

**ELMHURST COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 205
BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY MANUAL
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School District Organization

School District Legal Status

The Illinois Constitution requires the State to provide for an efficient system of high quality public educational institutions and services in order to achieve the educational development of all persons to the limits of their capabilities.

The General Assembly has implemented this mandate through the creation of school districts. The District is governed by the laws for school districts serving a resident population of not fewer than 1,000 and not more than 500,000.

The Board of Education constitutes a body corporate that possesses all the usual powers of a corporation for public purposes, and in that name may sue and be sued, purchase, hold and sell personal property and real estate, and enter into such obligations as are authorized by law.

LEGAL REF.: Ill. Constitution, Art. X, Sec. 1.
105 ILCS 5/10-1 et seq.

CROSS REF.: 2:10 (School District Governance), 2:20 (Powers and Duties of the Board of Education)

ADOPTED: February 22, 2011

REVISED: October 25, 2011

School District Organization

District Organization, Operations, and Cooperative Agreements

The District is organized and operates as a Unit District serving the needs of children in grades Pre-kindergarten through 12 and others as required by The School Code.

The District enters into and participates in joint programs and intergovernmental agreements with units of local government and other school districts in order to jointly provide services and activities in a manner that will increase flexibility, scope of service opportunities, cost reductions, and/or otherwise benefit the District and the community. The Superintendent shall manage these activities to the extent the program or agreement requires the District's participation, and shall provide periodic implementation or operational data and/or reports to the Board of Education concerning these programs and agreements.

LEGAL REF.: Ill. Constitution, Art. VII, Sec. 10.
5 ILCS 220/1 et seq.

ADOPTED: February 22, 2011

School District Organization

School District Philosophy

Vision, Mission and Beliefs

District 205 Vision Statement

Elmhurst Community Unit School District 205 will be a national leader in educating children of all backgrounds and ability levels, promoting high individual student achievement. The district will incorporate student-centered decision-making, the highest academic standards, best practices in education, the highest caliber educational professionals, and leading edge resources to ensure an equitable education for all and success in a global society.

District 205 Mission Statement

The mission of Elmhurst Community Unit School District 205 is to meet the educational needs of all students, challenging each to his or her full potential and ensuring a foundation for future success in life.

District 205 Belief Statements

Holistic Belief

Education is highly valued, and schools should provide the highest quality education to all students, preparing them for success in life while adding value to the greater community.

Academic Standards, Achievement and Alignment

High educational standards are critical to student achievement, and students of all backgrounds and ability levels should be challenged to their full potential through differentiated learning techniques, consistently and equitably across the entire district.

Curriculum and Instruction

Students learn through innovative, engaged teaching methodologies taught by highly qualified, dedicated and inspiring professionals.

Technology

State-of-the-Art technology which is integrated into the lives of both students and teachers – in and out of the classroom – enhances student learning and better prepares them for the 21st Century work force.

Human Resources and Staff Development

Hiring and retention of high quality administrators, teachers and other professional staff are critical to student success. District personnel must be provided with opportunities and expectations for continuous learning through professional development, training and collaboration.

Research and Assessment

Decisions are best made in a collaborative environment based on research and data drawn from an assessment program aligned with educational best practices and state and national standards.

Communication

Transparent and timely communication among all stakeholder groups will engage community support, promote an understanding of a District 205 education and demonstrate the benefits of District 205 schools.

Diversity

In today's global society, it is essential for school systems to embrace diversity, including ethnicity, ability level, and socioeconomic status, and implement initiatives to ensure the needs of all students are met.

Climate/Environment/Culture

Learning environments that are caring, nurturing and safe promote success by all students and positive school climates.

Financial Responsibility

Student and school needs should be equitably met while maintaining district fiscal restraints in the spirit of fiduciary responsibility.

Citizenship and Character

Good character must be developed and nurtured to promote citizenship at the community level and in a global society.

ADOPTED: February 22, 2011