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Equal Employment/Anti-Discrimination AffirmativeAction Program for Employment and

Contract Practices

Apr 18

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[See POLICY ALERT Nos. 116, 167, 172, 191, 209 and 215]

1550 EQUAL EMPLOYMENT/ANTI-DISCRIMINATION AFFIRMATIVE ACTION PROGRAM FOR EMPLOYMENT AND CONTRACT PRACTICES

The Board of Education shall, in accordance with State statutes and administrative code and Federal law and regulations, strive to overcome the effects of any previous patterns of discrimination in **school** district employment practices and shall systematically monitor **school** district procedures to ensure continuing compliance with anti-discrimination laws and regulations.

The Board will ensure all persons regardless of race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, affectional or sexual orientation, gender, gender identity or expression, religion, disability, or socioeconomic status shall have equal and bias-free access to all categories of employment in the public educational system of New Jersey, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:7-1.1.

The Board will not enter into any contract with a person, agency, or organization that discriminates on the basis of race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, affectional or sexual orientation, gender, gender identity or expression, religion, disability, or socioeconomic status, either in employment practices or in the provision of benefits or services to students or employees. In addition, the Board will encourage minority businesses, women's business enterprises, and labor surplus area firms to submit bids to be considered for the awarding of contracts.

The Board shall not assign, transfer, promote or retain staff, or fail to assign, transfer, promote or retain staff, on the sole basis of race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, affectional or sexual orientation, gender, gender identity or expression, religion, disability, or socioeconomic status.



ADMINISTRATION
1550/page 2 of 2

Equal Employment/Anti-Discrimination Affirmative
Action Program for Employment and
Contract Practices

The Board shall ensure equal pay for equal work among members of the **school** district's staff, regardless of race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, affectional or sexual orientation, gender, gender identity or expression, religion, disability, or socioeconomic status, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:7-1.1.

N.J.S.A. 10:5-4 N.J.A.C. 6A:7-1.1 et seq.; 6A:7-1.8



Adopted:



TEACHING STAFF MEMBERS 3437/page 1 of 2 Military Leave Dec 17

[See POLICY ALERT Nos. 164 and 214]

3437 MILITARY LEAVE

The Board of Education recognizes that military service rendered by any district employee in the defense of the country or in maintaining preparedness for conflict, foreign or domestic, is a service benefiting all citizens. A Any permanent or full-time **temporary** officer and/or employee of the district will be provided military leave and related benefits pursuant to the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA), 38 U.S.C. Section 4301 et seq., P.L. 2001 Chapter 351 amending N.J.S.A. 38:23-1, N.J.S.A. 38A:1-1 and N.J.S.A. 38A:4-4., and any other applicable Federal and State laws.

A permanent or full-time temporary officer or employee of the school district who is a member of the organized militia of New Jersey (New Jersey National Guard, New Jersey Naval Militia Joint Command) shall be entitled, in addition to pay received, if any, as a member of the organized militia, to a leave of absence from his or her respective duties without loss of pay or time on all days during in which he/she he or she shall be is engaged in any period of State or Federal active duty-; provided, however, that the leave of absence for Federal active duty or active duty for training shall not exceed ninety work days in the aggregate in any calendar year. Any leave of absence for such duty in excess of ninety work days shall be without pay, but without loss of time. Such leave shall be in addition to the regular vacation or other accrued leave provided to the officer or employee. A permanent or full-time temporary officer or employee who has served under such temporary appointment for less than one year in the district shall receive this leave without pay, but without loss of time. This paid leave shall be in addition to the regular vacation or other accrued leave provided to the officer or employee. Any leave of absence for such duty in excess of ninety workdays shall be without pay, but without loss of time.

A permanent or full-time temporary officer or employee of the school district who is a member of the organized reserve of the Army of the United States, United States Naval Reserve, United States Air Force Reserve, or United States Marine Corps Reserve, or other organization affiliated therewith, including the National Guard of other states, shall be entitled, in addition to pay received, if any, as a member of a reserve component of the Armed Forces of the United States, to a leave of absence from his or her respective duty without loss of pay or time on



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all work days he/she on which he or she shall be engaged in any period of Federal active duty, provided, however, that such leave of absence shall not exceed thirty work days in any calendar year. Such leave shall be in addition to the regular vacation or other accrued leave provided to the officer or employee. Any leave of absence for such duty in excess of thirty work days shall be without pay, but without loss of time. A permanent or full-time temporary officer or employee who has served under such temporary appointment for less than one year in the district shall receive this leave without pay, but without loss of time. This paid leave shall be in addition to the regular vacation or other accrued leave provided to the officer or employee. Any leave of absence for such duty in excess of thirty workdays shall be without pay, but without loss of time.

Military leave with pay is not authorized for Inactive Duty Training (IDT) as defined in N.J.A.C. 5A:2-2.1.

The district will provide benefits and rights for staff on military leave as required by Federal and State laws.

The military leave requirements in this Policy are the minimum requirements of applicable Federal and State laws. The district, at its option, may provide additional military leave with pay and related benefits.

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:13H-2.1, in accordance with the provisions of Article VIII, Section II, paragraph 5 of the New Jersey Constitution, upon application by the district to the State Treasury and approval of the application by the Director of the Division of Budget and Accounting, reimbursement shall be made by the State of New Jersey for any costs incurred as a result of the provisions of P.L. 2001, Chapter 351.

N.J.S.A. 18A:6-33; 18A:28-11.1; 18A:29-11; 18A:66-8.1 N.J.S.A. 38:23-1 et seq.; 38A:1-1; 38A:4-4; 52:13H-2.1; N.J.A.C. 5A:2-2.1 Uniformed Services Employment and **R**reemployment Rights Act (USERRA), 38 U.S.C. Section 4301 et seq.

Adopted:



SUPPORT STAFF MEMBERS 4437/page 1 of 2 Military Leave Dec 17

[See POLICY ALERT Nos. 164 and 214]

4437 MILITARY LEAVE

The Board of Education recognizes that military service rendered by any district employee in the defense of the country or in maintaining preparedness for conflict, foreign or domestic, is a service benefiting all citizens. A Any permanent or full-time **temporary** officer and/or employee of the district will be provided military leave and related benefits pursuant to the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA), 38 U.S.C. Section 4301 et seq., P.L. 2001 Chapter 351 amending N.J.S.A. 38:23-1, N.J.S.A. 38A:1-1 and N.J.S.A. 38A:4-4., and any other applicable Federal and State laws.

A permanent or full-time temporary officer or employee of the school district who is a member of the organized militia of New Jersey (New Jersey National Guard, New Jersey Naval Militia Joint Command) shall be entitled, in addition to pay received, if any, as a member of the organized militia, to a leave of absence from his or her respective duties without loss of pay or time on all days during in which he/she he or she shall be is engaged in any period of State or Federal active duty:; provided, however, that tThe leave of absence for Federal active duty or active duty for training shall not exceed ninety work days in the aggregate in any calendar year. Any leave of absence for such duty in excess of ninety work days shall be without pay, but without loss of time. Such leave shall be in addition to the regular vacation or other accrued leave provided to the officer or employee. A permanent or full-time temporary officer or employee who has served under such temporary appointment for less than one year in the district shall receive this leave without pay, but without loss of time. This paid leave shall be in addition to the regular vacation or other accrued leave provided to the officer or employee. Any leave of absence for such duty in excess of ninety work days shall be without pay, but without loss of time.

A permanent or full-time temporary officer or employee of the school district who is a member of the organized reserve of the Army of the United States, United States Naval Reserve, United States Air Force Reserve, or United States Marine Corps Reserve, or other organization affiliated therewith, including the National Guard of other States, shall be entitled, in addition to pay received, if any, as a member of a reserve component of the Armed Forces of the United States, to a leave of absence from his or her respective duty without loss of pay or time on



SUPPORT STAFF MEMBERS 4437/page 2 of 2 Military Leave

all work days he/she on which he or she shall be engaged in any period of Federal active duty, provided, however, that such leave of absence shall not exceed thirty work days in any calendar year. Such leave shall be in addition to the regular vacation or other accrued leave provided to the officer or employee. Any leave of absence for such duty in excess of thirty work days shall be without pay, but without loss of time. A permanent or full-time temporary officer or employee who has served under such temporary appointment for less than one year in the district shall receive this leave without pay, but without loss of time. This paid leave shall be in addition to the regular vacation or other accrued leave provided to the officer or employee. Any leave of absence for such duty in excess of thirty workdays shall be without pay, but without loss of time.

Military leave with pay is not authorized for Inactive Duty Training (IDT) as defined in N.J.A.C. 5A:2-2.1.

The district will provide benefits and rights for staff on military leave as required by Federal and State laws.

The military leave requirements in this Policy are the minimum requirements of applicable Federal and State laws. The district, at its option, may provide additional military leave with pay and related benefits.

