

CLOSTER BOARD OF EDUCATION

Closter, New Jersey

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING

Tenakill Middle School

September 8, 2022 - 7:30 PM

The Board meeting was called to order by Ms. Finkelstein at 7:31 PM

The following Board members were present:

Ms. Fanelli, Ms. Kothari, Ms. Micera, Dr. Puttannah (arrived at 7:54 p.m.), Ms. Wagner,
Ms. Yeoh, Ms. Salamea-Cross, Ms. Finkelstein

The following Board members were absent:

Ms. Kwon

Also present:

Mr. McHale and Mr. Villanueva

NEW JERSEY OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT STATEMENT - Read by the President:

The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act was enacted to ensure the right of the public to have advance notice of and to attend the meeting of public bodies at which any business affecting their interests is discussed or acted upon. In accordance with the provisions of this Act, the Secretary to the Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting by having the date, time, remote access information, and place thereof, posted at each school building within the district, district website, the Board of Education office, the Office of the Borough Clerk, and transmitted to *The Record* and *Northern Valley Suburbanite* newspapers.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Vincent McHale, Superintendent of Schools shared with the Board and the community his report:

- *Welcome to the 2022-2023 school year! We welcomed faculty and staff back on September 1 and 2, 2022, and welcomed our students on Tuesday, September 6, 2022. As COVID-19 loosens its grip on us all, we have been able to return to school this year by taking a few more steps toward normalcy – and our first days have been great.*
- *He extended a colossal thank you to everyone who worked so diligently over the summer to prepare for opening school. He thanked our secretaries, business office staff, custodians, and maintenance staff for all of their efforts. Thank you to our administrators for their tireless efforts in planning the opening of the school. Our teachers did an outstanding job in making their classrooms a welcoming place and for planning lessons for our students' first days. It has been awesome hearing from students, parents, teachers, and staff on how well the first days have been going. He knows it is going to be a great year!*

- *Thank you also to the PTO who provided a wonderful first day breakfast for our faculty, staff, and administrators on September 1, 2022. We appreciate your hard work in arranging this and your welcoming hospitality on the first day of the new school year!*
- *The summer was a busy time here in Closter Public Schools. As we start this new year, he wanted to acknowledge some of the great things that took place over the summer:*
 - *148 students attended our summer programs in literacy, mathematics, STEM, and art and 19 students attended extended school year programs in special education. Congratulations to these 167 students who continued learning over the summer and thank you to the teachers who worked with them.*
 - *We offered professional development in literacy and mathematics instruction for 31 teachers. The sessions offered practical instructional strategies for teachers to use with students. The feedback from teachers was extremely positive and they are excited to implement what they learned.*
 - *We also offered sessions for teachers to work on unit planning for the school year and 40 teachers worked on units in social studies, computer science/STEM, Physical Education/Health, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, mental wellness, English as a Second Language, and Writing. He is excited about the work the teachers have accomplished during this summer time planning.*
 - *The maintenance and custodian staff worked to clean all classrooms and also enhanced our facilities, including painting the exterior of both schools, refinishing the stage and the gym floor at Hillside School, updating classrooms with new student and teacher desks, replacing the ceiling tiles and lighting in the Tenakill Middle School lobby, installing a volleyball court and nine-square-in-the-air play at Tenakill Middle School, and resurfacing/repainting parking lots. They will be installing new electronic sign-boards at both schools in the coming weeks so we can keep the community updated with school information and events. Kudos to Ralph Chappell and his team on their outstanding work!*
- *Back to School Nights will be held in the coming weeks. Principals will send the specific schedules, but please note the dates:*
 - *Grades PreK-1: Tuesday, September 21, 2022*
 - *Grades 2 – 4: Wednesday, September 14, 2022*
 - *Grade 5 – 6: Tuesday, September 13, 2022*
 - *Grades 7 – 8: Thursday, September 15, 2022*
- *Once again, the Safe Return to School Plan is posted on our district website. Here is a quick overview of our health and safety procedures for this year:*
 - *Masks are optional for staff and students.*
 - *Physical distancing is no longer required.*
 - *Quarantine is no longer required for anyone exposed to COVID-19. We do recommend wearing a mask after exposure and getting tested after day 5, but it is not required. The school nurse will notify parents when someone in a classroom does test positive.*
 - *Those who test positive for COVID-19 must stay home for at least five days. Isolation may end after day five if the person is fever-free for 24 hours (without the use of*

- fever-reducing medicine) and when symptoms improve. After ending isolation, the person must wear a mask for days 6-10.
- We will continue to have COVID-19 testing on Tuesdays, from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Hillside School upper parking lot.
- If you have any questions about the protocols, please call your school nurse or school principal.
- He loves the start of the school year, with all of its excitement, opportunity, and possibilities for great things. He wishes everyone all the best as we begin the 2022-2023 school year.

BOARD COMMITTEES

No Board Committee Report

DISTRICT/BOARD GOALS DISCUSSION

Mr. McHale led the Board on the discussion on the creation of District and Board Goals:

He shared that from those who responded to the questionnaire, the following were identified as top priorities:

- 1) *Most important: Student academic achievement*
- 2) *Important: Continuing work on transition to high school*
- 3) *Moderately important: Communication with parents/community*

Topics suggested for District goals:

- *Covid Fallout (social emotional learning, behavior management)*
- *Strengthening our Language Arts program (vocabulary, writing, spelling, grammar, etc.), especially at Tenakill*
- *Good citizen/volunteerism*
- *A focus on future ready programs consisting of both life skills and up to date technology being used in our learning environments.*
- *Research/investigate available future ready, unique, or other cutting edge programs to examine if there are opportunities to build on district educational offering*
- *Continue to build on study skills program and review of student readiness for high school*
- *Examine integration of whole student "life" skills training into teaching concepts, including identification of relevant skills such as conversation, greetings, public speaking, citizenship, etc.*
- *Review professional development program, tools, and resources available to staff*
- *Look into additional/alternative ways to support student mental health and social emotional learning*
- *Assess the new curriculum for K-1 reading program and social studies and whether to expand to other grades*
- *Inclusion*
- *Increase communications with the Closter community by sending a town-wide newsletter about our schools.*

- *Recognition program for monthly Board meetings to acknowledge achievements and contributions of students, staff, and community stakeholders.*
- *Summer Reading Lists and Math Practice materials for students to complete in Summer 2023.*
- *Continue the work of the High School Preparedness Plan for 2022-2023, created during the 2021-2022 school year.*

Topics suggested for Board goals:

- *Perhaps one of our Board goals could be for the Curriculum Committee to see how the ELA program, particularly at Tenakill, could be improved.*
- *Long range plans for classroom space.*
- *Continue to plan for future capacity requirements, including review of expansion options, architectural review, recent population data, etc.*
- *Expand networks with other NJ board members, Local and state elected officials and other stakeholders to advance advocacy efforts and share best practices.*
- *Explore the return of overnight field trips*

The trustees had a productive discussion on priorities for the year and also discussed how to combine some of the goals to make it measurable.

Mr. McHale informed the trustees that he will prepare a draft of the goals based on tonight's discussion and share it with the trustees prior to the next meeting.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION ON AGENDA ITEMS

Moved by Ms. Micera, seconded by Dr. Puttannah to open the meeting to the public.

Statements made by individual participants are limited to a duration of three (3) minutes unless otherwise announced at the beginning of the discussion. A maximum of 15 minutes for public input is scheduled as per bylaw 0167. The Board urges large groups to select one person to represent them. The Board reminds those individuals who take the opportunity to speak to please step up, identify themselves by name and address, and to limit their comments to items listed on the agenda.

No Public Comments

Moved by Ms. Micera, seconded by Ms. Wagner to resume the regular order of business.

BOARD OPERATIONS

Moved by Ms. Wagner, seconded by Ms. Micera to approve Motions A-C.

Mr. McHale clarified item B. The District does use West Bergen Health; however, this motion would allow us to use them in the instance where we would need a student to be assessed or cleared to return to school. As part of Region III consortium, these services will come at a lower cost.

Motions were approved by a roll call vote of the Board as follows:

YEAS: Ms. Fanelli, Ms. Kothari, Ms. Micera, Dr. Puttannah, Ms. Wagner, Ms. Yeoh,
Ms. Salamea-Cross, Ms. Finkelstein

NAYS: None

A. **APPROVAL - Minutes**

Motion to approve August 29, 2022 minutes.

B. **APPROVAL - West Bergen Mental Health for Health Assessment/School Clearances**

Motion to approve the contract between Bergen County Region III Districts and West Bergen Mental Health for mental health assessments/school clearances.

C. **APPROVAL - Closter Junior Girl Scout Troop 97788**

Motion to approve the Closter Junior Girl Scout Troop 97788 the use of a classroom at Hillside Elementary School for meetings during the 2022/2023 school year.

CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION COMMITTEE

Chairperson: Dr. Puttannah; Members: Ms. Finkelstein, Ms. Wagner, Ms. Yeoh

Moved by Dr. Puttannah, seconded by Ms. Micera to approve Motions A and B.

Motions were approved by a roll call vote of the Board as follows:

YEAS: Ms. Fanelli, Ms. Kothari, Ms. Micera, Dr. Puttannah, Ms. Wagner, Ms. Yeoh,
Ms. Salamea-Cross, Ms. Finkelstein

NAYS: None

A. **APPROVAL - Staff Coursework**

Motion to approve the following courses for 2022-2023 as recommended to the Superintendent by the Principals:

Staff Member: Leigh Bomzer
Course No./Title: 1) MAT 923 Assessing Students' Math Learning
2) MAT 924 Virtual Manipulatives
Institution: Fresno Pacific University
Credits: 6 credits (3 credits each)

Staff Member: Min Jeong Kim
Course No./Title: 1) MAT 923 Assessing Students' Math Learning
2) MAT 924 Virtual Manipulatives
Institution: Fresno Pacific University
Credits: 6 credits (3 credits each)

Staff Member: Paul Aguirre
Course No./Title: EDC 5026 Phonology and Structure of American English
Institution: Georgian Court University
Credits: 3

Staff Member: Sarah Kang
Course No./Title: 15:255:506:90 Developing Digital E-Learning Environments
Institution: Rutgers Graduate School of Education
Credits: 3

B. APPROVAL - Field Trip

Motion to approve the following field trips:

School: Tenakill Middle School
Group: Grade 8
Month: October
Destination: Northern Valley Regional High School-Demarest
Location: Demarest

FINANCE AND PHYSICAL PLANT COMMITTEE

Chairperson: Ms. Kwon; Members: Ms. Finkelstein, Ms. Kothari, Ms. Yeoh

Moved by Ms. Kothari, seconded by Ms. Micera to approve Motion A.

Motion was approved by a roll call vote of the Board as follows:

YEAS: Ms. Fanelli, Ms. Kothari, Ms. Micera, Dr. Puttanniah, Ms. Wagner, Ms. Yeoh,
Ms. Salamea-Cross, Ms. Finkelstein

NAYS: None

A. APPROVAL - Monthly Bills

Motion to approve payment of bills from September 1, 2022 to September 6, 2022, in the amount of

General Fund (Fund 10)	\$387,184.93
Special Revenue (Fund 20)	\$ 60,142.65
Total	\$447,327.58

PERSONNEL AND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Chairperson: Ms. Salamea-Cross; Members: Ms. Fanelli, Ms. Finkelstein

Moved by Ms. Salamea-Cross, seconded by Ms. Micera to approve Motions A - C.
Motions were approved by a roll call vote of the Board as follows:

YEAS: Ms. Fanelli, Ms. Kothari, Ms. Micera, Dr. Puttannah, Ms. Wagner, Ms. Yeoh,
Ms. Salamea-Cross, Ms. Finkelstein

NAYS: None

A. **APPROVAL - Resignation of Urmi Patel**

Motion to accept, with regrets, the resignation of Urmi Patel as paraprofessional as of September 6, 2022.

B. **APPROVAL - Monica Georgallas as a Paraprofessional**

Motion to approve Monica Georgallas as a paraprofessional for the 2022-2023 school year, at an hourly rate of \$19.23, pending a criminal history background check.

C. **APPROVAL - Bass ABA Therapists for the 2022-2023 School Year**

Motion to approve the following parent-paid Bass ABA Therapists for the below-indicated students for the 2022-2023 school year. (Those indicated with an asterisk must complete a criminal history background check; those without an asterisk have completed their criminal history background checks):

STUDENT ID	Bass ABA Therapists
350003	Jessica Kim* and Jailene Grajales*
361001	Jacqueline Nova and Teresa Hill
371001	Robyn Ferrentino* and Elyssa Martino
371004	Jessica Skariah* and Genesis Rivera*

POLICY COMMITTEE

Chairperson: Ms. Micera; Members: Ms. Fanelli, Ms. Finkelstein, Ms. Kothari

Moved by Ms. Micera, seconded by Ms. Yeoh to approve Motion A.

Motion was approved by a roll call vote of the Board as follows:

YEAS: Ms. Fanelli, Ms. Kothari, Ms. Micera, Dr. Puttannah, Ms. Wagner, Ms. Yeoh,
Ms. Salamea-Cross, Ms. Finkelstein

NAYS: None

A. **APPROVAL - Second Reading of the following Policies and Regulations**

Motion to approve the second reading of the following Policies and Regulations, as per Appendix A:

- Regulation 7410 Maintenance and Repair
- Regulation 9320 Cooperation with Law Enforcement Agencies
- Policy 1648.15 Record Keeping for Healthcare Settings in School Buildings-Covid 19
- Policy 2415.04 Title 1 District-Wide Parent and Family Parental Involvement Engagement
- Policy 2415.50 Hillside School and Tenakill Middle School Title I – School Parent and Family Engagement
- Policy 2416.01 Postnatal Accommodations for Students
- Policy 2417 Student Intervention and Referral Services
- Policy 3161 Examination for Cause (Teaching Staff Members)
- Policy 4161 Examination for Cause (Support Staff Members)
- Policy 5512 Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying
- Policy 7410 Maintenance and Repair
- Policy 8420 Emergency and Crisis Situations
- Policy 9320 Cooperation with Law Enforcement Agencies

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Villanueva reminded the trustees to complete their mandated training and multifactor authentication.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION

Moved by Ms. Micera, seconded by Ms. Salamea-Cross to open the meeting to public discussion.

Mr. Villanueva read to the Board and the public an email he received from Mr. Lee Roth requesting the Board to provide safe and reliable transportation to and from school for students who live over a mile away from the schools.

Ms. Finkelstein responded to Mr. Lee's comment. The Board understands the situation with transportation, but unfortunately, it is not the responsibility of the district to provide transportation for those students who live less than two (2) miles from the school. The Board understands that transportation is very critical for many families. This year, we tried to accommodate some families with our existing bus routes.

Moved by Ms. Micera, seconded by Ms. Salamea-Cross to close the meeting to public discussion.

CLOSED SESSION MOTION (If required)

Moved by Ms. Micera, seconded by Ms. Salmea Cross to approve the following Closed Session Motion.

Motion was approved by a voice vote of the Board:

YEAS: Ms. Fanelli, Ms. Kothari, Ms. Micera, Dr. Puttannah, Ms. Wagner, Ms. Yeoh,
Ms. Salamea-Cross, Ms. Finkelstein

NAYS: None

BE IT RESOLVED that the Closter Board of Education will adjourn to a Closed Session to discuss the following:

Legal Matters

The matters so discussed will be disclosed to the public as soon as and to the extent that such disclosure can be made without adversely affecting the public.

The Board went into Closed Session at 8:47 PM.

The Board reconvened from Closed Session at 9:28 PM.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Ms. Wagner, seconded by Ms. Fanelli to adjourn the meeting at 9:29 PM.

Respectfully submitted



Floro M. Villanueva Jr.
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

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Maintenance and Repair
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R 7410 MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR

- A. Inspection
1. The Principal or designee and the appropriate custodial staff member shall inspect the facility daily for proper functioning and cleanliness.
 2. The Principal or designee with the appropriate custodial staff member shall make a regular inspection of the school building, support facilities, and grounds to identify any required repairs or replacements.
- B. Reports
1. Reports of each inspection required in A. above will be made on a form and forwarded to the Superintendent or designee.
 2. The Principal will report to the Supervisor of Building and Grounds those repairs or improvements that can be completed by district staff and those improvements or repairs that require the services of an outside contractor.
- C. Repairs by District Staff
1. Any staff member may prepare, on the prescribed form, a work order request for repairs, improvements, and/or maintenance. All work order requests will be submitted to the Supervisor of Building and Grounds.
 2. The Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds will assign a priority to those work orders to be performed by district staff. The priority code will be:
 - a. Emergency, for work that must be done immediately;
 - b. High Priority, for work that affects health or safety;



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Maintenance and Repair

- c. Normal Priority, for work that affects neither health nor safety; and
 - d. Low Priority, for work that can be completed during the summer months or whenever staff is available.
3. Work scheduled to be performed by the school district staff shall be entered on a work order form unless an emergency exists in which case the form may be filed after the repair has been made.
 4. The work order form shall include, at a minimum, the following information:
 - a. Name of the person making the request;
 - b. Date of request;
 - c. Location of repair;
 - d. A description of the work to be performed;
 - e. Scheduled date of completion; and
 - f. Signature of approval by the Principal.
- D. Repairs by Outside Contractors
1. When it appears to be necessary to utilize outside contracting services to complete a repair, improvement, or maintenance item, the Principal; Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds; the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary; and any other staff member designated by the Superintendent or School Business Administrator/Board Secretary will confer in the preparation of a project specification.
 2. The School Business Administrator/Board Secretary or designee will prepare the required documents in the event the project requires to be bid or quoted in accordance with law or if it is determined the district wants to obtain quotes for the work even if quotes are not required by law.



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Maintenance and Repair

3. In the event the project does not need to be bid or quoted, the Business Administrator shall prepare a purchase order requisition that indicates:
 - a. The recommended vendor(s);
 - b. A description of the work required and its location; and
 - c. The actual cost of the project.
4. The Business Administrator/Board Secretary, or another staff member designated by the Superintendent shall be responsible for supervising the conduct of the work.

E. Replacements and Improvements

1. The Superintendent and School Business Administrator/Board Secretary and others designated by the Superintendent will prepare a replacement schedule that lists all district equipment. Annual recommendations will be made in the budget to maintain the schedule of replacements.
2. Replacements required, but not scheduled, shall be submitted to the Superintendent, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, and Principal for a school building level need, by the end of September on a budget request form for consideration in the next annual budget.
3. A comprehensive district maintenance plan shall be prepared in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:26-20.5 in order to meet facility needs and comply with law.

Adopted: May 2021
Revised: August 2022



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Cooperation with Law Enforcement Agencies
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R 9320 COOPERATION WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES

- A. Policy 9320 and this Regulation shall be in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:16-6.2, the Memorandum of Agreement between Education and Law Enforcement Officials (MOA), and shall be:
1. Developed, implemented, and revised, as necessary, in consultation with the county prosecutor and other law enforcement officials as may be designated by the county prosecutor;
 2. Reviewed and approved by the Executive County Superintendent;
 3. Made available annually to all school district staff, students, and parents;
 4. Consistent with reporting, notification, and examination procedures of students suspected of being under the influence of alcohol and other drugs pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-4.3; and
 5. Consistent with N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7, as appropriate.
- B. The school district's policies and procedures for cooperation with law enforcement agencies shall include the following components:
1. The Superintendent has designated school district staff as liaisons to law enforcement agencies in accordance with the MOA. The MOA includes a description of the liaisons' roles and responsibilities;
 2. Specific procedures for and responsibilities of school district staff in summoning appropriate law enforcement authorities onto school grounds, for the purpose of conducting law enforcement investigations, searches, seizures, or arrests shall be in accordance with the MOA;



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3. Specific procedures and responsibilities of school district staff for notifying parents in instances of law enforcement interviews involving their children shall be consistent with the MOA and the following:
 - a. School officials shall not notify the student's parent(s) in instances of suspected child abuse or neglect;
 - b. School officials shall notify the student's parent(s) when the student is the target of the law enforcement investigation; and
 - c. In all other instances, school authorities shall permit law enforcement authorities to determine whether or when a student's parent should be contacted;
4. Specific procedures for and responsibilities of school district staff in cooperating with arrests made by law enforcement authorities on school grounds shall be in accordance with the MOA;
5. Specific procedures for and responsibilities of school district staff in initiating or conducting searches and seizures of students, their property, and their personal effects shall be in accordance with the MOA and the following:
 - a. All searches and seizures conducted by school district staff shall comply with the standards prescribed by the United States Supreme Court in *New Jersey v. T.L.O.*, 469 U.S. 325 (1985).
 - b. Questions concerning searches conducted by school officials shall be directed to the appropriate county prosecutor.
 - c. School officials may request that law enforcement authorities assume responsibility for conducting a search or seizure.

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- d. No school district staff member shall impede a law enforcement officer engaged in a lawful search, seizure, or arrest whether pursuant to a warrant or otherwise.
 - e. School district staff shall permit law enforcement authorities, upon their arrival, to assume responsibility for conducting a search or seizure.
 - f. All inspections of lockers, desks, or other objects or personal property on school grounds involving the use of law enforcement drug-detection canines may be undertaken with only the express permission of the county prosecutor or the Director of the Division of Criminal Justice or the Director's designee in the New Jersey Department of Law and Public Safety.
 - g. Questions concerning the legality of a contemplated or ongoing search, seizure, or arrest conducted by a law enforcement officer on school grounds shall be directed to the county prosecutor or in the case of a search, seizure, or arrest undertaken by the Division of Criminal Justice's designee in the New Jersey Department of Law and Public Safety, to the assigned Assistant Attorney General;
6. The procedures for and responsibilities of school district staff, with regard to interviews of students suspected of possessing or distributing a controlled dangerous substance; including anabolic steroids, drug paraphernalia; or a firearm or other deadly weapon shall be in accordance with Policy and Regulation 5530 and the MOA;
7. Procedures for planning, approving, and conducting undercover school operations shall be in accordance with the MOA and the following:
- a. The Superintendent and Principal shall cooperate with law enforcement authorities in the planning and conduct of undercover school operations. The Superintendent shall approve undercover operations without prior notification to the Board of Education.

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Cooperation with Law Enforcement Agencies

- b. All information concerning requests to undertake an undercover school operation, information supplied by law enforcement authorities to justify the need for and explain a proposed undercover school operation, and all other information concerning an ongoing undercover school operation, including the identity of any undercover officer placed in a school, shall be kept strictly confidential by the Superintendent and Principal.
 - c. The Superintendent and Principal shall not divulge information concerning an undercover school operation to any person without the prior express approval of the county prosecutor or designee.
 - d. The Superintendent, Principal, or any other school district staff or Board member who may have been informed regarding the existence of the undercover school operation shall immediately communicate to the county prosecutor or designee if they subsequently learn of information that suggests the undercover officer's true identity has been revealed, the undercover officer's identity or status as a bona fide member of the school community has been questioned, or the integrity of the undercover school operation has been in any other way compromised;
8. The procedures for and responsibilities of school district staff concerning the safe and proper handling of a seized controlled dangerous substance, including anabolic steroids, drug paraphernalia, or a firearm or other deadly weapon, and the prompt delivery of the items to appropriate law enforcement authorities shall be in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:16-6.2, Policy and Regulation 5530, and the MOA;
9. The procedures for and responsibilities of school district staff in notifying authorities of a suspected violation of laws prohibiting the possession; sale or other distribution of a controlled dangerous substance, including anabolic steroids; drug paraphernalia; or a firearm or other deadly weapon shall be in accordance with Policy and Regulation 5530 and the MOA;

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10. Provisions for requesting uniformed police attendance at extracurricular school events shall be in accordance with the MOA;
11. Provisions for notifying parents as soon as possible whenever a student is arrested for violating a law prohibiting the possession; sale or other distribution of a controlled dangerous substance, including anabolic steroids; drug paraphernalia; or a firearm or other deadly weapon shall be in accordance with Policy and Regulation 5530;
12. Provisions for in-service training of school district staff concerning policies and procedures established in this subchapter, and the exchange of information regarding the practices of the school district and law enforcement agencies shall be in accordance with the MOA;
13. A MOA with appropriate law enforcement authorities in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:16-6, Policy 9320, and this Regulation;
14. An annual process for the Superintendent and appropriate law enforcement officials to discuss the implementation and need for revising the MOA, and to review the effectiveness of policies and procedures implemented pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-6.2 and the MOA;
15. Provisions for contacting the Chief Executive Officer of the involved law enforcement agency, county prosecutor, and/or Division of Criminal Justice, as necessary, to resolve disputes concerning law enforcement activities occurring on school grounds shall be in accordance with the MOA; and
16. Provisions for directing inquiries or complaints received by school district staff regarding interviews, investigations, arrests, or other operations conducted by sworn law enforcement officers to the appropriate law enforcement agency shall be in accordance with the MOA.

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Cooperation with Law Enforcement Agencies



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C. Mandatory Reporting

1. There are seven offenses that must be reported to law enforcement if they qualify as mandatory reports, as set forth and explained in further detail in the MOA. These mandatory reports include:
 - a. Whenever any school district staff has reason to believe a student is in possession of a controlled dangerous substance or related paraphernalia, or is involved or implicated in distribution activities regarding controlled dangerous substances, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-6.3;
 - b. Whenever any school district staff in the course of their employment develops reason to believe that a firearm or other dangerous weapon has unlawfully been possessed on or off school grounds, a weapon was used in an assault against a student or other school personnel, or that any student or other person has committed an offense with, or while in possession of, a firearm, whether or not such offense was committed on school grounds or during school operating hours, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-5.5, 5.6(d)4 and 6.3(b);
 - c. Whenever any school district staff in the course of their employment develops reason to believe that anyone has threatened, is planning, or otherwise intends to cause death, serious bodily injury, or significant bodily injury to another person under circumstances in which a reasonable person would believe that the person genuinely intends at some time in the future to commit the violent act or to carry out the threat, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-6.3(c) through (e);
 - d. Whenever any school district staff in the course of their employment develops reason to believe that a crime involving sexual penetration or criminal sexual contact has been committed on school grounds, or by or against a student during school operating hours or during school-related functions or activities, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-6.3(d);

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- e. Whenever any school district staff in the course of their employment develops reason to believe that an assault upon a teacher, administrator, other school Board employee, or district Board of Education member has been committed, with or without a weapon, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-5.7(d)5;
 - f. Whenever any school district staff in the course of their employment develops reason to believe a “bias-related act” has been committed or is about to be committed on or off school grounds, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-6.3(e); and
 - g. Whenever any school employee in the course of their employment develops reason to believe a student is potentially missing, abused, or neglected, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-11.1(a)3i. through iii.
- D. Nothing in the policies and procedures required under N.J.A.C. 6A:16-6 and Policy 9320 and this Regulation shall be construed to prohibit school district staff from disclosing information, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:32-7.2 and 7.5(f), if necessary, to protect the immediate health or safety of a student or other persons.
- E. The Superintendent or designee shall annually review Policy 9320 and this Regulation as adopted by the Board to ensure each are in accordance with the requirements outlined in the MOA.

Adopted: May 2021
Revised: August 2022



POLICY GUIDE

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Recordkeeping for Healthcare Settings
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1648.15 RECORDKEEPING FOR HEALTHCARE SETTINGS IN SCHOOL BUILDINGS – COVID-19

The Board of Education is committed to providing a safe and healthy workplace for all employees. The school district shall maintain its records in accordance with Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 (OSHA) COVID-19 Emergency Temporary Standard (ETS) published on June 21, 2021 as adopted by the Public Employees Occupational Safety and Health (PEOSH), the agency with jurisdiction over public employers in New Jersey. The provisions of the ETS have expired and are no longer in effect for school districts except for the provisions addressing recordkeeping, outlined in 29 CFR §1910.502(q). The ETS and this Policy are only applicable for employees working in the school nurse's office and any adjoining clinical areas in the school building.

For the purpose of this Policy, "employee" means any district employee or contracted service provider working in a healthcare setting where people with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 are reasonably expected to be present. Therefore, the provisions of the ETS and this Policy only apply to employees or contracted service providers working in a nurse's office or any adjoining clinical areas.

For the purpose of this Policy, "healthcare setting" means all settings in the school district where any employee or contracted service provider provides healthcare services or healthcare support services. Where a healthcare setting is embedded within a non-healthcare setting (i.e. school nurse's office and any adjoining clinical areas in a school building), the ETS and this Policy only apply to the embedded healthcare setting and not to the remainder of a school building.

The school district will retain all versions of Policy 1648.14 – Safety Plan for Healthcare Settings in School Buildings, to comply with the ETS while the ETS remains in effect, even after Policy 1648.14 has been abolished.



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Recordkeeping for Healthcare Settings
in School Buildings – COVID-19

The school district will establish and maintain a COVID-19 log to record each instance in which an employee is COVID-19 positive, regardless of whether the instance is connected to exposure to COVID-19 at work. The COVID-19 log will contain, for each instance, the employee's name, one form of contact information, occupation, location where the employee worked, the date of the employee's last day in the healthcare setting, the date of the positive test for, or diagnosis of, COVID-19, and the date the employee first had one or more COVID-19 symptoms, if any were experienced.

The school district will record the information in the COVID-19 log within twenty-four hours of learning the employee is COVID-19 positive. The school district will maintain the COVID-19 log as a confidential medical record and will not disclose it except as required by the ETS or other Federal law. The school district will maintain and preserve the COVID-19 log while the ETS remains in effect.

By the end of the next business day after a request, the school district will provide for examination and copying: all versions of Policy 1648.14; the individual COVID-19 log entry for a particular employee to that employee and to anyone having written authorized consent of that employee; and a version of the COVID-19 log that removes the names of employees, contact information, and occupation, and only includes, for each employee in the COVID-19 log, the location where the employee worked, the last day that the employee was in the healthcare setting before removal, the date of that employee's positive test for, or diagnosis of, COVID-19, and the date the employee first had one or more COVID-19 symptoms, if any were experienced, to all employees.

29 CFR §1910.502(q)

Adopted:



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2415.04 TITLE I – DISTRICT-WIDE PARENT AND FAMILY PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT ENGAGEMENT

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, each school district that receives Title I, Part A funds must develop jointly with, agree on, and distribute to, parents of participating children a written parent and family engagement policy that contains information required by Section 1116(a)(2) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). This Policy establishes the school district's expectations for parent and family engagement, describes how the school district will implement a number of specific parent and family engagement activities, and is incorporated into the school district's Annual School Plan (ASP).

A. General Expectations

1. The school district agrees to implement the following statutory requirements:
 - a. The school district will put into operation programs, activities, and procedures for the involvement of parents in all its schools with Title I, Part A programs, consistent with Section 1116 of the ESEA. These programs, activities, and procedures will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation with parents of participating children.
 - b. Consistent with Section 1116 of the ESEA, the school district will work with its schools to ensure that the required school-level parent and family engagement policies meet the requirements of Section 1116(b) of the ESEA, and each include, as a component, a school-parent compact consistent with Section 1116(d) of the ESEA.
 - c. The school district will incorporate this district-wide parent and family engagement policy into its school district's plan developed under Section 1112 of the ESEA.

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- d. In carrying out the Title I, Part A parent and family engagement requirements, to the extent practicable, the school district and its schools will provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, including providing information and school reports required under Section 1111 of the ESEA in an understandable and uniform format and, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.
- e. If the school district's plan for Title I, Part A, developed under Section 1112 of the ESEA, is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, the school district will submit any parent comments with the plan if requested by the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE).
- f. The school district will involve the parents of children served in Title I, Part A schools in decisions about how the one percent of Title I, Part A funds reserved for parent and family engagement is spent, and will ensure that not less than ninety percent of the one percent reserve goes directly to the schools.
- g. The school district will be governed by the following statutory definition of parent and family engagement, and expects that its Title I schools will carry out programs, activities, and procedures in accordance with this definition:
 - (1) "Parent and family engagement" means the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring:
 - (a) That parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning;

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- (b) That parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school;
 - (c) That parents are full partners in their child's education and are included, as appropriate, in decision-making and on advisory committees to assist in the education of their child; and
 - (d) The carrying out of other activities, such as those described in Section 1116 of the ESEA.
- h. For states where a Parental Information and Resource Center is established, the school district will inform parents and parental organizations of the purpose and existence of the Parental Information and Resource Center in the state.
- B. Description of How District Will Implement Required District-Wide Parent and Family Engagement Policy Components
1. The school district will take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development of its district-wide parent and family engagement plan under Section 1112 of the ESEA:
 - a. Convene an annual meeting, at a convenient time, to which all parents of participating students shall be invited and encouraged to attend to inform parents of their school's participation and the requirements of the policy and right of the parents to be involved;
 - b. Involve parents in an organized, ongoing and timely way, in the planning, review and improvement of programs.
 2. The school district will take the following actions to involve parents in the process of school review and improvement under Section 1116 of the ESEA:

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- a. Sharing timely information about programs required by NCLB, Section 1118;
 - b. Providing a description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the school, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress, and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet; and
 - c. If requested, meetings with parents to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions related to the education of their children, and respond to any such suggestions as soon as practicably possible.
3. The school district will provide the following necessary coordination, technical assistance, and other support to assist Title I, Part A schools in planning and implementing effective parent and family engagement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance:
- a. May arrange school meetings at a variety of times with parents of participating children who are unable to attend scheduled conferences, in order to maximize parental involvement and participation;
 - b. May adopt and implement model approaches to improving parental involvement;
 - c. Shall provide such other reasonable support for parental involvement activities under this Policy as parents may request.
4. The school district will coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement strategies in Title I, Part A with parent and family engagement strategies under the following other programs (Such as: Head Start, Parents As Teachers, Home Instruction Program for Preschool Youngsters, and State-operated preschool programs), by:
- a. Ensure that information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities is sent to parents

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- of participating students in a format, and to the extent practicable, in a language the parents understand; and
- b. To the extent possible, integrate parent involvement programs and activities for any additional programs with the school programs to maximize parental involvement.
5. The school district will take the following actions to conduct, with the involvement of parents, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this parent and family engagement policy in improving the quality of its Title I, Part A schools. The evaluation will include identifying barriers to greater participation by parents in parent and family engagement activities (with particular attention to parents who are economically disadvantaged, are disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background). The school district will use the findings of the evaluation about its parent and family engagement policy and activities to design strategies for more effective parent and family engagement, and to revise, if necessary (and with the involvement of parents) its parent and family engagement policies.
- a. May provide necessary literacy training from Title I funds if the school district has exhausted all other reasonably available sources of funding for such training;
 - b. May provide child care services on site during parent meetings to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and parent training sessions;
 - c. May train parents to enhance the involvement of other parents.
6. The school district will build the schools' and parents' capacity for strong parent and family engagement, in order to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school involved, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, through the following activities specifically described below:

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- a. The school district will, with the assistance of its Title I, Part A schools, provide assistance to parents of children served by the school district or school, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following, by undertaking the actions described in this paragraph:
 - (1) The challenging State academic standards;
 - (2) The State and local academic assessments including alternate assessments;
 - (3) The requirements of Title I, Part A;
 - (4) How to monitor their child's progress; and
 - (5) How to work with educators:
 - (a) Back-to-School Nights
 - (b) PTO Meetings
 - (c) Parent-Teacher Conferences – both scheduled and as requested by parent
- b. The school district will, with the assistance of its schools, provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their children's academic achievement, such as literacy training, and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parent and family engagement, by:
 - (1) Sharing information at Parent-Teacher Conferences
 - (2) Offering technology support sessions
 - (3) Offering presentations by guest speakers, as needed.
- b. The school district will, with the assistance of its schools and parents, educate its teachers, student services personnel, principals, other school leaders, and other staff, in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners, in the value and utility of

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contributions of parents, and in how to implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between parents and schools, by:

- (1) Sharing the requirements of this Policy;
 - (2) Using district protocol for translating written communication to parents;
 - (3) Educating teachers, administrators and all staff in the value and utility of parent contributions and sharing ways to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners, implement and coordinate parent programs, and build strong ties between parents and the school.
- d. The school district will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement programs and activities with Head Start, Home Instruction Programs for Preschool Youngsters, the Parents as Teachers Program, and public preschool and other programs, and conduct other activities, such as parent resource centers, that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children, by:
- (1) Participating in conferences, at least annually;
 - (2) Explaining and discussing the student compact;
 - (3) Providing parents with frequent student progress reports; and
 - (4) Maintaining reasonable access to faculty and staff.
- e. The school district will take the following actions to ensure that information related to the school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities is sent to the parents of participating children in an understandable and uniform

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format, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand:

- (1) Translating written communication using the district protocol, or through Google translate;
- (2) Using Google Translate during in-person meetings between the parent and teacher;
- (3) If practicable, having translator present for workshops and presentations.

C. Discretionary District-Wide Parent and Family Engagement Policy Components

1. The District-Wide Parent and Family Engagement Policy may include additional paragraphs listing and describing other discretionary activities that the school district, in consultation with its parents, chooses to undertake to build parents' capacity for involvement in the school and school system to support their children's academic achievement, such as the following discretionary activities listed under Section 1116(e) of the ESEA:
 - a. Involving parents in the development of training for teachers, principals, and other educators to improve the effectiveness of that training;
 - b. Providing necessary literacy training for parents from Title I, Part A funds, if the school district has exhausted all other reasonably available sources of funding for that training;
 - c. Paying reasonable and necessary expenses associated with parent and family engagement activities, including transportation and child care costs, to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions;
 - d. Training parents to enhance the involvement of other parents;

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- e. In order to maximize parent and family engagement and participation in their children's education, arranging school meetings at a variety of times, or conducting in-home conferences between teachers or other educators, who work directly with participating children, with parents who are unable to attend those conferences at school;
- f. Adopting and implementing model approaches to improving parent and family engagement;
- g. Establishing a district-wide parent advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to parent and family engagement in Title I, Part A programs;
- h. Developing appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses, including faith-based organizations, in parent and family engagement activities; and
- i. Providing other reasonable support for parent and family engagement activities under Section 1116 as parents may request.

D. Adoption

This Policy has been developed jointly with, and agreed on with, parents of children participating in Title I, Part A programs, as evidenced by the Superintendent of Schools or designee. This Policy was adopted by the Board of Education on the adoption date noted at the end of this Policy and will be in effect for the period of one year and will be updated as needed on an annual basis. The school district will distribute this Policy to all parents of participating Title I, Part A children on or before October 1 of each school year.

Elementary and Secondary Education Act, Title I, Section 1116(a)(2)

Adopted: May 27, 2021

Revised: August 2022

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2415.50 HILLSIDE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AND TENAKILL MIDDLE SCHOOL
TITLE I – SCHOOL PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

A. District Expectations

- I. In accordance with the requirements of Title I, Section 1116(a)(2), ESEA, the Board of Education agrees to implement the following statutory requirements:
 - a. The school district will put into operation programs, activities, and procedures for the involvement of parents in all its schools with Title I, Part A programs. These programs, activities, and procedures will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation with parents of participating children.
 - b. The school district will work with its schools to ensure the required school-level parent and family engagement policies meet the Title I, Part A requirements, and include, as a component, a school-parent compact.
 - c. The school district will incorporate this School Parent and Family Engagement Policy into its district plan.
 - d. In carrying out the Title I, Part A parent and family engagement requirements, to the extent practicable, the school district and its schools will provide full opportunities for the participation of parents of children with limited English proficiency, parents of children with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, including providing information and school reports in an understandable and uniform format and, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.

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- e. If the school district plan for Title I, Part A funds is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, the school district will submit any parent comments with the plan upon request by the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE).
- f. The school district will involve the parents of children served in Title I schools in decisions about how the one percent of Title I, Part A funds reserved for parent and family engagement is spent, and will ensure that not less than ninety percent of the one percent reserved goes directly to the schools. (Only applicable for districts with Title I, Part A allocations greater than \$500,000.)
- g. The school district will be governed by the following statutory definition of parent and family engagement, and expects that its Title I schools will carry out programs, activities, and procedures in accordance with this definition:
 - (1) "Parent and family engagement" means the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring:
 - (a) That parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning;
 - (b) That parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school;
 - (c) That parents are full partners in their child's education and are included, as appropriate, in decision-making and on advisory committees to assist in the education of their child; and

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(d) The carrying out of other activities, such as those described in section 1116 of the ESEA.

h. The school district will inform parents and parental organizations of the purpose and existence of the Parental Information and Resource Center in New Jersey.

B. School Parent and Family Engagement Policy Required Components

1. The school will take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development of its district/school parent and family engagement plan:

a. Conduct an annual district wide needs assessment for use of Title I funds.

b. Parents will be asked for feedback at the conclusion of Title I programs.

2. The school will convene an annual meeting, at a convenient time, to which all parents of participating children shall be invited and encouraged to attend, to inform parents of their school's participation under Title I, Part A, and to explain the requirements of this part and the right of the parents to be involved:

The annual meeting will be held prior to any Title I program being offered. The location of the meeting will be determined by the grade level of students participating in the targeted program and will be announced to parents.

3. The school will offer a flexible number of meetings, such as meetings in the morning or evening, and may provide, with funds provided under Title I, Part A, transportation, child care, or home visits, as such services relate to parent and family engagement:

The school will offer the meeting at two times (day-time and evening) to offer flexibility to parents. If possible,

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child care will be provided on site for parents attending the meeting.

4. The school will provide the following necessary coordination, technical assistance, and other support to assist Title I schools in planning and implementing effective parent and family engagement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance:
 - a. Identifying targeted criteria, assessment and measurement tools, professional development for teachers, resources and supplies coordinated through the Assistant Principals at each school;
 - b. Providing devices, online resources, and technical support during the delivery of Title I programs.

5. The school will build the schools' and parents' capacity for strong parent and family engagement, in order to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school involved, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, through the following activities specifically described below:
 - a. The school will, with the assistance of its Title I schools, provide assistance to parents of children served by the school district or school, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following:
 - (1) The challenging, state academic standards;
 - (2) The state and local academic assessments including alternate assessments;
 - (3) The requirements of Title I, Part A;
 - (4) How to monitor their child's progress; and

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- (5) How to work with educators to improve the achievement of their children.
 - (a) Parent training in specific programs and instructional strategies;
 - (b) How to communicate with teachers about student academic progress.
6. The school will provide parents of participating children, if requested by parents, opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children, and respond to any such suggestions as soon as practically possible.
 - a. The school will, with the assistance of its Title I schools, provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their children's achievement, such as literacy training and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parent and family engagement, by:
 - (1) Providing parents with list of resources used for Title I programs;
 - (2) Provide parents with recommended summer reading, writing and mathematics assignments.
 - b. The school will, with the assistance of its Title I schools and parents, educate its teachers, student services personnel, principals, other school leaders, and other staff in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners, in the value and utility of contributions of parents, and in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners to implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between parents and schools, by:
 - (1) Developing the school-parent compact;
 - (2) Provide opportunities for parents to learn about any Title I programs offered.

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- c. The school will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement programs and activities with Head Start, Home Instruction Programs for Preschool Youngsters, Parents as Teachers Program, and public preschool and other programs, and conduct other activities, such as parent resource centers, that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children, by:
- (1) Advising home instructors of additional resources;
 - (2) Advising home instructors of Title I programs.
- d. The school will take the following actions to ensure that Title I information related to the school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities, is sent to the parents of participating children in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand:
- (1) Translate written documents using the district protocol;
 - (2) Use Google translate during in-person meetings with individual families.
7. The school will coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement strategies under Title I with parent and family engagement strategies under the following programs: [Such as: Head Start, Parents as Teachers, Home Instruction Programs for Preschool Youngsters, and state-operated preschool programs], by:

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- a. Advising instructors of additional resources;
 - b. Advising instructors of Title I programs.
8. The school will take the following actions to conduct, with the involvement of parents, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this parent and family engagement policy in improving the quality of its Title I schools. The evaluation will include identifying barriers to greater participation by parents in parent and family engagement activities (with particular attention to parents who are economically disadvantaged, are disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background). The school district will use the findings of the evaluation about its parent and family engagement policy and activities to design strategies for more effective parent and family engagement, and to revise if necessary (and with the involvement of parents) its parent and family engagement policies:
- a. The Title I Program Leads will audit student participation in Title I programs;
 - b. The Title I Program Leads will collect feedback from parents, teachers and students (if appropriate) about the Title I programs.
9. The school will take the following actions to involve parents in the process of school review and improvement:
- a. The Title I Program Leads will survey parents about the Title I programs.

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10. If the Annual School Plan (school-wide program plan) is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, submit any parent comments on the Annual School Plan (ASP) when the school makes the plan available to the local educational agency:
 - a. Parents can submit comments to the Title I Program Lead or the Principal.

C. Shared Responsibilities for High Student Academic Achievement

1. As a component of the school-level parent and family engagement policy, each school shall jointly develop with parents for all children served under this part a school-parent compact that outlines how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement:
 - a. School and Teacher Responsibilities
 - a. Provide high-quality curriculum and instruction.
 - b. Provide students with clear and concise expectations.
 - c. Make learning an engaging, meaningful experience.
 - d. Maintaining ongoing communication with parents.
 - e. Provide a safe, welcoming environment.
 - f. Enforce school rules consistently.
 - b. Student Responsibilities
 - a. Put my best effort into my school work.
 - b. Respect parents, teachers, administrators and classmates.
 - c. Arrive on time daily, with homework and all materials.
 - d. Obey all rules both at home and at school.
 - c. Parent Responsibilities
 - a. Communicate regularly with your child about their learning.
 - b. Express high expectations, praise, and encouragement.
 - c. Promote the importance of punctual daily attendance in school.
 - d. Monitor homework assignments to ensure schoolwork has top priority.
 - e. Participate in parent involvement activities when possible.
 - f. Communicate with school administration and teacher when necessary.

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D. Discretionary School Parent and Family Engagement Policy Components

- I. The School Parent and Family Engagement Policy may include additional paragraphs listing and describing other discretionary activities that the school district, in consultation with its parents, chooses to undertake to build parents' capacity for involvement in the school and school system to support their children's academic achievement, such as the following discretionary activities:
 - a. Involve parents in the development of training for teachers, principals, and other educators to improve the effectiveness of such training.
 - b. Provide necessary literacy training for parents from Title I, Part A funds received, if the school district has exhausted all other reasonably available sources of funding for such training.
 - c. Pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with parent and family engagement activities, including transportation and childcare costs, to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions.
 - d. Train parents to enhance the involvement of other parents.
 - e. In order to maximize parent and family engagement and participation in their children's education, arrange school meetings at a variety of times, or conduct in-home conferences between teachers or other educators, who work directly with participating children, with parents who are unable to attend such conferences at school.
 - f. Adopt and implement model approaches to improve parent and family engagement.
 - g. Establish a district-wide parent advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to parent and family engagement in Title I, Part A programs.

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- h. Develop appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses in parent involvement activities.
- i. Provide other reasonable support for parent and family engagement activities under this section as parents may request:
 - (1) Conferences with Title I teachers;
 - (2) Additional resources for use at home;
 - (3) Grade-level academic standards to understand goals and objectives.

E. Accessibility

- 1. In carrying out the parent and family engagement requirements of this part, districts and schools, to the extent practicable, shall provide full opportunities for the participation of parents of children with limited English proficiency, parents of children with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, including providing information and school reports required in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language such parents can understand:
 - a. Translation of written communication;
 - b. Use of Google Translate for in-person meetings between teacher and family;
 - c. Meeting with ESL teacher for further assistance.

F. Adoption

- 1. This School Parent and Family Engagement Policy has been developed jointly with, and agreed on, parents of children participating in Title I, Part A programs.

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2. This Policy was adopted by the Board of Education on the adoption date noted at the end of this Policy and will be in effect for the period of the school year. The school district will distribute this Policy to all parents of participating Title I children on or before October 1 of each school year.

Elementary and Secondary Education Act, Title I, Section 1116(a)(2)

Adopted:

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Postnatal Accommodations for Students

2416.01 POSTNATAL ACCOMMODATIONS FOR STUDENTS

The Board of Education recognizes students may be returning to school shortly after their child's birth and may need to breastfeed their child or to express breast



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milk during the school day. The school district will accommodate a student who wants to breastfeed or express breast milk while attending school in the district.

A student shall be permitted to breastfeed their child or to express breast milk while attending school in accordance with a schedule provided by the student to the school nurse, who shall consult with the Principal or designee. The district encourages the student develop a schedule that does not impact a student's instructional time and encourages a student to schedule such time to breastfeed or to express breast milk during study hall time, lunch time, or other non-instructional times of the school day. The student may bring to school a breast pump and any other equipment necessary to express breast milk on school grounds. The student shall not incur an academic penalty for using any reasonable accommodations offered to the student and shall be provided the opportunity to make up any work missed due to such use.

The Principal or designee, in consultation with the school nurse, will designate a lactation/breastfeeding room that is shielded from view and free from intrusion by other students, staff members, and the public. The location must be functional as a space for breastfeeding or expressing breast milk and shall include an electrical outlet, a chair, and nearby access to running water. Expressed breast milk may be stored in a refrigerator in the school building or in the student's personal cooler. If the space is not a dedicated lactation/breastfeeding room, it must be available when needed. A space temporarily converted into a lactation/breastfeeding room or made available when needed by the student is sufficient; however, a bathroom, even if private, is not a permissible location. A student opting to breastfeed their child in the lactation/breastfeeding room will be responsible to make arrangements for their child to be brought to the school in accordance with a time schedule agreed to by the Principal or designee.

All staff members will assist in providing a positive atmosphere of support for students who are returning to school after the birth of their child. Conduct by a staff member or student that reasonably interferes with a student's performance in school; creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive environment for a student

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Postnatal Accommodations for Students

that is complying with the provisions of this Policy; or that inhibits a student's ability to breastfeed their child or express breast milk while in school will not be tolerated.



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The Principal shall ensure Policy 2416.01 is distributed to pregnant students and students who are returning to school after the birth of their child.

N.J.S.A. 26:4C-1; 26:4C-2; 26:4C-3

Adopted:

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Student Intervention and Referral Services
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2417 STUDENT INTERVENTION AND REFERRAL SERVICES

The Board of Education directs the establishment and implementation in each school building in which general education students are served, a coordinated



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system for planning and delivering intervention and referral services designed to assist students who are experiencing learning, behavior, or health difficulties, and to assist staff who have difficulties in addressing students' learning, behavior, or health needs in accordance with the requirements of N.J.A.C. 6A:16-8.1 and 6A:16-8.2. The Board of Education shall choose the ~~adopts~~ ~~this~~ appropriate multidisciplinary team approach, **such as the Response to Intervention (RTI) or a Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS) model** for planning and delivering the services required under N.J.A.C. 6A:16-8.

Students who are experiencing learning, behavior, or health difficulties shall be referred to the school's Intervention and Referral Services (I&RS) Team.

The intervention and referral services shall be provided to **support** ~~aid~~ students in the general education program and may be provided for students who have been determined to need special education programs and services pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-8.1(a). The intervention and referral services provided for students who have been determined to need special education programs and services shall be coordinated with the student's Individualized Education Program Team, as appropriate. **Child Study Team members and, to the extent appropriate, specialists in the area of disability may participate on intervention and referral services teams, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:14-3.1(d)6.**

The functions of the system of intervention and referral services in each school building which general education students are served shall be pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-8.2(a) and as outlined in Regulation 2417.

Records of all requests for assistance, all intervention and referral services action plans, and all related student information shall be maintained in accordance with Federal and State laws and regulations and New Jersey administrative code pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-8.2(a)9.

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Student Intervention and Referral Services

The I&RS Team **in each school building** shall review and assess the effectiveness of ~~the provisions of~~ each intervention and referral services action plan in achieving the **identified** outcomes, ~~identified in each action plan~~ and modify each action plan to achieve the outcomes, as appropriate.



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At a minimum, the I&RS Team shall annually review the intervention and referral services action plans and the actions taken as a result of the building's system of intervention and referral services, and make recommendations to the Principal for improving school programs and services, as appropriate.

At the end of the school year, the Principal shall, in consultation with the I&RS Team, develop a report on the concerns and issues identified by the I&RS Team and the effectiveness of the services provided in achieving the outcomes identified in the intervention and referral services action plans. This report shall be provided to the Superintendent of Schools.

N.J.A.C. 6A:14; 6A:16-8.1; 6A:16-8.2

Adopted: May 27, 2021

Revised: August 2022

TEACHING STAFF MEMBERS

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Examination for Cause

3161 EXAMINATION FOR CAUSE



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The Board of Education may require the physical and/or psychiatric examination of any teaching staff member who shows evidence of deviation from normal physical or mental health in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:32-6.3(b).

The Superintendent shall require a physical and/or psychiatric examination on a teaching staff member whenever, in the judgment of the Superintendent, a teaching staff member shows evidence of deviation from normal physical or mental health, to determine the teaching staff member's physical and mental fitness to perform with reasonable accommodation the position the teaching staff member currently holds, or to detect any health risks to students and other employees.

A teaching staff member that is required to undergo a physical and/or psychiatric examination shall be provided a written statement of reasons for the required examination(s) and notice the teaching staff member has the right to request a hearing with the Board. The hearing shall be conducted in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:25-7 and will offer the teaching staff member the opportunity to appear before the Board to refute the reasons for the required examination(s), provided any such hearing is requested by the teaching staff member in writing within five working days of the teaching staff member's receipt of the written statement of reasons. A teaching staff member shall be ordered to submit to the appropriate examination(s) by the physician or institution designated by the Board if the teaching staff member failed to timely request a hearing before the Board or failed to persuade the Board at the hearing that the teaching staff member should not be required to submit to the appropriate examination(s). The Board's determination at the conclusion of such a hearing is appealable to the Commissioner of Education pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:6-9 and N.J.A.C. 6A:4 -- Appeals pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:32-6.3(b)2.

The Board shall bear the cost of the examination if the examination is performed by a physician or institution designated by the Board. The examination may be performed by a physician or institution of the teaching staff member's own choosing, approved by the Board, and at the teaching staff member's own expense in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:16-3 and N.J.A.C. 6A:32-6.3.

TEACHING STAFF MEMBERS
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Examination for Cause

If the teaching staff member submits names of physicians or institutions to the Board for consideration to complete the appropriate examination(s) the Board is not required to designate the physician or institution submitted for consideration by the teaching staff member, but shall not act unreasonably in withholding its approval of the physician or institution. The Board shall require the teaching staff member to authorize the release of the examination results to the Superintendent.



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If the results of any such examination indicate mental abnormality or communicable disease, the teaching staff member shall be ineligible for further service until proof of recovery, satisfactory to the Board, is furnished, but if the teaching staff member is under contract or has tenure, they may be granted sick leave with compensation as provided by law and shall, upon satisfactory recovery, be permitted to complete the term of their contract, if they are under contract, or be reemployed with the same tenure as they possessed at the time their services were discontinued, if they have tenure, unless their absence shall exceed a period of two years in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:16-4.

In order to return to work, the teaching staff member must submit to an appropriate examination and submit the results of the examination to the Superintendent. The examination must be conducted by a physician or institution upon which the Board and teaching staff member confer and agree. If the physician or institution conducting the examination is conducted by the Board's choice, the cost shall be borne by the Board; if the physician or institution conducting the examination is conducted by the teaching staff member's choice, the cost shall be borne by the teaching staff member.

A teaching staff member who refuses to submit to the examination required by this Policy and has exhausted the hearing procedures established by law and this Policy shall be subject to discipline, which may include, but not limited to, termination or certification of tenure charges to the Commissioner of Education, as applicable.

42 U.S.C.A. 12101

N.J.S.A. 18A:6-10; 18A:16-2; 18A:16-3; 18A:16-4; 18A:25-7;
18A:28-5; 18A:30-1 et seq.

N.J.A.C. 6A:32-6.2; 6A:32-6.3

Adopted: May 27, 2021

Revised: August 2022

SUPPORT STAFF MEMBERS

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Examination for Cause

4161 EXAMINATION FOR CAUSE

The Board of Education may require the physical and/or psychiatric examination of any support staff member who shows evidence of deviation from normal physical or mental health in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:32-6.3(b).



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The Superintendent shall require a physical and/or psychiatric examination on a support staff member whenever, in the judgment of the Superintendent, a support staff member shows evidence of deviation from normal physical or mental health, to determine the support staff member's physical and mental fitness to perform with reasonable accommodation the position the support staff member currently holds, or to detect any health risks to students and other employees.

A support staff member that is required to undergo a physical and/or psychiatric examination shall be provided a written statement of reasons for the required examination(s) and notice the support staff member has the right to request a hearing with the Board. The hearing shall be conducted in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:25-7 and will offer the support staff member the opportunity to appear before the Board to refute the reasons for the required examination(s), provided any such hearing is requested by the support staff member in writing within five working days of the support staff member's receipt of the written statement of reasons. A support staff member shall be ordered to submit to the appropriate examination(s) by the physician or institution designated by the Board if the support staff member failed to timely request a hearing before the Board or failed to persuade the Board at the hearing that the support staff member should not be required to submit to the appropriate examination(s). The Board's determination at the conclusion of such a hearing is appealable to the Commissioner of Education pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:6-9 and N.J.A.C. 6A:4 – Appeals pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:32-6.3(b)2.

The Board shall bear the cost of the examination if the examination is performed by a physician or institution designated by the Board. The examination may be performed by a physician or institution of the support staff member's own choosing, approved by the Board, and at the support staff member's own expense in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:16-3 and N.J.A.C. 6A:32-6.3.

SUPPORT STAFF MEMBERS
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Examination for Cause

If the support staff member submits names of physicians or institutions to the Board for consideration to complete the appropriate examination(s) the Board is not required to designate the physician or institution submitted for consideration by the support staff member, but shall not act unreasonably in withholding its approval of the physician or institution. The Board shall require the support staff member to authorize the release of the examination results to the Superintendent.



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If the results of any such examination indicate mental abnormality or communicable disease, the support staff member shall be ineligible for further service until proof of recovery, satisfactory to the Board, is furnished, but if the support staff member is under contract or has tenure, they may be granted sick leave with compensation as provided by law and shall, upon satisfactory recovery, be permitted to complete the term of their contract, if they are under contract, or be reemployed with the same tenure as they possessed at the time their services were discontinued, if they have tenure, unless their absence shall exceed a period of two years in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:16-4.

In order to return to work, the support staff member must submit to an appropriate examination and submit the results of the examination to the Superintendent. The examination must be conducted by a physician or institution upon which the Board and support staff member confer and agree. If the physician or institution conducting the examination is conducted by the Board's choice, the cost shall be borne by the Board; if the physician or institution conducting the examination is conducted by the support staff member's choice, the cost shall be borne by the support staff member.

A support staff member who refuses to submit to the examination required by this Policy and has exhausted the hearing procedures established by law and this Policy shall be subject to discipline, which may include, but not limited to, termination or certification of tenure charges to the Commissioner of Education, as applicable.

42 U.S.C.A. 12101

N.J.S.A. 18A:6-10; 18A:16-2; 18A:16-3; 18A:16-4; 18A:25-7;
18A:28-5; 18A:30-1 et seq.

N.J.A.C. 6A:32-6.2 ; 6A:32-6.3

Adopted: May 27, 2021

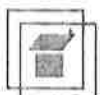
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5512 HARASSMENT, INTIMIDATION, AND BULLYING

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- R. Students with Disabilities
- S. Approved Private Schools for Students with Disabilities (APSSD)
- A. Policy Statement

The Board of Education prohibits acts of harassment, intimidation, or bullying of a student. A safe and civil environment in school is necessary for students to learn and achieve high academic standards. Harassment, intimidation, or bullying, like other disruptive or violent behaviors, is conduct that disrupts both a student's ability to learn and a school's ability to educate its students in a safe and disciplined environment. Harassment, intimidation, or bullying is unwanted, aggressive behavior that may involve a real or perceived power imbalance. Since students learn by example, school administrators, faculty, staff and volunteers should be commended for demonstrating appropriate behavior, treating others with civility and respect, and refusing to tolerate harassment, intimidation, or bullying.

For the purposes of this Policy, the term "parent," pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-1.3, means the natural parent(s); or adoptive parent(s); legal guardian(s); foster parent(s); or parent surrogate(s) of a student. ~~When~~ **When** ~~where~~ parents are separated or divorced, "parent" means the person or agency which has legal custody of the student, as well as the natural or adoptive parent(s) of the student, provided ~~such~~ parental rights have not been terminated by a court of appropriate jurisdiction.

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- B. Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying Definition

"Harassment, intimidation, or bullying" means any gesture, any written, verbal or physical act, or any electronic communication, as defined in N.J.S.A. 18A:37-14, whether it be a single incident or a series of incidents that:

- 1. Is reasonably perceived as being motivated by either any actual or perceived characteristic, such as race, color, religion, ancestry,



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national origin, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, or a mental, physical or sensory disability, or by any other distinguishing characteristic;

2. Takes place on school property, at any school-sponsored function, on a school bus, or off school grounds, as provided for in N.J.S.A. 18A:37-15.3;
3. Substantially disrupts or interferes with the orderly operation of the school or the rights of other students; and that
 - a. A reasonable person should know, under the circumstances, that the act(s) will have the effect of physically or emotionally harming a student or damaging the student's property, or placing a student in reasonable fear of physical or emotional harm to **their** his/~~her~~ person or damage to **their** his/~~her~~ property; or
 - b. Has the effect of insulting or demeaning any student or group of students; or
 - c. Creates a hostile educational environment for the student by interfering with a student's education or by severely or pervasively causing physical or emotional harm to the student.

Schools are required to address harassment, intimidation, and bullying occurring off school grounds, when there is a nexus between the harassment, intimidation, and bullying and the school (e.g., the harassment, intimidation, or bullying substantially disrupts or interferes with the orderly operation of the school or the rights of other students).

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"Electronic communication" means a communication transmitted by means of an electronic device, including, but not limited to: a telephone, cellular phone, computer, or pager.

C. Student Expectations

The Board expects students to conduct themselves in keeping with their levels of development, maturity and demonstrated capabilities with proper regard for the rights and welfare of other students and school staff, the



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educational purpose underlying all school activities and the care of school facilities and equipment consistent with the Code of Student Conduct.

The Board believes that standards for student behavior must be set cooperatively through interaction among the students, parents, school employees, school administrators, school volunteers, and community representatives, producing an atmosphere that encourages students to grow in self-discipline. The development of this atmosphere requires respect for self and others, as well as for school district and community property on the part of students, staff, and community members.

Students are expected to behave in a way that creates a supportive learning environment. The Board believes the best discipline is self-imposed, and it is the responsibility of staff to use instances of violations of the Code of Student Conduct as opportunities to help students learn to assume and accept responsibility for their behavior and the consequences of their behavior. Staff members who interact with students shall apply best practices designed to prevent student conduct problems and foster students' abilities to grow in self-discipline.

The Board expects that students will act in accordance with the student behavioral expectations and standards regarding harassment, intimidation, and bullying, including:

1. Student responsibilities (e.g., requirements for students to conform to reasonable standards of socially accepted behavior; respect the person, property and rights of others; obey constituted authority; and respond to those who hold that authority);
2. Appropriate recognition for positive reinforcement for good conduct, self-discipline, and good citizenship;

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3. Student rights; and
4. Sanctions and due process for violations of the Code of Student Conduct.

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:37-15(a) and N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.1(a)1, the district has involved a broad-base of school and community members, including parents, students, instructional staff, student support services staff, school administrators, and school volunteers, as well as community organizations,



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such as faith-based, health and human service, business and law enforcement, in the development of this Policy. Based on locally determined and accepted core ethical values adopted by the Board, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.1(a)2, the Board must develop guidelines for student conduct pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.1. These guidelines for student conduct will take into consideration the developmental ages of students, the severity of the offenses and students' histories of inappropriate behaviors, and the mission and physical facilities of the individual school(s) in the district. This Policy requires all students in the district to adhere to the rules established by the school district and to submit to the remedial and consequential measures that are appropriately assigned for infractions of these rules.

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.1, the Superintendent must annually provide to students and their parents the rules of the district regarding student conduct. Provisions shall be made for informing parents whose primary language is other than English.

The district prohibits active or passive support for acts of harassment, intimidation, or bullying. Students are encouraged to support other students who:

1. Walk away from acts of harassment, intimidation, and bullying when they see them;
2. Constructively attempt to stop acts of harassment, intimidation, or bullying;
3. Provide support to students who have been subjected to harassment, intimidation, or bullying; and
4. Report acts of harassment, intimidation, and bullying to the designated school staff member.

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Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying

D. Consequences and Appropriate Remedial Actions

~~Consequences and Appropriate Remedial Actions—Students~~

The Board of Education requires its school administrators to implement procedures that ensure both the appropriate consequences and remedial responses for students who commit one or more acts of harassment, intimidation, or bullying, consistent with the Code of Student Conduct. The following factors, at a minimum, shall be given full consideration by school



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administrators in the implementation of appropriate consequences and remedial measures for each act of harassment, intimidation, or bullying by students.

Consequences – Students

Consequences for a student who commits one or more acts of harassment, intimidation, or bullying may range from positive behavioral interventions up to and including suspension or expulsion of students, as set forth in the Board's approved Code of Student Conduct pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.1. Consequences for a student who commits an act of harassment, intimidation, or bullying are those that are varied and graded according to the nature of the behavior; the nature of the student's disability, if any, and to the extent relevant; the developmental age of the student; and the student's history of problem behaviors and performance consistent with the Board's approved Code of Student Conduct and N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7, Student Conduct. The use of negative consequences should occur in conjunction with remediation and not be relied upon as the sole intervention approach.

Factors for Determining Consequences – Student Considerations

1. Age, developmental and maturity levels of the parties involved and their relationship to the school district;
2. Degrees of harm;
3. Surrounding circumstances;
4. Nature and severity of the behavior(s);
5. Incidences of past or continuing patterns of behavior;
6. Relationships between the parties involved; and
7. Context in which the alleged incidents occurred.

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Factors for Determining Consequences – School Considerations

1. School culture, climate, and general staff management of the learning environment;
2. Social, emotional, and behavioral supports;
3. Student-staff relationships and staff behavior toward the student;
4. Family, community, and neighborhood situation; and
5. Alignment with Board policy and regulations/procedures.



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Examples of Consequences

1. Admonishment;
2. Temporary removal from the classroom;
3. Deprivation of privileges;
4. Classroom or administrative detention;
5. Referral to disciplinarian;
6. In-school suspension;
7. Out-of-school suspension (short-term or long-term);
8. Reports to law enforcement or other legal action; or
9. Expulsion.

In accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:37-15.b.(4), the consequences for a student who commits an act of harassment, intimidation, or bullying may vary depending on whether it is the first act of harassment, intimidation, or bullying by a student, the second act, or third or subsequent acts. If it is the third or subsequent act of harassment, intimidation, or bullying by a student, the Principal, in consultation with appropriate school staff, shall develop an individual student intervention plan which shall be approved by the Superintendent or designee, and may require the student, accompanied by a parent, to complete in a satisfactory manner a class or training program to reduce harassment, intimidation, or bullying behavior. For all confirmed acts of HIB, a copy of the results of the investigation shall be placed in the student's record.

Appropriate Remedial Actions – Students

Appropriate remedial action for a student who commits an act of harassment, intimidation, or bullying that takes into account the nature of

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the behavior; the nature of the student's disability, if any, and to the extent relevant; the developmental age of the student; and the student's history of problem behaviors and performance. The appropriate remedial action may also include a behavioral assessment or evaluation including, but not limited to, a referral to the Child Study Team as appropriate; and supportive interventions and referral services, including those at N.J.A.C. 6A:16-8.

Factors for Determining Consequences – Student Considerations



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1. ~~Age, developmental and maturity levels of the parties involved and their relationship to the school district;~~
2. ~~Degrees of harm;~~
3. ~~Surrounding circumstances;~~
4. ~~Nature and severity of the behavior(s);~~
5. ~~Incidences of past or continuing patterns of behavior;~~
6. ~~Relationships between the parties involved; and~~
7. ~~Context in which the alleged incidents occurred.~~

~~Factors for Determining Consequences – School Considerations~~

1. ~~School culture, climate, and general staff management of the learning environment;~~
2. ~~Social, emotional, and behavioral supports;~~
3. ~~Student-staff relationships and staff behavior toward the student;~~
4. ~~Family, community, and neighborhood situation; and~~
5. ~~Alignment with Board policy and regulations/procedures.~~

~~Factors for Determining Remedial Measures~~

~~Personal~~

1. Life skill deficiencies;
2. Social relationships;
3. Strengths;
4. Talents;
5. Interests;
6. Hobbies;
7. Extra-curricular activities;
8. Classroom participation;
9. Academic performance; and
10. Relationship to students and the school district.

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~~Environmental~~

1. School culture;
2. School climate;
3. Student-staff relationships and staff behavior toward the student;
4. General staff management of classrooms or other educational environments;
5. Staff ability to prevent and manage difficult or inflammatory situations;
6. Social-emotional and behavioral supports;



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7. Social relationships;
8. Community activities;
9. Neighborhood situation; and
10. Family situation.

~~Consequences for a student who commits one or more acts of harassment, intimidation, or bullying may range from positive behavioral interventions up to and including suspension or expulsion of students, as set forth in the Board's approved Code of Student Conduct pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.1. Consequences for a student who commits an act of harassment, intimidation, or bullying are those that are varied and graded according to the nature of the behavior; the nature of the student's disability, if any, and to the extent relevant; the developmental age of the student; and the student's history of problem behaviors and performance consistent with the Board's approved Code of Student Conduct and N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7, Student Conduct. The use of negative consequences should occur in conjunction with remediation and not be relied upon as the sole intervention approach.~~

Remedial measures shall be designed to correct the problem behavior, prevent another occurrence of the problem, protect and provide support for the victim of the act, and take corrective action for documented systemic problems related to harassment, intimidation, or bullying. The consequences and remedial measures may include, but are not limited to, the examples listed below:

Examples of Consequences

- ~~1. Admonishment;~~
- ~~2. Temporary removal from the classroom;~~
- ~~3. Deprivation of privileges;~~
- ~~4. Classroom or administrative detention;~~

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- ~~5. Referral to disciplinarian;~~
- ~~6. In-school suspension;~~
- ~~7. Out-of-school suspension (short-term or long-term);~~
- ~~8. Reports to law enforcement or other legal action; or~~
- ~~9. Expulsion.~~

Examples of Remedial Measures

Personal – Student Exhibiting Bullying Behavior



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1. Develop a behavioral contract with the student. Ensure the student has a voice in the outcome and can identify ways **they he or she** can solve the problem and change behaviors;
2. Meet with parents to develop a family agreement to ensure the parent and the student understand school rules and expectations;
3. Explain the long-term negative consequences of harassment, intimidation, and bullying on all involved;
4. Ensure understanding of consequences, if harassment, intimidation, and bullying behavior continues;
5. Meet with school counselor, school social worker, or school psychologist to decipher mental health issues (e.g., what is happening and why?);
6. Develop a learning plan that includes consequences and skill building;
7. Consider wrap-around support services or after-school programs or services;
8. Provide social skill training, such as impulse control, anger management, developing empathy, and problem solving;
9. Arrange for an apology, preferably written;
10. Require a reflective essay to ensure the student understands the impact of **their his or her** actions on others;
11. Have the student research and teach a lesson to the class about bullying, empathy, or a similar topic;
12. Arrange for restitution (i.e., compensation, reimbursement, amends, repayment), particularly when personal items were damaged or stolen;
13. Explore age-appropriate restorative (i.e., healing, curative, recuperative) practices; and
14. Schedule a follow-up conference with the student.

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Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying

Personal – Target/Victim

1. Meet with a trusted staff member to explore the student's feelings about the incident;
2. Develop a plan to ensure the student's emotional and physical safety at school;
3. Have the student meet with the school counselor or school social worker to ensure **they he or she do** does not feel responsible for the bullying behavior;



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4. Ask students to log behaviors in the future;
5. Help the student develop skills and strategies for resisting bullying; and
6. Schedule a follow-up conference with the student.

Parents, Family, and Community

1. Develop a family agreement;
2. Refer the family for family counseling; and
3. Offer parent education workshops related to bullying and social-emotional learning.

Examples of Remedial Measures – Environmental (Classroom, School Building, or School District)

1. Analysis of existing data to identify bullying issues and concerns;
2. Use of findings from school surveys (e.g., school climate surveys);
3. Focus groups;
4. Mailings – postal and email;
5. Cable access television;
6. School culture change;
7. School climate improvement;
8. Increased supervision in “hot spots” (e.g., locker rooms, hallways, playgrounds, cafeterias, school perimeters, buses);
9. Adoption of evidence-based systemic bullying prevention practices and programs;
10. Training for all certificated and non-certificated staff to teach effective prevention and intervention skills and strategies;
11. Professional development plans for involved staff;

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12. Participation of parents and other community members and organizations (e.g., Parent Teacher Associations, Parent Teacher Organizations) in the educational program and in problem-solving bullying issues;
13. Formation of professional learning communities to address bullying problems;
14. Small or large group presentations for fully addressing the actions and the school’s response to the actions, in the context of the



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- acceptable student and staff member behavior and the consequences of such actions;
15. School policy and procedure revisions;
 16. Modifications of schedules;
 17. Adjustments in hallway traffic;
 18. Examination and adoption of educational practices for actively engaging students in the learning process and in bonding students to pro-social institutions and people;
 19. Modifications in student routes or patterns traveling to and from school;
 20. Supervision of student victims before and after school, including school transportation;
 21. Targeted use of monitors (e.g., hallway, cafeteria, locker room, playground, school perimeter, bus);
 22. Targeted use of teacher aides;
 23. Disciplinary action, including dismissal, for school staff who contributed to the problem;
 24. Supportive institutional interventions, including participation in the Intervention and Referral Services Team, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-8;
 25. Parent conferences;
 26. Family counseling;
 27. Development of a general harassment, intimidation, and bullying response plan;
 31. Behavioral expectations communicated to students and parents;
 29. Participation of the entire student body in problem-solving harassment, intimidation, and bullying issues;
 30. Recommendations of a student behavior or ethics council;
 31. Participation in peer support groups;
 32. School transfers; and
 33. Involvement of law enforcement officers, including school resource officers and juvenile officers or other appropriate legal action.

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Consequences and Appropriate Remedial Actions – Adults

The district will also impose appropriate consequences and remedial actions to an adult who commits an act of harassment, intimidation, or bullying of a student. The consequences may include, but not be limited to: verbal or written reprimand, increment withholding, legal action, disciplinary action, termination, and/or bans from providing services, participating in school district-sponsored programs, or being in school buildings or on school grounds. Remedial measures may include, but not be limited to: in or out-



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of-school counseling, professional development programs, and work environment modifications.

Target/Victim Support

Districts should identify a range of strategies and resources that will be available to individual victims of harassment, intimidation, and bullying, and respond in a manner that provides relief to victims and does not stigmatize victims or further their sense of persecution. The type, diversity, location, and degree of support are directly related to the student's perception of safety.

Sufficient safety measures should be undertaken to ensure the victim's² physical and social-emotional well-being and their ability to learn in a safe, supportive, and civil educational environment.

Examples of support for student victims of harassment, intimidation, and bullying include:

1. Teacher aides;
2. Hallway and playground monitors;
3. Partnering with a school leader;
4. Provision of an adult mentor;
5. Assignment of an adult "shadow" to help protect the student;
6. Seating changes;
7. Schedule changes;
8. School transfers;
9. Before- and after-school supervision;
10. School transportation supervision;
11. Counseling; and
12. Treatment or therapy.

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E. Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying Reporting Procedure

The Board of Education requires the Principal at each school to be responsible for receiving complaints alleging violations of this Policy. All Board members, school employees, and volunteers and contracted service providers who have contact with students are required to verbally report alleged violations of this Policy to the Principal or the Principal's designee on the same day when the individual witnessed or received reliable information regarding any such incident. All Board members, school



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employees, and volunteers and contracted service providers who have contact with students, also shall submit a report in writing to the Principal within two school days of the verbal report. **The written report shall be on a numbered form developed by the New Jersey Department of Education in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:37-15.b.(5). A copy of the form shall be submitted promptly by the Principal to the Superintendent.**

The Principal or designee will inform the parents of all students involved in alleged incidents, and, as appropriate, may discuss the availability of counseling and other intervention services. **The Principal or designee shall keep a written record of the date, time, and manner of notification to the parents.** The Principal or designee shall take into account the circumstances of the incident when providing notification to parents of all students involved in the reported harassment, intimidation, or bullying incident and when conveying the nature of the incident, including the actual or perceived protected category motivating the alleged offense. The Principal, upon receiving a verbal or written report, may take interim measures to ensure the safety, health, and welfare of all parties pending the findings of the investigation.

Students, parents, and visitors are encouraged to report alleged violations of this Policy to the Principal on the same day when the individual witnessed or received reliable information regarding any such incident.

A person may report, verbally or in writing, an act of harassment, intimidation, or bullying committed by an adult or youth against a student anonymously. The Board will not take formal disciplinary action based solely on the anonymous report. **The district shall provide a means for a parent to complete an online numbered form developed by the New Jersey Department of Education to confidentially report an incident of harassment, intimidation, or bullying.**

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A Board member or school employee who promptly reports an incident of harassment, intimidation, or bullying and who makes this report in compliance with the procedures set forth in this Policy, is immune from a cause of action for damages arising from any failure to remedy the reported incident.

In accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:37-18, the harassment, intimidation, and bullying law does not prevent a victim from **seeking**



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redress under any other available law, either civil or criminal, nor does it create or alter any tort liability.

The district may consider every mechanism available to simplify reporting, including standard reporting forms and/or web-based reporting mechanisms. For anonymous reporting, the district may consider locked boxes located in areas of a school where reports can be submitted without fear of being observed.

A school administrator who receives a report of harassment, intimidation, and bullying from a district employee, and fails to initiate or conduct an investigation, or who should have known of an incident of harassment, intimidation, or bullying and fails to take sufficient action to minimize or eliminate the harassment, intimidation, or bullying, may be subject to disciplinary action.

F. Anti-Bullying Coordinator, Anti-Bullying Specialist, and School Safety/School Climate Team(s)

1. The Superintendent shall appoint a district Anti-Bullying Coordinator. The Superintendent shall make every effort to appoint an employee of the school district to this position.

The district Anti-Bullying Coordinator shall:

- a. Be responsible for coordinating and strengthening the school district's policies to prevent, identify, and address harassment, intimidation, or bullying of students;

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- b. Collaborate with school Anti-Bullying Specialists in the district, the Board of Education, and the Superintendent to prevent, identify, and respond to harassment, intimidation, or bullying of students in the district;
- c. Provide data, in collaboration with the Superintendent, to the Department of Education regarding harassment, intimidation, or bullying of students;



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- d. Execute such other duties related to school harassment, intimidation, or bullying as requested by the Superintendent; and
 - e. Meet at least twice a school year with the school Anti-Bullying Specialist(s) to discuss and strengthen procedures and policies to prevent, identify, and address harassment, intimidation, and bullying in the district.
2. The Principal in each school shall appoint a school Anti-Bullying Specialist. The Anti-Bullying Specialist shall be a guidance counselor, school psychologist, or other certified staff member trained to be the Anti-Bullying Specialist from among the currently employed staff in the school.

The school Anti-Bullying Specialist shall:

- a. Chair the School Safety/School Climate Team as provided in N.J.S.A. 18A:37-21;
 - b. Lead the investigation of incidents of harassment, intimidation, or bullying in the school; and
 - c. Act as the primary school official responsible for preventing, identifying, and addressing incidents of harassment, intimidation, or bullying in the school.
3. A School Safety/School Climate Team shall be formed in each school in the district to develop, foster, and maintain a positive school climate by focusing on the on-going systemic operational procedures and educational practices in the school, and to address

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issues such as harassment, intimidation, or bullying that affect school climate and culture. Each School Safety/School Climate Team shall meet, at a minimum, two times per school year. The School Safety/School Climate Team shall consist of the Principal or the Principal's designee who, if possible, shall be a senior administrator in the school and the following appointees of the Principal: a teacher in the school; a school Anti-Bullying Specialist; a parent of a student in the school; and other members to be



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determined by the Principal. The school Anti-Bullying Specialist shall serve as the chair of the School Safety/School Climate Team.

The School Safety/School Climate Team shall:

- a. Receive records of all complaints of harassment, intimidation, or bullying of students that have been reported to the Principal;
- b. Receive copies of all reports prepared after an investigation of an incident of harassment, intimidation, or bullying;
- c. Identify and address patterns of harassment, intimidation, or bullying of students in the school;
- d. Review and strengthen school climate and the policies of the school in order to prevent and address harassment, intimidation, or bullying of students;
- e. Educate the community, including students, teachers, administrative staff, and parents, to prevent and address harassment, intimidation, or bullying of students;
- f. Participate in the training required pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:37-13 et seq. and other training which the Principal or the district Anti-Bullying Coordinator may request. The School Safety/School Climate Team shall be provided professional development opportunities that may address effective practices of successful school climate programs or approaches; and

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- g. Execute such other duties related to harassment, intimidation, or bullying as requested by the Principal or district Anti-Bullying Coordinator.

Notwithstanding any provision of N.J.S.A. 18A:37-21 to the contrary, a parent who is a member of the School Safety/School Climate Team shall not participate in the activities of the team set forth in 3. a., b., or c. above or any other activities of the team which may compromise the confidentiality of a student, consistent with, at a minimum, the requirements



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of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (20 U.S.C. Section 1232 and 34 CFR Part 99), N.J.A.C. 6A:32-7, Student Records and N.J.A.C. 6A:14-2.9, Student Records.

G. Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying Investigation

The Board requires a thorough and complete investigation to be conducted for each report of violations and complaints which either identify harassment, intimidation, or bullying or describe behaviors that indicate harassment, intimidation, or bullying.

However, prior to initiating the investigation, the Principal or designee, in consultation with the Anti-Bullying Specialist, may make a preliminary determination as to whether the reported incident or complaint, assuming all facts presented are true, is a report within the scope of the definition of harassment, intimidation, and bullying under the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act, N.J.S.A. 18A:37-14. ~~The Superintendent or designee may sign-off on the preliminary determination.~~

The Principal shall report to the Superintendent if a preliminary determination is made that the reported incident or complaint is a report outside the scope of the definition of harassment, intimidation, or bullying. The Superintendent may require the Principal to conduct an investigation of the incident if the Superintendent determines that an investigation is necessary because the incident is within the scope of the definition of harassment, intimidation, and bullying. The Superintendent shall notify the Principal of this determination in writing. An investigation required by the Superintendent must be

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completed as soon as possible, but not later than ten school days, from the date of the written notification from the Superintendent to the Principal.

The Principal shall complete the written report form developed by the New Jersey Department of Education, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:37-15.b.(5), even if a preliminary determination is made that the reported incident or complaint is a report outside the scope of the definition of harassment, intimidation, or bullying pursuant to N.J.S.A.



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18A:37-14. This written report form shall be kept on file at the school, but shall not be included in any student record unless the incident results in disciplinary action or is otherwise required to be contained in a student's record under State or Federal law.

The Principal or designee, upon making a preliminary determination the incident or complaint is not within the scope of the definition of harassment, intimidation, and bullying, shall inform the parents of the parties involved, who may appeal the preliminary determination to the Board of Education and thereafter to the Commissioner of Education in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:3.

A Board hearing shall be held within ten business days of receipt of the request for a Board hearing. If the preliminary determination, upon review of the facts presented in the reported incident or complaint, is to continue with the harassment, intimidation, and bullying investigation, the investigation shall be completed in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:37-15.b.(6) and this Policy.

The Superintendent shall provide annually to the Board of Education information on the number of times a preliminary determination was made that an incident or complaint was outside the scope of the definition of harassment, intimidation, or bullying for the purposes of the State's monitoring of the school district pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:17-46.

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The investigation shall be initiated by the Principal or the Principal's designee within one school day of the verbal report of the incident. The investigation shall be conducted by the school Anti-Bullying Specialist in coordination with the Principal. The Principal may appoint additional personnel who are not school Anti-Bullying Specialists to assist with the investigation. Investigations or complaints concerning adult conduct shall not be investigated by a member of the same bargaining unit as the individual who is the subject of the investigation. **The Superintendent or designee will appoint a staff member to complete investigations**



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involving allegations against a staff member serving in a supervisory or administrative position.

~~An investigation concerning a staff member shall not be conducted by a staff member who is supervised by the staff member being investigated or who is an administrator in the district. The Principal or designee, in consultation with the Superintendent or designee, will appoint a staff member to complete these investigations.~~

The investigation shall be completed and the written findings submitted to the Principal as soon as possible, but not later than ten school days from the date of the written report of the incident. Should information regarding the reported incident and the investigation be received after the end of the ten-day period, the school Anti-Bullying Specialist shall amend the original report of the results of the investigation to ensure there is an accurate and current record of the facts and activities concerning the reported incident.

The Principal shall proceed in accordance with the Code of Student Conduct, as appropriate, based on the investigation findings. The Principal shall submit the report to the Superintendent within two school days of the completion of the investigation and in accordance with the Administrative Procedures Act (N.J.S.A. 52:14B-1 et seq.). As appropriate to the findings from the investigation, the Superintendent shall ensure the Code of Student Conduct has been implemented and may decide to provide intervention services, order counseling **as a result of the finding of the investigation**, establish training programs to reduce harassment, intimidation, or bullying and enhance school climate, impose discipline, or take or recommend other appropriate action **including seeking further information**, as necessary.

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The Superintendent shall report the results of each investigation to the Board of Education no later than the date of the regularly scheduled Board of Education meeting following the completion of the investigation. The Superintendent's report shall include information on any consequences imposed under the Code of Student Conduct, any services provided, training established, or other action taken or recommended by the Superintendent.

Parents of involved student offenders and targets/victims shall be provided with information about the investigation, in accordance with Federal and State law and regulation. The information to be provided to parents shall include the nature of the investigation, whether the district found evidence



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of harassment, intimidation, or bullying, and whether consequences were imposed or services provided to address the incident of harassment, intimidation, or bullying. This information shall be provided in writing within five school days after the results of the investigation are reported to the Board of Education.

A parent may request a hearing before the Board of Education after receiving the written information about the investigation. Any request for such a hearing shall be filed with the Board Secretary no later than sixty calendar days after the written information is provided to the parents. The hearing shall be held within ten business days of the request. The Board of Education shall conduct the hearing in executive session, pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act (N.J.S.A. 10:4-1 et seq.), to protect the confidentiality of the students. At the hearing, the Board may hear testimony from and consider information provided by the school Anti-Bullying Specialist and others, as appropriate, regarding the incident, the findings from the investigation of the incident, recommendations for consequences or services, and any programs instituted to reduce such incidents, prior to rendering a determination. **A redacted copy of the completed written report form developed by the New Jersey Department of Education that removes all student identification information shall be confidentially shared with the Board of Education after the conclusion of the investigation if a hearing with the Board of Education is requested by the parents pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:37-15.b.(6)(d).**

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At the regularly scheduled Board of Education meeting following its receipt of the Superintendent's report on the results of the investigations to the Board or following a hearing in executive session, the Board shall issue a decision, in writing, to affirm, reject, or modify the Superintendent's decision. The Board's decision may be appealed to the Commissioner of Education, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:3, Controversies and Disputes, no later than ninety days after issuance of the Board of Education's decision.

A parent, student, or organization may file a complaint with the Division on Civil Rights within one hundred eighty days of the occurrence of any incident of harassment, intimidation, or bullying based on membership in a



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protected group as enumerated in the "Law Against Discrimination," P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-1 et seq.).

H. Range of Responses to an Incident of Harassment, Intimidation, or Bullying

The Board shall establish a range of responses to harassment, intimidation, and bullying incidents and the Principal and the Anti-Bullying Specialist shall appropriately apply these responses once an incident of harassment, intimidation, or bullying is confirmed. The Superintendent shall respond to confirmed harassment, intimidation, and bullying, according to the parameters described in this Policy. The range of ways in which school staff will respond shall include an appropriate combination of counseling, support services, intervention services, and other programs. The Board recognizes that some acts of harassment, intimidation, or bullying may be isolated incidents requiring the school officials respond appropriately to the individual(s) committing the acts. Other acts may be so serious or parts of a larger pattern of harassment, intimidation, or bullying that they require a response either at the classroom, school building, or school district level or by law enforcement officials.

For every incident of harassment, intimidation, or bullying, the school officials must respond appropriately to the individual who committed the act. The range of responses to confirmed harassment, intimidation, or bullying acts should include individual, classroom, school, or district responses, as appropriate to the findings from each incident. Examples of responses that apply to each of these categories are provided below:

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1. Individual responses can include consistent and appropriate positive behavioral interventions (e.g., peer mentoring, short-term counseling, life skills groups) intended to remediate the problem behaviors.
2. Classroom responses can include class discussions about an incident of harassment, intimidation, or bullying, role plays (when implemented with sensitivity to a student's situation or involvement with harassment, intimidation, and bullying), research projects, observing and discussing audio-visual materials on these subjects, and skill-building lessons in courtesy, tolerance, assertiveness, and conflict management.



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3. School responses can include theme days, learning station programs, “acts of kindness” programs or awards, use of student survey data to plan prevention and intervention programs and activities, social norms campaigns, posters, public service announcements, “natural helper” or peer leadership programs, “upstander” programs, parent programs, the dissemination of information to students and parents explaining acceptable uses of electronic and wireless communication devices, and harassment, intimidation, and bullying prevention curricula or campaigns.
4. District-wide responses can comprise of adoption of school-wide programs, including enhancing the school climate, involving the community in policy review and development, providing professional development coordinating with community-based organizations (e.g., mental health, health services, health facilities, law enforcement, faith-based organizations), launching harassment, intimidation, and bullying prevention campaigns.

I. Reprisal or Retaliation Prohibited

The Board prohibits a Board member, school employee, contracted service provider who has contact with students, school volunteer, or student from engaging in reprisal, retaliation, or false accusation against a victim, witness, or one with reliable information, or any other person who has reliable information about an act of harassment, intimidation, or bullying

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or who reports an act of harassment, intimidation, or bullying. The consequence and appropriate remedial action for a person who engages in reprisal or retaliation shall be determined by the administrator after consideration of the nature, severity, and circumstances of the act, in accordance with case law, Federal and State statutes and regulations, and district policies and procedures. All suspected acts of reprisal or retaliation will be taken seriously and appropriate responses will be made in accordance with the totality of the circumstances.

Examples of consequences and remedial measures for students who engage in reprisal or retaliation are listed and described in the Consequences and Appropriate Remedial Actions section of this Policy.



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Examples of consequences for a school employee or a contracted service provider who has contact with students who engage in reprisal or retaliation may include, but not be limited to: verbal or written reprimand, increment withholding, legal action, disciplinary action, termination, and/or bans from providing services, participating in school district-sponsored programs, or being in school buildings or on school grounds.

Remedial measures may include, but not be limited to: in or out-of-school counseling, professional development programs, and work environment modifications.

Examples of consequences for a Board member who engages in reprisal or retaliation may include, but not be limited to: reprimand, legal action, and other action authorized by statute or administrative code. Remedial measures may include, but not be limited to: counseling and professional development.

J. Consequences and Appropriate Remedial Action for False Accusation

The Board prohibits any person from falsely accusing another as a means of retaliation or as a means of harassment, intimidation, or bullying.

1. Students - Consequences and appropriate remedial action for a student found to have falsely accused another as a means of harassment, intimidation, or bullying or as a means of retaliation

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may range from positive behavioral interventions up to and including suspension or expulsion, as permitted under N.J.S.A. 18A:37-1 et seq., Discipline of Students and as set forth in N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.2, Short-term Suspensions, N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.3, Long-term Suspensions and N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.45, Expulsions and those listed and described in the Consequences and Appropriate Remedial Actions section of this Policy.

2. School Employees - Consequences and appropriate remedial action for a school employee or contracted service provider who has contact with students found to have falsely accused another as a means of harassment, intimidation, or bullying or as a means of retaliation could entail discipline in accordance with district



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policies, procedures, and agreements which may include, but not be limited to: reprimand, suspension, increment withholding, termination, and/or bans from providing services, participating in school district-sponsored programs, or being in school buildings or on school grounds. Remedial measures may include, but not be limited to: in or out-of-school counseling, professional development programs, and work environment modifications.

3. Visitors or Volunteers - Consequences and appropriate remedial action for a visitor or volunteer found to have falsely accused another as a means of harassment, intimidation, or bullying or as a means of retaliation could be determined by the school administrator after consideration of the nature, severity, and circumstances of the act, including law enforcement reports or other legal actions, removal of buildings or grounds privileges, or prohibiting contact with students or the provision of student services. Remedial measures may include, but not be limited to: in or out-of-school counseling, professional development programs, and work environment modifications.

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- K. Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying Policy Publication and Dissemination

This Policy will be disseminated annually by the Superintendent to all school employees, contracted service providers who have contact with students, school volunteers, students, and parents who have children enrolled in a school in the district, along with a statement explaining the Policy applies to all acts of harassment, intimidation, or bullying, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:37-14 that occur on school property, at school-sponsored functions, or on a school bus and, as appropriate, acts that occur off school grounds.



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The Superintendent shall ensure that notice of this Policy appears in the student handbook and all other publications of the school district that set forth the comprehensive rules, procedures, and standards for schools within the school district.

The Superintendent **or designee** shall post a link to the district's Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying Policy that is prominently displayed on the homepage of the school district's website. The district will notify students and parents this Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying Policy is available on the school district's website.

The Superintendent shall post the name, school phone number, school address, and school email address of the district Anti-Bullying Coordinator on the home page of the school district's website. Each Principal shall post the name, school phone number, address, and school email address of both the Anti-Bullying Specialist and the district Anti-Bullying Coordinator on the home page of each school's website. **The Superintendent or designee shall post the contact information for the New Jersey School Climate State Coordinator on the school district's and on each school's website in the same location as this Policy is posted.**

The Superintendent or designee shall post on the school district's and each school's website the current version of "Guidance for Parents on the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act" developed by the New Jersey Department of Education.

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L. Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying Training and Prevention Programs

The Superintendent and Principal(s) shall provide training on the school district's Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying Policy to current and new school employees; including administrators, instructors, student support services, administrative/office support, transportation, food service, facilities/maintenance; contracted service providers; and volunteers who have significant contact with students; and persons contracted by the district to provide services to students. The training shall include instruction on preventing bullying on the basis of the protected categories enumerated in N.J.S.A. 18A:37-14 and other distinguishing characteristics that may incite incidents of discrimination, harassment, intimidation, or bullying.



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Each public school teacher and educational services professional shall be required to complete at least two hours of instruction in harassment, intimidation, and bullying prevention within each five year professional development period as part of the professional development requirement pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18:37-22.d. The required two hours of suicide prevention instruction shall include information on the risk of suicide and incidents of harassment, intimidation, or 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.

Each newly elected or appointed Board member must complete, during the first year of the member's first term, a training program on harassment, intimidation, and bullying in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:12-33.

The school district shall provide time during the usual school schedule for the Anti-Bullying Coordinator and each school Anti-Bullying Specialist to participate in harassment, intimidation, and bullying training programs.

A school leader shall complete school leader training that shall include information on the prevention of harassment, intimidation, and bullying as required in N.J.S.A. 18A:26-8.2.

The school district shall annually observe a "Week of Respect" beginning with the first Monday in October. In order to recognize the importance of

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character education, the school district will observe the week by providing age-appropriate instruction focusing on the prevention of harassment, intimidation, and bullying as defined in N.J.S.A. 18A:37-14. Throughout the school year the district will provide ongoing age-appropriate instruction on preventing harassment, intimidation, or bullying, in accordance with the Core Curriculum Content Standards, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:37-29.

The school district and each school in the district will annually establish, implement, document, and assess harassment, intimidation, and bullying prevention programs or approaches, and other initiatives in consultation with school staff, students, administrators, volunteers, parents, law enforcement, and community members. The programs or approaches and other initiatives shall be designed to create school-wide conditions to



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prevent and address harassment, intimidation, and bullying in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:37-17 et seq.

M. Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying Policy Reevaluation, Reassessment, and Review

The Superintendent shall develop and implement a process for annually discussing the school district's Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying Policy with students.

The Superintendent, Principal(s), and the Anti-Bullying Coordinator, with input from the schools' Anti-Bullying Specialists, shall annually conduct a reevaluation, reassessment, and review of the Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying Policy, and any report(s) and/or finding(s) of the School Safety/School Climate Team(s). The Superintendent shall recommend to the Board necessary revisions and additions to the Policy consistent with N.J.S.A. 18A:37-15.c., as well as to harassment, intimidation, and bullying prevention programs and approaches based on the findings from the evaluation, reassessment, and review.

N. Reports to Board of Education and New Jersey Department of Education

The Superintendent shall report two times each school year, between September 1 and January 1 and between January 1 and June 30 at a public

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hearing all acts of violence, vandalism, and harassment, intimidation, and bullying which occurred during the previous reporting period in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:17-46. The information shall also be reported to the New Jersey Department of Education in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:17-46.

O. School and District Grading Requirements

Each school and each district shall receive a grade for the purpose of assessing their efforts to implement policies and programs consistent with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18:37-13 et seq. The grade received by a school and the district shall be posted on the homepage of the school's website and the district's website in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:17-46. A link to the report that was submitted by the Superintendent to the



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Department of Education shall also be available on the school district's website. This information shall be posted on the websites within ten days of receipt of the grade for each school and the district.

P. Reports to Law Enforcement

The Superintendent or designee and the Principal shall consult law enforcement, as appropriate, pursuant to the provisions of the Uniform State Memorandum of Agreement Between Education and Law Enforcement Officials, if the student's behavior may constitute a possible violation of the New Jersey Code of Criminal Justice.

Some acts of harassment, intimidation, and bullying may be bias-related acts and ~~potentially bias crimes~~ and school officials must report to law enforcement officials **any bias related acts, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:16-6.3(e), either serious acts or those which may be part of a larger pattern in accordance with** and pursuant to the provisions of the Memorandum of Agreement Between Education and Law Enforcement Officials.

Q. Collective Bargaining Agreements and Individual Contracts

Nothing in N.J.S.A. 18A:37-13.1 et seq. may be construed as affecting the provisions of any collective bargaining agreement or individual contract of employment in effect on the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act's effective date (January 5, 2011). N.J.S.A. 18A:37-30.

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Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying

The Board of Education prohibits the employment of or contracting for school staff positions with individuals whose criminal history record check reveals a record of conviction for a crime of bias intimidation or conspiracy to commit or attempt to commit a crime of bias intimidation.

R. Students with Disabilities

Nothing contained in N.J.S.A. 18A:37-13.1 et seq. may alter or reduce the rights of a student with a disability with regard to disciplinary actions or to general or special education services and supports. N.J.S.A. 18A:37-32.

S. Approved Private Schools for Students with Disabilities (APSSD)

In accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.7(a).2.ix.(2), the Board of Education shall investigate a complaint or **report** of harassment,



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intimidation, or bullying, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.7(a).2.ix. and Section G. of this Policy, occurring on Board of Education school buses, at Board of Education school-sponsored functions, and off school grounds involving a student who attends an APSSD. The investigation shall be conducted by a Board of Education Anti-Bullying Specialist, in consultation with the APSSD.

The school district shall submit all subsequent amended Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying Policies to the Executive County Superintendent of Schools within thirty days of Board adoption.

N.J.S.A. 18A:37-13 through 18A:37-32~~37~~

N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.1 et seq.; ~~6A:16-7.9 et seq.~~

Model Policy and Guidance for Prohibiting Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying on School Property, at School-Sponsored Functions and on School Buses – April 2011 – New Jersey Department of Education

Memorandum – New Jersey Commissioner of Education – Guidance for Schools on Implementing the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act -- December 16, 2011

Adopted: May 27, 2021

Revised: August 2022

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Maintenance and Repair
M

7410 MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR

The Board of Education recognizes the fixed assets of the school district represent a significant investment of this community and maintenance is a prime concern to the Board.

The school district is required to develop, approve, and implement a comprehensive maintenance plan in accordance with the requirements of N.J.A.C. 6A:26-20.5. A “comprehensive maintenance plan” means a school district’s multi-year maintenance plan covering required maintenance activities for each school facility in the school district adopted pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:26.

Required maintenance activities include those activities outlined in N.J.A.C. 6A:26-20.3. The school district shall determine the required maintenance activities



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to reasonably maintain each school facility in the school district, and shall report the activities in its annual comprehensive maintenance plan pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:26-20.5.

In accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:26-20.4(a), expenditures for required maintenance activities set forth in N.J.A.C. 6A:26-20.3 shall qualify as investments in maintenance for purposes of calculating the required maintenance expenditure in N.J.A.C. 6A:26-20.4(d) and (e), the annual required maintenance budget amount pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:26-20.8, and the maintenance factor (M) in N.J.S.A. 18A:7G-9. Expenditures that qualify as required maintenance shall be in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:26-20.4.

The school district's comprehensive maintenance plan shall be submitted to the Executive County Superintendent by a Board of Education resolution every school year, pursuant N.J.A.C. 6A:26-20.5(a)1.

The required annual maintenance budget amount as reported in its comprehensive maintenance plan shall be included in the district's annual budget certified for taxes in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:26-20.8(a). The required annual maintenance budget amount shall be calculated and adjusted in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:26-20.8(b). The Executive County Superintendent shall not approve the school district's budget that does not comply with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:26-20.1 et seq.

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Maintenance and Repair

Commencing September 1, 2002, no person shall be employed by the Board of Education as a buildings and grounds supervisor, as defined in N.J.S.A. 18A:17-49, unless the person is a certified educational facilities manager pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:17-49 and 18A:17-50.

Maintenance and repair requests and repairs shall be processed in accordance with the procedures as outlined in Regulation 7410.

N.J.S.A. 18A:7G-9; 18A:17-49; 18A:17-50; 18A:18A-43; 18A:21-1



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N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-6.9; 6A:26-1.1 et seq.; 6A:26-20.3; 6A:26-20.4; 6A:26-20.5;
6A:26-20.6; 6A:26-20.8

Adopted:

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Emergency and Crisis Situations
M

8420 EMERGENCY AND CRISIS SITUATIONS

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

“School security drill” means an exercise, other than a fire drill, to practice procedures that respond to an emergency situation including, but not limited to, a



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bomb threat, non-fire evacuation, lockdown, or active shooter situation and that is similar in duration to a fire drill.

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

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

The school district shall develop and provide an in-service training program for all school district employees to enable them to recognize and appropriately respond to safety and security concerns, including emergencies and crises, consistent with the school district's plans, procedures, and mechanisms for school safety and security and the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:16-5.1. New employees

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shall receive this in-service training, as appropriate, within sixty days of the effective date of their employment. This in-service training program shall be reviewed annually and updated, as appropriate.

The Board shall ensure individuals employed in the district in a substitute capacity are provided with information and training on the district's practices and procedures on school safety and security including instruction on school security drills, evacuation procedures, and emergency response protocols in the district and the school building where the individuals are employed in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:41-7.

Every Principal of a school of two or more rooms, or of a school of one room, when located above the first story of a building, shall have at least one fire drill and one



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school security drill each month within the school hours, including any summer months during which the school is open for instructional programs, and shall require all teachers of all schools, whether occupying buildings of one or more stories, to keep all doors and exits of their respective rooms and buildings unlocked during the school hours, except during an emergency lockdown or an emergency lockdown drill. Where school buildings have been provided with fire escapes, they shall be used by a part or all of the students performing every fire drill. An actual fire or school security emergency that occurs at a school during the month and that includes activities which are the equivalent of a drill shall be considered a drill for the purposes of meeting the requirements of N.J.S.A. 18A:41-1.

Every school in the district shall conduct a school security drill within the first fifteen days of the beginning of the school year. **Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the school district shall ensure that a school security drill that occurs when students are present:**

1. **Includes clear, developmentally and age-appropriate messaging to students and staff at the conclusion of the drill that the event is a drill and that no current danger exists;**
2. **Does not expose students to content or imaging that is not developmentally or age-appropriate;**
3. **Is paired with trauma-informed approaches to address any student inquiries or concerns which may arise as a result of a school security drill;**

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4. **Does not include the use of fake blood, real or prop firearms, or the simulations of gun shots, explosions, or other sounds or visuals that may induce panic or traumatic response from a student or school district employee;**
5. **Does not require a student to role play as a victim, but may include first aid training in which students participate; and**
6. **Is accessible to students with disabilities and mental health conditions, and provides all necessary accommodations for these students.**

The Principal or designee shall provide written notification to the parent of a student enrolled in the school following completion of a school security drill,



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which notice shall be provided to the parent by no later than the end of the school day on which the school security drill is conducted.

The Principal or designee will provide local law enforcement or other emergency responders, as appropriate, with a friendly notification at least forty-eight hours prior to holding a school security drill. A law enforcement officer shall be present at a minimum of one school security drill in each school year in order to make recommendations on any improvements or changes to school security drill procedures that the officer may deem advisable in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:41-1. **The school district may permit emergency personnel access to the buildings and grounds of its schools for school security drills that are scheduled outside of school hours and during such times as students are not present.**

The school district shall review and update its school security drill procedures using a process that coincides with the review of the school safety and security plan developed pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-5.1 and collects input from emergency personnel; parents of students enrolled in the school district; teachers and staff employed in the district; mental health professionals; and student government representatives from multiple grade levels.

The school district shall annually track data on such measures and information as required by the Commissioner of Education, and shall report the data to the Commissioner.

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Such drills and in-service training programs shall be conducted in accordance with a building security drill guide and training materials that educate school employees on proper evacuation and lockdown procedures in a variety of emergency situations on school grounds in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:16-5.1.

The school district will be required to annually submit a security drill statement of assurance to the New Jersey Department of Education by June 30 of each school year. Each school in the district will be required to complete a security drill record form as required by the New Jersey Department of Education.

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

N.J.S.A. 18A:41-1; 18A:41-2; 18A:41-6; 18A:41-7; **18A:41-7a.**

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



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Adopted:

COMMUNITY
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Cooperation with Law Enforcement Agencies
M

9320 COOPERATION WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES

The Board of Education recognizes that keeping students and staff safe and helping children understand and respect the law is best served by a close and cooperative relationship with local law enforcement.

The Board adopts this Policy and Regulation 9320 in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:16-6.1. to ensure cooperation between school staff and law enforcement authorities in all matters relating to the unlawful possession, distribution and disposition of controlled dangerous substances, including anabolic steroids, as defined in N.J.S.A. 24:21-2 and N.J.S.A. 2C:35-2, drug paraphernalia as defined in N.J.S.A. 2C:36-1, alcoholic beverages; firearms, as defined in N.J.S.A. 2C:39-1.f.; and other deadly weapons as defined in N.J.S.A. 2C:39-1.r.



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The Board adopts Policy and Regulation 9320 in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:16-6.1. to ensure cooperation between school district staff and law enforcement authorities in all matters relating to the planning and conduct of law enforcement activities and operations occurring on school grounds, including arrest procedures, undercover school operations, and mandatory reporting the offenses listed in the Memorandum of Agreement between Education and Law Enforcement Officials (MOA).

The Superintendent or designee shall institute a program of such communication and cooperation with law enforcement in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:16-6.1.

This Policy and Regulation 9320 shall be submitted for review and approval to the Executive County Superintendent in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:16-6.2(a)2.

The Superintendent or designee shall annually review the MOA as adopted by the Board to ensure this Policy and Regulation 9320 are in accordance with the requirements outlined therein.

N.J.A.C. 6A:16-6.1.; 6A:16-6.2; 6A:16-6.4.

Adopted:

