The Board of Education shall provide resource materials to implement district and school educational goals and objectives as pupil needs dictate and district resources permit. Such materials include reference books, other supplementary titles, maps, library print and non-print materials, and other sources of information for use by pupils that are not designated as textbooks.

#### Preview of Materials

#### Procedure:

- 1. Staff members must meet with the building administrator, Director of Curriculum or Supervisor of Instruction before requesting materials from vendors.
- 2. If approved by an administrator, a plan for preview will be created.
- 3. Only administrators will contact sales representatives/vendors to order samples and request quotes.

The Superintendent shall be responsible for the selection and maintenance of all resource materials, in accordance with the following standards:

- 1. Material will be suited to the varied interests, abilities, reading levels, and maturation levels of the pupils to be served;
- 2. Wherever possible, materials will provide major opposing views on controversial issues so that pupils may develop under guidance the practice of critical reading and thinking;
- 3. Wherever possible, materials will represent the many religious, ethnic, and cultural groups and their contribution to American heritage;
- 4. Materials will be factually accurate and of genuine literary or artistic value;
- 5. Materials will be of a quality and durability appropriate to their intended uses and longevity;
- 6. Materials will relate to, support, and enrich the courses of study adopted by the Board.

The Superintendent will develop regulations for the selection of resource materials that provide for the effective consultation of teaching staff members at all appropriate levels; ensure that the Board's budgetary allotment for resource materials is efficiently spent and wisely distributed throughout the instructional program and the district; and ensure an inventory of resource materials that is well balanced and well rounded in coverage of subject, types of materials, and variety of content.

The Superintendent will evaluate the continuing effectiveness and utility of resource materials and recommend to the Board the removal of those materials that no longer meet the standards set forth in this policy. Any request for the removal of resource materials will be governed by Policy No. 9130 on public complaints.

Adopted: 20 November 2014

Revised (First Reading): April 29, 2021

#### 6421 - PURCHASES BUDGETED (Regulation)

#### A. Definitions

- 1. "Purchasing agent" means the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary or the Business Manager of the Board of Education duly assigned the authority, responsibility and accountability for the purchasing activity of the Board and having the power to prepare advertisements, to advertise for and receive bids and to award contracts as permitted by this chapter, but if there be no School Business Administrator/Board Secretary or Business Manager, such officer, committees or employees to whom such power has been delegated by the Board.
- 2. "Extraordinary unspecifiable services" means services which are specialized and qualitative in nature requiring expertise, extensive training and proven reputation in the field of endeavor.
- 3. "Professional services" means services rendered or performed by a person authorized by law to practice a recognized profession and whose practice is regulated by law and the performance of which services requires knowledge of an advanced type in a field of learning acquired by a prolonged formal course of specialized instruction and study as distinguished from general academic instruction or apprenticeship and training. Professional services may also mean services rendered in the provision or performance of goods or services that are original and creative in character in a recognized field of artistic endeavor.
- 4. "Aggregate" means the sums expended or to be expended for the provision or performance of any goods or services in connection with the same immediate purpose or task, or the furnishing of similar goods or services, during the same contract year through a contract awarded by a purchasing agent.
- 5. "Bid threshold" means the dollar amount set in N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-3, above which a Board shall advertise for and receive sealed bids in accordance with procedures set forth in N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-1 et seq.
- 6. "Contract year" means the period of twelve consecutive months following the award of a contract.
- 7. "Competitive contracting" means the method described in sections 45 through 49 of P.L.1999, c.440 (C.18A:18A-4.1 through C.18A:18A-4.5) of contracting for specialized goods and services in which formal proposals are solicited from vendors; formal proposals are evaluated by the purchasing agent or counsel or School Business Administrator; and the Board awards a contract to a vendor or vendors from among the formal proposals received.

- 8. "Goods and services" or "goods or services" means any work, labor, commodities, equipment, materials, or supplies of any tangible or intangible nature, except real property or any interest therein, provided or performed through a contract awarded by a purchasing agent, including goods and property subject to N.J.S.A. 12A:2-101 et seq.
- 9. "Library and educational goods and services" means textbooks, copyrighted materials, pupil produced publications and services incidental thereto, including but not limited to books, periodicals, newspapers, documents, pamphlets, photographs, reproductions, microfilms, pictorial or graphic works, musical scores, maps, charts, globes, sound recordings, slides, films, filmstrips, video and magnetic tapes, other printed or published matter and audiovisual and other materials of a similar nature, necessary binding or rebinding of library materials, and specialized computer software used as a supplement or in lieu of textbooks or reference material.
- 10. "Lowest price" means the least possible amount that meets all requirements of the request of a purchasing agent.
- 11. "Lowest responsible bidder or vendor" means the bidder or vendor: (1) whose response to a request for bids offers the lowest price and is responsive; and (2) who is responsible.
- 12. "Official newspaper" means any newspaper designated by the Board pursuant to R.S.35:1-1 et seq.
- 13. "Purchase order" means a document issued by the purchasing agent authorizing a purchase transaction with a vendor to provide or perform goods or services to the Board, which, when fulfilled in accordance with the terms and conditions of a request of a purchasing agent and other provisions and procedures that may be established by the Board, will result in payment by the Board.
- 14. "Quotation" means the response to a formal or informal request made by a purchasing agent to a vendor for provision or performance of goods or services, when the aggregate cost is less than the bid threshold. Quotations may be in writing, or taken verbally if a record is kept by the purchasing agent.
- 15. "Responsible" means able to complete the contract in accordance with its requirements, including but not limited to requirements pertaining to experience, moral integrity, operating capacity, financial capacity, credit, and workforce, equipment, and facilities availability.
- 16. "Responsive" means conforming in all material respects to the terms and conditions, specifications, legal requirements, and other provisions of the request.
- 17. "Concession" means the granting of a license or right to act for or on behalf of the Board, or to provide a service requiring the approval or endorsement of the Board, and which may

- or may not involve a payment or exchange, or provision of services by or to the Board, provided that the term concession shall not include vending machines.
- 18. "Proprietary" means goods or services of a specialized nature, that may be made or marketed by a person or persons having the exclusive right to make or sell them, when the need for such goods or services has been certified in writing by the Board to be necessary for the conduct of its affairs.
- 19. "Service or services" means the performance of work, or the furnishing of labor, time, or effort, or any combination thereof, not involving or connected to the delivery or ownership of a specified end product or goods or a manufacturing process. Service or services may also include an arrangement in which a vendor compensates the Board for the vendor's right to operate a concession.
- B. All purchasing for the school district will be conducted under the authority of the purchasing agent as defined in N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-2.b. and as designated by the Board.
- C. Any contract, the amount of which exceeds the bid threshold, shall be negotiated and awarded by the Board by resolution at a public meeting without public advertising for bids and bidding therefor if the subject matter thereof consists of:
  - 1. Professional services. The Board will in each instance state supporting reasons for its action in the resolution awarding each contract and shall forthwith cause to be printed once, in an official newspaper, a brief notice stating the nature, duration, service and amount of the contract, and that the resolution and contract are on file and available for public inspection in the office of the Board;
  - 2. Extraordinary unspecifiable services which cannot reasonably be described by written specifications. The Board will in each instance state supporting reasons for its action in the resolution awarding the contract for extraordinary unspecifiable services and shall forthwith cause to be printed, in the manner set forth in C.1. above a brief notice of the award of such contract;
  - 3. The doing of any work by employees of the Board;
  - 4. The printing of all legal notices; and legal briefs, records and appendices to be used in any legal proceeding in which the Board may be a party;
  - 5. Library and educational goods and services;
  - 6. Food supplies, including food supplies for home economics classes, when purchased pursuant to rules and regulations of the State Board and in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-6;

- 7. The supplying of any product or the rendering of any service by a public utility, which is subject to the jurisdiction of the Board of Public Utilities, in accordance with the tariffs and schedules of charges made, charged and exacted, filed with said Board;
- 8. The printing of bonds and documents necessary to the issuance and sale thereof by a Board;
- 9. Equipment repair service if in the nature of an extraordinary unspecifiable service and necessary parts furnished in connection with such services, which exception shall be in accordance with the requirements for extraordinary unspecifiable services;
- 10. Insurance, including the purchase of insurance coverage and consultant services, which exception shall be in accordance with the requirements for extraordinary unspecifiable services;
- 11. Publishing of legal notices in newspapers as required by law;
- 12. The acquisition of artifacts or other items of unique intrinsic, artistic or historic character;
- 13. Those goods and services necessary or required to prepare and conduct an election;
- 14. The doing of any work by persons with disabilities employed by a sheltered workshop;
- 15. Expenses for travel and conferences;
- 16. The provision or performance of goods or services for the support or maintenance of proprietary computer hardware and software, except that this provision shall not be utilized to acquire or upgrade non-proprietary hardware or acquire or update non-proprietary software;
- 17. Purchases of goods and services at rates set by the Universal Service Fund administered by the Federal Communications Commission;
- 18. Goods and services paid with funds that: are raised by or collected from pupils to support the purchase of pupil oriented items or materials, such as yearbooks, class rings, and a class gift; and are deposited in school or pupil activity accounts; and require no budget appropriation from the Board;
- 19. Food services provided by food service management companies pursuant to procedures established by the New Jersey Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Child Nutrition Programs;
- 20. Vending machines providing food or drink.
- D. Any contract, the amount of which exceeds the bid threshold, shall be negotiated and awarded by the Board by resolution at a public meeting without public advertising for bids and bidding therefor

- 1. If the contract is to be made or entered into with the United States of America, the State of New Jersey, county or municipality or any Board, body, officer, agency, authority or Board or any other State or subdivision thereof.
- 2. Bids have been advertised pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-4 on two occasions and
  - a. No bids have been received on both occasions in response to the advertisement, or
  - b. The Board has rejected such bids on two occasions because it has determined that they are not reasonable as to price, on the basis of cost estimates prepared for or by the prior to the advertising therefor, or have not been independently arrived at in open competition, or
  - c. On one occasion no bids were received pursuant to a. above and on one occasion all bids were rejected pursuant to b. above, in whatever sequence; any such contract may then be negotiated and may be awarded upon adoption of a resolution by a two-thirds affirmative vote of the authorized membership of the Board authorizing such a contract; provided, however, that:
    - (1) A reasonable effort is first made by the Board to determine that the same or equivalent goods or services, at a cost which is lower than the negotiated price, are not available from an agency or authority of the United States, the State of New Jersey or of the county in which the Board is located, or any municipality in close proximity to the Board;
    - (2) The terms, conditions, restrictions and specifications set forth in the negotiated contract are not substantially different from those which were the subject of competitive bidding pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-4; and
    - Any minor amendment or modification of any of the terms, conditions, restrictions and specifications which were the subject of competitive bidding pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-4 shall be stated in the resolution awarding the contract; provided further, however, that if on the second occasion the bids received are rejected as unreasonable as to price, the Board will notify each responsible bidder submitting bids on the second occasion of its intention to negotiate, and afford each bidder a reasonable opportunity to negotiate, but the Board shall not award such contract unless the negotiated price is lower than the lowest rejected bid price submitted on the second occasion by a responsible bidder, is the lowest negotiated price offered by any responsible vendor, and is a reasonable price for such goods or services.
- 3. Whenever the Board determines that a bid was not arrived at independently in open competition pursuant to subsection c.(2) of N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-5, it shall thereupon notify the county prosecutor of the county in which the Board is located and the Attorney General of the facts upon which its determination is based, and when appropriate, it may institute

appropriate proceedings in any State or federal court of competent jurisdiction for a violation of any State or federal antitrust law or laws relating to the unlawful restraint of trade.

4. The Board has solicited and received at least three quotations on materials, supplies or equipment for which a State contract has been issued pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-10, and the lowest responsible quotation is at least 10% less than the price the Board would be charged for the identical materials, supplies or equipment, in the same quantities, under the State contract. Any such contract will be entered into in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-5.e. and may be made, negotiated or awarded only upon adoption of a resolution by the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the full membership of the Board at a meeting thereof authorizing such a contract or agreement.

#### E. Quotations

- 1. For all contracts that in the aggregate are less than the bid threshold but fifteen percent or more of that amount, and for those contracts that are for subject matter enumerated in subsection a. of N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-5, except for paragraph (1) of that subsection concerning professional services and paragraph (3) of that subsection concerning work by employees of the Board, the purchasing agent shall award the contract after soliciting at least two competitive quotations, if practicable. The award shall be made to a vendor whose response is most advantageous, price and other factors considered. The purchasing agent shall retain the record of the quotation solicitation and shall include a copy of the record with the voucher used to pay the vendor.
- 2. When in excess of the bid threshold, and after documented effort by the purchasing agent to secure competitive quotations, a contract for extraordinary unspecifiable services may be awarded when the purchasing agent has determined in writing that solicitation of competitive quotations is impracticable. Any such contract shall be awarded by resolution of the Board.
- 3. Whenever two or more responses to a request of a purchasing agent offer equal prices and are the lowest responsible bids or proposals, the Board may award the contract to the vendor whose response, in the discretion of the Board, is the most advantageous, price and other factors considered. In such a case, the award resolution or purchase order documentation shall explain why the vendor selected is the most advantageous.

### F. Requisitions

- 1. A requisition for goods and/or services may be originated by any school district employee who perceives a need for such goods and/or services, only with prior approval of an administrator.
- 2. The requisitioner will prepare and sign a requisition form, filling in the following information:

- a. Description and quantity of item or service desired;
- b. Unit price and total amount (actual or estimated) of proposed purchase;
- c. Desired brand or vendor;
- d. The building, program, subject, or class in which the goods or service will be used;
- e. The name and title of the requisitioner; and
- f. The date on which the requisition is filed.
- 3. Requisitions for lost or stolen equipment must be accompanied by an explanatory report.
- 4. The requisitioner will retain a copy of the requisition form. Copies of the requisition form will be filed with the Principal or the appropriate supervisor administrator for consideration approval.
- 5. The Principal or immediate supervisor will determine:
  - a. The need for the requisitioned goods or services;
  - b. Whether the desired goods or services are presently available elsewhere in the district or are available without cost from another source;
  - c. The appropriateness of the proposed expenditure;
  - d. Whether the requisition can be combined with others for greater efficiency and economy;
  - e. Whether the originator's needs can be better met by an alternate purchase; and
  - f. Whether uncommitted funds remain in the budget allocations to the school or program, sufficient to cover the proposed expenditure.
- 6. A requisition not approved by the Principal or immediate supervisor will be returned to the requisitioner with the reason for its rejection.
- 7. When approval is given, the Principal or immediate supervisor will sign and date the requisition, indicate the account to be charged, retain the duplicate copy, and file the original with the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, for approval.
- 8. A requisition that originates with a Principal, immediate supervisor, or central office administrator must be approved by the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary.

9. If the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary denies approval of a requisition approved or originated by a Principal, immediate supervisor, or central office administrator, he or she will so notify the approver or originator with the reason for the denial.

#### G. Purchase Orders

- Before a purchase order is prepared for an approved requisition, the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary shall determine whether:
  - a. The proposed purchase is exempt from bid in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-5;
  - b. If appropriate, vendors" quotations have been solicited in accordance with F above;
  - c. The requisition can be processed without resort to advertisement for bid or solicitation of quotations; or
  - d. The proposed purchase is in excess of the bid threshold and may be Competitively Contracted in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-4.5.
- 2. A requisition that is not exempt from bid shall be submitted to the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary for advertisement.
- 3. Approved requisitions must be authorized as follows:
  - a. If within the budget and not subject to bid, authorized by the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary;
  - b. If within the budget and subject to bid, authorized by a Board resolution awarding a contract after bid;
  - c. If not in the budget or in excess of the line item allocation, authorized by the Board or, as permitted by Policy No. 6422 between Board meetings, by the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary.
- 4. To prepare a purchase order, the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary shall
  - a. Verify and enter the account to which the purchase will be assigned;
  - b. Assign a purchase order number to the expenditure;
  - c. Verify and enter the name and address of the vendor;
  - d. Verify and enter the description of the goods and/or services, including, as appropriate, the quality standards of the goods sought;

- e. Verify as necessary, by telephone call to the vendor or by reference to a catalog, and enter the unit cost of the goods and/or services;
- f. Extend and total costs:
- g. Check that the requisition has been properly approved and authorized; and
- h. Determine and enter the desired delivery date and any necessary delivery instructions.
- 5. Each purchase order will be completed in full and forwarded to the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary for approval and signature.
- 6. The School Business Administrator/Board Secretary shall encumber the appropriate account in the amount of the purchase order.
- 7. Copies of the purchase order will be distributed as required.
- 8. A purchase order may be issued to confirm an oral order given to a vendor under bona fide emergency circumstances, pursuant to Policy No. 6422. A confirmation order will be so designated.
- 9. Open purchase orders may be written for vendors who regularly provide the school district with certain goods and/or services. Any open purchase order may be exempt from the requirement for bidding, must specify a "not to exceed" amount, and must be closely monitored to determine that the aggregate amount of goods and/or services does not exceed the bid threshold in any twelve month period.

#### H. Payment

Purchases will be paid in accordance with Policy No. 6470 and Regulation No. 6470.

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## **POLICY**

### HASBROUCK HEIGHTS BOARD OF EDUCATION

PROGRAM 2624/page 1 of 1 Grading System/Policy

#### 2624 GRADING SYSTEM/POLICY

The Board of Education recognizes that a system of measuring, recording, and reporting the achievements of individual pupils is important to the continuing process of learning. The Board, therefore, directs the instructional program of this school district include a system of grading that measures progress toward the New Jersey Core Curriculum Content and Common Core Standards New Jersey Student Learning Standards (NJSLS) and the educational goals of the district.

Pupils shall be informed at the outset of any course of study of the behaviors and achievements that are expected of them and shall be kept informed of their progress during the course of study. As a rule, grading should reward pupils for positive efforts and minimize failure, and pupils should be encouraged to evaluate their own achievements.

The Superintendent shall develop and continually review in consultation with teaching staff members, parent(s) or legal guardian(s), and pupils, a grading program appropriate to the course of study and maturity of pupils. The final decision on any contested grade will be the responsibility of the Principal. A pupil classified as disabled will be graded in accordance with his/her Individualized Educational Program (IEP) or the Section 504 Plan.

Adopted: 20 November 2014

Revised (First Reading): April 29, 2021



TEACHING STAFF MEMBERS
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Evaluation of Teachers
May 17
M

[See POLICY ALERT Nos. 181, 201, 207 and 212]

#### R 3221 EVALUATION OF TEACHERS

#### A. Definitions – N.J.A.C. 6A:10-1.2

The following words and terms shall have the following meanings when used in Policy and Regulation 3221 unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

"Announced observation" means an observation in which the person conducting an observation for the purpose of evaluation will notify the teacher of the date and the class period the observation will be conducted.

"Annual performance report" means a written appraisal of the teacher's performance prepared by the teacher's designated supervisor based on the evaluation rubric for his or her position.

"Annual summative evaluation rating" means an annual evaluation rating that is based on appraisals of educator practice and student performance, and includes all measures captured in a teacher's evaluation rubric. The four summative performance categories are ineffective, partially effective, effective, and highly effective.

"Calibration" in the context of educator evaluation means a process to monitor the competency of a trained evaluator to ensure the evaluator continues to apply an educator practice instrument accurately and consistently according to the standards and definitions of the specific instrument.

"Chief School Administrator" means the Superintendent of Schools or the Administrative Principal if there is no Superintendent.

"Commissioner" means Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Education.

"Co-observation" means two or more supervisors who are trained on the practice instrument who observe simultaneously, or at alternate times, the same lesson or portion of a lesson for the purpose of training.



"Corrective Action Plan" means a written plan developed by the designated supervisor in collaboration with the teacher to address deficiencies as outlined in an evaluation. The corrective action plan shall include timelines for corrective action, responsibilities of the individual teacher and the school district for implementing the plan, and specific support that the district shall provide as defined in N.J.S.A. 18A:6-119.

"Department" means the New Jersey Department of Education.

"Designated supervisor" means the supervisor designated by the Superintendent of Schools or designee as the teacher's supervisor.

"District Evaluation Advisory Committee" means a group created to oversee and guide the planning and implementation of the Board of Education's evaluation policies and procedures as set forth in N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2.3.

"Educator practice instrument" means an assessment tool that provides: scales or dimensions that capture competencies of professional performance; and differentiation of a range of professional performance as described by the scales, which must be shown in practice and/or research studies.

"Evaluation" means an appraisal of an individual's professional performance in relation to his or her job description and professional standards and based on, when applicable, the individual's evaluation rubric.

"Evaluation rubric" means a set of criteria, measures, and processes used to evaluate all teachers in a specific school district or local education agency. Evaluation rubrics consist of measures of professional practice, based on educator practice instruments, and student outcomes. Each Board of Education will have an evaluation rubric specifically for teachers, another specifically for Principals, Vice Principals, and Assistant Principals, and evaluation rubrics for other categories of teaching staff members.