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:13H-2.1, in accordance with the provisions of Article VIII, Section II, paragraph 5 of the New Jersey Constitution, upon application by the district to the State Treasury and approval of the application by the Director of the Division of Budget and Accounting, reimbursement shall be made by the State of New Jersey for any costs incurred as a result of the provisions of P.L. 2001, Chapter 351.

N.J.S.A. 18A:6-33; 18A:29-11 N.J.S.A. 38:23-1 et seq.; 38A:1-1; 38A:4-4; 52:13H-2.1; N.J.A.C. 5A:2-2.1 Uniformed Services Employment and **Rr**eemployment Rights Act (USERRA), 38 U.S.C. Section 4301 et seq.

Adopted:



STUDENTS 5350/page 1 of 2 Student Suicide Prevention Apr 18

[See POLICY ALERT Nos. 81, 193, 209 and 215]

5350 STUDENT SUICIDE PREVENTION

The Board of Education recognizes that depression and self-destruction are problems of increasing severity among **students** children and adolescents. A Students under severe stress cannot benefit fully from the educational program and may pose a threat to **themselves** himself or herself or others.

The Board directs all school **district staff members** personnel to be alert to a the student who exhibits behavioral warning signs of potential self-destruction or who threatens or attempts suicide. Any such **warning** signs or the report of such **warning** signs from another student or staff member **shall** should be taken with the utmost seriousness and reported immediately to the Building Principal **or designee**, who shall notify the student's parent and other professional staff members in accordance with administrative regulations.

The Principal or designee shall immediately contact the parent(s) of the A potentially suicidal student exhibiting warning signs of suicide to inform the parent(s) the student will shall be referred to the Child Study Team or a Suicide Intervention Team, appointed by the Superintendent or designee, for a preliminary assessment. Upon completion of the preliminary assessment, the Principal or designee shall meet with the parent(s) to review the assessment. Based on the preliminary assessment, the parent(s) may be required to obtain for appropriate evaluation and/or recommendation for independent medical or psychiatric services for the student. In the event that the parent objects to the recommendation recommended evaluation or indicates an unwillingness to cooperate in the best interests of the student, the Child Study Team Principal or designee will may contact the New Jersey Department of Children and Families, Division of Child Protection and Permanency to request that agency's intervention on the student's behalf.

In the event the student is required to obtain medical or psychiatric services, the parent(s) will be required to submit to the Superintendent a written medical clearance from a licensed medical professional, selected by the parent(s) and approved by the Superintendent, indicating the student has received medical services, does not present a risk to themselves or others, and is cleared to return to school. The written medical clearance may be reviewed by a Board of Education healthcare professional before the student is permitted to return to school. The parent(s) shall be required to authorize



their healthcare professional(s) to release relevant medical information to the school district's healthcare professional, if requested.

STUDENTS 5350/page 2 of 2 Student Suicide Prevention

Any school district staff member, volunteer, or intern with reasonable cause to suspect or believe that a student has attempted or completed suicide, shall immediately report the information to the Principal or designee or their immediate supervisor who will immediately report it to the Superintendent or designee. The Superintendent or designee shall promptly report it online to the New Jersey Department of Children and Families, or as otherwise required by the Department of Children and Families in accordance with N.J.S.A. 30:9A-24. In accordance with N.J.S.A. 30:9A-24i, any person who reports an attempted or completed suicide shall have immunity from any civil or criminal liability on account of the report, unless the person has acted in bad faith or with malicious purpose.

[Optional

The Superintendent shall, in consultation with appropriate teaching staff members and mental health organizations, develop and implement a stress reduction program for students in grades ______ through ______ to address the problem of depression, help students toward alternative ways of resolving stressful situations, and encourage students to help one another.]

In accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:6-111 and 18A:6-112, as part of the required professional development for teachers as outlined in N.J.A.C. 6A:9C-3 et seq., every teaching staff member must complete at least two hours of instruction in suicide prevention, to be provided by a licensed health care professional with **training and** experience in mental health issues, in each professional development period. The instruction in suicide prevention shall include information on the relationship between the risk of suicide and incidents of harassment, intimidation, and bullying and information on reducing the risk of suicide in students who are members of communities identified as having members at high risk of suicide.

The Superintendent shall prepare and disseminate guidelines to assist school district regulations for the guidance of staff members in recognizing the warning signs of a student who may be contemplates contemplating suicide, to respond to a threat in responding to threatened or attempted suicide, and to prevent in preventing contagion when a student commits suicide.

N.J.S.A. 18A:6-111; 18A:6-112 N.J.S.A. 30:9A-23; 30:9A-24



N.J.A.C. 6A:9C-3 et seq.

Adopted:



STUDENTS
5561/page 1 of 3
Use of Physical Restraint and Seclusion
Techniques for Students with Disabilities
Apr 18

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[See POLICY ALERT Nos. 192 and 215]

5561 <u>USE OF PHYSICAL RESTRAINT **AND SECLUSION**</u> **TECHNIQUES FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES**

The Board of Education strives to provide a safe, caring atmosphere that supports all students in the least restrictive environment. On occasion, during an emergency, a situation may arise making it necessary to temporarily restrain or seclude a student with a disability in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:46-13.4 through 13.7.

A school district, an educational services commission, or an approved private school for students with disabilities (APSSD) that utilizes physical restraint on students with disabilities shall ensure that:

- 1. Physical restraint is used only in an emergency in which the student is exhibiting behavior that places the student or others in immediate physical danger;
- 2. A student is not restrained in the prone position, unless the student's primary care physician authorizes, in writing, the use of this restraint technique;
- 3. Staff members who are involved in the restraint of a student receive training in safe techniques for physical restraint from an entity determined by the Board of Education to be qualified to provide such training, and that the training is updated at least annually;
- 4. The parent of a student is immediately notified when physical restraint is used on the student. This notification may be by telephone or electronic communication. A full written report of the incident of physical restraint shall be provided to the parent within forty-eight hours of the occurrence of the incident;



STUDENTS 5561/page 2 of 3 Use of Physical Restraint and Seclusion Techniques for Students with Disabilities

- 5. Each incident in which physical restraint is used is carefully and continuously visually monitored to ensure it was used in accordance with established procedures set forth in Policy and Regulation 5561 Use of Physical Restraint and Seclusion Techniques for Students with Disabilities, developed in conjunction with the entity that trains staff in safe techniques for physical restraint, in order to protect the safety of the child and others; and
- 6. Each incident in which physical restraint is used is documented in writing in sufficient detail to enable staff to use this information to develop or improve the behavior intervention plan at the next individualized education plan meeting.

A school district, an educational services commission, and an APSSD shall attempt to minimize the use of physical restraints through inclusion of positive behavior supports in the student's behavior intervention plans developed by the individualized education plan team.

A school district, an educational services commission, or an APSSD that utilizes seclusion techniques on students with disabilities shall ensure that:

- 1. A seclusion technique is used on a student with disabilities only in an emergency in which the student is exhibiting behavior that places the student or others in immediate physical danger;
- 2. Each incident in which a seclusion technique is used is carefully and continuously visually monitored to ensure it was used in accordance with established procedures set forth in Policy and Regulation 5561 Use of Physical Restraint and Seclusion Techniques for Students with Disabilities, developed in conjunction with the entity that trains staff in safe techniques for physical restraint, in order to protect the safety of the child and others; and
- 3. Each incident in which a seclusion technique is used is documented in writing in sufficient detail to enable the staff to use



this information to develop or improve the behavior intervention plan at the next individualized education plan meeting.

STUDENTS 5561/page 3 of 3 Use of Physical Restraint and Seclusion Techniques for Students with Disabilities

A school district, an educational services commission, and an APSSD shall attempt to minimize the use of seclusion techniques through inclusion of positive behavior supports in the student's behavior intervention plans developed by the individualized education plan team.

The New Jersey Department of Education shall establish guidelines for school districts, educational services commissions, and APSSDs to ensure a review process is in place to examine the use of physical restraints or seclusion techniques in emergency situations, and for the repeated use of these methods for an individual child, within the same classroom, or by a single individual. The review process shall include educational, clinical, and administrative personnel. Pursuant to the review process the student's individualized education plan team may, as deemed appropriate, determine to revise the behavior intervention plan or classroom supports, and a school district, educational services commission, or APSSD may determine to revise a staff member's professional development plan pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:46-13.7.

N.J.S.A. 18A:46-13.4; 18A:46-13.5; 18A:46-13.6; 18A:46-13.7



Adopted:



OPERATIONS 8462/page 1 of 3 Reporting Potentially Missing or Abused Children Apr 18

[See POLICY ALERT Nos. 94, 97, 100, 106, 133, 169, 180, 203, 208 and 215]

8462 REPORTING POTENTIALLY MISSING OR ABUSED CHILDREN

The Board of Education recognizes early detection of missing, abused, or neglected children is important in protecting the health, safety, and welfare of all children. In recognition of the importance of early detection of missing, abused, or neglected children, the Board of Education adopts this Policy pursuant to the requirements of N.J.S.A. 18A:36-24 and 18A:36-25. The Board provides this Policy for its employees, volunteers, or interns to provide for the early detection of missing, abused, or neglected children through notification of, reporting to, and cooperation with the appropriate law enforcement and child welfare authorities pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:36-24 and 18A:36-25 et seq., N.J.A.C. 6A:16-11.1, and N.J.S.A. 9:6-8.10.

