill means an exercise, other than a fire drill, to practice procedures that respond to an emergency situation including, but not limited to, a non-fire evacuation, lockdown, bomb threat, or active shooter situation that is similar in duration to a fire drill. Schools are required to hold a minimum of two active shooter, non-fire evacuation, bomb threat, and lockdown security drills annually. Fire alarm systems shall be initiated only during a fire drill evacuation. Responses made necessary by the unplanned activation of emergency procedures or by any other emergency shall not be substituted for a required school security drill.

The Principal or designee will provide local law enforcement or other emergency responders, as appropriate, with a friendly notification at least forty-eight hours prior to holding a school security drill. Although these outside agencies are not required to observe school security drills, the Principal is encouraged to invite representatives from local law enforcement and emergency responder agencies to attend and observe at least four different security drills annually.

Such drills and in-service training programs shall be conducted in accordance with a building security drill guide and training materials that educate school employees on proper evacuation and lockdown procedures in a variety of emergency situations on school grounds as provided by the New Jersey Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness.

The school district will be required to annually submit a security drill statement of assurance to the New Jersey Department of Education by June 30 of each school



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year. Each school in the district will be required to complete a security drill record form as required by the New Jersey Department of Education.

N.J.S.A. 2C:33-3

N.J.S.A. 18A:41-1 et seq.; **18A:41-7**

N.J.A.C. 6A:16-5.1; 6A:27-11.2

Adopted:



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Emergency Procedures for **Sports and Other**
Athletic Practices and Competitions Activity

Sept 20

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[See POLICY ALERT Nos. 139, 198 and 221]

R 2431.1 EMERGENCY PROCEDURES FOR SPORTS AND OTHER ATHLETIC PRACTICES AND COMPETITIONS ACTIVITY

A. Definitions

1. **“Athletic Activity” means interscholastic athletics; an athletic contest or competition, other than interscholastic athletics, that is sponsored by or associated with a school district or nonpublic school, including cheerleading and club-sponsored sports activities; and any practice or interschool practice or scrimmage for those activities** ~~“Programs of athletic competition” means all activities relating to competitive sports contests, games, events, or sports exhibitions involving individual students or teams of students when such events occur within or between schools within this district or with any schools outside this district. The programs of athletic competition shall include, but are not limited to, high school interscholastic athletic programs, middle school interscholastic athletic programs where school teams or squads play teams or squads from other school districts, intramural athletic programs within a school or among schools in the district, and any cheerleading program or activity in the school district.~~
2. **“Health personnel” means the school nurse, the school medical inspector, the designated team doctor, a licensed physician, the licensed athletic trainer, and members of the first aid squad or ambulance team.**
3. **“Parent” means the natural parent(s) or adoptive parent(s), legal guardian(s), foster parent(s) or parent surrogate(s) of a student. Where parents are separated or divorced, "parent" means the person or agency who has legal custody of the student, as well as the natural or adoptive parent(s) of the student, provided such parental rights have not been terminated by a court of appropriate jurisdiction.**



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Emergency Procedures for **Sports and Other**
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4. ~~“Student” means a student enrolled in this district and a student enrolled in any district who is present in this district for the purpose of participating in a program of athletic competition sponsored by the Board of Education.~~

B. Precautions

1. All coaches, including assistant coaches, **and all staff who supervise sports and other athletic activity** will be trained in first aid to include sports-related concussions and head injuries, the identification of injured and disabled student athletes, and any other first aid procedures required by statute, administrative code, or by the Superintendent.
2. Athletic coaches **or supervising staff members** are responsible at all times for the supervision of students to whom they have been assigned. Students shall not be left unattended at any time.
3. Students who participate in athletic competition shall be trained in proper athletic procedures, in the proper use of athletic equipment, and in the proper use of protective equipment and clothing.
4. Student athletes shall be required to report promptly to the athletic coach **or supervising staff member** any injury ~~or disability~~ occurring to the student himself/herself or to another student.
5. First aid supplies and equipment shall be readily available at all athletic activities and shall be maintained in proper condition.
6. First aid and emergency medical procedures will utilize universal precautions in handling blood and body fluids as indicated in Policy and Regulation No. 7420 and Regulation No. 7420.1.
7. Health personnel, including but not limited to, the **licensed** athletic trainer, school/team physician, and ambulance/first aid squad may be present at athletic activities and events as determined by the Superintendent.



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Emergency Procedures for **Sports and Other
Athletic Practices and Competitions Activity**

**[Required for School Districts with any of the Grades Six through Twelve
And Optional for School Districts without any Grades Six through Twelve**

C. Emergency Action Plan and Procedures

- 1. The Board of a school district with any of the grades six through twelve shall establish and implement an emergency action plan for responding to a serious or potentially life-threatening sports-related injury in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:40-41.11. The plan shall document the proper procedures to be followed when a student sustains a serious injury while participating in sports or other athletic activity. The plan shall be specific to the activity site, and shall be developed in consultation with local emergency medical services personnel in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:40-41.11.**

- 2. The following emergency action plan procedures shall be established and implemented whenever a student athlete is seriously injured when participating in sports or other athletic activity or disabled in the course of an athletic practice or competition sponsored by this district. The emergency action plan shall include the following:**
 - a. A list of the employees, team coaches, and licensed athletic trainers in each school who are trained in first aid or cardio-pulmonary resuscitation;**

 - b. Identification of the employees, team coaches, or licensed athletic trainers in each school who will be responsible for carrying out the emergency action plan and a description of their respective responsibilities;**

 - c. Identification of the activity location or venue;**

 - d. Identification of the equipment and supplies that may be needed to respond to the emergency, including the location of each item; and**



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Emergency Procedures for **Sports and Other
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- e. **A description of the proper procedures to be followed after a student sustains a serious or life threatening sports-related injury including, but not limited to, responding to the injured student, summoning emergency medical care, assisting emergency responders in getting to the injured student, and documenting the actions taken during the emergency.**
3. **The emergency action plan shall be reviewed annually and updated as necessary. The plan shall be rehearsed annually in each school by the individuals who will be responsible for executing the plan in an emergency pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:40-41.11.**
 4. **The proper procedures to be followed after a student sustains a serious or life-threatening sports-related injury while participating in sports or other athletic activity shall include, but not be limited to, the following components:**
 - a1. **The athletic coach or supervising staff member shall immediately notify the health personnel present at the activity and the health personnel shall assume responsibility for the emergency treatment of the student.**
 - b2. **If no health personnel are present, or if none can be immediately summoned to the student's aid, the athletic coach or supervising staff member shall administer such first aid as may be necessary.**
 - c3. **If the student's injury or disability requires more than routine first aid, the athletic coach or supervising staff member shall:**
 - (1)a. **Summon emergency personnel by calling 911; or**
 - (2)b. **Arrange for the student's transportation to the nearest hospital or the office of the school physician medical inspector.**



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Emergency Procedures for **Sports and Other Athletic Practices and Competitions Activity**

d4. The athletic coach or **supervising staff member** ~~his/her designee~~ shall promptly notify the Building Principal, the Superintendent, and the student's parent(s) ~~or legal guardian(s)~~ of the student's injury ~~or disability~~ and the condition and location of the student.

e5. An injured ~~or disabled~~ student who has been transported away from school premises must be accompanied by the athletic coach **or supervising staff member**, a member of the athletic department, a health professional, or other responsible adult known to the athletic coach **or supervising staff member**.