"Indicators of student progress and growth" means the results of assessment(s) of students as defined in N.J.A.C. 6A:8, Standards and Assessment.

"Individual professional development plan" is as defined in N.J.S.A. 18A:6-119.



"Job description" means a written specification of the function of a position, duties and responsibilities, the extent and limits of authority, and work relationships within and outside the school and school district.

"Observation" means a method of collecting data on the performance of a teacher's assigned duties and responsibilities. An observation for the purpose of evaluation will be included in the determination of the annual summative evaluation rating and shall be conducted by an individual employed in the school district in a supervisory role and capacity and possessing a school administrator, Principal, or supervisor endorsement as defined in N.J.A.C. 6A:9-2.1.

"Post-observation conference" means a meeting, either in-person or remotely, between the supervisor who conducted the observation and the teacher for the purpose of evaluation to discuss the data collected in the observation.

"Scoring guide" means a set of rules or criteria used to evaluate a performance, product, or project. The purpose of a scoring guide is to provide a transparent and reliable evaluation process. Teacher practice instruments include a scoring guide that an evaluator uses to structure his or her assessments and ratings of professional practice.

"Semester" means half of the school year.

"Signed" means the name of one physically written by oneself or an electronic code, sound, symbol, or process attached to or logically associated with a record and executed or adopted by a person with the intent to sign the record.

"Student growth objective" means an academic goal that teachers and designated supervisors set for groups of students.

"Student growth percentile" means a specific metric for measuring individual student progress on Statewide assessments by tracking how much a student's test scores have changed relative to other students Statewide with similar scores in previous years.

"Superintendent" means Superintendent of Schools or Chief School Administrator.

"Supervisor" means an appropriately certified teaching staff member, as defined in N.J.S.A. 18A:1-1, or Superintendent employed in the school district in a supervisory role and capacity, and possessing a school



administrator, Principal, or supervisor endorsement as defined in N.J.A.C. 6A:9B-12.

"Teacher" means a teaching staff member who holds the appropriate standard, provisional, or emergency instructional certificate issued by the Board of Examiners and is assigned a class roster of students for at least one particular course.

"Teacher practice instrument" means an assessment tool that provides: scales or dimensions that capture competencies of professional performance; and differentiation of a range of professional performance as described by the scales, which must be shown in practice and/or research studies. The scores from the teacher practice instrument are components of the teacher's evaluation rubrics and the scores are included in the summative evaluation rating for the individual.

"Unannounced observation" means an observation in which the person conducting an observation for the purpose of evaluation will not notify the teacher of the date or time the observation will be conducted.

B. Applicability of Rules on Collective Bargaining Agreements – N.J.A.C. 6A:10-1.3

The rules in N.J.A.C. 6A:10-1.1 et seq. shall not override any conflicting provision(s) of collective bargaining agreements or other employment contracts entered into by a school district in effect on July 1, 2013. No collective bargaining agreement entered into after July 1, 2013, shall conflict with the educator evaluation system established pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:10-1.1 et seq. or any other specific statute or regulation, nor shall topics subject to bargaining involve matters of educational policy or managerial prerogatives.

C. Educator Evaluation Data, Information, and Annual Performance Reports – N.J.A.C. 6A:10-1.4

All information contained in annual performance reports and all information collected, compiled, and/or maintained by employees of the Board of Education for the purposes of conducting the educator evaluation process pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:10-1.1 et seq., including, but not limited to, digital records, shall be confidential. Such information shall not be subject to public inspection or copying pursuant to the Open Public Records Act, N.J.S.A. 47:1A-1 et seq. Nothing contained in N.J.A.C. 6A:10-1.1 et seq. shall be construed to prohibit the Department or a school district from, at its discretion, collecting evaluation data pursuant to



N.J.S.A. 18A:6-123.e or distributing aggregate statistics regarding evaluation data.

- D. Evaluation of Teachers N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2.1
  - 1. The Board of Education annually shall adopt evaluation rubrics for teachers. The evaluation rubrics shall have four defined annual ratings: ineffective, partially effective, effective, and highly effective.
  - 2. The evaluation rubrics for teachers shall include all other relevant minimum standards set forth in N.J.S.A. 18A:6-123 (P.L. 2012, c. 26, § 17c).
  - 3. Evaluation rubrics shall be submitted to the Commissioner by June 1 for approval by August 1 of each year.
- E. Duties of the Board of Education N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2.2
  - 1. The Board of Education shall meet the following requirements for the annual evaluation of teachers, unless otherwise specified:
    - a. Establish a District Evaluation Advisory Committee to oversee and guide the planning and implementation of the Board of Education's evaluation policies and procedures as set forth in N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2 et seq.;
    - b. Annually adopt policies and procedures developed by the Superintendent pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2.4, including the evaluation rubrics approved by the Commissioner pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2.1(c):
      - (1) The Superintendent shall develop policies and procedures that, at a minimum, ensure student performance data on the Statewide assessment is, upon receipt, promptly distributed or otherwise made available to teaching staff members who were primarily responsible for instructing the applicable students in the school year in which the assessment was taken, as well as to teaching staff members who are or will be primarily responsible for instructing the applicable students in the subsequent school year.
    - c. Ensure the Superintendent annually notifies all teachers of the adopted evaluation policies and procedures no later than October 1. If a teacher is hired after October 1, the Board/Superintendent shall notify the teacher of the



policies and procedures at the beginning of his or her employment. All teachers shall be notified of amendments to the policy and procedures within ten working days of adoption;

- d. Annually adopt by June 1, any Commissioner-approved teacher practice instruments and, as part of the process described at N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2.1(c), notify the Department which instruments will be used as part of the school district's evaluation rubrics;
- e. Ensure the Principal of each school within the school district has established a School Improvement Panel pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:10-3.1. The panel shall be established annually by August 31 and shall carry out the duties and functions described in N.J.A.C. 6A:10-3.2;
- f. Ensure data elements are collected and stored in an accessible and usable format. Data elements shall include, but not be limited to, scores or evidence from observations for the purpose of evaluation and student growth objective data; and
- g. Ensure the Superintendent or designee certifies to the Department that any observer who conducts an observation of a teacher for the purpose of evaluation as described in N.J.A.C. 6A:10-4.4; N.J.A.C. 6A:10-5.4; and N.J.A.C. 6A:10-6.2, shall meet the statutory observation requirements of N.J.S.A. 18A:6-119; 18A:6-123.b(8); and N.J.S.A. 18A:27-3.1 and the teacher member of the School Improvement Panel requirements of N.J.A.C. 6A:10-3.2.
- 2. The Board of Education shall ensure the following training procedures are followed when implementing the evaluation rubric for all teachers and, when applicable, applying the Commissioner-approved educator practice instruments:
  - a. Annually provide training on and descriptions of each component of the evaluation rubric for all teachers who are being evaluated in the school district and provide more thorough training for any teacher who is being evaluated for the first time. Training shall include detailed descriptions of all evaluation rubric components including, when applicable, detailed descriptions of student achievement measures and all aspects of the educator practice instruments;



- b. Annually provide updates and refresher training for supervisors who are conducting evaluations in the school district and more thorough training for any supervisor who will evaluate teachers for the first time. Training shall be provided on each component of the evaluated teacher's evaluation rubric before the evaluation of a teacher;
- c. Annually require each supervisor who will conduct observations for the purpose of evaluation of a teacher to complete at least two co-observations during the school year.
  - (1) Co-observers shall use the co-observation to promote accuracy and consistency in scoring.
  - (2) A co-observation may count as one required observation for the purpose of evaluation pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:10-4.4, as long as the observer meets the requirements set forth in N.J.A.C. 6A:10-4.3 and 4.4, but the co-observation shall not count as two or more required observations. If a co-observation counts as one required observation, the score shall be determined by the teacher's designated supervisor.
- d. The Superintendent shall annually certify to the Department that all supervisors of teachers in the school district who are utilizing evaluation rubrics have completed training on and demonstrated competency in applying the evaluation rubrics.
- F. District Evaluation Advisory Committee N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2.3
  - 1. Members of the District Evaluation Advisory Committee shall include representation from the following groups: teachers from each school level represented in the school district; central office administrators overseeing the teacher evaluation process; supervisors involved in teacher evaluation, when available or appropriate; and administrators conducting evaluations, including a minimum of one administrator conducting evaluations who participates on a School Improvement Panel. Members also shall include the Superintendent, a special education administrator, a parent, and a member of the Board of Education.



- 2. The Superintendent may extend membership on the District Evaluation Advisory Committee to representatives of other groups and to individuals.
- 3. Beginning in 2018-2019, the District Evaluation Advisory Committees shall no longer be required and the Board of Education shall have the discretion to continue the District Evaluation Advisory Committee.
- G. Evaluation Procedures for Teachers N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2.4
  - 1. The provisions outlined in Policy and Regulation 3221 and N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2.4 shall be the minimum requirements for the evaluation of teachers.
  - 2. Evaluation policies and procedures requiring the annual evaluation of all teachers shall be developed under the direction of the Superintendent, who may consult with the District Evaluation Advisory Committee or representatives from School Improvement Panels, and shall include, but not be limited to, a description of:
    - a. Roles and responsibilities for implementation of evaluation policies and procedures;
    - b. Job descriptions, evaluation rubrics for teachers, the process for calculating the summative ratings and each component, and the evaluation regulations set forth in N.J.A.C. 6A:10 et seq.;
    - c. Methods of data collection and reporting appropriate to each job description, including, but not limited to, the process for student attribution to teachers, Principals, Assistant Principals, and Vice Principals for calculating the median and school-wide student growth percentile;
    - d. Processes for observations for the purpose of evaluation and post-observation conference(s) by a supervisor;
    - e. Process for developing and scoring student growth objectives;
    - f. The process for preparation of individual professional development plans; and



- g. The process for preparation of an annual performance report by the teacher's designated supervisor and an annual summary conference between the teacher and his or her designated supervisor.
- 3. The annual summary conference between designated supervisors and teachers shall be held before the annual performance report is filed. The conference shall occur on or before June 30 of each school year and shall include, but not be limited to, a review of the following:
  - a. The performance of the teacher based upon the job description and the scores or evidence compiled using the teacher's evaluation rubric, including, when applicable;
    - (1) The teacher's practice instrument; and
    - (2) Available indicators or student achievement measures such as student growth objective scores and student growth percentile scores.
  - b. The progress of the teacher toward meeting the goals of the individual professional development plan or, when applicable, the corrective action plan; and
  - c. The preliminary annual performance report.
- 4. If any scores for the teacher's evaluation rubric are not available at the time of the annual summary conference due to pending assessment results, the annual summative evaluation rating shall be calculated once all component ratings are available.
- 5. The annual performance report shall be prepared by the teacher's designated supervisor and shall include, but not be limited to:
  - a. A summative rating based on the evaluation rubric, including, when applicable, a total score for each component as described in N.J.A.C. 6A:10-4;
  - b. Performance area(s) of strength and area(s) needing improvement based upon the job description and components of the teacher's evaluation rubric; and
  - c. The teacher's individual professional development plan or corrective action plan from the evaluation year being reviewed in the report.



- 6. The teacher and the designated supervisor shall sign the report within five working days of the review.
- 7. The Board of Education shall include all performance reports and supporting data, including, but not limited to, written observation reports and additional components of the summative evaluation rating as part of the teacher's personnel file, or in an alternative, confidential location. If reports and data are stored in an alternative location, the personnel file shall clearly indicate the report's location and how it can be easily accessed. The records shall be confidential and shall not be subject to public inspection or copying pursuant to the Open Public Records Act, N.J.S.A. 47:1A-1 et seq.
- H. Corrective Action Plans for Teachers N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2.5
  - 1. For each teacher rated ineffective or partially effective on the annual summative evaluation, as measured by the evaluation rubrics, a corrective action plan shall be developed by the teacher and the teacher's designated supervisor. If the teacher does not agree with the corrective action plan's content, the designated supervisor shall make a final determination.
  - 2. The corrective action plan shall be developed and the teacher and his or her designated supervisor shall meet to discuss the corrective action plan by October 31 of the school year following the year of evaluation except:
    - a. If the ineffective or partially effective summative evaluation rating is received after October 1 of the school year following the year of evaluation, a corrective action plan shall be developed, and the teacher and his or her designated supervisor shall meet to discuss the corrective action plan within twenty-five teacher working days following the school district's receipt of the teacher's summative rating.
  - 3. The content of the corrective action plan shall replace the content of the individual professional development plan required pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:9C-4.3(a) and 4.4(a) and shall:
    - a. Address areas in need of improvement identified in the teacher evaluation rubric;



- b. Include specific, demonstrable goals for improvement;
- c. Include responsibilities of the evaluated employee and the school district for the plan's implementation; and
- d. Include timelines for meeting the goal(s).
- 4. The teacher's designated supervisor and the teacher on a corrective action plan shall discuss the teacher's progress toward the goals outlined in the corrective action plan during each required post-observation conference, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:27-3.1 or N.J.A.C. 6A:10-4.4. The teacher and his or her designated supervisor may update the goals outlined in the corrective action plan to reflect any change(s) in the teacher's progress, position, or role.
- 5. Progress toward the teacher's goals outlined in the corrective action plan:
  - a. Shall be documented in the teacher's personnel file and reviewed at the annual summary conference and the mid-year evaluation. Both the teacher on a corrective action plan and his or her designated supervisor may collect data and evidence to demonstrate the teacher's progress toward his or her corrective action plan goals; and
  - b. May be used as evidence in the teacher's next annual summative evaluation; however, such progress shall not guarantee an effective rating on the next summative evaluation.
- 6. Responsibilities of the evaluated teacher on a corrective action plan shall not be exclusionary of other plans for improvement determined to be necessary by the teacher's designated supervisor.
- 7. The School Improvement Panel shall ensure teachers with a corrective action plan receive a mid-year evaluation as required by N.J.S.A. 18A:6-120.c. The mid-year evaluation shall occur approximately midway between the development of the corrective action plan and the expected receipt of the next annual summative rating. The mid-year evaluation shall include, at a minimum, a conference to discuss progress toward the teacher's goals outlined in the corrective action plan. The mid-year evaluation conference may be combined with a post-observation conference.



- 8. The School Improvement Panel shall ensure teachers with a corrective action plan receive one observation, including a post-observation conference, in addition to the observations required in N.J.A.C. 6A:10-4.4 for the purpose of evaluation as described in N.J.A.C. 6A:10-1.2 and 4.4(a).
- 9. Except where a school district employs only one administrator whose position requires a supervisor, principal, or school administrator endorsement, tenured teachers with a corrective action plan shall be observed by multiple observers for the purpose of evaluation as described in N.J.A.C. 6A:10-4.4(c)4.
- 10. The corrective action plan shall remain in effect until the teacher receives his or her next summative evaluation rating.
- 11. There shall be no minimum number of teacher working days a teacher's corrective action plan can be in place.
- I. School Improvement Panel N.J.A.C. 6A:10-3 et seq.
  - 1. School Improvement Panel Membership N.J.A.C. 6A:10-3.1
    - a. The School Improvement Panel shall include the Principal, a Vice Principal, and a teacher who is chosen in accordance with b. below by the Principal in consultation with the majority representative. If an Assistant Principal or Vice Principal is not available to serve on the panel, the Principal shall appoint an additional member who is employed in the district in a supervisory role and capacity, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:6-120.a. The Principal may appoint additional members to the School Improvement Panel as long as all members meet the criteria outlined in this section and N.J.S.A. 18A:6-120.a and the teacher(s) on the panel represents at least one-third of its total membership.
    - b. The Principal annually shall choose the teacher(s) on the School Improvement Panel through the following process:
      - (1) The teacher member shall be a person with a demonstrated record of success in the classroom. A demonstrated record of success in the classroom means the teacher member shall have been rated effective or highly effective in the most recent available annual summative rating.



- (2) The majority representative, in accordance with a above, may submit to the Principal, teacher member nominees for consideration.
- (3) The Principal shall have final decision-making authority and is not bound by the majority representative's list of nominees.
- c. The teacher member shall serve a full school year, except in case of illness or authorized leave, but may not be appointed more than three consecutive school years.
- d. All members of the School Improvement Panel shall be chosen by August 31 of each year.
- 2. School Improvement Panel Responsibilities N.J.A.C. 6A:10-3.2
  - a. The School Improvement Panel shall:
    - (1) Oversee the mentoring of teachers according to N.J.A.C.6A:9C-5.3(a)2 and support the implementation of the school district mentoring plan;
    - (2) Conduct evaluations of teachers pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2.4 and 4.4;
    - (3) Ensure corrective action plans for teachers are created in accordance to N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2.5; and ensure mid-year evaluations are conducted for teachers who are on a corrective action plan; and
    - (4) Identify professional development opportunities for all teachers based on the review of aggregate school-level data, including, but not limited to, teacher evaluation and student performance data to support school-level professional development plans described in N.J.A.C. 6A:9C4.2.
  - b. To conduct observations for the purpose of evaluation, the teacher member shall have:
    - (1) Agreement of the majority representative;
    - (2) An appropriate supervisory certificate; and



- (3) Approval of the Principal who supervises the teacher being observed.
- c. The teacher member who participates in the evaluation process shall not serve concurrently as a mentor under N.J.A.C. 6A:9C-5.2(a)3.
- J. Components of Teacher Evaluation Rubric N.J.A.C. 6A:10-4.1
  - 1. The components of the teacher evaluation rubric described in N.J.A.C. 6A:10-4.1 et seq. shall apply to teachers holding the position of teacher and holding a valid and effective standard, provisional, or emergency instructional certificate.
  - 2. Evaluation rubrics for all teachers shall include the requirements described in N.J.S.A. 18A:6-123, including, but not limited to:
    - a. Measures of student achievement pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:10-4.2; and
    - b. Measures of teacher practice pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:10-4.3 and 4.4.
  - 3. To earn a summative rating, a teacher shall have a student achievement score, including median student growth percentile and/or student growth objectives(s) scores, and a teacher practice score pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:10-4.4.
  - 4. Each score shall be converted to a percentage weight so all components make up 100 percent of the evaluation rubric. By August 31 prior to the school year in which the evaluation rubric applies, the Department shall provide on its website the required percentage weight of each component and the required summative rating scale. All components shall be worth the following percentage weights or fall within the following ranges:
    - a. If, according to N.J.A.C. 6A:10-4.2(b), a teacher receives a median student growth percentile, the student achievement component shall be at least thirty percent and no more than fifty percent of a teacher's evaluation rubric rating as determined by the Department.
    - b. If, according to N.J.A.C. 6A:10-4.2(b), a teacher does not receive a median student growth percentile, the student achievement component shall be at least fifteen percent and



no more than fifty percent of a teacher's evaluation rubric rating as determined by the Department.

- c. Measures of teacher practice described in N.J.A.C. 6A:10-4.3 and 4.4 shall be at least fifty percent and no more than eighty-five percent of a teacher's evaluation rubric rating as determined by the Department.
- 5. Standardized tests, used as a measure of student progress, shall not be the predominant factor in determining a teacher's annual summative rating.
- K. Student Achievement Components N.J.A.C. 6A:10-4.2
  - 1. Measures of student achievement shall be used to determine impact on student learning. The student achievement measure shall include the following components:
    - a. If the teacher meets the requirements of 2, below, the median student growth percentile of all students assigned to a teacher, which shall be calculated as set forth in 4, below; and
    - b. Student growth objective(s), which shall be specific and measurable, based on available student learning data, aligned to the New Jersey Student Learning Standards (NJSLS), and based on growth and/or achievement.
      - (1) For teachers who teach subjects or grades not covered by the NJSLS, student growth objective(s) shall align to standards adopted or endorsed, as applicable, by the State Board.
  - 2. The median student growth percentile shall be included in the annual summative rating of a teacher who:
    - a. Teaches at least one course or group within a course that falls within a standardized-tested grade or subject. The Department shall maintain on its website a course listing of all standardized-tested grades and subjects for which student growth percentile can be calculated pursuant to 4. below;



- b. Teaches the course or group within the course for at least sixty percent of the time from the beginning of the course to the day of the standardized assessment; and
- c. Has at least twenty individual student growth percentile scores attributed to his or her name during the school year of the evaluation. If a teacher does not have at least twenty individual student growth percentile scores in a given school year, the student growth percentile scores attributed to a teacher during the two school years prior to the evaluation year may be used in addition to the student growth percentile scores attributed to the teacher during the school year of the evaluation. Only student growth percentile scores from school year 2013-2014 or any school year after shall be used to determine median student growth percentiles.
- 3. The Department shall periodically collect data for all teachers that include, but are not limited to, student achievement and teacher practice scores.
- 4. The Department shall calculate the median student growth percentile for teachers using students assigned to the teacher by the school district. For teachers who have a student growth percentile score:
  - a. The Board of Education shall submit to the Department final ratings for all components, other than the student growth percentile, for the annual summative rating; and
  - b. The Department then shall report to the employing district Board of Education the annual summative rating, including the median student growth percentile for each teacher who receives a median student growth percentile.
- 5. Student growth objectives for teachers shall be developed and measured according to the following procedures:
  - a. The Superintendent shall determine the number of required student growth objectives for teachers, including teachers with a student growth percentile. A teacher with a student growth percentile shall have at least one and not more than four student growth objectives. A teacher without a student growth percentile shall have at least two and a maximum of four student growth objectives. By August 31 prior to the



school year the evaluation rubric applies, the Department shall provide on its website the minimum and maximum number of required student growth objectives within this range.