Employees, volunteers, or interns working in the school district shall immediately notify designated child welfare authorities of incidents of alleged missing, abused, and/or neglected children. Reports of incidents of alleged missing, abused, or neglected children shall be reported to the New Jersey State Central Registry (SCR) at 1-877 NJ ABUSE or to any other telephone number designated by the appropriate child welfare authorities. If the child is in immediate danger a call shall be placed to 911 as well as to the SCR.

The person having reason to believe that a child may be missing or may have been abused or neglected may inform the Principal or other designated school official(s) prior to notifying designated child welfare authorities if the action will not delay immediate notification. The person notifying designated child welfare authorities shall inform the Principal or other designated school official(s) of the notification, if such had not occurred prior to the notification. Notice to the Principal or other designated school official(s) need not be given when the person believes that such notice would likely endanger the reporter or student involved or when the person believes that such disclosure would likely result in retaliation against the student or in discrimination against the reporter with respect to his or her employment.

The Principal or other designated school official(s) upon being notified by a person having reason to believe that a child may be missing or may have been abused or neglected, must notify appropriate law enforcement authorities.



Notification to appropriate law enforcement authorities shall be made for all OPERATIONS 8462/page 2 of 3

Reporting Potentially Missing or Abused Children

reports by employees, volunteers, or interns working in the school district. Confirmation by another person is not required for a school district employee, volunteer, or intern to report the suspected missing, abused, or neglected child situation.

School district officials will cooperate with designated child welfare and law enforcement authorities in all investigations of potentially missing, abused, or neglected children in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:16-11.1(a)5.

The district designates ______ as the school district's liaison to designated child welfare authorities to act as the primary contact person between the school district and child welfare authorities with regard to general information sharing and the development of mutual training and other cooperative efforts. The district designates the Superintendent or designee as the school district's liaison to law enforcement authorities to act as the primary contact person between the school district and law enforcement authorities, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-6.2(b)1, consistent with the Memorandum of Agreement, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-6.2(b)13.

An employee, volunteer, or intern working in the school district who has been named as a suspect in a notification to child welfare and law enforcement authorities regarding a missing, abused, or neglected child situation shall be entitled to due process rights, including those rights defined in N.J.A.C. 6A:16-11.1(a)9.

The Superintendent or designee shall provide training to school district employees, volunteers, or interns on the district's policy and procedures for reporting allegations of missing, abused, or neglected child situations. All new school district employees, volunteers, or interns working in the district shall receive the required information and training as part of their orientation.

There shall be no reprisal or retaliation against any person who, in good faith, reports or causes a report to be made of a potentially missing, abused, or neglected child situation pursuant to N.J.S.A. 9:6-8.13.



OPERATIONS 8462/page 3 of 3 Reporting Potentially Missing or Abused Children

Any employee, volunteer, or intern with reasonable cause to suspect or believe that a student has attempted or completed suicide, shall report the information to the Department of Human Services, Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services, in a form and manner prescribed by the Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services pursuant to N.J.S.A. 30:9A-24.a.

N.J.S.A. 18A:36-24; 18A:36-25 et seq. N.J.A.C. 6A:16-11.1



Adopted:



OPERATIONS 8561/page 1 of 16 Procurement Procedures for School Nutrition Programs Apr 18

[See POLICY ALERT No. 215]

8561 PROCUREMENT PROCEDURES FOR SCHOOL NUTRITION PROGRAMS

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

The Board of Education is ultimately responsible for ensuring all procurement procedures for any purchases by the Board of Education and/or a food service management company (FSMC) comply with all Federal regulations, including but not limited to: 7 CFR Parts 210, 220, 225, 226, 245, 250; 2 CFR 200; State procurement statutes and administrative codes and regulations; local Board of Education procurement policies; and any other applicable State and local laws. FSMC's billing invoices will be monitored to ensure compliance with Federal and State procurement regulations and will comply with any additional monitoring requirements as outlined in the approved FSMC Contract.

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

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

A. General Procurement

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



OPERATIONS 8561/page 2 of 16 Procurement Procedures for School Nutrition Programs

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

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

Micro-Purchases:

Purchases of supplies or services, within the micro-purchase threshold (the aggregate amount does not exceed \$3,500 as defined by 2 CFR 200.67) will be awarded without soliciting competitive price quotations if the price is reasonable. Purchases will be distributed equitably among qualified suppliers with reasonable prices. Records will be kept for micro-purchases.

3. Formal bid procedures will be applied on the basis of:

[Choose one or more of the following:

_centralized system;
_individual school;
_multi-school system; and/or
_State contract.]



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4. Because of the potential for purchasing more than the public or non-public informal/small purchase threshold amount, or the Board approved threshold if less, it will be the responsibility of the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary to document the amounts to be purchased so the correct method of procurement will be followed.

B. Formal Procurement

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

- 1. An announcement of an IFB or a RFP will be placed in the Board designated official newspaper to publicize the intent of the Board of Education to purchase needed items. The advertisement for bids/proposals or legal notice will be published in the official newspaper for at least one day in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-21.
- 2. An advertisement in the official newspaper for at least one day is required for all purchases over the school district's small purchase threshold as outlined in Appendix Federal Funds Procurement Method Section Chart. The advertisement will contain the following:
 - a. A general description of items to be purchased;
 - b. The deadline for submission of questions and the date written responses will be provided, including addenda to bid specifications, terms, and conditions as needed;
 - c. The date of the pre-bid meeting, if provided, and if attendance is a requirement for bid award;
 - d. The deadline for submission of sealed bids or proposals; and



e. The address of the location where complete specifications and bid forms may be obtained.

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- 3. In an IFB or RFP, each vendor will be given an opportunity to bid on the same specifications.
- 4. The developer of written specifications or descriptions for procurements will be prohibited from submitting bids or proposals for such products or services.
- 5. The IFB or RFP will clearly define the purchase conditions. The following list includes requirements, not exclusive, to be addressed in the procurement document:
 - a. Contract period;
 - b. The Board of Education is responsible for all contracts awarded (statement);
 - c. Date, time, and location of IFB/RFP opening;
 - d. How the vendor is to be informed of bid acceptance or rejection;
 - e. Delivery schedule;
 - f. Requirements (terms and conditions) the bidder must fulfill in order for bid to be evaluated;
 - g. Benefits to which the Board of Education will be entitled if the contractor cannot or will not perform as required;
 - h. Statement assuring positive efforts will be made to involve minority and small business;
 - i. Statement regarding the return of purchase incentives, discounts, rebates, and credits to the Board of Education's nonprofit school food service account;



j. Contract provisions as required in Appendix II to 2 CFR 200:

OPERATIONS 8561/page 5 of 16 Procurement Procedures for School Nutrition Programs

- k. Contract provisions as required in 7 CFR 210.21(f) for all cost reimbursable contracts;
- 1. Contract provisions as required in 7 CFR 210.16(a)(1-10) and 7 CFR 250.53 for food service management company contracts;
- m. Procuring instrument to be used are purchase orders from firm fixed prices after formal bidding;
- n. Price adjustment clause for renewal of multi-year contracts as defined in N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-42. The "index rate" means the annual percentage increase rounded to the nearest half percent in the implicit price deflator for State and local government purchases of goods and services computed and published quarterly by the U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis;
- o. Method of evaluation and type of contract to be awarded (solicitations using an IFB are awarded to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder; solicitations using a RFP are awarded to the most advantageous bidder/offeror with price as the primary factor among factors considered);
- Method of award announcement and effective date (if intent to award is required by State or local procurement requirements);
- q. Specific bid protest procedures including contact information of person and address and the date by which a written protest must be received;
- r. Provision requiring access by duly authorized representatives of the Board of Education, New Jersey Department of Agriculture (NJDA), United States



Department of Agriculture (USDA), or Comptroller General to any books, documents, papers, and records of the contractor which are directly pertinent to all negotiated contracts:

OPERATIONS 8561/page 6 of 16 Procurement Procedures for School Nutrition Programs

- s. Method of shipment or delivery upon contract award;
- t. Provision requiring contractor to maintain all required records for three years after final payment and all other pending matters (audits) are closed for all negotiated contracts;
- u. Description of process for enabling vendors to receive or pick up orders upon contract award;
- v. Provision requiring the contractor to recognize mandatory standards/policies related to energy efficiency contained in the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (PL 94-163);
- w. Signed statement of non-collusion;
- x. Signed Debarment/Suspension Certificate, clause in the contract or a copy of search results from the System for Award Management (SAM);
- y. Provision requiring "Buy American" as outlined in 7 CFR Part 210.21(d) and USDA Guidance Memo SP 38-2017; and
- z. Specifications and estimated quantities of products and services prepared by the school district and provided to potential contractors desiring to submit bids/proposals for the products or services requested.
- 6. If any potential vendor is in doubt as to the true meaning of specifications or purchase conditions, interpretation will be provided in writing to all potential bidders by the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary or designee and will specify the deadline for all questions.



a. The School Business Administrator/Board Secretary will be responsible for securing all bids or proposals.