56. These emergency procedures shall **may** be followed when the injured ~~or disabled~~ student is a member of a visiting team or district. In the event the visiting team has health personnel or staff members present, every effort shall be made to cooperate with the health personnel and/or staff of the district in which the student is enrolled.]

D. Non-Serious or Non-Life-Threatening Injuries During an Athletic Program or Activity

The Superintendent or designee shall prepare procedures for responding to a non-serious or non-life-threatening injury sustained by a student while participating in sports or other athletic activity. These procedures shall be reviewed annually and updated as necessary and shall be disseminated to appropriate staff members.

ED. Reports

1. The athletic coach **or supervising staff member** shall complete and file a report of every injury ~~or disability~~ that occurs to a student in the course of his/her participation in **sports or other athletic activity** ~~the athletic program of this district~~, regardless of the severity of the injury ~~or disability~~. The report shall include:



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Emergency Procedures for **Sports and Other**
~~Athletic Practices and Competitions~~ **Activity**

- a. The date of the incident;
 - b. The name, age, **and** grade level, ~~and gender~~ of each injured or disabled student;
 - c. The district in which the student is enrolled;
 - d. The name and district of each student involved in the incident;
 - e. A narrative account of the incident;
 - f. A detailed description of the injury ~~or disability~~;
 - g. The treatment given on school premises and the names of the health personnel, if any, who treated the student;
 - h. The place, if any, to which the student was taken and the persons who accompanied the student; and
 - i. ~~A memorandum of~~ **How** the notice **was provided** given to the student's parent(s) ~~or legal guardian(s)~~.
2. Copies of the report shall be filed with the school nurse and the Building Principal within twenty-four hours or by the end of the next school day after the incident.
 3. The Building Principal shall report the incident to the Superintendent, who may report the incident to the Board.
 4. A copy of each report of an incident of student injury ~~or disability~~ that occurs in the course of **the sport or other** athletic activities shall be maintained by the ~~athletic director~~ **Principal or designee**, who shall analyze reports for patterns that indicate a need for revision of the district's safety and/or athletics program. The ~~athletic director~~ **Principal or designee** shall report the findings of his/her analysis to the Superintendent **on an annual basis** ~~at the close of each sport season~~.



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Emergency Procedures for **Sports and Other
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5. The parent(s) or legal guardian(s) of each injured or disabled student will be given assistance in the completion and filing of insurance claim forms.

FE. Readmission to Athletic Activities

A student **who sustains a serious or potentially life-threatening injury while participating in a** ~~injured or disabled in the course of sport or an other~~ athletic activity will be permitted to **resume** ~~participate in~~ athletic competition ~~only on the~~ **upon submission of** written permission **medical clearance of from the student's medical home, which shall be subject to review by school district health personnel** ~~the school medical inspector or designated team doctor, who must first examine the student to determine his/her fitness to participate in athletics.~~ Written notice of that determination, **approved** signed by the school **health personnel** ~~medical inspector or designated team doctor~~ as appropriate, shall be given to the student's parent(s) or legal guardian(s).

The prevention and treatment of suspected sports-related concussions and head injuries shall be in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:40-41.1 et seq. and Policy and Regulation 2431.4.

Adopted:



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Seizure Action Plan
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[See POLICY ALERT No. 221]

R 5330.05 SEIZURE ACTION PLAN

A. Definitions (N.J.S.A. 18A:40-12.34)

1. “Individualized emergency health care plan” means a document developed by the school nurse, in consultation with the parent of a student with epilepsy or a seizure disorder and other appropriate medical professionals, which is consistent with the recommendations of the student’s health care providers and which provides specific actions for non-medical school staff to do in a particular emergency situation and is signed by the parent or guardian and the school nurse.
2. “Individualized health care plan” means a document developed by the school nurse, in consultation with the parent of a student with epilepsy or a seizure disorder and other appropriate medical professionals who may be providing epilepsy or seizure disorder care to the student, which is consistent with the recommendations of the student’s health care providers and which sets out the health services needed by the student at school and is signed by the parent or guardian and the school nurse.
3. “School” means an elementary or secondary public school located within this State.
4. “School employee” means a person employed by a school district.
5. “Seizure action plan” means a comprehensive document provided by the student’s physician, advanced practice nurse, or physician’s assistant which includes, but is not limited to, information regarding presentation of seizures, seizure triggers, daily seizure medications, seizure first aid, and additional treatments.



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B. Annual Submission of Student's Seizure Action Plan (N.J.S.A. 18A:40-12.35)

1. The parent of a student with epilepsy or a seizure disorder who seeks epilepsy or seizure disorder care for the student while at school shall annually submit to the school nurse the student's seizure action plan.
2. The school nurse shall develop an individualized health care plan and an individualized emergency health care plan for the student, provided that the parents of the student annually provide to the Board of Education written authorization for the provision of epilepsy or seizure disorder care.
3. The individualized health care plan and individualized emergency health care plan, developed in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:40-12.35, shall be annually updated by the school nurse and as necessary in the event there is a change in the health status of the student.
4. Each individualized health care plan shall include, and each individualized emergency health care plan may include, the following information:
 - a. Written orders from the student's physician or advanced practice nurse outlining the epilepsy or seizure disorder care;
 - b. The symptoms of the epilepsy or seizure disorder for that particular student and recommended care;
 - c. Full participation in exercise and sports, and any contraindications to exercise, or accommodations that must be made for that particular student;
 - d. Accommodations for school trips, after-school activities, class parties, and other school-related activities;



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- e. Education of all school personnel about epilepsy and seizure disorders, how to recognize and provide care for epilepsy and seizure disorders, and when to call for assistance;
 - f. Medical and treatment issues that may affect the educational process of the student with epilepsy or the seizure disorder;
 - g. The student's ability to manage, and the student's level of understanding of, the student's epilepsy or seizure disorder; and
 - h. How to maintain communication with the student, the student's parent and health care team, the school nurse, and the educational staff.
5. The Superintendent or designee shall coordinate the provision of epilepsy and seizure disorder care at school and ensure that all staff are trained in the care of students with epilepsy and seizure disorders, including staff working with school-sponsored programs outside of the regular school day.
6. The training required pursuant to B.5. above shall include a Department of Health approved on-line or in-person course of instruction provided by a nonprofit national organization that supports the welfare of individuals with epilepsy and seizure disorders.
- C. Information Provided to Bus Driver (N.J.S.A. 18A:40-12.36)
1. In the event a school bus driver transports a student with epilepsy or a seizure disorder, the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary or designee shall provide the driver with:
 - a. A notice of the student's condition;
 - b. Information on how to provide care for epilepsy or the seizure disorder;



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- c. Emergency contact information;
- d. Epilepsy and seizure disorder first aid training; and
- e. Parent contact information.

D. Release to Share Medical Information (N.J.S.A. 18A:40-12.37)

- 1. The school nurse shall obtain a release from the parent of a student with epilepsy or a seizure disorder to authorize the sharing of medical information between the student's physician or advanced practice nurse and other health care providers.
 - a. The release shall also authorize the school nurse to share medical information with other staff members of the school district as necessary.

Adopted:



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[See POLICY ALERT No. 221]

R 6470.01 ELECTRONIC FUNDS TRANSFER AND CLAIMANT CERTIFICATION

A. Definitions – N.J.S.A. 40A:5-2 and N.J.A.C. 5:30-9A.2

For the purpose of Policy and Regulation 6470.01:

"Automated clearing house (ACH) transfer" means an electronic funds transfer initiated by the Board of Education authorizing a banking institution to push funds from the Board of Education bank account(s) into a vendor or claimant's bank account, executed through the ACH electronic clearing and settlement system used for financial transactions.

"Board of Education" means a Board of Education as defined by the "Public School Contracts Law," N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-1 et seq.

"Charge account" or "charge card" means an account, linked to a credit card issued by a specific vendor to which goods and services may be charged on credit, that must be paid when a statement is issued.

"Check" means the instrument by which moneys of the Board of Education are disbursed.

"Chief Executive Officer" means the Superintendent of Schools.

"Chief Financial Officer" means the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary.

"Claimant certification" or "vendor certification" means verification of claims pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:19-3.

"Disbursement" means any payment of moneys, including any transfer of funds, by any means.



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"Electronic Data Interchange (EDI)" means technology that provides transaction related details, including invoice number(s), pay dates, and other identifying information as appropriate for each transaction.

"Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT)" means any approved method of transferring moneys permitted by N.J.A.C. 5:30-9A.1 et seq. that does not involve the physical presentation of a paper check, draft, or similar paper instrument including, but not limited to, wire transfers, e-checks, automated clearing house (ACH) transfers, and transactions initiated by phone or fax.

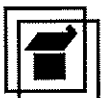
"Electronic Funds Transfer and Indemnification Agreement" means a signed legally binding indemnification agreement renewed on an annual basis between a Board of Education and a banking institution authorized to conduct business in New Jersey, which authorizes that institution to access bank accounts for the purpose of conducting EFTs through the ACH operating system.

"Governing body" means the Board of Education.

"Internal controls" means fiscal and operational controls that ensure safe and proper use of a standard EFT system and mitigate the potential for fraud and abuse. For purpose of N.J.A.C. 5:30-9A.1 et seq., internal controls shall include technological safeguards and cyber security practices, as well as processes affected by the governing body, management, and other personnel establishing fiscal and operational controls that reduce exposure to risk of misappropriation.

"Local Unit" means any county, municipality, special district, or any public body corporate and politic created or established under any law of this State by or on behalf of any one or more counties or municipalities, or any board, commission, department, or agency of any of the foregoing having custody of funds, but shall not include a school district.

"National Automated Clearing House Association (NACHA) file" means a file, formatted to NACHA specifications, which contains instructions for transferring funds between accounts.



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"Payment documentation" means such documentation, including evidence of approvals and certifications, as is required by N.J.S.A. 40A:5-16.b, 40A:5-17, and 18A:19.1 et seq., and N.J.A.C. 5:30-9A.1 et seq. prior to the legal paying out of moneys.

"Procurement card" or "P-card" means an account or physical card that represents an account governed by characteristics specific to a procurement card. These characteristics include limits of time, amount, access, and purchase category controlled by the local unit, local authority, or county college in accordance with an agreement with an issuer. While such cards may have the appearance of a credit card, such as Visa, MasterCard, American Express, or Discover, such general-purpose cards do not feature the controls that procurement cards have and as such are not permitted under N.J.A.C. 5:30-9A.1 et seq. A "Procurement card" or "P-card" may not be used by a Board of Education.

"Reconciliation of activity" means the process used to determine that all transactions utilizing standard EFT technologies are accurate, authorized, and allocable to encumbered appropriations.

"Standard electronic funds transfer technologies" means technologies that facilitate the transfer of funds, other than a transaction originated by check, draft, or similar paper instrument, initiated by means such as, but not limited to, an electronic terminal, telephone, computer, or magnetic tape for the purpose of ordering, instructing, or authorizing a financial institution to debit or credit an account, and incorporate, at a minimum, internal controls set forth in rules promulgated by the Local Finance Board. No general purpose credit or debit card shall be considered a standard EFT technology.

"Supervisory review" means the process performed by an individual in a supervisory capacity to confirm the propriety and accuracy of standard EFT technologies use initiated by subordinates.

"Transaction" means any activity that may result in demand for payment.



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“Warrant” means the draft or check of any Board of Education used in warranting disbursement of moneys and shall, in every instance, be evidenced by the issuance of a check of the Board of Education. In no instance shall it be necessary for the Board of Education to refer to, or issue, a check separate and distinct from the warrant.

B. Authorization to Use Standard Electronic Funds Transfer Technologies for Electronic Funds Transfers – N.J.A.C. 5:30-9A.3

1. The Board of Education adopts Policy and Regulation 6470.01 to permit the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary to use only the forms of standard EFT technologies that are approved for New Jersey Boards of Education for EFTs for payment of claims pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:30-9A.1 et seq. and 5:31-4.1, implementing N.J.S.A. 40A:5-16.5.

a. A Board of Education may not utilize procurement cards, charge cards, charge accounts, or any payment services such as PayPal or Venmo.