- b. A teacher with a student growth percentile shall not use the standardized assessment used in determining the student growth percentile to measure progress toward a student growth objective.
- c. Each teacher shall develop, in consultation with his or her supervisor or a Principal's designee, each student growth objective. If the teacher does not agree with the student growth objectives, the Principal shall make the final determination.
- d. Student growth objectives and the criteria for assessing teacher performance based on the objectives shall be determined, recorded, and retained by the teacher and his or her supervisor by October 31 of each school year, or within twenty-five working days of the teacher's start date if the teacher begins work after October 1.
- e. Adjustments to student growth objectives may be made by the teacher in consultation with his or her supervisor only when approved by the Superintendent or designee. Adjustments shall be recorded in the teacher's personnel file on or before February 15.
  - (1) If the Student Growth Objective (SGO) covers only the second semester of the school year, or if the teacher begins work after October 1, adjustments shall be recorded before the mid-point of the second semester.
- f. The teacher's designated supervisor shall approve each teacher's student growth objective score. The teacher's student growth objective score, if available, shall be discussed at the teacher's annual summary conference and recorded in the teacher's personnel file.
- L. Teacher Practice Components N.J.A.C. 6A:10-4.3
  - 1. The teacher practice component rating shall be based on the measurement of the teacher's performance according to the school



district's Commissioner-approved teacher practice instrument. Observations pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:10-4.4 shall be used as one form of evidence for the measurement.

#### M. Teacher Observations – N.J.A.C. 6A:10-4.4

- 1. For the purpose of teacher evaluation, observers shall conduct the observations pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:6-123.b(8) and N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2.5 and 3.2, and they shall be trained pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2.2(b).
- 2. Observation conferences shall include the following procedures:
  - a. A supervisor who is present at the observation shall conduct a post-observation conference with the teacher being observed. A post-observation conference shall occur no more than fifteen teacher working days following each observation.
  - b. The post-observation conference shall be for the purpose of reviewing the data collected at the observation, connecting the data to the teacher practice instrument and the teacher's individual professional development plan, collecting additional information needed for the evaluation of the teacher, and offering areas to improve effectiveness. Within a school year, the post observation conference shall be held prior to the occurrence of further observations for the purpose of evaluation.
  - c. If agreed to by the teacher, one required post-observation conferences and any pre-conference(s) for observations of tenured teachers who are not on a corrective action plan may be conducted via written communication, including electronic.
  - d. One post-observation conference may be combined with a teacher's annual summary conference, as long as it occurs within the required fifteen teacher working days following the observation for the purpose of evaluation.
  - e. A pre-conference, when required, shall occur at least one but not more than seven teacher working days prior to the observation.



- 3. Each teacher shall be observed as described in N.J.A.C. 6A:10-4.4. For all teachers, at least one of the required observations shall be announced and preceded by a pre-conference, and at least one of the required observations shall be unannounced. The Superintendent shall decide whether additional required observations are announced or unannounced, if applicable. The following additional requirements shall apply:
  - a. Each observation required for the purpose of evaluation shall be conducted for at least twenty minutes.
  - b. Nontenured teachers shall be observed at least three times each school year. but not less than once each semester. The observations shall be conducted in accordance with the timeframe set forth in N.J.S.A. 18A:27-3.1.
    - (1) Except where a school district employs only one administrator whose position requires a supervisor, principal, or school administrator endorsement, nontenured teachers shall be observed during the course of the year by more than one appropriately certified supervisor.
  - c. Tenured teachers shall be observed at least two times during each school year. Observations for all tenured teachers shall occur prior to the annual summary conference, which shall occur prior to the end of the academic school year.
    - (1) If a tenured teacher was rated highly effective on his or her most recent summative evaluation and if both the teacher and the teacher's designated supervisor agree to use this option, one of the two required observations may be an observation of a Commissioner-approved activity other than a classroom lesson. The Department of Education shall post annually to its website a list of Commissioner-approved activities that may be observed in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:10-4.4.
  - d. Teachers on a corrective action plan shall receive, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2.5(h), one additional observation, including a post-observation conference.



- e. Upon receiving a final summative evaluation that necessitates a corrective action plan, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2.5(a), any remaining required observation(s) shall not be conducted until the corrective action plan has been finalized.
- f. A written or electronic observation report shall be signed by the supervisor who conducted the observation and post-observation and the teacher who was observed.
- g. The teacher shall submit his or her written objection(s) of the evaluation within ten teacher working days following the conference. The objection(s) shall be attached to each party's copy of the annual performance report.
- 4. To earn a teacher practice score, a nontenured teacher shall receive at least three observations.
  - a. If a nontenured teacher is present for less than forty percent of the total student school days in a school year, he or she shall receive at least two observations to earn a teacher practice score.
- N. Teacher Practice Instrument N.J.A.C. 6A:10-7.2
  - 1. The teacher practice instrument approved by the Department shall meet the following criteria:
    - a. Include domains of professional practice that align to the New Jersey Professional Standards for Teachers pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:9-3;
    - b. Include scoring guides for assessing teacher practice that differentiate among a minimum of four levels of performance, and the differentiation has been shown in practice and/or research studies. Each scoring guide shall:
      - (1) Clearly define the expectations for each rating category;
      - (2) Provide a conversion to four rating categories;
      - (3) Be applicable to all grades and subjects; or to specific grades and/or subjects if designed explicitly for the grades and/or subjects; and



- (4) Use clear and precise language that facilitates common understanding among teachers and administrators.
- c. Rely on, to the extent possible, specific, discrete, observable, and/or measurable behaviors of students and teachers in the classroom with direct evidence of student engagement and learning; and
- d. Include descriptions of specific training and implementation details required for the instrument to be effective.

Revised: June 22, 2017

Revised (First Reading): April 29, 2021



## POLICY GUIDE

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[See POLICY ALERT Nos. 167 and 222]

2113.02 TITLET TISCAL RESTONSIBILITIES
The Board of Education will comply with the requirements of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 2701 et seq.) as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) No Child Left Behind Act of 2001.
Maintenance of Effort
To be in compliance with the requirements of the Elementary and Secondary

2415 02 TITLE I \_ FISCAL RESPONSIBILITIES

To be in compliance with the requirements of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 2701 et seq.) ESEA as amended by the ESSA No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, §1120A(a), the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Board of Education will maintain either a combined fiscal effort per student; or aggregate expenditures; of State and local funds with respect to the provision of the free public education by in the Local Education Agency (LEA) for the preceding fiscal year that is not less than ninety percent of the combined fiscal effort per student; or the aggregate expenditures; for the second preceding fiscal year.

Comparability with Multiple Schools

To be in compliance with the requirements of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 2701 et seq.) ESEA as amended by the ESSA No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, §1120A(c), the Board of Education directs the Superintendent to assign teachers, administrators, and auxiliary personnel to the schools in such a way that the equivalence of personnel is ensured among schools. The school district will ensure that State and local funds are used to provide comparable services for Title I and non-Title I schools.

Comparability of Materials and Supplies

To be in compliance with the requirements of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 2701 et seq.) ESEA as amended by the ESSA No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, §1120A(e), the \_\_\_\_\_\_Board of Education directs the Superintendent to distribute curriculum materials and instructional supplies to the schools in such a way that the equivalence of such material is ensured among schools.



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#### Supplement, Not Supplant

Grant funds provided under Federal programs, including the ESEA as amended by the ESSA, shall supplement, not supplant the funds that would, in the absence of such Federal funds, be made available from State and local sources for the education of students participating in programs assisted under the ESEA as amended by the ESSA.

No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, §1120A

Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 2701 et seq.) as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act.

Revised (First Reading): April 29, 2021



## BYLAW GUIDE

BYLAWS 0145/page 1 of 2 Board Member Resignation and Removal Jan 21

[See POLICY ALERT Nos. 94, 113, and 222]

#### 0145 BOARD MEMBER RESIGNATION AND REMOVAL

The membership of a Board of Education member shall terminate immediately upon:

- 1. The cessation of the member's bona fide residency in the school district the member represents (N.J.S.A. 18A:12-2.2); or
- 2. The member's election or appointment to the office of mayor or member of the governing body of Hasbrouck Heights (N.J.S.A. 18A:12-2.2); or
- 3. The member's disqualification from voting pursuant to N.J.S.A. 19:4-1 (N.J.S.A. 18A:12-2.2); or
- 4. The member's conviction for false swearing for having falsely affirmed or declared that he/she is qualified to vote falsely affirms or declares that he/she is not disqualified as a voter pursuant to N.J.S.A. 19:4-1 or that he/she is not disqualified from membership on the Board due to conviction of a crime or offense listed in N.J.S.A. 18A:12-1; or
- 5. The removal of the member by the Commissioner of Education; or
- 6. Recall of a Board member pursuant to N.J.S.A. 19:27A-1 et seq.

A member who fails to attend three consecutive

#### **Optional**

#### {regular}

A member who fails to attend three consecutive meetings of the Board without good cause may be removed from office on the affirmative votes by majority of the remaining Board members, provided that:



## **BYLAW GUIDE**

BYLAWS 0145/page 2 of 2 Board Member Resignation and Removal

- 1. The member's removal was proposed at the immediately previous Board meeting; and
- 2. Notice of the proposed removal was given to the affected member at least \_\_\_\_\_\_ forty-eight hours in advance of the meeting at which the vote will be taken.

N.J.S.A. 18A:12-2; **18A:12-2.2**; 18A:12-3; 18A:12-29 N.J.S.A. 19:27A-1 et seq.

Revised (First Reading): March 18, 2021 Revised (Second Reading): April 29, 2021



ADMINISTRATION 1643/page 1 of 41 Family Leave Jan 21 M

[See POLICY ALERT No. 222]

#### 1643 FAMILY LEAVE

The Board of Education will provide family leave to staff members in accordance with the New Jersey Family Leave Act (NJFLA) and the Federal Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA). These laws have similar and different provisions that provide different rights and obligations for a staff member and the Board.

If a staff member is eligible for leave for reasons recognized under both the FMLA and NJFLA, then the time taken shall run concurrently and be applied to both laws. The NJFLA provides twelve weeks leave in a twenty-four month period and the FMLA provides twelve weeks leave in a twelve month period

### A. New Jersey Family Leave Act

### 1. Definitions Relative to New Jersey Family Leave Act

"Base Hours" means the hours of work for which a staff member receives compensation. Base hours shall include overtime hours for which a staff member is paid additional or overtime compensation, and hours for which a staff member receives workers' compensation benefits. Base hours shall also include hours a staff member would have worked except for having been in military service. Base hours do not include hours for when a staff member receives other types of compensation, such as administrative, personal leave, vacation, or sick leave.

"Child" means a biological, adopted, foster child, or resource family child, stepchild, legal ward, or child of a parent, including a child who becomes the child of a parent pursuant to a valid written agreement between the parent and a gestational carrier.

"Eligible employee" means any individual employed by the same employer for twelve months or more, who has worked 1,000 or more base hours during the preceding twelve month period.



"Employer" includes the State, any political subdivision thereof, and all public offices, agencies, boards, or bodies.

"Family member" means a child, parent, parent-in-law, sibling, grandparent, grandchild, spouse, domestic partner, or one partner in a civil union couple, or any other individual related by blood to a staff member, and any other individual that a staff member shows to have a close association with a staff member which is the equivalent of a family relationship.

"Health care provider" means a duly licensed health care provider or other health care provider deemed appropriate by the Director of the Division on Civil Rights in the New Jersey Department of Law and Public Safety.

"Parent" means a person who is the biological parent, adoptive parent, foster parent, resource family parent, step-parent, parent-in-law, or legal guardian, having a "parent-child relationship" with a child as defined by law, or having sole or joint legal or physical custody, care, guardianship, or visitation with a child, or who became the parent of the child pursuant to a valid written agreement between the parent and a gestational carrier.

"Serious health condition" means an illness, injury, impairment, or physical or mental condition which requires:

- a. Inpatient care in a hospital, hospice, or residential medical care facility; or
- b. Continuing medical treatment or continuing supervision by a health care provider.

As used in the definition of a serious health condition, "continuing medical treatment or continuing supervision by a health care provider" means:

a. A period of incapacity (that is, inability to work, attend school, or perform regular daily activities due to a serious health condition, treatment therefore, and recovery therefrom) of more than three consecutive days, and any subsequent treatment or period of incapacity relating to the same condition, that also involves:



- (1) Treatment two or more times by a health care provider; or
- (2) Treatment by a health care provider on one occasion which results in a regimen of continuing treatment under the supervision of a health care provider;
- b. Any period of incapacity due to pregnancy, or for prenatal care;
- c. Any period of incapacity or treatment for such incapacity due to a chronic serious health condition:
- d. A period of incapacity, which is permanent or long-term, due to a condition for which treatment may not be effective (such as Alzheimer's disease, a severe stroke, or the terminal stages of a disease) where the individual is under continuing supervision of, but need not be receiving active treatment by, a health care provider; or
- e. Any period of absence to receive multiple treatments (including any period of recovery therefrom) by a health care provider or by a provider of health care services under orders of, or on referral by a health care provider, either for restorative surgery after an accident or other injury, or for a condition that would likely result in a period of incapacity of more than three consecutive calendar days in the absence of medical intervention or treatment, such as cancer (chemotherapy, radiation, etc.), severe arthritis (physical therapy), or kidney disease (dialysis).

"Spouse" means a person to whom a staff member is lawfully married as defined by New Jersey law.

"State of emergency" means a natural or man-made disaster or emergency for which a state of emergency has been declared by the President of the United States or the Governor, or for which a state of emergency has been declared by a municipal emergency management coordinator.

#### 2. Reasons for NJFLA Leave

a. A staff member may take NJFLA leave to provide care made necessary by reason of:



- (1) The birth of a child of the staff member, including a child born pursuant to a valid written agreement between the staff member and the gestational carrier;
- (2) The placement of a child into foster care with the staff member or in connection with adoption of such child by a staff member;
- (3) The serious health condition of a family member of the staff member; or
- (4) A state of emergency declared by the Governor of New Jersey, or when indicated to be needed by the Commissioner of Health New Jersey Department of Health or other public health authority, an epidemic or communicable disease, a known or suspected exposure to the communicable disease, or efforts to prevent spread of a communicable disease which:
  - (a) Requires in-home care or treatment of a child due to the closure of the school or place of care of the child of a staff member, by order of a public official due to the epidemic or other public health emergency;
  - (b) Prompts the issuance by a public health authority of a determination, including by mandatory quarantine, requiring or imposing responsive or prophylactic measures as a result of illness caused by an epidemic of a communicable disease or known or suspected exposure to the communicable disease because the presence in the community of a family member in need of care by a staff member would jeopardize the health of others; or
  - (c) Results in the recommendation of a health care provider or public health authority, that a family member in need of care by a staff member voluntarily undergo self-quarantine as a result of suspected exposure to a communicable disease because the presence



in the community of that family member in need of care by a staff member, would jeopardize the health of others.

### 3. Staff Member Eligibility

- a. NJFLA leave may be taken for up to twelve weeks within any twenty-four month period. The NJFLA leave shall be unpaid with benefits subject to contributions required to be made by the staff member.
- b. A staff member is eligible for NJFLA leave if a staff member is employed by the same Board for twelve months or more, and has worked 1,000 or more base hours during the preceding twelve month period.
- c. The method to determine the twenty-four month period in which the twelve weeks of NJFLA leave entitlement occurs shall be a "rolling" twenty-four month period measured backward from the date a staff member uses any leave under NJFLA.
- d. This Policy shall serve as notice to all staff members of the method chosen in A.3.c. above. This method shall be applied consistently and uniformly to all staff members.
  - (1) If the Board transitions to another method, the Board is required to give at least sixty days' notice to all staff members and the transition must take place in such a way that staff members retain their full benefit of twelve weeks of NJFLA leave under whichever method affords the greatest benefit to a staff member.
- e. The Board shall grant NJFLA leave to more than one staff member from the same family (for example, a husband and a wife, or a brother and a sister) at the same time, provided such staff members are otherwise eligible for NJFLA leave.
- f. The fact that a holiday may occur within the week taken by a staff member as NJFLA leave has no effect and the week is counted as a week of NJFLA leave.
  - (1) However, if a staff member is out on NJFLA leave and the staff member is not regularly scheduled to



work for one or more weeks, the weeks the staff member is not regularly scheduled to work do not count against their NJFLA leave entitlement.

### 4. Types of NJFLA Leave

- a. Staff members are required to provide notice in writing for any NJFLA leave requested. In emergent circumstances, a staff member may provide the Board with oral notice when written notice is impracticable.
  - (1) Staff members must provide the Board written notice after submitting oral notice in emergent circumstances.
- b. Consecutive NJFLA leave is NJFLA leave that is taken without interruption based upon a staff member's regular work schedule and does not include breaks in employment in which a staff member is not regularly scheduled to work.
  - (1) A staff member must provide the Board with notice of consecutive NJFLA leave no later than thirty days prior to the commencement of consecutive NJFLA leave, except where emergent circumstances warrant shorter notice.
  - (2) A staff member shall provide the Board with certification pursuant to A.5. below.
- c. Intermittent NJFLA leave is NJFLA leave due to a single qualifying reason, taken in separate periods of time, broken up by periods in which the staff member returns to work.
  - (1) A staff member is entitled to take NJFLA leave intermittently for the birth of a child of the staff member, including a child born pursuant to a valid written agreement between the staff member and a gestational carrier or the placement of a child into foster care with the staff member or in connection with adoption of such child by the staff member.
    - (a) The staff member shall provide the Board with prior notice of not less than fifteen calendar days before the first day on which NJFLI benefits are paid for the intermittent



NJFLA leave, unless an emergency or other unforeseen circumstance precludes prior notice.

- (b) The staff member shall make a reasonable effort to schedule the intermittent NJFLA leave so as not to unduly disrupt the operations of the Board and, if possible, provide the Board, prior to the commencement of intermittent NJFLA leave, with a regular schedule of the days or days of the week on which the intermittent NJFLA leave will be taken.
- (c) A staff member shall provide the Board with certification for intermittent NJFLA leave pursuant to A.5.b. below.
- (2) The staff member is entitled to take intermittent NJFLA leave for the serious health condition of a family member of the staff member when medically necessary if:
  - (a) The total time which the intermittent NJFLA leave is taken does not exceed twelve months if taken in connection with a single serious health condition. If the intermittent NJFLA leave is taken in connection with more than one serious health condition, the intermittent NJFLA leave must be taken within a consecutive twenty-four month period or until such time the twelve week NJFLA leave is exhausted, whichever is shorter;
  - (b) The staff member provides the Board with prior notice of not less than fifteen calendar days before the first day on which benefits are paid for the intermittent NJFLA leave.
    - (i) The staff member may provide notice less than fifteen days prior to the intermittent NJFLA leave if an emergency or other unforeseen circumstance precludes prior notice;



- (c) The staff member makes a reasonable effort to schedule the intermittent NJFLA leave so as not to unduly disrupt the operations of the school district and, if possible, provide the school district, prior to the commencement of intermittent NJFLA leave, with a regular schedule of the days or days of the week on which the intermittent NJFLA leave will be taken; and
- (d) The staff member provides the Board with a copy of the certification outlined in A.5.c. below.
- (3) In the case of NJFLA leave taken due to an epidemic of a communicable disease, a known or suspected exposure to the communicable disease, or efforts to prevent spread of the communicable disease, the NJFLA leave may only be taken intermittently if:
  - (a) The staff member provides the Board with prior notice of the intermittent NJFLA leave as soon as practicable;
  - (b) The staff member makes a reasonable effort to schedule the NJFLA leave so as not to unduly disrupt the operations of the school district and, if possible, provide the school district prior to the commencement of the intermittent NJFLA leave, with a regular schedule of the day or days of the week on which the intermittent NJFLA leave will be taken; and
  - (c) A staff member provides the Board with a copy of the certification outlined in A.5.d. below.
- (4) Intermittent leave taken on a reduced leave schedule is NJFLA leave due to a single qualifying reason, that is scheduled for fewer than a staff member's usual number of hours worked per workweek, but not for fewer than a staff member's usual number of



hours worked per workday and may only be taken to care for the serious health condition of a family member of a staff member when medically necessary, except that:

- (a) A staff member shall not be entitled to intermittent NJFLA leave on a reduced leave schedule for a period exceeding twelve consecutive months for any one period of NJFLA leave;
- (b) The staff member must provide the Board with prior notice of the intermittent NJFLA leave on a reduced leave schedule as soon as practicable;
- (c) A staff member shall make a reasonable effort to schedule intermittent NJFLA leave on a reduced leave schedule so as not to disrupt unduly the operations of the school district. A staff member shall provide the school district with prior notice of the care, medical treatment, or continuing supervision by a health care provider necessary due to a serious health condition of a family member, in a manner which is reasonable and practicable; and
- (d) A staff member must provide the Board with a copy of the certification outlined in A.5.c. below.
- d. NJFLA leave taken because of the birth or placement for adoption of a child of the staff member may commence at any time within a year after the date of the foster care placement, birth, or placement for adoption.
- e. A staff member shall not, during any period of NJFLA leave, perform services on a full-time basis for any person for whom a staff member did not provide those services immediately prior to commencement of the NJFLA leave.
  - (1) A staff member on NJFLA leave may not engage in other full-time employment during the term of the NJFLA leave, unless such employment commenced



prior to the NJFLA leave and is not otherwise prohibited by law.

