

# Davis School District Policy and Procedures

**Subject: 3RM-007 Small Unmanned Aircraft System (Drone) Policy (NEW)**

**Index: Risk Management and Workplace Safety**

**Adopted: August 7, 2018**

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## **1. PURPOSE AND PHILOSOPHY**

The purpose of this policy is to establish procedures for the use of small unmanned aircraft systems (Drones) for any purpose and by any person on Davis School District School (District) property. This policy will also be used to assist the District in promoting safety, reducing injuries, and complying with federal, state, local laws, regulations, and policies. In addition, the District recognizes its responsibility in regard to the protection of the privacy rights of students as provided in federal and state statutes.

## **2. DRONE USE ON SCHOOL DISTRICT PROPERTY**

- 2.1. A District employee operating a drone on school district property must be conversant with and follow all federal, state, local laws, regulations and policies governing the operation of drones.
- 2.2. A student attending a District high school may operate a drone on school district property as part of a class explicitly designed for this purpose under the direct supervision of a District employee.
- 2.3. A drone may not be used during a Utah High School Activities Association (UHSAA) competition.
- 2.4. The District encourages drone pilots to register any drone used on school district property with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).

## **3. PRIOR PREMISSIONS REQUIRED**

- 3.1. Request for permission to operate a drone on school district property directly related to an instructional purpose must be approved by the principal.
- 3.2. Request for permission to operate a drone on school district property for a non-instructional purpose must be approved through a school director prior to each use.
- 3.3. Schools or District facilities within five (5) nautical miles of an airport must obtain approval from air traffic control each time before operating a drone on school district property or operate under a letter of agreement approved by the airport.

## **4. SAFE OPERATION OF DRONES**

- 4.1. Drone pilots shall:
  - 4.1.1. comply with and follow safety guidelines outlined in FAA Advisory circular 107-2;
  - 4.1.2. complete a preflight check of the drone to ensure it is in safe condition for flight;
  - 4.1.3. operate the drone only during daylight hours and only in good weather conditions;
  - 4.1.4. operate the drone at or below 400 feet and remain clear of surrounding obstacles;
  - 4.1.5. operate the drone within visual line of sight at all times;
  - 4.1.6. operate the drone away from power lines, railways, or wildfires; and
  - 4.1.7. operate the drone well clear of and not interfere with manned aircraft operations.

- 4.2. A drone may not operate over any persons not:
  - 4.2.1. directly participating in the operation;
  - 4.2.2. under a covered structure; or
  - 4.2.3. inside a vehicle
- 4.3. A drone operated on school district property may not:
  - 4.3.1. weigh more than 20 pounds; or
  - 4.3.2. carry hazardous materials or a weapon.
- 4.4. A drone pilot shall immediately report injuries and destruction of property related to the use of a drone on school district property to his/her immediate supervisor and District Risk Management.

**5. STUDENT PRIVACY**

Any video recordings of students created from the use of a drone on school property are an education record subject to protection under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).

**6. UNAUTHORIZED USE**

A District employee shall refuse admission or entry to anyone attempting to use an unauthorized drone on school district property during school hours or during a school-sponsored activity; and if necessary, shall remove anyone attempting to use an unauthorized drone and/or confiscate the drone.

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**DEFINITIONS**

“**School district property**” including but not limited to: all fields of play; courts; mats; gym floor; spectator areas; classrooms; hallways; parking areas; all buildings and grounds used, and not owned by the District for school sponsored events and activities, instructional or otherwise.

“**Pilot**” means the sole person responsible for the operation of a drone.

“**Unmanned aircraft system (Drone)**” means an aircraft operated without the possibility of direct human intervention from within or on the aircraft.

“**Visual line of sight**” means close enough and without obstruction such that the remote pilot can see the drone unaided by any device other than corrective lenses.

“**Weapons**” as used in this policy means a firearm as described in UCA §76-10-501; or an object that in the manner of the object’s use or intended use is capable of causing death, bodily injury, or damage to property.

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**REFERENCES**

14 CFR Part 107 – Small Unmanned Aircraft Systems

FAA.(06/21/16). *Small Unmanned Aircraft Systems* (Advisory Circular 107-2)

Utah Code Ann. Title 72, Chapter 14, Part 3. Unlawful Use of Unmanned Aircraft

[Utah Code Ann. Title 72, Chapter 14, Part 4. Safe Use of Unmanned Aircraft](#)

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**DOCUMENT HISTORY:**

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