

School District U-46

Table of Contents

School District U-46

SECTION 1 - SCHOOL DISTRICT ORGANIZATION

1:10 School District Legal Status

1:20 District Organization, Operations, and Cooperative Agreements

1:30 School District Philosophy

SECTION 2 - BOARD OF EDUCATION

2:02 Equity Policy

2:10 School District Governance

2:12 Board Operational Goals

2:20 Powers and Duties of the Board of Education; Indemnification

2:30 School District Elections

2:40 Board Member Qualifications

2:50 Board Member Term of Office

2:60 Board Member Removal from Office

2:70 Vacancies on the Board of Education - Filling Vacancies

2:80 Board Member Oath and Conduct

2:100 Board Member Conflict of Interest

2:105 Ethics and Gift Ban

2:110 Qualifications, Term, and Duties of Board Officers

2:120 Board Member Development

2:125 Board Member Compensation; Expenses

2:130 Board-Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent Relationship

2:140 Communications To and From the Board

2:150 Committees

2:160 Board Attorney - Legal Counsel and Legal Officer

2:162 Chief Legal Officer's Settlement Authority

2:170 Procurement of Architectural, Engineering, and Land Surveying Services

2:182 Board Liaisons

2:200 Types of Board of Education Meetings

2:210 Organizational Board of Education Meeting

2:220 Board of Education Meeting Procedure

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

2:240 Board Policy Development

2:242 Site Exceptions

2:250 Access to District Public Records

2:260 Uniform Grievance Procedure

2:265 Title IX Sexual Harassment Grievance Procedure

SECTION 3 - GENERAL SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION

3:10 Goals and Objectives

3:12 State and Federal Programs Administration and Comparability of Services - Title I Programs

3:14 State and Federal Programs Administration

3:30 Chain of Command

3:40 Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent

3:42 Data Management

3:50 Administrative Personnel Other Than the Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent

3:60 Administrative Responsibility of the Building Principal

3:70 Succession of Authority

3:82 Administrative Intern Program

SECTION 4 - OPERATIONAL SERVICES

4:10 Fiscal and Business Management

4:15 Identity Protection

4:20 Fund Balances

4:30 Revenue and Investments

4:40 Incurring Debt

4:45 Insufficient Fund Checks and Debt Recovery

4:50 Payment Procedures

4:55 Use of Credit and Procurement Cards

4:60 Purchases and Contracts
4:70 Resource Conservation
4:80 Accounting and Audits
4:90 Student Activity and Fiduciary Funds
4:100 Insurance Management
4:110 Transportation
4:114 Student Transportation in Private Vehicles
4:116 Mail and Delivery Services
4:120 Food Services
4:122 Vending Machines
4:130 Free and Reduced-Price Food Services
4:140 Waiver of Student Fees
4:150 Facility Management and Building Programs
4:152 Enrollment Projections
4:154 Firearm Prohibition
4:160 Environmental Quality of Buildings and Grounds
4:165 Awareness and Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse and Grooming Behaviors
4:170 Safety
4:175 Convicted Child Sex Offender; Screening; Notifications
4:180 Pandemic Preparedness; Management; and Recovery
4:190 Targeted School Violence Prevention Program

SECTION 5 - PERSONNEL

General Personnel

5:10 Equal Employment Opportunity, Nondiscrimination, and Minority Recruitment
5:12 Staff Involvement in Decision Making
5:20 Workplace Harassment Prohibited
5:30 Hiring Process and Criteria
5:32 Staff Health and Safety
5:35 Compliance with the Fair Labor Standards Act
5:40 Communicable and Chronic Infectious Disease

5:50 Drug- and Alcohol-Free Workplace; E-Cigarette, Tobacco, and Cannabis Prohibition

5:52 Alcohol and Drug Use by District Drivers

5:60 Expenses

5:70 Religious Holidays

5:80 Court Duty

5:90 Abused and Neglected Child Reporting

5:100 Staff Development Program

5:110 Recognition for Service

5:120 Employee Ethics; Conduct; and Conflict of Interest

5:122 Licensed Staff Consulting Activities, Tutoring for Pay, and Non-School Employment by Staff Members

5:125 Personal Technology and Social Media; Usage and Conduct

5:130 Responsibilities Concerning Internal Information

5:140 Solicitations By or From Staff

5:150 Personnel Records

5:170 Copyright

5:180 Temporary Illness or Temporary Incapacity

5:185 Family and Medical Leave

Professional Personnel

5:190 Teacher Qualifications

5:200 Terms and Conditions of Employment and Dismissal

5:210 Resignation and Retirement

5:220 Substitute Teachers

5:230 Maintaining Student Discipline

5:240 Suspension

5:250 Leaves of Absence

5:260 Student Teachers

Educational Support Personnel

5:270 Employment At-Will, Compensation, and Assignment

5:280 Duties and Qualifications

5:285 Drug and Alcohol Testing for School Bus and Commercial Vehicle Drivers

5:290 Employment Termination and Suspensions

5:300 Schedules and Employment Year

5:320 Evaluation

5:330 Sick Days, Vacation, Holidays, and Leaves

SECTION 6 - INSTRUCTION

6:10 Educational Philosophy and Objectives

6:15 School Accountability

6:20 School Year Calendar and Day

6:30 Organization of Instruction

6:40 Curriculum Development

6:50 School Wellness

6:60 Curriculum Content

6:65 Student Social and Emotional Development

6:70 Teaching About Religions

6:80 Teaching About Controversial Issues

6:100 Using Animals in the Educational Program

6:110 Programs for Students At Risk of Academic Failure and/or Dropping Out of School and Graduation Incentives Program

6:120 Education of Children with Disabilities

6:130 Program for the Gifted

6:135 Accelerated Placement Program

6:140 Education of Unhoused Children

6:145 Migrant Students

6:150 Home and Hospital Instruction

6:160 English Learners

6:162 Dual Language Program

6:170 Title I Programs

6:180 Extended Instructional Programs

6:185 Remote Educational Program

6:190 Extracurricular and Co-Curricular Activities

6:192 Student Organizations

6:210 Instructional Materials

6:230 Library Media Program

6:235 Access to Electronic Networks

6:236 Software Installation

6:240 Field Trips

6:250 Community Resource Persons and Volunteers

6:255 Assemblies and Ceremonies

6:260 Complaints About Curriculum, Instructional Materials, and Programs

6:270 Guidance and Counseling Program

6:280 Grading and Promotion

6:290 Homework

6:300 Graduation Requirements

6:310 High School Credit for Non-District Experiences; Course Substitutions; Re-Entering Students

6:315 High School Credit for Students in Grade 7 or 8

6:320 High School Credit for Proficiency

6:330 Achievement and Awards

6:340 Student Testing and Assessment Program

SECTION 7 - STUDENTS

7:02 Student Goals

7:10 Equal Educational Opportunities

7:15 Student and Family Privacy Rights

7:20 Harassment of Students Prohibited

7:30 Student Assignment and Intra-District Transfer

7:40 Part-Time Attendance, Nonpublic School Students, Including Parochial and Home-Schooled Students

7:50 School Admissions and Student Transfers To and From Non-District Schools

7:60 Residence

7:70 Attendance and Truancy

7:80 Release Time for Religious Instruction/Observance

7:90 Release During School Hours

7:100 Health, Eye, and Dental Examinations; Immunizations; and Exclusion of Students

7:130 Student Rights and Responsibilities

7:132 Student Government

7:140 Search and Seizure

7:150 Agency and Police Interviews

7:160 Student Appearance

7:170 Vandalism

7:180 Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment

7:185 Teen Dating Violence Prohibited

7:190 Student Behavior

7:200 Suspension Procedures

7:210 Expulsion Procedures

7:220 Bus Conduct

7:230 Misconduct by Students with Disabilities

7:240 Conduct Code for Participants in Extracurricular Activities

7:250 Student Support Services

7:260 Exemption from Physical Education

7:270 Administering Medicines to Students

7:280 Communicable and Chronic Infectious Disease

7:285 Food Allergy Management Program

7:290 Suicide and Depression Awareness and Prevention

7:300 Extracurricular Athletics

7:305 Student Athlete Concussions and Head Injuries

7:308 Student Activities and Contests

7:310 Restrictions on Publications; Elementary Schools

7:315 Restrictions on Publications; High Schools

7:325 Student Fundraising Activities

7:330 Student Use of Buildings - Equal Access

7:332 Student Organizations

7:340 Student Records

7:345 Use of Educational Technologies; Student Data Privacy and Security

SECTION 8 - COMMUNITY RELATIONS

8:10 Connection with the Community

8:12 Family and Community Engagement

8:14 Free Admission for Senior Citizens

8:16 Staff/Student Interviews and Photographs/Images/Work

8:20 Community Use of School Facilities

8:25 Advertising and Distributing Materials in Schools Provided by Non-School Related Entities

8:30 Visitors to and Conduct on School Property

8:70 Accommodating Individuals with Disabilities

8:80 Gifts to the District

8:90 Parent Organizations and Booster Clubs

8:100 Relations with Other Organizations and Agencies

8:110 Public Suggestions and Concerns

QUICK START INSTRUCTIONS

School District U-46

SECTION 2 - BOARD OF EDUCATION

School District U-46

2:02 Equity Policy

The Board of Education of Illinois School District U-46 is committed to the success of every student in every school. A primary objective of the District is that by graduation, all students will meet or exceed college and career ready standards and be fully prepared to become contributing members of society. It is our belief that it is the responsibility of this school District to give each student the opportunity and support to meet his or her highest potential.

We also recognize historic and persistent achievement and/or excellence gaps, disparities in data with respect to graduation rates, and inequities in reported incidents of student misconduct when comparing students of various ethnic and racial backgrounds. Closing these gaps and addressing these disparities, while raising achievement for all students, are top priorities of the Board of Education, the Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent, and all District staff, and it will remain the District's responsibility to continue to address these issues.

Illinois School District U-46 will continue to modify its practices in order to achieve and maintain equity in education. We seek to foster a barrier-free educational environment where all students, regardless of race, language and zip code, have the opportunity to benefit equally.

To achieve this goal, the District will provide differentiated resources to support the success of all students and be guided by the following mandates:

- The District shall provide every student with equitable access to high quality and culturally relevant instruction, curriculum, and other educational resources;
- The District shall create multiple pathways to success in order to meet the needs of our diverse student body;
- The District shall actively encourage, support and expect high academic achievement from all students;
- The District shall actively strive to have a teacher and administrative workforce that reflects the diversity of the student body;
- The District shall provide professional development to strengthen employee knowledge and skills in eliminating disparities in achievement based on race and/or ethnicity;
- The District shall remedy any practices that lead to over-representation of students of color in special education and student discipline;
- The District shall remedy any practices that lead to under-representation of students of color in programs such as gifted programs, honors academies, and advanced placement courses;
- The District shall welcome, empower and recognize students and families of all racial and ethnic backgrounds as essential partners in their student's education, school planning and District decision making;
- The District shall include and consider the input of government agencies, non-profit organizations, business and the community in general in ensuring equity of programs to all students, and;
- All students shall have equal access to all programs for which they qualify.

The Board of Education will hold the Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent, school and central office administrative leadership, and all remaining District staff accountable for their contributions toward measurable progress in ensuring these mandates.

The Board directs the Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent to develop action plans with clear accountability and metrics - including prioritizing staffing and budget allocations, as well as ensuring equity in the allocation of resources used to accomplish these mandates. Updated action plans and progress towards these mandates shall be reported to the Board annually.

ADOPTED: July 18, 2022

School District U-46

2:10 School District Governance

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

Official action by the Board may only occur at a duly called and legally conducted meeting. Except as otherwise provided by the Open Meetings Act, a quorum must be physically present at the meeting.

As stated in the Board member oath of office prescribed by the School Code, a Board member has no legal authority as an individual.

