

UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEM AND MODEL AIRCRAFT

The unapproved use or possession of an unmanned aircraft system (UAS) (commonly referred to as “drone”) or model aircraft on district property or at a district-sponsored event is prohibited. Individuals and entities shall not, at any time, without prior district approval, use or possess a UAS or model aircraft on, in, above, or upon any district property or premises, including those owned, leased, maintained, or used by the district.

The district reserves the right to remove or refuse entry or admission to any individual or entity who violates this policy. The district further reserves the right to exclude any individual or entity who violates this policy from future entry upon district property or entry to district-sponsored events. Students and employees violating this policy may be subject to disciplinary action or discharge. Any violator may also be reported to authorities, including local law enforcement and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).

Definitions

1. Unmanned Aircraft System:

Unmanned aircraft system means an unmanned aircraft and associated elements (including communication links and the components that control the unmanned aircraft) that are required for the pilot in command to operate safely and efficiently in the national airspace system.

2. Unmanned Aircraft:

Unmanned aircraft means an aircraft that is operated without the possibility of direct human intervention from within or on the aircraft.

3. Model Aircraft:

A model aircraft means an aircraft that is:

- a. Capable of sustained flight in the atmosphere;
- b. Flown within visual line of sight of the person operating the aircraft; and
- c. Flown for hobby or recreational purposes.

Approval Process

Any individual or entity wishing to use or possess a UAS or model aircraft on district property or at a district-sponsored event must receive pre-approval. Individuals and entities must seek pre-approval from the superintendent or designee.

Any individual or entity who receives pre-approval to use or possess a UAS or model aircraft on district property or at a district-sponsored event must abide by district policies and procedures, any special restrictions put in place by the district official granting pre-approval, the laws set forth in the FAA Modernization and Reform Act of 2012, and any laws adopted by state and local authorities.

The superintendent or designee may require those using or possessing a UAS or model aircraft to:

1. Provide proof of insurance;
2. Enter into an agreement which holds the district harmless from any resultant claims or harms to individuals and damage to property; and
3. Any additional requirements as determined appropriate by the district.

Instructional Purpose

The district recognizes the academic value of student operation of a UAS as one component of curricula pertaining to principles of flight, aerodynamics, airplane design technology and construction, which can also serve as an academic tool in approved core and elective areas. Therefore, in compliance with the Federal Aviation Administration Modernization and Reform Act of 2012, Section 336, students may operate a UAS as part of a course requirement. A student may not receive individual compensation for use of a school district UAS. District staff teaching a class that allows use of a UAS may demonstrate for or assist a student in their operation of the UAS, provided the assistance is needed as part of the curriculum and assistance is to a student enrolled in the course.

District employees shall work with administrators to ensure that proper insurance, registration and authorization are in place prior to adoption of curriculum that allows operation of a UAS as part of the curriculum. All data gathered by the district as part of a UAS operation will belong to the district. The data gathering by the district will follow appropriate state and federal laws. Retention of such data will follow state and federal laws.

Cross References:	Policy 4200	Parent Access and Safe and Orderly Learning Environment
	Policy 4260	Use of School Facilities
	Policy 4310	District Relationships with Law Enforcement and other Government Agencies
	Policy 5281	Disciplinary Action and Discharge
Legal References:		FAA Modernization and Reform Act of 2012, Pub. L. No. 112-95, Sections 331, 336, 126 Stat. 11

Adopted: 10/01/24