- (2) During the term of NJFLA leave a staff member may commence part-time employment which shall not exceed half the regularly scheduled hours worked for the Board from whom a staff member requested NJFLA leave. A staff member may continue part-time employment which commenced prior to a staff member's NJFLA leave, at the same number of hours that a staff member was regularly scheduled prior to such NJFLA leave.
- (3) The Board may not maintain a policy or practice which prohibits part-time employment during the course of a NJFLA leave.

#### Certification

- a. The Board shall require a staff member who requests NJFLA leave to sign a form of certification established by the Board attesting that such staff member is taking NJFLA leave in accordance with the law.
  - (1) The Board may not require a staff member to sign or otherwise submit a form of certification attesting to additional facts, including a staff member's eligibility for NJFLA leave.
  - (2) The Board may subject a staff member to reasonable disciplinary measures, depending on the circumstances, when a staff member intentionally misrepresents the reason that such staff member is taking NJFLA leave.
  - (3) The form of certification established by the Board shall contain a statement warning a staff member of the consequences of refusing to sign the certification or falsely certifying. Any staff member who refuses to sign the certification established by the Board may be denied the requested NJFLA leave.



- (4) The Board requires that any period of NJFLA leave be supported by certification issued by a health care provider.
- b. Where the certification, issued by the health care provider, is for the birth of a child of a staff member, including a child born pursuant to a valid written agreement between the staff member and a gestational carrier or the placement of a child into foster care with the staff member or in connection with adoption of such child by the staff member, the certification need only state the date of birth or date of placement, whichever is appropriate.
- c. Any period of NJFLA leave for the serious health condition of a family member of a staff member shall be supported by certification provided by a health care provider. The certification shall be sufficient if it states:
  - (1) The date, if known, on which the serious health condition commenced:
  - (2) The probable duration of the condition;
  - (3) The medical facts within the knowledge of the provider of the certification regarding the condition;
  - (4) The serious health condition warrants the participation of the staff member in providing health care to the family member, as provided in the "Family Leave Act," P.L. 1989, c.261 (C.34:11B-1 et seq.) and regulations adopted pursuant to the NJFLA;
  - (5) An estimate of the amount of time the staff member is needed for participation in the care of the family member;
  - (6) If the NJFLA leave is intermittent, a statement of the medical necessity for the intermittent NJFLA leave and the expected duration of the intermittent NJFLA leave; and
  - (7) If NJFLA leave is intermittent and for planned medical treatment, the dates of the treatment.



- d. In any case in which the Board has reason to doubt the validity of the certification provided pursuant to A.5.c. above, the Board may require, at its own expense, that a staff member obtain an opinion regarding the serious health condition from a second health care provider designated or approved, but not employed on a regular basis, by the Board. If the second opinion differs from the certification provided pursuant to A.5.c. above, the Board may require, at its own expense, that a staff member obtain the opinion of a third health care provider designated or approved jointly by the Board and a staff member concerning the serious health condition. The opinion of the third health care provider shall be considered to be final and shall be binding on the Board and a staff member.
- e. Where the certification is for an epidemic of a communicable disease, a known or suspected exposure to the communicable disease, or efforts to prevent the spread of the communicable disease, the certification shall be sufficient if it includes:
  - (1) For NJFLA leave taken to provide in-home care or treatment of a child due to the closure of the school or place of care of the child of a staff member, by order of a public official due to the epidemic or other public health emergency, the date on which the closure of the school or place of care of the child of a staff member commenced and the reason for such closure;
  - (2) For NJFLA leave taken due to a public health authority's issuance of a determination requiring or imposing responsive or prophylactic measures as a result of illness caused by an epidemic of a communicable disease or known or suspected exposure to the communicable disease because the presence in the community of a family member in need of care by a staff member would jeopardize the health of others, the date of issuance of the determination, and the probable duration of the determination; or
  - (3) For NJFLA leave taken because a health care provider or public health authority recommends that a family member in need of care by a staff member



voluntarily undergo self-quarantine as a result of suspected exposure to a communicable disease because the presence in the community of that family member in need of care by a staff member would jeopardize the health of others, the date of the recommendation, the probable duration of the condition, and the medical or other facts within the health care provider or public health authority's knowledge regarding the condition.

- f. The Board shall not use the certification requirements as outlined in A.5. to intimidate, harass, or otherwise discourage a staff member from requesting or taking NJFLA leave or asserting any of a staff member's rights to NJFLA leave.
- 6. Denial or Exemption of NJFLA Leave
  - a. Denial of NJFLA Leave
    - (1) The Board may deny NJFLA leave to a staff member if:
      - (a) A staff member is a salaried staff member who is among the highest paid 5% of the Board's staff members or the seven highest paid staff members of the Board, whichever is greater;
      - (b) The denial is necessary to prevent substantial and grievous economic injury to the Board's operations; and
      - (c) The Board notifies a staff member of its intent to deny the NJFLA leave at the time the Board determines that the denial is necessary.
    - (2) The provisions of A.6.a.(1) above shall not apply when, in the event of a state of emergency declared by the Governor of New Jersey or when indicated to be needed by the Commissioner of Health New Jersey Department of Health or other public health authority, the NJFLA leave is for an epidemic of a communicable disease, a known or suspected



exposure to a communicable disease, or efforts to prevent spread of a communicable disease.

(3) In any case in which NJFLA leave has already commenced at the time of the notification pursuant to A.6.a.(1)(c) above, a staff member shall return to work within ten working days of the date of notification.

#### 7. Reinstatement from NJFLA Leave

- a. Upon the expiration of a NJFLA leave, a staff member shall be restored to the position such staff member held immediately prior to the commencement of the NJFLA leave. If such position has been filled, the Board shall reinstate such staff member to an equivalent position of like seniority, status, employment benefits, pay, and other terms and conditions of employment.
- b. If, during NJFLA leave, the Board experiences a reduction in force or layoff and a staff member would have lost their position had a staff member not been on NJFLA leave, as a result of the reduction in force or pursuant to the good faith operation of a bona fide layoff and recall system including a system under a collective bargaining agreement where applicable, a staff member shall not be entitled to reinstatement to the former or an equivalent position. A staff member shall retain all rights under any applicable layoff and recall system, including a system under a collective bargaining agreement, as if a staff member had not taken the NJFLA leave.

#### 8. Notice to Staff Members

- a. The Board shall display the official Family Leave Act poster of the Division on Civil Rights in the New Jersey Department of Law and Public Safety (Division) in accordance with N.J.A.C. 13:8-2.2. The poster is available for printing from the Division's website.
- b. Access to and/or distribution of this Policy shall serve as school district notice to staff members of their rights pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:14-1.14.



- 9. Local Board of Education Practices
  - a. Accrued Paid NJFLA Leave
    - (1) Whether a staff member is required to use any other accrued leave time concurrent with NJFLA leave time will depend upon either the school district's practice or a provision in a collective bargaining agreement, if applicable.
      - (a) Sick leave may only be used concurrently with the NJFLA leave in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:30-1 and N.J.S.A. 34:11B-3.
  - b. Multiple Leaves of Absence
    - (1) Where a Board maintains leaves of absence which provide benefits, other than health benefits, that differ depending upon the type of leave taken, the Board shall provide those benefits to a staff member on NJFLA leave in the same manner as it provides benefits to staff members who are granted other leaves of absence which most closely resemble NJFLA leave.
- 10. New Jersey Family Leave Insurance Program (NJFLI)
  - a. Board of Education staff members are eligible to apply for benefits under the NJFLI Program administered by the State of New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development.
  - b. All applications for benefits under the NJFLI Program must be filed directly with the State of New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development. The eligibility requirements, wage requirements, benefit duration and amounts, and benefit limitations shall be in accordance with the provisions of the NJFLI Program as administered by the State of New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development. A formal appeal may be submitted to the State of New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development if an employee or the Board disagrees with a determination on a claim.



- c. The NJFLI Program provides eligible individuals a monetary benefit and not a leave benefit. The school district administrative and related staff will comply with the State of New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development requests for information in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 12:21-3.9.
- d. A printed notification of staff members' rights relative to the receipt of benefits under the NJFLI Program will be posted in each of the school district worksites and in a place or places accessible to all employees at the worksite.
- e. Each staff member shall receive a copy of this notification in writing at the time of the staff member's hiring, whenever the staff member provides written notice to the Superintendent of their intention to apply for benefits under the NJFLI Program, or at any time upon the first request of the staff member.
  - (1) The written notification may be transmitted to the staff member in electronic form.
  - (2) Access to and/or distribution of this Policy shall serve as school district notice to staff members of their rights under the NJFLI Program.
- B. Federal Family and Medical Leave Act
  - 1. Definitions Relative to Federal Family and Medical Leave Act

"Covered Employer" means any public or private elementary or secondary school(s) regardless of the number of employees employed.

"Employee" means a staff member eligible for family and medical leave in accordance with the Federal Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA).

"Hours of Service" means hours actually worked by the employee. It does not mean hours paid. Thus, non-working time – such as vacations, holidays, furloughs, sick leave, or other time-off (paid or otherwise) – does not count for purposes of calculating FMLA eligibility for the employee.

"Parent" means a biological, adoptive, step, or foster father or mother, or any other individual who stood in loco parentis to a



staff member when a staff member has a son or daughter as defined below. This term does not include parents "in law."

"Serious health condition" means an illness, injury, impairment, or physical or mental condition that involves inpatient care in a hospital, hospice, or residential medical facility or continuing treatment by a health care provider. "Serious health condition" may include treatment of substance abuse pursuant to 29 CFR §825.119.

"Son" or "daughter" means a biological, adopted, or foster child, stepchild, a legal ward, or a child of a person standing in loco parentis, who is either under age eighteen or age eighteen or older and incapable of self-care because of a mental or physical disability at the time that FMLA leave is to commence.

"Spouse" means a husband or wife. For purposes of this definition, husband or wife refers to the other person with whom an individual entered into marriage as defined or recognized under State law in the State in which the marriage was entered into or, in the case of a marriage entered into outside of any State, if the marriage is valid in the place where entered into and could have been entered into in at least one State. This definition includes an individual in a same-sex marriage or common law marriage.

"Week" or "Workweek" means the number of days a staff member normally works each calendar week.

### 2. Qualifying Reasons for FMLA Leave

- a. A staff member may take FMLA leave to provide care made necessary:
  - (1) For the birth of a son or daughter of a staff member and in order to care for such son or daughter;
  - (2) For the placement of a son or daughter with a staff member for adoption or foster care;
  - (3) In order to care for the spouse, son, daughter, or parent of a staff member if such spouse, son, daughter, or parent has a serious health condition;



- (4) For a serious health condition that makes a staff member unable to perform the functions of the position of such staff member.
- b. FMLA leave taken in relation to military service shall be in accordance with 29 CFR §825.112.
- c. Entitlement to FMLA leave taken for the birth of a son or daughter or placement of a son or daughter with a staff member for adoption or foster care shall expire at the end of the twelve month period beginning on the date of such birth or placement.

### 3. Staff Member Eligibility

- a. A staff member is eligible for up to twelve weeks of FMLA leave in a twelve month period.
- b. A staff member shall become eligible for FMLA leave after the staff member has been employed at least twelve months by the Board and employed for at least 1,250 hours of service during the twelve month period immediately preceding the commencement of the FMLA leave.
  - (1) The twelve months a staff member must have been employed need not be consecutive months pursuant to 29 CFR §825.110(b).
  - (2) The minimum 1,250 hours of service shall be determined according to the principles established under the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) for determining compensable hours of work pursuant to 29 CFR §785.
  - (3) The Board shall not provide pay for FMLA leave.
- c. The method to determine the twelve month period in which the twelve weeks of FMLA leave entitlement occurs will be a "rolling" twelve month period measured backward from the date a staff member uses any FMLA leave.
- d. Pursuant to 29 CFR §825.201, a husband and wife both employed by the Board are limited to a combined total of twelve weeks of FMLA leave during the twelve month period if the FMLA leave is taken for the birth of a son or



daughter of a staff member or to care for such son or daughter after birth; for placement of a son or daughter with a staff member for adoption or foster care or in order to care for the son or daughter after placement; or to care for a staff member's parent with a serious health condition.

### 4. Types of FMLA leave

- a. Continuous FMLA leave is taken by staff members for a continuous period of time. Such FMLA leave is not broken up by a period of work and is continuous when a staff member is absent for three consecutive working days or more. Continuous FMLA leave may be taken for any qualifying reason.
- b. Intermittent FMLA leave is FMLA leave taken in separate blocks of time due to a single qualifying reason. A reduced FMLA leave schedule is a FMLA leave schedule that reduces a staff member's usual number of working hours per workweek, or hours per workday. A reduced FMLA leave schedule is a change in a staff member's schedule for a period of time, normally from full-time to part-time.
  - (1) Intermittent or reduced FMLA leave may be taken for the following qualifying reasons:
    - (a) For the serious health condition of the staff member or to care for a parent, son, or daughter with a serious health condition.
      - For intermittent FMLA leave or (i) FMLA leave on a reduced FMLA leave schedule taken for the reason outlined in B.4.b.(1)(a) above there must be a medical need for FMLA leave and it must be that such medical need be best can accommodated through an intermittent or reduced FMLA leave schedule.
      - (ii) The treatment regimen and other information described in the certification of a serious health condition and in the certification of a



serious injury or illness, shall address the medical necessity of intermittent FMLA leave or FMLA leave on a reduced FMLA leave schedule.

- (iii) Intermittent FMLA leave may be taken for a serious health condition of a parent, son, or daughter, for a staff member's own serious health condition, which requires treatment by a health care provider periodically, rather than for one continuous period of time, and may include FMLA leave of periods from an hour or more to several weeks.
- (b) For planned and/or unanticipated medical treatment of a serious health condition when medically necessary.
- (c) To provide care or psychological comfort to a covered family member with a serious health condition when medically necessary.
- (d) For absences where a staff member or family member is incapacitated or unable to perform the essential functions of the position because of a chronic serious health condition even if he or she does not receive treatment by a health care provider.
- (e) For FMLA leave taken after the birth of a healthy child or placement of a healthy child for adoption or foster care, only if the Board agrees.
  - (i) The Board's agreement is not required; however, for FMLA leave during which the mother has a serious health condition in connection with the birth of her child or if the newborn child has a serious health condition.



- (2) If a staff member needs FMLA leave intermittently or on a reduced FMLA leave schedule for planned medical treatment, then a staff member must make a reasonable effort to schedule the treatment so as not to disrupt unduly the Board's operations.
- (3) When a staff member takes FMLA leave on an intermittent or reduced FMLA leave schedule basis, the Board must account for the FMLA leave using an increment no greater than the shortest period of time that the Board uses to account for use of other forms of leave provided that it is not greater than one hour and provided further that a staff member's FMLA leave entitlement may not be reduced by more than the amount of FMLA leave actually taken.
  - (a) If the Board accounts for use of leave in varying increments at different times of the day or shift, the Board may not account for FMLA leave in a larger increment than the shortest period used to account for other leave during the period in which the FMLA leave is taken.
  - (b) If the Board accounts for other forms of leave use in increments greater than one hour, the Board must account for FMLA leave use in increments no greater than one hour.

### 5. Staff Member Notice Requirements

- a. A staff member eligible for FMLA leave must give at least a thirty day written advance notice to the Superintendent or designee if the need for the FMLA leave is foreseeable based on an expected birth, placement for adoption or foster care, or planned medical treatment for a serious health condition of a staff member or a family member.
  - (1) If thirty days is not practical, a staff member must provide notice "as soon as practicable" which means as soon as both possible and practical, taking into account all the facts and circumstances in the individual case.



- (2) Where it is not possible to give as much as thirty days' notice, "as soon as practical" ordinarily would mean at least verbal notification to the Superintendent or designee within one or two business days or when the need for FMLA leave becomes known to a staff member.
- (3) The written notice shall include the reasons for the FMLA leave, the anticipated duration of the FMLA leave, and the anticipated start of the FMLA leave.
- (4) When planning medical treatment, a staff member must consult with the Superintendent or designee and make a reasonable effort to schedule the FMLA leave so as not to unduly disrupt the educational program, subject to the approval of the health care provider.
  - (a) Staff members are ordinarily expected to consult with the Superintendent or designee prior to scheduling of treatment that would require FMLA leave for a schedule that best suits the needs of the Board and a staff member.
- (5) Intermittent FMLA leave or FMLA leave on a reduced FMLA leave schedule must be medically necessary due to a serious health condition or a serious injury or illness. A staff member shall advise the Board of the reasons why the intermittent/reduced FMLA leave schedule is necessary and of the schedule for treatment, if applicable.
  - (a) A staff member and the Board shall attempt to work out a schedule for such FMLA leave that meets a staff member's needs without unduly disrupting the Board's operations, subject to the approval of the health care provider.
- (6) Where a staff member does not comply with the Board's usual notice and procedural requirements, and no unusual circumstances justify the failure to



comply, FMLA-protected leave may be delayed or denied.

- b. When the approximate timing of the need for FMLA leave is not foreseeable, a staff member should give notice to the Superintendent or designee for FMLA leave as soon as practicable under the facts and circumstances of the particular case.
  - (1) It is expected a staff member will give notice to the Superintendent or designee within no more than one or two business days of learning of the need for FMLA leave, except in extraordinary circumstances where such notice is not foreseeable.
  - (2) A staff member should provide notice to the Board either in person, by telephone, telegraph, fax machine, email, or other electronic means.
- 6. Outside Employment During FMLA Leave
  - a. A staff member during any period of FMLA leave is prohibited from performing any services on a full-time basis for any person for whom a staff member did not provide services immediately prior to commencement of the FMLA leave.
    - (1) A staff member using FMLA leave may commence part-time employment that shall not exceed half the regularly scheduled hours worked for the Board.
    - (2) A staff member may continue the part-time employment that commenced prior to the FMLA leave at the same number of hours that a staff member was regularly scheduled prior to such FMLA leave.
- 7. "Instructional Employees" Exceptions for FMLA Leave
  - a. "Instructional Employees" are those staff members whose principal function is to teach and instruct students in class, a small group, or in an individual setting. This term includes teachers, athletic coaches, driving instructors, and special education assistants, such as signers for the hearing impaired.



- (1) Teacher assistants or aides who do not have as their principal job actual teaching or instructing, guidance counselors, child study team members, curriculum specialists, cafeteria workers, maintenance workers, and/or bus drivers are not considered instructional staff members for the purposes of this Policy.
- (2) For purposes of this Policy "Instructional Employees" shall be referred to as "Instructional Staff Members".
- b. "Semester" means the school semester that typically ends near the end of the calendar year and the end of the spring each school year. The Board can have no more than two semesters in a school year.
- c. FMLA leave taken at the end of the school year and continues into the beginning of the next school year is considered consecutive FMLA leave.
- d. Eligible instructional staff members that need intermittent or reduced FMLA leave to care for a family member or for a staff member's own serious health condition which is foreseeable based on planned medical treatment and would be on FMLA leave more than twenty percent of the total number of working days over the period the FMLA leave would extend, the Board may:
  - (1) Require a staff member to take the FMLA leave for a period or periods of a particular duration, not greater than the duration of the planned treatment; or
  - (2) Transfer a staff member temporarily to an available alternative position for which a staff member is qualified, which has equivalent pay and benefits and which better accommodates recurring periods of FMLA leave than does a staff member's regular position.
- e. If the instructional staff member does not give the required notice for FMLA leave that is foreseeable and desires the FMLA leave to be taken intermittently or on a reduced



FMLA leave schedule, the Board may require a staff member to take FMLA leave of a particular duration, or to transfer temporarily to an alternative position. Alternatively, the Board may require a staff member to delay taking the FMLA leave until the notice provision is met.