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- b. The School Business Administrator/Board Secretary will be responsible to ensure all Board of Education procurements are conducted in compliance with applicable Federal, State, and local procurement regulations.
- c. The following criteria will be used in awarding contracts as a result of bids/proposals. Price must be the highest weighted criteria. Examples of other possible criteria include quality, service, delivery, and availability.
- 7. In awarding a RFP, a set of award criteria in the form of a weighted evaluation sheet will be provided to each bidder in the initial bid document materials. Price alone is not the sole basis for award, but remains the primary consideration among all factors when awarding a contract. Following evaluation and negotiations, a firm fixed price or cost reimbursable contract is awarded.
 - a. The contracts will be awarded to the responsible bidder/proposer whose bid or proposal is responsive to the invitation and is most advantageous to the Board of Education, price as the primary, and other factors considered. Any and all bids or proposals may be rejected in accordance with the law.
 - b. The School Business Administrator/Board Secretary or designee is required to sign on the bid tabulation of competitive sealed bids or the evaluation criterion score sheet of competitive proposals signifying a review and approval of the selections.
 - c. The School Business Administrator/Board Secretary shall review the procurement system to ensure compliance with applicable laws.



d. The School Business Administrator/Board Secretary or designee will be responsible for documentation that the actual product specified was received.

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- e. Any time an accepted item is not available, the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary will select the acceptable alternate. The contractor must inform the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary within one workday if a product is not available. In the event a nondomestic agricultural product is to be provided to the Board of Education, the contractor must obtain, in advance, written approval for the product. The School Business Administrator/Board Secretary must comply with the Buy American Provision.
- f. Full documentation regarding the reason an accepted item was unavailable, and the procedure used in determining acceptable alternates, will be available for audit and review. The person responsible for this documentation is the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary.
- g. The School Business Administrator/Board Secretary is responsible for maintaining all procurement documentation.

C. Small Purchase Procedures

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

1. Written specifications will be prepared and provided to all vendors.



- 2. Each vendor will be contacted and given an opportunity to provide a price quote on the same specifications. A minimum of three vendors shall be contacted.
- 3. The School Business Administrator/Board Secretary or designee will be responsible for contacting potential vendors when price quotes are needed.

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- 4. The price quotes will receive appropriate confidentiality before award.
- 5. Quotes/Bids will be awarded by the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary. Quotes/Bids will be awarded on the following criteria. Quote/Bid price must be the highest weighted criteria. Examples of other possible criteria include quality, service, delivery, and availability.
- 6. The School Business Administrator/Board Secretary will be responsible for documentation of records to show selection of vendor, reasons for selection, names of all vendors contacted, price quotes from each vendor, and written specifications.
- 7. The School Business Administrator/Board Secretary or designee will be responsible for documentation that the actual product specified is received.
- 8. Any time an accepted item is not available, the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary will select the acceptable alternate. Full documentation will be made available as to the selection of the acceptable item.
- 9. The School Business Administrator/Board Secretary or designee is required to sign all quote tabulations, signifying a review and approval of the selections.
- D. Noncompetitive Proposal Procedures



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

1. Written specifications will be prepared and provided to the vendor.

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- 2. The School Business Administrator/Board Secretary will be responsible for the documentation of records to fully explain the decision to use the noncompetitive proposal. The records will be available for audit and review.
- 3. The School Business Administrator/Board Secretary or designee will be responsible for documentation that the actual product or service specified was received.
- 4. The School Business Administrator/Board Secretary will be responsible for reviewing the procedures to be certain all requirements for using single source or noncompetitive proposals are met.
- 5. The noncompetitive micro-purchase method shall be used for one-time purchases of a new food item if the amount is less than \$3,500 to determine food acceptance by students and provide samples for testing purposes. A record of noncompetitive negotiation purchase shall be maintained by the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary or designee. At a minimum, the record of noncompetitive purchases shall include: item name; dollar amount; vendor; and reason for noncompetitive procurement.
- 6. A member or representative of the Board of Education will approve, in advance, all procurements that result from noncompetitive negotiations.
- E. Miscellaneous Provisions



- 1. New product evaluation procedures will include a review of product labels and ingredients; an evaluation of the nutritional value; taste tests and surveys; and any other evaluations to ensure the new product would enhance the program.
- 2. The Board of Education agrees the reviewing official of each transaction will be the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary.

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- 3. Payment will be made to the vendor when the contract has been met and verified and has met the Board of Education's procedures for payment. (If prompt payment is made, discounts, etc., are accepted.)
- 4. Specifications will be updated as needed.
- 5. If the product is not as specified, the following procedure, including, but not limited to, will take place: remove product from service; contact vendor for approved alternate product; or remove product from bid.

F. Emergency Purchases

- 1. If it is necessary to make a one-time emergency procurement to continue service or obtain goods, and the public exigency or emergency will not permit a delay resulting from a competitive solicitation, the purchase must be authorized using a purchase order signed by the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary. The emergency procedures to be followed for such purchases shall be those procedures used by the school district for other emergency purchases consistent with N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-7. All emergency procurements shall be approved by the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary. At a minimum, the following emergency procurement procedures shall be documented to include, but not be limited to: item name; dollar amount; vendor; and reason for emergency.
- G. Purchasing Goods and Services Cooperative Agreements, Agents, and Third-Party Services (Piggybacking)



- 1. When participating in intergovernmental and inter-agency agreements the Board of Education will ensure that competitive procurements are conducted in accordance with 2 CFR Part 200.318-.326 and applicable program regulations and guidance.
- 2. When utilizing the services of a co-op, agent, or third party the Board of Education will ensure that the following conditions have been met:
 - a. All procurements were subject to full and open competition and were made in accordance with Federal/State/local procurement requirements;

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- b. The existing contract allows for the inclusion of additional Board of Educations that were not contemplated in the original procurement to purchase the same supplies/equipment through the original award;
- c. The specifications in the existing contract meets their needs and that the items being ordered are in the contract;
- d. The awarded contract requires all the Federally required certifications; e.g. Buy American, debarment, restrictions on lobbying, etc.;
- e. The agency will confirm the addition of their purchasing power (goods or services) to the procurement in scope or services does not create a material change, resulting in the needs to re-bid the contract;
- f. Administrative costs (fees) for participating in the agreement are adequately defined, necessary and reasonable, and the method of allocating the cost to the participating agencies must be specified;
- g. The Buy American provisions are included in the procurement of food and agricultural products; and
- h. The agreement includes the basis for and method of allocating each discount, rebate, or credit and how they will



be returned to each participating agency when utilizing a cost-reimbursable contract.

H. Records Retention

1. The Board of Education shall agree to retain all books, records, and other documents relative to the award of the contract for three years after final payment. If there are audit findings that have not been resolved, the records shall be retained beyond the three-year period as long as required for the resolution of the issues raised by the audit. Specifically, the Board of Education shall maintain, at a minimum, the following documents:

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- a. Written rationale for the method of procurement;
- b. A copy of the original solicitation;
- c. The selection of contract type;
- d. The bidding and negotiation history and working papers;
- e. The basis for contractor selection;
- f. Approval from the State agency to support a lack of competition when competitive bids or offers are not obtained;
- g. The basis for award cost or price;
- h. The terms and conditions of the contract;
- i. Any changes to the contract and negotiation history;
- j. Billing and payment records;
- k. A history of any contractor claims;
- 1. A history of any contractor breaches; and
- m. Any other documents as required by N.J.S.A. 18A:18A Public School Contracts Law.



I. Code of Conduct for Procurement

1. All procurements must ensure there is open and free competition and adhere to the most restrictive Federal, State, and local requirements. The Board of Education seeks to conduct all procurement procedures in compliance with stated regulations and to prohibit conflicts of interest and actions of employees engaged in the selection, award, and administration of contracts. All procurements will be in accordance with this Policy and all applicable provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:18A – Public School Contracts Law.

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- 2. No employee, officer, or agent may participate in the selection, award, or administration of a contract supported by a Federal, State, or local award if he or she has a real or apparent conflict of interest. Such a conflict of interest would arise when the employee, officer, or agent; any member of his or her immediate family, his or her partner; or an organization which employs or is about to employ any of the parties indicated herein has a financial or other interest in or a tangible personal benefit from a firm considered for a contract.
- 3. The officers, employees, and agents of the non-Federal entity may neither solicit nor accept gratuities, favors, or anything of monetary value from contractors or parties to subcontracts. However, non-Federal entities may set standards for situations in which the financial interest is not substantial or the gift is an unsolicited item of nominal value.
- 4. The standards of conduct must provide for disciplinary actions to be applied for violations of such standards by officers, employees, or agents of the non-Federal entity. Based on the severity of the infraction, the penalties could include a written reprimand to their personnel file, a suspension with or without pay, or termination.
- 5. All questions and concerns regarding procurement solicitations, contract evaluations, and contract award, shall be directed to the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary.