LEGAL REF.:

5 ILCS 120/, Open Meetings Act.

105 ILCS 5/10-1, 5/10-10, 5/10-12, 5/10-16.5, 5/10-16.7, and 5/10-20.5.

CROSS REF.: 1:10 (School District Legal Status), 2:20 (Powers and Duties of the Board of Education; Indemnification), 2:80 (Board Member Oath and Conduct), 2:120 (Board Member Development), 2:200 (Types of Board of Education Meetings), 2:220 (Board of Education Meeting Procedure)

ADOPTED: July 18, 2022

School District U-46

2:12 Board Operational Goals

The Board of Education exists for the purpose of providing a program of quality educational opportunities that are responsive to the needs of the students in the district. The Board, as elected representatives of the people, and accountable for its actions, will endeavor to render judgments and decisions that reflect sound educational planning for present and future needs. Recognizing that superior administrative and professional staffs are essential to a sound educational program, the Board will support the ideals of this commitment, within the District's resources.

Additionally, the Board commits itself to the following objectives:

1. To interpret the educational needs and aspirations of the community.
2. To formulate policies which support an effective learning environment.
3. To provide leadership by establishing policies that effectively carry out the goals and objectives of the school system.
4. To maintain communication with the various publics served by the schools.
5. To provide within available financial resources an effective and equitable educational program for all students.

ADOPTED: July 18, 2022

School District U-46

2:20 Powers and Duties of the Board of Education; Indemnification

All powers of the Board of Education are derived from the state statutes and are granted in terms of action of a majority of the Board. Individual Board members exercise authority over District affairs only as they vote to take action at a legal meeting of the board. In other instances, an individual Board member, including the president, will have power only when the Board, by vote, has delegated authority to him or her. As stated in the Board member oath of office prescribed by the Illinois School Code, a Board member has no legal authority as an individual. It is contrary to the spirit of the statutes for any board member to seek individually to influence the official functions of the School District. The Board of Education and its members will deal with administrative services through the Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent and will not give orders to any subordinates of the Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent either publicly or privately.

The major powers and duties of the Board of Education include, but are not limited to:

1. Annually organizing the Board by electing officers and establishing its regular meeting schedule and, thereafter, taking action during lawfully called meetings to faithfully fulfill the Board's responsibilities in accordance with Board policy and State and federal law.
2. Formulating, adopting, and modifying Board policies, at its sole discretion, subject only to mandatory collective bargaining agreements and State and federal law.
3. Employing a Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent and other personnel, making employment decisions, dismissing personnel, including determining whether an employee has willfully or negligently failed to report an instance of suspected child abuse or neglect as required by 325 ILCS 5/, and establishing an equal employment opportunity policy that prohibits unlawful discrimination.
4. Directing, through policy, the Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent, in his or her charge of the District's administration.
5. Approving the annual budget, tax levies, major expenditures, payment of obligations, annual audit, and other aspects of the District's financial operation; and making available a statement of financial affairs as provided in State law.
6. Entering contracts using the public bidding procedure when required.
7. Providing, constructing, controlling, and maintaining adequate physical facilities; making school buildings available for use as civil defense shelters; and establishing a resource conservation policy.
8. Establishing an equal educational opportunities policy that prohibits unlawful discrimination.
9. Approving the curriculum, textbooks, and educational services.
10. Evaluating the educational program and approving School Improvement and District Improvement Plans.
11. Presenting the District report card and School report card(s) to parents/guardians and the community; these documents report District, School and student performance.
12. Establishing and supporting student behavior policies designed to maintain an environment conducive to learning, including deciding individual student suspension or expulsion cases brought before it.
13. Establishing attendance units within the District and assigning students to the schools.
14. Establishing the school year.
15. Requiring a moment of silence to recognize veterans during any type of school event held at a District school on November 11.
16. Providing student transportation services pursuant to State law.
17. Entering into joint agreements with other boards to establish cooperative educational programs or provide educational facilities.

18. Complying with requirements in the Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act (ANCRA). Specifically, each individual Board member must, if an allegation is raised to the member during an open or closed Board meeting that a student is an abused child as defined in ANCRA, direct or cause the Board to direct the Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent or other equivalent school administrator to comply with ANCRA's requirements concerning the reporting of child abuse.
19. Notifying the State Superintendent of Education promptly and in writing of the name of a licensed teacher who was convicted of a felony, along with the conviction and the name and location of the court where the conviction occurred.
20. Notifying the Teachers' Retirement System (TRS) of the State of Ill. Board of Trustees promptly and in writing when it learns that a teacher as defined in the Ill. Pension Code was convicted of a felony, along with the name and location of the court where the conviction occurred, and the case number assigned by that court to the conviction.
21. Communicating the schools' activities and operations to the community and representing the needs and desires of the community in educational matters.
22. Visiting the District's schools.

Indemnification

To the extent allowed by law, the Board shall defend, indemnify, and hold harmless Board of Education members, employees, volunteer personnel (pursuant to 105 ILCS 5/10-22.34, 10-22.34a and 10-22.34b), mentors of certified staff (pursuant to 105 ILCS 5/2-3.53a, 2-3.53b, and 105 ILCS 5/21A-5 *et seq.*), and student teachers who, in the course of discharging their official duties imposed or authorized by law, are sued as parties in a legal proceeding. Nothing herein, however, shall be construed as obligating the Board to defend, indemnify, or hold harmless any person who engages in criminal activity, official misconduct, fraud, intentional or willful and wanton misconduct, or acts beyond the authority properly vested in the individual.

LEGAL REF.:

105 ILCS 5/10, 5/17-1, 5/21B-85, and 5/27-1.

115 ILCS 5/, Ill. Educational Labor Relations Act.

325 ILCS 5/, Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act.

CROSS REF.: 1:10 (School District Legal Status), 1:20 (District Organization, Operations, and Cooperative Agreements), 2:10 (School District Governance), 2:80 (Board Member Oath and Conduct), 2:140 (Communications To and From the Board), 2:210 (Organizational Board of Education Meeting), 2:240 (Board Policy Development), 4:60 (Purchases and Contracts), 4:70 (Resource Conservation), 4:100 (Insurance Management), 4:110 (Transportation), 4:150 (Facility Management and Building Programs), 4:165 (Awareness and Prevention of Sexual Abuse and Grooming Behaviors), 4:175 (Convicted Child Sex Offender; Screening; Notifications), 5:10 (Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Recruitment), 5:30 (Hiring Process and Criteria), 5:90 (Abused and Neglected Child Reporting), 5:120 (Employee Ethics; Conduct; and Conflict of Interest), 5:150 (Personnel Records), 5:210 (Resignations), 5:290 (Employment Termination and Suspensions), 6:10 (Educational Philosophy and Objectives), 6:15 (School Accountability), 6:20 (School Year Calendar and Day), 7:10 (Equal Educational Opportunities), 7:30 (Student Assignment and Intra-District Transfer), 7:190 (Student Behavior), 7:200 (Suspension Procedures), 7:210 (Expulsion Procedures), 8:10 (Connection with the Community), 8:30 (Visitors to and Conduct on School Property)

ADOPTED: July 18, 2022

School District U-46

2:30 School District Elections

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

The Board, by proper resolution, may cause to be placed on the ballot: (a) public policy referendum according to Article 28 of the Election Code, or (b) advisory questions of public policy according to Section 9-1.5 of the School Code.

The Board Secretary serves as the local election official. He or she receives petitions for the submission of a public question to referenda and forwards them to the proper election officer.

LEGAL REF.:

10 ILCS 5/1-3, 5/2A, 5/9, 5/10-9, 5/22-17, 5/22-18, and 5/28.

105 ILCS 5/9.

CROSS REF.: 2:40 (Board Member Qualifications), 2:50 (Board Member Term of Office), 2:210 (Organizational Board of Education Meeting)

ADOPTED: July 18, 2022

School District U-46

2:40 Board Member Qualifications

A Board of Education member must be, on the date of election or appointment, a United States citizen, at least 18 years of age, a resident of Illinois and the District for at least one year immediately preceding the election, and a registered voter.

Reasons making an individual ineligible for Board membership include holding an incompatible office and certain types of State or federal employment. A child sex offender, as defined in State law, is ineligible for Board of Education membership.

The Board will annually appoint a student member to serve in an advisory capacity. The student member will not have any voting privileges and may not attend executive sessions of the Board.

LEGAL REF.:

Ill. Constitution, Art. II, §1; Art. IV, §2(e); Art. VI, §13(b).

105 ILCS 5/10-3 and 5/10-10.

CROSS REF.: 2:30 (Board of Education Elections), 2:70 (Vacancies on the Board of Education - Filling Vacancies)

ADOPTED: July 18, 2022

School District U-46

2:50 Board Member Term of Office

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

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

The term ends 4 years later when the successor assumes office. A Board member may resign his/her elected or appointed position on the Board at his/her discretion by submitting, in writing, said resignation to the secretary of the Board.

LEGAL REF.:

10 ILCS 5/2A-1.1, 5/22-17, and 5/22-18.

105 ILCS 5/10-10, 5/10-16, and 5/10-16.5.

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

ADOPTED: July 18, 2022

School District U-46

2:60 Board Member Removal from Office

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

LEGAL REF.:

105 ILCS 5/3-15.5.

CROSS REF.: 2:70 (Vacancies on the Board of Education - Filling Vacancies)

ADOPTED: July 18, 2022

School District U-46

2:70 Vacancies on the Board of Education - Filling Vacancies

Vacancy

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

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

Filling Vacancies

The Board of Education has the power to fill, by appointment, any vacancy which occurs on the Board. Whenever a vacancy occurs, the remaining members shall notify the Regional Superintendent of Schools of that vacancy within five days after its occurrence and shall fill the vacancy until the next regular board election, at which election a successor shall be elected to serve the remainder of the unexpired term. However, if the vacancy occurs with less than 868 days remaining in the term or less than 88 days before the next regularly scheduled election, the person so appointed shall serve the remainder of the unexpired term, and no election to fill the vacancy shall be held. Members appointed by the remaining members of the Board to fill vacancies shall meet any residential requirements as specified in the School Code. The Board shall fill the vacancy within 60 days after it occurred by a public vote at a meeting of the Board.

Immediately following a vacancy on the Board, the Board will publicize it and accept letters and résumés from District residents who are interested in filling the vacancy. After reviewing the applications, the Board may invite the prospective candidates for personal interviews to be conducted during duly scheduled closed meetings.

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

CROSS REF.:2:40 (Board Member Qualifications), 2:60 (Board Member Removal from Office), 2:120 (Board Member Development)

ADOPTED:July 18, 2022

2:80 Board Member Oath and Conduct

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

I, (name), do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully discharge the duties of the office of member of the Board of Education of School District U-46, in accordance with the Constitution of the United States, the Constitution of the State of Illinois, and the laws of the State of Illinois, to the best of my ability.

I further swear (or affirm) that:

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

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

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

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

As part of the Board of Education, I shall accept the responsibility for my role in the equitable and quality education of every student in the School District;

I shall foster with the Board extensive participation of the community, formulate goals, define outcomes, and set the course for School District U-46;

I shall assist in establishing a structure and an environment designed to ensure all students have the opportunity to attain their maximum potential through a sound organizational framework;

I shall strive to ensure a continuous assessment of student achievement and all conditions affecting the education of our children, in compliance with State law;

I shall serve as education's key advocate on behalf of students and our community's school (or schools) to advance the vision for School District U-46; and

I shall strive to work together with the District Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent to lead the School District toward fulfilling the vision the Board has created, fostering excellence for every student in the areas of academic skills, knowledge, citizenship, and personal development.

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

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

In addition, Board Members will support the development of:

- Educational programs which meet the individual needs of every student, regardless of race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, age, national origin, ancestry, marital status, disability, or any other legally protected status in accordance with applicable legal requirements;
- Procedures for the regular and systematic evaluation of programs, staff performance, and board operations to ensure progress toward educational and fiscal goals;

- Effective school board policies which provide direction for the operation of the schools and delegate authority to the superintendent for their administration;
- Systematic communications which ensure that the school board, administration, staff, students, and community are fully informed and that the staff understands the community's aspirations for its schools; and
- Sound business practices which ensure that every dollar spent produces maximum benefits.

