

Manchester Public Schools
Board of Education
Policy Committee
Agenda
February 14, 2022
5:45
Lincoln Center

1. Graduation Requirements

This policy was revised in accordance with the statutory changes in the graduation requirements effective with the Class of 2023.

[High School Graduation Requirements](#)

2. Retention of Electronic Records

This policy was revised in light of Section 147 of June Special Session, Public Act No. 21-1, which revises the definition of public records. We further revised the policy to clarify that it applies to all individuals granted access to the district's computer systems and/or networks, not only employees.

[Retention of Electronic Records and Information](#)

3. Alcohol, Tobacco and Drug-free Workplace

We have revised this policy in light of Sections 86 and 87 of June Special Session, Public Act No. 21-1. The law revises the definition of smoke and smoking, clarifies that the prohibition on smoking extends to "any area" of a school building, and extends the prohibition against using an electronic nicotine delivery system or vapor product on school grounds or in a school to also prohibit use of an "electronic cannabis delivery system" in such locations. We further revised the policy to clarify that, while Connecticut law allows for the legal use of marijuana under certain circumstances, because marijuana use is still prohibited under federal law, the use of marijuana at work, or outside of work if it impairs an employee's ability to perform their job, constitutes a violation of this policy.

[Alcohol Tobacco and Drug-free Workplace](#)

4. Weighted Grading and Calculation of Grade Point Averages

Section 13 of Public Act No. 21-199 revises Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-220g to provide that a board of education must have a policy concerning the manner in which students' grade point averages are calculated, which policy must include whether grade point averages are weighted or not weighted. The Act further expands the classes and programs for which grades may be weighted. The law previously required that this policy concern only whether grades from honors and advanced placement classes are given more weight than grades from other classes. We have revised this policy, and its title, in accordance with these changes in the law.

[Weighted Grading for Honors Classes](#)

Student Privacy

In light of guidance issued by the U.S. Department of Education's Student Privacy Policy Office, this policy was revised to clarify when the administration must obtain prior written consent of a parent or student before administering a student survey related to certain topics, and when the administration must provide parents or students notice and an opportunity to opt out of participation. We also made minor revisions to reflect statutory language.

[Student Privacy \(PPRA\)](#)

Attendance, Truancy and Chronic Absenteeism

We have revised this policy and the accompanying administrative regulations to conform with Section 19 of Public Act No. 21-46, which requires local and regional boards of education to allow any student enrolled in grades kindergarten

through twelve to take two non-consecutive days each school year as mental health wellness days. Section 18 of the Act, as amended by Section 393 of June Special Session, Public Act No 21-2, directs the State Board of Education (“SBOE”) to revise its definitions of “excused absence” and “unexcused absence” with respect to remote learning. We have revised the definitions in the regulations to reflect statutory requirements for those definitions while we await the SBOE’s revisions. We further revised the regulations to conform with Section 10 of Public Act No. 21-199, which amends state law to raise, from seventeen to eighteen, the age when a student may withdraw from high school, beginning in the school year commencing July 1, 2023. After July 1, 2023, a parent or person having control of a child who is seventeen years of age may withdraw the child from school if the child is enrolled in an adult education program if the parent personally appears at the district office and signs an adult education withdrawal and enrollment form. We have also revised the sample notification regarding student attendance and model forms for school district use beginning with the 2023-2024 school year in light of the new requirements.

[Attendance, Truancy and Chronic Absenteeism](#)

Drug and Alcohol Use by Students

We have revised this policy in light of Section 19 of June Special Session, Public Act No. 21-1, which revises Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-221(d) to require that, on and after January 1, 2022, policies adopted in conformity with Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-154a concerning the use, sale or possession of alcohol or controlled drugs by students on school property shall not result in a student facing greater discipline, punishment, or sanction for the use, sale or possession of cannabis than they would face for the use, sale or possession of alcohol.

[Drug and Alcohol Use by Students](#)

Chemical Health for Student Athletes

We have revised this policy in light of Section 19 of June Special Session, Public Act No. 21-1, which revises Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-221(d) to require that, on and after January 1, 2022, policies adopted in conformity with Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-154a concerning the use, sale or possession of alcohol or controlled drugs by students on school property shall not result in a student facing greater discipline, punishment, or sanction for the use, sale or possession of cannabis than they would face for the use, sale or possession of alcohol.

[Chemical Health for Student Athletes](#)

Homework

This policy is on the agenda to review and potentially revise using the [Board of Education Equity Policy](#)

[Homework](#)

[Homework - To Revise](#)