2. N.J.A.C. 5:30-9A.1 et seq. does not authorize a Board of Education to exceed the maximum bid thresholds or other limits set forth in the Public School Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-1 et seq.

3. Providers of ACH and wire transfer services are to be financial institutions chartered by Federal or State authority. ACH and wire transfer services must be provided by a financial institution covered by the Governmental Unit Deposit Protection Act (GUDPA), N.J.S.A. 17:9-41 et seq.

C. Standard Electronic Funds Transfer Technologies; Internal Controls and Conditions for Use – N.J.A.C. 5:30-9A.4

1. The Board of Education will only initiate and approve electronic funds in accordance with N.J.A.C. 5:30-9A.1 et seq. Standard EFT technologies shall incorporate, at minimum, the following features and safeguards:



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- a. The ability to designate specific individuals able to initiate disbursements, barring those not authorized to initiate disbursements from doing so.
 - (1) The Board of Education designates and approves the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary to be responsible to initiate a claim for payment using an EFT method that has been duly approved in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:19-1 et seq. and Policy and Regulation 6470.01.
 - (2) Each claim for payment approved or ratified by the Board shall indicate any payment made using an EFT technology, the type of EFT technology that will or has been utilized in paying the claim, along with a reference that permits tracking.
- b. The ability to designate individuals who may authorize disbursement and segregate initiation and authorization functions. Password or other security controls shall be in place to restrict access based on an individual's authorized role.
 - (1) The School Business Administrator/Board Secretary shall initiate a claim for payment by presenting a claim that has been approved by the Board, to be paid using an EFT technology. The School Business Administrator/Board Secretary shall submit the claim for payment with all supporting documentation to the Superintendent of Schools or a designee who is not under the direct supervision of the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary.



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- (2) The Superintendent of Schools or a designee who is not under the direct supervision of the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary shall review the claim for payment and authorize, in writing, the EFT claim that was initiated by the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary before the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary pays the claim using an EFT method.
 - (a) The School Business Administrator/Board Secretary will not pay a claim using an EFT method without written authorization from the Superintendent of Schools or the designee.
 - (3) The Board of Education shall annually approve the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary as the person responsible to initiate a claim for payment and the Superintendent of Schools or the designee not under the direct supervision of the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary as the person responsible to review a claim for payment presented by the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary and authorize the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary to make the payment using an EFT method.
 - (4) The Superintendent of Schools or the designee shall ensure passwords and security codes are in place to restrict access based on an individual's role.
- c. The ability to confirm receipt of payment by vendor.
- (1) The School Business Administrator/Board Secretary shall receive confirmation from the vendor an EFT payment has been received by the vendor. Documentation supporting receipt of an EFT payment received by a vendor shall be included with the claim's supporting documentation.



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- d. The ability to bar automatic debits from Board of Education accounts.
 - (1) The School Business Administrator/Board Secretary shall require all banking institutions approved by the Board of Education prohibit any automatic debits from any Board of Education bank account as each individual disbursement to a vendor must be preceded by instructions submitted to the bank.

- e. The ability for appropriate officials to view transaction history, generate activity reports, and conduct supervisory reviews of all transactions.
 - (1) On no less than a weekly basis, the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary shall prepare an Activity Report on all EFT-based transactions.

 - (2) All Activity Reports prepared by the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary shall be submitted and reviewed by an employee or non-employee (i.e. school auditor, accountant, Board President, etc.) approved annually by the Board of Education who is not under the direction of the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary and who is not empowered to authorize EFT transactions.

 - (3) The Activity Report shall include, but not be limited to:
 - (a) The name of the payee;

 - (b) The Board approval date approving the payment of the claim;

 - (c) The fund and account the payment is being paid from;



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- (d) The technology utilized in each EFT transaction; and
 - (e) The date of payment.
- (4) A copy of all Activity Reports shall be provided to the Board of Education at the first regular monthly Board meeting following any EFT transactions.
- (5) All EFT Activity Reports and evidence of the review by the employee or non-employee (i.e. school auditor, accountant, etc.) designated and approved annually by the Board of Education who is not under the direction of the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary and who is not empowered to authorize EFT-based transactions are to be maintained and available for audit by the Board of Education's independent auditor.
- (6) The School Business Administrator/Board Secretary or designee shall perform a monthly reconciliation of the reviewed/approved weekly EFT Activity Reports of the EFT transactions appearing on bank statements and in the accounting records (i.e. general ledger, bank reconciliations, list of bills approved by Board, etc.).
- (a) Evidence to support the performance of this monthly review must be maintained by the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary and available for audit by the Board of Education's independent auditor.
- f. The ability to back-up transaction data and store such data offline.
- (1) The School Business Administrator/Board Secretary shall ensure all EFT transaction data is backed-up and stored offline.



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- (a) However, any ACH file that is in plain text format must not be stored on a Board of Education's local computer past the time the file is transmitted to the bank.
- g. Measures to mitigate risk of duplicate payment.
 - (1) The School Business Administrator/Board Secretary shall ensure an EFT payment is not duplicated by any other means.
 - (2) More than one EFT payment to the same vendor ratified or approved for payment by the Board of Education will be reviewed by the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary prior to payment to ensure there is no duplicate or multiple payments for the same goods or services.
- h. The creation and maintenance of an audit trail, such that transaction history, including demands for payment and payment initiation, authorization, and confirmation, can be independently tracked and detailed through the use of an EDI or functional equivalent.
 - (1) The Board of Education's EDI or functional equivalent will have the ability to create and maintain the required audit trail.
- i. The following cyber security best practice framework shall be followed:
 - (1) Any system supporting a standard EFT shall:
 - (a) Be hosted on dedicated servers or in a FedRAMP Moderate Impact Level Authorized Cloud. When using cloud services, the vendor shall check provider credentials and contracts;



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- (b) Encrypt stored and transmitted financial information and personal identification information;
 - (c) Maintain only critical personal identification information. Social Security numbers shall not be utilized as identification numbers for system purposes;
 - (d) Employ a resilient password policy;
 - (e) Undergo regular and stress testing;
 - (f) Have regular security updates on all software and devices carried out;
 - (g) Have back-up plans, information disposal, and disaster recovery procedures created and tested;
 - (h) Undergo regular security risk assessments for detecting compromises, along with regular monitoring for vulnerabilities, with necessary patches and updates being implemented; and
 - (i) Develop a Cybersecurity Incident Response Plan.
- (2) The managing organization shall:
- (a) Check provider credentials and contracts when using cloud services;
 - (b) Educate staff in good security measures and perform employee background checks; and
 - (c) Create a computer security incident response team, generally called a CSIRT.