- f. If an instructional staff member begins FMLA leave more than five weeks before the end of the school year, the Board may require a staff member to continue taking FMLA leave until the end of the semester if:
  - (1) The FMLA leave will last three weeks; and
  - (2) A staff member would return to work during the three-week period before the end of the semester.
- g. If an instructional staff member begins FMLA leave for a purpose other than a staff member's own serious health condition during the five week period before the end of the semester, the Board may require a staff member to continue taking FMLA leave until the end of the semester if:
  - (1) The FMLA leave will last more than two weeks; and
  - (2) The staff member would return to work during the two week period before the end of the semester.
- h. If an instructional staff member begins FMLA leave for a purpose other than a staff member's own serious health condition during the three week period before the end of a semester, the Board may require a staff member to continue taking FMLA leave until the end of the semester if the FMLA leave will last more than five working days.
- i. An example of FMLA leave falling within the situations outlines in B.7.f., B.7.g., and B.7.h. above:
  - (1) If a staff member plans two weeks of FMLA leave to care for a family member which will begin three weeks before the end of the term, the Board could require a staff member to stay out on FMLA leave until the end of the term.



- j. In the case of a staff member who is required to take FMLA leave until the end of an academic term, only the period of FMLA leave until a staff member is ready and able to return to work shall be charged against a staff member's FMLA leave entitlement.
- k. The Board may require a staff member to stay on FMLA leave until the end of the school term. Any additional leave required by the Board to the end of the school term is not counted as FMLA leave; however:
  - (1) The Board shall be required to maintain a staff member's group health insurance; and
  - (2) The Board shall be required to restore a staff member to the same or equivalent job including other benefits at the conclusion of the leave.
- 8. FMLA Leave Related to Military Service
  - a. Definitions for FMLA related to military service shall be in accordance with 29 CFR §§825.122; .126; .127; and .310.
  - b. The foreign deployment of the staff member's spouse, child, or parent in accordance with 29 CFR §§825.122 and .126:
    - (1) The district must grant an eligible staff member up to twelve work weeks of unpaid, job-protected FMLA leave during any twelve month period for qualifying exigencies that arise when the staff member's spouse, child, or parent is on covered active duty, or has been notified of an impending call or order to covered active duty.
  - c. Military caregiver FMLA leave provides care for a covered servicemember with a serious injury or illness in accordance with 29 CFR §§825.122 and .127:
    - (1) The district must grant up to a total of twenty-six workweeks of unpaid, job-protected FMLA leave during a "single twelve month period" to care for a covered servicemember with a serious injury or illness.



#### 9. Verification

- a. The Board shall require that a staff member's FMLA leave to care for a staff member's covered family member with a serious health condition, or due to a staff member's own serious health condition that makes a staff member unable to perform one or more of the essential functions of a staff member's position, be supported by a certification issued by the health care provider of a staff member or a staff member's family member.
  - (1) The Board must give written notice of a requirement for certification each time a certification is required. The Board's oral request to a staff member to furnish any subsequent certification is sufficient.
- b. The Board shall require a staff member furnish certification at the time a staff member gives notice of the need for FMLA leave or within five business days thereafter, or, in the case of unforeseen FMLA leave, within five business days after the FMLA leave commences.
  - (1) The Board may request certification at some later date if the Board later has reason to question the appropriateness of the FMLA leave or its duration.
  - (2) A staff member must provide the requested certification to the Board within fifteen calendar days after the Board's request, unless it is not practicable under the particular circumstances to do so despite a staff member's diligent, good faith efforts or the Board provides more than fifteen calendar days to return the requested certification.
- c. When FMLA leave is taken because of a staff member's own serious health condition, or the serious health condition of a family member, the Board shall require a staff member to obtain a medical certification from a health care provider that sets forth the following information:
- (1) The name, address, telephone number, and fax number of the health care provider and type of medical practice/specialization;



- (2) The approximate date on which the serious health condition commenced, and its probable duration;
- (3) A statement or description of appropriate medical facts regarding the patient's health condition for which FMLA leave is requested. The medical facts must be sufficient to support the need for FMLA leave.
  - (a) Such medical facts may include information on symptoms, diagnosis, hospitalization, doctor visits, whether medication has been prescribed, any referrals for evaluation or treatment (physical therapy, for example), or any other regimen of continuing treatment;
- (4) If a staff member is the patient, information sufficient to establish that a staff member cannot perform the essential functions of a staff member's job as well as the nature of any other work restrictions, and the likely duration of such inability;
- (5) If the patient is a covered family member with a serious health condition, information sufficient to establish that the family member is in need of care, and an estimate of the frequency and duration of the FMLA leave required to care for the family member;
- (6) If a staff member requests FMLA leave on an intermittent or reduced schedule basis for planned medical treatment of a staff member's or a covered family member's serious health condition, information sufficient to establish the medical
  - necessity for such intermittent or reduced schedule FMLA leave and an estimate of the dates and duration of such treatments and any periods of recovery;
- (7) If a staff member requests FMLA leave on an intermittent or reduced schedule basis for a staff member's serious health condition, including pregnancy, that may result in unforeseeable episodes of incapacity, information sufficient to



establish the medical necessity for such intermittent or reduced schedule FMLA leave and an estimate of the frequency and duration of the episodes of incapacity; and

- (8) If a staff member requests FMLA leave on an intermittent or reduced schedule basis to care for a covered family member with a serious health condition, a statement that such FMLA leave is medically necessary to care for the family member, which can include assisting in the family member's recovery, and an estimate of the frequency and duration of the required FMLA leave.
- d. A staff member may choose to comply with the certification requirement by providing the Board with an authorization, release, or waiver allowing the Board to communicate directly with the health care provider of a staff member or his or her covered family member.
  - (1) It is a staff member's responsibility to provide the Board with complete and sufficient certification and failure to do so may result in the denial of FMLA leave.
- e. If the Board has reason to doubt the validity of a medical certification, the Board may require a staff member to obtain a second opinion at the Board's expense.
  - (1) The Board may designate the health care provider to furnish the second opinion, but the selected health care provider may not be employed on a regular basis by the Board.
- f. If the opinions of a staff member's and the Board's designated health care providers differ, the Board may require a staff member to obtain certification from a third health care provider, again at the Board's expense. This third opinion shall be final and binding. The third health care provider must be designated or approved jointly by the Board and the staff member.
- 10. Reinstatement Following FMLA Leave
  - a. On return from FMLA leave a staff member is entitled to



be returned to the same position a staff member held when FMLA leave commenced, or to an equivalent position with equivalent benefits, pay, and other terms and conditions of employment.

- (1) A staff member is entitled to such reinstatement even if a staff member has been replaced or his or her position has been restructured to accommodate for a staff member's absence.
- (2) The requirement that a staff member be restored to the same or equivalent job with the same or equivalent pay, benefits, and terms and conditions of employment does not extend to de minimis, intangible, or unmeasurable aspects of the job.

#### b. Denial of Reinstatement

- (1) A staff member has no greater right to reinstatement or to other benefits and conditions of employment that if a staff member had been continuously employed during the FMLA leave period.
  - (a) The Board must be able to show that a staff member would not otherwise have been employed at the time reinstatement is requested in order to deny restoration to employment.
- (2) The Board may deny job restoration to "key employees", if such denial is necessary to prevent substantial and grievous economic injury to the operations of the Board.
  - (a) A "key employee" is a salaried FMLAeligible staff member who is among the highest paid ten percent of all staff members employed by the Board within seventy-five miles of a staff member's worksite.
- (3) If a staff member is unable to perform an essential function of the position because of a physical or mental condition, including the continuation of a serious health condition or an injury or illness also covered by workers' compensation, a staff member



has no right to restoration to another position under the FMLA.

- (a) The Board's obligation may; however, be governed by the Americans with Disabilities Act, State leave law, or workers' compensation laws.
- (4) A staff member who fraudulently obtains FMLA leave from the Board is not protected by FMLA's job restoration or maintenance of health benefits provisions.
- c. Intent to Return to Work
  - (1) The Board may require a staff member on FMLA leave to report periodically on a staff member's status and intent to return to work.
- d. Fitness for Duty Certification
  - (1) As a condition of restoring a staff member whose FMLA leave was a result of a staff member's own serious health condition that made a staff member unable to perform a staff member's job, the Board shall require all similarly-situated staff members (i.e., same occupation, same serious health condition) who take FMLA leave for such conditions to obtain and present certification from a staff member's health care provider that a staff member is able to resume work.
  - (2) A staff member has the same obligations to participate and cooperate in the fitness-for-duty certification process as in the initial certification process.
- 11. The Board of Education Notice
  - a. Notice of Staff Member Rights Under FMLA
    - (1) The Board shall post and keep posted on its premises, in conspicuous places where staff members are employed, a notice explaining the FMLA's provisions and providing information



concerning the procedures for filing complaints of violations of the FMLA with the Wage and Hour Division.

- (a) The notice will be posted prominently where it can be readily seen by staff members and applicants for employment.
- (b) The poster and the text will be large enough to be easily read and contain fully legible text.
- (c) Electronic posting is sufficient to meet this posting requirement as long as it otherwise meets the requirements of B.11.
- (2) The Board shall also provide this general notice to each staff member by including the notice in staff members' handbooks or other written guidance to staff members concerning staff member benefits or FMLA leave rights, if such written materials exist, or by distributing a copy of the general notice to each new staff member upon hiring. In either case, distribution may be accomplished electronically.
- (3) Access to and/or distribution of this Policy shall serve as school district notice to staff members of their rights pursuant to 29 CFR §825 et seq.

### b. Eligibility Notice

(1) When a staff member requests FMLA leave, or when the Board acquires knowledge that a staff member's FMLA leave may be for an FMLA-qualifying reason, the Board must notify the staff member of the staff member's eligibility to take FMLA leave within five business days, absent extenuating circumstances.

### c. Designation Notice

(1) The Board is responsible in all circumstances for designating leave as FMLA-qualifying, and for giving notice of the designation to a staff member. The Board must notify a staff member whether the



leave will be designated and will be counted as FMLA leave within five business days absent extenuating circumstances.

(2) If the Board requires paid leave to be substituted for unpaid FMLA leave, or that paid leave taken under an existing leave plan be counted as FMLA leave, the Board must inform a staff member of this designation at the time of designating the FMLA leave.

#### 12. Local Board of Education Practices

- a. Substitution of Paid Leave
  - (1) Whether a staff member is required to use sick time or any other accrued leave time concurrent with FMLA leave time will depend upon either the district's practice or a provision in the district's collective bargaining agreement, if applicable.
- b. Maintenance of Staff Member Benefits
  - (1) The Board must maintain a staff member's coverage under any group health plan on the same conditions as coverage would have been provided if a staff member had been continuously employed during the entire FMLA leave period.

#### C. Shared Provisions

1. Interference with Family Leave Rights

The NJFLA and the FMLA prohibit interference with a staff member's rights under the law, and with legal proceedings or inquiries relating to a staff member's rights. Unless permitted by the law, no staff member shall be required to take family leave or to extend family leave beyond the time requested. A staff member shall not be discriminated against for having exercised his/her rights under the NJFLA and the FMLA nor discouraged from the use of family leave.

2. Non-Tenured Teaching Staff

Family leave granted to a nontenured staff member cannot extend a



staff member's employment beyond the expiration of his/her employment contract.

### 3. Record Keeping

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure the keeping of accurate attendance records that distinguish family leave from other kinds of leave so a staff member's entitlement to NJFLA leave and FMLA leave can be properly determined.

### 4. Processing of Complaints

- a. New Jersey Family Leave Act
  - (1) Any complaint alleging a violation of the NJFLA shall be processed in the same manner as a complaint filed under the terms of N.J.S.A. 10:5-1 et seq. and N.J.A.C. 13:4 through the New Jersey Department of Law and Public Safety, Division on Civil Rights.
- b. Federal Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA)
  - (1) If there is a dispute between the Board and a staff member as to whether leave qualifies as FMLA leave, it should be resolved through discussion between the staff member and the Superintendent or designee. Such discussions and the decision shall be documented by the Superintendent or designee.
  - (2) A staff member also may file, or have another person file on his/her behalf, a complaint with the United States Secretary of Labor. A complaint may be filed in person, by mail, or by telephone with the Wage and Hour Division, Employment Standards Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, at any local office of the Wage and Hour Division.
  - (3) This Policy 1643 shall be posted on the school district website, in a manner accessible to all staff members and a hard copy shall be provided to all staff members annually prior to the beginning of the school year and upon initial employment in the school district during the school year.



29 CFR §825 et seq. 29 CFR §785 N.J.S.A. 10:5-1; N.J.S.A. 34:11B et seq. N.J.A.C. 13:14-1 et seq.

Revised (First Reading): March 18, 2021 Revised (Second Reading): April 29, 2021



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[See POLICY ALERT Nos. 167, 168, 198 and 222]

### 2415 EVERY STUDENT SUCCEEDS ACT NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND PROGRAMS

The No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) of 2001 Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) is a reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA)/Improving America's Schools Act (IASA) 1994, of 1965 that provides providing Federal funds to help all New Jersey's school children achieve., at a minimum, proficiency in the State standards. NCLB embodies four key principles or pillars of education reform: accountability, flexibility, choice, and methodology. The purpose of the ESSA is to ensure all students have equitable access to high-quality educational resources and opportunities and to close educational achievement gaps. The Board of Education elects to augment the instructional program of students by projects supported by Federal funds allocated under the ESSA NCLB and the district will comply with the requirements of all the programs authorized by the ESSA NCLB.

The district may be eligible for several grant programs funded through the ESSA NCLB, including, but not limited to, Title I through Title VII. Many of the Titles of the ESSA NCLB have several parts and subparts that provide a funding source for specific purposes.

### **Application Procedure**

The district will submit an annual ESSA No Child Left Behind Consolidated Formula Subgrant Application to the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE). The school district's application shall include all information required by the NJDOE and the ESSA NCLB for the district to be considered for funding under the ESSA NCLB.

### **Covered Programs**

Formula grants under the ESSA are non-competitive grants that school districts are eligible for based on the make-up of their student bodies. These formula grants for each Title are committed to different purposes and may be used to support different activities and programs.



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The intent of NCLB is that all children will meet State academic achievement standards to reach their potential through improved programs. The NCLB Consolidated Formula Subgrant includes the following programs:

- 1. Title I, Part A provides the programs and resources for disadvantaged students to meet this intent. It requires the State and the district to close the achievement gap by placing a highly qualified teacher in every classroom, improving the qualifications of paraprofessionals who work with disadvantaged students, and using instructional practices that have proven to be effective.
- 2. Title I, Part D serves neglected and delinquent youth in institutions, community day programs, and correctional facilities to assure they also attain high academic levels of performance.
- 3. Title II, Part A provides the resources for improving teacher and Principal quality and increasing the number of highly qualified teachers and Principals in classrooms and schools, thereby raising student achievement in the academic subjects. It focuses on preparing, training, and recruiting high quality teachers and Principals and requires the State to develop plans with annual measurable objectives that will ensure all teachers teaching in core academic subjects are highly qualified by the end of the 2005-2006 school year.
- 4. Title II, Part D facilitates comprehensive and integrated educational technology strategies that target the specific needs of individual schools. It improves student academic achievement through the use of technology in elementary and secondary schools, while addressing the digital divide such that every student is technologically literate by the end of eighth grade. Effective integration of technology resources and systems with teacher training and curriculum development are encouraged in order to identify and showcase best practices in educational technology.
- 5. Title III, Part A focuses on the teaching of English to limited English proficient (LEP) children, including immigrant children and youth.



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- Title IV, Part A provides resources for fostering a safe and drugfree learning environment that supports academic achievement.
- 7. Title V, Part A provides a flexible source of funding to help districts in the development and implementation of various innovative reform initiatives.
- 8. Title VI, Part B addresses the unique needs of rural school districts.
- Title IX covers the general provisions applicable to some/all of the programs.

Throughout NCLB, the use of solid research to improve teaching and learning as well as student behavior is required and promoted, and parent(s)/legal guardian(s) are provided with information and options to improve the educational opportunities provided for their children. The emphasis on scientifically based methodology encourages the use of teaching techniques and practices that are founded on research and proven to produce positive results.

#### Title I

The largest Federal program supporting elementary and secondary education is Title I. **The ESSA** NCLB strengthens Title I requirements for the State's assessments, accountability system, and support for school improvement. The law also establishes requires minimum qualifications for teachers and paraprofessionals in Title I programs.

The school district must use the best available measure for identifying children from low-income families to: identify eligible school attendance areas, determine the ranking of each area, and determine allocations as identified in the Title I guidelines and regulations.

The school district will offer Title I services to eligible children enrolled in private elementary and secondary schools. The services and benefits will be equitable in comparison to services and benefits for participating public school children.



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The school district will provide the New Jersey Department of Education assurances it will provide the maximum coordination between the Title I program, the regular school program, and services provided by other programs for specialized populations. The Title I program will consider the special needs of homeless children, migrant children, children with disabilities and limited English proficient (LEP) children. Title I funds will be reserved so that migrant children who are otherwise eligible to receive Title I services, even if they arrive during the school year, are served.

The school district will offer a **Target Assistance or Public School Choice** Title I program.

Target Assistance Program

Schools that are not eligible for (or do not choose to operate) school-wide Title I programs must use Title I funds to provide targeted services to low-achieving students. A Target Assistance program must be established in accordance with the Title I guidelines and regulations and the New Jersey Department of Education.]

Academic Standards, Academic Assessments, and Accountability New Jersey Department of Education Accountability System

The district will comply with the accountability system requirements established by of the New Jersey Department of Education and outlined in the New Jersey State Plan and approved by the United States Department of Education as outlined in Policy 2415.01 — Academic Standards, Academic Assessments, and Accountability in accordance with the NJDOE and NCLB.

Fiscal Responsibility

The district will comply with the requirements as outlined in Policy 2415.02 Title I – Fiscal Responsibilities in accordance with the NJDOE and the ESSA NCLB.

Staff

The district will comply with the staff certification requirements of the ESSA and the NJDOE requirements as outlined in Policy 2415.03 Highly Qualified



Teachers in accordance with the NJDOE and NCLB. In addition, the district will ensure all paraprofessionals meet the requirements as **established** required by the **ESSA** NCLB and as outlined in Policy 4125 – Employment of Support Staff Members.

#### Parental Involvement

The district will comply with the requirements as outlined in Policy 2415.04 – Parental Involvement in accordance with the NJDOE and the ESSA NCLB.

Student Surveys, Analysis, and/or Evaluations

The Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA) applies to school districts that receive Federal funding from the United States Department of Education. The district will comply with the requirements as outlined in Policy 2415.05 - Student Surveys, Analysis, and/or Evaluations in accordance with the PPRA.

#### Unsafe School Choice Option

In the event there is a school in the district designated as Persistently Dangerous in accordance with the Victims of Violent Criminal Offenses as outlined in the ESSA NCLB, the district will comply with the requirements of Policy 2415.06 – Unsafe School Choice Option in accordance with the NJDOE and the ESSA NCLB.

#### **Property**

Property acquired through Title I funds for use in public or private schools will be acquired in accordance with the Public School Contracts Law, will be held in title by the Board of Education, and will not be used for other purposes so long as it is required in the Title I program. Property no longer required for Title I purposes will be used for other, similarly funded projects or disposed of in accordance with State and Federal guidelines.

#### Capital Expenses

The Superintendent will assure the district abides by New Jersey's Public Contracts Law; consults appropriate private school officials prior to making any decisions regarding capital expenses; ensure funds that are received to cover capital expenses provide equitable Title I services to private school students; ensure accounts for any capital funding is separately maintained; and assure lease purchase agreements are consistent with applicable statute and administrative code.



The school district will maintain all project records for five years following the completion of the activity for which the funds were used. The school district will prepare and submit all reports as required by the State Department of Education in a timely manner.

Supplement, Not Supplant

Grant funds provided under Federal programs, including the ESEA of 1965 as amended by the ESSA No Child Left Behind funding, shall supplement, not supplant the funds that would, in the absence of such other non-Federal funds, be made that are available to provide programs and services to eligible from State and local sources for the education of students, participating in unless otherwise provided in the grant programs assisted under the ESEA of 1965 as amended by the ESSA.

State Waiver from Certain Provisions of No Child Left Behind (NCLB)

The State of New Jersey may receive a waiver(s) from certain provisions of NCLB from the United States Department of Education. A waiver(s) may affect the applicability of the school district's NCLB policies and/or regulations. In the event a waiver(s) affects the applicability of Board of Education NCLB policies and/or regulations, the waiver provisions shall supersede current Board policies and/or regulations and the school district shall comply with the requirements as outlined by the New Jersey Department of Education in accordance with the waiver(s) application and approval(s) from the United States Department of Education.

**Evaluation** 

The Superintendent or designee will evaluate the ESSA NCLB programs as required by the United States and the New Jersey Departments of Education.

No Child Left Behind Act of 2001

Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 2701 et seq.) as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act.

Revised (First Reading): March 18, 2021 Revised (Second Reading): April 29, 2021



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#### [See POLICY ALERT Nos. 167 and 222]

#### 2415.05 STUDENT SURVEYS, ANALYSIS, AND/OR EVALUATIONS

The Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA) (20 U.S.C. §1232h; 34 CFR Part 98) applies to school districts that receive funding from the United States Department of Education.

#### Consent

PPRA requires written consent from parents/legal guardians of unemancipated minor students and students who are eighteen years old or emancipated minor students before such minor students are required to participate in a survey, analysis, or evaluation funded in whole or in part by a program of the United States Department of Education that concerns one or more of the following nine areas referred to as "protected information surveys":

- 1. Political affiliations or beliefs of the student or student's parent;
- 2. Mental or psychological problems of the student or student's family;
- 3. Sex behavior or attitudes;
- 4. Illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating or demeaning behavior;
- 5. Critical appraisals of others with whom respondents have close family relationships;
- 6. Legally recognized privileged or analogous relationships, such as with lawyers, physicians, and ministers;
- 7. Religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or parents;
- 8. Income (other than that required by law to determine eligibility for participation in a program or for receiving financial assistance under such program); or
- 9. Social security number.



PROGRAM 2415.05/page 2 of 3 Student Surveys, Analysis, and/or Evaluations

This consent requirement also applies to the collection, disclosure or use of student information for marketing purposes, referred to as "marketing surveys", and for certain physical examinations and screenings.

"Opt a Student Out" Notice

The parents of unemancipated minor students and eligible students who are eighteen years old or emancipated minor students will be provided an opportunity to opt a student out of participating in:

- 1. The collection, disclosure, or use of personal information obtained from students for marketing, to sell, or otherwise distribute information to others;
- 2. The administration of any other "protected information survey" not funded in whole or in part by the United States Department of Education; and
- 3. Any non-emergency, invasive physical examination required as a condition of attendance, administered by the school district or its agents, and not necessary to protect the immediate health and safety of a student, except for hearing, vision, scoliosis screenings, or any physical examination or screening permitted or required under State law.

#### Inspection

The parents of unemancipated minor students and eligible students who are eighteen years old or emancipated minor students, upon request and before administration or use, have the right to inspect:

- 1. Protected information surveys of students;
- 2. Instruments used to collect personal information from students for any of the above marketing, sales, or other distribution purposes; and
- 3. Instructional material used as part of the educational curriculum.



PROGRAM 2415.05/page 3 of 3 Student Surveys, Analysis, and/or Evaluations

The **Superintendent or designee** \_\_\_\_\_\_ shall be responsible for obtaining the consent, annual direct notification to parents and eligible students at the start of each school year and after any substantive changes of the "opt a student out" rights, and the inspection rights provisions of PPRA and this Policy. The "opt a student out" notice shall include any specific or approximate dates of the activities eligible for a student to "opt out."

PPRA Consent/Opt Out Violations

Parents or students who believe their rights under PPRA may have been violated may file a complaint with United States Department of Education.

The Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA) (20 U.S.C. §1232h; 34 CFR Part 98)

No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, Title X, Part F, §1061

Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 2701 et seq.) as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act.

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[See POLICY ALERT Nos. 178 and 222]

#### 2415.20 EVERY STUDENT SUCCEEDS ACT NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND COMPLAINTS

Pursuant to 20 USC 7844, Sec 9304 (a)(3)(C), of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (NCLB), The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) reauthorized the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA). As Board of Education shall adopt a policy and written procedures for resolving a written complaint presented by an individual or organization that alleges that offer parent(s) or legal guardian(s), public agencies, other individuals, or organizations a method for receipt and resolution of complaints alleging violations in the administration of the ESSA NCLB programs as identified by the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE).

Policy and Regulation 2415.20 set forth the requirements for resolving complaints presented by any individual or organization that:

- 1. A school, school district, other agency authorized by the school district, or by the NJDOE violated the administration of education programs authorized required by the Elementary and Secondary Education Act ESEA as amended by the ESSA NCLB; and/or
- 2. The NJDOE violated the administration of education programs required by the **ESEA** Elementary and Secondary Education Act as amended by the **ESSA** NCLB.

Complaints regarding nonpublic school officials alleging school district noncompliance must pertain to at least one of the following three specific reasons:

- 1. The school district did not engage in consultation that was meaningful and timely;
- 2. The school district did not give due consideration to the views of the nonpublic school officials; or



3. The school district did not make a decision that treats the nonpublic school or its students equitable and in accordance with ESEA Section 1117 or Section 8501.

A Ccomplaint shall be a written and must identify, at a minimum, the alleged ESEA violation; a description of previous steps taken to resolve the matter; allegation that shall identify the alleged NCLB violation, the facts supporting the alleged violation as understood by the complainant at the time of submission;; and any supporting documentation.

A Ccomplaint alleging a school in the district, school district, or other agency authorized by the school district, or the NJDOE violated the administration of a program must be submitted to the **Superintendent of Schools**. The **Superintendent of Schools** shall be responsible to coordinate the investigation of the Ccomplaint. The **Superintendent of Schools** shall submit a written report regarding the outcome of the investigation to the complainant.

If the complainant is not satisfied with the outcome of the investigation by the school district, the complainant must submit a written complaint may initiate a Complaint by submitting a written Complaint to the NJDOE to the attention of the Executive County Superintendent for the county where the school district is located. This process does not apply to alleged violations concerning participation of nonpublic school children.

The Executive County Superintendent will coordinate the investigation of a Geomplaint. When the investigation is complete, the Executive County Superintendent will notify the complainant in writing regarding the outcome of the investigation. If it is determined a violation has occurred, the Executive County Superintendent will identify and impose the appropriate consequences or corrective action in accordance with statute and/or regulation to resolve the complaint. Assistant Commissioner assigned to oversee the matter shall identify and impose appropriate consequences or corrective actions as required by regulation to resolve the Complaint. If the complainant is not satisfied with the determination that is made by the Executive County Superintendent does not agree with the NJDOE's decision, the complainant may submit a written request for review of that determination to the Assistant Commissioner appeal to the United States Department of Education Secretary.

A Complaint alleging the NJDOE violated the administration of a program must be submitted to the **designated** New Jersey Department of Education **Assistant Commissioner** Chief of Staff or the United States Department of Education Secretary. The NJDOE requests the complainant first contact the New Jersey Department of Education Chief of Staff to resolve the issue. The appropriate



NJDOE Office assigned by the Assistant Commissioner of Strategic Initiatives and Accountability will coordinate the investigation of a Complaint. When the investigation is complete, the Assistant Commissioner Chief of Staff will notify the complainant in writing regarding the outcome of the investigation. If it is determined a violation has occurred, the Assistant Commissioner Chief of Staff shall will identify and impose the identify and impose appropriate consequences or corrective actions as required by statute and/or regulation to resolve the Ccomplaint.

If a complainant does not agree with the NJDOE's decision, the complainant may appeal to the **Secretary of the** United States Department of Education <del>Secretary</del>.

To initiate a complaint regarding participation of nonpublic school children, a complainant must submit a written complaint to the NJDOE Nonpublic Ombudsman in accordance with NJDOE procedures.

New Jersey Department of Education 1/26/07 Memorandum No Child Left Behind Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) Complaint Policy and Procedure

Revised (First Reading): March 18, 2021 Revised (Second Reading): April 29, 2021



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[See POLICY ALERT Nos. 178 and 222]

#### R 2415.20 EVERY STUDENT SUCCEEDS ACT NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND COMPLAINTS

Pursuant to 20 USC 7844, See 9304 (a)(3)(C), of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (NCLB), The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) requires the a Board of Education to shall adopt a policy and written procedures that offer parent(s) or legal guardian(s), public agencies, other individuals, or organizations a method for receipt and resolution of complaints alleging violations in the administration of the ESSA NCLB programs.

- A. Complaint Procedure Alleging aA Violation bBy aA School, School District, oOr Other Agency Authorized bBy tThe School District Or The New Jersey Department Of Education (NJDOE)
  - 1. A Complaint is an written allegation submitted in writing (mail or email) by an individual or organization that a school, school district, or other agency authorized by the school district, or the NJDOE has violated the law in the administration of education programs required by the ESSA NCLB Act.
  - 2. A Complaint shall must identify at a minimum the following:
    - a. The alleged **ESSA** NCLB violation;
    - b. A description of previous steps taken to resolve the matter;
    - cb. The facts supporting the alleged violation as understood by the complainant at the time of submission; and
    - de. Any supporting documentation (e.g., letters, emails, logs, agenda, meeting minutes).
  - A Complaint may be submitted in writing or electronically. If a
     Complaint is submitted electronically, a hard copy should also be
     sent to the NJDOE via regular mail at the address indicated below.



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	LB compliance) Executive County Superintendent for nty where the school, school district, or other author
	ncy is located The Complaint shall be in writing and shall
	ed, hand-delivered, or electronically submitted to
_	(district administrator responsible
NCI	_B compliance).
The	
The	
	NCLB compliance) shall be responsible to coordinate stigation of the allegations in the Complaint.
mve	sugation of the anegations in the Complaint.
a. —	The (district administr
	responsible for NCLB compliance) shall acknowled
	receipt of the Complaint to the complainant within
	business days of receipt of the Complaint.
b.—	The (district administr
0.	responsible for NCLB compliance) may meet
	building and district administrative staff, teaching s
	support staff, students, and/or the complainant(s)
	determine if a violation of the administration of a N
	program has occurred.
<del>c</del> .	The (district administra
0.	responsible for NCLB compliance) may req
	additional information from the complainant regarding
	Complaint.
	Complaine.
d.	The (district administra
	responsible for NCLB compliance) shall submit a wri
	report regarding the outcome of the investigation to



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- e. If the outcome of the investigation concludes a violation has occurred, the (district administrator responsible for NCLB compliance) shall identify and impose the appropriate consequences or corrective action to resolve the Complaint.
- f. The outcome of the investigation may conclude the Complaint alleges a violation in the administration of a program by the NJDOE and the complainant shall be informed of the NJDOE Complaint Policy and Procedures as outlined in B. below.
- If the complainant is not satisfied with the outcome of the investigation, the complainant may initiate a Complaint by submitting a written Complaint to the NJDOE to the attention of the Executive County Superintendent. A list of the County Offices of Education and Executive County Superintendents can be found at <a href="http://www.state.nj.us/njded/regions/">http://www.state.nj.us/njded/regions/</a> or by calling (609) 292-4469.
- 47. When a written Complaint is received by the Executive County Superintendent, the Executive County Superintendent appropriate NJDOE personnel will issue a Letter of Acknowledgement to the complainant within ten business calendar days of receipt of the Complaint. This letter will shall contain the following information:
  - a. The date the Complaint was received;
  - b. A brief statement of the manner in which the Executive County Superintendent NJDOE will investigate the Complaint;
  - c. If necessary, a request for additional information regarding the Ccomplaint;
  - d. A resolution date within forty-five calendar days from the date the written complaint was received by the Executive County Superintendent; and



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- ed. The name and telephone phone number of a contact person for status updates.; and
- e. A tentative resolution date that is sixty days from the date the written Complaint was received by the County Office.
  - (1) Based on the facts of the alleged violation, an extension of time may be required to resolve the Complaint. If an extension is required, the appropriate NJDOE personnel will issue a follow-up letter prior to the initial resolution date informing the complainant of the revised timeframe.
- 58. The **Executive** County Superintendent will coordinate the investigation of a Complaint.
- 68. When the investigation is complete, the **Executive** County Superintendent will notify the complainant in writing regarding the outcome of the investigation.
  - a9. If the Executive County Superintendent determines a violation has occurred, the Executive County Superintendent will Assistant Commissioner assigned to oversee the matter shall identify and impose the appropriate consequences or corrective actions as required in accordance with statute and/or regulation by regulation to resolve the Ccomplaint.
  - b10. If the complainant is not satisfied with the determination that is made by the Executive County Superintendent does not agree with the NJDOE's decision, the complainant may submit a written request for review of that determination to the Assistant Commissioner, Division of Learning Supports and Specialized Services via email at essa@doe.nj.gov with subject line "ESEA Complaint Decision Review" or via hard copy at the following address appeal to the United States Department of Education Secretary at:



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New Jersey Department of Education Assistant Commissioner Division of Learning Supports and Specialized Services P.O. Box 500 Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0500

Office of Hearings & Appeals 400 Maryland Avenue, SW Washington, DC 20202 4611 (202) 619-9700

or at their website at:

http://www.ed-oha.org/index.html

- B. Complaint Procedure Alleging **aA** Violation **bB**y **t**The New Jersey Department **oO**f Education (NJDOE)
  - 1. A Complaint is a written allegation the NJDOE has violated the law in the administration of education programs required by the ESSA NCLB.
  - 2. A Complaint shall must identify at a minimum the following:
    - a. The alleged **ESSA** NCLB violation;
    - b. A description of previous steps taken to resolve the matter;
    - cb. The facts supporting the alleged violation as understood by the complainant at the time of submission; and
    - de. Any supporting documentation (e.g., letters, emails, logs, agenda, meeting minutes).



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3. To initiate a Complaint alleging the NJDOE has violated the administration of an ESEA NCLB program, a complainant must submit a written Ccomplaint to the New Jersey Department of Education - Assistant Commissioner, Division of Learning Supports Specialized Services via email essa@doe.nj.gov with subject line "ESEA Complaint or via hard copy sent to the following address: Chief of Staff or the United States Department of Education Secretary at the address indicated below. The NJDOE requests the complainant first contact the New Jersey Department of Education Chief of Staff to resolve the issue.

New Jersey Department of Education
Office of the Chief of Staff
Assistant Commissioner
Division of Learning Supports and Specialized Services
P.O. Box 500
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0500
(609) 292-4442

U.S. Department of Education
Office of Hearings & Appeals
400 Maryland Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20202-4611
(202) 619-9700
http://www.ed-oha.org/index.html

- 4. When a written Complaint is received by the NJDOE, the an Assistant Commissioner Chief of Staff will assign the investigation of this Complaint to the appropriate Office of Strategic Initiatives and Accountability or other designated office. This Office The NJDOE will issue a Letter of Acknowledgement to the complainant within ten calendar business days of receipt of the Complaint. This letter shall contain the following information:
  - a. The date the Complaint was received;
  - b. A brief statement of the manner in which the Department of Education NJDOE will investigate the Complaint;



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- c. If necessary, request for additional information regarding the Geomplaint;
- d. A resolution date within forty-five calendar days from the date the complaint was received; and
- ed. The name and telephone number of a contact person for status updates.; and
- e. A tentative resolution date that is sixty days from the date that the written Complaint was received.
  - (1) Based on the facts of the alleged violation, an extension of time may be required to resolve the Complaint. If an extension is required, the appropriate NJDOE personnel will issue a follow-up letter prior to the initial resolution date informing the complainant of the revised timeframe.
- 5. The NJDOE Office assigned by the Assistant Commissioner of Strategic Initiatives and Accountability will coordinate the investigation of to investigate a Complaint concerning an alleged violation by the NJDOE will coordinate the investigation of the complaint. When the investigation is complete, the Assistant Commissioner Chief of Staff will notify the complainant in writing regarding the outcome of the investigation.
  - a6. If the NJDOE Office assigned by the Assistant Commissioner of Education determines it is determined a violation by the NJDOE has occurred after conducting an investigation, the Assistant Commissioner will identify and impose appropriate consequences or corrective action in accordance with the statute and/or regulation, the Chief of Staff shall identify and impose appropriate consequences or corrective actions as required by regulation to resolve the Ccomplaint.



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b7. If the a complainant is not satisfied with the NJDOE's decision, the complainant may request a review of the NJDOE's decision to the Secretary of the United States Department of Education (USDOE). The complainant may send the request, reasons supporting the request, and a copy of NJDOE's resolution to the following address: does not agree with the NJDOE's decision, the complainant may appeal to the United States Department of Education Secretary at the address above.

Secretary, United States Department of Education 400 Maryland Avenue, SW Washington, DC 20202-4611

New Jersey Department of Education – Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) in New Jersey 1/26/07 Memorandum – No Child Left Behind ESEA Complaint Policy and Procedures

Revised (First Reading): March 18, 2021 Revised (Second Reading): April 29, 2021



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[See POLICY ALERT Nos. 156, 166, 172, 202, and 222]

#### 4125 EMPLOYMENT OF SUPPORT STAFF MEMBERS

The Board of Education believes it is vital to the successful operation of the school district that support staff member positions be filled with highly qualified and competent professionals.

In accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:27-4.1, the Board shall appoint, transfer, remove, or renew a certificated or non-certificated officer or employee only upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools and by a recorded roll call majority vote of the full membership of the Board. The Board shall not withhold its approval for arbitrary and capricious reasons. The Board shall approve the employment, fix the compensation, and establish the term of employment for every support staff member employed by this district.

The Board may will employ substitutes and/or contract for substitutes for absent support staff members in order to ensure continuity in a program. The Board and will annually approve a list of substitutes and rate of pay and/or the Board will approve a contract for a contracted service provider to provide substitute support staff members. The Superintendent or designee shall select substitutes from the list approved by the Board to serve in the place of an absent support staff member.

The Board may use a private contractor to secure a substitute support staff member.

The Board of Education shall not employ for pay or contract for the paid services of any support staff member or any other person serving in a position which involves regular contact with students unless the Board has first determined consistent with the requirements and standards of N.J.S.A. 18A:6-7.1 et seq. that no criminal history record information exists on file in the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Identification Division, or the State Bureau of Identification which would disqualify the individual from being employed or utilized in such capacity or position.



SUPPORT STAFF MEMBERS 4125/page 2 of 3 Employment of Support Staff Members

An individual employed by the Board or a school bus contractor holding a contract with the Board, in the capacity of a school bus driver, shall be required to meet the criminal history record requirements as outlined in N.J.S.A. 18A:39-19.1.

The Board will employ paraprofessional school aides and/or classroom aides to assist in the supervision of student activities under the direction of a Principal, teacher, or other designated certified professional personnel. Aides will serve the needs of students by performing nonprofessional duties and may work only under the direct supervision of a teaching staff member(s).

In accordance with the requirements of No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), paraprofessionals hired after January 8, 2002, who work in a program supported with Title I, Part A funds, with certain exceptions, must meet one of the following criteria:

- 1. Completed at least two years of study at an institution of higher education;
- 2. Obtained an associate's (or higher) degree; or
- 3. Met a rigorous standard of quality and be able to demonstrate, through a formal State or local academic assessment, knowledge of and the ability to assist in instructing, reading, writing, and mathematics (or, as appropriate, reading readiness, writing readiness, and mathematics readiness).

Paraprofessional staff working in a Title I school, and whose salary is paid for in whole or in part with Title I funds, must **meet** have met one of the criteria listed above by the end of the 2005-2006 school year. The Superintendent or designee will ensure paraprofessionals working in a program supported with Title I funds meet the above stated requirements.

An individual employed by the Board in any substitute capacity or position shall be required to undergo a criminal history record check in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:6-7.1b.

An individual, except as provided in N.J.S.A. 18A:6-7.1g, shall be permanently disqualified from employment or service in the school district if the criminal history record check reveals a record of conviction for any crime or offense as defined in N.J.S.A. 18A:6-7.1 et seq.



SUPPORT STAFF MEMBERS 4125/page 3 of 3 Employment of Support Staff Members

The Board or contracted service provider may employ an applicant on an emergent basis for a period not to exceed three months, pending completion of a criminal history record check if the Board or contracted service provider demonstrates to the Commissioner of Education that special circumstances exist which justify the emergent employment as prescribed in N.J.S.A. 18A:6-7.lc. In the event the criminal history record check is not completed for an emergent hired employee within three months, the Board or contracted service provider may petition the Commissioner for an extension of time, not to exceed two months, in order to retain the employee.

No criminal history record check shall be performed unless the applicant shall have furnished written consent to such a check. The applicant shall bear the cost for the criminal history record check, including all costs for administering and processing the check. The district will deny employment to an applicant if the applicant is required and refuses to submit to a criminal history record check.

The Board of Education prohibits any relative of a Board member or the Superintendent of Schools from being employed in an office or position in the school district in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-6.2 and Board Policy 0142.1 – Nepotism.

A support staff member's misstatement of fact material to his/her qualifications for employment or the determination of his/her salary will be considered by the Board to constitute grounds for dismissal.