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

CROSS REF.:1:30 (School District Philosophy), 2:20 (Powers and Duties of the Board of Education; Indemnification), 2:50 (Board Member Term of Office), 2:100 (Board Member Conflict of Interest), 2:105 (Ethics and Gift Ban), 2:210 (Organizational Board of Education Meeting)

ADOPTED:July 18, 2022

School District U-46

2:100 Board Member Conflict of Interest

No Board of Education member shall: (1) have a beneficial interest directly or indirectly in any contract, work, or business of the District unless permitted by State or federal law; or (2) solicit or accept gratuities, favors, or anything of monetary value from contractors, potential contractors, or parties to agreements or contracts with the District. Situations in which the interest is not substantial or the gift is an unsolicited item of nominal value must comply with State law and Board policy 2:105, *Ethics and Gift Ban*.

Candidates for the Board of Education must file a verified statement of economic interest with the County Clerk of Kane County, the form of which shall be determined by the County Clerk. Each Board member is responsible for filing the statement with the county clerk of the county in which the District's main office is located by May 1.

Federal and State Grant Awards

No Board member shall participate in the selection, award, or administration of a contract supported by a federal award or State award governed by the Grant Accountability and Transparency Act (GATA) (30 ILCS 708/) if he or she has a real or apparent conflict of interest. A conflict of interest arises when a Board member or any of the following individuals has a financial or other interest in the entity selected for the contract:

1. Any person that has a close personal relationship with a Board member that may compromise or impair the Board member's fairness and impartiality, including a member of the Board member's immediate family or household;
2. The Board member's business partner; or
3. An entity that employs or is about to employ the Board member or one of the individuals listed in one or two above.

LEGAL REF.:5 ILCS 420/4A-101.5, 420/4A-105, 420/4A-106.5, and 420/4A-107.

30 ILCS 708/, Grant Accountability and Transparency Act.

50 ILCS 105/3.

105 ILCS 5/10-9.

2 C.F.R. §200.318(c)(1).

CROSS REF.:2:105 (Ethics and Gift Ban), 4:60 (Purchases and Contracts), 5:120 (Employee Ethics; Conduct; and Conflict of Interest)

ADOPTED:July 18, 2022

2:105 Ethics and Gift Ban

Prohibited Political Activity

The following precepts govern political activities being conducted by District employees and Board of Education members:

1. No employee shall intentionally perform any *political activity* during any *compensated time*, as those terms are defined herein.
2. No Board member or employee shall intentionally use any District property or resources in connection with any political activity.
3. At no time shall any Board member or employee intentionally require any other Board member or employee to perform any political activity: (a) as part of that Board member's or employee's duties, (b) as a condition of employment, or (c) during any compensated time off, such as, holidays, vacation, or personal time off.
4. No Board member or employee shall be required at any time to participate in any political activity in consideration for that Board member or employee being awarded additional compensation or any benefit, whether in the form of a salary adjustment, bonus, compensatory time off, continued employment or otherwise; nor shall any Board member or employee be awarded additional compensation or any benefit in consideration for his or her participation in any political activity.
5. No person in a position that is subject to recognized merit principles of public employment shall be denied or deprived of Board employment or tenure solely because he or she is a member or an officer of a political committee, of a political party, or of a political organization or club.

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

Limitations on Receiving Gifts

Except as permitted by this policy, no Board member or employee, and no spouse of or immediate family member living with a Board member or employee shall intentionally solicit or accept any *gift* from any *prohibited source*, as those terms are defined herein, or that is otherwise prohibited by law or policy. No prohibited source shall intentionally offer or make a gift that violates this policy.

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

1. Opportunities, benefits, and services that are available on the same conditions as for the general public.
2. Anything for which the Board member or employee, or his or her spouse or immediate family member, pays the fair market value.
3. Any: (a) contribution that is lawfully made under the Election Code, or (b) activities associated with a fundraising event in support of a political organization or candidate.
4. Educational materials and missions.
5. Travel expenses for a meeting to discuss Board business that is not otherwise covered or reimbursed by the Board, when attendance at the meeting is approved by the Board or the Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent.
6. A gift from a relative, meaning those people related to the individual as father, mother, son, daughter, brother, sister, uncle, aunt, great aunt, great uncle, first cousin, nephew, niece, husband, wife, grandfather, grandmother, grandson, granddaughter, father-in-law, mother-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, stepfather, stepmother, stepson, stepdaughter, stepbrother, stepsister, half brother, half sister, and including the father, mother,

grandfather, or grandmother of the individual's spouse and the individual's fiancé or fiancée.

7. Anything provided by an individual on the basis of a personal friendship unless the recipient has reason to believe that, under the circumstances, the gift was provided because of the official position or employment of the recipient or his or her spouse or immediate family member and not because of the personal friendship. In determining whether a gift is provided on the basis of personal friendship, the recipient shall consider the circumstances under which the gift was offered, such as: (a) the history of the relationship between the individual giving the gift and the recipient of the gift, including any previous exchange of gifts between those individuals; (b) whether to the actual knowledge of the recipient the individual who gave the gift personally paid for the gift or sought a tax deduction or business reimbursement for the gift; and (c) whether to the actual knowledge of the recipient the individual who gave the gift also at the same time gave the same or similar gifts to other Board members or employees, or their spouses or immediate family members.
8. Food or refreshments not exceeding \$75 per person in value on a single calendar day; provided that the food or refreshments are: (a) consumed on the premises from which they were purchased or prepared; or (b) catered. *Catered* means food or refreshments that are purchased ready to consume, which are delivered by any means.
9. Food, refreshments, lodging, transportation, and other benefits resulting from outside business or employment activities (or outside activities that are not connected to the official duties of a Board member or employee), if the benefits have not been offered or enhanced because of the official position or employment of the Board member or employee, and are customarily provided to others in similar circumstances.
10. Intra-governmental and inter-governmental gifts. *Intra-governmental gift* means any gift given to a Board member or employee from another Board member or employee, and *inter-governmental gift* means any gift given to a Board member or employee from an officer or employee of another governmental entity.
11. Bequests, inheritances, and other transfers at death.
12. Any item or items from any one prohibited source during any calendar year having a cumulative total value of less than \$100.

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

A Board member or employee, his or her spouse or an immediate family member living with the Board member or employee, does not violate this policy if the recipient promptly takes reasonable action to return a gift from a prohibited source to its source or gives the gift or an amount equal to its value to an appropriate charity that is exempt from income taxation under 26 U.S.C. §501(c)(3).

Enforcement - Employees (Other Than the Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent)

Any person wanting to file a complaint against any employee of the School District for violating this Policy shall file such a complaint with the Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent. The complaint must be (i) in writing, (ii) signed and notarized, and (iii) specify which provision(s) of this Policy the employee has allegedly violated. The Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent shall refer the complaint to an independent investigator to investigate within 10 days of its receipt, and the independent investigator shall have 30 days to conduct his or her investigation; except that the Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent may, at the request of the independent investigator, extend the investigation period up to an additional 30 days for cause. The Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent shall also send a copy of the complaint, by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the alleged violator. Any complaint not filed in strict accordance with this Section shall not be investigated.

Enforcement - Members and Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent

A person who seeks to file a complaint against a member of the Board or the Chief Executive

Officer/Superintendent for violating this Policy shall file such a complaint with the President of the Board. The complaint must be (i) in writing, (ii) signed and notarized, and (iii) specify which provision(s) of this Policy the member or Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent has allegedly violated. (In the event that the complaint is against the President of the Board, the complaint may be filed with the Vice President of Board.) The President (or the Vice-President) shall refer the complaint to an independent investigator to investigate within 10 days of its receipt, and the independent investigator shall have 30 days to conduct his or her investigation, except that the President (or Vice President), at the request of the independent investigator, extend the investigation period up to an additional 30 days for cause. The President (or Vice President) shall also send a copy of the complaint, by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the alleged violator. Any complaint not filed in strict accordance with this section shall not be investigated.

Definitions

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

Political activity means:

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

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

Prohibited source means any person or entity who:

1. Is seeking official action by: (a) a Board member, or (b) an employee, or by the Board member or another employee directing that employee;
2. Does business or seeks to do business with: (a) a Board member, or (b) an employee, or with the Board member or another employee directing that employee;
3. Conducts activities regulated by: (a) a Board member, or (b) an employee or by the Board member or another employee directing that employee;
4. Has an interest that may be substantially affected by the performance or non-performance of the official duties of the Board member or employee;
5. Is registered or required to be registered with the Secretary of State under the Lobbyist Registration Act, except that an entity does not become a prohibited source merely because a registered lobbyist is one of its members or serves on its board of directors; or
6. Is an agent of, a spouse of, or an immediate family member living with a prohibited source.

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

Complaints of Sexual Harassment Made Against Board Members by Elected Officials

Pursuant to the State Officials and Employees Ethics Act (5 ILCS 430/70-5), members of the Board and other elected officials are encouraged to promptly report claims of sexual harassment by a Board member. Every effort should be made to file such complaints as soon as possible, while facts are known and potential witnesses are available. If the official feels comfortable doing so, he or she should directly inform the individual that the individual's conduct or communication is offensive and must stop.

Board members and elected officials should report claims of sexual harassment against a member of the Board to the Board President or Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent. If the report is made to the Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent, the Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent shall promptly notify the President, or if the President is the subject of the complaint, the Vice President. Reports of sexual harassment will be confidential to the greatest extent practicable.

When a complaint of sexual harassment is made against a member of the Board by another Board member or other elected official, the Superintendent shall appoint a qualified outside investigator who is not a District employee or Board member to conduct an independent review of the allegations. The investigator shall prepare a written report and submit it to the Board.

If a Board member has engaged in sexual harassment, the matter will be addressed in accordance with the authority of the Board.

The Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent will post this policy on the District website and/or make this policy available in the District's administrative office.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/22-90 (final citation pending).

5 ILCS 430/, State Officials and Employees Ethics Act.

10 ILCS 5/9-25.1, Election Interference Prohibition Act.

CROSS REF.: 2:100 (Board Member Conflict of Interest), 2:260 (Uniform Grievance Procedure), 4:60 (Purchases and Contracts), 5:120 (Employee Ethics; Conduct; and Conflict of Interest)

ADOPTED: July 18, 2022

School District U-46

2:110 Qualifications, Term, and Duties of Board Officers

The Board of Education officers are: President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. These officers are elected or appointed by the Board at its organizational meeting.

President

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

1. Preside at all meetings;
2. Focus the Board meeting agendas on appropriate content;
3. Make all Board committee appointments, unless specifically stated otherwise;
4. Appoint individuals to serve on Board committees; attend and observe any Board committee meeting at his or her discretion;
5. Represent the Board on other boards or agencies;
6. Sign official District documents requiring the President's signature, including Board minutes and Certificate of Tax Levy;
7. Call special meetings of the Board;
8. Serve as the *head of the public body* for purposes of the Open Meetings Act and Freedom of Information Act;
9. Ensure that a quorum of the Board is physically present at all Board meetings, except as otherwise provided by the Open Meetings Act;
10. Serve as or appoint the Board's official spokesperson to the media;
11. Ensure that the fingerprint-based criminal history records information checks and/or screenings required by State law and policy 5:30, *Hiring Process and Criteria*, are completed for the Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent; and
12. Be responsible for the orderly conduct of Board meetings.

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

The Vice President fills a vacancy in the Presidency.

Vice President

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

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

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

Secretary

The Board elects a Secretary for a one-year term. The Secretary may be, but is not required to be, a Board member. The duties of the Secretary are to:

1. Keep minutes for all Board meetings, and keep the verbatim record for all closed Board meetings;
2. Mail meeting notification and agenda to news media who have officially requested copies;

3. Keep records of the Board's official acts, and sign them, along with the President, before submitting them to the Treasurer at such times as the Treasurer may require;
4. Report to the Treasurer on or before July 7, annually, such information as the Treasurer is required to include in the Treasurer's report to the Regional Superintendent;
5. Act as the local election official for the District;
6. Arrange public inspection of the budget before adoption;
7. Publish required notices;
8. Sign official District documents requiring the Secretary's signature; and
9. Maintain Board policy and such other official documents as directed by the Board.

The Secretary may delegate some or all of these duties, except when State law prohibits the delegation. The Board appoints a secretary pro tempore, who may or may not be a Board member, if the Secretary is absent from any meeting or refuses to perform the duties of the office. A permanent vacancy in the office of Secretary is filled by special Board election.

Secretary Pro Tem

In the absence of the Secretary or his/her designee, the Secretary pro tem of the Board of Education shall perform the duties of the Secretary.

Recording Secretary

The Board may appoint a Recording Secretary who is a staff member. The Recording Secretary shall:

1. Assist the Secretary by taking the minutes for all open Board meetings;
2. Assemble Board meeting material and provide it, along with prior meeting minutes, to Board members before the next meeting; and
3. Perform the Secretary's duties, as assigned, except when State law prohibits the delegation.

In addition, the Recording Secretary or Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent receives notification from Board members who desire to attend a Board meeting by video or audio means.

Treasurer

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

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

The Treasurer shall:

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

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

LEGAL REF.:5 ILCS 120/7 and 420/4A-106.

105 ILCS 5/8-1, 5/8-2, 5/8-3, 5/8-6, 5/8-16, 5/8-17, 5/10-1, 5/10-5, 5/10-7, 5/10-8, 5/10-13, 5/10-13.1, 5/10-14, 5/10-16.5, 5/10-21.9, 5/17-1, and 5/21B-85.

CROSS REF.:2:80 (Board Member Oath and Conduct), 2:105 (Ethics and Gift Ban), 2:150 (Committees), 2:210 (Organizational Board of Education Meeting), 2:220 (Board of Education Meeting Procedure)

ADOPTED:July 18, 2022

School District U-46

2:120 Board Member Development

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

The Board President and/or Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent shall provide all Board members with information regarding pertinent education materials, publications, and notices of training or development. The Board of Education, in recognizing their commonality of purpose with boards across the nation, may subscribe to and maintain annual membership in regional, state, and national associations seeking to promote excellence in the public schools through effective board leadership.

Mandatory Board Member Training

Each Board member is responsible for his or her own compliance with the mandatory training laws that are described below:

1. Each Board member elected or appointed to fill a vacancy of at least one year's duration must complete at least four hours of professional development leadership training in education and labor law, financial oversight and accountability, fiduciary responsibilities, and (beginning in the fall of 2023) trauma-informed practices for students and staff within the first year of his or her first term.
2. Each Board member must complete training on the Open Meetings Act no later than 90 days after taking the oath of office for the first time. After completing the training, each Board member must file a copy of the certificate of completion with the Board. Training on the Open Meetings Act is only required once.
3. Each Board member must complete a training program on evaluations under the Performance Evaluation Reform Act (PERA) before participating in a vote on a tenured teacher's dismissal using the optional alternative evaluation dismissal process. This dismissal process is available after the District's PERA implementation date.

The District shall maintain on its website the names of all Board members who have successfully completed mandatory training.

Professional Development; Adverse Consequences of School Exclusion; Student Behavior

The Board President or Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent, or their designees, will make reasonable efforts to provide ongoing professional development to Board members about the adverse consequences of school exclusion and justice-system involvement, effective classroom management strategies, culturally responsive discipline, appropriate and available supportive services for the promotion of student attendance and engagement, and developmentally appropriate disciplinary methods that promote positive and healthy school climates.

Board Self-Evaluation

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

New Board Member Orientation

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

1. The Board President or designee shall arrange a meeting with new Board member(s) for the purpose of explaining and answering questions about Board processes and procedures.
2. The Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent or designee shall arrange a meeting of the Board President, the Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent, and the new member for the purpose of

answering questions and acquainting the member with the District.

3. The Board President or Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent, or their designees, shall give each new Board member a copy of or online access to the Board Policy Manual, the Board's regular meeting minutes for the past year, and other helpful information including material describing the District and explaining the Board's roles and responsibilities.
4. The Board President or designee shall schedule one or more special Board meetings, or schedule time during regular meetings, for Board members to become acquainted and to review Board processes and procedures.
5. The Board President may request a veteran Board member to mentor a new member.
6. All new members are encouraged to attend workshops for new members conducted by the Illinois Association of School Boards.

Candidates

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

LEGAL REF.:5 ILCS 120/1.05 and 120/2.

105 ILCS 5/10-16a and 5/24-16.5.

CROSS REF.:2:80 (Board Member Oath and Conduct), 2:125 (Board Member Compensation; Expenses), 2:200 (Types of Board of Education Meetings)

ADOPTED:July 18, 2022

School District U-46

2:125 Board Member Compensation; Expenses

Board Member Compensation Prohibited

Board of Education members provide volunteer service to the community and may not receive compensation for services, except that a Board member serving as the Board Secretary may be paid an amount up to the statutory limit if the Board so provides.

Roll Call Vote

All Board member expense requests for travel, meals, and/or lodging must be approved by roll call vote at an open meeting of the Board.

Regulation of School District Expenses

The Board regulates the reimbursement of all travel, meal, and lodging expenses in the District by the District Travel Guidelines. At the start of each fiscal year and when necessary, the Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent will recommend a maximum allowable reimbursement amount for expenses to be included in the resolution. The recommended amount should be based upon the District's budget and other financial considerations.

Money shall not be advanced or reimbursed for: (1) the expenses of any person except the Board member, (2) anyone's personal expenses, or (3) entertainment expenses. Entertainment includes, but is not limited to, shows, amusements, theaters, circuses, sporting events, or any other place of public or private entertainment or amusement, unless the entertainment is ancillary to the purpose of the program or event.

Exceeding the Maximum Allowable Reimbursement Amount(s)

All requests for expense advancements and/or reimbursements that exceed the maximum allowable reimbursement amount set by the Board may only be approved by it when:

1. The Board's resolution to regulate expenses allows for such approval;
2. An emergency or other extraordinary circumstance exists; and
3. The request is approved by a roll call vote at an open Board meeting.

Reimbursements

Expense reimbursement is not guaranteed and, when possible, Board members should seek pre-approval of expenses by providing an estimation of expenses on the Board's standardized estimated expense approval form, except in situations when the expense is diminutive. When pre-approval is not sought, Board members must seek reimbursement on the Board's standardized expense reimbursement form. Expense reimbursements shall be presented to the Board in its regular bill process.

Credit and Procurement Cards

Credit and procurement cards shall not be issued to Board members.

Standardized Expense Form(s) Required

All requests for expense advancement and/or reimbursement in the District must be submitted on the appropriate itemized, signed standardized form(s). The form(s) must show the following information:

1. The amount of the estimated or actual expense, with attached receipts for actual incurred expenses.

2. The name and office of the Board member who is requesting the expense advancement or reimbursement. Receipts from group functions must include the names, offices, and job titles of all participants.
3. The date(s) of the official business on which the expense advancement or reimbursement will be or was expended.
4. The nature of the official business conducted when the expense advancement or reimbursement will be or was expended.

Types of Official Business for Expense Advancements, and Reimbursements

1. Registration. When possible, registration fees will be paid by the District in advance.
2. Travel. The least expensive method of travel will be used, providing that no hardship will be caused to the Board member. Board members will be reimbursed for:
 - a. Air travel at the coach or economy class commercial airline rate. First class or business class air travel will be reimbursed only if emergency circumstances warrant. The emergency circumstances must be explained on the expense form and Board approval of the additional expense is required. Fees for the first checked bag will be reimbursed. Copies of airline tickets and baggage receipts must be attached to the expense form.
 - b. Rail or bus travel at actual cost. Rail or bus travel costs may not exceed the cost of coach airfare. Copies of tickets must be attached to the expense form to substantiate amounts.
 - c. Use of personal automobiles at the standard mileage rate approved by the Internal Revenue Service for income tax purposes. The reimbursement may not exceed the cost of coach airfare. Mileage for use of personal automobiles in trips to and from transportation terminals will also be reimbursed. Toll charges and parking costs will be reimbursed.
 - d. Automobile rental costs when the vehicle's use is warranted. The circumstances for such use must be explained on the expense form.
 - e. Taxis, airport limousines, ride sharing or other local transportation costs.
3. Meals. Meals charged to the School District will be reimbursed for meal costs up to \$10 for breakfast, \$15 for lunch, and \$20 for dinner per day, consistent with the maximum allowable reimbursement amount set by the Board. Tips are included with meal charges. Expense forms must explain the meal charges incurred. Alcoholic beverages will not be reimbursed.
4. Lodging. Board members should request conference rate or mid-fare room accommodations. A single room rate will be reimbursed. Board members should pay personal expenses at checkout. If that is impossible, deductions for the charges should be made on the expense form.
5. Miscellaneous Expenses. Board members may seek reimbursement for other expenses incurred while attending a meeting sponsored by organizations described herein by fully describing the expenses on the expense form, attaching receipts.

Additional Requirements for Travel Expenses Charged to Federal and State Grants

All Board member expenses for travel charged to a federal grant or State grant governed by the Grant Accountability and Transparency Act (30 ILCS 708/) must comply with Board policy 5:60, Expenses, and its implementing procedures. Travel expenses include costs for transportation, lodging, meals, and related items.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/10-20 and 5/10-22.32.

30 ILCS 708/, Government Accountability and Transparency Act.

50 ILCS 150/, Local Government Travel Expense Control Act.

CROSS REF.: 2:100 (Board Member Conflict of Interest), 2:120 (Board Member Development),

2:240 (Board Policy Development), 4:50 (Payment Procedures), 4:55 (Use of Credit and Procurement Cards), 5:60 (Expenses)

ADOPTED: July 18, 2022

School District U-46

2:130 Board-Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent Relationship

The Board of Education directs, through policy, the Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent in his or her charge of the administration of the District by delegating its authority to operate the District and provide leadership to staff. The Board employs and evaluates the Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent and holds him or her responsible for the operation of the District in accordance with Board policies and State and federal law.

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

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

The Board of Education is responsible for labor negotiations with employee bargaining units. The Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent/designee will be the chief negotiator of the Board of Education.

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

CROSS REF.:3:40 (Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent)

ADOPTED:July 18, 2022

School District U-46

2:140 Communications To and From the Board

The Board of Education welcomes communications from staff members, parents/guardians, students, and community members. Individuals may submit questions or communications for the Board of Education's consideration to the Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent or may use the electronic link to the Board's email address(es) posted on the District's website.

The Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent or designee shall:

1. Ensure that the home page for the District's website contains an active electronic link to the email address(es) for the Board of Education, and
2. During the Board's regular meetings, report for the Board's consideration all questions or communications submitted through the active electronic link along with the status of the District's response in the Board meeting packet.

If contacted individually, Board members will follow the District's Communication Guidelines. Board members' questions or communications to staff or about programs will be channeled through the Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent's office. Board members will not take individual action that might compromise the Board or District. There is no expectation of privacy for any communication sent to the Board or its members, whether sent by letter, email, or other means. A Board member sending an e-mail concerning the District shall copy the Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent/designee, who shall store the message in order to comply with Local Records Act requirements, facilitate responses to Freedom of Information Act requests, and demonstrate compliance with the Illinois Open Meetings Act. The central files shall be maintained in such a way that hard copies shall be accessible when necessary. Board members may use their District issued email accounts to send messages concerning Board matters, and may also provide this address for purposes of receiving messages related to Board matters.

Board Member Use of Electronic Communications

For purposes of this section, *electronic communications* includes, without limitation, electronic mail, electronic chat, instant messaging, texting, and any form of social networking. Electronic communications among a majority or more of a Board-quorum shall not be used for the purpose of discussing District business. Electronic communications among Board members shall be limited to: (1) disseminating information, and (2) messages not involving deliberation, debate, or decision-making. The following list contains examples of permissible electronic communications:

- Agenda item suggestions
- Reminders regarding meeting times, dates, and places
- Board meeting agendas or information concerning agenda items
- Individual emails to community members, subject to the other limitations in this policy

In accordance with the Open Meetings Act and the Oath of Office taken by Board members, individual Board members will not (a) reply to an email on behalf of the entire Board, or (b) engage in the discussion of District business through electronic communications with a majority of a Board-quorum.