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- j. Financial institution providers of standard EFT technologies shall provide annual evidence of satisfactory internal control to the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary;
 - k. ACH payments shall follow rules set forth by the National Automated Clearing House Association (NACHA) or an equivalent successor banking industry standard. In addition, the following safeguards shall be instituted:
 - (1) All EFTs through the ACH must utilize EDI technology and be subject to an Electronic Funds Transfer and Indemnification Agreement;
 - (2) A user that can generate an ACH file shall neither have upload rights nor access that permits editing of a vendor routing number or vendor account number;
 - (3) Each edit to vendor ACH information shall be approved by a separate individual and be logged showing the user editing the data, date stamp, IP address, and the approval of the edit;
 - (4) Any ACH file that is in plain text format shall not be stored on a local computer past the time transmitted to a bank; and
 - (5) If supported by the Board of Education's financial institution(s), said entities shall avail themselves of the ability to recall ACH payments via NACHA file.
2. The Board of Education will only utilize standard EFT technologies upon instituting, at a minimum, the following fiscal and operational controls:



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- a. Policy and Regulation 6470.01 shall be adopted authorizing and governing the use of standard EFT technologies consistent with N.J.A.C. 5:30-9A.1 et seq.;
- b. The School Business Administrator/Board Secretary shall ensure that the minimum internal controls set forth in N.J.A.C. 5:30-9A.1 et seq., along with those internal controls set forth in Policy and Regulation 6470.01 are in place and being adhered to;
- c. Initiation and authorization roles shall be segregated, and password-restricted.
 - (1) The School Business Administrator/Board Secretary shall be responsible for initiating all EFTs.
 - (2) When the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary initiates an EFT, the Superintendent or a designee not under the direct supervision of the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary shall be responsible for authorization of the EFT.
 - (a) The School Business Administrator/Board Secretary will not pay a claim using an EFT method without written authorization from the Superintendent of Schools or the designee.
 - (3) The Board of Education may designate and approve a backup officer/staff member in the event the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary or Superintendent or a designee not under the direct supervision of the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary who is approved to authorize the EFT payment is unavailable.



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- (4) All payment of claims, ordinances, or resolutions enacted pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:5-17.b shall, at a minimum, comply with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 5:30-9A.4.
 - (5) N.J.A.C. 5:30-9A.4 shall not be interpreted to prevent a Board of Education from requiring, authorizing, and approving more than one officer to authorize an EFT.
- d. No Board of Education shall disburse funds unless the goods and services are certified as having been provided pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:19-1 et seq. and N.J.A.C. 5:30-9A.1 et seq.
 - e. On no less than a weekly basis, Activity Reports on all transactions utilizing standard EFT technologies shall be reviewed by an individual designated and approved by the Board that is not under the direct supervision of the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary and is not empowered to initiate or authorize EFTs.
 - (1) Reconciliations shall be performed on a monthly basis.
 - (2) All Activity Reports generated by the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary shall be monitored by another individual designated and approved by the Board who is not under the supervision of the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary.
 - f. A user that uploads an ACH file shall check the amounts and recipients against a register displaying ACH payments.
- D. Claimant Certification; When Payment Can Be Made Without Claimant Certification - N.J.A.C. 5:30-9A.6



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1. Claimant certification for a Board of Education shall be in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:19-3 and rules promulgated by the New Jersey Department of Education.

E. Automated Clearing House (ACH) Transactions

1. Providers of ACH and wire-transfer services must be financial institutions chartered by a State or Federal agency, with the further requirement that financial institutions providing ACH and wire transfer services be covered under the GUDPA, N.J.S.A. 17:9-41 et seq.
2. ACH payments shall follow rules set forth by the National Automated Clearing House Association (NACHA) or equivalent successor banking industry standard.
3. EFTs through ACH must utilize EDI technology which provides transaction related details including invoice numbers, pay dates, and other identifying information as appropriate for each transaction.
4. The Board of Education must approve an ACH Origination Agreement with the financial institution(s).
5. Users authorized to generate an ACH file shall neither have upload rights nor access permitting editing of a vendor routing number or vender account number.
6. Each edit to vendor ACH information must be approved by a separate individual and be logged showing the user editing the data, date stamp, IP address, and the approval of the edit.
7. Any user uploading an ACH file shall check the amounts and recipients against a register displaying ACH payments.
8. If supported by the financial institution, the Board of Education shall avail itself of the ability to recall ACH payments via NACHA file.

Adopted:



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[See POLICY ALERT Nos. 96, 214, 217, 218 and 221]

R 7440 SCHOOL DISTRICT SECURITY

A. Definitions

“Access” means authorized access to a school building or school grounds through the use of a Board-approved key control system.

“Key control system” means the use of a key, card, code, or any other means to disengage a locking mechanism to provide entry to a school building or school grounds.

“Panic alarm” means a silent security system signal generated by the manual activation of a device intended to signal a life-threatening or emergency situation requiring a response from law enforcement.

“School buildings” and “school grounds” means and includes land, portions of land, structures, buildings, and vehicles, when used for the provision of academic or extracurricular programs sponsored by the school district or community provider and structures that support these buildings, such as school district wastewater treatment facilities, generating facilities, and other central service facilities including, but not limited to, kitchens and maintenance shops. “School buildings” and “school grounds” also includes athletic stadiums; swimming pools; any associated structures or related equipment tied to such facilities including, but not limited to, grandstands; night field lights; greenhouses; garages; facilities used for non-instructional or non-educational purposes; and any structure, building, or facility used solely for school administration. “School buildings” and “school grounds” also includes other facilities such as playgrounds; and other recreational places owned by local municipalities, private entities, or other individuals during those times when the school district has exclusive use of a portion of such land in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:16-1.3 and 6A:26-1.2.



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B. Access to School Buildings and School Grounds

1. Access to school buildings and grounds during the school day will be permitted to all students enrolled in the school, all authorized school staff members, and visitors pursuant to Policy and Regulation 9150.
2. Access to school buildings and grounds before and after the school day will be permitted to:
 - a. Members of the Board of Education;
 - b. Administrative and supervisory staff members, teaching staff members, and support staff members assigned to a school building or grounds in the performance of their duties;
 - c. Other school staff members in the performance of their professional responsibilities;
 - d. Students involved in interscholastic athletics, co-curricular or extra-curricular activities, and authorized spectators;
 - e. Members of organizations granted the use of school premises pursuant to Policy and Regulation 7510;
 - f. Police officers, fire fighters, health inspectors, and other agents of Federal, State, and local government in the performance of their official duties;
 - g. Members of the public present to attend a public Board of Education or public school-related function; and
 - h. Others authorized by the Superintendent or designee and/or by Board Policy.