N.J.S.A. 18A:6-5; 18A:6-6; 18A:6-7.1; 18A:6-7.1b; 18A:6-7.1c; 18A:6-7.2; 18A:16-1 et seq.; 18A:26-1 et seq.; 18A:27-1 et seq.; 18A:27-4.1; 18A:27-7; 18A:27-8; 18A:39-19.1
N.J.S.A. 18A:54-20 [vocational districts]

Revised (First Reading): March 18, 2021 Revised (Second Reading): April 29, 2021



STUDENTS 5330.01/page 1 of 2 Administration of Medical Cannabis Marijuana Jan 21

[See POLICY ALERT Nos. 208 and 222]

5330.01 ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICAL CANNABIS MARIJUANA

The Board of Education, in accordance with the requirements of N.J.S.A. 18A:40-12.22, must adopt a Policy authorizing parents, guardians, and primary designated caregiver(s) to administer medical cannabis marijuana to a qualifying student patient while on school grounds, aboard a school bus, or attending a school-sponsored event. The parent of a qualifying student patient requesting the administration of medical cannabis marijuana to the student while on school grounds, aboard a school bus, or attending a school-sponsored event must comply with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:40-12.22 and N.J.S.A. 24:6I-1 et seq. and Policy and Regulation 5330.01.

A student enrolled in the school district must be authorized to engage in the medical use of cannabis pursuant to N.J.S.A. 24:6I-1 et seq. and that the parent or designated caregiver be authorized to assist the student with the medical use of cannabis pursuant to N.J.S.A. 24:6I-1 et seq. marijuana and the primary caregiver, who may be the parent, must be authorized to administer medical marijuana to a qualifying student patient in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:40-12.22 and N.J.S.A. 24:6I-1 et seq. The student and the designated primary caregiver(s) must complete the registration process to registration with the Cannabis Regulatory Commission obtain a Registry Identification Card from the New Jersey Department of Health in accordance with the requirements of N.J.S.A. 24:6I-4.

The parent of the student authorized to engage in the medical use of **cannabis** marijuana must submit a written request with supporting documentation to the Principal requesting approval to have a **designated** primary caregiver(s) assist in the administration of medical **cannabis** marijuana to the **qualifying** student **patient** while on school grounds, aboard a school bus, or attending a school-sponsored event. The Principal, in consultation with the school nurse, the school physician, and the Superintendent of Schools, will review each request and upon approval will inform the parent in writing of the approval with details for the administration of medical **cannabis** marijuana to the qualifying student patient. The medical use of **cannabis** marijuana by a qualifying student patient while on school grounds, aboard a school bus, or attending a school-sponsored event will only be authorized after the written approval from the Principal is provided to the parent.



STUDENTS 5330.01/page 2 of 2 Administration of Medical **Cannabis Marijuana** 

Medical **cannabis** marijuana may only be administered to the qualifying student patient while the student is on school grounds, aboard a school bus, or attending a school-sponsored event by the **designated** primary caregiver(s) in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:40-12.22 and N.J.S.A. 24:6I-1 et seq. The prescribed medical **cannabis** marijuana must be in the possession of the **designated** primary caregiver(s) at all times, except during the administration process. The **designated** primary caregiver(s) shall comply with the requirements of the Principal's written approval for the administration of medical **cannabis** marijuana to the qualifying student patient while on school grounds, aboard a school bus, or attending a school-sponsored event.

All health records related to the administration of medical **cannabis** marijuana to a qualifying student patient while on school grounds, aboard a school bus, or attending a school-sponsored event shall be maintained in accordance with the requirements of N.J.A.C. 6A:16-2.4 and N.J.A.C. 6A:32-7.4.

No person shall be subject to arrest or prosecution for constructive possession, conspiracy, or any other offense for simply being in the presence or vicinity of the medical use of **cannabis** marijuana as authorized under N.J.S.A. 24:6I-1 et seq. or N.J.S.A. 18A:40-12.22. No custodial parent, guardian, or person who has legal custody of a qualifying student patient who is a minor shall be subject to arrest or prosecution for constructive possession, conspiracy, or any other offense for assisting the minor in the medical use of **cannabis** marijuana as authorized under N.J.S.A. 24:6I-1 et seq. or N.J.S.A. 18A:40-12.22.

N.J.S.A. 18A:40-12.22 N.J.S.A. 24:6I-1 et seq. N.J.A.C. 6A:16-2.4; 6A:32-7.4

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[See POLICY ALERT Nos. 208 and 222]

#### R 5330.01 ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICAL CANNABIS MARIJUANA

A custodial parent, guardian, or person having legal custody of a student requesting the administration of medical cannabis marijuana to a qualifying student patient while on school grounds, aboard a school bus, or attending a school-sponsored event must comply with the procedures and requirements of N.J.S.A. 18A:40-12.22 and N.J.S.A. 24:6I-1 et seq. and this Regulation.

#### A. Definitions

For the purposes of this-Policy and Regulation 5330.01:

- 1. "Bona fide physician-patient relationship" means a relationship in which the physician has ongoing responsibility for the assessment, care, and treatment of a qualifying student patient's debilitating medical condition.
- 2. "Certification" means a statement signed by a physician with whom a qualifying student patient has a bona fide physician-patient relationship, which attests to the physician's authorization for the patient to apply for registration for the medical use of marijuana.
- 13. "Cannabis Marijuana" has the meaning given to marijuana in Section 2 of the "New Jersey Controlled Dangerous Substances Act," N.J.S.A. 24:21-2.
- 2. "Commission" means the Cannabis Regulatory Commission established pursuant to N.J.S.A. 24:6I-24.
- 3. "Designated caregiver(s)" means a resident of New Jersey who:
  - a. Is at least eighteen years old;



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Administration of Medical Cannabis Marijuana

- b. Has agreed to assist with a registered qualifying student patient's medical use of cannabis, is not currently serving as a designated caregiver(s) for more than one other qualifying patient, and is not the qualifying student patient's health care practitioner;
- c. Is subject to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 24:6I-4.c.(2), has never been convicted of possession or sale of a controlled dangerous substance, unless such conviction occurred after the effective date [Oct. 1, 2010] of N.J.S.A. 24:6I-1 et seq. and was for a violation of Federal law related to possession or sale of cannabis that is authorized under N.J.S.A. 24:6I-1 et seq. or N.J.S.A. 18A:40-12.22 et seq.;
- d. Has registered with the Commission pursuant to N.J.S.A. 24:6I-4 and, except in the case of a designated caregiver(s) who is an immediate family member of the qualified student patient, has satisfied the criminal history background check requirement of N.J.S.A. 24:6I-4; and
- e. Has been designated as designated caregiver(s) by the qualifying student patient when registering or renewing a registration with the Commission or in other written notification to the Commission.
- 4. "Health Care Practitioner" means a physician, advanced practice nurse, or physician assistant licensed or certified pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45 who:
  - a. Possesses active registrations to prescribe controlled dangerous substances issued by the United States Drug Enforcement Administration and the Division of Consumer Affairs in the Department of Law and Public Safety;



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- b. Is the health care practitioner responsible for the ongoing treatment of a qualifying student patient's qualifying medical condition, the symptoms of that condition, or the symptoms associated with the treatment of that condition, provided; however, that the ongoing treatment shall not be limited to the provision of authorization for a patient to use medical cannabis or consultations solely for that purpose; and
- c. If the qualifying student patient is a minor, a pediatric specialist.
- 45. "Medical use of cannabis marijuana" means the acquisition, possession, transport, or use of cannabis marijuana or paraphernalia by a registered qualifying student patient as authorized by N.J.S.A. 24:6I-1 et seq. and N.J.S.A. 18A:40-12.22 et seq. the New Jersey Compassionate Medical Marijuana Act (Act).
- 56. "Parent" means the custodial parent, guardian, or person who has legal custody of a qualifying student patient who may also be the designated primary caregiver(s) registered with the Commission and provided a Registry Identification Card by the New Jersey Department of Health to administer medical cannabis marijuana to a student in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:40-12.22 and N.J.S.A 24:6I-4.
- 6. "Physician" means a person licensed to practice medicine and surgery pursuant to Title 45 of the Revised Statutes with whom the qualifying student patient has a bona fide physician patient relationship and who is the primary care physician, hospice physician, or physician responsible for the ongoing treatment of a qualifying student patient's debilitating medical condition, provided; however, that the ongoing treatment shall not be limited to the provision of authorization for a qualifying student patient to use medical marijuana or consultation solely for that purpose.
- 7. "Primary caregiver" or "caregiver" means a resident of the State who:



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- Is at least eighteen years old;
- b. Has agreed to assist with a registered qualifying student patient's medical use of marijuana, is not currently serving as primary caregiver for another qualifying patient, and is not the qualifying student patient's physician;
- c. Has never been convicted of possession or sale of a controlled dangerous substance, unless such conviction occurred after the effective date [Oct. 1, 2010] of the Act and was for a violation of Federal law related to possession or sale of marijuana that is authorized under the Act;
- d. Has registered with the Department of Health pursuant to N.J.S.A. 24:6I-4 and has satisfied the criminal history record background check requirement of N.J.S.A. 24:6I-4; and
- e. Has been designated as primary caregiver on the qualifying student patient's application or renewal for a Registry Identification Card or in other written notification to the Department of Health.
- 87. "Qualifying student patient" for the purpose of Policy and Regulation 5330.01 means a resident of the State who is a student enrolled and attending school in this school district who has been authorized for the medical use of cannabis by a health care practitioner provided with a certification by a physician pursuant to a bona fide physician patient relationship and has been issued a Registry Identification Card by the New Jersey Department of Health for medical use of marijuana in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:40-12.22 and N.J.S.A 24:6I-41 et seq.
- 8. "Registration with the Commission" means a person has met the qualification requirements for, and has been registered by the Commission as, a registered qualifying patient, designated caregiver(s), or institutional caregiver(s). The Commission shall establish appropriate means for health care practitioners,



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health care facilities, medical cannabis dispensaries, law enforcement, schools, facilities providing behavioral health services or services for persons with developmental disabilities, and other appropriate entities to verify an individual's status as a registrant with the Commission.

- "Qualifying patient" means a resident of the State who has been provided with a certification by a physician pursuant to a bona fide physician patient relationship.
- 10. "Registry Identification Card" means a document issued by the Department of Health that identifies a person as a registered qualifying student patient or primary caregiver.
- B. Registration Qualifying Student Patient and **Designated** Primary Caregiver(s)
  - 1. A qualifying student patient must be authorized to engage in the medical use of **cannabis** marijuana and the **designated** primary caregiver(s) must be authorized to assist the qualifying student patient with the medical use of **cannabis** marijuana pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 24:6I-1 et seq.
  - 2. A qualifying student patient and their **designated** primary caregiver(s) must complete the registration process in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 24:6I-4 and any other requirements of the **Commission** New Jersey Department of Health.
  - 3. The qualifying student patient's parent shall be responsible to immediately inform the Principal of any change in the status of the student's registration with the Commission Registry Identification Card that would deem the registration with the Commission Registry Identification Card null and void due to any reason outlined in N.J.S.A. 24:6I-1 et seq.4e or for any other reason.



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- 4. The qualifying student patient's designated primary caregiver(s) shall be responsible to immediately inform the Principal of any change in the status of any designated primary—caregiver(s)'s current registration with the Commission Registry Identification Card that would deem the registration with the Commission Registry Identification—Card null and void due to any reason outlined in N.J.S.A. 24:6I-1 et seq.4e or for any other reason.
- C. Submission for Authorization for Administration of Medical Cannabis Marijuana
  - 1. A parent of a qualifying student patient requesting the administration of medical cannabis marijuana to the student while on school grounds, aboard a school bus, or attending a school-sponsored event must submit a written request to the Principal with proof of current registration with the Commission a copy of a current New Jersey Department of Health Registry Identification Cards for the qualifying student patient and the designated primary caregiver(s) and a copy of the health care provider's physician's order or prescription indicating dosage information and the method of administration for the medical cannabis marijuana to the qualifying student patient while on school grounds, aboard a school bus, or attending a school-sponsored event.

The Principal may request the parent provide additional documentation from the **health care provider** physician that the medical **cannabis** marijuana must be administered during the time of the day when the student is on school grounds, aboard a school bus, or attending a school-sponsored event and the medical **cannabis** marijuana cannot be administered and/or will not be effective during alternate times when the student is not on school grounds, aboard a school bus, or attending a school-sponsored event.

a. The parent's written request and all supporting documentation must be submitted to the Principal at least five school days before the first day of the requested administration.



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- 2. The Principal shall review the submitted proof of current registration with the Commission Registry Identification Cards and supporting documentation submitted by the parent with the school physician, the school nurse, and the Superintendent of Schools.
- 3. Upon review and approval of the documentation submitted by the parent, the Principal will inform the parent or **designated** primary caregiver(s), if the parent is not the **designated** primary caregiver(s), in writing with the following information:
  - a. The location (school, office, etc.) where the **designated** primary caregiver(s) shall report to administer the medical cannabis marijuana;
  - b. The school staff member(s) who the **designated** primary caregiver(s) must see to coordinate the administration of medical cannabis marijuana;
  - c. The time the **designated** primary caregiver(s) shall report to administer the medical cannabis marijuana;
  - d. The specific location where the medical **cannabis** marijuana shall be administered to the student; and
  - e. A copy of Policy and Regulation 5330.01 Administration of Medical **Cannabis Marijuana**.
- 4. In the event the Principal, after consultation with the school nurse, school physician, and Superintendent, has a question or concern regarding the current registration with the Commission Registry Identification Cards or supporting documentation submitted by the parent, the Principal or school physician will contact the parent with the question or concern.
- 5. The administration of medical **cannabis** marijuana on school grounds, aboard a school bus, or at a school-sponsored event, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:40-12.22, will only be authorized after the approval required by Policy and Regulation 5330.01.



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Administration of Medical Cannabis Marijuana

#### D. Administration of Medical Cannabis Marijuana

- 1. The mMedical cannabis marijuana shall only be administered by the designated primary caregiver(s) and at the approved location, times, and method as indicated in the parent's request that was approved in writing by the Principal.
- 2. In accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:40-12.22.b.(5), medical cannabis marijuana cannot be administered to a qualifying student patient while on school grounds, aboard a school bus, or attending a school-sponsored event by smoking or other form of inhalation.
- 3. The pPrescribed medical cannabis marijuana must always be in the possession of the designated primary caregiver(s) and may not be in the possession of the qualifying student patient at any time on school grounds, aboard a school bus, or at a school-sponsored event.
- 4. The Principal, after consultation with the school nurse, school physician, and the Superintendent, will determine a specific location for the administration of the medical **cannabis** marijuana to the qualifying student patient.
  - a. The Principal will designate a private area, if possible, for the **designated** primary caregiver(s) to administer the medical cannabis marijuana to the qualifying student patient. The amount of privacy provided for the administration will depend on the approved method of administration and the designated location. The location may be a nurse's office, a private office, a private restroom facility, or any other location appropriate for the approved method of administration.



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- 5. The designated primary caregiver(s) shall report to the approved location prior to the scheduled time for the administration of medical cannabis marijuana to the qualifying student patient. The designated primary caregiver(s) must show the proof of current registration with the Commission Registry Identification Card and a second form of identification which shall be a photograph identification.
- 6. The Principal or supervising school staff member of a school-sponsored event may designate a school staff member to escort the **designated primary** caregiver(s) to the qualifying student patient at the designated time to the designated location for the administration.
- 7. The Principal may designate a school staff member to observe the administration of the medical **cannabis** marijuana on school grounds, aboard a school bus, or at a school-sponsored event.
- 8. The **designated** primary caregiver(s) shall assist in the administration of medical **cannabis** marijuana to the qualifying student patient in accordance with the method and dosage prescribed by the **health care practitioner** physician and included in the parent's request to the Principal.
- 9. The qualifying student patient shall return to his/her class or event as soon as possible after the administration.
- 10. The **designated** primary caregiver(s) will be escorted outside the school building, away from the school bus, or away from the school-sponsored event, if applicable, by a school staff member after the administration.
  - a. The qualifying student patient and/or **designated** primary caregiver(s) may be asked to remain at the location of the administration by the school staff member in the event the student needs some additional time after the administration and before returning to their class or event.



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11. The **designated** primary caregiver(s) shall be responsible for the security of the medical cannabis marijuana on school grounds, aboard a school bus, or at a school-sponsored event before, during, and after the administration. At no time shall the qualifying student patient have the medical cannabis marijuana in their possession except during the administration process by the designated primary caregiver(s).

Revised (First Reading): March 18, 2021 Revised (Second Reading): April 29, 2021



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[See POLICY ALERT Nos. 175, 182, 188, 189, 191 and 222]

#### 6360 POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS

Political Contribution Disclosure Requirements

In accordance with the requirements of Section 2 of P.L. 2005, Chapter 271 (N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.26), the Board of Education shall have on file, to be maintained with other documents related to a contract, the following documents to award a contract to any business entity receiving a contract with an anticipated value in excess of \$17,500, regardless of the basis upon which the contract is awarded:

- 1. A Political Contribution Disclosure (PCD) form submitted by the business entity (at least ten days prior to award); and
- 2. A Business Registration Certificate (anytime prior to award).

"Business entity" means a **for-profit entity that is a** natural or legal person, business corporation, professional services corporation, limited liability company, partnership, limited partnership, business trust, association or any other legal commercial entity organized under the laws of New Jersey or any other State or foreign jurisdiction.

The \$17,500 contract amount is not related to the Board's bid threshold and does not exempt the district from the requirements of the Public School Contracts Law or other applicable purchasing statutes.

The \$17,500 contract amount threshold is subject to the principle of aggregation rules in accordance with the Division of Local Government Services guidance. Unlike the Public School Contracts Law, aggregation thresholds for this Policy and Chapter 271 purposes shall be calculated at the vendor level – meaning, when a vendor receives more than \$17,500 in a school district's fiscal year, a PCD form shall be required.



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The disclosure provisions of N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.26 do not apply in cases where there is a "public emergency" that requires the immediate delivery of goods or services.

Insurance companies and banks are prohibited under State law from making political contributions. However, because the PCD form reflects contributions made by partners, Boards of Directors, spouses, etc., PCD forms are required ten days prior to the approval of a depository designation resolution or insurance company contract awarded by the Board. A PCD form is also required when a contract in excess of \$17,500 is made to an insurance broker. A PCD form is required from the company receiving the contract, regardless of the entity issuing an insurance policy.

PCD forms are required for Board of Education contracts in excess of \$17,500 with a New Jersey Department of Education "Approved In-State Private School for the Disabled." Chapter 271 also applies to in-State private special education schools, supplemental educational services under any Federally funded program NCLB, early childhood school providers — DHS approved, and other similar programs.

If the school district spends more than \$17,500 in a school year with a newspaper, the selection of the newspaper is subject to the provisions of Chapter 271.

PCD forms are not required for regulated public utility services, as the Board is required by the Board of Public Utilities to use a specific utility. This exception does not apply to non-regulated public utility services, such as generated energy (not tariffed), or long-distance telephone services where other procurement practices are used.

PCD forms are not required for membership to the New Jersey School Boards Association.

A non-profit organization having proper documentation from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) showing it is registered with the IRS as a 501(c) type corporation is not required to file a PCD form.



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A PCD form is not required for contracts with governmental agencies, including State colleges and universities.

If the original contract provided for the possibility of an extension(s), Chapter 271 compliance is not required if the extension/continuation is based on that original contract.

N.J.S.A. 19:44A-1 et seq. N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-6.3 New Jersey Department of Community Affairs Local Finance Notices - 6/4/07 & 1/15/10



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[See POLICY ALERT Nos. 214 and 222]

### 7425 LEAD TESTING OF WATER IN SCHOOLS

The health, safety, and welfare of the children in the school district are of utmost importance to the Board of Education. The potential exposure to lead-contaminated drinking water poses serious health problems, particularly for children, as well as for teachers and school personnel, since the risk of lead contamination can come from pipe and plumbing fixtures in school facilities or on school grounds. The Board shall assure the availability of potable drinking water through sanitary means in school facilities or on school grounds. The Board of Education shall provide, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:26-12.4, testing for lead in all district sources of drinking water.

The Board shall conduct lead sampling and analysis in all drinking water outlets to which a student or staff member has, or may have, access in each school facility, other facility, or temporary facility, as soon as practicable, but no later than July 13, 2017, unless the district qualifies for an exemption in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:26-12.4(d)(h)(i)(j). This testing lead sampling and analysis shall be conducted with a lead sampling plan in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:26-12.4(d)1, 2, and 3, and shall be in accordance with the Safe Drinking Water Act, N.J.S.A. 58:12A-1.

The Superintendent of Schools or designee shall complete a review of the final laboratory results within seventy-two hours of receipt. Within twentyfour hours after the Board Superintendent or designee has completed a review of final laboratory results in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:26-12.4(e), the test results shall be made publicly available at the school facility and on the Board of Education's website. If any results exceed the permissible lead action level, the Board shall provide written notification to the parents of all students attending the facility, facility staff, and the New Jersey Department of Education. This written notification shall include: a description of the measures taken by the Board Superintendent or designee to immediately end the use of each drinking water outlet where the water quality exceeded the permissible lead action level; any additional remedial action taken or planned by the Board of Education; the measures taken to ensure that alternate drinking water has been made available to all students and staff members: where the water outlet(s) is located; and information regarding the health effects of lead in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:26-12.4(e)1 and 2. After the initial screening, the Board will conduct these lead screenings every six years and



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Notwithstanding the results or date of any prior testing, the Board shall continue to test drinking water outlets in the designated Statewide required testing year, which shall be every third school year beginning with the 2021-2022 school year and subsequently occurring in the 2024-2025 school year. By no later than June 30 of the designated Statewide required testing year, the Board shall test all drinking water outlets in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:26-12.4(g)1. The Board shall sample for lead after the replacement of any drinking water outlet or any other alteration to plumbing or service lines that may impact lead levels at the outlet, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:26-12.4(f)(g)1. and 2.

The Board shall submit to the New Jersey Department of Education by June 30 of each year a statement of assurance, that the school district completed lead testing in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:26-12.4; that notifications were provided consistent with N.J.A.C. 6A:26-12.4; and that alternative drinking water continues to be made available to all students and staff, if necessary, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:26-12.4(g)(i).

The Board may apply for reimbursement for the costs of any water supply testing and analysis conducted, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:26-12.4(i)(k).

N.J.S.A. 58:12A-1 et seq. N.J.A.C. 6A:26-12.4



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### [See POLICY ALERT No. 222]

### R 7425 LEAD TESTING OF WATER IN SCHOOLS

The Board of Education shall assure the availability of potable drinking water through sanitary means in school facilities or upon school grounds and shall test the school drinking water quality in accordance with the Safe Drinking Water Act, N.J.S.A. 58:12A-1 and the Planning and Construction Standards for School Facilities, N.J.A.C. 7:10 and N.J.A.C. 6A:26-6.

The school district shall conduct lead sampling and analysis in all drinking water outlets to which a student or staff member has, or may have, access in each school facility, other facility, or temporary facility in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:26-12.4.

### A. Testing of Drinking Water

#### 1. Schedule

- a. Sampling shall be conducted in accordance with a lead sampling plan, which shall include:
  - (1) A plumbing survey for each facility that identifies how water enters and flows through each facility, the types of plumbing materials used in the facility, such as the service line, piping, solder, fixtures, drinking water outlets where students or staff have or may have access, and point of use treatment, such as drinking water filters;
  - (2) The names and responsibilities of all individuals involved in sampling; and
  - (3) The following sampling procedures:
    - (a) Samples shall be taken after water has sat undisturbed in the school pipes for at least eight hours, but no more than forty-eight hours before the sample is taken.



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- (i) 24-hour school facilities shall collect first-draw samples at drinking water outlets following a stagnation time that would likely result in the longest standing time;
- (b) At least eight hours prior to sampling, signs shall be posted to indicate that water shall not be used and access to the buildings subject to the sampling shall be restricted to all but authorized staff members;
- (c) Existing aerators, screens, and filters shall not be replaced or removed prior to or during sampling; and
- (d) All samples shall be collected in pre-cleaned high-density polyethylene (HDPE) 250 milliliter (mL) wide-mouth single-use rigid sample containers that are properly labeled.

### 2. Analysis of Samples

- a. Analysis of samples shall be conducted as follows:
  - (1) Analysis shall be conducted by a certified laboratory to analyze for lead in drinking water;
  - (2) The laboratory shall use an approved analytical method pursuant to the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act at 40 CFR 141.23(k)(1); and
  - (3) Sample analysis shall be conducted in accordance with a Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP), which shall be signed by the Board, the certified laboratory, and the individual responsible for conducting the sampling. The QAPP shall include



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the identification of analytical methods, chain of custody procedures, data validation and reporting processes, detection limits, reporting to three significant figures, field blanks, and quality control measures required by the certified method.

- b. The Superintendent or designee may utilize a technical guidance manual, which will be developed by the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE), in consultation with the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), to assist in the school district's compliance with the sampling and analysis requirements of this Regulation.
- 3. Designated Statewide Required Testing
  - a. Notwithstanding the results or date of any prior testing, the Board shall continue to test drinking water outlets as provided in A.2.a. above in the designated Statewide required testing year, which shall be every third school year beginning with the 2021-2022 school year and subsequently occurring in the 2024-2025 school year:
    - (1) By no later than June 30 of the designated Statewide required testing year, the Board shall test all drinking water outlets. Sampling shall be prioritized, such that buildings and facilities that previously had outlets with results above the action level or identified in the plumbing profile as high risk for lead shall be sampled first in accordance with the sampling plan; and
    - (2) The Board shall sample for lead after the replacement of any drinking water outlet or any other alteration to plumbing or service lines that may impact lead levels at the outlet.



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- b. If the Board tests drinking water outlets for lead more frequently than the three-year cycle set forth in A.3.a. above, the notification requirements set forth in B.2.b. below shall apply.
  - (1) If drinking water outlets are tested more frequently in accordance with A.3.b. above, the Board shall make the most recent results for each facility available on the Board's website.

#### 4. Statement of Assurance

a. The Board shall submit to the NJDOE by June 30 each year a statement of assurance that lead testing was completed, that notifications where provided, and that alternate drinking water continues to be made available in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:26-12.4.

### 5. Exception from Testing Requirements

- a. The Board may request an exemption from the testing requirements set forth in A.2. above if they can demonstrate that they do not use any drinking water outlets for consumption or food preparation in any of their facilities.
- b. The Board shall submit an application to the NJDOE documenting that no drinking water outlets are used in their facilities and the provisions for an alternative source of drinking water.
- c. If the school district receives an exemption from the NJDOE from testing, the Board shall make available for public inspection at the school facility and on the Board's website, if applicable, confirmation that the school district is exempt from testing.



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- d. No later than June 30 of each Statewide required testing school year set forth in A.3. above, the Board shall either begin testing procedures in accordance with section A.3.a. above or reapply for an exemption under section A.5.
- B. Water Testing Laboratory Results
  - 1. The Superintendent or designee shall complete a review of final laboratory results within seventy-two hours of receipt.
  - 2. Within twenty-four hours after the Superintendent or designee has reviewed the final laboratory results, the Superintendent or designee shall:
    - a. Make the test results of all water samples publicly available at the school facility in accordance with section B.3. below and make the results from the most recent required Statewide testing available on the Board's website; and
    - b. If any results exceed the permissible lead action level, provide written notification to the parents of all students attending the facility, facility staff, and the Department of Education. This written notification shall be posted on the Board's website and shall include a description of the following:
      - (1) Measures taken by the Board or its designee, to immediately end use of each drinking water outlet where water quality exceeds the permissible lead action level;
      - (2) Any additional remedial actions taken or planned by the Board;
      - (3) The measures taken to ensure that alternate drinking water has been made available to all students and staff members at the school(s) where the water outlet(s) is located; and
      - (4) Information regarding the health effects of lead.



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3. Test results of all water samples shall remain publicly available in accordance with the timeline established by the Department of the Treasury in the Records Retention Schedule.

### C. Reimbursement

- 1. The Board shall be eligible to be reimbursed for the water supply testing and analysis conducted pursuant to section A.3. above after July 1, 2021, as approved by the NJDOE and subject to available funds.
- 2. To be eligible to receive reimbursement, the Board shall complete and submit to the NJDOE a reimbursement application on a form, or in a format, supplied by the NJDOE.
  - a. The NJDOE will make the reimbursement application available on its website.
- 3. If the school district conducts additional testing in a year other than the Statewide required testing school year as set forth in A.3. above, the district shall not be eligible for reimbursement.

### D. Failure to Comply

- 1. Failure to comply with any requirement of N.J.A.C. 6A:26-12.4 and Policy and Regulation 7425 may result in any of the following:
  - a. Board's disqualification for reimbursement pursuant to C. above;
  - b. The NJDOE's initiation of an investigation by the Office of Fiscal Accountability and Compliance; and
  - c. The Commissioner's withholding of State aid pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:2-1.2.

First Reading: March 18, 2021 Second Reading: April 29, 2021



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[See POLICY ALERT Nos. 163, 171, 175, 210, and 222]

#### 8330 STUDENT RECORDS

The Board of Education believes that information about individual students must be compiled and maintained in the interest of the student's educational welfare and advancement. The Board will strive to balance the student's right to privacy against the district's need to collect, retain, and use information about individual students and groups of students. The Board authorizes the establishment and maintenance of student files that include only those records mandated by law, rules of the State Board of Education, authorized administrative directive, and those records permitted by this Board.

The Superintendent shall prepare, present to the Board for approval, and distribute regulations that implement this Policy and conform to applicable State and Federal law and rules of the State Board of Education.

#### General Considerations

The Board of Education shall compile and maintain student records and regulate access, disclosure, or communication of information contained in educational records in a manner that assures the security of such records in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:32-7.1 et seq. Student records shall contain only such information as is relevant to the education of the student and is objectively based on the personal observations or knowledge of the certified school personnel who originate(s) the record. The school district shall provide annual, written notification to parents, adult students, and emancipated minors of their rights in regard to student records and student participation in educational, occupational, and military recruitment programs. Copies of the applicable State and Federal laws and local policies shall be made available upon request. The school district shall make every effort to notify parents and adult students in their dominant language.

A nonadult student may assert rights of access only through his or her parent(s). However, Nnothing in this Policy N.J.A.C. 6A:32-7 shall be construed to prohibit certified school personnel from disclosing at their discretion student records to non-adult students or to appropriate persons in connection with an emergency, if such knowledge is necessary to protect the health or safety of the student or other persons.



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No liability shall be attached to any member, officer, or employee of the Board of Education—permitting access or furnishing student records in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:32-7.1 et seq.

#### **Student Information Directory**

A student information directory is a publication of the Board of Education that includes information relating to a student as defined in N.J.A.C. 6A:32-2.1. This information includes: name; grade level; date and place of birth; dates of school attendance; major field of study; participation in officially recognized activities; weight and height relating to athletic team membership; degrees; awards; the most recent educational agency attended by the student; and other similar information. The student information directory shall be used only by authorized school district personnel and for designated official use by judicial, law enforcement, and medical personnel and not for general public consumption.

In the event the school district publishes a student information directory, the Superintendent or designee will provide a parent or adult student a ten-day period to submit to the Superintendent a written statement prohibiting the school district from including any or all types of information about the student in any student information directory before allowing access to such directory to educational, occupational, and military recruiters pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:36-19.1 and P.L. 107-110 sec. 9528, 20 U.S.C. §8528 - Armed Forces Recruiter Access to Students and Student Recruiting Information of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) of 1965 No Child Left Behind Act of 2001. In accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:36-19.1, military recruiters will be provided the same access to a student information directory that is provided to educational and occupational recruiters.

School Contact Directory for Official Use

A school contact directory for official use is a compilation by the school district that includes the following information for each student: name; address; telephone number; date of birth; and school enrollment. The district shall compile and maintain a school contact directory for official use that is separate and distinct from the student information directory. The student contact directory may be provided for official use only to judicial and law enforcement personnel, and to medical personnel currently providing services to the student in question. To exclude any information from the school contact directory for official use the parent, adult student, or emancipated minor shall notify the Superintendent or designee in writing.



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#### Mandated and Permitted Student Records

Mandated student records are those records school districts have been directed to compile by State statute, regulations, or authorized administrative directive in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:32-7.3.

Permitted student records are those student records not mandated pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:32-7.3, but authorized by the Board to promote the student's educational welfare. The Board shall authorize the permitted records to be collected by adopting Policy and Regulation 8330, which will list such permitted records.

Maintenance and Security of Student Records

The Superintendent or designee shall be responsible for the security of student records maintained in the school district. Policy and Regulation 8330 assure that access to such records is limited to authorized persons.

Records for each individual student may be stored electronically or in paper format. When student records are stored electronically, proper security and back-up procedures shall be administered.

Student health records, whether stored on paper or electronically, shall be maintained separately from other student records, until such time as graduation or termination, whereupon the health history and immunization record shall be removed from the student's health record and placed in the student's mandated record. Records shall be accessible during the hours in which the school program is in operation.

Any district internet website shall not disclose any personally identifiable information about a student without receiving prior written consent from the student's parent, in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:36-35. Personally identifiable information means student names; student photos; student addresses; student e-mail addresses; student phone numbers; and locations and times of class trips.



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#### Access to Student Records

Only authorized organizations, agencies, or persons as defined in N.J.A.C. 6A:32-7.5 shall have access to student records, including student health records. Access to student records shall be provided to persons authorized such access under N.J.A.C. 6A:32-7.1 et seq. within ten days of a request, but prior to any review or hearing conducted in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A.

The district shall control access to, disclosure of, and communication regarding information contained in student health records to assure access only to people permitted by Federal and State statute and regulations in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:32-7.5.

The district may charge a reasonable fee for reproduction of student records, not to exceed the schedule of costs set forth in N.J.S.A. 47:1A-5, provided that the cost does not effectively prevent the parents or adult students from exercising their rights under N.J.A.C. 6A:32-7 or other Federal and State rules and regulations regarding students with disabilities, including N.J.A.C. 6A:14.

Access to and disclosure of a student's health record shall meet the requirements of the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act, 34 C.F.R. Part 99 (FERPA).

Only authorized organizations, agencies, or persons as defined in N.J.A.C. 6A:32-7.5 shall have access to student records, including student health records.

Nothing in N.J.A.C. 6A:32-7.1 et seq. or in Policy and Regulation 8330 shall be construed to prohibit school personnel from disclosing information contained in the student health record to students or adults in connection with an emergency, if such knowledge is necessary to protect the immediate health or safety of the student or other persons.

In complying with N.J.A.C. 6A:32-7 – Student Records, individuals shall adhere to requirements pursuant to N.J.S.A. 47:1A-10, the Open Public Records Act (OPRA) and 34 CFR Part 99, the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).



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Conditions for Access to Student Records

All authorized organizations, agencies, and persons defined in N.J.A.C. 6A:32-7.1 et seq. shall have access to the records of a student subject to conditions outlined in N.J.A.C. 6A:32-7.6(a).

Rights of Appeal for Parents and Adult Students

Student records are subject to challenge by parents and adult students on the grounds of inaccuracy, irrelevancy, impermissive disclosure, inclusion of improper information or denial of access to organizations, agencies, and persons in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:32-7.7(a).

To request a change in the record or to request a stay of disclosure pending final determination of the challenged procedure, the parent or adult student shall follow the procedures pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:32-7.7(b).

Appeals relating to student records for students with disabilities shall be processed in accordance with the requirements of N.J.A.C. 6A:32-7.7(b).

Regardless of the outcome of any appeal, a parent or adult student shall be permitted to place in the student record a statement commenting upon the information in the student record or setting forth any reasons for disagreement with the decision made in the appeal. Such statements shall be maintained as part of the student record as long as the contested portion of the record is maintained. If the contested portion of the record is disclosed to any party, the statement commenting upon the information shall also be disclosed to that party.

Retention and Disposal of Student Records

A student record is considered to be incomplete and not subject to the provisions of the Destruction of Public Records Law, N.J.S.A. 47:3-15 et seq., while the student is enrolled in the school district. The school district shall retain the student health record and the health history and immunization record according to the School District Records Retention Schedule, as determined by the New Jersey State Records Committee.



OPERATIONS 8330/page 6 of 6 Student Records

Student records of currently enrolled students, other than that described in N.J.A.C. 6A:32-7.8(e), may be disposed of after the information is no longer necessary to provide educational services to a student and in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:32-7.8(b).

Upon graduation or permanent departure of a student from the school district, the parent or adult student shall be notified in writing that a copy of the entire student record will be provided to them upon request. Information in student records, other than that described in N.J.A.C. 6A:32-7.8(e), may be disposed of, but only in accordance with the Destruction of Public Records Law, N.J.S.A. 47:3-15 et seq. Such disposition shall be in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:32-7.8(c)2.

No additions shall be made to the record after graduation or permanent departure without the prior written consent of the parent or adult student.

In accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:32-7.8(e), the New Jersey public school district of last enrollment, graduation, or permanent departure of the student from the school district shall keep for 100 years a mandated record of a student's name, date of birth, name of parents, gender, health history and immunization, standardized assessment results, grades, attendance, classes attended, grade level completed, year completed, and years of attendance.

N.J.S.A. 18A:36-19; 18A:36-19.1; 18A:40-4; 18A:40-19 N.J.A.C. 6A:32-7.1; 6A:32-7.2; 6A:32-7.3; 6A:32-7.4; 6A:32-7.5; 6A:32-7.6; 6A:32-7.7; 6A:32-7.8 **20 U.S.C. §8528** 



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[See POLICY ALERT Nos. 163 and 222]

9713 RECRUITMENT BY SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

Choose only one of the following alternatives:

#### Option 1

{The Board of Education prohibits recruitment activities by outside organizations on school premises, regardless of the purpose of the recruitment or the nature of the recruitment agency. Except as required and referenced below no information about individual students will be released for the purpose of approaching students for educational, occupational, military, or any other recruitment purpose.

However, a school district that receives funds under ESEA, on request from a military recruiter or an institution of higher education, must provide access to the names, addresses, and telephone listings of each for secondary students served by the Board of Education. Parents(s), legal guardian(s) and/or the adult students may submit a written request to the Superintendent or designee to opt out of the disclosure of such information for the student in which case the information will not be released without the parent's or adult student's written consent request that such information not be released for the child without the prior written parental, legal guardian and/or adult student approval.

Parent(s) or legal guardian(s) of secondary students and adult students shall will be informed annually in writing of their right to request a secondary student's excusal from participation in all recruitment activities and/or from a having their child's name, address, and/or telephone listing provided to a military recruiter, an institution of higher education, or a prospective employer listing in the student information directory distributed for recruitment purposes.

The district will give military recruiters the same right of access to secondary students as generally provide to post-secondary institutions and prospective employers.}



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#### Option 2

[The Board of Education will permit access to school students on school premises and access to certain information about individual students for educational, occupational, and military recruitment activities. Access for recruitment purposes will be equally available to all recruitment agencies, in accordance with law.

Representatives of bona fide educational institutions, occupational agencies, and the United States Armed Forces may recruit students on school premises by participation in assembly programs, career day activities, and the like and by distributing literature. Permission to recruit on school premises must be requested in writing at least forty-five \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ working days before the planned activity and must be approved in advance by the Superintendent or designee. The Superintendent or designee shall not favor one recruiter over another, but shall not approve an activity that, in the Superintendent's judgment of the Superintendent or designee, carries a substantial likelihood of disrupting the educational program of the school or school this district.

Each representative of a bona fide educational institution, occupational agency, and the United States Armed Forces will be given, on request, a copy of the student information directory, compiled in accordance with Policy No. 8330.

Parent(s) or legal guardian(s) and adult students will be informed annually in writing of their right to request a student's excusal from participation in all recruitment activities and/or from a listing in the student information directory distributed for recruitment purposes.

Nothing in this **P**policy shall be construed as requiring the Board to approve or participate in an activity that appears to advance or inhibit any particular religious sect or religion generally.

N.J.S.A. 18A:36-19.1 Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 – §8528 No Child Left Behind §9528 Cross reference: Policy Guide No. 8330



## HASBROUCK HEIGHTS PUBLIC SCHOOLS Athletic Trainer – Job Description



**Job Description:** 

Athletic Trainer

Certification

Certified Athletic Trainer licensed by the New Jersey Medical Examiner's Board

Job Goal

The athletic trainer is responsible for the prevention, treatment and rehabilitation of athletic injuries.

### Responsibilities

- Be present at home practices and games
- Be present at away varsity football games
- Administer emergency care and make medical referrals
- Maintain a system of injury records on all athletes with guaranteed confidentiality
- Arrange for the purchase of medical supplies and therapy equipment
- Control and maintain therapeutic equipment in the training room
- Coordinate team physicians who perform the duties of prescriptions, referrals and examinations
- Comply with and establish a line of communication among parent, physician, athlete and coach
- Assist in site managing home sporting events
- Assist as equipment coordinator for athletic department
- Assist coaches in obtaining concussion and heat acclimation yearly certification
- Educate and counsel coaching staff, athletes, students, physicians and coworkers
- Coordinator of impact testing concussion program grades 6-12
- Maintain accurate records of CPR/AED certification for coaches, physical education staff, and nurses.
- Provide workshop opportunities for required staff to obtain CPR/AED certification.
- Coordinate the athletic physical packet process.

- Perform physical therapy upon arrival via a scheduling process
- Other responsibilities as assigned by the athletic director

Terms of employment 10 Months, 1pm arrival on school days: Employment will be from the 2

days prior to the opening date of fall practices and 10 months thereafter.

Salary: Per HHEA Teachers Salary Guide

**Evaluation:** Performance of this position will be evaluated in accordance with the

provisions of the Board's policy on evaluation of certificated personnel.

Approved: March 27, 2003 Revised: April 28, 2021