- J. Food Service Management Company (FSMC)
 - 1. In the operation of the school district's food service program, the school district shall ensure that a FSMC complies with the requirements of the Program Agreement, the school district's Free and Reduced School Lunch Policy Statement, all applicable USDA program policies and regulations, and applicable State and local laws. In order to operate an a la carte food service program, the FSMC shall agree to offer free, reduced price, and full price reimbursable meals to all eligible children.

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- 2. The school district shall monitor the FSMC billing invoices to ensure compliance with Federal and State procurement regulations.
- 3. In accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-5a.(22), RFPs are required in all solicitations for a FSMC.

N.J.S.A. 18A:18A - Public School Contracts Law



OPERATIONS 8561/page 16 of 16 Procurement Procedures for School Nutrition Programs

APPENDIX

FEDERAL FUNDS PROCUREMENT METHOD SELECTION CHART

THERE ARE TWO (2) PROCUREMENT METHODS, FORMAL AND INFORMAL. THE METHOD THE SCHOOL FOOD AUTHORITIES (SFA) NEEDS TO USE DEPENDS ON TWO (2) FACTORS, THE AMOUNT OF THE CONTRACT AND WHETHER THE SFA IS A PUBLIC/CHARTER OR NON-PUBLIC SCHOOL.

NON-PUBLIC SCHOOL.						
NEW JERSEY PUBLIC/CHARTER SCHOOLS PURCHASING THRESHOLDS						
AMOUNT	ACTIVITY	PROCUREMENT METHOD				
INFORMAL PROCUREMENT						
Below \$3,500 *	Micro - purchases 2 CFR 200.320(a)	Sound Business Practice *				
	SINGLE TRANSACTION AGGREGATE COST LESS THAN \$3,500					
* Or LESS than \$3,500 if local SFA Procurement Policies are more restrictive						
SMALL PURCHASE PROCEDURES						
\$3,501 up to \$29,000/\$40,000	N.J.S.A. 18A:18A–37 ANY PURCHASE EXCEEDING \$3,500 REQUIRES A QUOTE UP TO THE APPLICABLE N.J.S.A. BID THRESHOLDS OF \$29,000 (without a QPA*) OR \$40,000 (with a QPA*)	Quotation using SFA Internal Procurement Procedures				
	NOTE: ANNUAL AGGREGATE AMOUNTS					
FORMAL PROCUREMENT						
\$29,000 or \$40,000 and above	N.J.S.A. 18A:18A–37 Bid Threshold without a QPA* - \$29,000 Bid Threshold with a QPA* - \$40,000 * QUALIFIED PURCHASING AGENT	Bid - Invitation for Bid (IFB) OR Request for Proposal (RFP)				
NEW JERSEY NON-PUBLIC SCHOOL PURCHASING THRESHOLDS						



AMOUNT	ACTIVITY	PROCUREMENT				
		METHOD				
INFORMAL PROCUREMENT						
Below \$3,500 *	Micro - purchases 2 CFR 200.320(a) Single Transaction aggregate cost less than \$3,500	Sound Business Practice *				
* Or LESS than \$3,500 if local SFA Procurement Policies are more restrictive						
\$3,501 - \$149,999	Small purchase procedures 2 CFR 200.320(b)	Quotation using SFA Internal Procurement Procedures				
FORMAL PROCUREMENT						
\$150,000 and above	As per Federal requirements in 2 CFR Parts 200.317 - 200.326	Bid - Invitation for Bid (IFB) OR Request for Proposal (RFP)				

State Agency Form #358 - July 2017

Adopted:



STRAUSS ESMAY ASSOCIATES

OPERATIONS

8750 EMPLOYEE INDEMNIFICATION

8750 EMPLOYEE INDEMNIFICATION

[See POLICY ALERT No. 121, 141 and 158]

The Board of Education recognizes that officers and employees of this district are exposed to certain risks in the course of the performance of their duties and will provide insurance coverage against losses that may be incurred by such risks.

The Board shall in accordance with law, insure employees of the school district against injury and death arising out of or in the course of their employment.

The Board shall provide indemnification to any person holding any office, position or employment under the jurisdiction of the Board, including any student teacher/intern, or person assigned to other professional pre-teaching field experience, for damages, losses, and costs incurred as a result of a civil or administrative action or other legal proceeding brought against any such persons for any acts or omissions arising out of and in the course of their employment, student teaching, or other assignment to professional field experience with this Board. This indemnification will include all costs of defending such action, including reasonable counsel fees and expenses, together with costs of appeal, if any, and will hold harmless and protect such person from any financial loss resulting from such action. No employee will be held harmless or have his/her defense costs defrayed in a disciplinary proceeding instituted against him/her by the Board or when the employee is appealing an action taken by the Board. Indemnification for exemplary or punitive damages is not required and will be governed by the standards and procedures set forth in N.J.S.A. 59:10-4. The Board may arrange for and maintain appropriate insurance to cover all such damages, losses and expenses.

The Board shall provide indemnification to any person holding any office, position or employment under the jurisdiction of the Board, including any student teacher/intern, or person assigned to other professional pre-teaching field experience, for the costs of defense against any criminal or quasi-criminal action for any such act or omission when such prosecution is dismissed or results in a final disposition favorable to the officer or employee. This indemnification will include the cost of defending such proceeding, including reasonable counsel fees and expenses of the original hearing or trial and all appeals. No employee will be held harmless or have his/her defense costs defrayed as a result of a criminal or quasi-criminal complaint filed against the employee by or on behalf of the Board. The Board may arrange for and maintain appropriate insurance to cover all such damages, losses and expenses.

The Board shall insure against any liability arising out of the use of motor vehicles in the course of the conduct of automobile driver training courses and against any liability arising from the use

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POLICY GUIDE

STRAUSS ESMAY ASSOCIATES

OPERATIONS

8750 EMPLOYEE INDEMNIFICATION

of a motor vehicle by a person duly appointed by the Board to transport students and while in the course of such transportation.

The Board may insure against any major liability arising from the use of a motor vehicle by an employee or student of the district in the performance of district business.

The Board may, in accordance with law, enter a joint contract for the purchase of liability insurance.

N.J.S.A. 18A:16-6; 18A:16-6.1; 18A:18A-3.2;

18A:18A-42(e); 18A:18B-1; 18A:18B-2;

18A:39-6; 18A:39-6.1; 18A:39-20.1

N.J.S.A. 40A:10-52

Adopted:

ADMINISTRATION

R 1550/page 1 of 5

Equal Employment/Anti-Discrimination

Affirmative Action Program for Employment and Contract Practices Complaint Procedure

Apr 18

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[See POLICY ALERT Nos. 116, 167, 191 and 215]

R 1550 EQUAL EMPLOYMENT/ANTI-DISCRIMINATION AFFIRMATIVE ACTION PROGRAM FOR EMPLOYMENT AND CONTRACT PRACTICES COMPLAINT PROCEDURE

A. Purpose and Application

- 1. The purpose of this procedure is to give any school district employee or candidate for school district employment the opportunity to appeal an alleged violation of the school district's Affirmative Action Program for employment and contract practices, as set forth in Policy No. 1550 or in a plan formally adopted by the Board of Education and approved by the Commissioner.
- 2. No qualified handicapped person, shall, on the basis of handicap, be subjected to discrimination in employment and the Board will take positive steps to employ and advance in employment qualified handicapped persons in programs and activities.
- 3. This procedure is intended to facilitate an equitable and just resolution of a dispute at the most immediate level and should be implemented in an informal manner.
- 4. Every reasonable effort will be made to expedite the process in the interest of a prompt resolution. Time limits may, however, be extended with the consent of all parties.
- 5. All participants in the procedure will respect the confidentiality that this school district accords to information about individual staff members.

B. **Definitions**

- 1. "Board of Education" means the Board of Education of the School District.
- 2. "Complaint" means an alleged violation of the school district's Affirmative Action Plan or Policy.



ADMINISTRATION R 1550/page 2 of 5

Equal Employment/Anti-Discrimination

Affirmative Action Program for Employment and Contract Practices Complaint Procedure

- 3. "Complainant" means a staff member who alleges a violation of the **school** district's Affirmative Action Plan or Policy No. 1550.
- 4. "Day" means a **business day** working or calendar day as identified.
- 5. "School district" or "district" means the _______
 School District.
- 6. "Violation" means the failure of a **school** district official or employee to take the positive steps outlined in Policy No. 1550 or the duly approved Affirmative Action Plan to remove impermissible bias or preference from all aspects of **school** district employment or contract practices and/or to correct the results of past discrimination.

C. Procedure

- 1. A Ceomplainant who believes that he/she has been harmed or adversely affected by a failure to enforce the **school** district's Affirmative Action Plan for employment and contract practices shall discuss the matter with his/her immediate supervisor in an attempt to resolve the matter informally.
 - a. In the event the Complainant believes their immediate supervisor may be conflicted or if the immediate supervisor is not available, the Complainant may proceed directly to the school district's Affirmative Action Officer as outlined in C.2. below.
 - b. In the event the Complainant believes the school district's Affirmative Action Officer may be conflicted, the Complainant may submit a written complaint to the Superintendent of Schools who will designate a supervisor or administrative staff member to conduct the investigation in accordance with the procedures outlined in this Regulation. The Superintendent will ensure the supervisor or administrative staff member is provided affirmative action training in accordance with State mandates and guidelines.



ADMINISTRATION R 1550/page 3 of 5 Equal Employment/Anti-Discrimination Affirmative Action Program for Employment and Contract Practices Complaint Procedure

- 2. If the matter is not resolved to the satisfaction of the Ceomplainant within **ten business** thirty working days, the Ceomplainant may submit a written complaint to the Affirmative Action Officer. The complaint will include:
 - a. The Ceomplainant's name and address;
 - b. The specific failure to act that the Ceomplainant complains of $\overline{}_{5}$:
 - c. The school officer or employee, if any, responsible for the alleged violation of the Affirmative Action Plan;
 - d. The results of discussions conducted in accordance with paragraph C.1.; and
 - e. The reasons why those results are not satisfactory.
- 3. The Affirmative Action Officer will investigate the matter informally and will respond to the complaint in writing no later than seven **business** working days after receipt of the written complaint. A copy of the complaint and the response will be forwarded to the Superintendent.
- 4. The response of the Affirmative Action Officer may be appealed to the Superintendent in writing within three **business** working days after it has been received by the Ceomplainant. The appeal will include the original complaint, the response to the complaint, and the Ceomplainant's reason for rejecting the response. A copy of the appeal must be given to the staff member alleged to have violated the Affirmative Action Plan.
- 5. On his/her timely request (that is, submitted before the expiration of the time within which the Superintendent must render a decision), Upon request, the Ceomplainant will be given an informal hearing before the Superintendent, at a time and place convenient to the parties, but no later than seven business working days after the request for a hearing has been submitted. The Superintendent may also require the presence at the hearing of the staff member charged with violation of the Affirmative Action



Plan and any other person with knowledge of the violation complained of.

ADMINISTRATION
R 1550/page 4 of 5
Equal Employment/Anti-Discrimination
Affirmative Action Program for Employment
and Contract Practices Complaint Procedure

- 6. The Superintendent will render a written decision in the matter no later than seven **business** working days after the appeal was filed or the hearing was held, whichever occurred later. Copies of the decision will be given to all parties and to the Board of Education.
- 7. The Ceomplainant may appeal the Superintendent's decision to the Board by filing a written appeal with the Board Secretary no later than three **business** working days after receipt of the Superintendent's decision. The appeal will include:
 - a. The original complaint;
 - b. The response to the complaint;
 - c. The Superintendent's decision;
 - d. A transcript of the hearing, if one has been made, or a summary of the hearing to which all parties have consented; and
 - e. The Ceomplainant's reason for believing the Superintendent's decision should be changed.
- 8. A copy of the appeal to the Board must be given to the staff member, if any, charged with a violation of the Affirmative Action Plan.
- 9. The Board will review all papers submitted and may render a decision on the basis of the proceedings below. If the Ceomplainant so requests, the Board may convene a hearing, at which all parties may be represented by counsel and may present and examine witnesses, who will testify under oath.
- 10. The Board will render a written decision no later than forty-five calendar days after the appeal was filed or the hearing held,



whichever occurred later. Copies of the decision will be given to all parties.

ADMINISTRATION R 1550/page 5 of 5 **Equal Employment/Anti-Discrimination** Affirmative Action Program for Employment and Contract Practices Complaint Procedure

- 11. The Ceomplainant will be informed of his/her right to appeal the Board's decision to the:
 - a. Commissioner of Education
 New Jersey State Department of Education
 P.O. Box 500
 Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0500, or
 Telephone: (877) 900-6960 or the
 - b. New Jersey Division on Civil Rights

 Trenton-Central Regional Office

 Office of the Attorney General

 140 East Front Street 6th Floor

 Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0090

 Telephone: (609) 292-4605

D. Record

- 1. The records of any complaint processed in accordance with this procedure shall be kept in a file maintained by the Affirmative Action Officer.
- 2. A copy of the decision rendered at its highest level of appeal will be kept in the Ceomplainant's personnel file.



Issued:



STUDENTS R 5350/page 1 of 6 Student Suicide **Prevention** Apr 18 **M**

[See POLICY ALERT Nos. 96, 209 and 215]

R 5350 STUDENT SUICIDE **PREVENTION**

The following are guidelines to assist school district staff members in recognizing the warning signs of a student who may be contemplating suicide, to respond to a threat or attempted suicide, and to prevent contagion when a student commits suicide.

A. Recognition of Warning Signs of Suicide

All school district staff members shall be alert to any warning signs a student may be contemplating suicide. Such warning signs may include, but are not limited to, a student's:

- 1. Overt suggestion, regardless of its context, that he/she is considering or has considered suicide or has worked out the details of a suicide attempt;
- 2. Self-mutilation:
- 3. Obsession with death or afterlife:
- 4. Possession of a weapon or possession of other means of suicide or obsession with such means:
- 5. Sense of hopelessness or unrelieved sadness;
- 6. Lethargy or despondency, or, conversely, a tendency to become more impulsive or aggressive than usual;
- 7. Drop in academic achievement, slacking off of energy and effort, or inability to focus on studies;
- 8. Isolation from others by loss of friends, withdrawal from friends, lack of companionship, or family disintegration;
- 9. Preoccupation with nonexistent physical illness;



STUDENTS R 5350/page 2 of 6 Student Suicide **Prevention**

- 10. Loss of weight, appetite, and/or sleep;
- 11. Substance abuse;
- 12. Volatile mood swings or sudden changes in personality;
- 13. Prior suicide attempt(s);
- 14. Anxiety or eating disorder;
- 15. Involvement in an unhealthy, destructive, or abusive relationship; and
- 16. Depression due to being a victim/target of harassment, intimidation, bullying, or mistreatment by others.
- B. Response to the Warning Signs of Suicide
 - 1. Any indication of suicide, whether personally witnessed or received by a report from another, shall be taken seriously and immediately reported to the Principal or designee. Upon receiving such report, the Principal will ensure the student is supervised by a school staff member until a preliminary assessment of the risk is determined.
 - 2. The Principal or designee shall immediately contact the parent(s) of the student exhibiting warning signs of suicide to inform the parent(s) that the student will be referred to the Child Study Team or a Suicide Intervention Team for a preliminary assessment in accordance with C. below.
 - 3. If the threat of suicide is immediate and serious, the Principal will contact local law enforcement and the Superintendent of Schools.
- C. Preliminary Assessment and Recommendation(s)
 - 1. The Principal or designee will designate the Child Study Team or the Suicide Intervention Team to immediately meet with the student to complete a preliminary assessment.



STUDENTS R 5350/page 3 of 6 Student Suicide **Prevention**

- 2. The Child Study Team or Suicide Intervention Team will make a recommendation(s), based on the preliminary assessment, to the Principal or designee regarding the student's risk of suicide.
- 3. Upon receiving the recommendation(s), the Principal or designee will immediately meet with the parent(s) to review the findings of the preliminary assessment. Based on the recommendation(s) of the Child Study Team or Suicide Intervention Team, the student may be:
 - a. Permitted to remain in school:
 - (1) If the student remains in school after the preliminary assessment, the Principal or designee will designate a school staff member to follow-up with the student on any recommendations of the Child Study Team or Suicide Intervention Team.
 - b. Referred to the Child Study Team for further evaluation;
 - c. Removed from the school and released to the parent(s) and will be required to obtain medical or psychiatric services before the student may return to school:
 - (1) The parent(s) will be required to submit to the Superintendent a written medical clearance from a licensed medical professional selected by the parent(s) and acceptable to the Superintendent, indicating the student has received medical services, does not present a risk to himself/herself or others, and is cleared to return to school. The Superintendent will not act unreasonably in withholding approval of the medical professional selected by the parent(s). The written medical clearance may be reviewed by a Board of Education healthcare professional before the student is permitted to return to school.



STUDENTS R 5350/page 4 of 6 Student Suicide **Prevention**

- (2) The parent(s) shall be required to authorize their healthcare professional(s) to release the student's relevant medical information to the school district's healthcare professional, if requested.
- d. Required to comply with the recommendation(s) outlined in C.3.a., b., and/or c. above, and/or any other recommendation(s) of the Principal or designee to ensure the student's safety and the safety of others.
- 4. In the event the parent(s) objects to the recommendation(s) or indicates an unwillingness to cooperate with the school district regarding their child, the Principal or designee will contact the New Jersey Department of Children and Families, Division of Child Protection and Permanency to request intervention on the student's behalf

D. Response to Attempted Suicide by a Student

- 1. Any school district staff member, volunteer, or intern with reasonable cause to suspect or believe a student has attempted suicide, shall immediately report the information to the Principal or designee or their immediate supervisor.
- 2. A Principal or designee or supervisor who receives a report of a student who has attempted suicide will immediately report it to the Superintendent or designee, who shall promptly report it online to the New Jersey Department of Children and Families, or as otherwise required by the Department of Children and Families.
- 3. The school district staff member who witnesses a suicide attempt on school grounds, at a school sponsored event, or on a school bus shall immediately contact local law enforcement and emergency medical services, as appropriate.

E. Response to Suicide Committed by a Student

1. Any school district staff member, volunteer, or intern with reasonable cause to suspect or believe a student has committed



suicide, shall immediately report the information to the Principal or designee or their immediate supervisor.

STUDENTS R 5350/page 5 of 6 Student Suicide **Prevention**

- 2. A Principal or designee or supervisor who receives a report that a student has committed suicide will immediately report it to the Superintendent or designee, who shall promptly report it online to the New Jersey Department of Children and Families, or as otherwise required by the Department of Children and Families.
- 3. The Principal of the school the student attended will assemble school staff members as soon as possible, to provide school staff members information, plans for the school day, and guidelines for handling the concerns of students.
- 4. The Principal of the school the student attended will use a School Crisis Team to assist school staff members in dealing with any issues that arise due to the situation and to assist students in the loss.
- 5. The School Crisis Team will assist teachers in responding to the needs of students. Students who were close to the victim shall be offered special counseling services and parents will be notified of available community mental health services.
- 6. School staff members shall be especially alert to warning signs of contemplated suicide among the victim's peers.
- 7. All Principals in the school district will be promptly informed when a student enrolled in the district commits suicide. The district, with the approval of the Superintendent, may provide support and services to school staff members and students as needed.
- 8. The Principal of the school the student attended may, with the approval of the Superintendent, provide any additional support and services that will assist school staff members and students in the loss.
- F. Prevention of Suicide Contagion



1. School staff members, under the direction of the Principal or designee, shall attempt to prevent suicide contagion by:

STUDENTS R 5350/page 6 of 6 Student Suicide **Prevention**

- a. Avoiding the glorification or romanticization of suicide;
- b. Helping students recognize that suicide is irreversible and permanent and does not truly resolve problems;
- c. Encouraging students to ask questions when a fellow student suggests suicide and report to a school staff member;
- d. Discussing ways of handling depression and anxiety without resorting to self-destruction; and
- e. Implementing any other strategies to prevent suicide contagion.



Issued:



STUDENTS
R 5561/page 1 of 6
Use of Physical Restraint and Seclusion
Techniques for Students with Disabilities
Apr 18
M

[See POLICY ALERT Nos. 192 and 215]

R 5561 <u>USE OF PHYSICAL RESTRAINT **AND SECLUSION**</u> **TECHNIQUES FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES**

A. Definitions

"Physical restraint" means the use of a personal restriction that immobilizes or reduces the ability of a student to move all or a portion of his or her body.

"Seclusion technique" means the involuntary confinement of a student alone in a room or area from which the student is physically prevented from leaving, but does not include a timeout.

"Timeout" means a behavior management technique that involves the monitored separation of a student in a non-locked setting, and is implemented for the purpose of calming.

B. Physical Restraint

A school district, an educational services commission, or an approved private school for students with disabilities (APSSD) that utilizes physical restraint on students with disabilities shall ensure that:

- 1. Physical restraint is used only in an emergency in which the student is exhibiting behavior that places the student or others in immediate physical danger;
- 2. A student is not restrained in the prone position, unless the student's primary care physician authorizes, in writing, the use of this restraint technique;
- 3. Staff members who are involved in the restraint of a student receive training in safe techniques for physical restraint from an entity determined by the Board of Education to be qualified to provide such training, and that the training is updated at least annually;



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- 4. The parent of a student is immediately notified when physical restraint is used on the student. This notification may be by telephone or electronic communication. A full written report of the incident of physical restraint shall be provided to the parent within forty-eight hours of the occurrence of the incident;
- 5. Each incident in which physical restraint is used is carefully and continuously visually monitored to ensure it was used in accordance with established procedures set forth in Policy and Regulation 5561 Use of Physical Restraint and Seclusion Techniques for Students with Disabilities, developed in conjunction with the entity that trains staff in safe techniques for physical restraint, in order to protect the safety of the child and others; and
- 6. Each incident in which physical restraint is used is documented in writing in sufficient detail to enable staff to use this information to develop or improve the behavior intervention plan at the next individualized education plan meeting.

A school district, an educational services commission, and an APSSD shall attempt to minimize the use of physical restraints through inclusion of positive behavior supports in the student's behavior intervention plans developed by the individualized education plan team.

C. Physical Restraint Training Requirements

The training requirements on the use of physical restraint shall be as follows:

- 1. Building level administrators and school staff members who are involved in the restraint of a student shall receive training in safe techniques for physical restraint from an entity determined by the Board to be qualified to provide such training.
 - a. The Principal or designee shall determine the school staff members that shall receive training in safe techniques for physical restraint of a student.



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- b. Training may include techniques of prevention and deescalation, as well as alternatives to physical restraint.
- c. Training may include current professionally accepted practices and standards regarding behavior management.
- d. The training program in safe techniques for physical restraint shall be updated at least annually.

D. Interventions

- 1. Classroom interventions may include, but not be limited to, the following strategies:
 - a. The staff member may ignore the behavior;
 - b. The staff member may redirect the student to a task with verbal or non-verbal prompts or gestures. Proximity and the use of gentle humor may help, when appropriate;
 - c. The staff member shall be clear, polite, and respectful when redirecting the student's behavior. The staff member should make eye contact and tell the student what to do such as "I can't teach when you are talking, throwing things, ..." or "Please stop and listen, read, write, ..." The staff member should remind the student of consequences for non-compliance and rewards if they comply with the staff member's request;
 - d. The staff member shall be polite at all times. The staff member may repeat steps a. through c. above and quietly give the student adequate wait time. If the staff member moves on, the student may comply after the initial confrontation if attention goes back to the lesson;
 - e. The staff member may advise the student to proceed to a time out area in the classroom for a limited time (elementary and middle school); and



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- f. If classroom removal is required, the staff member shall follow school discipline procedures for notification and request for assistance if necessary.
- 2. Security interventions may include, but are not limited to, the staff member:
 - a. Standing quietly in the doorway and asking the student to accompany the staff member; and
 - b. Informing the student of the violation of the school discipline code and procedure and assure the student they have the choice to leave the classroom quietly.

E. Use of Physical Restraint

- 1. If necessary, the staff member shall restrain the student until the emergency no longer exists (i.e. the student stops punching, kicking, spitting, damaging property, etc.).
- 2. The school staff member shall immediately contact the appropriate administrator and school nurse and complete a written report on the physical restraint the staff member used during the emergency situation.
- 3. The Principal's or designee's or any school staff member's report regarding the incident shall be documented in writing in sufficient detail to enable staff to use this information to develop or improve the behavior intervention plan at the next individualized education plan meeting. The documentation of physical restraint shall be placed in the student's school file.
- 4. The use of physical restraint is subject to the following additional requirements:
 - a. Physical restraint techniques shall consider the student's medical conditions and shall be modified as necessary;



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- b. Students shall not be subjected to physical restraint for using profanity, other verbal displays or disrespect, or for non-compliance. A verbal threat will not be considered as constituting a physical danger unless a student also demonstrates a means of or intent to carry out the threat;
- c. In determining whether a student who is being physically restrained should be removed from the area where the restraint was initiated, the supervising staff should consider the potential for injury to the student, the student's need for privacy, and the educational and emotional well-being of the other students in the vicinity;
- d. A student shall be released from physical restraint immediately upon a determination by the staff member administering the restraint that the student is no longer in imminent danger of causing harm to himself/herself, others, or imminent property destruction; and
- e. The student shall be examined by the school nurse after any restraint.

F. Seclusion Techniques

A school district, an educational services commission, or an APSSD that utilizes seclusion techniques on students with disabilities shall ensure that:

- 1. A seclusion technique is used on a student with disabilities only in an emergency in which the student is exhibiting behavior that places the student or others in immediate physical danger;
- 2. Each incident in which a seclusion technique is used is carefully and continuously visually monitored to ensure that it was used in accordance with established procedures set forth in Policy and Regulation 5561 Use of Physical Restraint and Seclusion Techniques for Students with Disabilities, developed in conjunction with the entity that trains staff in safe techniques for physical restraint, in order to protect the safety of the child and others; and



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3. Each incident in which a seclusion technique is used is documented in writing in sufficient detail to enable staff to use this information to develop or improve the behavior intervention plan at the next individualized education plan meeting.

A school district, an educational services commission, and an APSSD shall attempt to minimize the use of seclusion techniques through inclusion of positive behavior supports in the student's behavior intervention plans developed by the individualized education plan team.

