

Book	Neola Policy Templates for Catch Up
Section	Board Approved Policies 5000s
Title	ELIGIBILITY OF RESIDENT/NONRESIDENT STUDENTS
Code	po5111
Status	
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5111 - ELIGIBILITY OF RESIDENT/NONRESIDENT STUDENTS

The Board of Education establishes the following residency policy for determining eligibility to attend the schools of this District.

The Board shall provide tuition-free education for the benefit of children at least five (5) but under twenty-two (22) years of age whose parents reside in the District and such others as may be eligible pursuant to Federal and/or State law and the policies of the Board, including disabled preschool children who are at least three (3) years of age but not of compulsory school age and who are not currently enrolled in kindergarten, regardless of their citizenship or immigration status. The Board shall meaningfully communicate material information about enrollment requirements and procedures with parents, including parents who have limited proficiency in English. Access to information regarding enrollment requirements and procedures shall be available on the District's website.

In addition, the Board shall provide tuition-free education for the benefit of a child whose grandparent(s) resides in the District and who is the subject of a:

- A. power of attorney designating the grandparent as the attorney-in-fact; or
- B. caretaker authorization affidavit executed by the grandparent that provides the grandparent with authority over the care, physical custody, and control of the child, including the ability to enroll the child in school, consent in all school-related matters, and discuss with the District the child's educational progress.

In accordance with State law, the grandparent shall be considered the parent of the child who is the subject of the power of attorney (Form 5111 F7) or caretaker authorization affidavit (Form 5111 F8). The child may attend the schools of this District (Form 5111 F9) unless the power of attorney or caretaker authorization form was created for the sole purpose of enrolling the child in the District so that the child may participate in the academic or interscholastic programs of this District or another reason exists to exclude the child under State law. Additionally, the child may attend the schools of the District until the power of attorney or caretaker authorization affidavit terminates upon the occurrence of one (1) of the following events:

- A. the child ceases to reside with the grandparent(s);
- B. the document is terminated by court order; or
- C. either the child who is the subject of the document or the grandparent dies.

Additionally, the power of attorney terminates if it is revoked in writing by the person who created it and that person gives written notice of the revocation to the grandparent and the juvenile court with which the power of attorney was filed. Further, the caretaker authorization affidavit terminates if the parent, guardian, or custodian of the child acts to negate, reverse, or otherwise disapprove of an action or decision of the grandparent(s) who signed the affidavit with respect to the child, and the grandparent either voluntarily returns the child to the physical custody of the parent, guardian, or custodian or fails to file a complaint to seek custody within fourteen (14) days after delivery of the written notice of negation, revocation, or other disapproval. It is the responsibility of the grandparent(s) to notify the District within one (1) week of the termination of the power of attorney or caretaker authorization affidavit.

The Board reserves the right to verify each student's residency and other conditions of eligibility for tuition-free education, as well as the validity of the claim of any student to an education in the District. In addition, if a student has recently been discharged or released from the custody of the Department of Youth Services (DYS) and is seeking admittance or re-

admittance into the District, such student will not be admitted until the records required to be released by DYS to the Superintendent have been received (see AG 5111 for listing of required records). Within twenty-four (24) hours of admission into the District, the Superintendent shall request a copy of the student's school records from the school the student most recently attended.

Nonresident Eligibility for Tuition-Free Education

A student shall be entitled to attend school in this District free of any tuition obligation under the following circumstances:

- A. A child whose parent has signed a contract to buy or build a house in this District and provides proper sworn statements shall be enrolled without payment of tuition for a period not to exceed ninety (90) days. The Superintendent is authorized to determine the number of days. The parent shall provide:
 - 1. a sworn statement explaining the situation, the location of the house being purchased or built, and stating the parent's intention to reside there upon its completion; and
 - 2. a statement from the builder that the house is being built for the parent and its location or a statement from a real estate broker or bank officer confirming that the parent has a contract to purchase, that the parent is waiting upon a closing date, and that the house is at the location identified in the parent's sworn statement.
- Such child shall also be eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics if released by formal action of the district of current residency and the OHSA.
- B. Children under a shared-parenting plan establishing both parents as residential parents when the child is residing with the parent if one (1) parent resides in the District. If a student resides in another school district but attends school in this District (where one (1) parent resides), it is the obligation of the parents to provide transportation for that student from the home of the nonresident parent. Where a court has vested legal custody with only one (1) parent, the child is entitled to attend school tuition-free only in the district in which the custodial parent resides.
- C. Children of active-duty uniformed services members who are subject to a transfer or relocation order and will be relocating to but do not yet reside in the District shall be permitted to apply for enrollment in the same manner and at the same time as resident students in accordance with the provisions of the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children (see Policy 5111.02).
- D. A child under the age of eighteen (18) years of age who is married and resides in the District.
- E. Students between the ages of eighteen (18) and twenty-two (22) who support themselves by their own labor, live apart from their parents, reside in the District, and have not successfully completed the District's high school program or their I.E.P.
- F. Students who are considered by Federal law to be illegal aliens, children or youth in foster care, and/or homeless students who are required to be admitted by Federal law and in accordance with State guidelines.
- G. A child with a medical condition that may require emergency medical attention providing a parent is employed in the District and submits the proper certification required by the Board, including a medical statement from the child's physician.
- H. A child, living with a resident other than a parent and whose parent is in the armed services outside the State of Ohio, providing the child's parent submits the appropriate affidavit stating that the parent is in the armed forces outside the State of Ohio, intends to reside in the District upon return to the State, and provides the name and address of the person with whom the child will reside. The child may attend school in the District tuition-free for a period not to exceed twelve (12) months. If the parent does not intend to reside in the District, the child may attend school as a tuition student only.
- I. A student who is living with a parent under the care of a shelter program for victims of domestic violence located in the District.
- J. A nonresident child who has been or is currently being placed for adoption with a resident of this District unless the adoption has been terminated or another district is required to educate the child.
- K. Any student who enrolls in the District under the District's open enrollment policy.

Optional Tuition-Free Education

The Board may admit students tuition-free under the following circumstances:

A. ☒ Children under the age of twenty-two (22) who are:

1. in the legal custody of their parent;
2. residing with a resident grandparent; and
3. not in need of special education, provided the Board and the board of education of the child's district of residence enter into a written agreement specifying there is good cause for the transfer, describing the nature of the good cause, and consenting to the attendance.

The grandparent and, if possible, the custodial parent shall sign the consent form providing the necessary authorizations. This option does not apply to children who are residing with a resident grandparent and are the subject of either a power of attorney or caretaker authorization affidavit that provides the grandparent with authority over the care, physical custody, and control of the child, as set forth in an earlier section of this policy. The Board shall admit children who are the subject of either a power of attorney or caretaker authorization affidavit tuition-free.

B. ☒ Foreign-exchange students participating in a bona fide foreign-exchange program or residents of foreign nations who request admission as foreign-exchange students or the student is a non-Ohio, U.S. resident admitted under an exchange program operated by a student exchange organization.

C. ~~() Residents, regardless of age, who have graduated from an approved special education program and who wish to participate in a vocational program offered by the District or the _____ JVS, provided all of the conditions established in AC 5111 have been met.~~

D. ~~() Any member of the District's classified staff who wishes to participate in a vocational education program related to the staff member's position that is offered by the District or the _____ JVS, providing the staff member is authorized for admission by the Superintendent.~~

E. ☒ Any resident of the District who, although not otherwise eligible, meets the criteria for free admission as established by the State Board of Education.

F. ☒ Twelfth-grade students whose parents move out of the District after the commencement of classes shall be allowed to attend school tuition-free for the remainder of the current year and one (1) additional semester.

☒ The Superintendent may allow a student to remain in school beyond the additional semester if, in his/her opinion, the student is making adequate progress toward completion of the high school program or I.E.P. but, due to circumstances such as illness, personal hardship, family responsibilities, or the need to work part-time, has been unable to complete the program or I.E.P. within the school year and/or one (1) additional semester.

G. ☒ Natural or legally-adopted children of full-time staff members who reside outside the District provided proper application, prior to the first day of school, has been made. **[NOTE: REFER TO TERMS OF APPLICABLE COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENTS]**

H. ☒ A nonresident student under the age of twenty-two (22) is entitled to attend school in the District if the superintendent of the student's district of residence and the Superintendent enter into a written agreement consenting to the attendance and specifying that the purpose of the attendance is to protect the student's physical or mental well-being or to deal with other extenuating circumstances deemed appropriate by the superintendents.

If the student is not receiving special education, there shall be no requirement for either district to provide transportation for the student.

Any student admitted to the District under this provision shall be allowed to participate in all District student activities, including interscholastic athletics, on the same basis as any student who has attended the District's schools while of compulsory age.

I. ~~() A student whose parent is a full-time employee of an educational service center, provided the student's parent's job is primarily located in the District, in the same manner that it enrolls a child whose parent is a full-time employee of the District. [NOTE: REFER TO TERMS OF APPLICABLE COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENTS]~~

- J. ☒ A child may enroll free of any tuition obligation for a period not to exceed sixty (60) days, on the sworn statement of an adult resident of the District that the adult resident has initiated legal proceedings for custody of the child. If the court fails to grant the adult resident custody, continued enrollment beyond the sixty (60) days will be at the discretion of the Board. If enrollment continues, tuition shall be assessed in accordance with law. If the court awards custody to the adult resident, the adult resident shall produce the journal entry awarding custody, and tuition shall be determined in accordance with State law and/or the court order.
- K. ☒ A child who becomes a nonresident at the time of a parent's death may continue to attend school in the District on a nontuition basis for the remainder of the school year.

~~[] Optional Enrollment~~

~~A student under twenty-two (22) years of age who is lawfully in attendance may continue to attend school in the District if, at any time following the end of the first full week of October of the school year, the child or the child's parent has relocated to a new address located outside of the District but within the same county as the child's or the parent's address immediately prior to the relocation. In such case, the child may continue to attend school in the District, and at the school to which the child was assigned at the end of the first full week of October of the current school year, for the balance of the school year, only if the following conditions are met:~~

- ~~A. the District to which the child or child's parent has relocated, which must be within the same county as the child's or the parent's address immediately prior to the relocation, has likewise adopted a policy to enroll children as described in this section;~~
- ~~B. the child's parent provides written notification of the relocation outside of the District to the Superintendent of each of the two (2) school districts.~~

~~Any person or entity that owes tuition to the District on behalf of the child at the end of the first full week in October, as provided in State law, shall continue to owe such tuition to the District for the child's attendance pursuant to this section for the lesser of the balance of the school year or the balance of the time that the child attends school in the District under this section. If the child's attendance was tuition free prior to moving to the child's new district of residence, the child may continue to attend tuition free for the remainder of the school year.~~

~~Transportation for a child attending school pursuant to this section shall be provided in accordance with any agreement regarding transportation that exists between this District and the student's new district of residence or, if no such agreement exists, in the same manner as for students attending under open enrollment.~~

~~[END OF OPTION]~~

Students Suspended or Expelled from Other District

After offering an opportunity for a hearing, the Superintendent, at the Superintendent's discretion, may deny admission to a student who has been suspended or expelled from another public school within or outside the State, for the period of unexpired time of the suspension or expulsion. If the expulsion is from an out-of-state public school, the lesser of the period of such expulsion or the period of expulsion which would have been applied had the student committed the offense in this District will be imposed. When the suspension or expulsion from the other district has expired, the student is to be admitted, providing all other eligibility requirements have been met. This provision also applies to a student who is the subject of a power of attorney designating the child's grandparent as the attorney-in-fact or caretaker authorization affidavit executed by the child's grandparent.

Mandatory Admission/Payment of Tuition

The Board shall admit students who reside in the District, but their parents do not reside in the District, and tuition payments shall be assessed pursuant to State law if:

- A. the student is in the legal or permanent custody of a governmental agency or a person other than the student's natural or adoptive parents;
- B. the student resides in a home as defined by State law;
- C. the student requires special education;
- D. the child resides in the District and the child's parent is in a residential facility, correctional facility, or juvenile placement, and the other parent, if living and not in such a facility or placement, is not known to reside in this State.

If the District admits a student to the District who is not otherwise entitled to attend or whose attendance tuition is not an obligation of another district, the Board shall collect tuition from the student's parents.

~~The Superintendent shall develop administrative guidelines for the enrollment of nonresident children which:~~

- A. ~~() admit such children only on the proper application of the parent or guardian, release by the board of education of residency, if required, and the approval of the Board;~~
- B. ~~() do not exclude any child, otherwise eligible, on the basis of such child's race, color, national origin, sex (including sexual orientation and transgender identity), disability, religion, or ancestry;~~
- C. ~~() verify claims of residency;~~
- D. ~~() deny admission where the educational program maintained for the children of this District is inadequate to meet the needs of the applicant;~~
- E. ~~() make continued enrollment of any nonmandatory, nonresident, regular education student contingent upon maintaining good standards of citizenship and discipline.~~

~~The Superintendent shall () recommend to the Board for their approval the admission of qualified applicants () report to the Board at each regular meeting for its information and consent of the enrollment of each nonresident student [END OF OPTION].~~

~~Tuition rates shall be determined as required by Ohio Statutes.~~

~~Tuition shall be charged () monthly, in advance of attendance () _____ [other] [END OF OPTION].~~

Safe at Home/Address Confidentiality

If a parent (or adult student) presents to the District a valid program authorization card issued by the Secretary of State certifying that the parent (or adult student), the parent's child, or a member of the parent's household is a participant in the Safe at Home/Address Confidentiality Program, the Board shall use the address designated by the Secretary of State to serve as the student's address for enrollment purposes. The District shall place a copy of any certification provided by the parent in the enrollment files.

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Legal

A.C. 3301-42-01

R.C. 111.41, 111.42, 111.43, 111.46, 111.99

R.C. 2152.18, 3313.48, 3313.64, 3313.65, 3313.66, 3313.90, 3313.97, 3313.98

R.C. 3313.533, 3313.645, 3313.649, 3313.672, 3317.08, 3317.081, 3321.01(B), 3321.03

R.C. 3323.141, 3327.04, 3327.05, 3327.06, 5139.05

42 U.S.C. 11431 et seq.

Book	Neola Policy Templates for Catch Up
Section	Board Approved Policies 5000s
Title	HOMELESS STUDENTS
Code	po5111.01
Status	
Adopted	November 9, 2009
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5111.01 - HOMELESS STUDENTS

Definitions

Children who are identified as meeting the Federal definition of "homeless" will be provided a free appropriate public education (FAPE) in the same manner as all other students of the District. To that end, homeless students will not be stigmatized or segregated on the basis of their status as homeless. The District shall establish safeguards that protect homeless students from discrimination on the basis of their homelessness. The District shall regularly review and revise its policies, including school discipline policies that impact homeless students or those who may be a member of any of the Protected Classes (Policy 2260).

Homeless children and youth are defined as individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence, and include children and youth who meet any of the following criteria:

- A. share the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or similar reason
- B. live in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to a lack of alternative adequate accommodations
- C. live in emergency or transitional shelters
- D. are abandoned in hospitals
- E. have a primary night time residence that is a public or private place not designed for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings, or
- F. live in a car, park, public space, abandoned building, substandard housing¹, bus or train station, or similar setting

Pursuant to the McKinney-Vento Act, an unaccompanied youth includes a homeless child or youth not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian.

Additionally, pursuant to Federal and State law, migratory children who are living in circumstances described in A-F above are also considered homeless.

Services to Homeless Children and Youth

The District will provide services to homeless students that are comparable to other students in the District, including:

- A. transportation services;
- B. public preschool programs and other educational programs and services for which the homeless student meets eligibility criteria including:
 - 1. programs for children with disabilities;
 - 2. programs for English Learners (ELs) (i.e., students with Limited English Proficiency (LEP);

3. programs in career and technical education;
4. programs for gifted and talented students;
5. school nutrition programs; and
6. before - and after-school programs.

The Superintendent will appoint a Liaison for Homeless Children who will perform the duties as assigned by the Superintendent. Additionally, the Liaison will coordinate and collaborate with the State Coordinator for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth as well as with community and school personnel responsible for the provision of education and related services to homeless children and youths. For more information on the role of the Liaison, refer to AG 5111.01.

School Stability

Maintaining a stable school environment is crucial to a homeless student's success in school. To ensure stability, the District must make school placement determinations based on the "best interest" of the homeless child or youth based on student-centered factors. The District must:

- A. continue the student's education in the school of origin for the duration of homelessness when a family becomes homeless between academic years or during an academic year; and for the remainder of the academic year even if the child or youth becomes permanently housed during an academic year; or
- B. enroll the student in any public school that non-homeless students who live in the attendance area in which the child or youth is actually living are eligible to attend.

When determining a child or youth's best interest, the District must assume that keeping the homeless student in the school of origin is in that student's best interest, except when doing so is contrary to the request of the student's parent or guardian, or the student if he or she is an unaccompanied youth. The school of origin is the school the student attended or enrolled in when permanently housed, including a public preschool. The school of origin also includes the designated receiving school at the next level for feeder school patterns, when the student completes the final grade level at the school of origin.

When determining the student's best interest, the District must also consider student-centered factors, including the impact of mobility on achievement, education, health, and safety of homeless students and give priority to the request of the student's parent or guardian, or youth (if an unaccompanied youth). The District also considers the school placement of siblings when making this determination.

If the District finds that it is not in the student's best interest to attend the school of origin or the school requested by the parent or guardian, or unaccompanied youth, the District must provide the individual with a written explanation and reason for the determination in a manner and form understandable to the parent, guardian or unaccompanied youth. This written explanation will include appeal rights and be provided in a timely manner.

Immediate Enrollment

The District has an obligation to remove barriers to the enrollment and retention of homeless students. A school chosen on the basis of a best interest determination must immediately enroll the homeless student, even if the student does not have the documentation typically necessary for enrollment, such as immunization and other required health records, proof of residency, proof of guardianship, birth certificate or previous academic records. The homeless student must also be enrolled immediately regardless of whether the student missed application or enrollment deadlines during the period of homelessness or has outstanding fines or fees.

The enrolling school must immediately contact the school last attended by the homeless student to obtain relevant academic or other records. If the student needs immunization or other health records, the enrolling school must immediately refer the parent, guardian or unaccompanied youth to the local liaison, who will help obtain the immunizations, screenings or other required health records. Records usually maintained by the school must be kept so that they are available in a timely fashion if the child enters a new school or district. These records include immunization or other required health records, academic records, birth certificates, guardianship records, and evaluations for special services or programs. Procedures for inter-State records transfer between schools should be taken into account in order to facilitate immediate enrollment.

In addition, the District will also make sure that, once identified for services, the homeless student is attending classes and not facing barriers to accessing academic and extracurricular activities, including magnet school, summer school, career and technical education, advanced placement, online learning, and charter school programs (if available).

Transportation

The District provides homeless students with transportation services that are comparable to those available to non-homeless students. The District also provides or arranges for transportation to and from the school of origin at the parent or guardian's request, or the liaison's request in the case of an unaccompanied youth. Transportation is arranged promptly to allow for immediate enrollment and will not create barriers to a homeless student's attendance, retention, and success.

- A. If the homeless student continues to live in the District, where the school of origin is located, transportation will be provided or arranged for the student's transportation to or from the school of origin.
- B. If the homeless student moves to an area served by another district, though continuing his/her education at the school of origin (which is in the District), the District and the district in which the student resides must agree upon a method to apportion responsibility and costs for transportation to the school of origin. If the districts cannot agree upon such a method, the responsibility and costs will be shared equally.
- C. When the student obtains permanent housing, transportation shall be provided to and from the school of origin until the end of the school year.

The District determines the mode of transportation in consultation with the parent or guardian and based on the best interest of the student.

In accordance with Federal law, the above transportation requirements still apply during the resolution of any dispute. The District will work with the State to resolve transportation disputes with other districts. If the disputing district is in another State, the District will turn to the State for assistance as Federal guidance says that both States should try to arrange an agreement for the districts.

Dispute Resolution

Homeless families and youths have the right to challenge placement and enrollment decisions. If a dispute arises between a school and a parent, guardian or unaccompanied youth regarding eligibility, school selection, or enrollment of a homeless student, the District must follow its dispute resolution procedures, consistent with the State's procedures. If such a dispute occurs, the District will immediately enroll the homeless student in the school in which enrollment is sought pending final resolution of the dispute, including all appeals. The student will receive all services for which they are eligible until all disputes and appeals are resolved.

Pursuant to State, District and Board of Education policies, the District will provide the parent, guardian or unaccompanied youth with a written explanation of all decisions regarding school selection and enrollment made by the school, District, or State, along with a written explanation of appeal rights.

The District's notice and written explanation about the reason for its decision will include, at a minimum, an explanation of how the school reached its decision regarding eligibility, school selection, or enrollment, including 1) a description of the proposed or refused action by the school, 2) an explanation of why the action is proposed or refused, 3) a description of other options the school considered and why those options were rejected, 4) a description of any other relevant factors to the school's decision and information related to the eligibility or best interest determination such as the facts, witnesses, and evidence relied upon and their sources, and 5) an appropriate timeline to ensure deadlines are not missed. The District must also include contact information for the Liaison and the State Coordinator, and a brief description of their roles. The District will also refer the parent, guardian or unaccompanied youth to the Liaison, who will carry out the dispute resolution process.

The District ensures that all decisions and notices are drafted in a language and format appropriate for low-literacy, limited vision readers, and individuals with disabilities. For children and youth and/or parents or guardians who are English learners or whose dominant language is not English, the District will provide translation and interpretation services in connection with all phases of the dispute resolution process pursuant to Federal laws. The District will also provide electronic notices via email if the parent, guardian or unaccompanied youth has access to email followed by a written notice provided in person or sent by mail.

Homeless Children in Preschool

Homeless preschool-aged children and their families shall be provided equal access to the educational services for which they are eligible, including preschool programs, including Head Start programs, administered by the District. Additionally, the homeless child must remain in the public preschool of origin, unless a determination is made that it is not in the child's best interest. When making such a decision on the student's best interest, the District takes into account the same factors as it does for any student, regardless of age. It also considers pre-school age specific factors, such as 1) the child's

attachment to preschool teachers and staff; 2) the impact of school climate on the child, including school safety; the quality and availability of services to meet the child's needs, including health, developmental, and social-emotional needs; and 3) travel time to and from school.

The District must also provide transportation services to the school of origin for a homeless child attending preschool. It is the District's responsibility to provide the child with transportation to the school of origin even if the homeless preschooler who is enrolled in a public preschool in the District moves to another district that does not provide widely available or universal preschool.

Public Notice

In addition to notifying the parent or guardian of the homeless student or the unaccompanied youth of the applicable rights described above, the District shall post public notice of educational rights of children and youth experiencing homelessness in each school. In addition, the District shall post public notice of the McKinney-Vento rights in places that homeless populations frequent, such as shelters, soup kitchens, and libraries in a manner and form understandable to the parents and guardians and unaccompanied youths.

Records

The local liaison will assist the homeless students and their parent(s) or guardian(s) or unaccompanied homeless students in their efforts to provide documentation to meet State and local requirements for entry into school.

All records for homeless students shall be maintained, subject to the protections of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and Policy 8330, and in such a manner so that they are available in a timely fashion and can be transferred promptly to the appropriate parties, as required. Pursuant to the McKinney-Vento Act, information regarding a homeless student's living situation is not considered directory information and must be provided the same protections as other non-directory personally identifiable information (PII) contained in student education records under FERPA. The District shall incorporate practices to protect student privacy as described in AG 5111.01, AG 8330, and in accordance with the provisions of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) and the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (FVPSA).

No Board policy, administrative procedure, or practice will be interpreted or applied in such a way as to inhibit the enrollment, attendance, or school success of homeless children.

¹ According to nonregulatory guidance from the U.S. Department of Education (ED), standards for adequate housing may vary by locality. Please see ED guidance for factors to consider when determining whether a child or youth is living in "substandard housing."

Note:

Education for Homeless Children and Youth Programs, Non-Regulatory Guidance, U.S. Department of Education (ED), Title VII-B of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act, at A-3 (July 27, 2016).

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42 U.S.C. 11431 et seq. (McKinney - Vento Homeless Act)

Book	Neola Policy Templates for Catch Up
Section	Board Approved Policies 5000s
Title	EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY FOR MILITARY CHILDREN
Code	po5111.02
Status	
Adopted	February 14, 2011

5111.02 - EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY FOR MILITARY CHILDREN

Children of an active duty member of the United States armed services shall be entitled to all of the rights and protections afforded under the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children (Compact).

The intent of this policy is to minimize the potential challenges to educational success for children of military families because of frequent moves and deployment of their parents by:

- A. facilitating the timely enrollment and placement of children of military families in educational and other school programs and activities;
- B. facilitating the on-time graduation of children of military families; and
- C. providing for the uniform collection and sharing of information between and among schools and military families.

Children of active-duty uniformed services members parents/guardians who are subject to a transfer or relocation order and will be relocating to but do not yet reside in the District shall be permitted to apply for enrollment in the same manner and at the same time as resident students.

Enrollment applications shall be accepted by electronic means, including those for specific schools or programs within the District.

Parents/guardians must provide proof of residence within ten (10) days after establishing residence in the District. A temporary on-base billeting facility, a purchased or leased home or apartment, or a Federal government or public-private venture off-base military housing are all acceptable forms of residency.

The children of military families shall be permitted to participate in technology-based educational opportunities to minimize disruptions when those students' families transition from one military installation to another. The District shall make necessary provisions to enable students to participate in technology-based opportunities when those students' families receive permanent change of station orders out of the state until the students are enrolled in the schools of a new local education agency.

The Superintendent shall maintain guidelines for implementation of this policy which are consistent with the Compact and State law.

The guidelines shall apply to children of military families within the state as well as between member states.

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Legal	R.C. 3301.60
	Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children

Book	Neola Policy Templates for Catch Up
Section	Board Approved Policies 5000s
Title	CHILDREN AND YOUTH IN FOSTER CARE
Code	po5111.03
Status	

5111.03 - CHILDREN AND YOUTH IN FOSTER CARE

The Board of Education recognizes the importance of educational stability for children and youth in foster care. Further, the Board recognizes these children and youth as a vulnerable subgroup of students in need of safeguards and supports in order to facilitate a successful transition through elementary and secondary education and into college and/or careers. To that end, the District will collaborate with the Ohio Department of Education (ODE), other schools and school districts, and the appropriate custodial agencies (child welfare agencies and/or local Title IV-E courts) to provide educational stability for children and youth in foster care.

Definitions

Children who meet the Federal definition of "in foster care", including those children who are awaiting foster care placement, will be provided a free appropriate public education (FAPE) in the same manner as all other students of the District. To that end, students in foster care will not be stigmatized or segregated on the basis of their status. The District shall establish safeguards that protect foster care students from discrimination on the basis of their foster care status or other of the recognized Protected Classes (Policy 2260). The District shall regularly review and revise its policies, including school discipline policies that may impact students in foster care.

Consistent with the Fostering Connections Act, "foster care" means twenty-four (24) hour substitute care for children placed away from their parents or guardians and for whom the custodial agency has placement and care responsibility. This includes, but is not limited to, placements in:

- A. foster family homes;
- B. foster homes of relatives;
- C. group homes;
- D. emergency shelters;
- E. residential facilities;
- F. child care institutions; and
- G. preadoptive homes.

A child is in foster care in accordance with this definition regardless of whether the foster care facility is licensed and payments are made by the State, tribal or local agency for the care of the child, whether adoption subsidy payments are being made prior to the finalization of an adoption, or whether there is Federal matching of any payments that are made. (45 C.F.R. 1355.20 (a)).

School Stability

The District shall remove barriers to the enrollment and retention of children and youth in foster care in schools in the District. Foster care students shall be enrolled immediately, even if they do not have the necessary enrollment documentation such as immunization and health records, proof of residency or guardianship, birth certificate, school records, and other documentation, in order to prevent educational discontinuity. Within twenty-four (24) hours of a student's enrollment in school, the District shall contact the school last attended by the student and request that it send all appropriate records and documentation concerning the student.

The District shall meet the Title I requirements for educational stability for children and youth in foster care, including those awaiting foster care placement. The District shall identify which students are in foster care and shall collaborate with State and tribal custodial agencies to provide educational stability for these children and youth. District staff will work closely with custodial agency personnel to develop and implement processes and procedures that include these enrollment safeguards:

- A. a child/youth in foster care shall remain in his/her school of origin unless it is determined that remaining in the school of origin is not in that child's best interest;
- B. if it is not in the child's best interest to stay in his/her school of origin, the child shall be immediately enrolled in the determined new school even if the child is unable to produce records normally required for enrollment; and
- C. the new (enrolling) school shall immediately contact the school of origin to obtain relevant academic and other records, including the student's Individualized Education Program (IEP) if applicable. (ESEA Section 1111(g)(1)(E)(i)-(iii)).

School of Origin

The school of origin is the school in which a student is enrolled at the time of placement in foster care. If a student's foster care placement changes, the school of origin would then be considered the school in which the child is enrolled at the time of the placement change. A student in foster care shall remain in his/her school of origin, if it is determined to be in the student's best interest, for the duration of the student's placement in foster care.

When a student exits foster care, the District will continue to prioritize the student's educational stability in determining placement, supports, and services deemed to be in the child's best interests.

~~7] A student who has exited foster care shall be permitted to remain in the school of origin until the end of the school year.~~

☒] A student who has exited foster care shall be permitted to remain in the school of origin until the end of the ~~()~~ semester ☒) quarter.

~~[] A student who has exited foster care shall not be permitted to remain in the school of origin unless there are extenuating circumstances and documentation to demonstrate that the child should remain in the school of origin through the end of the () school year () semester () quarter.~~

Best Interest Determination

In making the best interest determination, the District will follow the guidelines established by ODE and the State or tribal custodial agencies. The District shall utilize the prescribed process in conjunction with local custodial agencies in making best interest determinations, and shall make such determination within five (5) school days of the child's placement in foster care or change in child's living arrangement. Once a determination is made the District shall provide the decision in writing to all relevant parties, in collaboration with the appropriate custodial agency. When making decisions regarding educational placement of students with disabilities under IDEA and Section 504, the District shall provide all required special educational and related services and supports provided in the least restrictive placement where the child's unique needs, as described in the student's IEP or Section 504 plan, can be met.

Dispute Resolution

If there is a dispute regarding whether the educational placement of a child in foster care is in the best interest of that child, the dispute resolution process established by the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) shall be used.

The District's representatives shall collaborate fully in this process, considering relevant information regarding academic programming and related service needs of the child, and advocating for what the District believes is in the best interest of the child.

To the extent feasible and appropriate, the child will remain in his/her school of origin while disputes are being resolved in order to minimize disruption and reduce the possible number of moves between schools. (ESEA Section 1111(g)(1)(E)(i)).

Since the custodial agency holds ultimate legal responsibility for making the best interest determination for the foster child in their care, if the dispute cannot be resolved the dispute, the custodial agency will make the final determination. Such final determination will be made within five (5) school days of the child's placement in foster care or change in the child's living arrangement.

All notifications and reports regarding foster care placement, changes in school enrollment, transportation services, and changes in the child's living arrangements shall be provided to the affected parties, in writing, in accordance with the forms, procedures, and requirements of the ODE and the State or tribal custodial agencies.

Local Point of Contact

The Superintendent shall designate and make public a local point of contact who will perform the duties as assigned by the Superintendent. The point of contact shall serve as a liaison to coordinate with child protection agencies, lead the development of a process for making the best determination for a student, facilitate the transfer of records, and oversee the enrollment and regular school attendance of students in foster care.

Records

The District shall provide privacy protections for children and families and shall facilitate appropriate data-sharing pertaining to children in foster care between custodial and educational agencies, in accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and Policy 8330 – Student Records.

Services to Children and Youth in Foster Care

Foster care children and their families shall be provided equal access to the educational services for which they are eligible comparable to other students in the District including:

- A. educational services for which the student in foster care meets eligibility criteria including services provided under Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act or similar State and local programs, educational programs for children with disabilities, and educational programs for students with limited English proficiency;
- B. preschool programs;
- C. programs in career and technical education;
- D. programs for gifted and talented students;
- E. school nutrition programs; and
- F. before- and after-school programs.

Transportation Services

The District shall provide that transportation services for children in foster care are consistent with the procedures developed by the District in collaboration with the State or local custodial agency. These requirements apply whether or not the LEA already provides transportation for children who are not in foster care.

In order for a student in foster care to remain in his/her school of origin, when in his/her best interest, transportation services shall be provided, arranged, and funded for the duration of the child's placement in foster care. The District's transportation services will provide that:

- A. Children in foster care needing transportation to their schools of origin will promptly receive that transportation in a cost effective manner and in accordance with Section 475(4)(A) of the Social Security Act; and
- B. If there are additional costs incurred in providing transportation to the school of origin, the District shall provide such transportation if 1) the local custodial agency agrees to reimburse the District for the cost of such transportation; 2) the District agrees to pay for the cost; or 3) the District and the local custodial agency agree to share the cost. (ESEA 1112(c)(5)(B)).

The District will collaborate with the SEA, other LEAs, and custodial agencies to pursue possible funding sources and arrangements to deal with transportation costs.

Coordination of Service

Since foster care placements may occur across District, County, or State boundary lines, coordination among multiple agencies may be necessary. The District will work with appropriate State and local agencies to address such placement and transportation issues that arise. The District shall provide or arrange for adequate and appropriate transportation to and from the school of origin while any disputes are being resolved.

No Board policy, administrative procedure, or practice will be interpreted or applied in such a way as to inhibit the enrollment, attendance, or school success of children and youth in foster care.

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45 C.F.R. 1355.20

Book	Neola Policy Templates for Catch Up
Section	Board Approved Policies 5000s
Title	ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS
Code	po5112
Status	
Adopted	November 9, 2009
Last Revised	November 17, 2016

5112 - ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

The Board of Education establishes the following entrance age requirements for students, which are consistent with statute and sound educational practice, and directs that all eligible students be treated in an equitable manner.

Preschool

☒] A child is eligible for entrance into preschool if s/he attains the age of four [specify] on or before August 1st [date] of the year in which s/he applies for entrance and has not yet attained the age at which s/he will be admitted to

☒ kindergarten.

☐ first grade (check only if there is no kindergarten in District).

Kindergarten

A child is eligible for entrance into kindergarten if s/he attains the age of five (5) on or before ☒ August 1st ☐ September 30th of the year in which s/he applies for entrance. The Board may admit a younger child to kindergarten if the child satisfies the Board's early entrance criteria. A child under age six (6) who is enrolled in kindergarten will be considered of compulsory school age.

The Board will admit to kindergarten any child who has not attained the entrance age requirement of this District, but who was properly enrolled in a public or chartered nonpublic school kindergarten before transferring to the District.

~~2.] While the District operates an all-day kindergarten program, a parent may enroll his/her child for only the minimum number of hours required by State law without penalty, and the Board shall accommodate such students.~~

First Grade

A child is eligible for entrance into first grade if s/he attains the age of six (6) on or before ☒ August 1st ☐ September 30th of the year in which s/he applies for entrance. Any student who has successfully completed kindergarten in accordance with R.C. 3321.01(B) shall be admitted to first grade. The Board may admit to first grade a younger child if the child satisfies the Board's early entrance criteria.

Required Documents

The Superintendent shall require that each child who registers for entrance to school provide:

A. his/her birth certificate or similar documentation authorized by law as proof of age and birthdate;

Acceptable forms of documentation include: foreign birth certificate; religious, hospital, or physician's certificate showing date of birth; entry in a family bible; baptismal record; adoption record; affidavit from a parent; previously verified school records; or other documents permitted by law.

B. a certified copy of any custody order or decree together with any modification in such an order or decree.

If such documents are not provided, the child may be admitted under the Superintendent's guidelines. Appropriate law enforcement authorities shall be notified in the event that required documents are not provided in accordance with the provisions of R.C. 3313.672. However, a child who is placed in a foster home or residential facility (i.e., a group home for children, children's crisis care facility, children's residential center, residential parenting facility that provides twenty-four (24) hour child care, county children's home, or district children's home) will not be denied admission solely because the child does not present a birth certificate, comparable certification, or other comparable document upon registration. Such protected child will be admitted under temporary enrollment for a period of up to ninety (90) days to present the required documentation. The protected child and/or the child's parent, guardian, or custodian will be so informed at the time of the child's initial admission.

Each child entering the District's kindergarten or first grade program for the first time must be properly screened for any medical or health problems as well as those related to hearing, vision, speech and communications. The cost for such screening shall be paid by

☒ the District.

☐ the parents.

☐ _____.

Any parent may provide the District with a written statement indicating that s/he does not wish to have his/her child screened.

Early Entrance Criteria

The District provides early admission to kindergarten and first grade for qualified students. Copies of the referral forms for evaluation for early entrance to kindergarten or first grade will be available in each school building. Any student residing in the District may be referred by an educator employed by the District, a preschool educator who knows the child, the child's parent or guardian, or a pediatrician or psychologist who knows the child. The referral shall be made to the principal of the school for evaluation for possible early admission.

Before a student is evaluated for early entrance, the principal (or his/her designee) of the school to which the child may be admitted shall obtain written permission from the child's parent/guardian.

Evaluations related to referrals submitted to the school principal between August 15th and April 15th will ordinarily be completed and a written report issued within forty-five (45) calendar days of submission of the referral to the school principal. Evaluations related to referrals submitted to the school principal between April 16th and August 14th will ordinarily be completed and a written report issued within forty-five (45) days of the start of the school year.

~~[NOTE: To use the dates in this paragraph, your District's kindergarten sign up and screening process should occur between August 15th and April 15th. Be sure to consider whether these dates work in terms of your kindergarten sign up and screening process, and adjust the dates accordingly if necessary.]~~

Children referred for early entrance will be evaluated in a prompt manner. The principal of the school to which the child may be admitted shall convene an acceleration evaluation committee to determine whether early entrance is appropriate for that child. The acceleration evaluation committee shall include the following:

- A. a parent/legal guardian or a representative designated by the parent/guardian
- B. a gifted education coordinator or gifted education specialist, or, if neither is available, a school psychologist or a guidance counselor with expertise in the appropriate use of academic acceleration
- C. the principal or assistant principal of the school to which the child may be admitted
- D. a teacher at the grade level to which the student may be admitted

The acceleration evaluation committee shall be responsible for conducting a fair and thorough evaluation of the student. The acceleration evaluation committee will also consider the student's own thoughts on possible accelerated placement in its deliberations.

Children considered for early entrance shall be evaluated using an acceleration assessment process approved by the Ohio Department of Education.

[X] A meeting will be conducted with the parent/guardian following the evaluation to inform him/her of the committee's decision and, if appropriate, to discuss the results of the evaluation and the nature of the kindergarten or first grade program.

The parent/guardian will be provided with a written summary of the outcome of the evaluation process. This notification shall include instructions for appealing the outcome of the evaluation process.

Appeals must be made in writing to the Superintendent within thirty (30) calendar days of the parent/guardian receiving the results of the evaluation. The Superintendent or his/her designee shall review the appeal and notify the parent/guardian of his/her decision within thirty (30) ~~{not to exceed thirty (30)}~~ calendar days of receiving the appeal. The Superintendent or his/her designee's decision will be final.

If a child is recommended for early entrance, the acceleration evaluation committee will develop a written acceleration plan for that child. The plan will specify:

- A. placement of the child in the accelerated setting;
- B. strategies to support successful early entrance; and
- C. an appropriate transition period for accelerated students.

A school staff member will be assigned to oversee the implementation of the acceleration plan and to monitor the child's adjustment to the early entrance.

At any time during the transition period, a parent/guardian of the child may request in writing that the child be withdrawn from the accelerated placement. In such cases, the principal shall remove the child without repercussions.

Also, at any time during the transition period, a parent/guardian may request in writing an alternative accelerated placement. In such cases, the principal shall direct the acceleration evaluation committee to consider other placement options and to issue a decision within thirty (30) ~~{not to exceed thirty (30)}~~ calendar days of receiving the request. If the student will be placed in a different setting from that initially recommended, the acceleration plan shall be revised accordingly, and a new transition period shall be specified.

At the end of the transition period, the accelerated placement shall become permanent. The child's records shall be modified accordingly, and the acceleration plan shall become part of the student's permanent record to facilitate continuous progress through the curriculum.

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R.C. 3313.64, 3313.641, 3313.672, 3313.673, 3321.01 et seq., 3321.05, 3323.01
R.C. 3324.10

Book	Neola Policy Templates for Catch Up
Section	Board Approved Policies 5000s
Title	INTER-DISTRICT OPEN ENROLLMENT
Code	po5113
Status	
Adopted	April 10, 2014

5113 - INTER-DISTRICT OPEN ENROLLMENT

~~{ } [OPTION #1]~~

~~The Board of Education shall not allow students from other school districts to enroll in programs of this District on a non-tuition basis or under an open enrollment plan.~~

~~{ } [OPTION #2]~~

~~The Board of Education shall permit the enrollment of students from adjacent school districts only in a school or program of this District, provided each enrollment is in accordance with laws and regulations of the State concerning Inter-District Open Enrollment, the provisions of this policy, and the administrative guidelines established to implement this policy.~~

☒ [OPTION #3]

The Board of Education shall permit the enrollment of students from any Ohio district in a school or program of this District, provided each enrollment is in accordance with laws and regulations of the State concerning Inter-District Open Enrollment, the provisions of this policy, and the administrative guidelines established to implement this policy.

~~{NOTE: END OF OPTIONS}~~

The following definitions shall apply:

~~{IF OPTION #2 IS SELECTED, THE FOLLOWING DEFINITIONS ALSO APPLY}~~

~~Adjacent District~~

~~A school district whose border is contiguous to a border of this District.~~

~~Adjacent District Student~~

~~A resident student of an adjacent district who enrolls, or seeks to enroll, in this District.~~

~~{THE DEFINITIONS BELOW APPLY TO OPTION #2 and #3}~~

Home District

The school district from which the student emanates.

Open Enrollment

State-mandated options, policies, and regulations concerning the Board's authority to adopt resolutions regarding intra-district and inter-district enrollment policies and guidelines. Inter-district open enrollment permits the admission of students to this District from adjacent districts or any other district in Ohio.

District Student

A student who resides in this District and is referred to in the statute as a Resident Native Student.

Other-District

Any school district in Ohio.

Other-District Student

A resident student of any other district who enrolls, or seeks to enroll, in this District.

~~Tuition Student~~

~~A non-resident student who is enrolled in this District on a tuition basis.~~

~~[] Applications from tuition students shall be given priority over those from other districts.~~

Program

Any one of the specific course offerings of this District.

Program Size

The restrictions on a number of students in a program due to circumstances unique to that specific program, the terms of a collectively-bargained, negotiated agreement, and/or financial or operating conditions of the District.

Racial Balance

"Racial" refers to minorities classified as African-American, Asian-American, Hispanic-American, or Native-American students. "Balance" refers to the percentage of "racial" students in a District program, classroom, or school.

Racially Isolated Building

A racially isolated building refers to a School District building in which the racial composition of the students varies significantly from the overall composition of the School District.

Maintaining Appropriate Racial Balance

Given our diverse society and the importance of preparing students for education, work, and citizenship, the Board is committed to providing students with equal educational opportunities, promoting educational diversity in the District, and providing students with the educational benefits of a diverse student body. To that end, the Board will give individual consideration to each applicant seeking enrollment under this policy, so that all factors that may contribute to student body diversity are meaningfully considered in admissions decisions. It is the intent of the Board to maintain an appropriate racial balance as required by law.

~~[] [OPTION #1]~~

~~Should a concern arise regarding racial balance in one or more of the District's schools, the Superintendent shall consult with legal counsel to determine the appropriate steps that should be taken, including, but not limited to, any necessary policy revisions and other actions necessary to comply with State and Federal law. The Superintendent shall then make the appropriate recommendations to the Board. () It should be noted that as of _____ [insert date policy was adopted/revised] there are no racially isolated buildings within the School District.~~

~~[] [OPTION #2]~~

~~The Superintendent is directed to consult with legal counsel to determine the appropriate steps that should be taken, including, but not limited to, any necessary policy revisions and other actions necessary to comply with State and Federal law () (i.e., to appropriately apply the requirements of maintaining appropriate racial balance to the racially isolated building(s) in the District). The Superintendent shall then make the appropriate recommendations to the Board.~~

~~[NOTE: END OF OPTIONS]~~

The Superintendent shall prepare guidelines for the implementation of this policy in ways that comply with relevant State laws and guidelines and establish procedures that provide for the following:

- A. Nondiscrimination on the basis of grade level, including preschool disabled; academic ability; English language proficiency; or any level of artistic, athletic, or extra-curricular skills. A student's application cannot be denied because of disciplinary action in his/her home school, except for a suspension or expulsion for ten (10) consecutive days or more that occurs in the current semester or the semester immediately preceding the application. If the District does not currently provide services required for a disabled, adjacent-district student, his/her application may be denied.
- B. Application procedures including the criteria by which applications from adjacent-district and other-district students shall be reviewed and prioritized. District students and any adjacent-district or other-school district students previously enrolled under the provisions of this policy shall be given priority.
- C. Maintenance of appropriate racial balance in District schools, classrooms, and programs.
- D. Communications with applicants and their parents concerning this policy and the District's guidelines, including the timelines for application and notification of acceptance or rejection.
- E. Athletic eligibility complies with State regulations and the provisions set forth by the Ohio High School Athletic Association.
- F. Any transportation provided by the District for an adjacent-district or other-district student takes place within established bus routes and bus stops within the District.
- G. Set District capacity limits by grade level, school building, and educational program.

The Board reserves the right to object to the Open Enrollment of a District student to another district in order to maintain an appropriate racial balance. If the Board of a student's home school district objects to a transfer of one of its students to this District for the same reason, this Board will deny the transfer unless the tuition fee is paid for the student.

This policy shall be reviewed annually by the Board to determine whether to adopt a resolution to continue the policy or to rescind Inter-District Open Enrollment. Additionally, the Superintendent shall annually review the level of diversity existing within the District's programs, grades and/or schools to assess whether the application of this policy has resulted in an adverse effect on racial balance. As a part of his/her review, the Superintendent will be responsible for determining whether there is a legal basis for the Board to use the "maintenance of appropriate racial balance" language of R.C. 3313.98. Should this review indicate that the racial balance in one or more of the District's programs, grades and/or schools has been adversely affected, the Superintendent shall consult with legal counsel to determine what, if any, appropriate steps should be taken, including, but not limited to, policy revisions or other actions necessary to comply with State and Federal law. The Board reserves the right to modify the conditions under which Inter-District Open Enrollment would continue for any particular program, classroom, or school.

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R.C. 3313.98

Book	Neola Policy Templates for Catch Up
Section	Board Approved Policies 5000s
Title	SCHOOL CHOICE OPTIONS
Code	po5113.02
Status	
Adopted	November 9, 2009
Last Revised	April 4, 2012

5113.02 - SCHOOL CHOICE OPTIONS

Students attending a "persistently dangerous" school, as defined by State law have the right to transfer to another "safe" school in the District. If there is not another "safe" school in the District providing instruction at the students' grade level(s), the Superintendent shall contact neighboring districts and request that they permit students to transfer to a school in one of those districts.

Furthermore, a student who is a victim of a "violent crime" on school property also has the right to transfer to another school. If there is not another school in the District providing instruction at the student's grade level, the Superintendent shall contact neighboring districts and request that they permit that student to transfer to a school in one of those districts providing instruction at the student's grade level.

The Board of Education authorizes such transfers in accordance with AG 5113.02.

Children who transfer in accordance with this policy will be permitted to remain at the school of transfer until completing the highest grade at the school.

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Legal	20 U.S.C. 6301, et seq. Title IX, Section 9532 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, as amended
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Book	Neola Policy Templates for Catch Up
Section	Board Approved Policies 5000s
Title	NONIMMIGRANT STUDENTS AND FOREIGN-EXCHANGE STUDENTS
Code	po5114
Status	
Adopted	November 9, 2009

5114 - NONIMMIGRANT STUDENTS AND FOREIGN-EXCHANGE STUDENTS

The Board of Education recognizes the positive cultural benefits to the students, staff, and the community in meeting students from other countries and in having exchange visitor students as members of the student body of this District's high school(s).

An exchange visitor student is a foreign national who has been selected by a sponsor that has been approved by the United States Department of State (USDOS) to participate in an exchange visitor program and who is seeking to enter or has entered the United States temporarily on a J-1 visa.

Exchange Visitor Program for Nonimmigrant Students with J-1 Visas

The Board authorizes the Superintendent to consider a request to admit an exchange visitor student who meets the USDOS requirements and applies for admission through a sponsoring organization, and determine whether or not that student should be accepted.

In accordance with Federal law, an exchange visitor student will be selected and sponsored by an organization that has been approved by the USDOS. The Board, pursuant to Federal law, requires the sponsoring agency to secure prior written acceptance of the Superintendent for the placement of an exchange visitor student

☒) in the District high school.

☐) in a District high school.

After written acceptance of school placement is secured, the sponsoring agency should issue the certificate of eligibility for J-1 Visas to the exchange visitor student who meets the criteria established in Federal law for participation in an EVP.

Pursuant to Federal law the sponsoring agency is also responsible for selecting a host family who resides in the District for each exchange visitor student.

Lastly, pursuant to Federal law, a sponsoring agency can place no more than five (5) exchange visitor students

☒) in the District high school.

☐) in a District high school.

~~{NOTE: The following section is optional. If appropriate, include the following language that will permit a sponsor to place more than five (5) exchange visitor students.}~~

~~**{ } However, with Board approval, the Superintendent may request, in writing, the placement of more than five (5) students from a sponsoring agency.**~~

[Choose one of the following two options to complete the sentence above.]

☒) in the high school.

☐) in a specific high school.

[END OF OPTION]

~~[NOTE: The following section is optional]~~

~~[] Student and Exchange Visitor Program for Nonimmigrant Students with F-1 Visas~~

~~The Board authorizes the District to petition for approval to provide a Student and Exchange Visitor Program (SEVP). As an authorized SEVP provider, the District will issue the certificate of eligibility to nonimmigrant students who complete the application process successfully, which will enable them to apply for an F-1 Visa.~~

~~Participation by nonimmigrant students in this program will be consistent with Federal law that requires the following:~~

- ~~A. the student possess sufficient English language proficiency to participate in the high school curriculum;~~
- ~~B. the student's participation does not exceed an academic year;~~
- ~~C. the student pays to the Board the full amount of tuition prior to the commencement of the academic term of attendance;~~
- ~~D. the student otherwise maintains his/her lawful temporary immigration status.~~

~~[END OF OPTIONAL SECTION]~~

Other Nonimmigrant Students

This policy does not apply to nonimmigrant students with citizenship in countries other than the United States who are not participating in an approved exchange visitor program at a District school.

~~() or who are not sponsored by the District so they can attend a school in the District as participants in the student and exchange visitor program (SEVP) on a valid F-1 visa.~~

All other nonimmigrant students with citizenship in countries other than the United States who seek to enroll in the District's schools are subject to State law and the District's policies regarding enrollment and, if applicable, tuition.

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8 C.F.R. 214 et seq.
8 U.S.C. 1101 (Immigration Reform and Control Act)
R.C. 3313.64
Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961, as amended
Immigration and Nationality Act
22 C.F.R. 62, Exchange Visitor Program

Book	Neola Policy Templates for Catch Up
Section	Board Approved Policies 5000s
Title	ASSIGNMENT WITHIN DISTRICT
Code	po5120
Status	
Adopted	November 9, 2009

5120 - **ASSIGNMENT WITHIN DISTRICT**

The Board of Education directs that the assignment of students to schools within this District be consistent with the best interests of students and the best use of the resources of this District.

The Board shall determine

☐ annually

☒ periodically

the school attendance areas of the District and shall expect the students within each area to attend the school so designated.

The Superintendent shall

☐ annually

☒ periodically

review existing attendance areas and recommend to the Board such changes as may be justified by:

- A. ☒ considerations of safe student transportation and travel;
- B. ☒ convenience of access to schools;
- C. ☒ financial and administrative efficiency;
- D. ☒ the effectiveness of the instructional program;
- E. ☒ a wholesome and educationally sound balance of student populations.
- F. ☐ _____

No assignment to schools or attendance schedules shall discriminate against students on the basis of gender, race, religion, disability, or national origin.

☒ The Superintendent may assign a student to a school other than that designated by the attendance area when such exception is justified by circumstances and is in the best interest of the student.

- A. ☒ Every effort shall be made to continue a student in the elementary school to which s/he is initially assigned.
- B. ☒ Wherever possible and advisable in the interests of the students, siblings shall be assigned to the same building.

~~7-1 The Superintendent shall assign incoming transfer students to such schools, grades, and classes as may afford each student the greatest likelihood of realizing fullest educational potential.~~

x] The principal shall assign students in his/her school to appropriate grades, classes, or groups. This action shall be based on consideration of the needs of the student as well as the administration of the school.

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R.C. 3313.48, 3313.49, 3319.01

Book	Neola Policy Templates for Catch Up
Section	Board Approved Policies 5000s
Title	WITHDRAWAL FROM SCHOOL
Code	po5130
Status	
Adopted	November 9, 2009

5130 - WITHDRAWAL FROM SCHOOL

The Board of Education affirms that, while statute requires attendance of each student from six (6) years of age, or five (5) years of age if enrolled in kindergarten, and not formally withdrawn, until eighteen (18) years of age, it is in the best interests of both students and the community that they complete the educational program that will equip them with skills and increase their chances for a successful and fulfilling life beyond the schools. A child enrolled in kindergarten is deemed to be of compulsory school age unless the child's parent or guardian, at the parent or guardian's discretion and in consultation with the child's teacher and principal, formally withdraws the child from kindergarten.

The Board directs that whenever a student wishes to withdraw, effort should be made to determine the underlying reason for such action and the resources of the District should be used to assist the student in reaching his/her career goals. No student under the age of eighteen (18) will be permitted to withdraw without the written consent of a parent and in compliance with State law.

Whenever a student under the age of eighteen (18), withdraws from school without moving out of State, transferring to another approved school, being granted an age and schooling certificate, or enrolling in and attending an approved program, the Superintendent shall notify the Registrar of Motor Vehicles and the Judge of the Juvenile Court.

Such notification is to be given within two (2) weeks after the Superintendent confirms the student is not properly enrolled in and attending another approved school or program or has moved out of State.

The Superintendent shall ensure, through administrative guidelines, that proper procedures are established so that such notification complies with the provisions of R.C. 3321.13 (B)(1).

The Superintendent shall develop administrative guidelines for withdrawal from school which:

- A. ~~(?) make counseling services available to any student who wishes to withdraw;~~
- B. ~~(-) help the student define his/her own educational life goals and help plan the realization of those goals;~~
- C. ~~(-) inform the student of alternative programs;~~
- D. ~~(-) advise students of their right to return prior to their twenty-second (22nd) birthday;~~
- E. (X) assure the timely return of all District-owned supplies and equipment in the possession of the student.

In accordance with Policy 5610, the Superintendent shall initiate expulsion proceedings against a student who has committed an act that warrants expulsion under Board policy even if the student withdraws from school prior to the hearing or decision to impose the expulsion. Any resulting expulsion shall be imposed for the same duration it would have been had the student remained enrolled.

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Legal R.C. 3313.66, 3321.13
A.C. 3301-41-01, 3301-43-01, 3301-35-03 (F)

Book	Neola Policy Templates for Catch Up
Section	Board Approved Policies 5000s
Title	STUDENT TRANSFERS
Code	po5131
Status	
Adopted	November 9, 2009

5131 - STUDENT TRANSFERS

The Board of Education recognizes the value to a student to participate in the interscholastic athletic program providing it does not interfere with his/her academic program and s/he meets all of the requirements of the Ohio High School Athletic Association.

~~[?] The Board will send the necessary release to the Commissioner of the OHSA for a student who has transferred to another district but resides in this District, providing the student meets all other eligibility requirements.~~

~~[] The Board, however, does not condone a student transferring to another district, while still residing in this District, for the express purpose of participating in the other district's athletic program. Therefore, it will not take the necessary formal action to release the student from the district.~~

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Legal	R.C. 3313.20 Handbook of the Ohio High School Athletic Association, Bylaw 4, Student Eligibility
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Book	Neola Policy Templates for Catch Up
Section	Board Approved Policies 5000s
Title	ATTENDANCE
Code	po5200
Status	
Adopted	November 9, 2009
Last Revised	July 19, 2018

5200 - **ATTENDANCE**

The educational program offered by this District is predicated upon the presence of the student and requires continuity of instruction and classroom participation. Attendance shall be required of all students enrolled in the schools during the days and hours that the school is in session.

(☒) or during the attendance sessions to which s/he has been assigned.

A student in grades 9 through 12 may be considered a full-time equivalent student provided the student is enrolled in at least five (5) units of instruction, as defined by State law, per school year.

In accordance with statute, the Superintendent shall require, from the parent of each student of compulsory school age or from an adult student who has been absent from school or from class for any reason, a ~~(?) written~~ **[END OF OPTION]** statement of the cause for such absence. The Board of Education reserves the right to verify such statements and to investigate the cause of each single absence or prolonged absence.

☒] The Board considers the following factors to be reasonable excuses for time missed at school:

- A. personal illness (a written physician's statement verifying the illness may be required)
- B. appointment with a health care provider
- C. illness in the family necessitating the presence of the child
- D. quarantine of the home
- E. death in the family
- F. necessary work at home due to absence or incapacity of parent(s)/guardian(s)
- G. observation or celebration of a bona fide religious holiday
- H. out-of-state travel (up to a maximum twenty-four (24) hours per school year that the student's school is open for instruction) to participate in a District-approved enrichment or extracurricular activity

Any classroom assignment missed due to the absence shall be completed by the student.

If the student will be absent for twenty-four (24) or more consecutive hours that the student's school is open for instruction, a classroom teacher shall accompany the student during the travel period to provide the student with instructional assistance.

- I. such good cause as may be acceptable to the Superintendent
- J. medically necessary leave for a pregnant student in accordance with Policy 5751

K. (☒) service as a precinct officer at a primary, special or general election in accordance with the program set forth in Policy 5725

L. college visitation

~~[?] The District requires verification of the date and time of the visitation by the college, university, or technical college.~~

M. absences due to a student's placement in foster care or change in foster care placement or any court proceedings related to their foster care status

N. absences due to a student being homeless

☒ Attendance need not always be within the school facilities, but a student will be considered to be in attendance if present at any place where school is in session by authority of the Board.

☒ The Board shall consider each student assigned to a program of other guided learning experiences to be in regular attendance for the program provided that s/he reports to such staff member s/he is assigned for guidance at the place in which s/he is conducting study, and regularly demonstrates progress toward the objectives of the course of study.

~~[?] The Superintendent may excuse a student over fourteen (14) years of age from attendance at school for a future limited period for the purpose of performing essential work directly or exclusively for his/her parents or guardians. Such excuse should not exceed five (5) days and may at the discretion of the Superintendent be renewed for five (5) additional days. At no time, however, shall such excuse cause a student to be absent from school for a period of more than ten (10) consecutive days.~~

At the discretion of the Superintendent, a student may be excused for a longer period of time than ten (10) days if a child's parent or guardian has recently died or become totally or partially incapacitated and there is no older brother or sister living in the home who is out of school. (The Superintendent may request a certificate of a physician attesting to the physical condition of the parent or guardian.)

~~[?] Attendance shall be taken at the beginning of every block/period in buildings with block/period based scheduling. Absences from a class block/period shall be accounted for to the nearest full hour.~~

☒ Attendance shall be taken at the commencement of the school day in ☒ buildings with non-period based schedules. Attendance for students arriving late or leaving early must be tracked and recorded to the nearest full hour.

Contacting the Parent/Guardian of an Absent Student

When a parent, guardian, or other person having care of a student has failed to initiate a telephone call or other communication notifying the school or building administration of the student's excused or unexcused absence within 120 minutes after the beginning of the school day, the attendance officer or designee for each school building shall make at least one (1) attempt to contact the parent, guardian, or other person having care of any student who is recorded as absent without legitimate excuse within 120 minutes after the beginning of each school day by a method designated by the Superintendent in accordance with Ohio law (see AG 5200).

Excessive Absences

When a student of compulsory school age is absent from school with combined nonmedical excused absences and unexcused absences in excess of thirty-eight (38) or more hours in one (1) school month, or sixty-five (65) or more hours in a school year, that student is considered excessively absent from school. The District or school shall notify the child's parent or guardian of the child's absences, in writing, within seven (7) school days after the date of the absence that triggered the notice requirement. At the same time written notice is given, any appropriate intervention action listed herein may be taken.

The following "medical excuses" will not count toward a student's excessive absence hours: (1) personal illness; (2) illness in the family necessitating the presence of the child; (3) quarantine of the home; (4) health care provider appointments (doctor, dentist, mental health provider, etc.); (5) medically-necessary leave for a pregnant student in accordance with Policy 5751; (6) death in the family; or (7) other set of circumstances the Superintendent deems on a case-by-case basis to be a good and sufficient cause for medical absence from school. ~~[DRAFTING NOTE: Use the last option to permit an excused medical absence for student mental health (e.g., school phobia, anxiety, emotional disability) or for students whose chronic conditions could be impacted by recognized pandemic/epidemic (COVID-19) or other causes. Document the reason for the medical excuse.]~~

A medically excused absence occurs any time a student is out of school due to illness or medical visit (physician, dentist, mental health, etc.). A medical excuse for personal illness will be accepted in the form of doctor's note within ~~(7) five (5) ()~~ school days of the absence or parent call in on the day of the absence due to illness or doctor's visit. A student may ~~up to sixty-five hours for~~ have up to ~~() ten (10) ()~~ medically excused absences without a doctor's note, but with a notification phone call from a parent/guardian. ~~This policy will be extended beyond () ten (10) () days if the student or someone in the student's family is in quarantine due to recognized pandemic/epidemic (e.g., COVID-19) or experiencing symptoms of the pandemic/epidemic.~~

Habitually Truant

A student will be considered habitually truant if the student is of compulsory school age and absent without a legitimate excuse for thirty (30) or more consecutive hours, for forty-two (42) or more hours in one (1) school month, or for seventy-two (72) or more hours in one (1) school year.

Legitimate excuses for the absence of a student who is otherwise habitually truant include but are not limited to:

- A. the student was enrolled in another school district;
- B. the student was excused from attendance in accordance with R.C. 3321.04; or
- C. the student has received an age and schooling certificate.

Absence Intervention Team

~~[DRAFTING NOTE: A school district with a chronic absenteeism percentage that is less than five percent (5%), as displayed on the district's most recent report card, and the school buildings within that district, shall be exempt from the following requirement to assign habitually truant students to an absence intervention team for the following school year and shall instead take any appropriate action as an intervention strategy listed in this policy. Should those intervention strategies fail, within sixty-one (61) days after their implementation, the attendance officer shall determine whether criteria are met to file a complaint against the student in juvenile court, and if so, shall file the complaint. The language "to the extent required by law as determined on an annual basis" refers to this exemption.]~~

To the extent required by law as determined on an annual basis, within ten (10) days of a student becoming habitually truant, the () Superintendent (☒) Principal shall assign the student to an absence intervention team.

Within fourteen (14) school days after the assignment of a student to an absence intervention team, the team shall develop an intervention plan for that student in an effort to reduce or eliminate further absences. Each intervention plan shall vary based on the individual needs of the student, but the plan shall state that the attendance officer shall file a complaint not later than sixty-one (61) days after the date the plan was implemented, if the child has refused to participate in, or failed to make satisfactory progress on, the intervention plan. Within seven (7) school days after the development of the plan, reasonable efforts shall be made to provide the student's parent/guardian/custodian, with written notice of the plan.

[☒] As part of the absence intervention plan, the () Superintendent (☒) Principal may, in his/her discretion contact the appropriate juvenile court and ask to have a student informally enrolled in any alternative to adjudication described in R.C. 2151.27(G). **~~[DRAFTING NOTE: Any school that chooses this option must develop a written policy regarding the use of, and selection process for, offering alternatives to adjudication to ensure fairness.]~~**

Each absence intervention team may vary based on the needs of each individual student but shall include a representative from the child's building, another representative from the child's building who knows the child, and the child's parent or parent's designee, or the child's guardian, custodian, guardian ad litem, or temporary custodian. The team also may include a (☒) school psychologist, (☒) counselor, (☒) social worker, or (☒) representative of a public or nonprofit agency designed to assist students and their families in reducing absences. **~~[DRAFTING NOTE: Schools must obtain written permission to release confidential information about a student to third parties, such as a representative of an outside agency on an intervention team.]~~**

The members of the absence intervention team shall be selected within seven (7) school days of the student meeting the habitually truant threshold. Within the same period of seven (7) school days, the () Superintendent (☒) Principal shall make at least three (3) meaningful, good faith attempts to secure the participation of the student's parent/guardian/custodian, guardian ad litem, or temporary custodian on that team. A good faith attempt to secure the participation of the parent shall include, but not be limited to, contacting (or attempting to contact) the parent by telephone, email, or regular mail. If the student's parent responds to any of those attempts, but is unable to participate for any reason, the () Superintendent (☒) Principal shall inform the parent of the parent's right to appear by designee. If seven (7) school days elapse and the student's parent/guardian/custodian, guardian ad litem, or temporary custodian fails

to respond to the attempts to secure participation, the attendance officer shall investigate whether the failure to respond triggers mandatory abuse or neglect reporting to the public children services agency. At the same time, the absence intervention team shall continue to develop an intervention plan for the child notwithstanding the absence of the child's parent/guardian/custodian, guardian ad litem, or temporary custodian.

Intervention Strategies

In order to address the attendance practices of a student who is habitually truant, the intervention team may, as part of an intervention plan, take any of the following intervention actions:

- A. ☒ provide counseling to the student
- B. ☒ request or require the student's parent to attend a parental involvement program
- C. ☒ request or require a parent to attend a truancy prevention mediation program
- D. ~~() notify the Registrar of Motor Vehicles of the student's absences~~
- E. ~~() take appropriate legal action~~
- F. ~~() assignment to an alternative school~~ **[DRAFTING NOTE: If the District has established an alternative school, it must appear as an alternative intervention strategy.]**

In the event that a student becomes habitually truant within twenty-one (21) school days prior to the last day of instruction of a school year, the () Superintendent ☒ Principal may, in his/her discretion, assign the staff member **[one (1) school official]** to work with the child's parent/guardian/custodian, guardian ad litem, or temporary custodian to develop an absence intervention plan during the summer.

~~[] The plan shall be implemented not later than seven (7) days prior to the first day of instruction of the next school year.~~

OR

☒ The absence intervention process shall commence upon the first day of instruction of the next school year.

Reporting Requirements

The attendance officer shall file a complaint in the juvenile court against a student on the sixty-first (61st) day after the implementation of an absence intervention plan or other intervention strategies, provided that all of the following apply:

- A. The student is habitually truant.
- B. The school district or school has made meaningful attempts to re-engage the student through the absence intervention plan, other intervention strategies, and any offered alternatives to adjudication, if applicable.
- C. The student has refused to participate in or failed to make satisfactory progress on the plan, as determined by the absence intervention team, or any offered intervention strategies or alternative to adjudication.

If the student, at any time during the implementation phase of the absence intervention plan or other intervention strategies, is absent without legitimate excuse for thirty (30) or more consecutive hours or forty-two (42) or more hours in one school month, the attendance officer shall file a complaint in juvenile court against that student, unless the absence intervention team has determined that the student has made substantial progress on the absence intervention plan.

In the event that the sixty-first (61st) day after the implementation of the absence intervention plan or other intervention strategies falls on a day during the summer months, ☒ the absence intervention team or ☒ the attendance officer may extend the implementation of the plan and delay the filing of the complaint for an additional thirty (30) days from the first day of instruction of the next school year.

The Superintendent is authorized to establish an educational program for parents of truant students which is designed to encourage parents to ensure that their children attend school regularly. Any parent who does not complete the program is to be reported to law enforcement authorities for parental education neglect, a fourth class misdemeanor if found guilty. Whenever any student of compulsory school age has sixty (60) consecutive hours in a single month or a total of ninety (90) hours of unexcused absence from school during the school year, s/he will be considered habitually absent under R.C. 3321.13(b)(2). The Board authorizes the Superintendent to inform the student and his/her parents, guardian, or custodian of the record of absences without a legitimate excuse as well as the District's intent to notify the Registrar of Motor

Vehicles, if appropriate, and the Judge of the Juvenile Court of the student's unexcused absences and habitually absent status. ~~[DRAFTING NOTE: The term "habitually absent" as used here refers to the level of unexcused absences that will trigger notice to the Registrar of Motor Vehicles and Juvenile Court Judge under R.C. 3321.13(B)(2). It is not to be confused with "excessively absent" or "habitually truant" as those terms are defined above.]~~

~~[DRAFTING NOTE: A student is designated a habitual truant only through the measurement of unexcused absences. Schools must initiate intervention procedures for habitually truant students. If the interventions fail, the school must file a complaint against the habitually truant student in juvenile court. Excessive absenteeism is marked by an accumulation of both excused and unexcused absences. Intervention strategies may be implemented for students designated excessively absent, but a notice to parents is required. No further action toward the excessively absent student is required unless the student becomes habitually truant. The parent notice is purely a warning that the child has missed an excessive amount of school hours, both with and without a legitimate excuse.]~~

If a student who is habitually truant violates the order of a juvenile court regarding the student's prior adjudication as an unruly child for being a habitual truant, s/he may further be adjudicated as a delinquent child.

The District shall report to the Ohio Department of Education, as soon as practicable, and in a format and manner determined by the Department, any of the following occurrences:

- A. when a notice that a student has been absent with or without legitimate excuse for thirty-eight (38) or more hours in one (1) school month, or sixty-five (65) or more hours in a school year is submitted to a parent/guardian/or custodian;
- B. when a child of compulsory school age has been absent without legitimate excuse from the public school the child is supposed to attend for thirty (30) or more consecutive hours, forty-two (42) or more hours in one school month, or seventy-two (72) or more hours in a school year;
- C. when a child of compulsory school age who has been adjudicated an unruly child for being a habitual truant violates the court order regarding that adjudication;
- D. when an absence intervention plan has been implemented for a child under this policy.

This policy was developed after consultation with the judge of the juvenile court of Delaware County/Countries, with the parents, guardians, or other persons having care of the students attending school in the District, and with appropriate State and local agencies.

[?] Tracking Remote Attendance

~~Consistent with the District's remote learning plan (e.g., Blended Learning, On Line Learning, etc.), the District will provide a variety of instruction models, including both teacher led remote learning and self directed remote learning.~~

~~Student attendance in teacher led remote learning (synchronous web based instruction) shall be tracked in the same manner as hourly, in person instruction. Teachers shall determine hourly attendance by evidence of student login and logoff data. () Teachers are encouraged to verify meaningful attendance in a method selected by the teacher, such as an ungraded quiz at the close of a lesson, a survey or poll questions (unrelated to the lesson and unpredictable) at the end of the lesson, or asking students questions at random throughout a session.~~

~~In addition to the reasons listed at the beginning of this policy, absences from teacher led remote learning (synchronous web based instruction) may be considered excused under the following circumstances, with () written [END OF OPTION] notice from a parent/guardian:~~

- A. ~~() temporary internet outage for individual students or households;~~
- B. ~~() unexpected technical difficulties for individual students or households, such as password resets or software upgrades occurring during a teacher led remote learning lesson;~~
- C. ~~() computer/device malfunction;~~
- D. ~~() malfunction of a District owned device for which the District is providing technical assistance, repair, or replacement.~~

~~Attendance in self directed remote learning (asynchronous) shall be tracked by evidence of participation, which may include, but is not limited to:~~

- A. daily logins to learning management systems;
- B. daily interactions with the teacher to acknowledge attendance, which may include, but are not limited to, messages, emails, telephone calls, video chats or other formats that enable teachers to engage with students; and
- C. assignment completion.

The teacher will determine the number of hours a typical student would take to complete an assignment and report those hours of attendance when the assignment is completed. A teacher () may () should adjust the number of hours of attendance based on the length of time the student actually spent on the assignment, as reported by the student, parent, or other person with knowledge. ~~[DRAFTING NOTE: If a teacher knows that a regular education student or special education student took "significantly" longer (i.e., more than a de minimis additional amount of time) than the "typical" amount of time to complete an assignment, the student should be given additional attendance "credit." The administration will need to determine how it intends to verify the amount of time the student or parent reports it took the child to complete the assignment from the time a "typical" student would be expected to take to complete the assignment.]~~

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Legal R.C. 2151.011, 3313.668, 3317.034, 3321.01 et seq., 3321.13(B)(2), 3321.19, 3321.191
R.C. 3321.22, 3321.38, 3323.041
A.C. 3301-35-03, 3301-47-01, 3301-69-02

Book	Neola Policy Templates for Catch Up
Section	Board Approved Policies 5000s
Title	MISSING AND ABSENT CHILDREN
Code	po5215
Status	
Adopted	November 9, 2009

5215 - MISSING AND ABSENT CHILDREN

It is the interest of this Board of Education to cooperate with local, State, and National efforts to decrease the number of missing children.

The Superintendent is instructed to establish administrative guidelines to provide for admittance of a student lacking records into the school followed by notification of the police rather than refusing entrance and notification of authorities. Such a procedure may reduce the risk of removal of the student from the area.

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Legal	R.C. 109.65, 2901.30, 3301.076, 3313.205, 3313.672, 3313.96, 3319.321 R.C. 3319.322
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Book	Neola Policy Templates for Catch Up
Section	Board Approved Policies 5000s
Title	RELEASED TIME FOR RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION
Code	po5223
Status	

5223 - RELEASED TIME FOR RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION

The Board of Education desires to cooperate with those parents who wish to provide for religious instruction for their children but also recognizes its responsibility to enforce the attendance requirements of the State.

Students may be provided "released time" from school to attend a course in religious instruction conducted by a private entity off District property, provided that the following requirements are met, such students will not be considered absent when the:

- A. student's parent or guardian gives consent in writing;
- B. sponsoring entity maintains attendance records and makes them available to the District;
- C. sponsoring entity provides and assumes liability for the student; and
- D. student assumes responsibility for any missed school work.

Transportation of students to and from Released Time instruction is the complete responsibility of the sponsoring entity, the parent, guardian, and/or student. The Board of Education, its members, and employees are immune from liability for any injuries arising from transportation to and from Released Time instruction. Further, no Board funds will be expended for, and no District personnel shall be involved in the provision of religious instruction.

Students shall not be excused from a core curriculum subject course to attend Released Time instruction.

[OPTION]

[X] High school students may earn up to two (2) units of high school credit for coursework completed during Released Time instruction. Such credits may substitute for credits required pursuant to R.C. 3313.603(C)(8).

The Board will evaluate the course based on secular criteria including, but not limited to:

- A. the number of hours of instructional time;
- B. a review of the course syllabus that reflects course requirements and materials used;
- C. the assessment methods used in the course; and
- D. the instructor's qualifications, which shall be similar to the qualification of other teachers in the District.

The decision as to whether to provide credit for a specific Released Time religious instruction course will be neutral as to religious content and will not involve any test for religious content or denominational affiliation.

~~[END OF OPTION]~~

Staff members shall not promote or discourage participation in release time programs for any religious instructional program.

Nothing herein shall constitute an endorsement of religion or infringe upon an individual's First Amendment rights.

Book	Neola Policy Templates for Catch Up
Section	Board Approved Policies 5000s
Title	LATE ARRIVAL AND EARLY DISMISSAL
Code	po5230
Status	
Adopted	November 9, 2009

5230 - LATE ARRIVAL AND EARLY DISMISSAL

It is necessary that a student be in attendance throughout the school day in order to benefit fully from the educational program of the District.

The Board of Education recognizes, however, that from time-to-time compelling circumstances require that a student be late to school or dismissed before the end of the school day.

As agent responsible for the education of the children of this District, the Board shall require that the school be notified in advance of such absences by

☒ written and/or

☒ personal

request of the student's parent, which shall state the reason for the tardiness or early dismissal. Justifiable reasons shall be determined by the Principal.

If one (1) parent has been awarded custody of the student by the courts, the parent of custody shall provide the school with a copy of the custody order and inform the school in writing of any limitations in the rights of the noncustodial parent. Absent such notice, the school will presume that the student may be released into the care of either parent.

No student who has a medical disability which may be incapacitating may be released without a person to accompany him/her.

No student shall be released to anyone who is not authorized such custody by the parents.

~~**[]** Presentation of photo identification is required of anyone authorized such custody. (see Form 5230-F1)~~

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Legal R.C. 3313.20, 3313.64

Book	Neola Policy Templates for Catch Up
Section	Board Approved Policies 5000s
Title	Vol. 41, No. 2 - January 2023 Revised HEALTH SERVICES
Code	po5310
Status	
Adopted	November 9, 2009
Last Revised	April 10, 2014

Revised Policy - Vol. 41, No. 2

5310 - HEALTH SERVICES

The Board of Education may require students of the District to submit to periodic health examinations to:

- A. (☒) protect the school community from the spread of communicable disease;
- B. (☒) verify that each student's participation in health, safety, and physical education courses meets the student's individual needs;
- C. (☒) verify that the learning potential of each child is not lessened by a remediable physical disability.

The District may provide or request parents to provide:

- A. (☒) general physical examinations for athletics;
- B. (☒) dental examinations;
- C. (☒) tests for communicable disease;
- D. (☒) vision and/or audiometric screening;
- E. (☒) scoliosis tests.
- F. (☐) [OTHER] _____.

The Board shall directly notify the parents of students, at least annually at the beginning of the school year, of the specific or approximate dates during the school year when any nonemergency, invasive physical examination or screening is scheduled or expected to be scheduled for students if the examination or screening is: (1) required as a condition of attendance; (2) administered by the school and scheduled by the school in advance; and (3) not necessary to protect the immediate health and safety of a specific student, or other students.

The term 'invasive physical examination' means any medical examination that involves the exposure of private body parts, or any act during such examination that includes incision, insertion, or injection into the body, but does not include a hearing, vision, or scoliosis screening.

Unless the physical examination or screening is permitted or required by an applicable State law, parents may refuse to allow the Board to administer a nonemergency, invasive physical examination or screening upon written notification to the Board within three (3) days after receipt of the Board's annual public notice.

Any student who has been removed from a physical education class, or athletic practice, or competition, by a teacher, coach, or referee because the student is exhibiting, or he has exhibited signs, symptoms, or behaviors consistent with having sustained a concussion or head injury shall not be permitted to return to any physical education class, or athletic practice,

Book	Neola Policy Templates for Catch Up
Section	Board Approved Policies 5000s
Title	STUDENT ACCIDENTS
Code	po5340
Status	
Adopted	November 9, 2009
Last Revised	April 10, 2014

5340 - STUDENT ACCIDENTS

The Board of Education believes that school personnel have certain responsibilities in case of accidents which occur in school. Said responsibilities extend to the administration of first aid by persons trained to do so, summoning of medical assistance, notification of administrative personnel, notification of parents, and the filing of accident reports.

Employees should administer first aid within the limits of their knowledge of recommended practices. All employees should make an effort to increase their understanding of the proper steps to be taken in the event of an accident.

The Superintendent shall develop administrative guidelines to include the reporting of accidents, when appropriate.

On an annual basis, physical education teachers and coaches of intramural athletics shall review the Ohio Department of Health's concussion information sheet.

Physical education teachers and coaches of intramural athletics shall remove from P.E. class participation or the intramural athletic activity any student who exhibits signs, symptoms, or behaviors consistent with having sustained a concussion or head injury. The Principal shall notify parents or guardians about the possible concussion or head injury. See also Policy 2431 Interscholastic Athletics.

Any student who has been removed from a P.E. class, or intramural athletic practice or competition, by a teacher, coach, or referee because s/he has exhibited signs, symptoms, or behaviors consistent with having sustained a concussion or head injury shall not be permitted to return to any P.E. class, or intramural athletic practice or competition, for which the teacher, coach, or referee is responsible on the same day as the removal and not until both of the following occur:

- A. The student's condition is assessed by a physician (✕) or other health care provider authorized by the Board, in accordance with requirements set forth in R.C. 3313.539(E)(2), to assess such a student.
- B. The student receives written clearance that it is safe to return to the P.E. class, or intramural athletic practice or competition, from a physician (✕) or other health care provider authorized by the Board, in accordance with requirements set forth in R.C. 3313.539(E)(2), to grant a such a clearance.

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Legal R.C. 2305.23 (Good Samaritan), 3313.20, 3313.539

Book	Neola Policy Templates for Catch Up
Section	Board Approved Policies 5000s
Title	EMERGENCY MEDICAL AUTHORIZATION
Code	po5341
Status	
Adopted	November 9, 2009

5341 - EMERGENCY MEDICAL AUTHORIZATION

Annually, before the first day of October, the Board of Education will distribute to parents or guardians of all students the Emergency Medical Authorization Form (Form 5341 F1). Thereafter, the Board shall, within thirty (30) days after the entry of any student for the first time into a public school in this State, provide the child's parent with a copy of the Emergency Medical Authorization Form.

When the Form is returned to the District with either Part I or Part II completed, the District shall keep the Form on file, and shall send the Form to any school to which the student is transferred. Upon request of the student's parent, the District may permit the parent to make changes in a previously filed Form, or to file a new Form.

In the event emergency medical treatment for a student is necessary, the District will adhere to the instructions on the authorization form. If a parent refuses to grant consent for emergency medical treatment, the parent must indicate in the proper place on the Form (i.e., Part II) the procedure the parent wishes school authorities to follow in the event of a medical emergency involving his/her child.

Even if a parent grants consent for emergency medical treatment, when a student becomes ill or is injured and requires emergency medical treatment while under school authority, or while engaged in an extra-curricular activity authorized by the appropriate school authorities, the building administrator(s) shall make reasonable attempts to contact the parent before treatment is given. The school representative shall present the student's Emergency Medical Authorization Form or a copy thereof to the hospital or practitioner rendering treatment.

The Emergency Medical Authorization Form will be kept in a separate, easily accessible file in each school building during the school year.

Any time a student or a group of students is taken out of the District to participate in a school event, the staff in charge of the event must take the Emergency Medical Authorization Forms for those students. This includes, and is not limited to, students involved in music trips, athletic trips, field trips, and academic contests. This does not include student spectators at events.

Whenever it is necessary for staff members to use emergency procedures in order to care properly for a student, they are to follow the procedures described in the Superintendent's administrative guidelines. Staff members shall not abide by any "Do Not Resuscitate" (DNR) order that may exist for a student, unless ordered to do so by a court of law. (X) If a student has a DNR order in his/her educational records and/or DNR identification with him/her, school staff will, to the extent feasible, notify any responding Emergency Medical Services Personnel of the existence of the DNR identification/order.

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Legal	R.C. 2133.21 - .26, 3313.712
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Book	Neola Policy Templates for Catch Up
Section	Board Approved Policies 5000s
Title	STUDENT MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION
Code	po5350
Status	
Adopted	November 9, 2009

5350 - **STUDENT MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION**

The Board of Education recognizes that mental health conditions and self-injury are problems of increasing severity among children and adolescents. A student who suffers from a mental health condition such as depression and who has attempted self-injury poses a danger both to himself/herself and to other students.

In accordance with law, the Board will provide appropriate instruction on personal safety and assault prevention to all students in grades K-6. Additionally, beginning in the 2023-2024 school year, the District will include in health education at least one (1) hour (or a standard class period) of evidence-based instruction for students in grades 6-12 in each of the following topics:

- A. suicide awareness and prevention;
- B. safety training and violence prevention; and
- C. social inclusion.

The Board shall use a training program that is approved by the Ohio Department of Education (ODE). Instruction may be provided during student assemblies, digital learning, and homework to satisfy the instruction requirement. Upon request of a parent/guardian, a student will be excused from instruction in these areas.

All school personnel should be alert for students who exhibit signs of unusual mental health-related behavior or who threaten or attempt self-injury or suicide. Any such signs or the report of such signs from another student or staff member should be taken with the utmost seriousness.

In accordance with Policy 8462, designated staff shall receive professional development training in accordance with Board-adopted curriculum that includes the risk factors, warning signs, and resources regarding youth suicide awareness and prevention at least every two (2) years.

Additional professional development training in youth suicide risk assessment and intervention shall be provided to mental health employees, counselors, teachers, administrators, school psychologists, and school nurses.

The Board shall adopt or adapt an evidence-based awareness and prevention curriculum approved by the Ohio Department of Education (ODE), or alternatively will utilize a suicide awareness and prevention curriculum that has been developed in consultation with public or private agencies/persons involved in youth suicide awareness and prevention and that has been approved by the ODE.

The Superintendent shall develop and implement administrative guidelines whereby members of the professional staff understand how to use an intervention procedure which includes the following:

- Step 1 - Stabilization
- Step 2 - Assessment of the Risk
- Step 3 - Use of Appropriate Risk Procedure
- Step 4 - Communication with Appropriate Parties

Step 5 - Follow-up

Throughout any intervention, it is essential that Board policies and District guidelines regarding confidentiality be observed at all times.

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R.C. 3319.073

767 F2d 651 (1985)

Book	Neola Policy Templates for Catch Up
Section	Board Approved Policies 5000s
Title	REPORTING STUDENT PROGRESS
Code	po5420
Status	
Adopted	November 9, 2009

5420 - REPORTING STUDENT PROGRESS

The Board of Education believes that the cooperation of school and home is a vital ingredient to the growth and education of the whole child. It recognizes its responsibility to keep parents informed of student welfare and progress in school.

The Board directs the establishment of a system of reporting student progress which shall include

☒ written reports,

☒ parent conferences with teachers,

and shall require all appropriate staff members to comply with such a system as part of their professional responsibility.

The Superintendent, in conjunction with appropriate staff members, shall develop procedures for reporting student progress to parents which:

- A. ☒ ensure that both student and parent receive ample warning of a pending grade of "failure" or one that would adversely affect the student's status;
- B. ☒ enable the scheduling of parent-teacher conferences at such times and in such places as will ensure the greatest degree of participation by parents;
- C. ☒ specify the issuance of report cards at intervals of not more than nine (9) weeks for grades four through twelve and by semester for grades kindergarten through third grade. [specify];
- D. ☒ ensure a continual review and improvement of methods of reporting student progress to parents.

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Legal	R.C. 3301.0714
	A.C. 3301-11, 3301-35-02(B)(4)



Book	Neola Policy Templates for Catch Up
Section	Board Approved Policies 5000s
Title	GRADING
Code	po5421
Status	
Adopted	November 9, 2009

5421 - **GRADING**

The Board of Education recognizes its responsibility for providing a system of grading student achievement that can help the student, teachers, and parents judge properly how well the student is achieving the goals of the District's program.

The Board believes that the District's grading system should be a reliable system and one that ensures each student's grades signify accurately his/her degree of accomplishment of those expected learning outcomes which are to be stated for each program at every grade level, kindergarten through twelve.

The Board directs the Superintendent to develop procedures for grading whereby the professional staff:

- A. (X) develops clear, consistent criteria and standards particularly when grades are based on subjective assessment;
- B. (X) helps each student understand in each course or program what behavior and/or achievement is needed to earn each grade as well as what will produce a failing grade;
- C. (X) provides frequent opportunities for each student to obtain information as to his/her progress toward the learning goals of his/her courses or programs;
- D. (X) provides for a pass/fail grade in programs for which it is appropriate;
- E. (X) provides students the opportunity to assess both their own achievements and their areas of difficulty.

(X)] The grading system should not inhibit the professional staff member from learning the strengths and weaknesses of each student on an individual basis.

(X)] The grading system should be subject to continual review by staff, students, and parents. Revisions shall be made only when such changes will assure a clearer, more valid, or more reliable system of grading.

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Legal R.C. 3313.20

Book	Neola Policy Templates for Catch Up
Section	Board Approved Policies 5000s
Title	CLASS RANK
Code	po5430
Status	
Adopted	November 9, 2009

5430 - CLASS RANK

The Board of Education acknowledges the usefulness of a system of computing grade point averages and class ranking for high school students, both to inform students of their relative academic placement among their peers and to provide students, prospective employers, and institutions of higher learning with a predictive device so that each student is more likely to be placed in an environment conducive to success.

The Board authorizes a system of class ranking, by grade point average, for students in grade(s) 9-12
[name grade(s) by number].

☒] The grades of students transferring to the high school from a chartered school will be recognized; however, such students shall have no established class rank for purposes of graduation honors, ~~such as Valedictorian, etc.~~, until such time as they have completed two (2) semesters.

☒] Students entering the high school from non-chartered or home-based schooling shall have no established grade point average (GPA) or class rank for purposes of graduation honors, ~~such as Valedictorian, etc.~~, until such time as they have completed two (2) semesters.

~~[?]] No student shall be eligible for graduation honors, such as Valedictorian, etc. unless they have been enrolled for () consecutive semester(s) prior to the final semester utilized for purposes of determining such honors.~~

The Superintendent shall develop procedures for the computation of grade point averages and the assignment of class rank to implement this policy which shall include:

- A. ☒) a provision for students completing graduation requirements before their class;
- B. ☒) a system for fairly averaging makeup courses;
- C. ☒) a statement of the methods for such computation and assignment to be made available for those to whom a student's grade point average or rank in class is released;
- D. ☒) recognition of the heavier burden of certain work, classes, courses, etc.

Book	Neola Policy Templates for Catch Up
Section	Board Approved Policies 5000s
Title	STUDENT RECOGNITION
Code	po5451
Status	

5451 - STUDENT RECOGNITION

The Board of Education values excellence and wishes to inculcate in students the desire to do their best in all things. It shall be the policy of this Board, therefore, to recognize outstanding accomplishment in curricular, co-curricular, and extra-curricular areas.

The Board authorizes the Superintendent to develop a plan for recognition of outstanding student achievement based on well-defined, consistent criteria and standards.

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Book	Neola Policy Templates for Catch Up
Section	Board Approved Policies 5000s
Title	DIPLOMA DEFERRAL
Code	po5460.01
Status	
Adopted	September 10, 2012

5460.01 - **DIPLOMA DEFERRAL**

Social graduation is an opportunity for students with individualized education programs ("IEPs") to participate in high school graduation ceremonies without obtaining an official diploma. Students with IEPs who have completed all academic requirements for high school graduation, but could benefit, as determined by their IEP teams, from continued work on the student's transition-related IEP goals, may be eligible for social graduation. Students may participate in social graduation only upon the recommendation of their respective IEP teams. If social graduation is recommended, the student may engage in all aspects of the graduation celebration (e.g., wearing a cap and gown; sitting with the graduating class; having the student's name printed in the program and read aloud at the ceremony; walking across the stage to receive a faux diploma). Instead of receiving an official diploma, however, the student will receive an unsigned diploma or a certificate of participation.

Ordinarily, the determination of whether social graduation is recommended for any particular student will be done on an individual basis during the first semester of any year in which the student's chronological peer group is eligible to receive a high school diploma. The IEP team may raise the issue or the student and/or the student's parent may raise the issue. The IEP team members should consider whether social graduation is appropriate to further the student's progress with regard to IEP goals. The team may also consider any objectives the student will be required to accomplish before the student is eligible to participate. Finally, the team should determine additional arrangements or preparations, if any, that will need to be made to enable the student to participate in the ceremony. If the team determines that social graduation is recommended, the Superintendent or designee shall be notified. The IEP team makes the final decision with regard to social graduation, in accordance with the student's IEP goals, Federal and State laws and regulations, and local Board policies. Students for whom participation in graduation ceremonies is precluded for disciplinary issues (when the discipline was not a manifestation of the student's disability) or nonpayment of school fines may not participate in social graduation.

After participating in the ceremony, the student is expected to continue working on the student's IEP transition-related IEP goals and objectives. The student will also continue to receive services to address the student's transitional, vocational, and/or independent living skills as delineated in the student's IEP. An official high school diploma will be granted to the student when the IEP team determines that the student has made sufficient progress on the student's transition-related IEP goals and/or the student reaches the age of twenty-two (22), whichever occurs first.

[☒] When the student turns twenty-two (22) during the school year, the student will be permitted to complete the current (☒) quarter (☐) semester ~~[END OF OPTION] before services cease.~~

Book	Neola Policy Templates for Catch Up
Section	Board Approved Policies 5000s
Title	STUDENTS AT-RISK OF NOT QUALIFYING FOR A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA
Code	po5460.02
Status	
Adopted	July 23, 2020
Last Revised	January 21, 2021

5460.02 - STUDENTS AT-RISK OF NOT QUALIFYING FOR A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA

The Board of Education is committed to ensuring that all students have an opportunity to graduate with a high school diploma. To assist with this commitment, a graduation plan is developed for all students who are enrolled in high school. The Board also utilizes specific procedures and criteria to identify students who are at-risk of not qualifying for a high school diploma and provides appropriate interventions and supports to assist at-risk students in meeting graduation requirements.

Development of a Graduation Plan

The District will develop a graduation plan for each student enrolled in grades nine through twelve. The plan will be developed jointly by the student and a District representative and will remain in effect until the student qualifies for a high school diploma. The plan will be updated annually and will describe the targeted academic pathway(s) for the student to meet graduation requirements. Parents/guardians will be invited to assist in developing and updating the graduation plan.

[☒] The District may use a student's Individualized Education Plan ("IEP") in lieu of developing a graduation plan if the IEP contains academic goals that are substantively similar to a graduation plan.

Criteria for Identifying Students At-Risk

The determination of whether a student is at-risk of not qualifying for a high school diploma will be made using one (1) or more of the following criteria:

- A. student's lack of adequate progress in meeting the terms of a graduation plan;
- B. ☒ excessive tardiness or absences from school;
- C. ☒ history of in-school or out-of-school discipline such as suspension and expulsion;
- D. ☐ ~~failing quarter/semester grades in ___ or more classes for at least ___ semesters during high school;~~
- E. ☒ concerns for social or emotional health _____;
- F. ☒ failing quarter grades which puts them at risk to have not enough credits to graduate _____.

Administrative guidelines will be implemented that further define the criteria and how it will be used to identify at-risk students.

Procedures for Identifying Students At-Risk

The Superintendent will develop and implement procedures for identifying at-risk students enrolled in grades nine through twelve. ☒] Procedures may also include a process to identify at-risk students before they enter ninth grade.

The procedures will include a method for determining when a student is not making adequate progress in meeting the terms of their graduation plan, as well as a process for determining whether students meet any of the other criteria included in this policy and administrative guidelines. Students who are identified as at-risk will be provided appropriate

interventions and supports in accordance with Board policy and administrative guidelines.

Parent Notice

Upon determination that a student has been identified as at-risk, and at least annually thereafter while the student remains identified as at-risk, the District will provide parents/guardians with written notice. The notice will include the following information:

- A. a statement that the student is at-risk of not qualifying for a high school diploma;
- B. a description of the curriculum requirements and/or the student's individualized education program requirements that must be completed, as well as any other requirements a student, must satisfy to qualify for a high school diploma; and
- C. a description of any additional instructional interventions and supports that are available to assist the student with meeting the qualifications for a diploma.

Interventions and Supports

The Board will provide instructional interventions and supports for students identified as at-risk. The interventions and supports will be selected to assist the student in qualifying for a diploma. Interventions and supports may include the following:

- A. ☒ mentoring programs;
- B. ☒ tutoring programs;
- C. ☒ earning high school credit through demonstration of subject area competency;
- D. ☒ adjusted curriculum options;
- E. ☒ career-technical program options;
- F. ☒ mental health services;
- G. ☒ ~~physical health care services;~~
- H. ☒ family engagement and support services;
- I. ☐ _____
- J. ☐ _____.

Book	Neola Policy Templates for Catch Up
Section	Board Approved Policies 5000s
Title	CREDITS FROM STATE-CHARTERED, SPECIAL, AND NONCHARTERED SCHOOLS
Code	po5463
Status	
Adopted	November 9, 2009

5463 - CREDITS FROM STATE-CHARTERED, SPECIAL, AND NONCHARTERED SCHOOLS

In recognizing its responsibility to uphold the minimum educational standards of the State of Ohio, the Board of Education establishes the following policy and criteria regarding the acceptance of credits from nonpublic schools whether they be State-chartered, special, or nonchartered schools.

For credit or course-work to be accepted for courses taken in such schools, either a copy of the charter or other assurance of compliance with minimum requirements established by the State must be provided.

Recognition of credits or course-work shall be granted when the proper assurance and the student's transcript has been received. The District reserves the right to assess such transfer students in order to determine proper placement and to be assured the student can demonstrate the learnings which are prerequisite to a placement.

Although credits from nonchartered schools may be granted and placed on a student's transcript, no grades will be entered on the transcript or considered for class ranking. Only grades awarded for courses taken at the District or at a school approved or chartered by a State education agency shall be considered in class ranking and for entering on the transcript.

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Legal	R.C. 3301.07, 3301.16, 3313.60 A.C. 3301-35, 3301-39
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Book	Neola Policy Templates for Catch Up
Section	Board Approved Policies 5000s
Title	STUDENT CONDUCT
Code	po5500
Status	
Adopted	November 9, 2009

5500 - **STUDENT CONDUCT**

Respect for law and for those persons in authority shall be expected of all students. This includes conformity to school rules as well as general provisions of law affecting students. Respect for the rights of others, consideration of their privileges, and cooperative citizenship shall also be expected of all members of the school community. The Board of Education has zero tolerance of violent, disruptive, or inappropriate behavior by its students.

Respect for real and personal property; pride in one's work; achievement within the range of one's ability; and exemplary personal standards of courtesy, decency, and honesty shall be maintained in the schools of this District. It is the responsibility of students, teachers and administrators to maintain a classroom environment that:

- A. allows teachers to communicate effectively with all students in the class;
- B. allows all students in the class the opportunity to learn;
- C. has consequences that are fair, and developmentally appropriate;
- D. considers the student and the circumstances of the situation; and
- E. enforces the student Code of Conduct/Student Discipline Code accordingly.

Students may be subject to discipline for violation of the Code of Conduct/Student Discipline Code even if that conduct occurs on property not owned or controlled by the Board but that is connected to activities or incidents that have occurred on property owned or controlled by the Board, or conduct that, regardless of where it occurs, is directed at a Board official or employee, or the property of such official or employee.

Student conduct shall be governed by the rules and provisions of the Student Code of Conduct/Student Discipline Code. This Code of Conduct/Student Discipline Code shall be reviewed

(~~X~~) annually.

(~~X~~) periodically.

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Legal R.C. 3313.20, 3313.534, 3313.66, 3313.661

Book Neola Policy Templates for Catch Up
Section Board Approved Policies 5000s
Title DRESS AND GROOMING
Code po5511
Status
Adopted November 9, 2009

5511 - DRESS AND GROOMING

The Board of Education recognizes that each student's mode of dress and grooming is a manifestation of personal style and individual preference. The Board will not interfere with the right of students and their parents to make decisions regarding their appearance, except when their choices interfere with the educational program of the schools. ~~(→) Students have the right to dress in accordance with their gender identity, within the constraints of the dress code promulgated by the school.~~

The Board authorizes the Superintendent to establish

- ☒ a reasonable dress code
- ~~(→) a school uniform after six (6) month's notice to parents~~

in order to promote a safe and healthy school setting and enhance the educational environment. The ☒ dress code ~~(→) school uniform~~ shall be incorporated into the Student Code of Conduct or Discipline Code.

Accordingly, the Superintendent shall establish such grooming guidelines as are necessary to promote discipline, maintain order, secure the safety of students, and provide a healthy environment conducive to academic purposes. Such guidelines shall prohibit student dress or grooming practices that:

- A. ☒ present a hazard to the health or safety of the student or to others in the school;
- B. ☒ materially interfere with school work, create disorder, or disrupt the educational program;
- C. ☒ cause excessive wear or damage to school property;
- D. ☒ prevent the student from achieving the student's educational objectives because of blocked vision or restricted movement.

Such guidelines shall establish the dress requirements for members of the athletic teams, bands, and other school groups when representing the District at a public event.

The Superintendent shall develop administrative guidelines to implement this policy that:

- A. ☒ designate the principal as the arbiter of student dress and grooming at the building level;
- B. ~~(→) invite the participation of~~
 - ~~(→) staff~~
 - ~~(→) parents~~
 - ~~(→) students~~

in the preparation of a dress code that may specify prescribed dress and grooming practices, but may not amplify the rationale for prohibition established by Board policy;

- C. ☒ instruct staff members to demonstrate by example and precept neatness, cleanliness, propriety, modesty, and good sense in attire and appearance;
- D. ☐ ~~ensure that all rules implementing this policy impose only minimum and necessary restrictions on the exercise of the student's taste and individuality;~~
- E. ☐ ~~direct staff to enforce the school's dress code in a nondiscriminatory and uniform manner, including without regard to whether a student is transgender or gender nonconforming.~~

☒] Students who violate the foregoing rules will not be admitted to class and may be suspended from school.

☐ ~~If a student disagrees with a principal's decision concerning enforcement of the dress code (i.e., with respect to the student's compliance with the dress code), the student may appeal the principal's decision to the Superintendent, who will meet with the student within ten (10) school days to discuss the nature of the student's disagreement. The Superintendent will issue a written decision on the matter within five (5) school days of the meeting. [DRAFTING NOTE: The Board may select a different number of days for the filing and deciding of the appeal, so long as it occurs with a reasonable period of time.]~~

☐ ~~The Superintendent's decision shall be final.~~

OR

☐ ~~If the student disagrees with the Superintendent's decision, the student may appeal the Superintendent's decision to the Board, who will issue a final decision on the subject within sixty (60) calendar days. [DRAFTING NOTE: The Board may select a different timeline for issuing a final decision, so long as it occurs within a reasonable period of time.]~~

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R.C. 3313.20, 3313.60, 3313.661, 3313.665

Book	Neola Policy Templates for Catch Up
Section	Board Approved Policies 5000s
Title	Vol. 41, No. 2 - Tobacco - January 2023 Revised TOBACCO USE PREVENTION
Code	po5512
Status	
Adopted	November 9, 2009
Last Revised	September 12, 2011

Revised Policy - Vol. 41, No. 2

5512 - ~~USE OF TOBACCO~~ TOBACCO USE PREVENTION

The Board of Education is committed to providing students, staff, and visitors with an indoor tobacco, nicotine, vapor/aerosol, and smoke-free environment. The negative health effects of tobacco use for both the users and nonusers, including the effects of secondhand smoke and vapor/aerosol exposure, particularly in connection with second hand smoke, are well established. Further, providing a non-smoking and tobacco-free environment is consistent with the responsibilities of teachers and staff to be positive role models for our students.

For purposes of this policy, 'use of tobacco' means to chew or maintain any substance containing tobacco, including smokeless tobacco, in the mouth to derive the effects of tobacco, as well as all uses of tobacco or tobacco substitutes, including cigarettes, cigars, pipe tobacco, chewing tobacco, snuff, or any other matter or substances that contain tobacco or nicotine (including synthetic nicotine), in addition to papers used to roll cigarettes, and/or the smoking of electronic, 'vapor,' or other substitute forms of cigarettes, clove cigarettes, or other lighted smoking devices for burning tobacco or any other substance.

The term "tobacco" includes any product containing, made of, or derived from tobacco or nicotine (including synthetic nicotine) that is intended for human consumption or is likely to be consumed, whether inhaled, absorbed, or ingested by any other means, including, but not limited to, a cigarette, a cigar, pipe tobacco, chewing tobacco, snuff, or snus; any electronic smoking device and any substances that may be aerosolized or vaporized by such device, whether or not the substance contains nicotine; an e-cigarette (including, but not limited to, "JUUL," "NJOY," "BREEZE," "Puff Bar," etc.), e-cigar, e-pipe, vape pen, or e-hookah; any product that contains tobacco, is derived from tobacco, contains nicotine, or e-cigarettes and other electronic smoking devices (including but not limited to 'JUULs', 'NJOY', 'Puff Bar', etc.), but does not include any cessation product approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration for use as a medical treatment to reduce or eliminate nicotine or tobacco dependence.

~~In order to protect students and staff who choose not to use tobacco from an environment noxious to them, the~~ The Board prohibits the possession, consumption, purchase or attempt to purchase, and/or use of tobacco or tobacco substitute products by students at all times

☒ (twenty-four (24) hours a day, seven (7) days a week) **[END OF OPTION]**

on Board premises, in Board-owned vehicles, within any indoor facility owned, or leased, or contracted for by the Board, and/or used to provide education or library services to children, and at all Board-sponsored events.

☐ This prohibition extends to any Board-owned and/or operated vehicles used to transport students and to all other Board-owned and/or operated vehicles. Such prohibition also applies to+

- ☒ school grounds,
- ☒ athletic facilities, and
- ☒ any school-related event,

~~(-) on or off Board premises.~~

[END OF OPTIONS]

☒] Advertising/Promotion

In accordance with Policy 9700.01, tobacco advertising is prohibited on school grounds, in all school-sponsored publications, and at all school-sponsored events. **[END OF OPTION]**

☒] Tobacco promotional items that promote the use of tobacco products, including clothing, bags, lighters, and other personal articles, are not permitted on school grounds, in school vehicles, or at school-sponsored events. **[END OF OPTION]**

☒] Notification

Signage ~~"No Tobacco" signs~~ will be posted throughout the District as required by R.C. 3794.06 and as specified by the Ohio Department of Health. Students will be provided notice of this policy through student handbooks. **[END OF OPTION]**

~~**[] District vehicles will display the international "No Smoking" insignia. **[END OF OPTION]****~~

~~**[] Announcements will be made during home athletic events both before the event and during intermission, as well as at all school functions where deemed appropriate. **[END OF OPTION]****~~

~~**[] School programs will include a written reminder of the tobacco-free policy. **[END OF OPTION]****~~

~~[] Educational Programming~~

Tobacco-use prevention education shall be coordinated with the other components of the school health program ~~() and shall be evidence based, age appropriate, and culturally responsive **[END OF OPTION]**~~. Staff responsible for teaching tobacco-use prevention education shall have adequate pre-service training and participate in ongoing professional development activities to effectively deliver education programming. Preparation and professional development activities shall provide basic knowledge about the effects of tobacco use and effects of peer pressure on tobacco use combined with effective instructional techniques and strategies and program-specific activities. **Education will include instruction on the harmful effects of and legal restrictions against tobacco, nicotine, and electronic smoking devices, as part of the health education curriculum, including My Life My Quit Youth Cessation Program. () Implementation may be aligned with Positive Behavioral Intervention Supports (PBIS) and incorporated with ongoing educational reinforcement as part of Tier 1 (and of subsequent tiers) PBIS strategies, as appropriate. **[END OF OPTION]****

Enforcement

Students who violate this policy shall be subject to disciplinary action in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct/Student Discipline Code and in accordance with policies of the Board.

R.C. 2151.87, 3313.20, 3313.47, **3313.60(A)(5)**, 3313.66, 3313.751
20 U.S.C. 6081 et seq., 20 U.S.C. 7182

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Legal R.C. 2151.87, 3313.20, 3313.47, 3313.60(A)(5), 3313.66, 3313.751
20 U.S.C. 6081 et seq., 20 U.S.C. 7182

Book	Neola Policy Templates for Catch Up
Section	Board Approved Policies 5000s
Title	CARE OF SCHOOL PROPERTY
Code	po5513
Status	
Adopted	November 9, 2009
Last Revised	April 10, 2014

5513 - CARE OF SCHOOL PROPERTY

The Board of Education believes that the schools should help students learn to respect property

(X) and develop feelings of pride in community institutions.

The Board charges each student with responsibility for the proper care of school property and the school supplies and equipment entrusted to his/her use.

Students who cause damage to school property shall be subject to disciplinary measures, and their parents shall be financially liable for such damage to the extent of the law,

(X) except that students eighteen (18) years of age or older shall also be liable for damage they cause.

The Board authorizes the imposition of fines for the loss, damage or destruction of school equipment, apparatus, musical instruments, library material, textbooks, and for damage to school buildings

(X) and reserves the right, to the extent permitted by law, to withhold a report card or credits from any student whose payment of such fine is in arrears.

X] The Board may report to the appropriate juvenile authorities any student whose damage of school property has been serious or chronic in nature.

A reward may be offered by the Board for the apprehension of any person who vandalizes school property.

The Superintendent shall develop administrative guidelines to implement this policy.

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Legal	R.C. 2151.272, 2151.411, 3109.09, 3313.173, 3313.642
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Book	Neola Policy Templates for Catch Up
Section	Board Approved Policies 5000s
Title	USE OF BICYCLES
Code	po5514
Status	
Adopted	November 9, 2009

5514 - **USE OF BICYCLES**

~~[] Because of the clear and present danger of accident in traffic, inherent in bicycle riding, it shall be the policy of the Board of Education to prohibit the use of bicycles by students for travel to and from school.~~

☒] The Board of Education regards the use of bicycles for travel to and from school by students as an assumption of responsibility on the part of those students -- a responsibility in the care of property, in the observation of safety rules, and in the display of courtesy and consideration toward others.

The Board will permit the use of bicycles by students in accordance with the administrative guidelines of the Superintendent.

The Board will not be responsible for bicycles which are lost, stolen, or damaged.

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Legal	R.C. 3313.20
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Book	Neola Policy Templates for Catch Up
Section	Board Approved Policies 5000s
Title	USE OF MOTOR VEHICLES
Code	po5515
Status	
Adopted	November 9, 2009

5515 - USE OF MOTOR VEHICLES

~~☐] Because of the clear and present danger of accident, it shall be the policy of the Board of Education to prohibit the use of motor vehicles by students for travel to and from school.~~

☒] The Board of Education regards the use of motor vehicles for travel to and from school by students as an assumption of responsibility on the part of those students -- a responsibility in the care of property, in the observation of safety rules, and in the display of courtesy and consideration toward others -- and an assumption of liability on the part of those students and their parent(s).

The Superintendent shall develop administrative guidelines for the operation and parking of motor vehicles by students ~~which shall include the requirement that students~~

~~☐] are licensed drivers.~~

~~☐] have adequate liability insurance.~~

The Board shall not be responsible for motor vehicles which are lost, stolen, or damaged while on school property.

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Legal	R.C. 3313.20
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Book	Neola Policy Templates for Catch Up
Section	Board Approved Policies 5000s
Title	SAFE OPERATION OF MOTORIZED UTILITY VEHICLES BY STUDENTS
Code	po5515.01
Status	

5515.01 - SAFE OPERATION OF MOTORIZED UTILITY VEHICLES BY STUDENTS

OPTION #1

☒] Because of the clear and present danger of accident, the Board of Education prohibits the use of motorized utility vehicles by students on school grounds or for school activity purposes.

OR

OPTION #2

~~[] Motorized utility vehicles may be used~~

~~() on school property~~

~~() and/or in conjunction with approved school activities~~

~~only if operated for the approved purpose.~~

~~() and in accordance with AG-5515.01.~~

~~All operators must be at least sixteen (16) years of age, licensed to drive a motor vehicle in the State of Ohio.~~

~~() and have adequate liability insurance.~~

~~() Prior written permission by the student operator's parent/guardian~~

~~() and release of liability~~

~~is required.~~

~~All operators must be approved in advance by~~

~~() the Superintendent,~~

OR

~~() the _____,~~

~~and must be accepted in the District's liability insurance program.~~

~~() Student operators shall only operate utility vehicles at the direction and under the supervision of the approved teacher/activity sponsor/coach.~~

~~Operators shall participate in basic safety training for operation of motorized utility vehicles, as prescribed in the administrative guidelines, prior to operating any such vehicle(s). Individuals authorized to operate such utility vehicles may not allow anyone else to use the vehicle (e.g., other students, relatives, friends, etc.). The utility vehicle may only be used for the specific activity and function that has been assigned.~~

Book	Neola Policy Templates for Catch Up
Section	Board Approved Policies 5000s
Title	STUDENT HAZING
Code	po5516
Status	
Adopted	November 9, 2009

5516 - STUDENT HAZING

Hazing activities of any type are inconsistent with and disruptive to the educational process, and prohibited at any time in school facilities, on school property, and/or off school property if the misconduct is connected to or associated with Board-sponsored activities (e.g., extracurricular teams, clubs, or groups) or incidents that have occurred on school property. No administrator, employee, faculty member, teacher, consultant, alumnus, or volunteer of the District shall encourage, permit, authorize, condone, or tolerate any hazing activities. The preceding prohibition includes recklessly permitting the hazing of any person associated with the District. Additionally, no student shall plan, encourage, or engage in any hazing.

Hazing is defined as doing any act or coercing another, including the victim, to do any act of initiation into any class, team, or organization or any act to continue or reinstate membership in or affiliation with any class, team, or organization that causes or creates a substantial risk of causing mental or physical harm to any person, including coercing another to consume alcohol or a drug of abuse. No person shall recklessly participate in the hazing of another. Permission, consent, or assumption of risk by an individual subjected to hazing shall not lessen the prohibitions contained in this policy.

Administrators, employees, faculty members, teachers, ~~() consultants, () alumni,~~ or ☒ volunteers of the District shall be alerted to possible situations, circumstances, or events that might include hazing. If hazing or planned hazing is discovered, the students involved shall be informed by the discoverer of the prohibitions contained in this policy and shall be ordered to end all hazing activities or planned activities immediately. All hazing incidents shall be reported immediately to the Superintendent. Additionally, no administrator, employee, faculty member, teacher, consultant, alumnus, or volunteer of the District who is acting in an official and professional capacity shall recklessly fail to immediately report the knowledge of hazing to a law enforcement agency in the county in which the victim of hazing resides or in which the hazing is occurring or has occurred. Students, administrators, employees, faculty members, and teachers who fail to abide by this policy may be subject to disciplinary action and may be held personally liable for civil and criminal penalties in accordance with law. ☒ Likewise, ~~() consultants, () alumni,~~ and ~~(-x)~~ volunteers associated with the District who fail to abide by this policy may be prohibited from continuing their involvement and/or participation in activities associated with the District and may be held personally liable for civil and criminal penalties in accordance with law.

The Superintendent shall distribute this policy to all students, Board employees, consultants, and volunteers, and shall incorporate it into building, staff, and student handbooks. It shall also be posted on the District's website. This policy shall be the subject of discussion at employee staff meetings or in-service programs.

Board employees, ☒ ~~consultants,~~ and volunteers shall not intentionally remain ignorant of hazing or potential hazing activities.

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Legal R.C. 2307.44, 2903.31, 2903.311, 3313.661

Book	Neola Policy Templates for Catch Up
Section	Board Approved Policies 5000s
Title	ANTI-HARASSMENT
Code	po5517
Status	
Adopted	November 9, 2009
Last Revised	August 19, 2021

5517 - **ANTI-HARASSMENT**

General Policy Statement

It is the policy of the Board of Education to maintain an education and work environment that is free from all forms of unlawful harassment, including sexual harassment. This commitment applies to all School District operations, programs, and activities. All students, administrators, teachers, staff, and all other school personnel share responsibility for avoiding, discouraging, and reporting any form of unlawful harassment. This policy applies to unlawful conduct occurring on school property, or at another location if such conduct occurs during an activity sponsored by the Board.

The Board will vigorously enforce its prohibition against discriminatory harassment based on race, color, national origin, sex (including sexual orientation and gender identity), disability, age (except as authorized by law), religion, ancestry, or genetic information (collectively, "Protected Classes") that are protected by Federal civil rights laws (hereinafter referred to as unlawful harassment), and encourages those within the School District community as well as Third Parties, who feel aggrieved to seek assistance to rectify such problems. The Board will investigate all allegations of unlawful harassment and in those cases where unlawful harassment is substantiated, the Board will take immediate steps to end the harassment, prevent its reoccurrence, and remedy its effects. Individuals who are found to have engaged in unlawful harassment will be subject to appropriate disciplinary action.

~~[] The District will offer counseling services to any person found to have been subjected to unlawful harassment, and, where appropriate, the person(s) who committed the unlawful harassment.~~

Other Violations of the Anti-Harassment Policy

The Board will also take immediate steps to impose disciplinary action on individuals engaging in any of the following prohibited acts:

- A. Retaliating against a person who has made a report or filed a complaint alleging unlawful harassment, or who has participated as a witness in a harassment investigation.
- B. Filing a malicious or knowingly false report or complaint of unlawful harassment.
- C. Disregarding, failing to investigate adequately, or delaying investigation of allegations of unlawful harassment, when responsibility for reporting and/or investigating harassment charges comprises part of one's supervisory duties.

Definitions

Words used in this policy shall have those meanings defined herein; words not defined herein shall be construed according to their plain and ordinary meanings.

Complainant is the individual who alleges, or is alleged, to have been subjected to unlawful harassment, regardless of whether the person files a formal complaint or is pursuing an informal resolution to the alleged harassment.

Respondent is the individual who has been alleged to have engaged in unlawful harassment, regardless of whether the Reporting Party files a formal complaint or is seeking an informal resolution to the alleged harassment.

School District community means students and Board employees (i.e., administrators, and professional and classified staff), as well as Board members, agents, volunteers, contractors, or other persons subject to the control and supervision of the Board.

Third Parties include, but are not limited to, guests and/or visitors on School District property (e.g., visiting speakers, participants on opposing athletic teams, parents), vendors doing business with, or seeking to do business with, the Board, and other individuals who come in contact with members of the School District community at school-related events/activities (whether on or off District property).

Day(s): Unless expressly stated otherwise, the term "day" or "days" as used in this policy means business day(s) (i.e., a day(s) that the Board office is open for normal operating hours, Monday – Friday, excluding State-recognized holidays).

Bullying

Bullying rises to the level of unlawful harassment when one (1) or more persons systematically and chronically inflict physical hurt or psychological distress on one (1) or more students or employees and that bullying is based upon one (1) or more Protected Classes, that is, characteristics that are protected by Federal civil rights laws. It is defined as any unwanted and repeated written, verbal, or physical behavior, including any threatening, insulting, or dehumanizing gesture, by an adult or student, that is severe or pervasive enough to create an intimidating, hostile, or offensive educational or work environment; cause discomfort or humiliation; or unreasonably interfere with the individual's school or work performance or participation; and may involve:

- A. teasing;
- B. threats;
- C. intimidation;
- D. stalking;
- E. cyberstalking;
- F. cyberbullying;
- G. physical violence;
- H. theft;
- I. sexual, religious, or racial harassment;
- J. public humiliation; or
- K. destruction of property.

Harassment

Harassment means any threatening, insulting, or dehumanizing gesture, use of technology, or written, verbal or physical conduct directed against a student or school employee that:

- A. places a student or school employee in reasonable fear of harm to his/her person or damage to his/her property;
- B. has the effect of substantially interfering with a student's educational performance, opportunities, or benefits, or an employee's work performance; or
- C. has the effect of substantially disrupting the orderly operation of a school.

Sexual Harassment

For purposes of this policy and consistent with Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, "sexual harassment" is defined as:

Unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature, when:

- A. Submission to such conduct is made either implicitly or explicitly a term or condition of an individual's employment, or status in a class, educational program, or activity.

- B. Submission or rejection of such conduct by an individual is used as the basis for employment or educational decisions affecting such individual.
- C. Such conduct has the purpose or effect of interfering with the individual's work or educational performance; of creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive working, and/or learning environment; or of interfering with one's ability to participate in or benefit from a class or an educational program or activity.

Sexual harassment may involve the behavior of a person of any gender against a person of the same or another gender.

Sexual Harassment covered by Policy 2266 - Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex Education Programs or Activities is not included in this policy. Allegations of such conduct shall be addressed solely by Policy 2266.

Prohibited acts that constitute sexual harassment under this policy may take a variety of forms. Examples of the kinds of conduct that may constitute sexual harassment include, but are not limited to:

- A. Unwelcome sexual propositions, invitations, solicitations, and flirtations.
- B. Unwanted physical and/or sexual contact.
- C. Threats or insinuations that a person's employment, wages, academic grade, promotion, classroom work or assignments, academic status, participation in athletics or extra-curricular programs, activities, or events, or other conditions of employment or education may be adversely affected by not submitting to sexual advances.
- D. Unwelcome verbal expressions of a sexual nature, including graphic sexual commentaries about a person's body, dress, appearance, or sexual activities; the unwelcome use of sexually degrading language, profanity, jokes or innuendoes; unwelcome suggestive or insulting sounds or whistles; obscene telephone calls.
- E. Sexually suggestive objects, pictures, graffiti, videos, posters, audio recordings or literature, placed in the work or educational environment, that may reasonably embarrass or offend individuals.
- F. Unwelcome and inappropriate touching, patting, or pinching; (X) obscene gestures.
- G. Asking about, or telling about, sexual fantasies, sexual preferences, or sexual activities.
- H. Speculations about a person's sexual activities or sexual history, or remarks about one's own sexual activities or sexual history.
- I. Giving unwelcome personal gifts such as lingerie that suggests the desire for a romantic relationship.
- J. Leering or staring at someone in a sexual way, such as staring at a person's breasts, buttocks, or groin.
- K. A pattern of conduct, which can be subtle in nature, that has sexual overtones and is intended to create or has the effect of creating discomfort and/or humiliation to another.
- L. Inappropriate boundary invasions by a District employee or other adult member of the School District community into a student's personal space and personal life.
- M. Verbal, nonverbal or physical aggression, intimidation, or hostility based on sex or sex-stereotyping that does not involve conduct of a sexual nature.

Not all behavior with sexual connotations constitutes unlawful sexual harassment. Sex-based or gender-based conduct must be sufficiently severe, pervasive, and persistent such that it adversely affects, limits, or denies an individual's employment or education, or such that it creates a hostile or abusive employment or educational environment, or such that it is intended to, or has the effect of, denying or limiting a student's ability to participate in or benefit from the educational program or activities.

~~{DRAFTING NOTE: Sexual conduct/relationships with students by District employees or any other adult member of the School District community is prohibited, and any teacher, administrator, coach, or other school authority who engages in sexual conduct with a student may also be guilty of the criminal charge of "sexual battery" as set forth in R.C. 2907.03. The issue of consent is irrelevant in regard to such criminal charge and/or with respect to the application of this policy to District employees or other adult members of the School District community.}~~

Race/Color Harassment

Prohibited racial harassment occurs when unwelcome physical, verbal, or nonverbal conduct is based upon an individual's race or color and when the conduct has the purpose or effect of interfering with the individual's work or educational performance; of creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive working, and/or learning environment; or of interfering with one's ability to participate in or benefit from a class or an educational program or activity. Such harassment may occur where conduct is directed at the characteristics of a person's race or color, such as racial slurs, nicknames implying stereotypes, epithets, and/or negative references relative to racial customs.

Religious (Creed) Harassment

Prohibited religious harassment occurs when unwelcome physical, verbal, or nonverbal conduct is based upon an individual's religion or creed and when the conduct has the purpose or effect of interfering with the individual's work or educational performance; of creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive working and/or learning environment; or of interfering with one's ability to participate in or benefit from a class or an educational program or activity. Such harassment may occur where conduct is directed at the characteristics of a person's religious tradition, clothing, or surnames, and/or involves religious slurs.

National Origin/Ancestry Harassment

Prohibited national origin/ancestry harassment occurs when unwelcome physical, verbal, or nonverbal conduct is based upon an individual's national origin or ancestry and when the conduct has the purpose or effect of interfering with the individual's work or educational performance; of creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive working and/or learning environment; or of interfering with one's ability to participate in or benefit from a class or an educational program or activity. Such harassment may occur where conduct is directed at the characteristics of a person's national origin or ancestry, such as negative comments regarding customs, manner of speaking, language, surnames, or ethnic slurs.

Disability Harassment

Prohibited disability harassment occurs when unwelcome physical, verbal, or nonverbal conduct is based upon an individual's disability and when the conduct has the purpose or effect of interfering with the individual's work or educational performance; of creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive working and/or learning environment; or of interfering with one's ability to participate in or benefit from a class or an educational program or activity. Such harassment may occur where conduct is directed at the characteristics of a person's disability, such as negative comments about speech patterns, movement, physical impairments or defects/appearances, or the like.

Anti-Harassment Compliance Officers

The following individual(s) shall serve as the District's Anti-Harassment Compliance Officer(s) (hereinafter, "the Compliance Officer(s)"):

Assistant Superintendent
740-965-3010
110 Tippet Court
Sunbury, OH 43074

www.bwls.net

Director of Student Services
740-965-3010
110 Tippet Court
Sunbury, OH 43074

www.bwls.net

~~{DRAFTING NOTE: Neola suggests the Board appoint both a male and a female Compliance Officer in order to provide Complainants with the option to report their concerns to an individual of the gender with which they feel most comfortable. The same individual(s) assigned to serve as Compliance Officer(s) may also be~~

~~assigned to serve as the District's Section 504 Compliance Officer(s) /ADA Coordinator(s) and/or Title IX Coordinator(s). Additionally, by appointing two (2) Compliance Officers, there should also be a Compliance Officer available to investigate a claim of harassment that pertains to the other Compliance Officer.]~~

{Name}

{School District Title}

{Telephone Number}

{Office Address}

{E-mail Address}

{Name}

{School District Title}

{Telephone Number}

{Office Address}

{E-mail Address}

The names, titles, and contact information of these individuals will be published annually on the School District's web site { } and:

- A. ~~{ }~~ in the parent and staff handbooks.
- B. ~~{ }~~ in the School District Annual Report to the public.
- C. ~~{ }~~ on each individual school's web site.
- D. ~~{ }~~ in the School District's calendar.
- E. ~~{ }~~ _____.

The Compliance Officer(s) ~~{ }~~ is ~~(X)~~ are responsible for coordinating the District's efforts to comply with applicable Federal and State laws and regulations, including the District's duty to address in a prompt and equitable manner any inquiries or complaints regarding harassment.

The Compliance Officer(s) will be available during regular school/work hours to discuss concerns related to unlawful harassment, to assist students, other members of the District community, and third parties who seek support or advice when informing another individual about "unwelcome" conduct, or to intercede informally on behalf of the individual in those instances where concerns have not resulted in the filing of a formal complaint and where all parties are in agreement to participate in an informal process.

Compliance Officers shall accept reports of unlawful harassment directly from any member of the School District community or a Third Party or receive reports that are initially filed with an administrator, supervisor, or other District-level official. Upon receipt of a report of alleged harassment, the Compliance Officer(s) will contact the Complainant and begin either an informal or formal complaint process (depending on the request of the Complainant or the nature of the alleged harassment), or the Compliance Officer(s) will designate a specific individual to conduct such a process. The Compliance Officer(s) will provide a copy of this policy to the Complainant and Respondent. In the case of a formal complaint, the

Compliance Officer(s) will prepare recommendations for the Superintendent or will oversee the preparation of such recommendations by a designee. All Board employees must report incidents of harassment that are reported to them to the Compliance Officer within two (2) days of learning of the incident.

Any Board employee who directly observes unlawful harassment is obligated, in accordance with this policy, to report such observations to the Compliance Officer(s) within two (2) days. Additionally, any Board employee who observes an act of unlawful harassment is expected to intervene to stop the harassment, unless circumstances make such an intervention dangerous, in which case the staff member should immediately notify other Board employees and/or local law enforcement officials, as necessary, to stop the harassment. Thereafter, the Compliance Officer(s) or designee must contact the Complainant, if age eighteen (18) or older, or Complainant's parents/guardians if the Complainant is under the age eighteen (18), within two (2) days to advise of the Board's intent to investigate the alleged wrongdoing.

Reports and Complaints of Harassing Conduct

Students and all other members of the School District community along with Third Parties are required to report incidents of harassing conduct to a teacher, administrator, supervisor, or other District official so that the Board may address the conduct before it becomes severe, pervasive, or persistent. Any teacher, administrator, supervisor, or other District employee or official who receives such a report shall file it with the Compliance Officer within two (2) days of receiving the report of harassment.

Members of the School District community and Third Parties, which includes students, or third parties who believe they have been unlawfully harassed are entitled to utilize the Board's complaint process that is set forth below. Initiating a complaint, whether formally or informally, will not adversely affect the Complainant's employment or participation in educational or extra-curricular programs. While there are no time limits for initiating complaints of harassment under this policy, individuals should make every effort to file a complaint as soon as possible after the conduct occurs while the facts are known and potential witnesses are available.

If, during an investigation of alleged bullying, aggressive behavior and/or harassment in accordance with Policy 5517.01 - Bullying and Other Forms of Aggressive Behavior, the Principal believes that the reported misconduct may have created a hostile work environment and may have constituted unlawful discriminatory harassment based on a Protected Class, the Principal shall report the act of bullying, aggressive behavior and/or harassment to the Compliance Officers who shall investigate the allegation in accordance with this policy. If the alleged harassment involves Sexual Harassment as defined by Policy 2266, the matter will be handled in accordance with the grievance process and procedures outlined in Policy 2266. While the Compliance Officer investigates the allegation, or the matter is being addressed pursuant to Policy 2266, the Principal shall suspend the Policy 5517.01 investigation to await the Compliance Officer's written report or the determination of responsibility pursuant to Policy 2266. The Compliance Officer shall keep the Principal informed of the status of the Policy 5517 investigation and provide the Principal with a copy of the resulting written report. Likewise, the Title IX Coordinator will provide the Principal with the determination of responsibility that results from the Policy 2266 grievance process.

Investigation and Complaint Procedure

Except for Sexual Harassment that is covered by Policy 2266 - Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex in Education Programs or Activities, any student who believes that they have been subjected to unlawful harassment may seek resolution of the complaint through the procedures described below. The formal complaint process involves an investigation of the Complainant's claims of harassment or retaliation and a process for rendering a decision regarding whether the charges are substantiated.

Due to the sensitivity surrounding complaints of unlawful harassment or retaliation, timelines are flexible for initiating the complaint process; however, individuals should make every effort to file a complaint within thirty (30) days after the conduct occurs while the facts are known and potential witnesses are available. Once the formal complaint process is begun, the investigation will be completed in a timely manner (ordinarily, within fifteen (15) business days of the complaint being received).

The procedures set forth below are not intended to interfere with the rights of a student to pursue a complaint of unlawful harassment or retaliation with the United States Department of Education Office for Civil Rights.

Informal Complaint Procedure

The goal of the informal complaint procedure is promptly to stop inappropriate behavior and to facilitate resolution through an informal means, if possible. The informal complaint procedure is provided as a less formal option for a student who believes s/he has been unlawfully harassed or retaliated against. This informal procedure is not required as a precursor to the filing of a formal complaint. The informal process is only available in those circumstances where the Complainant and the Respondent mutually agree to participate in it.

Students who believe that they have been unlawfully harassed may initiate their complaint through this informal complaint process, but are not required to do so. The informal process is only available in those circumstances where the parties (alleged target of harassment and alleged harasser(s)) agree to participate in the informal process.

The Complainant may proceed immediately to the formal complaint process and individuals who seek resolution through the informal procedure may request that the informal process be terminated at any time to move to the formal complaint process.

All complainants involving a District employee, any other adult member of the School District community, or a Third Party and a student will be formally investigated.

As an initial course of action, if a Complainant feels comfortable and safe in doing so, the individual should tell or otherwise inform the Respondent that the alleged harassing conduct is inappropriate and must stop. The Complainant should address the allegedly harassing conduct as soon after it occurs as possible. The Compliance Officers are available to support and counsel individuals when taking this initial step or to intervene on behalf of the Complainant if requested to do so. A Complainant who is uncomfortable or unwilling to directly approach the Respondent about the alleged inappropriate conduct may file an informal or a formal complaint. In addition, with regard to certain types of unlawful harassment, such as sexual harassment, the Compliance Officer may advise against the use of the informal complaint process.

A Complainant may make an informal complaint, either orally or in writing: 1) to a teacher, other employee, or building administrator in the school the student attends; 2) to the Superintendent or other District-level employee; and/or 3) directly to one of the Compliance Officers.

All informal complaints must be reported to one of the Compliance Officers who will either facilitate an informal resolution as described below, or appoint another individual to facilitate an informal resolution.

The Board's informal complaint procedure is designed to provide students who believe they are being unlawfully harassed with a range of options designed to bring about a resolution of their concerns. Depending upon the nature of the complaint and the wishes of the Complainant, informal resolution may involve, but not be limited to, one or more of the following:

- A. Advising the Complainant about how to communicate the unwelcome nature of the behavior to the Respondent.
- B. Distributing a copy of this policy as a reminder to the individuals in the school building or office where the Respondent works or attends.
- C. If both parties agree, the Compliance Officer may arrange and facilitate a meeting or mediation between the Complainant and the Respondent to work out a mutual resolution.

While there are no set time limits within which an informal complaint must be resolved, the Compliance Officer/designee is directed to attempt to resolve all informal complaints within fifteen (15) business days of receiving the informal complaint. If the Complainant is dissatisfied with the informal complaint process, the Complainant may proceed to file a formal complaint. And, as stated above, either party may request that the informal process be terminated at any time to move to the formal complaint process.

Formal Complaint Procedure

If a complaint is not resolved through the informal complaint process, if one of the parties has requested that the informal complaint process be terminated to move to the formal complaint process, or the Complainant, from the outset, elects to file a formal complaint, or the CO determines the allegations are not appropriate for resolution through the informal process, the formal complaint process shall be implemented.

The Complainant may file a formal complaint, either orally or in writing, with a teacher, principal, or other District employee at the student's school, the Compliance Officer, Superintendent, or another District official who works at another school or at the district level. Due to the sensitivity surrounding complaints of unlawful harassment, timelines are flexible for initiating the complaint process; however, individuals should make every effort to file a formal complaint within thirty (30) days after the conduct occurs while the facts are known and potential witnesses are available. If a Complainant informs a teacher, principal, or other District employee at the student's school, Superintendent, or other District official, either orally or in writing, about any complaint of harassment, that employee must report such information to the Compliance Officer within two (2) business days.

Throughout the course of the process, the Compliance Officer should keep the parties reasonably informed of the status of the investigation and the decision-making process.

All formal complaints must include the following information to the extent known: the identity of the Respondent; a detailed description of the facts upon which the complaint is based (i.e., when, where, and what occurred); a list of potential witnesses; and the resolution sought by the Complainant.

If the Complainant is unwilling or unable to provide a written statement including the information set forth above, the Compliance Officer shall ask for such details in an oral interview. Thereafter, the Compliance Officer will prepare a written summary of the oral interview, and the Complainant will be asked to verify the accuracy of the reported charge by signing the document.

Upon receiving a formal complaint, the Compliance Officer will consider whether any action should be taken in the investigatory phase to protect the Complainant from further harassment or retaliation, including, but not limited to, a change of work assignment or schedule for the Complainant and/or the Respondent. In making such a determination, the Compliance Officer should consult the Complainant to assess whether the individual agrees with the proposed action. If the Complainant is unwilling to consent to the proposed change, the Compliance Officer may still take whatever actions deemed appropriate in consultation with the Superintendent.

Within two (2) business days of receiving the complaint, the Compliance Officer/designee will initiate a formal investigation to determine whether the Complainant has been subjected to offensive conduct/harassment/retaliation. The Principal will not conduct an investigation unless directed to do so by the Compliance Officer.

Simultaneously, the Compliance Officer will inform the Respondent that a formal complaint has been received. The Respondent will be informed about the nature of the allegations and provided with a copy of any relevant policies and/or administrative guidelines, including the Board's Anti-Harassment policy. The Respondent must also be informed of the opportunity to submit a written response to the complaint within five (5) business days.

Although certain cases may require additional time, the Compliance Officer/designee will attempt to complete an investigation into the allegations of harassment/retaliation within fifteen (15) business days of receiving the formal complaint. The investigation will include:

- A. interviews with the Complainant;
- B. interviews with the Respondent;
- C. interviews with any other witnesses who may reasonably be expected to have any information relevant to the allegations;
- D. consideration of any documentation or other information presented by the Complainant, Respondent, or any other witness that is reasonably believed to be relevant to the allegations.

At the conclusion of the investigation, the Compliance Officer or the designee shall prepare and deliver a written report to the Superintendent that summarizes the evidence gathered during the investigation and provides recommendations based on the evidence and the definition of unlawful harassment as provided in Board policy and State and Federal law as to whether the Complainant has been subjected to unlawful harassment. The Compliance Officer's recommendations must be based upon the totality of the circumstances, including the ages and maturity levels of those involved. In determining if discriminatory harassment or retaliation occurred, a preponderance of evidence standard will be used. The Compliance Officer may consult with the Board's legal counsel before finalizing the report to the Superintendent.

Absent extenuating circumstances, within ten (10) school days of receiving the report of the Compliance Officer/designee, the Superintendent must either issue a written decision regarding whether the complaint of harassment has been substantiated or request further investigation. A copy of the Superintendent's final decision will be delivered to both the Complainant and the Respondent.

If the Superintendent requests additional investigation, the Superintendent must specify the additional information that is to be gathered, and such additional investigation must be completed within ten (10) school days. At the conclusion of the additional investigation, the Superintendent shall issue a written decision as described above.

~~**[] The decision of the Superintendent shall be final.**~~

OR

[x] A Complainant or Respondent who is dissatisfied with the final decision of the Superintendent may appeal through a signed written statement to the Board within five (5) business days of the party's receipt of the Superintendent's decision. The written statement of appeal must be submitted to the Treasurer/CFO.

In an attempt to resolve the complaint, the Board shall meet with the concerned parties and their representatives within twenty (20) business days of the receipt of such an appeal. A copy of the Board's disposition of the appeal shall be sent to each party within ten (10) business days of this meeting. The decision of the Board will be final.

{END OF OPTIONS}

The Board reserves the right to investigate and resolve a complaint or report of unlawful harassment/retaliation regardless of whether the student alleging the unlawful harassment/retaliation pursues the complaint. The Board also reserves the right to have the formal complaint investigation conducted by an external person in accordance with this policy or in such other manner as deemed appropriate by the Board or its designee.

The parties may be represented, at their own cost, at any of the above-described meetings/hearings.

The right of a person to a prompt and equitable resolution of the complaint shall not be impaired by the person's pursuit of other remedies such as the filing of a complaint with the Office for Civil Rights, the filing of charges with local law enforcement, or the filing of a civil action in court. Use of this internal complaint process is not a prerequisite to the pursuit of other remedies.

Privacy/Confidentiality

The District will employ all reasonable efforts to protect the rights of the Complainant, the Respondent, and the witnesses as much as possible, consistent with the Board's legal obligations to investigate, to take appropriate action, and to conform with any discovery or disclosure obligations. All records generated under the terms of this policy and related administrative guidelines shall be maintained as confidential to the extent permitted by law. Confidentiality, however, cannot be guaranteed. Additionally, the Respondent must be provided the Complainant's identity.

During the course of a formal investigation, the Compliance Officer/designee will instruct all members of the School District community and Third Parties who are interviewed about the importance of maintaining confidentiality. Any individual who is interviewed as part of a harassment investigation is expected not to disclose any information that is learned or provided during the course of the investigation.

Sanctions and Monitoring

The Board shall vigorously enforce its prohibitions against unlawful harassment/retaliation by taking appropriate action reasonably calculated to stop the harassment and prevent further such harassment. While observing the principles of due process, a violation of this policy may result in disciplinary action up to and including the discharge of an employee or the suspension/expulsion of a student. All disciplinary action will be taken in accordance with applicable State law and the terms of the relevant collective bargaining agreement(s). When imposing discipline, the Superintendent shall consider the totality of the circumstances involved in the matter, including the ages and maturity levels of those involved. In those cases where unlawful harassment is not substantiated, the Board may consider whether the alleged conduct nevertheless warrants discipline in accordance with other Board policies, consistent with the terms of the relevant collective bargaining agreement(s).

Where the Board becomes aware that a prior remedial action has been taken against a member of the School District community, all subsequent sanctions imposed by the Board and/or Superintendent shall be reasonably calculated to end such conduct, prevent its reoccurrence, and remedy its effects.

Retaliation

Retaliation against a person who makes a report or files a complaint alleging unlawful harassment/retaliation or participates as a witness in an investigation is prohibited. Neither the Board nor any other person may intimidate, threaten, coerce or interfere with any individual because the person opposed any act or practice made unlawful by any Federal or State civil rights law, or because that individual made a report, formal complaint testified, assisted or participated or refused to participate in any manner in an investigation, proceeding, or hearing under those laws and/or this policy, or because that individual exercised, enjoyed, aided or encouraged any other person in the exercise or enjoyment of any right granted or protected by those laws and/or this policy.

Retaliation against a person from making a report of discrimination, filing a formal complaint, or participating in an investigation or meeting is a serious violation of this policy that can result in imposition of disciplinary sanction/consequences and/or other appropriate remedies.

Formal complaints alleging retaliation may be filed according to the internal complaint process set forth above.

The exercise of rights protected under the First Amendment of the United States Constitution does not constitute retaliation prohibited under this policy.

Allegations Constituting Criminal Conduct: Child Abuse/Sexual Misconduct

State law requires any school teacher or school employee who knows or suspects that a child with a disability under the age of twenty-one (21) or that a child under the age of eighteen (18) has suffered or faces a threat of suffering a physical or mental wound, disability or condition of a nature that reasonably indicates abuse or neglect of a child to immediately report that knowledge or suspicion to the county children's services agency. If, during the course of a harassment investigation, the Compliance Officer or a designee has reason to believe or suspect that the alleged conduct reasonably indicates abuse or neglect of the Complainant, a report of such knowledge must be made in accordance with State law and Board Policy.

State law defines certain contact between a teacher and a student as "sexual battery." If the Compliance Officer or a designee has reason to believe that the Complainant has been the victim of criminal conduct as defined in Ohio's Criminal Code, such knowledge should be immediately reported to local law enforcement.

Any reports made to a county children's services agency or to local law enforcement shall not terminate the Compliance Officer or a designee's obligation and responsibility to continue to investigate a complaint of harassment. While the Compliance Officer or a designee may work cooperatively with outside agencies to conduct concurrent investigations, in no event shall the harassment investigation be inhibited by the involvement of outside agencies without good cause after consultation with the Superintendent.

Allegations Involving Conduct Unbecoming the Teaching Profession/Suspension

The Superintendent will report to the Ohio Department of Education, on forms provided for that purpose, matters of misconduct on the part of licensed professional staff members convicted of sexual battery, and will, in accordance with Policy 8141, suspend such employee from all duties that concern or involve the care, custody, or control of a child during the pendency of any criminal action for which that person has been arrested, summoned and/or indicted in that regard.

Education and Training

In support of this Anti-Harassment Policy, the Board promotes preventative educational measures to create greater awareness of unlawful discriminatory practices. The Superintendent shall provide appropriate information to all members of the School District community related to the implementation of this policy and shall provide training for District students and staff where appropriate. All training, as well as all information, provided regarding the Board's policy and harassment in general, will be age and content appropriate.

Retention of Investigatory Records and Materials

The Compliance Officer(s) is responsible for overseeing retention of all records that must be maintained pursuant to this policy. All individuals charged with conducting investigations under this policy shall retain all documents, electronically stored information ("ESI"), and electronic media (as defined in Policy 8315) created and/or received as part of an investigation, which may include but not be limited to:

- A. all written reports/allegations/complaints/grievances/statements/responses pertaining to an alleged violation of this policy;
- B. any narratives that memorialize oral reports/allegations/complaints/grievances/statements/responses pertaining to an alleged violation of this policy;
- C. any documentation that memorializes the actions taken by District personnel or individuals contracted or appointed by the Board to fulfill its responsibilities related to the investigation and/or the District's response to the alleged violation of this policy;
- D. written witness statements;
- E. narratives, notes from, or audio, video, or digital recordings of witness interviews/statements;
- F. e-mails, texts, or social media posts that directly relate to or constitute evidence pertaining to an alleged violation of this policy (i.e., not after-the-fact commentary about or media coverage of the incident);
- G. notes or summaries prepared contemporaneously by the investigator in whatever form made (e.g., handwritten, keyed into a computer or tablet, etc.), but not including transitory notes whose content is otherwise memorialized in

other documents;

- H. written disciplinary sanctions issued to students or employees and other documentation that memorializes oral disciplinary sanctions issued to students or employees for violations of this policy;
- I. dated written determinations/reports (including summaries of relevant exculpatory and inculpatory evidence) and other documentation that memorializes oral notifications to the parties concerning the outcome of the investigation, including any consequences imposed as a result of a violation of this policy;
- J. documentation of any supportive measures offered and/or provided to the Complainant and/or the Respondent, including no contact orders issued to both parties, the dates the no contact orders were issued, and the dates the parties acknowledged receipt of the no contact orders;
- K. documentation of all actions taken, both individual and systemic, to stop the discrimination or harassment, prevent its recurrence, eliminate any hostile environment, and remedy its discriminatory effects;
- L. copies of the Board policy and/or procedures/guidelines used by the District to conduct the investigation, and any documents used by the District at the time of the alleged violation to communicate the Board's expectations to students and staff with respect to the subject of this policy (e.g., Student Code of Conduct and/or Employee Handbooks);
- M. copies of any documentation that memorializes any formal or informal resolutions to the alleged discrimination or harassment;

~~{DRAFTING NOTE: The following options should be selected if the district concludes that the following items are not adequately encompassed in the preceding paragraphs.}~~

- N. ~~() documentation of any training provided to District personnel related to this policy, including but not limited to, notification of the prohibitions and expectations of staff set forth in this policy and the role and responsibility of all District personnel involved in enforcing this policy, including their duty to report alleged violations of this policy and/or conducting an investigation of an alleged violation of this policy; [REMINDER: Documentation of training should be maintained regardless of whether there is an investigation of an alleged violation of this policy. It is best practice to maintain a log of all staff members who participate in a training, along with the date, time and location of the training, and a copy of the materials reviewed and/or presented during the training.]~~
- O. ~~() documentation that any rights or opportunities that the District made available to one party during the investigation were made available to the other party on equal terms;~~
- P. ~~() copies of any notices sent to the alleged perpetrator/responding party of the allegations constituting a potential violation of this policy;~~
- Q. ~~() copies of any notices sent to the Complainant and the Respondent in advance of any interview, meeting, or hearing;~~
- R. ~~() copies of any documentation or evidence used during informal and formal disciplinary meetings and hearings, including the investigation report, and any written responses submitted by the Complainant or the Respondent.~~

The documents, ESI, and electronic media (as defined in Policy 8315) retained may include public records and records exempt from disclosure under Federal (e.g., FERPA, ADA) and/or State law (e.g., R.C. 3319.321) – e.g., student records and confidential medical records.

The documents, ESI, and electronic media (as defined in Policy 8315) created or received as part of an investigation shall be retained in accordance with Policy 8310, Policy 8315, Policy 8320, and Policy 8330 for not less than three (3) years, but longer if required by the District's records retention schedule.

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R.C. 4112.02

20 U.S.C. 1400 et seq., The Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004 (IDEIA)

20 U.S.C. 1681 et seq.

29 U.S.C. 621 et seq., Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967

29 U.S.C. 794, Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended

42 U.S.C. 6101, The Age Discrimination Act of 1975

42 U.S.C. 2000d et seq.

42 U.S.C. 2000e et seq.

42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq., Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, as amended

42 U.S.C. 1983

National School Boards Association Inquiry and Analysis - May, 2008

Book	Neola Policy Templates for Catch Up
Section	Board Approved Policies 5000s
Title	BULLYING AND OTHER FORMS OF AGGRESSIVE BEHAVIOR
Code	po5517.01
Status	
Adopted	November 9, 2009

5517.01 - BULLYING AND OTHER FORMS OF AGGRESSIVE BEHAVIOR

✖] The Board of Education is committed to providing a safe, positive, productive, and nurturing educational environment for all of its students. The Board encourages the promotion of positive interpersonal relations between members of the school community.

Harassment, intimidation, or bullying toward a student, whether by other students, staff, or third parties is strictly prohibited and will not be tolerated. This prohibition includes aggressive behavior, physical, verbal, and psychological abuse, and violence within a dating relationship. The Board will not tolerate any gestures, comments, threats, or actions which cause or threaten to cause bodily harm or personal degradation. This policy applies to all activities in the District, including activities on school property, on a school bus, or while enroute to or from school, and those occurring off school property if the student or employee is at any school-sponsored, school-approved or school-related activity or function, such as field trips or athletic events where students are under the school's control, in a school vehicle, or where an employee is engaged in school business.

This policy has been developed in consultation with parents, District employees, volunteers, students, and community members as prescribed in R.C. 3313.666 and the State Board of Education's Model Policy.

Harassment, intimidation, or bullying means:

- A. any intentional written, verbal, electronic, or physical act that a student or group of students exhibits toward another particular student(s) more than once and the behavior both causes mental or physical harm to the other student(s) and is sufficiently severe, persistent, or pervasive that it creates an intimidating, threatening, or abusive educational environment for the other student(s); or
- B. violence within a dating relationship.

"Electronic act" means an act committed through the use of a cellular telephone, computer, pager, personal communication device, or other electronic communication device.

Aggressive behavior is defined as inappropriate conduct that is repeated enough, or serious enough, to negatively impact a student's educational, physical, or emotional well being. This type of behavior is a form of intimidation and harassment, although it need not be based on any of the legally protected characteristics, such as sex, race, color, national origin, marital status, or disability. It would include, but not be limited to, such behaviors as stalking, bullying/cyberbullying, intimidating, menacing, coercion, name calling, taunting, making threats, and hazing.

Harassment, intimidation, or bullying also means cyberbullying through electronically transmitted acts (i.e., internet, e-mail, cellular telephone, personal digital assistance (PDA), or wireless hand-held device) that a student(s) or a group of students exhibits toward another particular student(s) more than once and the behavior both causes mental and physical harm to the other student and is sufficiently severe, persistent, or pervasive that it creates an intimidating, threatening, or abusive educational environment for the other student(s).

Any student or student's parent/guardian who believes s/he has been or is the victim of aggressive behavior should immediately report the situation to the Building Principal or assistant principal, or the Superintendent. The student may also report concerns to teachers and other school staff who will be responsible for notifying the appropriate administrator or Board official. Complaints against the Building Principal should be filed with the Superintendent. Complaints against the Superintendent should be filed with the Board President.

Every student is encouraged, and every staff member is required, to report any situation that they believe to be aggressive behavior directed toward a student. Reports may be made to those identified above.

All complaints about aggressive behavior that may violate this policy shall be promptly investigated. The Building Principal or appropriate administrator shall prepare a written report of the investigation upon completion. Such report shall include findings of fact, a determination of whether acts of harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying were verified, and, when prohibited acts are verified, a recommendation for intervention, including disciplinary action shall be included in the report. Where appropriate, written witness statements shall be attached to the report.

If the investigation finds an instance of harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying/cyberbullying by an electronic act or otherwise, has occurred, it will result in prompt and appropriate remedial and/or disciplinary action. This may include suspension or up to expulsion for students, up to discharge for employees, exclusion for parents, guests, volunteers, and contractors, and removal from any official position and/or a request to resign for Board members. Individuals may also be referred to law enforcement officials.

If, during an investigation of a reported act of harassment, intimidation and/or bullying/cyberbullying, the Principal or appropriate administrator believes that the reported misconduct may have created a hostile learning environment and may have constituted unlawful discriminatory harassment based on a Protected Class, the Principal will report the act of bullying and/or harassment to one of the Anti-Harassment Compliance Officers so that it may be investigated in accordance with the procedures set forth in Policy 5517 - Anti-Harassment.

Retaliation against any person who reports, is thought to have reported, files a complaint, or otherwise participates in an investigation or inquiry concerning allegations of aggressive behavior is prohibited and will not be tolerated. Such retaliation shall be considered a serious violation of Board policy and independent of whether a complaint is substantiated. Suspected retaliation should be reported in the same manner as aggressive behavior. Retaliation may result in disciplinary action as indicated above.

Deliberately making false reports about harassment, intimidation, bullying and/or other aggressive behavior for the purpose of getting someone in trouble is similarly prohibited and will not be tolerated. Deliberately making false reports may result in disciplinary action as indicated above.

If a student or other individual believes there has been aggressive behavior, regardless of whether it fits a particular definition, s/he should report it and allow the administration to determine the appropriate course of action.

The District shall implement intervention strategies (AG 5517.01) to protect a victim or other person from new or additional harassment, intimidation, or bullying and from retaliation following such a report.

This policy shall not be interpreted to infringe upon the First Amendment rights of students (i.e., to prohibit a reasoned and civil exchange of opinions, or debate, that is conducted at appropriate times and places during the school day and is protected by State or Federal law).

The complainant shall be notified of the findings of the investigation, and as appropriate, that remedial action has been taken. If after investigation, acts of bullying against a specific student are verified, the Building Director or appropriate administrator shall notify the custodial parent/guardian of the victim of such finding. In providing such notification care shall be taken to respect the statutory privacy rights of the perpetrator of such harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying.

If after investigation, acts of harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying by a specific student are verified, the Building Director or appropriate administrator shall notify in writing the custodial parent/guardian of the perpetrator of that finding. If disciplinary consequences are imposed against such student, a description of such discipline shall be included in the notification.

Complaints

Students and/or their parents/guardians may file reports regarding suspected harassment, intimidation, or bullying. Such reports shall be reasonably specific including person(s) involved, number of times and places of the alleged conduct, the target of suspected harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying, and the names of any potential student or staff witnesses. Such reports may be filed with any school staff member or administrator, and they shall be promptly forwarded to the Building Director for review, investigation, and action.

Students, parents/guardians, and school personnel may make informal or anonymous complaints of conduct that they consider to be harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying by verbal report to a teacher, school administrator, or other school personnel. Such complaints shall be reasonably specific including person(s) involved, number of times and places of the alleged conduct, the target of suspected harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying, and the names of any potential student

or staff witnesses. A school staff member or administrator who receives an informal or anonymous complaint shall promptly document the complaint in writing, including the information provided. This written report shall be promptly forwarded by the school staff member and/or administrator to the Building Director for review, investigation, and appropriate action.

Individuals who make informal complaints as provided above may request that their name be maintained in confidence by the school staff member(s) and administrator(s) who receive the complaint. Anonymous complaints shall be reviewed and reasonable action shall be taken to address the situation, to the extent such action may be taken that (1) does not disclose the source of the complaint, and (2) is consistent with the due process rights of the student(s) alleged to have committed acts of harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying.

When an individual making an informal complaint has requested anonymity, the investigation of such complaint shall be limited as is appropriate in view of the anonymity of the complaint. Such limitation of investigation may include restricting action to a simple review of the complaint subject to receipt of further information and/or the withdrawal by the complaining student of the condition that his/her report be anonymous.

Privacy/Confidentiality

The School District will respect the privacy of the complainant, the individual(s) against whom the complaint is filed, and the witnesses as much as possible, consistent with the Board's legal obligations to investigate, to take appropriate action, and to conform with any discovery or disclosure obligations. All records generated under this policy and its related administrative guidelines shall be maintained as confidential to the extent permitted by law.

Reporting Requirement

At least semi-annually, the Superintendent shall provide to the President of the Board a written summary of all reported incidents and post the summary on the District web site (if one exists). The list shall be limited to the number of verified acts of harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying, whether in the classroom, on school property, to and from school, or at school-sponsored events.

Allegations of criminal misconduct and suspected child abuse will be reported to the appropriate law enforcement agency and/or to Child Protective Services in accordance with statute. District personnel shall cooperate with investigations by such agencies.

Immunity

A School District employee, student, or volunteer shall be individually immune from liability in a civil action for damages arising from reporting an incident in accordance with this policy and R.C. 3313.666 if that person reports an incident of harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying promptly, in good faith, and in compliance with the procedures specified in this policy. Such immunity from liability shall not apply to an employee, student, or volunteer determined to have made an intentionally false report about harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying.

Notification

Notice of this policy will be **annually** circulated to and posted in conspicuous locations in all school buildings and departments within the District and discussed with students, as well as incorporated into the teacher, student, and parent/guardian handbooks. At least once each school year a written statement describing the policy and consequences for violations of the policy shall be sent to each student's custodial parent or guardian.

~~[] The statement may be sent with regular student report cards or may be delivered electronically.~~

The policy and an explanation of the seriousness of bullying by electronic means shall be made available to students in the District and to their custodial parents or guardians.

State and Federal rights posters on discrimination and harassment shall also be posted at each building. All new hires will be required to review and sign off on this policy and the related complaint procedures.

Education and Training

In support of this policy, the Board promotes preventative educational measures to create greater awareness of aggressive behavior, including bullying and violence within a dating relationship. The Superintendent or designee shall provide appropriate training to all members of the School District community related to the implementation of this policy and its accompanying administrative guidelines. All training regarding the Board's policy and administrative guidelines about aggressive behavior and bullying in general will be age and content appropriate.

Annually, the District shall provide all students enrolled in the District with age-appropriate instruction regarding the Board's policy, including a written or verbal discussion of the consequences for violations of the policy ~~() to the extent that State or Federal funds are appropriated for this purpose.~~

Students in grades seven (7) through twelve (12) shall receive age-appropriate instruction in dating violence prevention education, including instruction in recognizing dating violence warning signs and characteristics of healthy relationships. Parents, who submit a written request to the Building Director to examine the dating violence prevention instruction materials used in the school, will be afforded an opportunity to review the materials within a reasonable period of time.

The District shall provide training, workshops, and/or courses on this policy for school employees and volunteers who have direct contact with students, ~~() to the extent that State or Federal funds are appropriated for these purposes.~~ Time spent by school staff in these training programs shall apply toward mandated continuing education requirements.

In accordance with Board Policy 8462, the Superintendent shall include a review of this policy on bullying and other forms of harassment in the required training in the prevention of child abuse, violence, and substance abuse and the promotion of positive youth development.

The Superintendent shall develop administrative guidelines to implement this policy. Guidelines shall include reporting and investigative procedures, as needed. The complaint procedure established by the Superintendent shall be followed.

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R.C. 3313.666, 3313.667

State Board of Education Model Policy (2007)

Book	Neola Policy Templates for Catch Up
Section	Board Approved Policies 5000s
Title	DISORDER AND DEMONSTRATION
Code	po5520
Status	
Adopted	November 9, 2009

5520 - **DISORDER AND DEMONSTRATION**

The Board of Education recognizes the right of each student to attend school for the purpose of receiving an education. The disruption of the educational program of the schools by disorder or any other purposeful activity will not be countenanced.

✖] For purposes of this policy, disorder shall be any deliberate activity by an individual or a group, whether peaceful or violent, which interferes with the normal operation of the school.

The Board, having the responsibility for providing an educational program for the students of this District, shall have the authority to preserve order for the proper functioning of that program.

Students shall not be disturbed in the exercise of their constitutionally guaranteed rights to assemble peaceably and to express ideas and opinions, privately or publicly, provided that such exercise does not infringe on the rights of others and does not interfere with the operation of the schools.

The Superintendent shall develop administrative guidelines for the implementation of this policy.

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Legal	R.C. 3313.20
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Book Neola Policy Templates for Catch Up
Section Board Approved Policies 5000s
Title DRUG PREVENTION
Code po5530
Status
Adopted November 9, 2009

5530 - DRUG PREVENTION

The Board of Education recognizes that the misuse of drugs is a serious problem with legal, physical, and social implications for the whole school community.

☒] As the educational institution of this community, the schools should strive to prevent drug abuse and help drug abusers by educational, rather than punitive, means.

For purposes of this policy, "drugs" shall mean:

- A. all dangerous controlled substances as so designated and prohibited by Ohio statute;
- B. all chemicals which release toxic vapors;
- C. all alcoholic beverages;
- D. any prescription or patent drug, except those for which permission to use in school has been granted pursuant to Board policy;
- E. anabolic steroids;
- F. any substance containing betel nut (areca nut);
- G. any substance that is a "look-alike" to any of the above.
- H. ~~()~~ _____ **[other]**

The Board prohibits the use, possession, concealment, or distribution of any drug or any drug-related paraphernalia as the term is defined by law, or the misuse of a product containing a substance that can provide an intoxicating or mood-altering effect

- ☒) on school grounds.
- ☒) on school vehicles.
- ☒) at any school-sponsored event.

~~[] It further establishes a drug free zone within 1000 feet of any facility used by the District for educational purposes.~~

The Superintendent shall prepare guidelines for the identification, amelioration, and regulation of drug use in the schools. Such guidelines shall:

- A. emphasize the prevention of drug use;
- B. provide for a comprehensive, age-appropriate, developmentally-based drug and alcohol education and prevention program which:

- The Superintendent shall establish administrative guidelines necessary to implement this policy. Such guidelines shall ensure that the proper notice regarding the use of anabolic steroids is posted in each of the District's locker rooms used by students in grades 7-12.

R.C. 2925.37, 3313.60(E), 3313.661, 3313.662, 3313.752, 3313.95, 3319.012
Public Law 101 - Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act of 1986
20 U.S.C. 3171 et seq.
20 U.S.C. 3224A

Book	Neola Policy Templates for Catch Up
Section	Board Approved Policies 5000s
Title	STUDENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS
Code	po5531
Status	

5531 - STUDENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

In keeping with its concern for the safety and well-being of both students and staff and for maintaining a school environment that is conducive to learning, the Board of Education has adopted policies related to student conduct in the school setting and has authorized disciplinary measures for the violation of these policies.

The Board seeks to maintain a balance between maintaining a proper educational environment and a compassion for students who suffer from or are victims of intemperate, immoral, or illegal behavior. Educational programs have been established to promote healthful, productive living, and discipline shall be maintained to protect students and staff from actions that disrupt teaching and learning. However, the Board recognizes that students may experience difficulties that educational programs and sound discipline may not prevent, and that other forms of assistance need to be available through the school.

The Superintendent is authorized to establish one (1) or more assistance programs for students which provide for effective intervention in areas such as substance abuse, crisis situations, and other situations which have impact on students' emotional, mental, and/or social well-being and affect their ability to benefit from educational experiences. Administrative guidelines are to be prepared which will ensure that:

- A. ☒ the rights of both parents and students are protected;
- B. ☐ ~~a steering committee is established which is chaired by a central office administrator and includes administrators, staff members from all academic levels, counselors and/or other clinical resource people, and parents and other members of the community;~~
- C. ☒ staff members are properly trained and skilled for their roles and participate in ways that comply with their certification or licensing and job description as well as with Board policies and administrative guidelines;
- D. ☒ outside resource people and agencies are properly certified or licensed to provide services and have a history of effective assistance.

Book	Neola Policy Templates for Catch Up
Section	Board Approved Policies 5000s
Title	INTERROGATION OF STUDENTS
Code	po5540
Status	
Adopted	November 9, 2009

5540 - **INTERROGATION OF STUDENTS**

The Board of Education is committed to protecting students from harm that may or may not be directly associated with the school environment but also recognizes its responsibility to cooperate with law enforcement and public children's services agencies.

When law enforcement or other authorities arrive at the school and wish to interview a student or investigate an alleged violation of law, they must contact the building administrator indicating the nature of their investigation and their desire to question a student or students. In order to avoid disruption of the learning environment and the student's class schedule, such interviews should take place during a student's study hall period ~~or ()~~ if at all possible.

Investigation of Child Abuse/Neglect by a Public Children's Services Agency or Law Enforcement Agency

Every Board official and employee who, in connection with his/her position, knows or suspects child abuse or neglect must immediately report that knowledge or suspicion to a public children's services or law enforcement agency in accordance with Board Policy 8462.

At the request of the building administrator, an official of a public children's services agency or law enforcement agency may interview a student on school property during school hours in order to investigate a claim of child abuse/neglect involving such student or a member of the student's family. If neither the student nor a member of his/her family is the subject of the child abuse/neglect investigation, such agency should contact the student during non-school hours and investigate the matter off school property, if at all possible, unless the alleged child abuse took place on school property and/or involves an emergency situation.

If the student (or a member of his/her family) is the subject of a child abuse/neglect investigation, or the student is being interviewed regarding alleged child abuse that took place on school property or involves an emergency, the building administrator shall attempt to contact the parent prior to questioning, and s/he will remain in the room during questioning unless compelling reasons for exclusion are provided by the agency.

If an agency investigating child abuse/neglect indicates that the parent is believed to be the perpetrator, the building administrator will not contact either parent prior to the interview. The building administrator will remain in the room during questioning unless compelling reasons for exclusion are provided by the agency.

Investigations of Violations of Law by Law Enforcement Agencies

Such agencies should contact a student during non-school hours and investigate alleged violations of the law off school property if at all possible. An investigation can take place immediately on school property during school hours at the request of the building administrator if the alleged violation of law took place on school property or in emergency situations.

Before the student(s) is (are) questioned as a witness to or suspect in an alleged violation of law, the building administrator shall attempt to contact the parent prior to questioning and shall remain in the room during the questioning unless compelling reasons for exclusion are provided by the agency.

~~?] In those circumstances when an interrogation may expose a student to criminal charges, the building principal should also verify that the student(s) has been informed of his/her right to refuse to answer questions, to be informed that anything s/he says may be used against him/her in court, and to consult with and be advised by legal counsel.~~

Notification and Release of Records

Attempts to notify the parents regarding investigations of child abuse/neglect and other law enforcement investigations should be documented diligently.

When an authorized law enforcement officer or public children's services agency removes a student, the building administrator shall notify the parent and the Superintendent.

No school official may release personally identifiable student information in education records to the police or public children's services agency without prior written permission of the parent, a lawfully-issued subpoena, or a court order. (See Board Policy 8330).

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R.C. 3313.20, 3319.321

Book	Neola Policy Templates for Catch Up
Section	Board Approved Policies 5000s
Title	STUDENT DISCIPLINE
Code	po5600
Status	
Adopted	November 9, 2009

5600 - **STUDENT DISCIPLINE**

The Board of Education acknowledges that conduct is closely related to learning - an effective instructional program requires an orderly school environment and the effectiveness of the educational program is, in part, reflected in the behavior of students.

The Board believes that the best discipline is self-imposed and that students should learn to assume responsibility for their own behavior and the consequences of their actions. The Board has zero tolerance of violent, disruptive or inappropriate behavior by its students.

The Board shall require each student of this District to adhere to the Student Code of Conduct/Student Discipline Code adopted by the Board and to submit to such disciplinary measures as are appropriately assigned for infraction of those rules. Such rules shall require that students:

- A. conform to reasonable standards of socially-acceptable behavior;
- B. respect the person and property of others;
- C. preserve the degree of order necessary to the educational program in which they are engaged;
- D. respect the rights of others;
- E. obey constituted authority and respond to those who hold that authority.

The Student Code of Conduct/Student Discipline Code designates sanctions for the infractions of rules, excluding corporal punishment, which shall:

- A. relate in kind and degree to the infraction;
- B. help the student learn to take responsibility for his/her actions;
- C. be directed, where possible, to reduce the effects of any harm which may have been caused by the student's misconduct.

Students may be prohibited by authorized school personnel from participating in all or part of co-curricular and/or extra-curricular activities without further notice, hearing or appeal rights. A student who has been disorderly on a school bus may be suspended from transportation services consistent with Board policy and the Student Code of Conduct/Student Discipline Code.

The Superintendent shall publish to all students and their parents the rules of this District regarding student conduct and the sanctions which may be imposed for breach of those rules.

The Superintendent shall inform the Board periodically of the methods of discipline imposed by this District and the incidence of student misconduct in such degree of specificity as shall be required by the Board.

The Superintendent, principals, and other administrators shall have the authority to assign discipline to students, subject to the Student Code of Conduct/Student Discipline Code and, where required by law, to the student's due process right to notice, hearing, and appeal.

Teachers, school bus drivers, and other employees of this Board having authority over students may take such action as may be necessary to control the disorderly conduct of students in all situations and in all places where such students are within the jurisdiction of this Board and when such conduct interferes with the educational program of the schools or threatens the health and safety of others.

Discipline on Board vehicles shall be the responsibility of the driver on regular bus runs. When Board vehicles are used for field trips and other Board activities, the teacher, coach, advisor, or other Board employee shall be responsible for student discipline. If a student becomes a serious discipline problem on a vehicle, the Superintendent and/or his/her designee may suspend the transportation privileges of the student providing such suspension conforms with due process. The procedures for suspension are set forth in the Student Code of Conduct/Student Discipline Code and Board Policy 5611 - Due Process Rights.

No student is to be detained after the close of the regular school day unless the student's parent has been contacted and informed that the student will be detained. If a parent cannot be contacted, the student should be detained on another day.

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Legal

R.C. 3313.20, 3313.66, 3313.661, 3315.07, 3327.041

A.C. 3301-35-03(G), 3301-83-08

Book	Neola Policy Templates for Catch Up
Section	Board Approved Policies 5000s
Title	SUSPENSION/EXPULSION OF STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES
Code	po5605
Status	
Adopted	November 9, 2009

5605 - SUSPENSION/EXPULSION OF STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

In addition to following the requirements and procedures set forth for all students in Policy 5610, the Board of Education shall also abide by State and Federal laws and regulations when disciplining students with disabilities through removal by suspension and/or expulsion.

The Superintendent shall establish administrative guidelines that shall be followed when disciplining any student with a disability.

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Legal	20 U.S.C. Section 1401 et seq. Section 504, 1973 Rehab. Act 29 U.S.C. 701 et seq. 34 C.F.R. 300.530-537
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Book	Neola Policy Templates for Catch Up
Section	Board Approved Policies 5000s
Title	Vol. 41, No. 2 - January 2023 Revised REMOVAL, SUSPENSION, EXPULSION, AND PERMANENT EXCLUSION OF STUDENTS
Code	po5610
Status	
Adopted	November 9, 2009
Last Revised	May 17, 2018

Revised Policy - Vol. 41, No. 2

5610 - REMOVAL, SUSPENSION, EXPULSION, AND PERMANENT EXCLUSION OF STUDENTS

The Board of Education recognizes that exclusion from the educational program of the schools, whether by emergency removal, out-of-school suspension, expulsion, or permanent exclusion, is the most severe sanction that can be imposed on a student in this District, and one that cannot be imposed without due process. However, the Board has zero tolerance of violent, disruptive, or inappropriate behavior by its students.

No student is to be removed, suspended out-of-school, expelled and/or permanently excluded unless his/her/their behavior represents misconduct as specified in the Student Code of Conduct/Student Discipline Code approved by the Board. The Code shall also specify the procedures to be followed by school officials when implementing such discipline. In determining whether a student is to be suspended or expelled, District administrators shall use a preponderance of evidence standard. In addition to the procedural safeguards and definitions set forth in this policy and the student/parent handbook, additional procedures and considerations shall apply to students identified as disabled under the IDEA, ADA, and/or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. (See Policy 5605 - Suspension/Expulsion of Students with Disabilities.)

Students may be subject to discipline for violation of the Student Code of Conduct/Student Discipline Code even if that conduct occurs on property not owned or controlled by the Board but where such conduct is connected to activities or incidents that have occurred on property owned or controlled by the Board, or conduct that, regardless of where it occurs, is directed at a District official or employee, or the property of such official or employee.

For purposes of this policy and the Student Code of Conduct/Student Discipline Code, the following shall apply:

- A. 'Emergency removal' shall be the exclusion of a student who poses a continuing danger to District property or persons in the District or whose behavior presents an ~~on-going~~ ongoing threat of disrupting the educational process provided by the District. (See Policy 5610.03 - "Emergency Removal")
- B. 'Suspension' shall be the temporary exclusion of a student by the Superintendent, Principal, assistant Principal/principal, or any other administrator from the District's instructional program for a period not to exceed ten (10) school days. Suspension shall not extend beyond the current school year, if, at the time a suspension is imposed, fewer than ten (10) days remain in the school year.

☒] The Superintendent may instead require a student to participate in a community service program or another alternative consequence for a number of hours equal to the remaining part of the period of the suspension. The student shall be required to begin such community service program or alternative consequence during the first full week day of summer break. **[END OF OPTION]**

☐] The Superintendent may develop a list of appropriate alternative consequences, and set forth such list in the applicable guidelines. **[END OF OPTION]**

In the event, the student fails to complete the required community service or the assigned alternative consequence, the Superintendent may determine the next course of action. Such course of action, however, shall not include requiring the student to serve the remaining time of the suspension at the beginning of the following year.

The procedures for suspension are set forth in the Student Code of Conduct/Student Discipline Code and Policy 5611 - Due Process Rights.

A student who is suspended shall be permitted to complete any classroom assignments missed because of the suspension, and receive at least partial credit for a completed assignment. Grade reductions on account of the student's suspension are permitted; however, no student may receive a failing grade on a completed assignment solely on account of his/her the student's suspension.

~~[] The grade for a completed classroom assignment missed because of a suspension will be reduced by () ten percent (10%) () twenty five percent (25%) () _____ () % [END OF OPTIONS]. [Drafting Note: Such reduction cannot result in an automatic failure on an otherwise perfect score assignment]. [END OF OPTION]~~

- C. 'Expulsion' shall be the exclusion of a student from the schools of this District for a period not to exceed the greater of eighty (80) school days or the number of school days remaining in a semester or term in which the incident that gives rise to the expulsion takes place or for one (1) year as specifically provided in this policy and the Student Code of Conduct/Student Discipline Code. Only the Superintendent may expel a student. The procedures for expulsion are set forth in the Student Code of Conduct/Student Discipline Code and Board Policy 5611 - "Due Process Rights".

When making a determination whether or not a student will be expelled or permanently excluded under this policy, the Superintendent shall retain all documents, electronically stored information ('ESI'), and electronic media (as defined in Policy 8315 - Information Management (i.e. 'Litigation Hold')) created and/or received as part of an investigation.

~~[X?]]~~ The documents, ESI, and electronic media (as defined in Policy 8315) retained may include public records and records exempt from disclosure under Federal (e.g., FERPA, ADA) and/or State law (e.g., R.C. 3319.321) - e.g., student records and confidential medical records. **[END OF OPTION]**

~~[X?]]~~ The documents, ESI, and electronic media (as defined in Policy 8315) shall be retained in accordance with Policy 8310, Policy 8315, Policy 8320, and Policy 8330 for not less than three (3) years, but longer if required by the District's records retention schedule. **[END OF OPTION]**

1. Firearm or Knife

Unless a student is permanently excluded from school, the Superintendent shall expel a student from school for a period of one (1) year for bringing a firearm or knife capable of causing serious bodily injury to a school building or on to any other property (including a school vehicle) owned, controlled, or operated by the Board, ~~to an interscholastic competition, an extra-curricular event, or to any other school program or activity that is not located in a school or on property that is owned or controlled by the Board, except that the Superintendent may reduce this period on a case-by-case basis in accordance with this policy. Similarly, the Superintendent shall expel a student from school for a period of one (1) year for possessing a firearm or knife capable of causing serious bodily injury at school or on any other property (including a school vehicle) owned, controlled, or operated by the Board, at an interscholastic competition, an extra-curricular event, or at any other school program or activity that is not located in a school or on property that is owned or controlled by the Board, except the Superintendent may reduce this period on a case-by-case basis in accordance with this policy. The expulsion may extend, as necessary, into the school year following the school year in which the incident that gives rise to the expulsion takes place. The Superintendent shall refer any student expelled for bringing a firearm (as defined in 18 U.S.C. 921(a)(3)) or weapon to school to the criminal justice or juvenile delinquency system serving the District.~~

A firearm is defined as any weapon, including a starter gun, which will or is designed to or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive, the frame or receiver of any such weapon, any firearm muffler or silencer, or any destructive device. A destructive device includes, but is not limited to, any explosive, incendiary, ~~or~~ poison gas, bomb, grenade, rocket having a propellant charge of more than four (4) ounces, missile having an explosive or incendiary charge of more than one-quarter (1/4) ounce, mine, or other similar device.

A knife capable of causing serious bodily injury is defined as any weapon or cutting instrument consisting of a blade fastened to a handle; a razor blade; or any similar device (including sharp, metal martial arts weapons such as ninja throwing stars) that is used for, or is readily capable of, causing death or serious bodily injury.

The Superintendent may, in his/her their sole judgment and discretion, modify or reduce such expulsion, in writing, to a period of less than one (1) year, on a case-by-case basis, upon consideration of the following:

- a. ~~Applicable~~ applicable State or Federal laws and regulations relating to students with disabilities (for example, where the incident involves a student with a disability and the misconduct is determined by a group of persons knowledgeable about the child to be a manifestation of the student's disability);
- b. ~~The~~ the degree of culpability given the age of the student and its relevance to the misconduct and/or punishment and/or evidence regarding the probable danger posed to the health and safety of others, including evidence of the student's intent and awareness regarding possession of the firearm or knife, capable of causing serious bodily injury; and/or
- c. ~~The~~ the academic and disciplinary history of the student, including the student's response to the imposition of any prior discipline imposed for behavioral problems.

2. Violent Conduct

If a student commits an act at school, on other school property, at an interscholastic competition, extra-curricular event, or any other school program or activity and the act:

- a. would be a criminal offense if committed by an adult;
- and
- b. results in serious physical harm to person(s) as defined in R.C. 2901.01(A)(5), or to property as defined in R.C. 2901.01(A)(6)

the Superintendent may expel the student for a period of up to one (1) year. The Superintendent may extend the expulsion into the next school year or reduce the expulsion as necessary on a case-by-case basis as specified below. The student need not be prosecuted or convicted of any criminal act to be expelled under this provision.

The Superintendent may, in ~~his/her~~ their sole judgment and discretion, reduce such expulsion to a period of less than one (1) year, on a case-by-case basis, upon consideration of the following:

- a. applicable State or Federal laws and regulations relating to students with disabilities (for example, where the incident involves a student with a disability and the misconduct is determined by a group of persons knowledgeable about the child to be a manifestation of the student's disability);
- or
- b. other extenuating circumstances, including, but not limited to, the academic and disciplinary history of the student, including the student's response to the imposition of any prior discipline imposed for behavioral problems.

If at the time of the expulsion, there are fewer days remaining in the school year than the number of days of the expulsion, the Superintendent may apply any or all of the remaining period to the following school year.

3. Bomb Threats

If a student makes a bomb threat to a school building or to any premises at which a school activity is occurring at the time of the threat, the Superintendent may expel the student for a period of up to one (1) year. The Superintendent may extend the expulsion into the next school year or reduce the expulsion as necessary on a case-by-case basis as specified below. The student need not be prosecuted or convicted of any criminal act to be expelled under this provision.

The Superintendent may, in ~~his/her~~ their sole judgment and discretion, reduce such expulsion to a period of less than one (1) year, on a case-by-case basis, for the following reasons:

- a. for students identified as disabled under the IDEA, ADA, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, upon recommendation from the group of persons knowledgeable of the student's educational needs;
- or
- b. other extenuating circumstances, including, but not limited to, the academic and disciplinary history of the student, including the student's response to the imposition of any prior discipline imposed for

behavioral problems.

If at the time of the expulsion, there are fewer days remaining in the school year than the number of days of the expulsion, the Superintendent may apply any or all of the remaining period to the following school year.

- D. 'Permanent exclusion' shall mean the student is banned forever from attending a public school in the State of Ohio. (See Policy 5610.01 - Permanent Exclusion of Nondisabled Students)

If a student is expelled for more than twenty (20) school days or for any period of time that extends into the next school year, the Superintendent shall provide the student and his/her the student's parents with the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of those public or private agencies in the community which offer programs or services that help to rectify the student's behaviors and attitudes that contributed to the incident(s) that caused the expulsion.

Suspension or Expulsion of Students in Grades Pre-Kindergarten through 3Three (3)

~~{DRAFTING NOTE: Pursuant to H.B. 318, the following limitations on suspension/expulsion of students in grades pre-K through 3, will be phased in over the next three (3) school years, using data related to the 2018-2019 school year as the baseline. The phase in works as follows to comply with Ohio law for the:~~

- A. ~~2019-2020 school year, your District must reduce the number of out-of-school suspensions and expulsions issued to students in grades pre-K through 3 for offenses not listed in paragraphs A-D below by twenty-five percent (25%), using the numbers reported for that category for the 2018-2019 school year as a baseline.~~
- B. ~~2020-2021 school year, your District must reduce the number of out-of-school suspensions and expulsions issued to students in grades Pre-K through 3 for offenses not listed in paragraphs A-D below by fifty percent (50%), using the numbers reported for that category for the 2018-2019 school year as a baseline.~~
- C. ~~2021-2022 school year and thereafter, your District may only issue out-of-school suspensions and expulsions to students in grades Pre-K through 3 for the offenses listed in paragraphs A-D below.}~~

~~Beginning with the 2019-2020 school year, except~~ Except as permitted by law, suspension or expulsion proceedings shall not be initiated against a student in any of grades Pre-kindergarten through three (3) unless the student has committed the following acts:

- A. The student brings a firearm or knife capable of causing serious bodily injury to a school building or on to any other property (including a school vehicle) owned, controlled, or operated by the Board, to an interscholastic competition, an extra-curricular event, or to any other school program or activity that is not located in a school or on property that is owned or controlled by the Board, or possesses a firearm or knife capable of causing serious bodily injury at school or on any other property (including a school vehicle) owned, controlled, or operated by the Board, at an interscholastic competition, an extra-curricular event, or at any other school program or activity that is not located in a school or on property that is owned or controlled by the Board.
- B. The student commits an act at school, on other school property, at an interscholastic competition, an extra-curricular event, or any other school program or activity, and the act: 1) would be a criminal offense if committed by an adult; and 2) results in serious physical harm to person(s) as defined in R.C. 2901.01(A)(5), or to property as defined in R.C. 2901.01(A)(6).
- C. The student makes a bomb threat to a school building or to any premises at which a school activity is occurring at the time of the threat.
- D. The student engages in behavior of such a nature that suspension or expulsion is necessary to protect the immediate health and safety of the student, the student's fellow classmates, the classroom staff and teachers, and/or other school employees.

Prior to suspending or expelling a student in any of grades Pre-K through 3three (3), the Principal shall, whenever possible, consult with a mental health professional under contract. If the events leading up to the student's suspension or expulsion from school indicate that the student is in need of additional mental health services, the student's Principal or the District's mental health professional shall assist the student's parent or guardian with locating providers or obtaining such services, including referral to an independent mental health professional, provided such assistance does not result in a financial burden to the District or the student's school.

If a student in any of grades Pre-K through ~~three (3)~~ is suspended or expelled, the student shall be afforded the same notice and hearing, procedural, and educational opportunities as set forth in Board policy and the law. The suspension or expulsion of a student in any of grades Pre-K through ~~three (3)~~ shall not limit the Board's responsibilities with respect to the provision of special education and related services ~~to~~ for such a student in accordance with Board policy and the law. Further, the Board shall not be limited in its authority to issue an in-school suspension to a student in any of grades Pre-K through ~~three (3)~~, provided that the in-school suspension is served in a supervised learning environment.

If the Superintendent determines that a student's behavior on a school vehicle violates school rules, ~~s/he~~ the Superintendent may suspend the student from school bus-riding privileges for the length of time deemed appropriate for the violation and remediation of the behavior. Any such suspension must comply with due process and the Student Code of Conduct/Student Discipline Code.

The Board authorizes the Superintendent to provide ~~for~~ options to suspension/expulsion of a student from school which may include alternative educational options.

The Superintendent shall initiate expulsion proceedings against a student who has committed an act that warrants expulsion under Board policy even if the student withdraws from school prior to the hearing or decision to impose the expulsion. The expulsion must be imposed for the same duration it would have been had the student remained enrolled.

The Board may temporarily deny admittance to any student who has been expelled from the schools of another Ohio district or an out-of-state district, if the student's expulsion period set by the other district has not expired. The expelled student shall first be offered an opportunity for a hearing. This provision also applies to a student who is the subject of a power of attorney designating the child's grandparent as the attorney-in-fact or caretaker authorization affidavit executed by the child's grandparent and is seeking admittance into the schools of this District in accordance with Policy 5111.

The Board may temporarily deny admittance to any student who has been suspended from the schools of another Ohio district, if the student's suspension period set by the other district has not expired. The suspended student shall first be offered an opportunity for a hearing ~~before the Board~~.

When a student is expelled from this District, the Superintendent shall send written notice to any college in which the expelled student is enrolled under ~~Postsecondary Enrollment Options~~ the College Credit Plus Program at the time the expulsion is imposed. The written notice shall indicate the date the expulsion is scheduled to expire (X) and that the Board has adopted a provision in Policy 2271 under R.C. 3313.613 to deny high school credit for ~~postsecondary~~ College Credit Plus courses taken during an expulsion. ~~[END OF OPTION]~~

If the expulsion is extended, the Superintendent shall notify the college of the extension.

~~[] The Superintendent may require a student to perform community service in conjunction with or in place of a suspension or expulsion. The Board may adopt guidelines to permit the Superintendent to impose a community service requirement beyond the end of the school year in lieu of applying the expulsion into the following school year.~~

A copy of this policy is to be posted in a central location in each school and made available to students and parents upon request. Key provisions of the policy should also be included in the parent-student handbook.

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Legal R.C. 2919.222, 3313.66, 3313.534, 3313.649, 3313.661, 3313.662, 3313.663
R.C. 3313.664, 3313.668, 3321.13(B)(3) and (C), 3327.014
18 U.S.C. Section 921
20 U.S.C. 3351, 20 U.S.C. 7151, 20 U.S.C. 8921

Book	Neola Policy Templates for Catch Up
Section	Board Approved Policies 5000s
Title	PERMANENT EXCLUSION OF NONDISABLED STUDENTS
Code	po5610.01
Status	
Adopted	November 9, 2009

5610.01 - PERMANENT EXCLUSION OF NONDISABLED STUDENTS

In accordance with the law, the Board of Education may seek to permanently exclude a student, sixteen (16) years of age or older, who has been convicted of or adjudicated delinquent for the reason of the following offenses:

- A. carrying a concealed weapon or conveying or possessing a deadly weapon or dangerous ordnance on property owned or controlled by a board of education or at an activity held under the auspices of this Board
- B. possessing, selling, or offering to sell controlled substances on property owned or controlled by a board of education or at an activity under the auspices of this Board
- C. complicity to commit any of the above offenses, regardless of where the complicity occurred

In accordance with law, any student, sixteen (16) years of age or older, who has been convicted or adjudicated delinquent for committing the following offenses may be subject to permanent exclusion:

- A. rape, gross sexual imposition or felonious sexual penetration
- B. murder, manslaughter, felonious or aggravated assault
- C. complicity to commit offenses described in paragraphs A and B, regardless of where the complicity occurs

The above statement of policy on permanent exclusion is to be posted in a central location in each school as well as made available to students, upon request.

If the Superintendent has adequate evidence that a student, sixteen (16) years old or older at the time of the offense, has been convicted of or is an adjudicated delinquent resulting from any of the above offenses, s/he shall submit a written recommendation to the Board that the student should be permanently excluded from the public schools by the State Superintendent of Public Instruction. The recommendation is to be accompanied by the evidence, other information required by statute, and the name and position of the person who should present the District's case to the State Superintendent. The Board, after considering all the evidence, including the hearing of witnesses, shall take action within fourteen (14) days after receipt of the Superintendent's recommendation.

If the Board adopts the resolution, the Superintendent shall submit it to the State Superintendent, together with the required documents and the name of the person designated by the Board as its representative to present the case to the State Superintendent. A copy of the resolution shall be sent to both the student and his/her parents.

If the Board fails to pass the resolution, it shall so notify the Superintendent, in writing, who, in turn, shall provide written notification of the Board's action to both the student and his/her parents.

If the State Superintendent rejects the Board's request, the District Superintendent shall readmit the student in accordance with statute and District guidelines.

If the State Superintendent acts on the Board's request, his/her actions and those of the District shall be in accord with the procedures described in statute.

Legal

R.C. 2151.27, 2903.03-.04, 2903.11-.12, 2907.02, 2907.05, 2907.12, 2923.12

R.C. 2923.22, 2925.03, 2923.01-.02, 2923.122, 3313.66, 3313.661, 3313.662

Book	Neola Policy Templates for Catch Up
Section	Board Approved Policies 5000s
Title	IN-SCHOOL DISCIPLINE
Code	po5610.02
Status	
Adopted	November 9, 2009

5610.02 - **IN-SCHOOL DISCIPLINE**

It is the purpose of this policy to allow for an alternative to out-of-school suspension. The availability of in-school discipline options is dependent upon the financial ability of the Board of Education to support them.

In-school discipline will only be offered at the discretion of the Principal for offenses found in the Student Code of Conduct/Student Discipline Code.

The Superintendent is to establish administrative guidelines for the proper operation of such programs. As long as the in-school disciplinary alternatives are served entirely in the school setting, they will not require any notice, hearing or appeal rights. Any student who is issued an in-school disciplinary assignment shall serve such assignment in a supervised learning environment within the school setting and shall be permitted to complete any classroom assignments missed because of the in-school discipline.

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Legal	R.C. 3313.66, 3313.661
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Book	Neola Policy Templates for Catch Up
Section	Board Approved Policies 5000s
Title	EMERGENCY REMOVAL OF STUDENTS
Code	po5610.03
Status	
Adopted	November 9, 2009

5610.03 - EMERGENCY REMOVAL OF STUDENTS

If a student's presence poses a continuing danger to persons or property, or an ongoing threat of disrupting the academic process taking place either in a classroom or elsewhere on school premises, then the Superintendent, Principal or assistant Principal may remove the student from curricular activities or from the school premises. A teacher may remove the student from curricular activities under the teacher's supervision, but not from the premises. If a teacher makes an emergency removal, the teacher will notify a building administrator of the circumstances surrounding the removal in writing, as soon as practicable. Because such removal is not subject to the normal suspension and expulsion procedures, no prior notice or hearing is required for any removal under this policy.

A due process hearing will be held on the next school day after the removal is ordered. Written notice of the hearing and the reason for the removal and any intended disciplinary action will be given to the student as soon as practical prior to the hearing. If the student is subject to out-of-school suspension, the student will have the opportunity to appear at an informal hearing before the Principal, Assistant Principal, Superintendent or designee and has the right to challenge the reasons for the intended suspension or otherwise explain his/her actions. Within one (1) school day of the decision to suspend, written notification will be given to the parent(s)/guardian(s) or custodian of the student. This notice will include the reasons for the suspension, the right of the student or parent(s)/guardian(s) to appeal to the Board or its designee and the student's right to be represented in all appeal proceedings. If it is probable that the student may be subject to expulsion, the hearing will take place on the next school day after the date of the initial removal and will be held in accordance with the procedures outlined in the Policy 5611 - Due Process Rights. The person who ordered or requested the removal will be present at the hearing.

A student in any of grades pre-kindergarten through 3 may be removed only for the remainder of the school day, and shall be permitted to return to any curricular and extra-curricular activities on the next school day (following the day in which the student was removed or excluded). When a student in any of grades pre-kindergarten through 3 is removed and returned to his/her curricular and extra-curricular activities the next school day, the Principal is not required to hold a hearing (or provide written notice of same).

The Principal shall not initiate suspension or expulsion proceedings against a student in any grades pre-kindergarten through 3 who was removed unless the student has committed one (1) of the following acts:

- A. The student brings a firearm or knife capable of causing serious bodily injury to a school building or on to any other property (including a school vehicle) owned, controlled, or operated by the Board, to an interscholastic competition, an extra-curricular event, or to any other school program or activity that is not located in a school or on property that is owned or controlled by the Board. Similarly, the Principal can initiate suspension or expulsion proceedings if the student possesses a firearm or knife capable of causing serious bodily injury at school or on any other property (including a school vehicle) owned, controlled, or operated by the Board, at interscholastic competition, an extra-curricular event, or at any other school program or activity that is not located in a school or on property that is owned or controlled by the Board.
- B. The student commits an act at school, on other school property, at an interscholastic competition, extra-curricular event, or any other school program or activity and the act: 1) would be a criminal offense if committed by an adult; and 2) results in serious physical harm to person(s) as defined in R.C. 2901.01(A)(5), or to property as defined in R.C. 2901.01(A)(6).
- C. The student makes a bomb threat to a school building or to any premises at which a school activity is occurring at the time of the threat.

D. The student engages in behavior of such a nature that suspension or expulsion is necessary to protect the immediate health and safety of the student, the student's fellow classmates, the classroom staff and teachers, or other school employees

If the Superintendent or Principal reinstates a student prior to the hearing for emergency removal, the teacher may request and will be given written reasons for the reinstatement. The teacher cannot refuse to reinstate the student.

In an emergency removal, a student can be kept from class until the matter of the misconduct is disposed of either by reinstatement, suspension or expulsion.

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R.C. Chapter 2506, 3313.66, 3313.661, 3313.662, 3313.668

Book	Neola Policy Templates for Catch Up
Section	Board Approved Policies 5000s
Title	SUSPENSION OF BUS RIDING/TRANSPORTATION PRIVILEGES
Code	po5610.04
Status	
Adopted	November 9, 2009

5610.04 - SUSPENSION OF BUS RIDING/TRANSPORTATION PRIVILEGES

Students on a bus or other authorized Board of Education transportation vehicles are under the authority of and directly responsible to the bus/vehicle driver. The driver has the authority to enforce the established regulations for bus/vehicle conduct. Disorderly conduct or refusal to submit to the authority of the driver will be sufficient reason for refusing transportation service to any student.

A student may be suspended from school bus/vehicle riding privileges for all or part of a school year for any violation of established regulations for bus conduct and/or for conduct occurring on the bus/vehicle in violation of the Student Code of Conduct/Student Discipline Code.

Before a suspension from bus/vehicle riding privileges is imposed, the Superintendent or other designated District personnel will provide a student with notice of an intended suspension and an opportunity to appear before the Superintendent or other designated District personnel. Disciplinary suspension periods will be commensurate with the infraction(s) committed as determined by the Superintendent or designated District personnel.

Any additional guidelines regarding conduct on school buses/vehicles, as well as general information about the school transportation program, will be made available to all parents and students and posted in a central location.

(Note: This policy must be posted in a central location in each school building and made available to students upon request in order to be effective, i.e. to take advantage of the ability to suspend students from bus privileges for more than ten (10) days without the full panoply of rights otherwise available under 3313.66. Furthermore, this policy and any guidelines should be incorporated into student handbooks.)

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Legal	R.C. 3319.41, 3327.01, 3327.014
	A.C. 3301-83-08

Book	Neola Policy Templates for Catch Up
Section	Board Approved Policies 5000s
Title	PROHIBITION FROM EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES
Code	po5610.05
Status	
Adopted	November 9, 2009

5610.05 - **PROHIBITION FROM EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

Participation in extra-curricular activities, including interscholastic sports, is a privilege and not a right. Therefore, the Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent, principals, and assistant principals

[✕] and other authorized personnel employed by the District to supervise or coach a student activity program, to prohibit a student from participating in any particular or all extra-curricular activities of the District for offenses or violations of the Student Code of Conduct/Student Discipline Code for a period not to exceed the remainder of the school year in which the offense or violation of the Student Code of Conduct/Student Discipline Code took place.

✕] In addition, student athletes are further subject to the Athletic Code of Conduct and may be prohibited from participating in all or part of any interscholastic sport for violations therein.

Students prohibited from participation in all or part of any extra-curricular activity are not entitled to further notice, hearing, or appeal rights.

This policy shall be posted in a central location in each school building and will be available to students upon request.

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Legal	R.C. 3313.664
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Book	Neola Policy Templates for Catch Up
Section	Board Approved Policies 5000s
Title	DUE PROCESS RIGHTS
Code	po5611
Status	
Adopted	November 9, 2009
Last Revised	January 21, 2021

5611 - DUE PROCESS RIGHTS

The Board of Education recognizes that students have limited constitutional rights when it comes to their education.

Accordingly, the Board establishes the following procedures which District administrators shall use when dealing with students:

A. Student subject to suspension:

When a student is being considered for an out-of-school suspension by the Superintendent, Principal, or other administrator:

1. The student will be informed in writing of the potential suspension and the reasons for the proposed action.
2. The student will be provided an opportunity for an informal hearing to challenge the reason for the intended suspension and to explain his/her actions.
3. An attempt will be made to notify parents or guardians by telephone if a suspension is issued.
4. Within one (1) school day of the suspension the Superintendent, Principal, or other administrator will notify the parents, guardians, or custodians of the student. The notice will include the reasons for the suspension and the right of the student, parent, guardian, or custodian to appeal to the Board or its designee; the right to be represented at the appeal; and the right to request the hearing be held in executive session if before the Board. The notice shall also specify that if the student, parent, guardian, or custodian intends to appeal the suspension to the Board or its designee, such notice of appeal shall be filed, in writing, with the Treasurer of the Board or the Superintendent within ten (10) calendar days after the date of the notice to suspend. ~~[Note: It is recommended that the Board require individuals to file the notice of appeal within a specific number of calendar days after the suspension notice. The Board cannot specify a date for the filing of a notice of appeal of an expulsion that is less than fourteen (14) days].~~ If the offense is one for which the District may seek permanent exclusion, then the notice will contain that information.
5. Notice of this suspension will also be sent to the:
 - a. Superintendent;
 - b. student's school record (not for inclusion in the permanent record).
6. If a student leaves school property without permission immediately upon violation (or suspected violation) of a provision of the Student Code of Conduct/Student Discipline Code or prior to an administrator conducting an informal hearing as specified above, and the student fails to return to school on the following school day, the Principal, assistant Principal, Superintendent, or any other administrator, may send the student and his/her parent(s)/guardian(s) notice of the suspension, and offer to provide the student and/or his/her parents an informal hearing upon request to discuss the reasons for the suspension and to allow the student to challenge the reasons and to explain his/her actions, any time prior to the end of the suspension period.

Appeal of Suspension to the Board or its designee

The student who is eighteen (18) or older or the student's parent(s) or guardian(s) may appeal the suspension to the Board or its designee. They may be represented in all such appeal proceedings.

A verbatim record will be kept of the hearing which may be held in executive session at the request of the student, parent, or guardian if held before the Board.

The procedure to pursue such appeal will be provided in regulations approved by the Superintendent. Notice of appeal must be filed, in writing, with the Treasurer or the Superintendent within ten (10) calendar days after the date of the notice to suspend. ~~[Note: It is recommended that the Board require individuals to file the notice of appeal within a specific number of calendar days after the suspension notice. The Board cannot specify a date for the filing of a notice of appeal of an expulsion that is less than fourteen (14) days].~~

While a hearing before the Board may occur in executive session, the Board must act in public.

Appeal to the Court

Under Ohio law, appeal of the Board's or its designee's decision may be made to the Court of Common Pleas.

B. Students subject to expulsion:

When a student is being considered for expulsion by the Superintendent:

1. The Superintendent will give the student and parent, guardian, or custodian written notice of the intended expulsion, including reasons for the intended expulsion.
2. The student and parent or representative have the opportunity to appear before the Superintendent or designee to challenge the proposed action or to otherwise explain the student's actions. The written notice will state the time and place to appear, which must not be earlier than three (3) school days nor later than five (5) school days after the notice is given unless the Superintendent grants an extension upon request of the student or parent.
3. Within one (1) school day of the expulsion, the Superintendent will notify the parents, guardians, or custodians of the student and the Treasurer of the Board. The notice will include the reasons for the expulsion and the right of the student, parent, guardian, or custodian to appeal to the Board or its designee; the right to be represented at the appeal; and the right to request the hearing be held in executive session if before the Board. The notice shall also specify that if the student, parent, guardian, or custodian intends to appeal the expulsion to the Board or its designee, such notice of appeal shall be filed, in writing, with the Treasurer of the Board or the Superintendent within fourteen (14) calendar days after the date of the notice of expulsion. ~~[Note: Under statute, the Board cannot specify a date for the filing of a notice of appeal of an expulsion that is less than fourteen (14) days].~~ If the offense is one for which the District may seek permanent exclusion, then the notice will contain that information.

Appeal of Expulsion to the Board

A student who is eighteen (18) or older or a student's parent(s) or guardian(s) may appeal the expulsion by the Superintendent to the Board or its designee. They may be represented in all such appeal proceedings and will be granted a hearing before the Board or its designee.

A verbatim record will be kept of the hearing which may be held in executive session at the request of the student, parent, or guardian if it is held before the Board.

The procedure to pursue such appeal will be in accordance with regulations approved by the Superintendent. Notice of appeal must be filed, in writing, within fourteen (14) calendar days after the date of the Superintendent's decision to expel with the Treasurer of the Board or the Superintendent. ~~[Note: Under statute, the Board cannot specify a date for the filing of a notice of appeal of an expulsion that is less than fourteen (14) days].~~

While a hearing before the Board may occur in executive session, the Board must act in public.

Appeal to the Court

Under State law, the decision of the Board or its designee may be further appealed to the Court of Common Pleas.

C. Students subject to emergency removal:

Students whose conduct warrants emergency removal shall be dealt with in accordance with the rights and procedures outlined in Policy 5610.03 - Emergency Removal.

D. Students subject to permanent exclusion:

Students whose conduct is that for which permanent exclusion is warranted shall be dealt with in accordance with the rights and procedures outlined in Policy 5610.01 - Permanent Exclusion of Nondisabled Students.

E. Students subject to suspension from bus riding/transportation privileges:

Students whose conduct warrant suspension from bus riding and/or transportation services shall be dealt with in accordance with the rights and procedures outlined in Policy 5610.04 - Suspension of Bus Riding/Transportation Privileges.

In determining whether disciplinary action set forth in this policy is to be implemented, District Administrators shall use a preponderance of evidence standard. Further, any individual charged with making a disciplinary determination under this policy shall retain all documents, electronically stored information ("ESI"), and electronic media (as defined in Policy 8315 - Information Management (i.e. "Litigation Hold")) created and/or received as part of an investigation.

X?] The documents, ESI, and electronic media (as defined in Policy 8315) retained may include public records and records exempt from disclosure under Federal (e.g., FERPA, ADA) and/or State law (e.g., R.C. 3319.321) – e.g., student records and confidential medical records.

~~**[?]** The documents, ESI, and electronic media (as defined in Policy 8315) shall be retained in accordance with Policy 8310, Policy 8315, Policy 8320, and Policy 8330 for not less than three (3) years, but longer if required by the District's records retention schedule.~~

In addition, this statement of due process rights is to be placed in all student handbooks in a manner that will facilitate understanding by students and their parents.

These procedures shall not apply to in-school disciplinary alternatives including in-school suspensions. An in-school suspension is one served entirely in a supervised learning environment within a school setting. Nor shall these disciplinary alternative procedures apply to students who are prohibited by authorized school personnel from all or part of their participation in co-curricular, interscholastic, and/or noninterscholastic extra-curricular activities.

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R.C. 3313.20, 3313.66, 3313.661

Book	Neola Policy Templates for Catch Up
Section	Board Approved Policies 5000s
Title	CORPORAL PUNISHMENT
Code	po5630
Status	
Adopted	November 9, 2009

5630 - **CORPORAL PUNISHMENT**

While recognizing that students may require disciplinary action in various forms, the Board of Education does not condone the use of unreasonable force and fear as an appropriate procedure in student discipline.

Professional staff should not find it necessary to resort to physical force or violence to compel obedience. If all other means fail, staff members may always resort to removal of the student from the classroom or school through suspension or expulsion procedures.

Professional staff as well as classified staff may, within the scope of their employment, use and apply reasonable and necessary force and restraint to quell a disturbance threatening physical injury to others, to obtain possession of weapons or other dangerous objects upon or within the control of the student, in self-defense, or for the protection of persons or property.

Corporal punishment is not permitted. If any employee threatens to inflict, inflicts, or causes to inflict unnecessary, unreasonable, irrational, or inappropriate force upon a student, s/he may be subject to discipline by this Board and possibly charges of child abuse as well. This prohibition applies as well to volunteers and those with whom the District contracts for services.

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Legal	R.C. 2919.22(B), 3313.20(B), 3319.41
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Book	Neola Policy Templates for Catch Up
Section	Board Approved Policies 5000s
Title	POSITIVE BEHAVIOR INTERVENTION AND SUPPORTS AND LIMITED USE OF RESTRAINT AND SECLUSION
Code	po5630.01
Status	
Adopted	July 8, 2013
Last Revised	May 17, 2018

5630.01 - POSITIVE BEHAVIOR INTERVENTION AND SUPPORTS AND LIMITED USE OF RESTRAINT AND SECLUSION

The Board of Education is committed to implementation of Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports (PBIS) framework on a District-wide basis and the establishment of a school environment focused on the care, safety, and welfare of all students and staff members. Staff are directed to work to prevent the use of physical restraint and/or seclusion. The PBIS framework shall serve as the foundation for the creation of a learning environment that promotes the use of evidence-based academic and behavioral practices aimed at enhancing academic, social and behavioral outcomes for all students. An emphasis shall be placed on promoting positive interventions and solutions to potential crises. If a student's behavior, however, presents a threat of immediate physical harm to the student or others, staff may, as a last resort (i.e., there is no other safe and effective intervention available) and in accordance with the terms of this policy, use approved physical restraint or seclusion to maintain a safe environment.

All physical restraint and seclusion shall only be done in accordance with this policy, which is based on the standards adopted by the State Board of Education regarding the use of student restraint and seclusion.

Training in methods of PBIS and the use of physical restraint and seclusion will be provided to all professional staff and support staff determined appropriate by the Superintendent. Training will be in accordance with the State's Standards. Absent an emergency, only school staff who are trained in permissible seclusion and physical restraint measures shall use such techniques.

Every use of restraint and seclusion shall be documented and reported in accordance with this policy.

The Board shall annually notify parents of this policy, which will be published on the District's website.

DEFINITIONS

Aversive behavioral interventions mean interventions that are intended to induce pain or discomfort to a student for the purpose of eliminating or reducing maladaptive behaviors, including such interventions as application of noxious, painful, and/or intrusive stimuli, including any form of noxious, painful, or intrusive spray, inhalant, or taste, or other sensory stimuli such as climate control, lighting, and sound.

Behavioral Intervention Plan ("BIP") means a comprehensive plan for managing problem behavior by changing or removing contextual factors that trigger or maintain it, by strengthening replacement skills, teaching new skills and by providing positive behavior intervention and supports and services to address behavior.

Chemical restraint means a drug or medication used to control a student's behavior or restrict freedom of movement that is not:

- A. Prescribed by a licensed physician, or other qualified health professional acting under the scope of the professional's authority under Ohio law, for the standard treatment of a student's medical or psychiatric condition; and
- B. Administered as prescribed by the licensed physician or other qualified health professional acting under the scope of the professional's authority under Ohio law.

De-escalation techniques are interventions that are used to prevent violent and aggressive behaviors and reduce the intensity of threatening, violent and disruptive incidents.

Functional behavior assessment (FBA) is a school-based process for students with disabilities and students without disabilities that includes the student's parent and, as appropriate, the child, to determine why a child engages in challenging behaviors and how the behavior relates to the child's environment. Consent from the parent and, as appropriate, the child (eighteen (18) years of age or older), must be obtained at the initial Functional Behavior Assessment.

Mechanical restraint means any method of restricting a student's freedom of movement, physical activity, or normal use of the student's body, by using an appliance or device manufactured for this purpose. Mechanical restraint does *not* mean a device used by trained Student Personnel, or used by a student, for the specific and approved therapeutic or safety purposes for which the device was designed and, if applicable, prescribed, including:

- A. restraints for medical immobilization;
- B. adaptive devices or mechanical supports used to allow greater freedom of mobility than would be possible without the use of such devices or mechanical supports; or
- C. vehicle safety restraints when used as intended during the transport of a student in a moving vehicle.

Parent means:

- A. a biological or adoptive parent;
- B. a guardian generally authorized to act as the child's parent, or authorized to make decisions for the child (but not the State if the child is a ward of the State);
- C. an individual acting in the place of a biological or adoptive parent (including a grandparent, stepparent, or other relative) with whom the child lives, or an individual who is legally responsible for the child's welfare;
- D. a surrogate parent who has been appointed in accordance with Ohio Administrative Code 3301-51-05(E); or
- E. any person identified in a judicial decree or order as the parent of a child or the person with authority to make educational decisions on behalf of the child.

Physical escort means the temporary touching or holding of the hand, wrist, arm, shoulder, waist, hip, or back for the purpose of inducing a student to move to a safe location.

Physical restraint means the use of physical contact that immobilizes or reduces the ability of a student to move the student's arms, legs, body, or head freely. Physical restraint does not include a physical escort, mechanical restraint, or chemical restraint. Physical restraint does not include brief physical contact for the following or similar purposes to:

- A. break up a fight;
- B. knock a weapon away from a student's possession;
- C. calm or comfort;
- D. assist a student in completing a task/response if the student does not resist the contact; or
- E. prevent imminent risk of injury to the student or others.

Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports (PBIS) means a multi-tiered, school-wide, behavioral framework developed and implemented for the purpose of improving academic and social outcomes, and increasing learning for all students. PBIS includes a decision-making framework that guides selection, integration, and implementation of evidence-based academic and behavior practices for improving academic and behavior outcomes for all students. PBIS encompasses a range of systemic and individualized positive strategies to reinforce desired behaviors, diminish reoccurrences of challenging behaviors, and teach appropriate behaviors to students.

PBIS Leadership Team means the assigned team at the District and building level that plans, coaches and monitors PBIS implementation in the District and buildings. The PBIS Leadership Teams may include, but is not limited to, school administrators, teacher representatives across grade level and programs, staff able to provide behavioral expertise, and

other representatives identified by the District or school such as bus drivers, food service staff, custodial staff, and paraprofessionals.

Prone restraint means physical or mechanical restraint while the student is in the face-down position.

Seclusion means the involuntary isolation of a student in a room, enclosure, or space from which the student is prevented from leaving by physical restraint or by a closed door or other physical barrier. It does not include a timeout.

Student means an individual enrolled in the District.

Student Personnel means teachers, principals, counselors, social workers, school resource officers, teachers' aides, psychologists, bus drivers, related service providers, nursing staff, or other District staff who interact directly with students.

Timeout means a behavioral intervention in which the student, for a limited and specified time, is separated from the class within the classroom or in a non-locked setting for the purpose of self-regulating and controlling his or her own behavior. In a timeout, the student is not physically restrained or prevented from leaving the area by physical barriers.

POSITIVE BEHAVIOR INTERVENTION AND SUPPORTS FRAMEWORK

The District will implement PBIS on a system-wide basis in accordance with R.C. 3319.46 and A.C. 3301-35-15. The District's PBIS framework involves comprehensive, school-wide data systems that enable monitoring of academic progress, behavioral incidents, attendance, and other critical indicators across classrooms. The administration is encouraged to use data-based decision making to select, monitor, and evaluate outcomes, practices, and systems. The PBIS framework further involves a school-wide investment in evidence-based curricula and effective instructional strategies, matched to students' needs, and data to support teachers' academic instruction. Evidence-based practices along a multi-tiered continuum of supports will be used. The District's PBIS framework will further focus on improving staff climate and culture regarding the role of discipline in the classroom, by using positive and proactive communication and staff recognition. Finally, classroom practices shall be linked to and aligned with the school-wide system so progress monitoring can occur with fidelity and target outcomes. The PBIS framework will strive to enable accurate and sustainable implementation of practices.

As part of its implementation of the PBIS framework, the District will provide Student Personnel with appropriate professional development, engage in explicit instruction of school-wide behavior expectation, employ consistent systems of acknowledging and correcting behavior, create teaching environments designed to eliminate behavior triggers, and promote family and community involvement.

The PBIS framework shall apply to all students and staff, and in all settings. It shall include:

- A. school staff trained to identify conditions such as where, under what circumstances, with whom, and why specific behaviors occur;
- B. functional behavior assessments that include:
 - 1. review of existing data;
 - 2. interviews with parents, family members, and students; and
 - 3. examination of previous and existing behavior intervention plans.
- C. development and implementation of positive behavior interventions and supports, and the teaching of appropriate behavior, including:
 - 1. modification of environmental factors that escalate inappropriate behavior;
 - 2. supporting the attainment of appropriate behavior; and
 - 3. use of de-escalation techniques to defuse potentially violent dangerous behavior.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF PBIS

In order to successfully implement the PBIS framework on a District-wide basis, the Board shall provide or Student Personnel shall receive professional development as follows:

- A. the professional development will occur at least every three (3) years;
- B. the professional development must be provided by a building or District PBIS Leadership Team or an appropriate State, regional, or national source in collaboration with the building or District PBIS Leadership Team;
- C. the trained PBIS Leadership team will provide the professional development in accordance with the District-developed PBIS training plan, which the Superintendent will develop;
- D. the Superintendent shall retain records of completion of the professional development; and
- E. the professional development will include the following topics:
 - 1. an overview of PBIS;
 - 2. the process for teaching behavioral expectations;
 - 3. data collection;
 - 4. implementation of PBIS with fidelity;
 - 5. consistent systems of feedback to students for acknowledgment of appropriate behavior and corrections for behavior errors; and
 - 6. consistency in discipline and discipline referrals.
- F. the training will be appropriately modified for the intended audience.

The Superintendent is charged with arranging for continuous training structures to be in place to provide ongoing coaching and implementation with fidelity.

SECLUSION

Seclusion may be used only when a student's behavior poses an immediate risk of physical harm to the student or others and no other safe or effective intervention is available. Seclusion may be used only as a last resort to provide the student with an opportunity to regain control of the student's actions. Seclusion must be used in a manner that is age and developmentally appropriate, for the minimum amount of time necessary for the purpose of protecting the student and/or others from physical harm, and otherwise in compliance with this policy and the Ohio Department of Education's (ODE) model policy.

Seclusion shall be implemented only by Student Personnel who are trained to protect the care, welfare, dignity, and safety of the student, including trained to detect indications of physical or mental distress that require removal and/or immediate medical assistance. Student Personnel must document their observations of the student during the seclusion.

Additional requirements for the use of seclusion:

If Student Personnel use seclusion, they must:

- A. continually observe the student in seclusion for indications of physical or mental distress and seek immediate medical assistance if there is a concern;
- B. use communication strategies and research-based de-escalation techniques in an effort to help the student regain control () as quickly as possible;
- C. remove the student from seclusion when the immediate risk of physical harm to the student and/or others has dissipated;
- D. assess the student for injury or psychological distress after the use of seclusion, and monitor the student as needed following the incident;
- E. conduct a debriefing including all involved staff to evaluate the trigger for the incident, staff response, and methods to address the student's behavioral needs; and
- F. complete all required reports and document their observations of the student;

- G. (X) ensure safety of other students and protect the dignity and respect of the student involved;
- H. (X) combine the use of seclusion with other non-physical interventions (which are always preferred) that will diminish the need for seclusion in the future;
- I. (X) if at any point the staff assess that the intervention is insufficient to maintain safety of all involved, contact emergency personnel;
- J. (X) use seclusion for the least amount of time necessary.

Requirements for a room or area used for seclusion:

A room or area used for seclusion must provide for adequate space, lighting, ventilation, and clear visibility in order to allow Student Personnel to observe the student.

A room or area used for seclusion *must not be locked* or otherwise prevent the student from exiting the area should staff become incapacitated or leave the area.

Additional prohibited seclusion practices:

Seclusion shall not be used:

- A. for the convenience of staff;
- B. as a substitute for an educational program;
- C. as a form of discipline or punishment;
- D. as a substitute for other less restrictive means of assisting a student in regaining control;
- E. as a substitute for inadequate staffing;
- F. as a substitute for staff training in positive behavior intervention and supports framework and crisis management; or
- G. as a means to coerce, retaliate, or in a manner that endangers a student.

Seclusion of preschool-age children is prohibited, except that a preschool-age child may be separated from classmates, either in the classroom or in a safe, lighted, and well-ventilated space, for an amount of time that is brief in duration and appropriate to the child's age and development, if the child is always within sight and hearing of a preschool staff member.

PHYSICAL RESTRAINT

Prone restraint, including any physical restraint that obstructs the airway of the student, or any physical restraint that impacts a student's primary mode of communication, is prohibited. Student Personnel may use physical restraint only as a last resort and in accordance with this policy and the requirements of A.C. 3301-35-15.

Physical restraint may be used only when the student's behavior poses an immediate risk of physical harm to the student and/or others and no other safe or effective intervention is available. The physical restraint must be implemented in a manner that is age and developmentally appropriate, does not obstruct the student's ability to breathe, does not interfere with the student's ability to communicate in the student's primary language or mode of communication, and otherwise in compliance with this policy and the ODE's corresponding model policy.

Only Student Personnel trained in safe restraint techniques may implement physical restraint, except in the case of rare and unavoidable emergency situations when trained personnel are not immediately available. Student Personnel must be trained to protect the care, welfare, dignity, and safety of the student.

Additional requirements for the use of physical restraint:

If Student Personnel use physical restraint, they must:

- A. continually observe the student in restraint for indications of physical or mental distress and seek immediate medical assistance if there is a concern;

- B. use communication strategies and research-based de-escalation techniques in an effort to help the student regain control (X) as quickly as possible;
- C. remove the student from physical restraint immediately when the immediate risk of physical harm to the student and/or others has dissipated;
- D. assess the student for injury or psychological distress after the use of physical restraint, and monitor the student as needed following the incident;
- E. conduct a debriefing including all involved staff to evaluate the trigger for the incident, staff response, and methods to address the student's behavioral needs; and
- F. complete all required reports and document their observations of the student;
- G. (X) implement in a manner that accommodates age and body size diversity;
- H. (X) ensure safety of other students and protect the dignity and safety of the student involved;
- I. (X) combine with other non-physical interventions (which are always preferred) that will diminish the need for physical intervention in the future;
- J. (X) use the least amount of force necessary for the least amount of time necessary;
- K. (X) if at any point the staff assesses that the intervention is insufficient to maintain safety for all involved, contact emergency personnel.

Physical restraint shall not be used for punishment or discipline, or as a substitute for other less restrictive means of assisting a student in regaining control.

Prohibited Practices

The following practices are prohibited under all circumstances, including emergency safety situations:

- A. prone restraint;
- B. any form of physical restraint that involves the intentional, knowing, or reckless use of any technique that:
 - 1. involves the use of pinning down a student by placing knees to the torso, head, or neck of the student;
 - 2. uses pressure point, pain compliance, or joint manipulation techniques;
 - 3. otherwise involves techniques that are used to unnecessarily cause pain;
 - 4. (X) causes loss of consciousness or harm to the neck or restricting respiration in any way;
 - 5. (X) involves dragging or lifting of the student by the hair or ear or any type of mechanical restraint;
 - 6. (X) uses other students or untrained staff to assist with the hold or restraint;
 - 7. (X) involves securing a student to another student or fixed object;
- C. corporal punishment as defined in R.C. 3319.41;
- D. child endangerment as defined in R.C. 2919.22;
- E. deprivation of basic needs;
- F. seclusion or restraint of preschool-age students in violation of A.C. 3301-37-10(D) and A.C. 3301-35-15;
- G. mechanical restraint;
- H. chemical restraint;

I. aversive behavioral interventions; and

J. seclusion in a locked room or area.

CONTACT LAW ENFORCEMENT AND/OR EMERGENCY RESPONSE PERSONNEL

In accordance with the Board's Emergency Management Plan (see Policy 8400), District personnel shall contact law enforcement and/or appropriate emergency response personnel if at any point they determine that an intervention (either a physical restraint or seclusion) is insufficient to maintain the safety of all involved.

MULTIPLE INCIDENTS OF RESTRAINT AND/OR SECLUSION – CONDUCTING A FUNCTIONAL BEHAVIORAL ASSESSMENT AND DEVELOPING A BEHAVIOR INTERVENTION PLAN

After a student's third incident of physical restraint or seclusion in a school year, a meeting must occur within ten (10) school days of the third incident as follows:

- A. For a student who has been found eligible for special education services or has a 504 plan, the student's individualized education program or 504 team must meet to consider the need to conduct or develop a FBA or BIP, or amend an existing FBA or BIP.
- B. For all other students (i.e., students not described in the preceding paragraph), a team, consisting of the student's parent, an administrator or designee, a teacher of the student, a staff member involved in the incident (if not the teacher or administrator already invited), and other appropriate staff members must meet to discuss the need to conduct or review a FBA and/or develop a BIP.
- C. Nothing in this section is meant to prevent the completion of a FBA or BIP for any student who might benefit from these measures, but has fewer than three (3) incidents of restraint or seclusion.
- D. Nothing in this section is meant to prevent the District from conducting any evaluations or other obligations the staff feel are appropriate under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act.

TRAINING AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR USE OF CRISIS MANAGEMENT AND DE-ESCALATION TECHNIQUES

The District shall provide training and professional development for the use of crisis management and de-escalation techniques that includes the use of restraint and seclusion. Specifically, the District shall annually train an appropriate number of personnel in each building in evidence-based crisis management and de-escalation techniques, as well as the safe use of physical restraint and seclusion. At a minimum, the training will cover the following topics:

- A. proactive measures to prevent the use of seclusion or restraint;
- B. crisis management;
- C. documentation and communication about the restraint or seclusion with appropriate parties;
- D. the safe use of restraint and seclusion;
- E. instruction and accommodation for age and body size diversity;
- F. directions for monitoring signs of distress during and following physical control; and
- G. debriefing practices and procedures.

The training will occur face-to-face and allow for a simulated experience of administering and receiving physical restraint so that participants can demonstrate proficiency in the topics identified above.

The Superintendent is charged with maintaining written or electronic documentation concerning the training provided that includes the following:

- A. the name, position, and building assignment of each person who has completed training;
- B. the name, position, and credentials of each person who has provided the training;

- C. when the training was completed; and
- D. what protocols, techniques, and materials were included in training.

As part of the required training, Student Personnel shall be trained to perform the following functions:

- A. identify conditions such as: where, under what conditions, with whom and why specific inappropriate behavior may occur; and
- B. use preventative assessments that include at least the following:
 - 1. a review of existing data;
 - 2. input from parents, family members, and students; and
 - 3. examination of previous and existing behavior intervention plans.

Only individuals trained in accordance with this policy in the appropriate use of restraint and seclusion may use those techniques.

MONITORING AND COMPLAINT PROCEDURES

The Superintendent shall monitor the implementation of A.C. 3301-35-15 and this policy, and annually conduct a review of A.C. 3301-35-15 and this policy related to the use of PBIS, physical restraint, and seclusion. Additionally, the administration will annually notify parents of the District's policy and procedures related to the requirements of PBIS, physical restraint, and seclusion, including the following complaint process.

Any parent of a child enrolled in school in the District may submit a written complaint to the Superintendent regarding an incident of restraint or seclusion. The Superintendent shall investigate each written complaint and respond in writing to the parent's complaint within thirty (30) days of receipt of the complaint. The Superintendent will make reasonable efforts to have an in-person follow-up meeting with the parent.

[?]] If the parent is not satisfied with the response provided, the parent may request to meet with the Board in executive session to address the situation.

A parent may also file a complaint with local law enforcement, the county department of job and family services, or the office of integrated student supports within the Ohio Department of Education. The procedures and timeline for filing a complaint with the Ohio Department of Education are outlined in A.C. 3301-35-15(L).

~~**[?]]** A parent of a child with a disability (as defined by R.C. 3323.01) may file a complaint with the Ohio Department of Education, Office of Exceptional Children, in accordance with the complaint procedures available under A.C. 3301-51-05(K) (4)-(6).~~

REQUIREMENTS FOLLOWING AN INCIDENT OF SECLUSION OR PHYSICAL RESTRAINT

Each use of physical restraint or seclusion shall be:

- A. reported to the building administration immediately;
- B. reported to the parent immediately; and
- C. documented in a written report (see Ohio Department of Education's Model Restraint and Seclusion Debriefing Form).

A copy of the written report shall be issued to the student's parent or guardian within twenty-four (24) hours of the use of restraint or seclusion. The District shall maintain the written report, including placing a copy of the written report in the student's file.

All written documentation of the use of restraint or seclusion are educational records pursuant to the Family Educational Right to Privacy Act (FERPA), and District personnel are prohibited from releasing any personally identifiable information to anyone other than the parent, in accordance with FERPA's requirements.

The Superintendent shall develop a process for the collection of data regarding the use of physical restraint and seclusion.

The administration shall develop a support plan for substitute teachers if they need assistance with PBIS or crisis management and de-escalation (including restraint and seclusion).

The Superintendent shall report information regarding the District's use of restraint and seclusion annually to the Ohio Department of Education in the form and manner prescribed by the Department as requested by that agency and make the District's records concerning PBIS, restraint and seclusion available to the staff of the Ohio Department of Education upon request.

* Adapted from the Ohio Department of Education's Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports and Restraint and Seclusion Model Policy and Procedures, issued July 2021.

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Book	Neola Policy Templates for Catch Up
Section	Board Approved Policies 5000s
Title	STUDENT COMPLAINTS
Code	po5710
Status	
Adopted	November 9, 2009

5710 - **STUDENT COMPLAINTS**

The Board of Education recognizes that, as citizens, students have the right to request redress of grievances. Further, the Board believes that the inculcation of respect for lawful procedures is an important part of the educational process. Accordingly, individual and group complaints should be provided for and appropriate appeal procedures implemented.

For purposes of this policy, a student complaint shall be any such that arises out of actions, procedures, and policies of this Board or its employees or the lack of such policy or procedure.

The Board or its employees will hear the complaints of the students of this District provided that such complaints are made according to procedures established by Board Policy 9130.

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Book	Neola Policy Templates for Catch Up
Section	Board Approved Policies 5000s
Title	PREPARATION FOR VOTER REGISTRATION
Code	po5724
Status	
Adopted	November 9, 2009

5724 - PREPARATION FOR VOTER REGISTRATION

The Board of Education believes that preparing students to assume the responsibilities which our democratic society places on each of its citizens is an important function of the schools. Supplying our high school students with all pertinent information regarding voter registration is one crucial means of meeting this goal.

Accordingly, the Superintendent, using such resources as the high school administration, faculty and student body, local officials, and others can provide, shall develop a nonpartisan, voter education program for the high school.

The administration of the high schools shall offer to all students who reach the age of majority, the opportunity to register as voters.

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Legal	R.C. 3313.20
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Book	Neola Policy Templates for Catch Up
Section	Board Approved Policies 5000s
Title	STUDENTS AS PRECINCT ELECTION OFFICIALS
Code	po5725
Status	
Adopted	November 9, 2009

5725 - STUDENTS AS PRECINCT ELECTION OFFICIALS

In conjunction with the County Board of Elections, the Board of Education will permit high school students to apply and, if appointed by the Board of Election, to serve as precinct officers at a primary, special, or general election.

To be eligible, a student shall be:

- A. a United States citizen;
- B. a resident of the county;
- C. at least seventeen (17) years of age;
- D. enrolled in the senior year of high school.

As part of the application process, the student shall declare his/her political party affiliation with the Board of Election. Any student selected shall be excused from school on the day of an election at which the student is serving as a precinct officer.

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Legal	R.C. 3501.22
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Book	Neola Policy Templates for Catch Up
Section	Board Approved Policies 5000s
Title	EQUAL ACCESS FOR NONDISTRICT-SPONSORED STUDENT CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES
Code	po5730
Status	
Adopted	November 9, 2009

5730 - EQUAL ACCESS FOR NONDISTRICT-SPONSORED STUDENT CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES

The Board of Education will not permit the use of school facilities by nondistrict-sponsored student clubs and activities or District-sponsored, noncurriculum-related clubs and activities during instructional hours. During noninstructional time, however, no group of students, regardless of the size of the group, will be denied an opportunity to meet on the basis of the religious, political, philosophical, or other content of the activity.

An application for permission for nondistrict-sponsored student clubs and activities to meet on school premises shall be made to the Principal, who shall grant permission provided that s/he determines that:

- A. the activity has been initiated by students;
- B. attendance at the meeting is voluntary;
- C. no agent or employee of the District will promote, lead, or participate in the meeting;
- D. the meeting does not materially and substantially interfere with the orderly conduct of instructional activities in the school;
- E. nonschool persons do not direct, conduct, control, or regularly attend the activity.

A student-initiated group granted permission to meet on school premises shall be provided the same rights and access and shall be subject to the same administrative guidelines that govern the meetings of student organizations sponsored by this Board, except as provided by this policy. Participation in a student-initiated meeting must be available to all students who wish to attend and cannot be denied on the basis of a student's race, color, creed, religion, gender, national origin, disability, or social or economic status.

The Board will not permit the organization of a fraternity, sorority, or secret society. A student-initiated meeting may be attended by no more than three (3) outside resource person(s). The Superintendent may exclude nonstudents from directing, controlling, or attending any such meetings of students.

A professional staff member may be assigned to attend a student-initiated meeting in a custodial capacity but shall not participate in the activity. No professional staff member shall be compelled to attend a student-initiated meeting if the content of the speech at the meeting is contrary to his/her beliefs.

The principal may take such actions as may be necessary to maintain order and discipline on school premises and to protect the safety and well-being of students and staff members.

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Legal	R.C. 3313.75, 3313.76, 3313.77
	20 U.S.C. 4071 et seq., Equal Access Act of 1984
	42 U.S.C. 12101, et seq., Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990
	42 U.S.C. 2000e, Civil Rights Act of 1964

Book	Neola Policy Templates for Catch Up
Section	Board Approved Policies 5000s
Title	PARENTAL STATUS OF STUDENTS
Code	po5751
Status	
Adopted	November 9, 2009
Last Revised	September 12, 2011

5751 - PARENTAL STATUS OF STUDENTS

No student, whether married or unmarried, who is otherwise eligible to attend school in the District shall be denied an educational program solely because of pregnancy, childbirth, pregnancy-related disabilities, or actual or potential parenthood.

The Board of Education reserves the right to require as a prerequisite for attendance in the regular classes of the schools and the co-curricular

(H) and extra-curricular

programs of the schools that each pregnant student present to the Superintendent her physician's written statement that such activity will not be injurious to her health nor jeopardize her pregnancy.

A pregnant student will be considered on an excused absence for so long a period as is deemed medically necessary by the student's physician. At the conclusion of the absence, the student shall be reinstated to the status she held when the absence began.

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Legal R.C. 2151.85, 2505.073, 3321.01 et seq.

Book	Neola Policy Templates for Catch Up
Section	Board Approved Policies 5000s
Title	SEARCH AND SEIZURE
Code	po5771
Status	
Adopted	November 9, 2009

5771 - SEARCH AND SEIZURE

The Board of Education recognizes that the privacy of students or their belongings may not be violated by unreasonable search and seizure and directs that no student be searched without reasonable suspicion or in an unreasonable manner.

The Board acknowledges the need for in-school storage of student possessions and shall provide storage places, including desks and lockers, for that purpose. Such spaces remain the property of the Board and, in accordance with law, may be the subject of random search. Where locks are provided for such places, students may lock them against incursion by other students, but in no such places shall students have such an expectation of privacy as to prevent examination by a school official. The Board directs the school principals to conduct a routine inspection at least annually of all such storage places.

School authorities are charged with the responsibility of safeguarding the safety and well-being of the students in their care. In the discharge of that responsibility, school authorities may search the person or property, including vehicles, of a student, with or without the student's consent, whenever they reasonably suspect that the search is required to discover evidence of a violation of law or of school rules. The extent of the search will be governed by the seriousness of the alleged infraction and the student's age.

☒] This authorization to search shall also apply to all situations in which the student is under the jurisdiction of the Board.

☒] Administrators are permitted to conduct a random search of any student's locker and its contents at any time, providing proper notice has been posted in the locker areas of each building.

Search of a student's person or intimate personal belongings shall be conducted by a person of the student's gender, in the presence of another staff member of the same gender, and only in exceptional circumstances when the health or safety of the student or of others is immediately threatened.

Administrators are authorized to arrange for the use of a breath-test instrument for the purpose of determining if a student has consumed an alcoholic beverage. It is not necessary for the test to determine blood-alcohol level, since the Board has established a zero tolerance for alcohol use.

The Board also authorizes the use of canines, trained in detecting the presence of drugs or devices, when the Superintendent has reasonable suspicion that illegal drugs or devices may be present in a school. This means of detection shall be used only to determine the presence of drugs in locker areas and other places on school property where such substances could be concealed. Canine detection must be conducted in collaboration with law enforcement authorities or with organizations certified in canine detection and is not to be used to search individual students unless a warrant has been obtained prior to the search.

Except as provided below, a request for the search of a student or a student's possessions will be directed to the principal who shall seek the freely offered consent of the student to the inspection. Whenever possible, a search will be conducted by the principal in the presence of the student and a staff member other than the principal. A search prompted by the reasonable belief that health and safety are immediately threatened will be conducted with as much speed and dispatch as may be required to protect persons and property.

The principal shall be responsible for the prompt recording in writing of each student search, including the reasons for the search; information received that established the need for the search and the name of informant, if any; the persons present when the search was conducted; any substances or objects found; and the disposition made of them. The principal shall be responsible for the custody, control, and disposition of any illegal or dangerous substance or object taken from a student.

The Superintendent shall prepare administrative guidelines to implement this policy.

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Legal	R.C. 3313.20
	U.S. Constitution, 4th Amendment

Book	Neola Policy Templates for Catch Up
Section	Board Approved Policies 5000s
Title	STUDENT/PARENT RIGHTS
Code	po5780
Status	
Adopted	November 9, 2009

5780 - STUDENT/PARENT RIGHTS

The Board of Education recognizes that students possess not only the right to an education but many of the rights of citizenship as well.

In providing students the opportunity for an education to which they are entitled, the Board shall attempt to offer nurture, counsel, and custodial care appropriate to their age and maturity. At the same time, the Board recognizes that no student may be deprived of the basic right to equal access to the educational program, and his/her constitutional right to due process and free expression and association as appropriate for the school environment.

Attendant to the rights afforded to each student, however, are certain responsibilities, which include respect for the rights of others, obedience to properly constituted school authority, and compliance with the guidelines and rules of the District.

✖] The Board realizes that as students differ in age and maturity, so they differ in ability to handle both the rights of citizens and the concomitant responsibilities. The exercise of each right shall be granted, therefore, with due regard for the degree of responsibility possessed by the student and the student's need for the continuing guidance and control of those responsible for his/her education.

Since a student who has reached the age of majority possesses the full rights of an adult, s/he may authorize those school matters previously handled by his/her parents, but s/he also assumes the responsibility for his/her performance in school, attendance, and compliance with school rules.

Parents also have rights in the school system to know about their student's educational experience. Specific rights are listed in topic areas of these policies.

In addition, parents have the right to inspect any instructional materials used as part of the educational curriculum for their student. Instructional materials means instructional content, regardless of format, that is provided to the student, including printed or representational materials, audio-visual materials, and materials available in electronic or digital formats (such as materials accessible through the Internet). Instructional material does not include academic tests or academic assessments.

The Superintendent shall, in consultation with parents, develop a procedure addressing the right of parents as described herein and procedures to assure timely response to parental requests to review instructional material. The procedure shall also address reasonable notification to parents and students of their rights to review these materials. See AG 9130A and Form 9130 F3.

This policy shall not supercede any rights under the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act.

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Legal	R.C. 3109.01
	20 U.S.C. 1232h

Book	Neola Policy Templates for Catch Up
Section	Board Approved Policies 5000s
Title	STUDENT GOVERNMENT
Code	po5820
Status	
Adopted	November 9, 2009

5820 - **STUDENT GOVERNMENT**

The Board of Education acknowledges the importance of offering students the opportunity to participate in self-government within the establishment of the schools.

Students shall have the right to organize, conduct meetings, elect officers and representatives, and petition the Board.

The Board will recognize the Student Council **[specify name of organization]** as the official voice of the student body

() for students in grades _____ **[specify]**

and for the purpose of:

- A. **(x)** giving students practical experience in organizing, planning and, affecting outcomes;
- B. **(x)** developing student leadership;
- C. **(x)** providing a learning experience in democratic decision making;
- D. **(x)** offering another avenue toward the realization of the goals of this District.

The Board shall appoint a qualified member of the faculty to serve as advisor to student government activities.

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Legal	R.C. 3313.20
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Book	Neola Policy Templates for Catch Up
Section	Board Approved Policies 5000s
Title	STUDENT FUND-RAISING
Code	po5830
Status	
Adopted	November 9, 2009
Last Revised	June 15, 2017

5830 - **STUDENT FUND-RAISING**

The Board of Education acknowledges that the solicitation of funds from students by students must be limited since compulsory attendance laws make the student a captive donor and since such solicitation may disrupt the program of the schools.

For purposes of this policy "student fund-raising" shall include student solicitation and collection of money for any purpose including collection of money in exchange for tickets, papers, or any other goods or services. "Student fund-raising" also includes giving away goods or services, but suggesting a monetary donation.

The Board will permit student fund-raising in school, on school property, or at any school-sponsored event only when the profit therefrom is to be used for school purposes or for an activity connected with the schools.

Student fund-raising by approved school organizations, whose funds are managed by the Treasurer, may be permitted in school by the Principal. For any fund-raisers, including those operated by student clubs and organizations, parent groups, or boosters clubs, that involve the sale of food items and/or beverages to students that will be consumed on the school campus (any area of property under the jurisdiction of the school that is accessible to students during the school day) during the school day (the period from the midnight before, to thirty (30) minutes after the end of the official school day), the food items and/or beverages to be sold shall comply with the current USDA Dietary Guidelines for Americans and the USDA Smart Snacks in School nutrition standards, and also be consistent with requirements set forth in Policy 8550, Competitive Foods.

Student fund-raising by approved school organizations off school grounds may be permitted under administrative guidelines of the Superintendent.

☒ Use of the name, logo, or any assets of the District, including but not limited to facilities, technology, or communication networks, is prohibited without the specific permission of the

☐ Board.

☒ Superintendent.

~~[OPTION #1]~~

~~[] The Board of Education does not permit or sanction the use of crowdfunding for District or specific school programs or activities, including co-curricular or extracurricular activities.~~

~~[END OF OPTION #1]~~

~~OR~~

[OPTION #2]

[☒ Crowdfunding activities aimed at raising funds for a specific classroom or school activity, including extracurricular activity, or to obtain supplemental resources (e.g., supplies or equipment) that are not required to provide a free appropriate public education to any students in the classroom may be permitted, but only with the specific approval

(x) of the Superintendent.

OR

() of the Board upon the recommendation of the Superintendent.

All crowdfunding activities are subject to AG 6605.

[END OF OPTION #2]

Fund-raising by students on behalf of school-related organizations whose funds are not managed by the Treasurer may be permitted on school grounds in accordance with the Superintendent's administrative guidelines.

These administrative guidelines should:

- A. specify the times and places in which funds may be collected;
- B. describe permitted methods of solicitation which do not place undue pressure on students;
- C. limit the kind and amount of advertising for solicitation.

Advisors for approved school organizations shall not accept any form of compensation from vendors that might influence their selection of a vendor that will provide a fund-raising activity or a product that will be sold as a fund-raiser. Furthermore, advisors for approved school organizations shall not accept any compensation from a vendor after a decision has been made regarding a fund-raising activity or a product that will be sold as a fund-raiser. In addition, advisors for approved school organizations who make the selection of a vendor that will provide a fund-raising activity or a product that will be sold as a fund-raiser shall not enter into a contractual arrangement whereby an advisor receives compensation in any form from the vendor that provides a fund-raising activity or a product that will be sold as a fund-raiser.

Such compensation includes, but is not limited to, cash, checks, stocks, or any other form of securities, and gifts such as televisions, microwave ovens, computers, discount certificates, travel vouchers, tickets, passes, and other such things of value. In the event that an advisor of an approved school organization receives such compensation, albeit unsolicited, from a vendor, the individual shall notify the Treasurer, in writing, that s/he received such compensation and shall thereafter properly transmit said compensation to the Treasurer at his/her earliest opportunity.

The Superintendent shall distribute this policy and the guidelines which implement it to each student organization granted permission to solicit funds.

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Legal R.C. 1716.02, 1716.03, 3313.811
Auditor of State Bulletin 2000-006
7 C.F.R. Parts 210 and 220

Book	Neola Policy Templates for Catch Up
Section	Board Approved Policies 5000s
Title	STUDENT GROUPS
Code	po5840
Status	
Adopted	November 9, 2009

5840 - STUDENT GROUPS

It is the policy of the Board of Education that student groups be recognized as authorized school organizations only if they are approved by the school administration, sponsored by school-approved personnel, composed of members of the current student body, hold the majority of their meetings at school, and have established aims which are educational in nature.

Membership or participation in the organization or operation of any fraternity, sorority, or other secret group as described by law is prohibited throughout the School District. In particular, the Board shall not tolerate any type of gang or gang-related activity to occur on District property or while students are under the auspices of the Board.

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Book Neola Policy Templates for Catch Up
Section Board Approved Policies 5000s
Title SCHOOL SOCIAL EVENTS
Code po5850
Status
Adopted November 9, 2009

5850 - SCHOOL SOCIAL EVENTS

The Board of Education recognizes the value of student social events in enhancing and enriching the school experience for the children of this community.

The Board will make school facilities available and provide appropriate staff for the conduct of those social events within the school facilities

~~() which have been approved by the Board~~

(X) which have been approved by

(X) the Superintendent

~~() the principal~~

and for those social events which take place outside school facilities, which have been approved by

() the Board.

(X) the Superintendent.

As voluntary participants in school social events, students shall be held responsible for compliance with rules set forth for their conduct, and infractions of those rules will be subject to the same disciplinary measures as are applied during the regular school program.

~~[] No student otherwise eligible for participation in a school social event will be denied such participation as a punitive device.~~

[X] Participation in school events is not a right and may be denied to any student who has demonstrated disregard for the rules of the school.

The Superintendent shall develop administrative guidelines for the conduct of student social events which shall include the following:

- A. (X) the designation of a staff member who shall be the Board employee responsible for the event;
- B. (X) the provision of adequate chaperonage, adult supervision, or police protection as required by the circumstances of the event.

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Legal R.C. 3313.20

Book	Neola Policy Templates for Catch Up
Section	Board Approved Policies 5000s
Title	STUDENT ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOL EVENTS
Code	po5855
Status	
Adopted	November 9, 2009

5855 - STUDENT ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOL EVENTS

The Board of Education encourages students to attend as many school events held after school as possible, without interfering with their school work and home activities. Enthusiastic spectators help to build school spirit and encourage those students who are participating in the event.

~~{OPTION #1}~~

~~x] However, in order to ensure that students attending as nonparticipants are properly safe-guarded, the Board requires that all elementary and pre-high school students be accompanied by a parent or adult chaperone when they arrive at the event and throughout its duration. Any unaccompanied student will not be allowed to attend the event, and the Board will not be responsible for students if they attend without an adult chaperone.~~

{OPTION #2}

[x] However, in order to ensure that students attending as nonparticipants are properly safe-guarded, the Board recommends that all elementary and pre-high school students be accompanied by a parent or adult chaperone when they arrive at the event and throughout its duration. The Board will not be responsible for students if they attend without an adult chaperone.

The Board will continue to provide adequate supervision for all students who are participants in District-sponsored events.

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Book Neola Policy Templates for Catch Up
Section Board Approved Policies 5000s
Title PUBLIC PERFORMANCES BY STUDENTS
Code po5880
Status
Adopted November 9, 2009

5880 - PUBLIC PERFORMANCES BY STUDENTS

The Board of Education recognizes the value to students of sharing their talents and skills with the community through participation and performances in public events.

The Board endorses such performances when:

- A. ☒ they constitute a learning experience which contributes to the educational program;
- B. ☒ the circumstances of the event do not pose a threat to the health, safety, and well-being of the students who will be involved;
- C. ☐ **[Other]** _____.

All requests for public performances by students require the approval of the

☐ ~~Board of Education~~

☐ ~~Superintendent~~

☒ principal

☐ ~~who shall report same to the Board.~~

The Superintendent shall develop administrative guidelines to implement this policy which include the requirement that parental permission is sought and received before students participate and that the interests of our students are to be protected and guarded against exploitation.

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