LEGAL REF.:5 ILCS 120/, Open Meetings Act.

50 ILCS 205/20, Local Records Act.

CROSS REF.:2:220 (Board of Education Meeting Procedure), 3:30 (Chain of Command), 8:110 (Public Suggestions and Concerns)

ADOPTED:July 18, 2022

School District U-46

2:150 Committees

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

Special Board Committees

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

Standing Board Committees

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

1. Committee on Personnel/Staff Relations
2. Committee on Finance
3. Committee on Community Relations
4. Committee on Curriculum
5. Committee on Facilities
6. Committee on Legislation
7. Parent-Teacher Advisory Committee. This committee assists in the development of student behavior policy and procedure, and provides information and recommendations to the Board. Its members are parents/guardians and teachers, and may include persons whose expertise or experience is needed. The committee reviews such issues as administering medication in the schools, reciprocal reporting between the School District and local law enforcement agencies regarding criminal offenses committed by students, student discipline, disruptive classroom behavior, school bus safety procedures, and the dissemination of student conduct information.
8. Behavioral Interventions Committee. This committee develops and monitors procedures for using behavioral interventions in accordance with Board policy 7:230, *Misconduct by Students with Disabilities*, and provides information and recommendations to the Board. At the Board President's discretion, the Parent-Teacher Advisory Committee shall perform the duties assigned to the Behavioral Interventions Committee.

The Board president will name committee members after conferring with individual Board members. The president and the Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent/designee will serve as ex-officio members of each committee. All matters referred to committee at the direction of the Board or its president will be thoroughly investigated by it.

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

Advisory Committees to the Board

The Board of Education may appoint advisory committees to counsel it as one means of discerning the needs and desires of the school district and its residents. Advisory committees shall be comprised of parents, community members and other District stakeholders. The central purpose of all advisory committees is to contribute to the educational program by conducting studies, identifying problems,

and developing recommendations that will enhance the effectiveness of the decision making process. The ultimate authority to make decisions will continue to reside in the powers and duties of the Board of Education as imposed by law.

Generally, advisory committees will be assigned to investigate areas of the District's educational program which need development, change, or reorganization and areas of community involvement in district affairs.

The administrative liaison to each advisory committee or a committee member will report annually to the Board of Education, keeping it informed of progress and problems. The Board may designate the intervals at which it will hear from the committee, but any significant developments will be reported as they occur. No announcement should be made by any committee or its members to the public or press until such release has been cleared with the Board President/designee.

The Board will provide advisory committees with a suitable meeting place and administrative assistance.

Recognizing the contributions to be made by staff members in the deliberation of advisory groups, the Board may authorize participation of school personnel in various advisory committees. In such cases, the Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent/designee will appoint the staff member or members to serve on the committee.

LEGAL REF.:5 ILCS 120/, Open Meetings Act.

105 ILCS 5/10-20.14 and 5/14-8.05.

CROSS REF.:2:110 (Qualifications, Term, and Duties of Board Officers), 2:200 (Types of Board of Education Meetings), 2:240 (Board Policy Development), 7:190 (Student Behavior), 7:230 (Misconduct by Students with Disabilities)

ADOPTED:July 18, 2022

School District U-46

2:160 Board Attorney - Legal Counsel and Legal Officer

The Board may employ an attorney as Chief Legal Officer. The Board of Education may retain legal services with one or more attorneys or law firms to be the Board Attorney(s). The Board Attorney represents the Board of Education in its capacity as the governing body for the School District. The Board Attorney serves on a retainer or other fee arrangement as determined in advance. The Board Attorney will provide services as described in the agreement for legal services or as memorialized by an engagement letter. The District will only pay for legal services that are provided in accordance with the agreement for legal services, as memorialized by an engagement letter, or that are otherwise authorized by this policy or a majority of the Board.

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

The Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent may authorize the Board Attorney to represent the District in any legal matter until the Board has an opportunity to be informed of and/or consider the matter.

The Board retains the right to consult with or employ other attorneys and to terminate the service of any attorney. The Board of Education will receive at least an annual review by the Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent of the work by the legal counsel and services provided in the prior year.

LEGAL REF.:Rule 1.7 (Conflict of Interest: Current Clients) and Rule 1.13 (Organization as Client) of the Ill. Rules of Professional Conduct adopted by the Ill. Supreme Court.

CROSS REF.:4:60 (Purchases and Contracts)

ADOPTED:July 18, 2022

School District U-46

2:162 Chief Legal Officer's Settlement Authority

The Board of Education authorizes the Chief Legal Officer/designee to settle Workers' Compensation claims for a sum up to and including \$50,000. The Chief Legal Officer/designee shall also have the authority to settle all other legal claims up to \$25,000. The Chief Legal Officer shall report such settlements to the Board on a timely basis.

ADOPTED: July 18, 2022

School District U-46

2:170 Procurement of Architectural, Engineering, and Land Surveying Services

The Board of Education selects architects, engineers, and land surveyors to provide professional services to the District on the basis of demonstrated competence and qualifications, and in accordance with State law.

LEGAL REF.:40 U.S.C. §541.

50 ILCS 510/, Local Government Professional Services Selection Act.

105 ILCS 5/10-20.21.

Shively v. Belleville Twp. High Sch. Dist. 201, 329 Ill.App.3d 1156 (5th Dist. 2002), *appeal denied*.

ADOPTED:July 18, 2022

School District U-46

2:182 Board Liaisons

The President of the Board of Education will appoint board members to serve as representatives to various local, state, county, and regional organizations and boards. It will be the responsibility of such representatives to keep the organizations informed of appropriate board actions, and the Board informed of pertinent organization activities. The liaisons will actively seek input regarding school affairs from the members of these organizations.

The Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent/designee may be named as liaison when appropriate.

ADOPTED: July 18, 2022

School District U-46

2:200 Types of Board of Education Meetings

General

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

The Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent and Chief Legal Officer are designated on behalf of the Board and each Board committee to receive the training on compliance with the Open Meetings Act that is required by Section 1.05(a) of that Act. The Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent may identify other employees to receive the training. In addition, each Board member must complete a course of training on the Open Meetings Act as required by Section 1.05(b) or (c) of that Act.

Regular Meetings

The Board announces the time and place for its regular meetings at the beginning of each fiscal year. The Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent shall prepare and make available the calendar of regular Board meetings. The regular meeting calendar may be changed with 10 days' notice in accordance with State law. The Board of Education shall meet at least once a month to discuss and act on all matters that may come before it.

A meeting agenda shall be posted at the District's main office and the Board's meeting room, or other location where the meeting is to be held, at least 48 hours before the meeting.

Closed Meetings

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

1. The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees, specific individuals who serve as independent contractors in a park, recreational, or educational setting, or specific volunteers of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee, a specific individual who serves as an independent contractor in a park, recreational, or educational setting, or a volunteer of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity. However, a meeting to consider an increase in compensation to a specific employee of a public body that is subject to the Local Government Wage Increase Transparency Act may not be closed and shall be open to the public and posted and held in accordance with [the Open Meetings Act]. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1), amended by P.A. 101-459.
2. Collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2).
3. The selection of a person to fill a public office, as defined in the Open Meetings Act, including a vacancy in a public office, when the public body is given power to appoint under law or ordinance, or the discipline, performance or removal of the occupant of a public office, when the public body is given power to remove the occupant under law or ordinance. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(3).
4. Evidence or testimony presented in open hearing, or in closed hearing where specifically authorized by law, to a quasi-adjudicative body, as defined in the Open Meetings Act, provided that the body prepares and makes available for public inspection a written decision setting forth its determinative reasoning. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(4).
5. The purchase or lease of real property for the use of the public body, including meetings held for the purpose of discussing whether a particular parcel should be acquired. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(5).

6. The setting of a price for sale or lease of property owned by the public body. 5ILCS 120/2(c)(6).
7. The sale or purchase of securities, investments, or investment contracts. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(7).
8. Security procedures, school building safety and security, and the use of personnel and equipment to respond to an actual, a threatened, or a reasonably potential danger to the safety of employees, students, staff, the public, or public property. 5ILCS 120/2(c)(8).
9. Student disciplinary cases. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(9).
10. The placement of individual students in special education programs and other matters relating to individual students. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(10).
11. Litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent, in which case the basis for the finding shall be recorded and entered into the minutes of the closed meeting. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11).
12. The establishment of reserves or settlement of claims as provided in the Local Governmental and Governmental Employees Tort Immunity Act, if otherwise the disposition of a claim or potential claim might be prejudiced, or the review or discussion of claims, loss or risk management information, records, data, advice or communications from or with respect to any insurer of the public body or any intergovernmental risk management association or self insurance pool of which the public body is a member. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(12).
13. Self evaluation, practices and procedures or professional ethics, when meeting with a representative of a statewide association of which the public body is a member. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(16).
14. Discussion of minutes of meetings lawfully closed under the Open Meetings Act, whether for purposes of approval by the body of the minutes or semi-annual review of the minutes as mandated by Section 2.06. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(21).
15. Meetings between internal or external auditors and governmental audit committees, finance committees, and their equivalents, when the discussion involves internal control weaknesses, identification of potential fraud risk areas, known or suspected frauds, and fraud interviews conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards of the United States of America. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(29).

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

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

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

Reconvened or Rescheduled Meetings

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

Special Meetings

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

the meeting. The Board of Education may convene a special meeting to consider or act upon items requiring attention prior to the next regular meeting.

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

All matters discussed by the Board at any special meeting must be related to a subject on the meeting agenda.

Emergency Meetings

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

Posting on the District Website

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

LEGAL REF.:5 ILCS 120/, Open Meetings Act.

5 ILCS 140/, Freedom of Information Act.

105 ILCS 5/10-6 and 5/10-16.

CROSS REF.:2:110 (Qualifications Term, and Duties of Board Officers), 2:120 (Board Member Development), 2:210 (Organizational Board of Education Meetings), 2:220 (Board of Education Meeting Procedure), 2:230 (Public Participation at Board of Education Meetings and Petitions to the Board), 6:235 (Access to Electronic Networks)

ADOPTED:July 18, 2022

School District U-46

2:210 Organizational Board of Education Meeting

The Board of Education will hold an annual meeting to reorganize by electing officers and establishing a time and place for regular meetings within 28 days after the first Tuesday after the first Monday in April. On election years, the Board will hold a reorganization meeting sometime after the election authority canvasses the vote, but within 28 days after the consolidated election. At the organizational meeting the following shall occur:

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

During an April Board meeting in even-numbered years, the Board considers organizational matters, such as, selecting individual members to fill offices with terms that expire this or the next month and fixing a time and date for its regular meetings.

LEGAL REF.:10 ILCS 5/2A-1 et seq.

105 ILCS 5/10-5, 5/10-16, and 5/10-16.5.

CROSS REF.:2:30 (School District Elections), 2:110 (Qualifications, Term, and Duties of Board Officers), 2:200 (Types of Board of Education Meetings), 2:220 (Board of Education Meeting Procedure), 2:230 (Public Participation at Board of Education Meetings and Petitions to the Board)

ADOPTED:July 18, 2022

School District U-46

2:220 Board of Education Meeting Procedure

Agenda

The Board of Education President is responsible for focusing the Board meeting agendas on appropriate content. The Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent shall prepare agendas in consultation with the Board President. The President shall designate a portion of the agenda as a consent agenda for those items that usually do not require extensive discussion before Board action. Upon the request of any Board member, an item will be withdrawn from the consent agenda and placed on the regular agenda for independent consideration.