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3. All visitors to a school building during a school day will be required to register their presence in the school and comply with the provisions of Policy and Regulation 9150. The school's registration and sign-in procedures may include the use of a school visitor management system requiring the visitor to present acceptable identification to access the school building.
 4. Signs will be conspicuously posted to inform visitors of the requirement to register their presence into the building.
- C. Key Control System for Access to School Buildings and Facilities
1. School staff members will be provided access to a school building using the school's key control system as follows:
 - a. Teaching staff members and support staff members will be provided access using the school's key control system to the school building and to other facilities on school grounds to which they require access for the performance of their professional duties.
 - (1) The Building Principal will determine the school staff members who shall be provided access to facilities within the school building and on school grounds.
 - (2) The Superintendent or designee will determine the district administrators, supervisors, and other staff members who shall be provided access to facilities within the school building and on school grounds.
 2. School staff members provided access to a school building or other facilities on school grounds shall be responsible for ensuring their key control system authorization is not shared with another individual without prior approval of the Principal or designee for school staff members, or the Superintendent or designee for district staff members. Staff members are prohibited from permitting their key control system authorization to be used by another person



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unless prior approval is obtained from the Principal or designee at the building level and Superintendent or designee at the district level or in the event of an emergency.

3. A staff member's loss of a key, card, or any other device authorizing the staff member access to a school building or a facility on school grounds must be immediately reported to the Principal or Superintendent or designee. The staff member who loses a key, card, or any such access device may be responsible for the replacement cost.
- D. School Building Panic Alarm or Emergency Mechanisms (N.J.S.A. 18A:41-10 through 13)
1. Each public elementary and secondary school building shall be equipped with at least one panic alarm for use in a school security emergency including, but not limited to, a non-fire evacuation, lockdown, or active shooter situation.
 2. The alarm shall be directly linked to local law enforcement authorities or, in the case of a school building located in a municipality in which there is no municipal police department, a location designated by the Superintendent of the New Jersey State Police.
 3. The alarm shall be capable of immediately transmitting a signal or message to such authorities outlined in D.2. above upon activation.
 4. The alarm shall not be audible within the school building.
 5. Each panic alarm required under N.J.S.A. 18A:41-11 and Policy and Regulation 7440 shall:
 - a. Adhere to nationally recognized industry standards, including the standards of the National Fire Protection Association and Underwriters Laboratories; and
 - b. Be installed solely by a person licensed to engage in the alarm business in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 45:5A-27.



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6. The school district may equip its elementary and secondary school buildings with an emergency mechanism that is an alternative to a panic alarm if the mechanism is approved by the New Jersey Department of Education.
- E. Staff Member Responsibilities
1. Staff members should not bring to school valuable personal items that cannot be in the staff member's personal possession at all times. The Board of Education is not responsible for a staff member's personal possession in the event the item is lost, stolen, misplaced, damaged, or destroyed.
 2. In the event a staff member observes a student has a valuable item in school, the staff member will report it to the Principal or designee. A valuable item may include, but is not limited to, an unusually large amount of money, expensive jewelry or electronic equipment, or any item that is determined by the Principal or designee to be valuable to a student based on the student's age.
 - a. The Principal or designee may contact the student's parent and request the parent come to school to retrieve the valuable item;
 - b. The Principal or designee may secure the valuable item and return it to the student at the end of the school day and inform the student and the parent not to bring the valuable item to school in the future; or
 - c. The Principal or designee will permit the student to maintain the valuable item and inform the student and the parent not to bring the valuable item to school in the future.
 - d. The Board of Education is not responsible for a student's personal possession in the event the item is lost, stolen, misplaced, damaged, or destroyed when in the possession of the student.



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3. Teaching staff members shall close classroom windows and shut and lock classroom doors when leaving at the end of the school day; shut and lock classroom doors during the school day when the room is not going to be in use after their assignment, and report immediately to the Principal or designee any evidence of tampering or theft.
 4. Custodians shall, at the end of the work day, conduct a security check of the building to make certain that all windows are closed and all office, classroom, and building doors are shut and locked, except as such doors may be required to be open for persons with access.
 5. Office personnel shall take all reasonable precautions to ensure the security of all school and district records and documents against unauthorized access, deterioration, and destruction.
- F. School Safety Specialist
1. The Superintendent of Schools shall designate a school administrator, or a school employee with expertise in school safety and security, as a School Safety Specialist for the district in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:17-43.3.
 2. The School Safety Specialist shall:
 - a. Be responsible for the supervision and oversight for all school safety and security personnel, policies, and procedures in the school district;
 - b. Ensure that these policies and procedures are in compliance with State law and regulations; and
 - c. Provide the necessary training and resources to school district staff in matters relating to school safety and security.
 3. The School Safety Specialist shall also serve as the school district's liaison with law enforcement and national, State, and community agencies and organizations in matters of school safety and security.



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School District Security

4. The School Safety Specialist shall be required to acquire a New Jersey Department of Education School Safety Specialist Certification in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:17-43.2.
- G. **Summoning Law Enforcement Authorities**
1. Law enforcement authorities will be summoned promptly whenever evidence is discovered that indicates: a crime has been committed on school premises or in the course of staff or student transportation to or from school; a break and entry may have occurred on school grounds; a deadly weapon is on school premises; a breach of the peace has occurred on school premises; for any reason required in the Memorandum of Understanding between the Board of Education and Law Enforcement and in accordance with Policy and Regulation 9320; or for any other reason there is concern about the health, safety, and welfare of persons on school grounds or school property.
 2. Anytime law enforcement agents are summoned in accordance with G.1. above, the Superintendent will be notified as soon as possible.
- H. **Annual School Safety Audit for Each School Building**
1. **The district shall annually conduct a school safety audit for each school building using the checklist developed by the New Jersey Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness in collaboration with the Department of Education pursuant to section H.2. below.**
 - a. **The district shall submit the completed audit to the New Jersey Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness and the Department of Education in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:41-14.a.**



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Use of School Facilities
Sept 20
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[See POLICY ALERT Nos. 196 and 221]

R 7510 USE OF SCHOOL FACILITIES

A. Classification of Users

Organizations and individuals using school facilities will be classified as Class I, II, or III users as follows:

1. Class I users will be given priority for the use of school facilities over other users and may use school district facilities without payment of a use fee or charge for custodial and service (fuel, water, and electricity) costs. Class I users include the following organizations and individuals:

Uses and groups directly related to the schools and the operations of the schools, including student and teacher groups;

Uses and organizations indirectly related to the schools, including the P.T.A., P.T.O., Home-School Association, and other school-parent related organizations;

2. Class II users will be given priority for the use of school facilities over Class III users and may use school district facilities without payment of a use fee but will be charged custodial and service costs. Class II users include the following organizations and individuals:

Community church groups;

Community organizations formed for charitable, civic, social, or educational purposes;

Departments and agencies of the municipal government;

Governmental agencies;

3. Class III users will be given lowest priority for the use of school facilities and may use school district facilities only on payment of a use fee and charges for custodial and service costs. Class III users include the following organizations and individuals:

Community political organizations;

Private groups and organizations;



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4. No other organizations or individuals will be permitted to use school facilities.

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Use of School Facilities

B. Application Procedures

1. Application must be made in writing and on the form supplied by the school district. The form is available in the office of the Board
2. Application for use of school facilities must be submitted to the _____ **School Business Administrator/Board Secretary or designee** _____ not less than _____ 30 _____ working days before the date of the requested use. A use that requires the approval of the Board must be submitted not less than _____ 15 _____ working days prior to a regular Board meeting and not less than _____ 30 _____ working days before the date of the requested use.
3. The application must be signed by an adult representative of the requesting organization, who will be considered by the Board to be the agent of the organization.
4. The application must include all the facilities that the applicant wishes to use and all the dates and times of the requested use. Approval of any application is limited to the facilities, dates, and times expressly requested on the application. Approval does not include the privilege of additional rehearsal time or the use of rooms or buildings not expressly requested.
5. The application must include all the equipment and supplies that the applicant wishes to include in the use, pursuant to Policy No. 7520, Loan of School Equipment.

C. Approval

1. The _____ **School Business Administrator/Board Secretary or designee** _____ will review each application and check the school calendar to determine whether the facility requested is available at the date and time requested, that is, the facility has not been scheduled
 - a. For use in the instructional or co-curricular program,



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- b. For maintenance, repair, or capital improvement, or
- c. For use by another organization.



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Use of School Facilities

2. If the facility is not available for use, the _____ **School Business Administrator/Board Secretary or designee** _____ will so inform the representative of the organization and may suggest alternative dates, times, or facilities.
3. If the facility is available for use and the applicant meets the standards set by Policy No. 7510 and these regulations, the _____ **School Business Administrator/Board Secretary or designee** _____ will note his/her approval on the application form and will record the classification of the applicant organization and forward the application to the _____ Superintendent _____ for final approval or for referral to the Board for requests that may be approved only by the Board.
4. Standards for approval include the following limitations on use:
 - a. School facilities are available for use only on weekdays, including school vacations.

[Select one option below

- ___ School facilities are not available for use on Saturdays, Sundays, and other public holidays.
- ___ School facilities may be available for use on ___ Saturdays ___X_ Saturdays and Sundays ___ Saturdays, Sundays, and other public holidays depending on appropriate and adequate custodial coverage.]
- b. School facilities are available for use only during the hours of ___4___ p.m. and ___9___ p.m. Permission may be granted for a use up to ___11___ p.m., provided the user pays an overtime fee regardless of the user's classification. School facilities are not available for use during the school day or for any use that may interfere with the school district's educational or co-curricular programs.



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- c. The use of school facilities will generally not be granted for observances or celebrations that are essentially private in nature or for meetings of small groups that can conveniently convene in private homes.

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- d. In accordance with Policy No. 7510, the use of school facilities will not be granted for the advantage of any commercial or profit-making organization or partisan political activity, or any purpose that is prohibited by law.
5. The _____ School Business Administrator/Board Secretary or designee _____ will determine the classification (I, II, or III) of the applicant organization and the fees and costs, if any, to be charged for the use of the facility. This information will be provided on the application form.
6. In the event of a conflict between requesting organizations within the same class, the request received earlier by the district will be honored first.
7. A copy of each approved or disapproved application will be distributed to the representative who signed the application form.
8. The application form will include the rules governing the use of school facilities, and the representative's signature on the application will signify notice of those rules and the organization's agreement to be bound by those rules.
9. The Board reserves the right to deny an application and to withdraw permission to use school facilities after approval has been granted and after the use has commenced. Permission may specifically be withdrawn from any organization whose representative has willfully made misrepresentation on the application or whose members violate the rules established for the use of school facilities. Such withdrawal of permission may constitute grounds for denying a future application made by the organization.
10. Permission to use school facilities is not transferable.
11. The organization representative must inform the _____ School Business Administrator/Board Secretary or designee



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_____ of any canceled use request as soon as he/she is aware of the cancellation. An organization's failure to inform the _____ **School Business Administrator/Board Secretary or designee** _____ of a canceled use at least _____ 5 _____ working days in advance of the scheduled time of the use may result in imposition of service charges.

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Use of School Facilities

12. Permission to use a school facility is automatically withdrawn on a day when the facility is closed for inclement weather, work stoppage, or other emergency.

D. Insurance and Indemnification

1. The representative of an organization granted permission to use a school facility must assume responsibility for the orderly and careful use of the facility and must agree to assume liability for any damage or loss of property caused by the use or in the course of the use.
2. The organization and/or its representative will hold the Board of Education harmless from claims arising out of the permitted use of the school facility or during the user's occupancy. In addition, the user shall agree to save the Board harmless from liability for injury or damage to any person or property of any person who may be attending or participating in the function or activity for which permission has been granted.
3. The user shall furnish evidence of the purchase of liability insurance in the amount of
 - a. \$ _____ 1,000,000 _____ per person,
 - b. \$ _____ 1,000,000 _____ per accident or event, and
 - c. \$ _____ 1,000,000 _____ property damage.
4. Any youth sports team organization that is granted permission to use school facilities must provide the school district proof of an insurance policy against liability for any bodily injury in the amount of not less than \$50,000 per person per occurrence, insuring the youth sports team organization against liability for any



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bodily injury suffered by a person. The youth sports team organization must also provide a statement of compliance with the school district's Policy and Regulation 2431.4 - Prevention and Treatment of Sports-Related Concussions and Head Injuries, which will be provided to the adult representative of the requesting organization with the application to use school facilities.

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Use of School Facilities

For the purpose of this Policy, a "youth sports team organization" means one or more sports teams organized pursuant to a nonprofit or similar charter or which are member teams in a league organized by or affiliated with a county or municipal recreation department.

E. Rules for the Use of School Facilities

1. Users of school facilities will be bound by the law.
 - a. Users must comply strictly with all applicable statutes; municipal ordinances; and rules of the Board of Health, Fire Department, and Police Department regarding public assemblies.
 - b. The use must not exceed the established capacity of the facility used.
 - c. The use must not involve gambling or games of chance.
 - d. The use, possession, and/or distribution of alcohol and/or controlled dangerous substances is absolutely prohibited, in accordance with law and Policy Nos. 5530 and 7435.
 - e. Smoking is prohibited in accordance with Policy No. 7434.
 - f. School facilities cannot be used for any purpose prohibited by law or likely to result in rioting, disturbance of the peace, damage to property or for the purpose of defaming others.
2. Users of school facilities will respect Board property.
 - a. The user will not damage, destroy, or deface school property. The facility shall be used with care and left in an orderly and neat condition.



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- b. The user must request in the application and receive permission to bring and use equipment, decorations, or materials to the school facility. No equipment, decorations, or materials may be nailed to floors, walls, windows, woodwork, curtains or fixtures or affixed to the same in any manner that defaces or damages school property or grounds.

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Use of School Facilities

- c. Any equipment, scenery, decorations, or other material brought to the school facility and any debris caused by the use or remaining after the use must be promptly removed by the user. Any such materials left on school premises beyond the time period approved in the application may be removed by the Board at the user's expense. The Board assumes no liability for damage to or loss of materials brought to school facilities.
- d. The user must request in the application and receive permission to use, move, or tune a district piano. A piano may be moved only by school district staff or by a competent and experienced commercial mover approved by the Board and at the expense of the user. Any piano that has been moved must be returned to its original placement with the same care and at the expense of the user.
- e. Users of the gymnasium must ensure that all participants wear rubber-soled footwear to prevent damage to floors.
- f. No school facility may be used for a purpose in conflict with the purpose for which the facility was designed.
- g. Lighting equipment, ventilation systems, and thermostatic controls may be operated only by an employee of the district.
- h. The user must request in the application and receive permission to serve and consume food and/or beverages on school premises. The service and consumption of food and/or beverages is strictly limited to the area for which permission is granted. If food and/or beverages are served, the user must clean all utensils, equipment, serving dishes,



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and the like and restore the facility to its proper condition. The user may not consume food or beverages or use supplies purchased with public funds.

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Use of School Facilities

- i. No signs, posters, advertisements, or other displays may be placed in a school building without prior approval.
 - j. No school keys shall be issued to a user.
 - k. No animal shall be allowed on school premises without prior approval.
 - l. An authorized school district staff member shall examine the school facilities and/or grounds after the use and will inform the user of any loss or damage that must be corrected.
 - m. Permission to use school facilities extends only to the facility requested. Users are not entitled to enter health offices, administrative offices, storage closets, or any other room to which permission to use has not been expressly granted. Users are not permitted to use district telephones, word processors, and office equipment.
 - n. No vehicles of any type shall be operated in any area that is not designed for such vehicles without prior permission.
3. Uses Must be Properly Supervised.
- a. A school custodian must be on duty during the entire time a use occurs. The custodian is present for the purpose of insuring the security and proper functioning of the facility and of enforcing these regulations. The custodian is paid by the Board and may not accept gratuities from users. If the custodian is needed to perform extra services as an accommodation to the user, the user may be charged an



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additional fee and the custodian will be compensated accordingly by the district.

- b. The use of certain school facilities (such as kitchen and auditorium stage) require the services of school employees trained in the use of the facility. The user will be charged an additional fee and the school employee will be compensated accordingly by the district.

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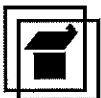
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- c. The user must assume full responsibility for the conduct of all participants in the use while they are in or about school buildings and grounds and must enforce these regulations. The user must provide an adequate number of persons to supervise participants in the activity. The district, depending on the activity, may require as a condition of approval, a certain number of chaperones, law enforcement officials, and/or a school district representative(s) to be present at the activity.
- d. The user must, in consultation with the Principal, anticipate the need for the assistance of police officers, fire fighters, and/or parking attendants. All such services must be arranged by the user and will be at the expense of the user. When a user refuses or fails to secure police, fire, and/or parking assistance after having been advised to do so by the Principal, the Principal may recommend that permission to use the facility be withdrawn.
- e. Board members and school officials are entitled to full and free access to any part of the school premises during any use. No user may exclude a Board member or school official from a school facility for any reason.

F. Fee Schedule

1. Class I users will not be charged a fee or costs for the use of schools, except that special charges for the specific services of school employees rendered pursuant to paragraph E3a and paragraph E3b will be billed.
2. Class II users will not be charged a facility fee, but will be charged



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- a. For the specific services of school employees rendered pursuant to paragraph E3a and paragraph E3b, if any, and
- b. For service costs of the use as follows:
Custodial costs: _____ \$40 per/hour _____

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3. Class III users will be charged the costs charged Class II users (paragraph F2a and paragraph F2b) and the following facility fee for each four hours' use.

<u>Facility</u>	<u>Fee</u>
Elementary school auditorium	\$ <u> 2,000 </u>
Elementary school gymnasium	\$ <u> 2,000 </u>
Elementary school cafeteria	\$ <u> 1,000 </u>
Elementary school classroom	\$ <u> 500 </u>

4. An itemized bill for the use of school facilities will be prepared based on the approved application form. The bill will be sent to the representative of the applicant organization in advance of the use and payment may be requested in advance of the use.

G. Provision of Training on School Safety and Security

1. **In accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:41-7.c., the Board of Education shall provide to all persons who supervise youth programs that are not sponsored by the school district, but operate a program in a district building before or after school hours, on the weekend, or during a period when school is not in session, information on the district's school practices and procedures in the event of a school safety or security incident at a school including non-confidential information on evacuation procedures, emergency response protocols, and emergency contact information.**

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Use of School Facilities

2. **It shall be the responsibility of the organization that sponsors the youth program to train the program's employees and volunteers on the school security and emergency procedures in effect in the school building in which the youth program is located.**

3. **The organization that sponsors the youth program shall file a statement of assurance with the Superintendent or designee that it has complied with the training requirements prior to the district authorizing the use of the school building.**
 - a. **The statement of assurance shall be developed by the Commissioner of Education and shall be filed with the school district on an annual basis.**

Issued:

