

**I. PURPOSE**

- A. The purpose of this policy is to assist the school district in promoting safety, reducing injuries, and complying with federal, state, state high school league, local laws, regulations, and policies. In addition, the school district recognizes its responsibility in regard to the protection of the privacy rights of students as provided in federal law and state statutes.

**II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY**

- A. Any authorized use of an Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) must be educational in purpose and pre-approved by the superintendent or designee.
- B. This applies to all school district property, whether owned, rented, or leased and includes all off campus events sponsored by the school district.
- C. This also applies to Eden Prairie School (EPS) events or events held at EPS facilities by other parties:
  - 1. To include but not limited to:
    - a. all fields of play, courts, arena, mats, gym floor, or pools;
    - b. the entire facility being used as part of an EPS event;
    - c. the school district spectator areas and parking lots.

**III DEFINITIONS**

- A. Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) means a drone, remotely piloted vehicle, remotely piloted aircraft or remotely operated aircraft that is a powered aerial vehicle that does not carry a human operator, can fly autonomously or remotely and can be expendable or recoverable.
- B. Unmanned aerial vehicle does not include:
  - 1. Model flying airplanes or rockets including, but not limited to, those that are radio controlled or otherwise remotely controlled and that are used purely for sport or recreational purposes;

2. An unmanned aircraft system used in mapping or resource management
- C. “School property” is defined as all buildings and grounds, instructional or otherwise, indoors or outdoors.
1. Some examples include, but are not limited to; classrooms, hallways, gymnasiums, pools, athletic fields, parking lots, busses, bus stops, and travel to and from bus stops.
  2. This also includes all buildings and grounds used, and not owned, by Eden Prairie Schools for school sponsored events and activities, instructional or otherwise.

## **VI. RULES AND PROCEDURES**

- A. Any student or employee wishing to operate an UAV on district property, for educational purposes, must seek permission from the superintendent or designee.
- B. Requests for permission must be submitted in writing 48 hours prior to the date of use.
- C. The superintendent or designee, at their discretion, can grant an exception to this policy so long as no federal, state, state high school league rules, laws, regulations and district policies are violated.
- D. If permission is granted, UAVs must comply with and follow all safety guidelines outlined in Circular 91-57B, including, but not limited to:
  1. Fly at or below 400 feet and remain clear of surrounding obstacles
  2. Keep the aircraft within visual line of sight at all times or a visual observer co-located and in direct communication with the operator.
  3. Remain well clear of and do not interfere with manned aircraft operations
  4. Do not fly within five (5) miles of an airport unless the airport and control tower have been notified in advance

5. In Class B, C, or D airspace the operator obtains prior authorization from the administrator or designee before operating and complies with all airspace restrictions and prohibitions.
6. The operator has passed an aeronautical knowledge and safety test and maintains
7. Flying near people or stadiums is prohibited
8. Flying an aircraft that weighs 55 lbs. or more is prohibited
9. Being careless or reckless with the unmanned aircraft is prohibited
10. The UAV must be properly registered

**V. ENFORCEMENT**

- A. All individuals on school property shall adhere to this policy.
- B. Students who violate this prohibition shall be subject to school district discipline procedures.
- C. Persons who violate this policy may be referred to the building administration or other school district supervisory personnel responsible for the area or program at which the violation occurred.
- D. EPS staff, or staff overseeing events at EPS facilities, shall refuse admission or entry to anyone attempting to use a UAV; and if necessary, shall remove anyone attempting to use a UAV and/or confiscate the UAV.

*Adopted: 6/27/2016*

*Revised: 12/9/2019*