Each Board meeting agenda shall contain the general subject matter of any item that will be the subject of final action at the meeting. Any Board member may submit suggested agenda items to the Board President for his or her consideration for an upcoming meeting. District residents may suggest inclusions for the agenda. Items of business recommended for inclusion in the agenda should be received in writing, stating the purpose and intent of the request, in the Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent's office at least five days prior to a board meeting. The Board will take final action only on items contained in the posted agenda; items not on the agenda may still be discussed.

The following will normally be the order of business at regular meetings of the Board of Education:

1. Roll call
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Comments from the audience
4. Approval of minutes of previous meetings
5. Approval of Administrative Recommendations
6. Other business
7. Work Session Items

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

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

Voting Method

Unless otherwise provided by law, when a vote is taken upon any measure before the Board, with a quorum being present, a majority of the votes cast shall determine its outcome except as otherwise provided by law:

1. A Resolution directing a sale of District real property or improvements thereon shall be approved by at least 2/3 of the Board members.
2. In the dismissal of a tenured teacher, a majority of the entire board membership will be required.
3. A motion or Resolution to make or review a lease of school property to another school district or municipality or corporation for a term of longer than 10 years, or to alter the terms of such a lease whose unexpired term exceeds 10 years, shall be approved by at least 2/3 of the Board members.
4. A motion or Resolution to lease any building, rooms, grounds and appurtenances to be used by the District for school or administration purposes for a term of longer than 10 years, or to alter the terms of such a lease whose unexpired term exceeds 10 years, shall be approved by 2/3 of the Board's members.

5. A motion or Resolution to obtain personal property by lease or installment contract shall be approved by 2/3 of the Board's full membership. "Personal Property" includes computer hardware and software and all equipment, fixtures, and improvements to existing District facilities necessary to accommodate computers.
6. A motion to obtain personal property by lease or installment contract (i.e., computer hardware and software) must be approved by two-thirds of the entire board membership.

A vote of *abstain* or *present*, or a vote other than *yea* or *nay*, or a failure to vote, is counted for the purposes of determining whether a quorum is present. A vote of *abstain* or *present*, or a vote other than *yea* or *nay*, or a failure to vote, however, is not counted in determining whether a measure has been passed by the Board, unless otherwise stated in law.

On all questions involving the expenditure of money and on all questions involving the closing of a meeting to the public, a roll call vote shall be taken and entered in the Board's minutes. An individual Board member may request that a roll call vote be taken on any other matter; the President or other presiding officer may approve or deny the request but a denial is subject to being overturned by a majority vote of the members present.

Any Board member may include a written explanation of his or her vote in the District file containing individual Board member statements; the explanation will not be part of the minutes.

Any Board member may request that his or her vote be changed before the President announces the result.

Minutes

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

1. The meeting's date, time, and place;
2. Board members recorded as either present or absent;
3. A summary of the discussion on all matters proposed, deliberated, or decided, and a record of any votes taken;
4. On all matters requiring a roll call vote, a record of who voted *yea* and *nay*;
5. If the meeting is adjourned to another date, the time and place of the adjourned meeting;
6. The vote of each member present when a vote is taken to hold a closed meeting or portion of a meeting, and the reason for the closed meeting with a citation to the specific exception contained in the Open Meetings Act (OMA) authorizing the closed meeting;
7. A record of all motions, including individuals making and seconding motions;
8. Upon request by a Board member, a record of how he or she voted on a particular motion; and
9. The type of meeting, including any notices and, if a reconvened meeting, the original meeting's date.
10. A record of the disposition of all matters on which the Board considered but did not take action.
11. Summary of remarks by the public in attendance at the meeting.

The minutes shall be submitted to the Board for approval or modification at its next regularly scheduled open meeting. Minutes for open meetings must be approved within 30 days after the meeting or at the second subsequent regular meeting, whichever is later.

Every six months, or as soon after as is practicable, in an open meeting, the Board: (1) reviews minutes from all closed meetings that are currently unavailable for public release, and (2) determines which, if any, no longer require confidential treatment and are available for public inspection. This is also referred to as a *semi-annual review*. The Board may meet in a prior closed session to review the

minutes from closed meetings that are currently unavailable for public release, but it reports its determination in open session.

The Board's meeting minutes must be submitted to the Board Treasurer at such times as the Treasurer may require.

The official minutes are in the custody of the Board Secretary. Open meeting minutes are available for inspection during regular office hours within 10 days after the Board's approval; they may be inspected in the District's main office, in the presence of the Secretary, the Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent or designee, or any Board member.

Minutes from closed meetings are likewise available, but only if the Board has released them for public inspection, except that Board members may access closed session minutes not yet released for public inspection (1) in the District's administrative offices or their official storage location, and (2) in the presence of the Recording Secretary, the Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent or designated administrator, or any elected Board member. The minutes, whether reviewed by members of the public or the Board, shall not be removed from the District's administrative offices or their official storage location except by vote of the Board or by court order.

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

Verbatim Record of Closed Meetings

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

After 18 months have passed since being made, the audio recording of a closed meeting is destroyed provided the Board approved: (1) its destruction, and (2) minutes of the particular closed meeting.

Individual Board members may access verbatim recordings in the presence of the Recording Secretary, the Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent or designated administrator, or any elected Board member. Access to the verbatim recordings is available at the District's administrative offices or the verbatim recording's official storage location. Requests shall be made to the Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent or Board President. While a Board member is listening to a verbatim recording, it shall not be re-recorded or removed from the District's main office or official storage location, except by vote of the Board or by court order.

Before making such requests, Board members should consider whether such requests are germane to their responsibilities, service to District, and/or Oath of Office in policy 2:80, *Board Member Oath and Conduct*. In the interest of encouraging free and open expression by Board members during closed meetings, the recordings of closed meetings should not be used by Board members to confirm or dispute the accuracy of recollections.

Quorum and Participation by Audio or Video Means

A quorum of the Board must be physically present at all Board meetings. A School Board Meeting includes any gathering, whether in person or by video or audio conference, telephone call, e-mail or instant messaging, or other means of contemporaneous interactive communication with a majority of a quorum of the Board members held for the purpose of discussing District business. A majority of the

full membership of the Board constitutes a quorum.

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

No Physical Presence of Quorum and Participation by Audio or Video; Disaster Declaration

The ability of the Board to meet in person with a quorum physically present at its meeting location may be affected by the Governor or the Director of the Ill. Dept. of Public Health issuing a disaster declaration related to a public health emergency. The Board President or, if the office is vacant or the President is absent or unable to perform the office's duties, the Vice President determines that an in-person meeting or a meeting conducted under the Quorum and Participation by Audio or Video Means subhead above, is not practical or prudent because of the disaster declaration; if neither the President nor Vice President are present or able to perform this determination, the Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent shall serve as the duly authorized designee for purposes of making this determination. The individual who makes this determination for the Board shall put it in writing, include it on the Board's published notice and agenda for the audio or video meeting and in the meeting minutes, and ensure that the Board meets every OMA requirement for the Board to meet by video or audio conference without the physical presence of a quorum.

Rules of Order

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

Broadcasting and Recording Board Meetings

Any person may record or broadcast an open Board meeting. Special requests to facilitate recording or broadcasting an open Board meeting, such as seating, writing surfaces, lighting, and access to electrical power, should be directed to the Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent at least 24 hours before the meeting.

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

LEGAL REF.: 5 ILCS 120/2a, 120/2.02, 120/2.05, 120/2.06, and 120/7.

105 ILCS 5/10-6, 5/10-7, 5/10-12, and 5/10-16.

CROSS REF.: 2:80 (Board Member Oath and Conduct), 2:150 (Committees), 2:200 (Types of Board of Education Meetings), 2:210 (Organizational Board of Education Meeting), 2:230 (Public Participation at Board of Education Meetings and Petitions to the Board)

ADOPTED: July 18, 2022

School District U-46

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

Any person may comment to or ask questions of the Board, subject to the reasonable constraints established and recorded in this policy's guidelines below.

To preserve sufficient time for the Board to conduct its business, any person appearing before the Board is expected to follow these guidelines:

1. Complete a "Request to Speak" card for the record and will be allowed to speak before the Board of Education pursuant to the Board's Guidelines on Public Participation.
2. Address the Board only at the appropriate time as indicated on the agenda and when recognized by the Board President.
3. Identify oneself and be brief. Ordinarily, the time for any one person to address the Board during public participation shall be limited to 3 minutes. In unusual circumstances, and when an individual has made a request to speak for a longer period of time, the person may be allowed to speak for more than 3 minutes.
4. At meetings where more than 20 individuals have signed up to speak, the Board will implement the following procedures:
 - The time allotted for each speaker will be reduced from three to two minutes.
 - A second public comment period will be added.
 - Public comments relating to items on the Board's agenda for that evening (Consent Agenda, Discussion Action, and Work Session items) will be heard in the first public comment section at the beginning of the meeting.
 - Public comments not related to items on the Board's agenda will be heard in the second public comment section at the end of the agenda.
5. Observe, when necessary and appropriate, the:
 - a. Shortening of the time for each person to address the Board during public participation to conserve time and give the maximum number of people an opportunity to speak; and/or
 - b. Determination of procedural matters regarding public participation not otherwise covered in Board policy.
6. Conduct oneself with respect and civility toward others and otherwise abide by Board policy 8:30, *Visitors to and Conduct on School Property*.

Petitions or written correspondence to the Board shall be presented to the Board in the next regular Board packet.

LEGAL REF.: 5 ILCS 120/2.06, Open Meetings Act.

105 ILCS 5/10-6 and 5/10-16.

CROSS REF.: 2:220 (Board of Education Meeting Procedure), 8:10 (Connection with the Community), 8:30 (Visitors to and Conduct on School Property), 8:110 (Public Suggestions and Concerns)

ADOPTED: July 18, 2022

2:240 Board Policy Development

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

Policy Development

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

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

Policy Adoption and Dissemination

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

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

Board Policy Review and Monitoring

The Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent/designee is given the continuing responsibility of calling to the Board's attention all policies that are out-of-date or appear to need revision for other reasons. The Board directs the Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent/designee to recall all policy and procedure manuals periodically for purposes of administrative updating and Board review.

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

Words Importing Gender

Throughout this policy manual, words importing the masculine and/or feminine gender include all gender neutral/inclusive pronouns.

Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent Implementation

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

The Board of Education delegates to the Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent/designee the power to act in situations where no specific policies or guidelines are evident to prescribe administrative action. The Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent/designee will inform the Board of Education promptly of such actions which will be subject to a review by the Board at a scheduled meeting.

Suspension of Policies

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

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

CROSS REF.: 2:150 (Committees), 2:250 (Access to District Public Records), 3:40 (Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent)

ADOPTED: July 18, 2022

School District U-46

2:242 Site Exceptions

The Board of Education, to encourage innovation, creativity and collaboration, may grant site exceptions to its policies upon a site's request which is supported by the Partnership for Excellence in Learning Council; or other process as agreed to by interested parties.

ADOPTED: July 18, 2022

School District U-46

2:250 Access to District Public Records

Full access to the District's *public records* is available to any person as provided in the Illinois Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), this policy, and implementing procedures. The Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent or designee shall: (1) provide the Board with sufficient information and data to permit the Board to monitor the District's compliance with FOIA and this policy, and (2) report any FOIA requests during the Board's regular meetings along with the status of the District's response.

Freedom of Information Officer

The Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent shall appoint an employee, who may be himself or herself, to serve as the District's Freedom of Information Officer. That appointee assumes all the duties and powers of that office as provided in FOIA and this policy.

Definition

The District's *public records* are defined as records, reports, forms, writings, letters, memoranda, books, papers, maps, photographs, microfilms, cards, tapes, recordings, electronic data processing records, electronic communications, recorded information and all other documentary material pertaining to the transaction of public business, regardless of physical form or characteristics, having been prepared by or for, or having been or being used by, received by, in the possession of, or under the control of the School District.

Requesting Records

A request for inspection and/or copies of public records must be made in writing and may be submitted by personal delivery, mail, telefax, or email directed to the District's Freedom of Information Officer. Individuals making a request are not required to state a reason for the request other than to identify when the request is for a commercial purpose or when requesting a fee waiver. The Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent or designee shall instruct District employees to immediately forward any request for inspection and copying of a public record to the District's Freedom of Information Officer or designee.

Responding to Requests

The Freedom of Information Officer shall approve all requests for public records unless:

1. The requested material does not exist;
2. The requested material is exempt from inspection and copying by the Freedom of Information Act; or
3. Complying with the request would be unduly burdensome.

Within five business days after receipt of a request for access to a public record, the Freedom of Information Officer shall comply with or deny the request, unless the time for response is extended as specified in Section 3 of FOIA. The Freedom of Information Officer may extend the time for a response for up to five business days from the original due date. If an extension is needed, the Freedom of Information Officer shall: (1) notify the person making the request of the reason for the extension, and (2) either inform the person of the date on which a response will be made, or agree with the person in writing on a compliance period.

The time periods are extended for responding to requests for records made for a *commercial purpose*, requests by a *recurrent requester*, or *voluminous requests*, as those terms are defined in Section 2 of FOIA. The time periods for responding to those requests are governed by Sections 3.1, 3.2, and 3.6 of FOIA.

When responding to a request for a record containing both exempt and non-exempt material, the

Freedom of Information Officer shall redact exempt material from the record before complying with the request.

Fees

Persons making a request for copies of public records must pay any and all applicable fees. The Freedom of Information Officer shall establish a fee schedule that complies with FOIA and this policy and is subject to the Board's review. The fee schedule shall include copying fees and all other fees to the maximum extent they are permitted by FOIA, including without limitation, search and review fees for responding to a request for a *commercial purpose* and fees, costs, and personnel hours in connection with responding to a *voluminous request*.

Copying fees, except when fixed by statute, shall be reasonably calculated to reimburse the District's actual cost for reproducing and certifying public records and for the use, by any person, of its equipment to copy records. In no case shall the copying fees exceed the maximum fees permitted by FOIA. If the District's actual copying costs are equal to or greater than the maximum fees permitted by FOIA, the Freedom of Information Officer is authorized to use FOIA's maximum fees as the District's fees. No copying fees shall be charged for: (1) the first 50 pages of black and white, letter or legal sized copies, or (2) electronic copies other than the actual cost of the recording medium, except if the response is to a *voluminous request*, as defined in FOIA.

A fee reduction is available if the person requesting the record states a specific purpose for the request and indicates that a fee reduction is in the public interest by having as its principal purpose the preservation of the general public's health, safety, welfare, or legal rights and is not for the principal purpose of personal or commercial benefit. The Freedom of Information Officer shall set the amount of the reduction, taking into consideration the amount of material requested and the cost of copying it.

Provision of Copies and Access to Records

A public record that is the subject of an approved access request will be available for inspection or copying at the U-46 Welcome Center during regular business hours, unless other arrangements are made by the Freedom of Information Officer.

Many public records are immediately available from the District's website including, but not limited to, the process for requesting a public record. The Freedom of Information Officer shall direct a requester to the District's website if a requested record is available there. If the requester is unable to reasonably access the record online, he or she may resubmit the request for the record, stating his or her inability to reasonably access the record online, and the District shall make the requested record available for inspection and copying as otherwise provided in this policy.

Preserving Public Records

Public records, including email messages, shall be preserved and cataloged if: (1) they are evidence of the District's organization, function, policies, procedures, or activities, (2) they contain informational data appropriate for preservation, (3) their retention is required by State or federal law, or (4) they are subject to a retention request by the Board Attorney (e.g., a litigation hold), District auditor, or other individual authorized by the Board of Education or State or federal law to make such a request. Unless its retention is required as described in items numbered 3 or 4 above, a public record, as defined by the Illinois Local Records Act, may be destroyed when authorized by the Local Records Commission.

LEGAL REF.: 5 ILCS 140/, Illinois Freedom of Information Act.

105 ILCS 5/10-16 and 5/24A-7.1.

820 ILCS 40/11.

820 ILCS 130/5.

CROSS REF.: 2:140 (Communications To and From the Board), 5:150 (Personnel Records), 7:340 (Student Records)

ADOPTED: July 18, 2022

School District U-46

2:260 Uniform Grievance Procedure

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

1. Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C. §12101 et seq.
2. Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, 20 U.S.C. §1681 et seq., excluding Title IX sexual harassment complaints governed by policy 2:265, *Title IX Sexual Harassment Grievance Procedure*
3. Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 U.S.C. §791 et seq.
4. Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, 20 U.S.C. § 1400 et seq.
5. Title VI of the Civil Rights Act, 42 U.S.C. §2000d et seq.
6. Equal Employment Opportunities Act (Title VII of the Civil Rights Act), 42 U.S.C. §2000e etseq.
7. Sexual harassment prohibited by the State Officials and Employees Ethics Act, 5 ILCS 430/70-5(a); Illinois Human Rights Act, 775 ILCS 5/; and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 U.S.C. §2000e etseq. (Title IX sexual harassment complaints are addressed under policy 2:265, *Title IX Sexual Harassment Grievance Procedure*)
8. Breastfeeding accommodations for students, 105 ILCS 5/10-20.60
9. Bullying, 105 ILCS 5/27-23.7
10. Misuse of funds received for services to improve educational opportunities for educationally disadvantaged or deprived children
11. Curriculum, instructional materials, and/or programs
12. Victims' Economic Security and Safety Act, 820 ILCS 180/
13. Illinois Equal Pay Act of 2003, 820 ILCS 112/
14. Provision of services to homeless students
15. Illinois Whistleblower Act, 740 ILCS 174/
16. Misuse of genetic information prohibited by the Illinois Genetic Information Privacy Act, 410 ILCS 513/; and Titles I and II of the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act, 42 U.S.C. §2000ff et seq.
17. Employee Credit Privacy Act, 820 ILCS 70/

The Complaint Manager will first attempt to resolve complaints without resorting to this grievance procedure. If a formal complaint is filed under this policy, the Complaint Manager will address the complaint promptly and equitably. A student and/or parent/guardian filing a complaint under this policy may forego any informal suggestions and/or attempts to resolve it and may proceed directly to this grievance procedure. The Complaint Manager will not require a student or parent/guardian complaining of any form of harassment to attempt to resolve allegations directly with the accused (or the accused's parents/guardians); this includes mediation.

Right to Pursue Other Remedies Not Impaired

The right of a person to prompt and equitable resolution of a complaint filed under this policy shall not be impaired by the person's pursuit of other remedies, e.g., criminal complaints, civil actions, etc. Use of this grievance procedure is not a prerequisite to the pursuit of other remedies and use of this grievance procedure does not extend any filing deadline related to the pursuit of other remedies. If a person is pursuing another remedy subject to a complaint under this policy, the District will continue with a simultaneous investigation under this policy.

Deadlines

All deadlines under this policy may be extended by the Complaint Manager as he or she deems appropriate. As used in this policy, *school business days* means days on which the District's main office is open.

Filing a Complaint

A person (hereinafter Complainant) who wishes to avail him or herself of this grievance procedure may do so by filing a complaint with any District Complaint Manager. The Complainant shall not be required to file a complaint with a particular Complaint Manager and may request a Complaint Manager of the same gender. The Complaint Manager may request the Complainant to provide a written statement regarding the nature of the complaint or require a meeting with a student's parent(s)/guardian(s). The Complaint Manager shall assist the Complainant as needed.

For any complaint alleging bullying and/or cyberbullying of students, the Complaint Manager shall process and review the complaint according to Board policy 7:180, *Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment*, in addition to any response required by this policy. For any complaint alleging sexual harassment or other violation of Board policy 5:20, *Workplace Harassment Prohibited*, the Complaint Manager shall process and review the complaint according to that policy, in addition to any response required by this policy.

Investigation Process

The Complaint Manager will investigate the complaint or appoint a qualified person to undertake the investigation on his or her behalf. The Complaint Manager shall ensure both parties have an equal opportunity to present evidence during an investigation. If the Complainant is a student under 18 years of age, the Complaint Manager will notify his or her parents/guardians that they may attend any investigatory meetings in which their child is involved. The complaint and identity of the Complainant will not be disclosed except: (1) as required by law, this policy, or any collective bargaining agreement, (2) as necessary to fully investigate the complaint, or (3) as authorized by the Complainant.

The identity of any student witnesses will not be disclosed except: (1) as required by law, this policy, or any collective bargaining agreement, (2) as necessary to fully investigate the complaint, or (3) as authorized by the parent/guardian of the student witness, or by the student if the student is 18 years of age or older.

The Complaint Manager will inform, at regular intervals, the person(s) filing a complaint under this policy about the status of the investigation. Within 30 school business days after the date the complaint was filed, the Complaint Manager shall file a written report of his or her findings with the Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent. The Complaint Manager may request an extension of time.

The Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent will keep the Board informed of all complaints.

If a complaint contains allegations involving the Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent or Board member(s), the written report shall be filed directly with the Board, which will make a decision in accordance with paragraph four of the following section of this policy.

Decision and Appeal

Within five school business days after receiving the Complaint Manager's report, the Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent shall mail his or her written decision to the Complainant and the accused by registered mail, return receipt requested, and/or personal delivery as well as to the Complaint Manager. All decisions shall be based upon the *preponderance of evidence* standard.

Within 10 school business days after receiving the Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent's decision, the Complainant or the accused may appeal the decision to the Board by making a written request to the Complaint Manager. The Complaint Manager shall promptly forward all materials relative to the

complaint and appeal to the Board.

Within 30 school business days after an appeal of the Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent's decision, the Board shall affirm, reverse, or amend the Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent's decision or direct the Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent to gather additional information. Within five school business days after the Board's decision, the Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent shall inform the Complainant and the accused of the Board's action.

For complaints containing allegations involving the Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent or Board member(s), within 30 school business days after receiving the Complaint Manager's or outside investigator's report, the Board shall mail its written decision to the Complainant and the accused by registered mail, return receipt requested, and/or personal delivery as well as to the Complaint Manager. The Complainant may appeal the School Board's decision to the Regional Superintendent pursuant to Section 3-10 of The School Code and, thereafter, to the State Superintendent pursuant to Section 2-3.8 of the School Code.

This policy shall not be construed to create an independent right to a hearing before the Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent or Board. The failure to strictly follow the timelines in this grievance procedure shall not prejudice any party.

Appointing a Nondiscrimination Coordinator and Complaint Managers

The Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent shall appoint a Nondiscrimination Coordinator to manage the District's efforts to provide equal opportunity employment and educational opportunities and prohibit the harassment of employees, students, and others. The Nondiscrimination Coordinator also serves as the District's Title IX Coordinator.

The Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent shall appoint at least one Complaint Manager to administer this policy. If possible, the Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent will appoint two Complaint Managers, one of each gender. The District's Nondiscrimination Coordinator may be appointed as one of the Complaint Managers.

The Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent shall insert into this policy and keep current the names, office addresses, email addresses, and telephone numbers of the Nondiscrimination Coordinator and the Complaint Managers.

Nondiscrimination Coordinator:

Trisha Olson, Chief Legal Officer

355 E. Chicago St, Elgin, IL 60120

trishaolson@u-46.org

847-888-5000, ext. 5450

Complaint Managers:

Trisha Olson, Chief Legal Officer Mark Moore

355 E. Chicago St, Elgin, IL 60120 355 E. Chicago St, Elgin, IL 60120

trishaolson@u-46.org

markmoore@u-46.org

847-888-5000, ext. 5450

847-888-5000, ext. 6674

20 U.S.C. §1232g, Family Education Rights Privacy Act.

20 U.S.C. §1400, The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

20 U.S.C. §1681 et seq., Title IX of the Education Amendments; 34 C.F.R. Part 106.

29 U.S.C. §206(d), Equal Pay Act.

29 U.S.C. §621 et seq., Age Discrimination in Employment Act.

29 U.S.C. §791 et seq., Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

29 U.S.C. §2612, Family and Medical Leave Act.

42 U.S.C. §2000d et seq., Title VI of the Civil Rights Act.

42 U.S.C. §2000e et seq., Equal Employment Opportunities Act (Title VII of the Civil Rights Act).

42 U.S.C. §2000ff et seq., Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act.

42 U.S.C. §11431 et seq., McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act.

42 U.S.C. §12101 et seq., Americans With Disabilities Act.

105 ILCS 5/2-3.8, 5/3-10, 5/10-20, 5/10-20.5, 5/10-20.7a, 5/10-20.60, 5/10-20.69 5/10-20.75 (final citation pending), 5/10-22.5, 5/22-19, 5/24-4, 5/27-1, 5/27-23.7, and 45/1-15.

5 ILCS 415/10(a)(2), Government Severance Pay Act.

5 ILCS 430/70-5(a), State Officials and Employees Ethics Act.

410 ILCS 513/, Ill. Genetic Information Privacy Act.

740 ILCS 174/, Whistleblower Act.

740 ILCS 175/, Ill. False Claims Act.

775 ILCS 5/, Ill. Human Rights Act.

820 ILCS 180/, Victims' Economic Security and Safety Act; 56 Ill.Admin.Code Part 280.

820 ILCS 112/, Equal Pay Act of 2003.

820 ILCS 70/, Employee Credit Privacy Act, 70/10(b), and 70/2523 Ill.Admin.Code §§1.240, 200.40, 226.50, and 226.570.

CROSS REF.: 2:105 (Ethics and Gift Ban), 2:265 (Title IX Sexual Harassment Grievance Procedure), 5:10 (Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Recruitment), 5:20 (Workplace Harassment Prohibited), 5:30 (Hiring Process and Criteria), 5:90 (Abused and Neglected Child Reporting), 6:120 (Education of Children with Disabilities), 6:140 (Education of Unhoused Children), 6:170 (Title I Programs), 6:260 (Complaints About Curriculum, Instructional Materials, and Programs), 7:10 (Equal Educational Opportunities), 7:15 (Student and Family Privacy Rights), 7:20 (Harassment of Students Prohibited), 7:180 (Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment), 7:185 (Teen Dating Violence Prohibited), 7:310 (Restrictions on Publications; Elementary Schools), 7:315 (Restrictions on Publications; High Schools), 8:70 (Accommodating Individuals with Disabilities), 8:110 (Public Suggestions and Concerns)

ADOPTED: July 18, 2022

School District U-46

2:265 Title IX Sexual Harassment Grievance Procedure

Sexual harassment affects a student's ability to learn and an employee's ability to work. Providing an educational and workplace environment free from sexual harassment is an important District goal. The District does not discriminate on the basis of sex in any of its education programs or activities, and it complies with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX) and its implementing regulations (34 C.F.R. Part 106) concerning everyone in the District's education programs and activities, including applicants for employment, students, parents/guardians, employees, and third parties.

Title IX Sexual Harassment Prohibited

Sexual harassment as defined in Title IX (Title IX Sexual Harassment) is prohibited. Any person, including a District employee or agent, or student, engages in Title IX Sexual Harassment whenever that person engages in conduct on the basis of an individual's sex that satisfies one or more of the following:

1. A District employee conditions the provision of an aid, benefit, or service on an individual's participation in unwelcome sexual conduct; or
2. Unwelcome conduct determined by a reasonable person to be so severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive that it effectively denies a person equal access to the District's educational program or activity; or
3. *Sexual assault* as defined in 20 U.S.C. §1092(f)(6)(A)(v), *dating violence* as defined in 34 U.S.C. §12291(a)(10), *domestic violence* as defined in 34 U.S.C. §12291(a)(8), or *stalking* as defined in 34 U.S.C. §12291(a)(30).

Examples of sexual harassment include, but are not limited to, touching, crude jokes or pictures, discussions of sexual experiences, teasing related to sexual characteristics, spreading rumors related to a person's alleged sexual activities, rape, sexual battery, sexual abuse, and sexual coercion.

Definitions from 34 C.F.R. §106.30

Complainant means an individual who is alleged to be the victim of conduct that could constitute sexual harassment.

Education program or activity includes locations, events, or circumstances where the District has substantial control over both the *Respondent* and the context in which alleged sexual harassment occurs.

Formal Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint means a document filed by a *Complainant* or signed by the Title IX Coordinator alleging sexual harassment against a *Respondent* and requesting that the District investigate the allegation.

Respondent means an individual who has been reported to be the perpetrator of the conduct that could constitute sexual harassment.

Supportive measures mean non-disciplinary, non-punitive individualized services offered as appropriate, as reasonably available, and without fee or charge to the *Complainant* or the *Respondent* before or after the filing of a *Formal Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint* or where no *Formal Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint* has been filed.

Title IX Sexual Harassment Prevention and Response

The Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent or designee will ensure that the District prevents and responds to allegations of Title IX Sexual Harassment as follows:

1. Ensures that the District's comprehensive health education program in Board policy 6:60, *Curriculum Content*, incorporates (a) age-appropriate sexual abuse and assault awareness and prevention programs in grades pre-K through 12, and (b) age-appropriate education about the warning signs, recognition, dangers, and prevention of teen dating violence in grades 7-12. This includes incorporating student social and emotional development into the District's educational program as required by State law and in alignment with Board policy 6:65, *Student Social and Emotional Development*.
2. Incorporates education and training for school staff pursuant to policy 5:100, *Staff Development Program*, and as recommended by the Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent, Title IX Coordinator, Nondiscrimination Coordinator, Building Principal, Assistant Building Principal, Dean of Students, or a Complaint Manager.
3. Notifies applicants for employment, students, parents/guardians, employees, and collective bargaining units of this policy and contact information for the Title IX Coordinator by, at a minimum, prominently displaying them on the District's website, if any, and in each handbook made available to such persons.

Making a Report

A person who wishes to make a report under this Title IX Sexual Harassment grievance procedure may make a report to the Title IX Coordinator, Nondiscrimination Coordinator, Building Principal, Assistant Building Principal, Dean of Students, a Complaint Manager, or any employee with whom the person is comfortable speaking. A person who wishes to make a report may choose to report to a person of the same gender.

School employees shall respond to incidents of sexual harassment by promptly making or forwarding the report to the Title IX Coordinator. An employee who fails to promptly make or forward a report may be disciplined, up to and including discharge.

The Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent shall insert into this policy and keep current the name, office address, email address, and telephone number of the Title IX Coordinator.

Title IX Coordinator:

Trisha Olson, Chief Legal Officer

Name

355 E. Chicago St, Elgin, IL 60120

Address

trishaolson@u-46.org

Email

847-888-5000, ext. 5450

Telephone

Processing and Reviewing a Report or Complaint

Upon receipt of a report, the Title IX Coordinator and/or designee will promptly contact the *Complainant* to: (1) discuss the availability of supportive measures, (2) consider the *Complainant's* wishes with respect to *supportive measures*, (3) inform the *Complainant* of the availability of

supportive measures with or without the filing of a *Formal Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint*, and (4) explain to the *Complainant* the process for filing a *Formal Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint*.

Further, the Title IX Coordinator will analyze the report to identify and determine whether there is another or an additional appropriate method(s) for processing and reviewing it. For any report received, the Title IX Coordinator shall review Board policies 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*; 5:20, *Workplace Harassment Prohibited*; 5:90, *Abused and Neglected Child Reporting*; 5:120, *Employee Ethics; Conduct; and Conflict of Interest*; 7:20, *Harassment of Students Prohibited*; 7:180, *Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment*; 7:185, *Teen Dating Violence Prohibited*; and 7:190, *Student Behavior*, to determine if the allegations in the report require further action.

Reports of alleged sexual harassment will be confidential to the greatest extent practicable, subject to the District's duty to investigate and maintain an educational program or activity that is productive, respectful, and free of sexual harassment.

Formal Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint Grievance Process

When a *Formal Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint* is filed, the Title IX Coordinator will investigate it or appoint a qualified person to undertake the investigation.

The Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent or designee shall implement procedures to ensure that all *Formal Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaints* are processed and reviewed according to a Title IX grievance process that fully complies with 34 C.F.R. §106.45. The District's grievance process shall, at a minimum:

1. Treat *Complainants* and *Respondents* equitably by providing remedies to a *Complainant* where the *Respondent* is determined to be responsible for sexual harassment, and by following a grievance process that complies with 34 C.F.R. §106.45 before the imposition of any disciplinary sanctions or other actions against a *Respondent*.
2. Require an objective evaluation of all relevant evidence - including both inculpatory and exculpatory evidence - and provide that credibility determinations may not be based on a person's status as a *Complainant*, *Respondent*, or witness.
3. Require that any individual designated by the District as a Title IX Coordinator, investigator, decision-maker, or any person designated by the District to facilitate an informal resolution process:
 - a. Not have a conflict of interest or bias for or against complainants or respondents generally or an individual *Complainant* or *Respondent*.
 - b. Receive training on the definition of sexual harassment, the scope of the District's *education program or activity*, how to conduct an investigation and grievance process (including hearings, appeals, and informal resolution processes, as applicable), and how to serve impartially.
4. Require that any individual designated by the District as an investigator receiving training on issues of relevance to create an investigative report that fairly summarizes relevant evidence.
5. Require that any individual designated by the District as a decision-maker receive training on issues of relevance of questions and evidence, including when questions and evidence about the *Complainant's* sexual predisposition or prior sexual behavior are not relevant.
6. Include a presumption that the *Respondent* is not responsible for the alleged conduct until a determination regarding responsibility is made at the conclusion of the grievance process.
7. Include reasonably prompt timeframes for conclusion of the grievance process.
8. Describe the range of possible disciplinary sanctions and remedies the District may implement

following any determination of responsibility.

9. Base all decisions upon the *preponderance of evidence* standard.
10. Include the procedures and permissible bases for the *Complainant* and *Respondent* to appeal.
11. Describe the range of *supportive measures* available to *Complainants* and *Respondents*.
12. Not require, allow, rely upon, or otherwise use questions or evidence that constitute, or seek disclosure of, information protected under a legally recognized privilege, unless the person holding such privilege has waived the privilege.

Enforcement

Any District employee who is determined, at the conclusion of the grievance process, to have engaged in sexual harassment will be subject to disciplinary action up to and including discharge. Any third party who is determined, at the conclusion of the grievance process, to have engaged in sexual harassment will be addressed in accordance with the authority of the Board in the context of the relationship of the third party to the District, e.g., vendor, parent, invitee, etc. Any District student who is determined, at the conclusion of the grievance process, to have engaged in sexual harassment will be subject to disciplinary action, including, but not limited to, suspension and expulsion consistent with student behavior policies. Any person making a knowingly false accusation regarding sexual harassment will likewise be subject to disciplinary action.

This policy does not increase or diminish the ability of the District or the parties to exercise any other rights under existing law.

Retaliation Prohibited

The District prohibits any form of retaliation against anyone who, in good faith, has made a report or complaint, assisted, or participated or refused to participate in any manner in a proceeding under this policy. Any person should report claims of retaliation using Board policy 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*.

Any person who retaliates against others for reporting or complaining of violations of this policy or for participating in any manner under this policy will be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including discharge, with regard to employees, or suspension and expulsion, with regard to students.

LEGAL REF.: 20 U.S.C. §1681 et seq., Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972; 34 C.F.R. Part 106.

Davis v. Monroe County Bd. of Educ., 526 U.S. 629 (1999).

Gebser v. Lago Vista Independent Sch. Dist., 524 U.S. 274 (1998).

CROSS REF.: 2:260 (Uniform Grievance Procedure), 5:10 (Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Recruitment), 5:20 (Workplace Harassment Prohibited), 5:90 (Abused and Neglected Child Reporting), 5:100 (Staff Development Program), 5:120 (Employee Ethics; Conduct, and Conflict of Interest), 6:60 (Curriculum Content), 6:65 (Student Social and Emotional Development), 7:10 (Equal Educational Opportunities), 7:20 (Harassment of Students Prohibited), 7:180 (Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment), 7:185 (Teen Dating Violence Prohibited), 7:190 (Student Behavior)

ADOPTED: July 18, 2022