Issued:



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STUDENTS

R 5610 SUSPENSION PROCEDURES (M)

R 5610 SUSPENSION PROCEDURES (M)

[See POLICY ALERT No. 176, 203 and 212]

M

A. Short-Term Suspensions

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

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

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- 1. In each instance of a long-term suspension, the Principal or designee shall assure the rights of a student suspended for more than ten consecutive school days by providing the following:
 - a. Notification to the student of the charges prior to the student's removal from school:
 - b. Prior to the suspension, an informal hearing during which the student is given the opportunity to present his or her version of events regarding his or her actions leading to the long-term suspension and is provided notice of the school district's actions taken pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.1(c)2 and 5;
 - c. Immediate notification to the student's parent of the student's removal from school;
 - d. Appropriate supervision of the student while waiting for the student's parent to remove the student from school during the school day;
 - e. Written notification to the parent by the Superintendent or designee within two school days of the initiation of the suspension, stating:
 - (1) The specific charges;
 - (2) The facts on which the charges are based;
 - (3) The student's due process rights, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.1(c)3 and N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.3; and
 - (4) Further engagement by the student in conduct warranting expulsion, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:37-2, shall amount to a knowing and voluntary waiver of the student's right to a free public education, in the event that a decision to expel the student is made by the Board, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:37-2 and N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.4.
 - (a) The Board shall request from the parent and student written acknowledgement of the notification provided pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.3(a)5.iv subsequent to the removal of the student from his or her educational program, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.3.
 - f. A list of witnesses and their statements or affidavits, if any, no later than five days prior to the formal hearing, pursuant to j. below;

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- g. For a student with a disability, a manifestation determination, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:14-2.8 and the Federal regulations;
- h. Information on the student's right to secure an attorney and legal resources available in the community identified pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.1(c)7;
- i. Either in- or out-of-school educational services that are comparable to those provided in the public schools for students of similar grades and attainments, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-25, which may include a public education program provided in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:16-9 or 10.
 - (1) The student's educational services shall be provided within five school days of the suspension.
 - (2) The Board shall make decisions regarding the appropriate educational program and support services for the suspended general education student based on the New Jersey Student Learning Standards and the following considerations:
 - (a) A behavioral assessment or evaluation including, but not limited to, a referral to the Child Study Team, as appropriate;
 - (b) The results of relevant testing, assessments, or evaluations of the student;
 - (c) The student's academic, health, and behavioral records;
 - (d) The recommendation of the Superintendent, Principal, or other relevant school or community resource;
 - (e) Considerations of parental input; or
 - (f) Consultation with the Intervention and Referral Services Team, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:16-8.
 - (3) Educational services provided to a student with a disability shall be provided consistent with N.J.A.C. 6A:14.
- j. A formal hearing before the Board that shall, at a minimum:

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

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R 5610 SUSPENSION PROCEDURES (M)

accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:37-2.4 and N.J.A.C. 6A:3-1.3 through 1.17.

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

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- a. The status of the student's suspension;
- b. The appropriateness of the suspended student's current educational program; and
- c. Whether the suspended student's current placement, pursuant to i. above, should continue or whether the student should return to the general education program.
- 5. When the Board votes to continue a general education student's suspension, it shall make, in consultation with the Superintendent, the final determination on:
 - a. When the student is prepared to return to the general education program;
 - b. Whether the student will remain in an alternative education program or receive home or other in-school or out-of-school instruction, based on the criteria set forth in B.3.a.(1) through (4) above; or
 - c. Whether to initiate expulsion proceedings in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:37-2, N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.4, and Policy 5620.
- 6. The Board shall provide a general education student suspended under N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.3 with an appropriate educational program or services, based on the criteria set forth under B.1.i.(2) above, until the student graduates from high school or reaches the age of twenty, whichever comes first.
 - a. The educational program shall be consistent with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:16-9.2 and 10.2 and 6A:14-2 and 4.3, whichever is applicable; or
 - b. The educational services provided, either in-school or out-of-school, shall be comparable to those provided in the public schools for students of similar grades and attainments, pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:38-25.
- 7. For a student with a disability who receives a long-term suspension, the Board shall proceed in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:14 in determining or changing the student's educational placement to an interim or alternate educational setting.
 - a. All procedural protections set forth in N.J.A.C. 6A:14 and N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.3 shall be afforded to a student with a disability who is subjected to a long-term suspension.
 - b. All decisions concerning the student's educational program or placement shall be made by the student's Individualized Education Program team.

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

Adopted:

STRAUSS ESMAY ASSOCIATES

PROPERTY

R 7441 ELECTRONIC SURVEILLANCE IN SCHOOL BUILDINGS AND ON SCHOOL GROUNDS (M)

R 7441 ELECTRONIC SURVEILLANCE IN SCHOOL BUILDINGS AND ON SCHOOL GROUNDS (M)

[See POLICY ALERT No. 177 and 214]

M

In order to enhance a safe and secure environment, the Board authorizes electronic surveillance devices to be used in school district buildings and on school grounds.

A. Recording and Notice

1. Surveillance devices may include, but are not limited to, sound/video cameras,

audio recording devices, and other appropriate devices.

2. Recordings may be used to monitor and observe the conduct of school district

staff, students, community members, and other person(s) in school buildings or on

school grounds.

3. Signage will be posted in a prominent public place in school buildings and on

school grounds where electronic surveillance equipment may be used.

B. Student Records and Notice

School district personnel will comply with the provisions of applicable law regarding student record requirements including the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Recordings considered for retention, as a part of a student's behavioral record, will be maintained in accordance with established student record procedures governing access, review, and

release of student records.

C. Staff Records and Notice

1. Recordings considered for retention as part of the employee's personnel record

will be maintained in accordance with established Board personnel policies, administrative regulations, applicable law, and any labor agreements governing

access, review, and release of employee personnel records.

ph: (732)255-1500 fax: (732)255-1502

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2. The district will provide notice to students, parent(s), and school staff members that surveillance devices may be used in school buildings and on school grounds.

D. Storage/Security

- 1. All recordings will be stored by the Superintendent or designee and secured to ensure confidentiality.
- 2. Recordings will be retained in accordance with the New Jersey Department of the Treasury Records Management Services Records Retention Schedules and will be erased or discarded, unless there is a legitimate reason for retaining such recording for review, upon receiving prior authorization from Records Management Services.

E. Use

- 1. The determination of the location of surveillance devices shall be made by the Superintendent or designee.
- 2. Tampering with or otherwise interfering with surveillance equipment is prohibited. Any individual found tampering with equipment shall be subject to discipline.

F. Viewing or Listening

- 1. Initial viewing or listening to recordings will be done by the Building Principal or Designee.
- 2. Requests for viewing or listening will be limited to persons with a direct interest in any proceedings, disciplinary or otherwise, resulting from the recordings, as deemed appropriate by the Superintendent of School or designee.
- 3. Only the portion of the recording concerning a specific incident will be made available for viewing.
- 4. Viewing or listening to the recording will be permitted on school property or as otherwise required by law.
- 5. All viewing will be in the presence of the **building principal or designee.**

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R 7441 ELECTRONIC SURVEILLANCE IN SCHOOL BUILDINGS AND ON SCHOOL GROUNDS (M)

- 6. A written log will be maintained by the **building principal or designee.** of those viewing video recordings including date of viewing, reason for viewing, the date the recording was made, and the signature of the viewer.
- 7. Video recordings remain the property of the school district and may be reproduced only in accordance with law, including applicable district student records policy and procedures and district personnel records policy, procedures and applicable labor agreements.
- G. Law Enforcement Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) (N.J.S.A. 18A:41-9)
 - 1. In accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:41-9, if at least one school building of the school district is equipped with video surveillance equipment that is capable of streaming live video wirelessly to a remote location, the Board of Education shall enter into a MOU with local law enforcement authorities providing the authorities with the capacity to activate the equipment and view live streaming video. The MOU shall include, but need not be limited to, the following:
 - a. The designation of individuals who shall be authorized to view live streaming video;
 - b. The circumstances under which the designated individuals would view live streaming video; and
 - c. A detailed plan for preventing and detecting unauthorized access to live streaming video.
 - 2. In the case of a school building that is located in a municipality in which there is no municipal police department, the Board shall enter into a MOU with an entity designated by the Superintendent of the State Police.
 - 3. In the event the district and law enforcement authority are unable to reach an agreement regarding any provision required to be included pursuant to G.1.a.-c. above, the County Prosecutor shall make the final determination.

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- 4. Nothing in N.J.S.A. 18A:41-9 shall be construed as to require the installation of video surveillance equipment capable of streaming live video wirelessly to a remote site from a school building that is not equipped with such equipment.
- H. Purchase, Maintenance, Replacement of Equipment/Supplies
 - 1. The School Business Administrator/Board Secretary or designee will be responsible for the purchase, maintenance, and replacement of all electronic surveillance devices.

Issued: