Agenda of Regular Meeting

The Board of Trustees
Little Elm ISD

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Little Elm ISD will be held August 18, 2025, beginning at 6:00 PM in the Little Elm ISD Administration Building.

The subjects to be discussed or considered or upon which any formal action may be taken are as listed below. Items do not have to be taken in the order shown on this meeting notice.

Unless removed from the consent agenda, items identified within the consent agenda will be acted on at one time.

1. Call to Order Open Session in the Board Room at Little Elm ISD Administration Building on 400 Lobo Lane, Little Elm, Texas 75068.
2. Introduction and Roll Call
3. Citizen Input
Audience participation shall be permitted at regular Board meetings and shall be limited to the public comment portion designated for that purpose
4. The Board will recess into Closed Meeting in the Board Support Conference Room as permitted by the Texas Open Meetings Act Code Subchapter 551.072 & 551.074. The Board and Superintendent will discuss:
    A. Personnel
    B. Land
5. Pledge of Allegiance
6. Invocation
7. Superintendent Spotlight
    A. Introduction of New Principal of Walker Middle School
    Presenter: Asheley Brown
    B. Introduction of New Principal of Chavez Elementary School
    Presenter: Asheley Brown
8. Reports of the Superintendent
    A. 2025-2026 Employee Handbook 4
    Presenter: Asheley Brown
9. Action Items
    A. Discuss and consider approval of Delegate and Alternate to the 2025 Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) Delegate Assembly 91
    Presenter: Sonia S. Flores
    B. Discuss and consider approval of LEISD Student Code of Conduct 94
    Presenter: Donald Bartlett
    C. Discuss and consider approval of Act on Delegation of Authority to Approve the Agreement for the Purchase of Attendance Credit 151
    Presenter: Jesse Wyse

D. Discuss and consider approval of the Resolution of the Board of Trustees of the Little Elm Independent School District Use Agreement 155
Presenter: Michael Lamb
10. Consent Agenda
A. Discuss and consider approval of Workshop Meeting Minutes - July 14, 2025 168
Presenter: Sonia S. Flores
B. Discuss and consider approval of Regular Meeting Minutes - July 21, 2025 170
Presenter: Sonia S. Flores
C. Discuss and consider approval of New Local Board Policy EFB and FNCE 174
Presenter: Renee Pentecost
D. Discuss and consider approval of Board Policy Updates - TASB Update 125 185
Presenter: Renee Pentecost
E. Discuss and consider approval of T-TESS Appraisers and Appraisal Calendar 499
Presenter: Renee Pentecost
F. Discuss and consider approval of Staff Development Waiver for 2025-2026 School Year 501
Presenter: Dr. Penny Tramel
G. Discuss and consider approval of Application for Foreign Exchange Student Waiver 503
Presenter: Dr. Penny Tramel
H. Discuss and consider approval of Off-Campus Physical Education Sites 504
Presenter: Dr. Penny Tramel
I. Discuss and consider approval of Application for Modified Schedule for State Assessment Testing Days Waiver 506
Presenter: Dr. Penny Tramel
J. Discuss and consider approval of Application for Teacher Data Portal of The Texas Assessment Management System Waiver 507
Presenter: Dr. Penny Tramel
K. Discuss and consider approval of HB 3372 Administrator Outside Contract Work Approval 509
Presenter: Dr. Penny Tramel
L. Discuss and consider approval of Little Elm ISD Expenditures over $100,000 Summary Report 532
Presenter: Jesse Wyse
M. Discuss and consider approval of Financial Reports - June 2025 534
Presenter: Jesse Wyse
N. Discuss and consider approval of Little Elm ISD Interlocal Summary Report 553
Presenter: Jesse Wyse
11. Board President Comments
Presenter: Mary Watkins
12. Board Comments
13. Superintendent Comments
14. Adjournment

If, during the course of the meeting, the Board of Trustees should determine that a closed meeting should be conducted, the Board will conduct a closed meeting in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code Section 551.001 et seq. The meeting will be held by the School Board at the date, hour, and place given in this Notice or as soon after the commencement of the meeting covered by this Notice as the School Board may conveniently meet in such closed or executive meeting or session concerning any and all purposes permitted by the Act, including, but not limited to the following sections and purposes:

Texas Government Code Section:

551.071	Private consultation with the Board's attorney.
551.072	Discussing purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real property.
551.073	Discussing negotiated contracts for prospective gifts or donations.
551.074	Discussing personnel or to hear complaints against personnel.
551.075	To confer with employees of the school district to receive information or to ask questions.
551.076	Considering the deployment, specific occasions, for or implementation of security personnel or devices.
551.082	Considering discipline of a public school child, or complaint or charge against personnel.
551.0821	Considering personally identifiable information about public school student.
551.083	Considering the standards, guidelines, terms, or conditions the board will follow, or will instruct its representatives to follow, in consultation with representatives of employees groups,
551.084	Excluding witnesses from a hearing.

Before any closed meeting is convened, the presiding officer will publicly identify the section or sections or the Act authorizing the closed meeting.

Should any final action, final decision, or final vote be required in the opinion of the School Board with regard to any matter considered in such closed or executive session, then the final action, final decision, or final vote shall be either:

(a) in the open meeting covered by the Notice upon the reconvening of the public meeting, or
(b) at a subsequent public meeting of the School Board upon notice thereof; as the School Board shall determine.

_____
Superintendent

Original copy of this agenda was posted on the bulletin board at the Little Elm ISD Administration Building 72 hours prior to the scheduled meeting.

_____
Sonia S. Flores

Board Agenda Item

Little Elm Independent School District
400 Lobo Lane
Little Elm, Texas 75068

Board Mtg. Date 8-18-2025	**Reports of the Superintendent** ☒	**Action Item** ☐	**Consent Agenda** ☐	**Reports, Routine Monthly** ☐	**Other** ☐

Subject:	**2025-2026 EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK**
Presenter or Contact Person:	Asheley Brown, Executive Director for Human Resource Services
Policy/Code:	Section D: Personnel (All Personnel related Board Policies)
Strategic Plan Goal:	We will recruit, recognize, and retain high quality and effective personnel to support student success at every level.
Summary:	The 2025-2026 LEISD Employee Handbook has been updated with the latest suggested edits from TASB.
Financial Implications:	No Financial impact. The Handbook will be distributed electronically.
Attachments:	2025-2026 LEISD Employee Handbook ; Guide to Handbook Changes
Recommendation:	**For informational purposes only.**
Motion:	**N/A**

LEISD Employee Handbook—2025 Update Guide to Changes and Additions

Topic	Page Number	Description of Change
Table of Contents	2-4	• Updated page numbers and order of entries • Added new topics for ADA accommodations and mental health training
District Calendar	5	Inserted new 2025-2026 LEISD District Calendar
Description of District	6	Added information about new campus – Lakewood Village E.S.
Board of Trustees	9	Updated names and positions of current members
Administration	10	Updated names of new administrators
School Directory	11	Updated names of new principals and included new campus
ADA Accommodations	17-18	Added new topic describing process for initiation and requests for reasonable accommodation because of a disability
Breaks for Expression of Breast Milk	18	Updated with information about the PUMP Act legislation
Outside Employment and Tutoring	19	Added information related to restrictions on school administrators' performance of outside employment
Mental Health Training	21	Added new topic addressing the requirements for mental health training in 19 TAC Section 153.1015 which became effective December 2, 2024
Paychecks	22	Updated pay dates and added information about Transportation Department frequency of pay
Discretionary Leave Protected Dates	30-31	Updated list of protected dates for 25-26
Employee Recognition and Appreciation	41	Edited to include current employee recognition programs including Carpool Kudos, Leaders of the Pack, and Honors Awards Banquet
Reporting Suspected Child Abuse	58	Changes were made to meet the new reporting deadline and procedures required by Senate Bill 571
Sexual Abuse and Maltreatment of Children	59	Changes were made to reflect amendments to the definition of abuse in Senate Bill 571
Reports to Texas Education Agency	60	Topic moved from the Termination section and edited as a result of SB 571 which amended reporting requirements for all employees
Technology Resources	62	Added a bullet addressing appropriate use of

		artificial intelligence (TASB Edit)
Personal Use of Electronic Media	62-63	• Added reference to Policies CQ and CY • Updated reference to Twitter to X • Edited third bullet in third paragraph to reflect Policy CY (LOCAL) changes to include "trademarks"
Criminal History Background Checks	66	Edited to reflect requirement to conduct criminal history checks on all employees (TASB edit)
Employee Arrests and Convictions	67	Edited the third and fourth paragraphs to reflect reporting requirements in SB 571
Copyrighted Materials	70	Editorial change to the first sentence (TASB edit)
Emergency School Closing	73	Added policy reference
Resignations	78-79	Updated to reflect revised reporting requirements in SB 571
Dismissal or Nonrenewal of Contract Employee	79	• Updated policy reference • Updated to reflect reporting requirements in SB 571
Dismissal of Noncontract Employees	79-80	• Updated policy reference • Updated to reflect reporting requirements in SB 571
Discharge of Convicted Employees	80	Updated the offenses requiring employee discharge (TASB edit)

2025-2026 Employee Handbook

Little Elm ISD
Engage Equip Empower

If you have difficulty accessing the information in this document because of a disability, please email abrown5@littleelmisd.net.

The Mission of Little Elm ISD is to...

ENGAGE, EQUIP, and EMPOWER each student to realize their full potential.

The Vision of the Little Elm ISD Community is to be "THE Destination District."

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Little Elm
Independent School District
2025-2026
DISTRICT CALENDAR
www.littleelmisd.net
@littleelmisd @littleelmisd @leisd Little Elm ISD
JULY 2025
AUGUST 2025
SEPTEMBER 2025
OCTOBER 2025
NOVEMBER 2025
DECEMBER 2025
JANUARY 2026
FEBRUARY 2026
MARCH 2026
APRIL 2026
MAY 2026
JUNE 2026
CALENDAR KEY
District Holiday*
Teacher Exchange Day
Teacher Independent Preparation (TIP) /Student Holiday
Teacher Workday/Student Holiday
First Day of School
New Teacher Orientation
Bad Weather Makeup Day
Student Early Release Day
Professional Learning/Student Holiday
Professional Learning/TIP/Student Holiday
*All employees must refer to workday calendar
SCHOOL HOURS
PRE-K
7:50 a.m. - 3:25 p.m.
Early Release: 11:50 a.m.
ELEMENTARY
7:50 a.m. - 3:25 p.m.
Early Release: 11:50 a.m.
MIDDLE SCHOOL
8:30 a.m. - 4:05 p.m.
Early Release: 12:30 p.m.
HIGH SCHOOL
7:15 a.m. - 2:50 p.m.
Early Release: 11:15 a.m.
NINE WEEK GRADING PERIODS
1st: Aug.13-Oct. 3
2nd: Oct.6-Dec. 19
3rd: Jan.7-Mar. 6
4th: Mar. 16-May 22
CREDIT UNION OF TEXAS
SMARTbranch
(972) 263-9497

Introduction

The purpose of this Handbook is to provide information that will help with questions and pave the way for a successful year. Not all District policies and procedures are included. Those that are, have been summarized. Suggestions for additions and improvements to this handbook are welcome and may be sent to Asheley Brown at abrown5@littleelmisd.net.

This Handbook is neither a contract nor a substitute for the official District policy manual. Nor is it intended to alter the at-will status of non-contract employees in any way. Rather, it is a guide to and a brief explanation of District policies and procedures related to employment. These policies and procedures can change at any time; these changes shall supersede any handbook provisions that are not compatible with the change. For more information, employees may refer to the policy codes that are associated with handbook topics, confer with their supervisor, or call the appropriate District office. District policies can be accessed online at www.littleelmisd.net.

Little Elm ISD does not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, military status, genetic information, or on any other basis prohibited by law. Additionally, the District does not discriminate against an employee or applicant who acts to oppose such discrimination or participates in the investigation of a complaint related to a discriminatory employment practice. Employment decisions will be made on the basis of each applicant's job qualifications, experience, and abilities.

District Information

Description of the District

Little Elm ISD is a fast-growing district located in North Texas. The District currently has twelve campuses to serve children:

Zellars Early Childhood Learning Center	PreKindergarten
Brent Elementary	Kindergarten – 5th
Chavez Elementary	Kindergarten – 5th
Hackberry Elementary	Kindergarten – 5th
Lakeview Elementary	Kindergarten – 5th
Lakewood Village Elementary	Kindergarten – 5th
Oak Point Elementary	Kindergarten – 5th
Prestwick Elementary	Kindergarten – 5th
Strike Middle School	6th – 8th
Walker Middle School	6th – 8th
Little Elm High School	9th – 12th
Little Elm ISD Administration Building	DAEP & GOALS

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Mission Statement, Goals, and Objectives

Policy AE

District Values, Vision, Mission, And Goals

The Mission of Little Elm ISD is to ENGAGE, EQUIP, and EMPOWER each student to realize their full potential.

The Vision of the Little Elm ISD Community is to be "THE Destination District."

AS LOBOS WE VALUE...

Safety

- A safe and orderly environment where the basic needs of each student and staff member are met.

Diversity

- A diverse community and respect our differences.

Communication

- Honest and transparent communication.

Learning

- A thriving learning environment where the whole child can grow and develop.

Boundless Possibilities

- Critical thinking, creativity, innovation, and inspiration while envisioning a world where boundless possibilities unfold and full potential is met.

OUR GOALS ARE:

Safety and Security

1. We will provide and maintain safe, secure, and healthy learning environments conducive to learning.

Teaching & Learning

1. We will provide an aligned, written, taught, and assessed curriculum that provides for equitable rigor for students.
2. We will support constructivist learning in schools to promote meaning making, risk-taking, and empowerment for the whole child.

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3. We will engage each student in learning experiences that lead to increased college, career, and military opportunities for post-secondary readiness.
4. We will engage each employee in personalized learning experiences that support them meeting the social, emotional, and academic needs of all students.

Respectful Relationships

1. We will engage each student, staff, and community member in learning experiences that facilitate building and maintaining respectful relationships.

Human Capital

1. We will recruit, recognize, and retain high quality and effective personnel to support student success at every level.

Community Engagement

1. We will communicate with the LEISD community to build trust, support, and involvement.
2. We will foster relations with community partners to enhance educational opportunities.

Ensuring Fiscal Health & Sustainability

1. We will ensure funding for teaching and learning, operations, and capital improvements to support student success at every level.

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Board of Trustees

Policies BA, BB series, BD series, and BE series

Texas law grants the Board of Trustees the power to govern and oversee the management of the District's schools. The Board is the policy-making body within the District and has overall responsibility for the curriculum, school taxes, annual budget, and employment of the superintendent and other professional staff, and facilities. The Board has complete and final control over school matters within limits established by state and federal laws and regulations.

The Board of Trustees is elected by the citizens of the District to represent the community's commitment to a strong educational program for the District's children. Trustees are elected at large and serve three-year terms. Trustees serve without compensation, must be qualified voters, and must reside in the District.

Current board members include:

- Mary Watkins, President
- DeLeon English, Vice President
- Ken Beber, Secretary
- Jeff Burton, Member
- Alex Flores, Member
- David Montemayor, Member
- Jason Olson, Member

The Board usually meets at the Little Elm ISD Administration Building on the third Monday of the month. Special meetings may be called when necessary. A written notice of regular and special meetings will be posted on the District website and at the Little Elm ISD Administration Building at least three business days before the scheduled meeting time. The written notice will show the date, time, place, and agendas of each meeting. In emergencies, a meeting may be held with a two-hour notice.

All meetings are open to the public. In certain circumstances, Texas law permits the Board to go into a closed session from which the public and others are excluded. Closed sessions may occur for such things as discussing prospective gifts or donations, real-property acquisition, certain personnel matters including employee complaints, security matters, student discipline, or consulting with attorneys regarding pending litigation.

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Administration

Michael Lamb	Superintendent
Donald Bartlett	Deputy Superintendent
Jesse Wyse	Chief Financial Officer
Dr. Penny Tramel	Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Learning
Asheley Brown	Executive Director for Human Resource Services
Michael Meador	Executive Director for Operational Services
Kristi Roberts	Executive Director for Special Population Services
Cecelia Jones	Director for Communication Services
Mickey James	Executive Director for Construction Services
Will Poage	Executive Director for Business Services
Jack Vestal	Director for Network & Technology Services
Kimberly Chow-Jackson	Director for Academic Programs
Danny Cogdell	Director for Maintenance, Custodial, & Grounds
Jason Evans	Director for Accountability
Carrie McHugh	Director for Child Care Services
Michael Young	Director for Athletics
Kendra Vogt	Director for Child Nutrition Services
Amanda Ball	Director for Professional Learning and Advanced Academics
Brandon Thompson	Director for Data Processing & Information Services
Jessica Cofield	Director for Counseling Services
Renee Pentecost	Director for Human Resource Services
Frank Felice	Director for Fine Arts

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School Directory

Michelle Gentry	Little Elm High School – Principal 1900 Walker Lane 972-947-9443
Bill Bush	Strike Middle School - Principal 8798 Scotty's Lake Lane, The Colony, TX 75056 972-947-9457
Tiffany Brown	Walker Middle School - Principal 633 French Settlement 972-947-9458
Karie Kuster	Brent Elementary School – Principal 500 Witt Rd 972-947-9330
Ashley Holmes	Chavez Elementary – Principal 2600 Hart Road 972-947-9452
Steve Menezes	Hackberry Elementary – Principal 7200 Snug Harbor (Frisco) 972-947-9453
Chris Reza	Lakeview Elementary – Principal 1800 Waterside Drive 972-947-9328
Kori Werth	Lakewood Village Elementary – Principal 100 Stowe Lane (Lakewood Village) 972-947-9461
Bernadette White	Oak Point Elementary – Principal 401 Shahan Prairie (Oak Point) 972-947-9329
Jamey Allen	Prestwick Elementary – Principal 3101 Stonefield, The Colony, TX 75056 972-947-9450
Howard Higginbotham	Zellars Early Childhood Learning Center – Principal 300 Lobo Lane 972-947-9445
Chelcie Guerra	AIMS/GOALS/DAEP - Principal 400 Lobo Lane 972-947-9340 x10701

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Employment

Equal Employment Opportunity

Policies DAA, DIA

In its efforts to promote nondiscrimination and as required by law, Little Elm ISD does not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, color, religion, sex (including pregnancy, sexual orientation, or gender identity), national origin, age, disability, military status, genetic information, or on any other basis prohibited by law. Additionally, the District does not discriminate against an employee or applicant who acts to oppose such discrimination or participates in the investigation of a complaint related to a discriminatory employment practice. Employment decisions will be made on the basis of each applicant's job qualifications, experience, and abilities.

In accordance with Title IX, the district does not discriminate on the basis of sex and is required not to discriminate on the basis of sex in its educational programs or activities. The requirement not to discriminate extends to employment. Inquiries about the application of Title IX may be referred to the district's Title IX coordinator, to the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights of the Department of Education, or both.

The district designates and authorizes the following employee as the Title IX coordinator for employees to address concerns or inquiries regarding discrimination based on sex, including sexual harassment should contact Terilyn Thomas-Monday, Director for Student Services, the District Title IX Coordinator. Reports can be made at any time and by any person, including during non-business hours, by mail, email, or phone. During district business hours, reports may also be made in person. The district designates and authorizes the following employee as the ADA/Section 504 coordinator for employees for concerns regarding discrimination on the basis of a disability: Asheley Brown, Executive Director of Human Resource Services, the District ADA/Section 504 coordinator. Questions or concerns relating to discrimination for any other reason should be directed to the Superintendent.

LEISD Title IX Coordinator Contact information:
Terilyn Thomas-Monday
Director for Student Services
400 Lobo Lane
Little Elm, Texas 75068
972-947-9340

LEISD ADA/Section 504 Coordinator Contact information:
Asheley Brown
Executive Director for Human Resource Services
400 Lobo Lane
Little Elm, Texas 75068
972-947-9340

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Job Vacancy Announcements

Policy DC

Announcements of job vacancies by position and location are posted on a regular basis to the District's Web site.

Campus Administration Openings

Internal applicants for Assistant Principal positions are encouraged to have completed Aspiring Leadership Institute - Year 2.

Employment After Retirement

Policy DC

Individuals receiving retirement benefits from the Teacher Retirement System (TRS) may be employed under certain circumstances on a full-time or part-time basis without affecting their benefits, according to TRS rules and state law. Detailed information about employment after retirement is available in the TRS publication *Employment After Retirement*. Employees can contact TRS for additional information by calling 800-223-8778 or 512-542-6400. Information is also available on the TRS Web Site (www.trs.texas.gov).

Contract and Non-contract Employment

Policy DC series

State law requires the District to employ all full-time professional employees in positions requiring a certificate from the State Board for Educator Certification (SBEC) and nurses under probationary, term, or continuing contracts. Employees in all other positions are employed at-will or by a contract that is not subject to the procedures for nonrenewal or termination under Chapter 21 of the Texas Education Code. The paragraphs that follow provide a general description of the employment arrangements used by the District.

Probationary Contracts. Nurses and full-time professional employees new to the District and employed in positions requiring SBEC certification must receive a probationary contract during their first year of employment. Former employees who are hired after a two-year lapse in District employment or employees who move to a position requiring a new class of certification may also be employed by probationary contract. Probationary contracts are one-year contracts. Generally, the probationary period for those who have been employed as a teacher in public education for at least five of the eight years preceding employment with the district will be one school year. However, the Little Elm ISD District of Innovation plan does include an exemption from TEC 21.102(b), which allows for a second probationary year for these experienced teachers.

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For those with less experience, the probationary period will be three school years (i.e., three one-year contracts) with an optional fourth school year if the board determines it is doubtful whether a term or continuing contract should be given.

Term Contracts. Full-time professionals employed in positions requiring certification and nurses will be employed by term contracts after they have successfully completed the probationary period. The terms and conditions of employment are detailed in the contract and employment policies. All employees will receive a copy of their contract. Employment policies can be accessed on line or copies will be provided upon request.

Dual Contracts. A dual assignment contract is a Chapter 21 agreement that includes both teaching duties and supplemental duties. Because both are included in the contract, the district and the teacher are mutually committed to both. Certified personnel assigned to both teaching and coaching duties will be issued a dual contract for the two assignments. An employee may not resign from only one position. Should a person resign or be dismissed from the coaching duties, the person shall be considered to have resigned or been dismissed from the teaching assignment. Should a person resign or be dismissed from teaching duties, the person shall be considered to have resigned or been dismissed from the coaching assignment. At contract renewal, if a dual assignment contract is currently in place, only a dual assignment contract will be considered. If the employee wishes to resign from coaching duties, the employee must resign from both positions and is eligible to reapply for any open teaching position.

Noncertified Professional and Administrative Employees. Employees in professional and administrative positions that do not require SBEC certification (such as non-instructional administrators) are employed by a one-year employment agreement that is not subject to the provisions for nonrenewal or termination under the Texas Education Code.

Paraprofessional and Auxiliary Employees. All paraprofessional and auxiliary employees, regardless of certification, are employed at will and not by contract. Employment is not for any specified term and may be terminated at any time by either the employee or the District.

Certification and Licenses

Policies DBA, DF

Professional employees whose positions require SBEC certification or professional license are responsible for taking actions to ensure their credentials do not lapse. Employees must submit documentation that they have passed the required certification exam and/or obtained or renewed their credentials to Little Elm ISD Human Resource Services Department in a timely manner. Employees licensed by the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulations (TDLR) must notify Little Elm ISD Human Resource Services Department when there is action against, or revocation of their licenses.

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A certified employee's contract may be voided without due process and employment terminated if the individual does not hold a valid certificate or fails to fulfill the requirements necessary to renew or extend a temporary certificate, emergency certificate, probationary certificate, or permit. A contract may also be voided if SBEC suspends or revokes certification because of an individual's failure to comply with criminal history background checks. Contact Little Elm ISD Human Resource Services Department if you have any questions regarding certification or licensure requirements.

Recertification of Employment Authorization

Policy DC

At the time of hire all employees must complete the Employment Eligibility Verification Form (Form I-9) and present documents to verify identity and employment authorization.

Employees whose immigration status, employment authorization, or employment authorization documents have expired must present new documents that show current employment authorization. Employees should file the necessary application or petition sufficiently in advance to ensure that they maintain continuous employment authorization or valid employment authorization documents. Contact Little Elm ISD Human Resource Services if you have any questions regarding reverification of employment authorization. Failure to verify employment authorization may result in termination.

Searches and Alcohol and Drug Testing

Policy CQ, DHE

Non-investigatory searches in the workplace including accessing an employee's desk, file cabinets, or work area to obtain information needed for usual business purposes may occur when an employee is unavailable. Therefore, employees are hereby notified that they have no legitimate expectation of privacy in those places. In addition, the District reserves the right to conduct searches when there is reasonable cause to believe a search will uncover evidence of work-related misconduct. Such an investigatory search may include drug and alcohol testing if the suspected violation relates to drug or alcohol use. The District may search the employee, the employee's personal items, and work areas including District-owned technology resources, lockers, and private vehicles parked on District premises or work sites or used in District business. Disciplinary action, up to and including termination, may result if an employee refuses to submit to testing or is found to violate district policy.

Employees Required to Have a Commercial Driver's License. Any employee whose duties require a commercial driver's license (CDL) is subject to alcohol and drug testing. This includes all drivers who operate a motor vehicle designed to transport 16 or more people counting the driver, drivers of large vehicles, or drivers of vehicles used in the transportation of hazardous

materials. Teachers, coaches, or other employees who primarily perform duties other than driving are subject to testing requirements if their duties include driving a commercial motor vehicle.

Drug testing will be conducted before an individual assumes driving responsibilities. Alcohol and drug tests will be conducted when reasonable suspicion exists, at random, when an employee returns to duty after engaging in prohibited conduct, and as a follow-up measure. Testing may be conducted following accidents. Return-to-duty and follow-up testing will be conducted if an employee who has violated the prohibited alcohol conduct standards or tested positive for alcohol or drugs is allowed to return to duty.

All employees required to have a CDL or who otherwise are subject to alcohol and drug testing will receive a copy of the District's policy, the testing requirements, and detailed information on alcohol and drug abuse and the availability of assistance programs.

Employees with questions or concerns relating to alcohol and drug policies and related educational material should contact Little Elm ISD Human Resource Services.

Health Safety Training

Policies DBA, DMA

Certain employees who are involved in physical activities for students must maintain and submit to the District proof of current certification or training in first aid, cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), the use of an automated external defibrillator (AED), concussion, and extracurricular athletic activity safety. Certification or documentation of training must be issued by the American Red Cross, the American Heart Association, University Interscholastic League, or another organization that provides equivalent training and certification. Employees subject to this requirement must submit their certification or documentation to Toni Nelson, Coordinator of Health Services by September 1, 2023.

School nurses and employees with regular contact with students must complete a Texas Education Agency approved, online training regarding seizure disorder aware-ness, recognition, and related first aid.

Reassignments and Transfers

Policy DK

All personnel are subject to assignment and reassignment by the superintendent or designee when the superintendent or designee determines that the assignment or reassignment is in the best interest of the District. Reassignment is a transfer to another position, department, or facility that does not necessitate a change in the employment contract. Campus reassignments must be approved by the principal at the receiving campus except when reassignments are due to enrollment shifts or program changes. Extracurricular or supplemental duty assignments may be

reassigned at any time unless an extracurricular or supplemental duty assignment is part of a dual-assignment contract. Employees who object to a reassignment may follow the District process for employee complaints as outlined in this handbook and District policy DGBA (Local).

An employee with the required qualifications for an open position may apply to another campus or department job posting through the internal application system. Requests for transfer during the school year will be considered only when unusual, extenuating circumstances exist. All transfer requests must be approved by both supervisors and Human Resource Services.

Workload and Work Schedules

Policies DEAB, DK, DL

Professional Employees. Professional employees and academic administrators are exempt from overtime pay and are employed on a 10-, 11-, or 12-month basis, according to the work schedules set by the District. A school calendar is adopted each year designating the work schedule for teachers and all school holidays. Notice of work schedules including start and end dates and scheduled holidays will be distributed each school year.

Classroom teachers will have planning periods for instructional preparation including conferences. The schedule of planning periods is set at the campus level but must provide at least 450 minutes within each two-week period in blocks not less than 45 minutes within the instructional day. Teachers and librarians are entitled to a duty-free lunch period of at least 30 minutes. The District may require teachers to supervise students during lunch one day a week when no other personnel are available.

Paraprofessional and Auxiliary Employees. Support employees are employed at will and receive notification of the required duty days, holidays, and hours of work for their position on an annual basis. Paraprofessional and auxiliary employees are not exempt from overtime and are not authorized to work in excess of their assigned schedule without prior approval from their supervisor.

ADA Accommodations

Policies DAA, DBB, DIA

The district will provide reasonable accommodns to employees with a disability if the accommodation would allow the individual to perform the essential functions of their job, unless doing so would create an undue hardship. An employee or their supervisor may initiate a request for accommodation by contacting Asheley Brown, Executive Director for Human Resource Services at 972-947-9340, and identifying an adjustment or change at work that is needed because of a disability. An employee also may submit a written request to HR using the ADA Accommodation Request Form which is available on the website: www.littleelmisd.net.

Upon receiving the reasonable accommodation request, the ADA coordinator will meet with the employee and conduct an informal, interactive discussion to identify an accommodation that will

allow the employee to perform the essential functions of the job effectively. The district may request medical information concerning the employee's disability to assist in determining what accommodation(s) may be available and appropriate. The employee will be responsible for obtaining the information from their healthcare provider. Medical information received will be confidential and kept separate from the employee's personnel file.

After meeting with the employee and reviewing medical documentation, the ADA coordinator will determine whether the employee is a qualified individual with a disability and develop a reasonable accommodation plan for the employee. Accommodation will be determined on a case-by-case basis. The ADA coordinator will work closely with the employee and supervisor to ensure the reasonable accommodation is provided and effective.

Breaks for Expression of Breast Milk

Policies DEAB, DG

The district supports the practice of expressing breast milk and makes reasonable accommodations for the needs of employees who express breast milk. A place, other than a multiple user bathroom, that is shielded from view and free from intrusion from other employees and the public where the employee can express breast milk will be provided.

A reasonable amount of break time will be provided when the employee has a need to express milk. For nonexempt employees, these breaks are unpaid and are not counted as hours worked. Employees should meet with their supervisor to discuss their needs and arrange break times.

The Providing Urgent Maternal Protections of Nursing Mother Act (PUMP Act) requires an employee to notify the district if they believe the district is out of compliance in providing breaks for a nursing mother. The employee must give the district 10 days to come into compliance before making any claim of liability against the district. An employee with concerns should contact Asheley Brown, Executive Director for Human Resource Services at 972-947-9340.

Pregnant Workers Fairness Act

The Pregnant Workers Fairness Act (PWFA) provides consideration of accommodations to employees who have known limitations related to pregnancy, childbirth, or related medical conditions. An employee seeking a PWFA accommodation should contact Asheley Brown, Executive Director for Human Resource Services, 972-947-9340, to begin the interactive process.

Notification to Parents Regarding Qualifications

Policies DK, DBA

In schools receiving Title I funds, the District is required by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) to notify parents at the beginning of each school year that they may request information regarding the professional qualifications of their child's teacher. ESSA also requires that parents be notified if their child has been assigned or taught for four or more consecutive weeks by a teacher who does not meet applicable state certification or licensure requirements.

Texas law requires that parents be notified if their child is assigned for more than 30 consecutive instructional days to a teacher who does not hold an appropriate teaching certificate. This notice is not required if parental notice under ESSA is sent. Inappropriately certified or uncertified teachers include individuals on an emergency permit (including individuals waiting to take a certification exam) and individuals who do not hold any certificate or permit. Information relating to teacher certification will be made available to the public upon request. Employees who have questions about their certification status can call Renee Pentecost, Director of Human Resource Services.

Outside Employment and Tutoring

Policy DBD

All employees are required to disclose in writing to their immediate supervisor any outside employment that may create a potential conflict of interest with their assigned duties and responsibilities or the best interest of the District. Supervisors will consider outside employment on a case-by-case basis and determine whether it should be prohibited because of a conflict of interest.

Administrators. An employee (other than employees primarily responsible for in-class instruction) who has significant administrative duties relating to the operation of a school district, including the operation for a campus, program, or other subdivision of the district may not receive financial benefits for performing personal services for *any* business entity that conducts or solicits business with the district. With exceptions as noted below, administrators are also prohibited from receiving financial benefits for performing personal services for any education business that provides services regarding the curriculum or administration of any school district or financial benefits for performing personal services for other school districts, open enrollment charter schools, and education service centers.

Exceptions apply to an administrator who is not a superintendent, assistant superintendent, or member of a board of managers if the board approves as required by statute. To be approved, services must be performed on the administrator's personal time. Contact Human Resource Services for more information.

Performance Evaluation

Policy DN series

Evaluation of an employee's job performance is a continuous process that focuses on improvement. Performance evaluation is based on an employee's assigned job duties and other job-related criteria. All employees will participate in the evaluation process with their assigned supervisor at least annually. Written evaluations will be completed on forms approved by the District. Reports, correspondence, and memoranda also can be used to document performance information. All employees will receive a copy of their written evaluation, participate in a performance conference with their supervisor, and have the opportunity to respond to the evaluation.

Employee Involvement

Policies BQA, BQB

At both the campus and District levels, Little Elm ISD offers opportunities for input in matters that affect employees and influence the instructional effectiveness of the District. As part of the District's planning and decision-making process, employees are elected to serve on District- or campus-level advisory committees. Plans and detailed information about the shared decision-making process are available in each campus office or from campus/department supervisors.

Staff Development

Policy DMA

Staff development activities are organized to meet the needs of employees and the District. Staff development for instructional personnel is predominantly campus-based, related to achieving campus performance objectives, addressed in the campus improvement plan, and approved by a campus-level advisory committee. Staff development for non-instructional personnel is designed to meet specific licensing requirements (e.g., bus drivers) and continued employee skill development.

All individuals holding renewable SBEC certificates are responsible for obtaining the required training hours and maintaining appropriate documentation.

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Staff Development / Workdays and Employee Children

District employees are expected to make child care arrangements for all staff development and workdays during the school year. During instructional hours of the school day, children of District employees may not stay with their parent in their job assignment.

Mental Health Training

Policy DMA

All district employees who regularly interact with students are required to complete an evidenced-based mental health training program that is designed to provide instruction regarding the recognition and support of children and youth who experience mental health or substance use issues that may pose a threat to school safety. Employees must provide a certificate of completion to the district that includes the name of the training course, along with supporting documentation confirming that the training meets the requirements of the commissioner rules for mental health training.

Campus staff required to complete the training includes, but is not limited to, teachers, coaches, librarians, instructional coaches, administrators, administrative support personnel, school resource officers, paraprofessionals, substitutes, custodians, cafeteria staff, bus drivers, crossing guards, and district special program liaisons, and supervisors of personnel who regularly interact with students.

Compensation and Benefits

Salaries, Wages, and Stipends

Policies DEA, DEAA, DEAB

Employees are paid in accordance with administrative guidelines and an established pay structure. The District's pay plans are reviewed by the administration each year and adjusted as needed. All District positions are classified as exempt or nonexempt according to federal law. Professional employees and academic administrators are generally classified as exempt and are paid monthly salaries. They are not entitled to overtime compensation. Other employees are generally classified as non-exempt and are paid an hourly wage or salary and receive compensatory time or overtime pay for each hour worked beyond 40 in a workweek. (See *Overtime Compensation* on page 22 for more information.)

All employees will receive written notice of their pay and work schedules each school year. Classroom teachers, full-time librarians, full-time nurses, and full-time counselors will be paid no less than the minimum state salary schedule. After initial employment, salary increases are determined annually by the Board of Trustees during the budget process. Contract employees

who perform extracurricular or supplemental duties may be paid a stipend in addition to their salary according to the District's extra-duty pay schedule. All stipends are Board approved at the beginning of each academic school year.

Employees should contact Little Elm ISD Payroll Department for more information about their pay. The District's pay schedules are available online at the LEISD website.

Annualized Compensation

Policy DEA

The District pays all salaried employees over 12 months regardless of the number of months employed during the school year. Salaried employees will be paid in equal monthly payments, beginning with the first pay period of the school year. Employees that separate after the last day of instruction will continue to receive paychecks through the end of the summer.

Paychecks

All professional, salaried employees and hourly employees not on the Transportation Department pay scale are paid monthly (generally on the 20th of the month). Employees on the Transportation Department pay scale are paid semi-monthly (generally on the 15th and 30th of the month). However, holidays necessitate the schedule to be altered from time to time.

An employee's payroll statement contains detailed information including deductions, withholding information, and the amount of leave accumulated. Employees are responsible for regularly reviewing the accuracy of their pay statement. Any questions regarding your paycheck can be directed to the LEISD Payroll Department at 972-947-9340.

The schedule of pay dates for the 2025–2026 school year are as follows:

September 19th	January 20th	May 20th
October 20th	February 20th	June 17th
November 20th	March 20th	July 20th
December 19th	April 20th	August 20th

Automatic Payroll Deposit

All Little Elm ISD employees will receive their pay via direct deposit. This option sends your net pay electronically to the employee's bank of choice on the pay date. There is no charge for this service. Funds from the automatic deposit will not be available before the pay date but will be available on the pay date.

Payroll Deductions

Policy CFEA

The District is required to make the following automatic payroll deductions:

- Teacher Retirement System of Texas (TRS) or Social Security employee contributions
- Federal income tax required for all full-time employees
- Medicare tax (applicable only to employees hired after March 31, 1986)
- Child support and spousal maintenance, if applicable
- Delinquent federal education loan payments, if applicable

Other payroll deductions employees may elect include deductions for the employee's share of premiums for health, dental, life, and vision insurance; annuities; and higher education savings plans: and saving deposits and loan payments through the Denton Area Teachers Credit Union. Employees also may request payroll deduction for payment of membership dues to professional organizations. Salary deductions are automatically made for unauthorized or unpaid leave.

Overpayments. Employees are not entitled to any funds the district overpays. An overpayment occurs if an employee is paid more than the amount the employee should have been paid under the assigned pay grade and the applicable supplemental pay. An agreement between an employee and the district must be in place in order to deduct any overpayment from one or more paychecks if an overpayment occurs.

Universal Availability

Employees of LEISD are eligible to begin contributions through salary deferral into a 403(b). Any school employee who works 20 hours a week is eligible to participate and have a portion of his or her paycheck deferred to the plans.

Overtime Compensation

Policy DEAB, DEC

The District compensates overtime for nonexempt employees in accordance with federal wage and hour laws. Only nonexempt employees (hourly employees and paraprofessional employees) are entitled to overtime compensation. Nonexempt employees are not authorized to work beyond their normal work schedule without advance approval from their supervisor. A nonexempt employee who works overtime without prior approval will be subject to disciplinary action up to and including termination.

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Overtime is legally defined as all hours worked in excess of 40 hours in a workweek and is not measured by the day or by the employee's regular work schedule. Nonexempt employees that are paid on a salary basis, are paid for a 40-hour workweek and do not earn additional pay unless they work more than 40 hours. For the purpose of calculating overtime, a workweek begins at 12:00AM Saturday and ends at 11:59PM Friday.

Employees may be compensated for overtime at time-and-a-half rate with compensatory time off (comp time) or direct pay. The following applies to all nonexempt employees:

- Employees can accumulate up to 40 hours of comp time.
- Comp time must be used in the semester that it is earned.
- Use of comp time may be at the employee's request with supervisor approval, as workload permits, or at the supervisor's direction.
- Comp time must be used in ½ day or whole day increments.
- The District may require an employee to use comp time when in the best interest of the District.
- Compensatory time accumulated must be used prior to using other paid leave (e.g., sick, personal, vacation) provided by the District.
- Compensatory time is accumulated (with supervisor's approval) and then utilized. Employees cannot use comp time earned **after** an absence to cover the prior absence.
- Weekly time records will be maintained on all nonexempt employees for the purpose of wage and salary administration.

Time Clock / Veritime

Each nonexempt employee will clock in each day and will clock out during any non-work related activity. Each nonexempt employee will clock in and out each and every day for lunch. Employees who fail to clock in or clock out at each appropriate time will require their supervisor's approval for time worked, to be compensated. An employee who consistently fails to maintain an accurate time card will be subject to disciplinary action.

Travel Expense Reimbursement

Policy DEE

Before any travel expenses are incurred by an employee, the employee's supervisor must give approval. For approved travel, employees will be reimbursed for mileage and other travel expenditures according to the current rate schedule established by the District. Employees must submit receipts, to the extent possible, to be reimbursed for expenses other than mileage. The mileage reimbursement rate is inclusive of all expenses associated with the use of the employee's personal vehicle. Only the employee driving may claim mileage reimbursement.

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Health, Dental, and Life Insurance

Policy CRD

Group health insurance coverage is provided through TRS-ActiveCare, the statewide public school employee health insurance program. The District's contribution to employee insurance premiums is determined annually by the board of trustees. Employees eligible for health insurance coverage include the following:

- Employees who are active, contributing TRS members
- Employees who are not contributing TRS members and who are regularly scheduled to work at least 10 hours per week

The insurance plan year is from September 1 through August 31. Current employees can make changes in their insurance coverage during open enrollment each year or when they experience a qualifying event (e.g., marriage, divorce, birth). Detailed descriptions of insurance coverage, employee cost, and eligibility requirements are provided to all employees in a separate booklet. Employees should contact Little Elm ISD Payroll/Benefits Department for more information.

Supplemental Insurance Benefits

Policy CRD

At their own expense, employees may enroll in supplemental insurance programs for vision, dental, disability, cancer and additional life insurance. Premiums for these programs can be paid by payroll deduction. Employees should contact Little Elm ISD Payroll/Benefits Department for more information.

Cafeteria Plan Benefits (Section 125)

Employees may be eligible to participate in the Cafeteria Plan (Section 125) and, under IRS regulations, must either accept or reject this benefit. This plan enables eligible employees to pay certain insurance premiums on a pretax basis (i.e., disability, accidental death and dismemberment, cancer and dread disease, dental, and additional term life insurance). A third-party administrator handles employee claims made on these accounts.

New employees must accept or reject this benefit during their first month of employment. All employees must accept or reject this benefit on an annual basis and during the specified time period.

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Workers' Compensation Insurance

Policy CRE

The District, in accordance with state law, provides workers' compensation benefits to employees who suffer a work-related illness or are injured on the job. The District has workers' compensation coverage from TASB, effective upon employment.

Benefits help pay for medical treatment and make up for part of the income lost while recovering. Specific benefits are prescribed by law depending on the circumstances of each case.

All work-related accidents or injuries should be reported immediately to the Campus Nurse and/or supervisor. Employees who are unable to work because of a work-related injury will be notified of their rights and responsibilities under the Texas Labor Code. See *Workers' Compensation Benefits* on page 35 for information on use of paid leave for such absences.

Unemployment Compensation Insurance

Policy CRF

Employees who have been laid off or terminated through no fault of their own may be eligible for unemployment compensation benefits. Employees are not eligible to collect unemployment benefits during regularly scheduled breaks in the school year or the summer months if they have employment contracts or a letter of reasonable assurance of returning to service. Employees with questions about unemployment benefits should contact Little Elm ISD Human Resource Services Department.

Teacher Retirement

All personnel employed on a regular basis for at least four and one-half months are members of the Teacher Retirement System of Texas (TRS). Substitutes not receiving TRS service retirement benefits who work at least 90 days a year are also eligible for TRS membership and to purchase a year of creditable service. TRS provides members with an annual statement of their account showing all deposits and the total account balance for the year ending August 31, as well as an estimate of their retirement benefits.

Employees who plan to retire under TRS should notify Little Elm ISD Human Resource Services. as soon as possible. Information on the application procedures for TRS benefits is available from TRS at Teacher Retirement System of Texas, 1000 Red River Street, Austin, TX 78701-2698, or call 800-223-8778 or 512-542-6400. TRS information is also available on the TRS website . See page 13 for information on restrictions of employment of retirees in Texas public schools.

Leaves, Absences and Vacations

Policies DEC, DECA, DECB, DED

The District offers employees paid and unpaid leaves of absence in times of personal need. This handbook describes the basic types of leave available and restrictions on leaves of absence. Employees who expect to be absent for an extended period of more than five days should call Little Elm ISD Human Resource Services for information about applicable leave benefits, payment of insurance premiums, and requirements for communicating with the District.

Leave must be used in half-day increments. Earned comp time must be used before any available paid state and local leave. Unless an employee requests a different order, available paid state and local leave will be used in the following order:

- Local Leave
- State Leave

Employees must follow District and department/campus procedures to report or request any leave of absence using AESOP. Any unapproved absences or absences beyond accumulated or available paid leave shall result in deduction from the employee's pay.

If an hourly employee does not report or request leave of absences(s) according to district procedures, the incident is considered a "no call/no show". An employee who is absent for three consecutive days without notice is considered to have abandoned their job and may face disciplinary consequences up to and including termination.

Immediate Family. For purposes of leave other than family and medical leave, immediate family is defined as the following:

- Spouse
- Son or daughter, including a biological, adopted, or foster child, a son- or daughter-in-law, a stepchild, a legal ward, or a child for whom the employee stands *in loco parentis*.
- Parent, stepparent, parent-in-law, or other individual who stands *in loco parentis* to the employee.
- Sibling, stepsibling, and sibling-in-law
- Grandparent and grandchild
- Any person residing in the employee's household at the time of illness or death

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For purposes of family and medical leave, the definition of family is limited to spouse, parent, son or daughter, and next of kin. The definition of these are found in Policy DECA (LEGAL).

Medical Certification. Any employee who is absent more than 5 consecutive days because of a personal or family illness must submit a medical certification from a qualified healthcare provider confirming the specific dates of the illness, the reason for the illness, and—in the case of personal illness—the employee's fitness to return to work.

The district may require medical certification due to an employee's questionable pattern of absences or when deemed necessary by the supervisor or superintendent. The district may also request medical certification when an employee requests leave under the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) for the employee's serious health condition, a serious health condition of the employee's spouse, parent, or child, or for military caregiver leave.

The Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008 (GINA) prohibits covered employers from requesting or requiring genetic information of an individual or family member of the individual, except as specifically allowed by this law. To comply with this law, we ask that employees and health care providers do not provide any genetic information in any medical certification. 'Genetic information,' as defined by GINA, includes an individual's family medical history, the results of an individual's or family member's genetic tests, the fact that an individual or an individual's family member sought or received genetic services, and genetic information of a fetus carried by an individual or an individual's family member or an embryo lawfully held by an individual or family member receiving assistive reproductive services.

Return to Work Authorization. Employees who are removed from campus for a personal medical emergency, whether by ambulance or other means, shall be required to provide medical clearance to the District's Human Resource Services Department before the employee is permitted to return to work. The clearance must be filled out and signed by a licensed physician. Such certification must be provided twenty-four hours prior to return to work.

Continuation of Health Insurance. Employees on an approved leave of absence other than family and medical leave may continue their insurance benefits at their own expense. Health insurance benefits for employees on paid leave and leave designated under the FMLA will be paid by the District as they were prior to the leave. Otherwise, the District does not pay any portion of insurance premiums for employees who are on unpaid leave.

Under TRS-Active Care rules, an employee is no longer eligible for insurance through the district after six months of unpaid leave other than FML. If an employee's unpaid leave extends for more than six months, the district will provide the employee with notice of COBRA rights.

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Personal Leave

State law entitles all employees to five days of paid personal leave per year. Personal leave is available for use at the beginning of the year. A day of personal leave is equivalent to the number of hours per day in an employee's usual assignment, whether full-time or part-time. State personal leave accumulates without limit, is transferable to other Texas school Districts, and generally transfers to education service centers. Personal leave may be used for two general purposes: nondiscretionary and discretionary.

Nondiscretionary. Leave taken for personal or family illness, family emergency, a death in the family, or active military service is considered nondiscretionary leave. Reasons for this type of leave allow very little, if any, advance planning. Nondiscretionary leave may be used in the same manner as state sick leave.

Discretionary. Leave taken at an employee's discretion that can be scheduled in advance is considered discretionary leave. An employee wishing to take discretionary personal leave must submit a request to his or her principal or supervisor a minimum of three (3) work days in advance of the anticipated absence. Discretionary personal leave is subject to the following limitations:

- A maximum of 5 percent of campus employees in each job category will be permitted to take discretionary personal leave at the same time.
- Discretionary leave may not be taken on the following key days:
    - the day before a school holiday,
    - the day after a school holiday,
    - the first and last instructional days of the year
    - the employee's last day of employment
    - days scheduled for end-of-semester or end-of-year exams,
    - days scheduled for STAAR tests,
    - on professional or staff development days,
    - nor on any other days which an absence would disrupt the educational process.
- Leave exceeding 10% in a pay period **will not be approved**, except with special approval for extenuating circumstances as determined **by the Superintendent or Superintendent's designee.**

The effect of the employee's absence on the educational program or department operations, as well as the availability of substitutes, will be considered by the principal or supervisor.

If an employee's absence is on a protected day and is due to a once-in-a-lifetime event (graduation, wedding, etc) of the employee, or employee's immediate family (see definition on page 26), a one-time exception may be approved. A request for exemption must be made to LEISD HR Services at least 30 days prior to the absence. Funerals and medical emergencies

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involving immediate family are exempted from the 30 day notice. If approved, only the day of the event will be exempted from dock. Any additional days of absence will remain as dock days.

*Due to the Absence Management system requirements, supervisor approval of a discretionary absence on a protected day does not constitute approval of the absence with pay. Rather, the supervisor is merely acknowledging that the absence has been entered and that the employee is aware of the dock day policy.

The following dates are protected for the 2025-2026 school year and will result in docking of pay:

August 4-8 (Staff Development)
August 11-12 (Staff Development)
August 13 (First Day of Instruction)
August 29 (Day before holiday weekend)
September 2 (Day after holiday weekend)
September 19 (Staff Development, only applies to 183,187, and 189)
October 9 (PSAT Testing Day, LEHS only)
October 13-14 (Staff Development - does not apply to 176, 177, 178, 189, 226 or 240 work calendars)
October 20 (Day after District holiday)
October 31 (District Holiday - does not apply to those on 226 or 240 work calendars)
November 3 (Day after a District Holiday - does not apply to those on 226 or 240 work calendar)
November 14 (Staff Development, only applies to 183,187, and 189)
November 21 (Day before Holiday break, does not apply to the 240 calendar)
December 2 (Day after holiday break)
December 4, 5, 8, 9 & 11 (State Testing, LEHS only)
December 19 (Day before holiday break)
January 5 (Day after holiday break and Staff Development)
January 6 (Staff Development, only applies to 176,177, 178, 183 and 187 calendars)
January 7 (First Instruction day of Spring Semester)
January 16 (Day before holiday weekend)
January 20 (Day after holiday weekend)
February 6 (Staff Development - only applies to 183,187,189 work calendars)
February 13 (Day before District Holiday)
February 17 (Day after District Holiday)
March 6 (Day before Spring Break)
March 16 (Day after Spring Break)
March 18 (SAT Testing Day, LEHS only)
April 2 - (Day before holiday weekend, if April 3 does not require attendance due to prior bad weather day)
April 6 - (Day after holiday weekend, if April 3 does not require attendance due to prior bad weather day)
April 7 - (STAAR STAAR 6 Reading, SMS and WMS only)
April 8 - (STAAR 7 Reading, SMS and WMS only)
April 9 - (STAAR English II EOC and STAAR 8 Reading, SMS, WMS, and LEHS)
April 14 - (STAAR 3-5 Reading and English I EOC, All Elementary and LEHS)
April 16 - (STAAR 8 Science and Biology EOC, SMS, WMS, and LEHS)

April 16 - (Day before holiday weekend, if April 17 does not require attendance due to prior bad weather day)
April 20 - (Day after holiday weekend, if April 17 does not require attendance due to prior bad weather day)
April 21 - (STAAR testing Elementary, Middle School and High School)
April 23 - (STAAR Grade 6 Math, SMS and WMS only)
April 27 - (STAAR Grade 7 Math SMS and WMS only)
April 28 - (STAAR testing Elementary, Middle School and High School)
May 1 - (Staff Development, only applies to 176, 177, 178, 183, 187 and 189 only)
May 22 (Last Day of School/End-of-semester exams/Day before Summer Break)

The list of protected days will be updated as soon as any change in the district's academic calendar or the State's Assessment calendar requires an addition or edit.

Leave for Pursuit of Postgraduate Degree. When an employee is enrolled in a college/university in pursuit of an Education or Education-related Master's or Doctorate degree, if the degree program requires attendance at classes or workshops that fall on District work days, the District will allow for a maximum of two professional leave days to be utilized per school year to attend required Master's/Doctoral sessions. Documentation from the college or university that provides details about the dates of program requirements must be provided to Human Resource Services at least 5 business days in advance to be eligible for this leave**.**

Leave Proration. If an employee separates from employment with the District before his or her last duty day of the year, or begins employment after the first duty day, state personal leave will be prorated based on the actual time employed. When an employee separates from employment before the last duty day of the school year, the employee's final paycheck will be reduced by the amount of state personal leave the employee used beyond his or her pro rata entitlement for the school year.

State Sick Leave

State sick leave accumulated before 1995 is available for use and may be transferred to other school Districts in Texas. State sick leave can be used only in half-day increments, except when coordinated with family and medical leave taken on an intermittent or reduced-schedule basis or when coordinated with workers' compensation benefits.

State sick leave may be used for the following reasons only:

- Employee illness
- Illness in the employee's immediate family
- Family emergency (i.e., natural disasters or life-threatening situations)
- Death in the immediate family
- Active military service

Local Leave

All employees shall earn an additional four equivalent workdays of local leave per school year. Local leave shall accumulate to a maximum of 30 equivalent workdays, shall be taken with no loss of pay and shall not transfer from one District to another. Local leave is available for use at the beginning of the year. Local leave days accumulated but not used will be transferred to the District's Sick Leave Bank upon employee separation from the district.

Sick Leave Bank

LEISD administration has implemented a "Sick Leave Bank", which replaced the previous "Sick Leave Pool". The Sick Leave Bank offers an equal opportunity for all LEISD employees to buy-in to the Bank by contributing two days of their current state and/or local days. In exchange, the employee will have the opportunity to receive 30 sick leave days during a school year (based on Sick Leave Bank Committee approval and District Policy) and up to 90 days lifetime. This change will better provide LEISD employees who choose to participate the option of additional paid leave in case of a serious illness or major catastrophic event.

The Sick Leave Bank may be used for the employee's own catastrophic, life-threatening, or major medical conditions or disability, or a catastrophic or life-threatening illness or disability of a member of the employee's immediate family.

Conditions such as routine pregnancy or **elective** surgery shall not be eligible for the establishment of a sick leave bank. Employees suffering from complications arising from pregnancy shall be eligible. Full details and forms needed to request Sick Leave Bank days can be found on the LEISD Human Resource Services webpage. The option to participate will be offered during each employee's annual benefits election period.

Vacation

Policy DED

Full-time, 12-month employees shall be eligible for annual paid vacation at an amount to be determined by the District on a yearly basis upon approval of the upcoming school year's calendar.

1. Availability
    a. The District shall make vacation days for the current work year available at the beginning of the school year.
2. Scheduling
    a. Employees shall request use of vacation days **in writing to the employee's direct supervisor as follows:**
        i. A minimum of ten calendar days' advance for notice shall be required for a request totaling five consecutive days

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ii. A minimum of 20 calendar days' advance notice shall be required for a request in excess of five consecutive days.

b. Vacation schedules shall be approved by the Superintendent or designee in each department. The decision regarding the employee's vacation request shall be given in writing within five business days from the date of receipt.

3. Carryover
   a. No more than 20 vacation days shall carry forward from one work year to the next. Any vacation days earned above the maximum accumulation of 20 and not used within the work year in which they were earned shall be forfeited at the end of the work year.
4. An employee who transfers from a 12 month position to a 10 or 11 month position will be required to use all accumulated Vacation Days within 6 months of the change in position. All remaining vacation days will be forfeited if not used within 6 months of the change in position.

Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA)—General Provisions

The following text is from the federal notice, *Your Employee Rights Under the Family Medical Leave Act*. Specific information that the District has adopted to implement the FMLA follows this general notice.

What is FMLA leave?

The Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) is a federal law that provides eligible employees with **job-protected leave** for qualifying family and medical reasons.

The U.S. Department of Labor's Wage and Hour Division (WHD) enforces the FMLA for most employees. Eligible employees can take **up to 12 workweeks** of FMLA leave in a 12-month period for:

· The birth, adoption or foster placement of a child with you,

· Your serious mental or physical health condition that makes you unable to work,

· To care for your spouse, child or parent with a serious mental or physical health condition, and

· Certain qualifying reasons related to the foreign deployment of your spouse, child or parent who is a military servicemember.

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An eligible employee who is the spouse, child, parent or next of kin of a covered servicemember with a serious injury or illness ***may*** **take up to 26 workweeks** of FMLA leave in a single 12-month period to care for the servicemember.

You have the right to use FMLA leave in **one block of time**. When it is medically necessary or otherwise permitted, you may take FMLA leave **intermittently in separate blocks of time, or on a reduced schedule** by working less hours each day or week. Read Fact Sheet #28M(c) for more information.

FMLA leave is ***not*** **paid leave**, but you may choose, or be required by your employer, to use any employer-provided paid leave if your employer's paid leave policy covers the reason for which you need FMLA leave.

Am I eligible to take FMLA leave?

You are an **eligible employee** if *all* of the following apply:

- You work for a covered employer,
- You have worked for your employer at least 12 months,
- You have at least 1,250 hours of service for your employer during the 12 months before your leave, and
- Your employer has at least 50 employees within 75 miles of your work location

Airline flight crew employees have different "hours of service" requirements.

You work for a **covered employer** if **one** of the following applies:

- You work for a private employer that had at least 50 employees during at least 20 workweeks in the current or previous calendar year,
- You work for an elementary or public or private secondary school, or
- You work for a public agency, such as a local, state or federal government agency. Most federal employees are covered by Title II of the FMLA, administered by the Office of Personnel Management

How do I request FMLA leave?

Generally, **to request FMLA leave you *must***:

- Follow your employer's normal policies for requesting leave,

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- Give notice at least 30 days before your need for FMLA leave, or
- If advance notice is not possible, give notice as soon as possible.

You **do *not* have to share a medical diagnosis** but must provide enough information to your employer so they can determine whether the leave qualifies for FMLA protection. You ***must* also inform your employer if FMLA leave was previously taken** or approved for the same reason when requesting additional leave.

Your **employer *may* request certification** from a health care provider to verify medical leave and may request certification of a qualifying exigency.

The FMLA does not affect any federal or state law prohibiting discrimination or supersede any state or local law or collective bargaining agreement that provides greater family or medical leave rights.

State employees may be subject to certain limitations in pursuit of direct lawsuits regarding leave for their own serious health conditions. Most federal and certain congressional employees are also covered by the law but are subject to the jurisdiction of the U.S. Office of Personnel Management or Congress

What does my employer need to do?

If you are eligible for FMLA leave, your employer ***must***:

- Allow you to take job-protected time off work for a qualifying reason,
- Continue your group health plan coverage while you are on leave on the same basis as if you had not taken leave, and
- Allow you to return to the same job, or a virtually identical job with the same pay, benefits and other working conditions, including shift and location, at the end of your leave.

Your **employer *cannot* interfere with your FMLA rights** or threaten or punish you for exercising your rights under the law. For example, your employer cannot retaliate against you for requesting FMLA leave or cooperating with a WHD investigation.

After becoming aware that your need for leave is for a reason that may qualify under the FMLA, your **employer *must* confirm whether you are eligible** or not eligible for FMLA leave. If your employer determines that you are eligible, **your employer *must* notify you in writing**:

- About your FMLA rights and responsibilities, and

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- How much of your requested leave, if any, will be FMLA-protected leave.

Where can I find more information?

Call **1-866-487-9243** or visit **dol.gov/fmla** to learn more.

If you believe your rights under the FMLA have been violated, you may file a complaint with WHD or file a private lawsuit against your employer in court. **Scan the QR code to learn about our WHD complaint process.**

WAGE AND HOUR DIVISION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

SCAN ME

Local Procedures for Implementing Family and Medical Leave Provisions

Eligible employees can take up to 12 weeks of unpaid leave in the 12-month period measured forward from the date an individual employee's first FML begins.

Use of Paid Leave. FML runs concurrently with accrued sick and personal leave, temporary disability leave, compensatory time, assault leave, and absences due to a work-related illness or injury. The District will designate the leave as FML, if applicable, and notify the employee that accumulated leave will run concurrently. Teachers have the option of not using paid leave during an FML absence for pregnancy or birth or adoption of a child.

Combined Leave for Spouses. A husband and wife who are both employed by the District are limited to a combined total of 12 weeks of FML to care for a parent with a serious health condition; or for the birth, adoption, or foster placement of a child. Military caregiver leave for spouses is limited to a combined total of 26 weeks.

Intermittent Leave. When medically necessary or in the case of a qualifying exigency, an employee may take leave intermittently or on a reduced schedule. The District does not permit the use of intermittent or reduced-schedule leave for the care of a newborn child or for adoption or placement of a child with the employee.

Fitness for Duty. An employee that takes FML due to the employee's own serious health condition shall provide, before resuming work, a fitness-for-duty certification from the health

care provider. If certification of the employee's ability to perform essential job function is required, the district shall provide a list of essential job functions (e.g., job description) to the employee with the FML designation notice to share with the health care provider.

Reinstatement. An employee returning to work at the end of FML will be returned to the same position held when the leave began or to an equivalent position with equivalent employment benefits, pay, and other terms and conditions of employment.

In certain cases, instructional employees desiring to return to work at or near the conclusion of a semester may be required to continue on family and medical leave until the end of the semester. The additional time off is not counted against the employee's FML entitlement, and the district will maintain the employee's group health insurance and reinstate the employee at the end of the leave according the procedures outlined in policy (see DECA (LEGAL)).

Failure to Return. If, at the expiration of FML, the employee is able to return to work but chooses not to do so, the district shall require the employee to reimburse the district's share of insurance premiums paid during any portion of FML when the employee was on unpaid leave. If the employee fails to return to work for a reason beyond the employee's control, such as a continuing personal or family serious health condition or a spouse being unexpectedly transferred more than 75 miles from the district, the district may not require the employee to reimburse the district's share of premiums paid.

District Contact. Employees that require FML or have questions should contact Lesley Malmer, Little Elm ISD Payroll Department, for details on eligibility, requirements, and limitations.

Temporary Disability Leave

Certified Employees. Any full-time employee whose position requires certification from the State Board for Educator Certification (SBEC) is eligible for temporary disability leave. The purpose of temporary disability leave is to provide job protection to full-time educators who cannot work for an extended period of time because of a mental or physical disability of a temporary nature. Temporary disability leave must be taken as a continuous block of time. It may not be taken intermittently or on a reduced schedule. Pregnancy and conditions related to pregnancy are treated the same as any other temporary disability.

Employees must request approval for temporary disability leave. An employee's notification of need for extended absence due to the employee's own medical condition shall be accepted as a request for temporary disability leave. The request must be accompanied by a physician's statement confirming the employee's inability to work and estimating a probable date of return. If disability leave is approved, the length of leave is no longer than 180 calendar days.

If an employee is placed on temporary disability leave involuntarily, he or she has the right to request a hearing before the board of trustees. The employee may protest the action and present additional evidence of fitness to work.

When an employee is ready to return to work, the Executive Director of Human Resource Services should be notified at least 30 days in advance. The return-to-work notice must be accompanied by a physician's statement confirming that the employee is able to resume regular duties. Certified employees returning from leave will be reinstated to the school to which they were previously assigned if an appropriate position is available. If an appropriate position is not available, the employee may be assigned to another campus, subject to the approval of the campus principal. If a position is not available before the end of the school year, the employee will be reinstated to a position at the original campus at the beginning of the following school year.

Workers' Compensation Benefits

An employee absent from duty because of a job-related illness or injury may be eligible for workers' compensation weekly income benefits if the absence exceeds seven calendar days.

An employee receiving workers' compensation wage benefits for a job-related illness or injury may choose to use accumulated sick leave or any other paid leave benefits. An employee choosing to use paid leave will not receive workers' compensation weekly income benefits until all paid leave is exhausted or to the extent that paid leave does not equal the pre-illness or -injury wage. If the use of paid leave is not elected, then the employee will only receive workers' compensation wage benefits for any absence resulting from a work-related illness or injury, which may not equal his or her pre-illness or -injury wage.

Assault Leave

Assault leave provides extended job income and benefits protection to an employee who is injured as the result of a physical assault suffered during the performance of his or her job. An incident involving an assault is a work-related injury, and should be immediately reported to the employee's immediate supervisor and LEISD Human Resource Services. An injury is treated as an assault if the person causing the injury could be prosecuted for assault or could not be prosecuted only because that person's age or mental capacity renders the person nonresponsible for purposes of criminal liability.

An employee who is physically assaulted at work may take all the leave time medically necessary (up to two years) to recover from the physical injuries he or she sustained. At the request of an employee, the District will immediately assign the employee to assault leave. Days of leave granted under the assault leave provision will not be deducted from accrued personal leave and must be coordinated with workers' compensation benefits. Upon investigation the

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District may change the assault leave status and charge leave used against the employee's accrued paid leave. The employee's pay will be deducted if accrued paid leave is not available.

Jury Duty

Policies DEC, DG

The district provides paid leave to employees who are summoned to jury duty including service on a grand jury. The district will not discharge, threaten to discharge, intimidate, or coerce any regular employee because of juror or grand juror service or for the employee's attendance or scheduled attendance in connection with the service in any court in the United States. Employees who report to the court for jury duty may keep any compensation the court provides. An employee should report a summons for jury duty to his or her supervisor as soon as it is received.The employee will scan and upload a copy of the summons to their AESOP absence report to document the need for leave.

An employee is required to contact their supervisor as soon as they are released from jury duty. The supervisor may consider the travel time required and the nature of the individual's position when determining the need to report to work. A copy of the release from jury duty or of documentation of time spent at the court should be scanned and uploaded to the AESOP absence report for the day(s) missed.

Truancy Court Appearances

An employee who is a parent, guardian of a child, or a court-appointed guardian ad litem of a child who is required to miss work to attend a truancy court hearing may use personal leave or compensatory time for the absence. Employees who do not have paid leave available will be docked for any absence required because of the court appearance.

Religious Observance

The district will reasonably accommodate an employee's request for absence for a religious holiday or observance. Accommodations such as changes to work schedules or approving a day of absence will be made unless they pose an undue hardship to the district. The employee may use any accumulated personal leave for this purpose. Employees who have exhausted applicable paid leave may be granted an unpaid day of absence.

Compliance with a Subpoena

Employees will be paid while on leave to comply with a valid subpoena to appear in a civil, criminal, legislative, or administrative proceeding and will not be required to use personal leave.

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Employees may be required to submit documentation of their need for leave for court appearances.

Other absences for court appearances related to an employee's personal business must be taken as personal leave or leave without pay (if no personal leave is available).

Military Leave

Paid Leave for Military Service. Any employee who is a member of the Texas National Guard, Texas State Guard, reserve component of the United States Armed Forces, or a member of a state or federally authorized Urban Search and Rescue Team is entitled to paid leave for authorized training or duty orders. Paid military leave is limited to 15 days each fiscal year. In addition, an employee is entitled to use available state and local personal or sick leave during a time of active military service.

Reemployment after Military Leave. Employees who leave the District to enter into the United States uniformed services or who are ordered to active duty as a member of the military force of any state (e.g., National or State Guard) may return to employment if they are honorably discharged. Employees who wish to return to the District will be reemployed provided they can be qualified to perform the required duties. Employees returning to work following military leave should contact LEISD HR Services. In most cases, the length of federal military service cannot exceed five years.

Continuation of Health Insurance. Employees who perform service in the uniformed services may elect to continue their health plan coverage at their own cost for a period not to exceed 24 months. Employees should contact Little Elm ISD Benefits Department for details on eligibility, requirements, and limitations.

Neutral Absence Policy

Policy DEC(Local)

If an employee does not return to work after exhausting all available paid and unpaid leave, the District shall provide the employee written notice that he or she no longer has leave available for use. The District shall automatically pursue termination of an employee who has exhausted all available leave, regardless of the reason for the absence [see DF series]. The employee's eligibility for reasonable accommodations, as required by the Americans with Disabilities Act [see DAA(LEGAL)], shall be considered before termination. If terminated, the employee may apply for reemployment with the District.

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Employee Relations and Communications

Employee Recognition and Appreciation

Continuous efforts are made throughout the year to recognize employees who make an extra effort to contribute to the success of the District. Employees are recognized at board meetings, in the District newsletter, and through special events and activities. Recognition and appreciation activities also include Carpool Kudos, LEaders of the Pack, designated Appreciation Weeks such as Teacher Appreciation Week, Teacher, Para, and Auxiliary Employees of the Year, and the end-of-year LEISD Honoree Banquet.

District Communications

Throughout the school year, the LEISD Communications Services office publishes print and electronic materials, brochures, fliers, calendars, news releases, and other communication materials. These publications offer employees and the community information pertaining to school activities and achievements. They include the following:

Blackboard Mass Notification
LEISD website
LEISD Facebook
LEISD X account
LEISD Instagram

Complaints and Grievances

Policy DGBA

In an effort to hear and resolve employee concerns or complaints in a timely manner and at the lowest administrative level possible, the board has adopted an orderly grievance process. Employees are encouraged to discuss their concerns or complaints with their supervisors or an appropriate administrator at any time.

The formal process provides all employees with an opportunity to be heard up to the highest level of management if they are dissatisfied with an administrative response. Once all administrative procedures are exhausted, employees can bring concerns or complaints to the board of trustees.

For the convenience of our employees the forms needed to file a Level 1, 2, or 3 grievance are located on the LEISD Human Resources webpage.

Additionally, the entire District policy concerning the process of bringing complaints and grievances is reprinted as follows:

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DGBA (LOCAL)-

Personnel Relations:
Employee Complaints

The purpose of this policy is to provide employees an orderly process for the prompt and equitable resolution of complaints. The Board intends that, whenever feasible, complaints be resolved at the lowest possible level.

The principal of each campus and other supervisory personnel shall ensure that all employees under their supervision are informed of this policy. Employees shall be provided a copy of this policy at the time of employment and whenever it is revised.

A complaint under this policy shall include grievances concerning an employee's wages, hours, or conditions of work and specific allegations of unlawful discrimination in employment on the basis of sex (including allegations of sexual harassment), race, religion, national origin, age, or handicap or on the basis of the employee's exercise of constitutional rights. A complaint must specify the individual harm alleged.

When the Superintendent determines that two or more individual complaints are sufficiently similar in nature and remedy to permit their resolution through one proceeding, he or she may consolidate the complaints.

Neither the Board nor the administration shall unlawfully retaliate against any employee for bringing a complaint under this policy.

Employees who allege unlawful discrimination in retaliation for reporting a violation of law to an appropriate authority shall invoke this policy not later than 15 days after the date the alleged violation occurred or was discovered by the employee through the use of reasonable diligence. The complaint shall begin at Level Two. If the complaint is not resolved at that level, the Superintendent shall ensure the matter reaches the Board expeditiously. Timelines for the employee and District set out in the policy may be shortened to ensure that the Board's final decision is made within 30 days of the initiation of the complaint.

Complaints shall be heard in informal administrative conferences. All complaints arising out of an event or related series of events must be addressed in one complaint.

An employee is precluded from bringing separate or serial complaints concerning events about which the employee has previously complained. Costs of any complaint shall be paid by the party incurring them.

In resolving complaints, time is of the essence. All time limits shall be strictly complied with, unless extended by mutual consent. All references are to calendar days.

The appropriate administrator at each level shall respond to the employee within seven days of a complaint conference. Written complaints shall receive a written response. The employee has

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seven days after receiving a response to appeal to the next level. The complaint shall be considered concluded if the employee does not appeal within that limit.

Employees shall be entitled to administrative review conferences as outlined in the Level One and Level Two sections below and to an informal presentation of the complaint to the Board as specified in the Level Three section, unless the Board grants a hearing.

If an employee alleges in writing specific facts that, if true, would constitute a violation of the employee's common law, statutory, or constitutional rights, the superintendent or designee shall investigate the allegations. If the employee does not accept the Superintendent's resolution at Level Two and requests a Board hearing, the superintendent shall schedule a hearing as specified in the Level Three section below.

Announcing a decision in the employee's presence constitutes communication of a decision.

LEVEL ONE An employee who has a complaint shall meet with the principal or immediate supervisor within 15 days of the time the employee first knew or should have known of the event or series of events causing the complaint. At this meeting, the employee shall submit the complaint in writing on a form provided by the District.

LEVEL TWO If the outcome of the conference at Level One is not to the employee's satisfaction, the employee may request, in writing on a form provided by the District, to meet with the Superintendent or a designee. The meeting shall be held within seven days after the Superintendent or designee received the request to discuss the complaint.

LEVEL THREE If the outcome at Level Two is not to the employee's satisfaction, the employee may submit a written request, on a form provided by the District, to place the matter on the agenda of a future Board meeting. [See BE (LEGAL)] The Superintendent shall inform the employee of the date, time, and place of the meeting. The Board President may set reasonable time limits on complaint presentations. The Board shall listen to the complaint, but is not required to respond or take any action on the matter. The lack of official action by the Board upholds the administrative decision at Level Two.

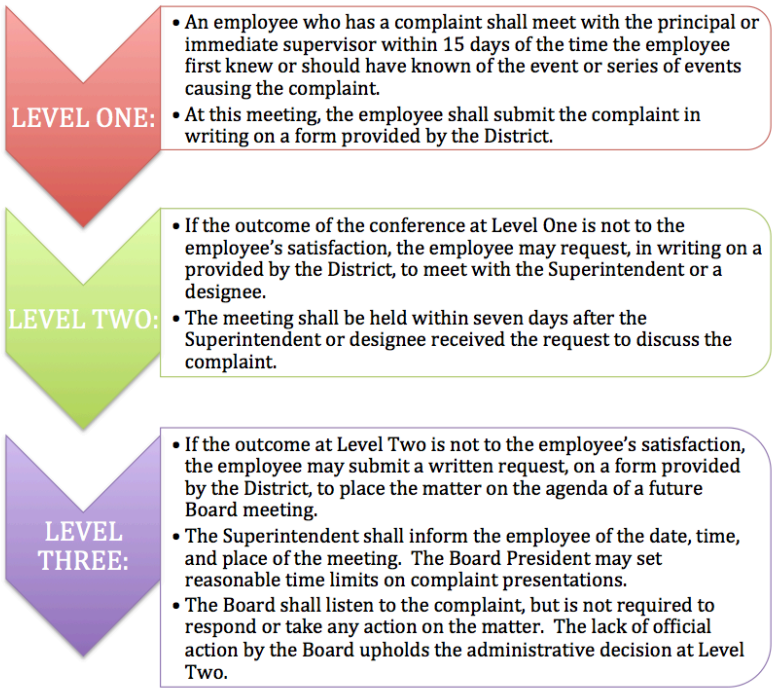
Employees who are granted a hearing shall be afforded that hearing either with the Board in a meeting that includes the hearing as an item in the posted agenda or with the Board's designee. If the Board conducts the hearing, it shall make and communicate its decision at any time up to and including the next regularly scheduled Board meeting.

If the Board's designee conducts the hearing, he or she shall make a recommendation to the Board at the first regular meeting following the hearing that affords adequate time to prepare a written recommendation. The employee shall be provided a copy of the recommendation before the meeting and shall be given an opportunity at the meeting to respond to the recommendation either orally or in writing.

The Board shall then make and communicate its decision at any time up to and including the next regularly scheduled Board meeting.

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If the complaint involves the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of the employee bringing the complaint, it shall be heard by the Board in closed meeting unless the employee bringing the complaint requests it to be heard in public. However, if the complaint constitutes a complaint or charge against another District employee, it shall be heard in closed meeting unless an open hearing is requested in writing by the employee against whom the complaint or charge is brought.



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Employee Conduct and Welfare

Standards of Conduct

Policy DH

All employees are expected to work together in a cooperative spirit to serve the best interests of the District and to be courteous to students, one another, and the public. Employees are expected to observe the following standards of conduct:

- Recognize and respect the rights of students, parents, other employees, and members of the community.
- Maintain confidentiality in all matters relating to students and coworkers.
- Report to work according to the assigned schedule.
- Notify their immediate supervisor in advance or as early as possible in the event that they must be absent or late. Unauthorized absences, chronic absenteeism, tardiness, and failure to follow procedures for reporting an absence may be cause for disciplinary action up to and including termination.
- Know and comply with department and District policies and procedures.
- Express concerns, complaints, or criticism through appropriate channels.
- Observe all safety rules and regulations and report injuries or unsafe conditions to a supervisor immediately.
- Use District time, funds, and property for authorized District business and activities only.

All District employees should perform their duties in accordance with state and federal law, District policies and procedures, and ethical standards. Violation of policies, regulations, or guidelines may result in disciplinary action, up to and including termination. Alleged incidents of certain misconduct by educators, including having a criminal record, must be reported to SBEC not later than the seventh day after the superintendent first learns of the incident. See *Reports to the Texas Education Agency,* page 60 for additional information.

The *Educators' Code of Ethics*, adopted by the State Board for Educator Certification, which all District employees must adhere to, is reprinted below:

Texas Educators' Code of Ethics

Purpose and Scope

The Texas educator shall comply with standard practices and ethical conduct toward students, professional colleagues, school officials, parents, and members of the community and shall safeguard academic freedom. The Texas educator, in maintaining the dignity of the profession, shall respect and obey the law, demonstrate personal integrity, and exemplify honesty and good moral character. The Texas educator, in exemplifying ethical relations with colleagues, shall extend just and equitable treatment to all members of the profession. The Texas educator, in accepting a position of public trust, shall measure success by the progress

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of each student toward realization of his or her potential as an effective citizen. The Texas educator, in fulfilling responsibilities in the community, shall cooperate with parents and others to improve the public schools of the community. (19 TAC 247.1(b))

Enforceable Standards

1. Professional Ethical Conduct, Practices, and Performance

Standard 1.1 The educator shall not intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly engage in deceptive practices regarding official policies of the school district, educational institution, educator preparation program, the Texas Education Agency, or the State Board for Educator Certification (SBEC) and its certification process.

Standard 1.2 The educator shall not knowingly misappropriate, divert, or use monies, personnel, property, or equipment committed to his or her charge for personal gain or advantage.

Standard 1.3 The educator shall not submit fraudulent requests for reimbursement, expenses, or pay.

Standard 1.4 The educator shall not use institutional or professional privileges for personal or partisan advantage.

Standard 1.5 The educator shall neither accept nor offer gratuities, gifts, or favors that impair professional judgment or to obtain special advantage. This standard shall not restrict the acceptance of gifts or tokens offered and accepted openly from students, parents of students, or other persons or organizations in recognition or appreciation of service.

Standard 1.6 The educator shall not falsify records, or direct or coerce others to do so.

Standard 1.7 The educator shall comply with state regulations, written local school board policies, and other state and federal laws.

Standard 1.8 The educator shall apply for, accept, offer, or assign a position or a responsibility on the basis of professional qualifications.

Standard 1.9 The educator shall not make threats of violence against school district employees, school board members, students, or parents of students.

Standard 1.10 The educator shall be of good moral character and be worthy to instruct or supervise the youth of this state.

Standard 1.11 The educator shall not intentionally or knowingly misrepresent his or her employment history, criminal history, and/or disciplinary record when applying for subsequent employment.

Standard 1.12 The educator shall refrain from the illegal use or distribution of controlled substances and/or abuse of prescription drugs and toxic inhalants.

Standard 1.13 The educator shall not be under the influence of alcohol or consume alcoholic beverages on school property or during school activities when students are present.

2. Ethical Conduct toward Professional Colleagues

Standard 2.1 The educator shall not reveal confidential health or personnel information concerning colleagues unless disclosure serves lawful professional purposes or is required by law.

Standard 2.2 The educator shall not harm others by knowingly making false statements about a colleague or the school system.

Standard 2.3 The educator shall adhere to written local school board policies and state and federal laws regarding the hiring, evaluation, and dismissal of personnel.

Standard 2.4 The educator shall not interfere with a colleague's exercise of political, professional, or citizenship rights and responsibilities.

Standard 2.5 The educator shall not discriminate against or coerce a colleague on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, age, gender, disability, family status, or sexual orientation.

Standard 2.6 The educator shall not use coercive means or promise of special treatment in order to influence professional decisions or colleagues.

Standard 2.7 The educator shall not retaliate against any individual who has filed a complaint with the SBEC or provides information for a disciplinary investigation or proceeding under this chapter.

Standard 2.8 The educator shall not intentionally or knowingly subject a colleague to sexual harassment.

3. Ethical Conduct toward Students

Standard 3.1 The educator shall not reveal confidential information concerning students unless disclosure serves lawful professional purposes or is required by law.

Standard 3.2 The educator shall not intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly treat a student or minor in a manner that adversely affects or endangers the learning, physical health, mental health, or safety of the student or minor.

Standard 3.3 The educator shall not intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly misrepresent facts regarding a student.

Standard 3.4 The educator shall not exclude a student from participation in a program, deny benefits to a student, or grant an advantage to a student on the basis of race, color, gender, disability, national origin, religion, family status, or sexual orientation.

Standard 3.5 The educator shall not intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly engage in physical mistreatment, neglect, or abuse of a student or minor.

Standard 3.6 The educator shall not solicit or engage in sexual conduct or a romantic relationship with a student or minor.

Standard 3.7 The educator shall not furnish alcohol or illegal/unauthorized drugs to any person under 21 years of age unless the educator is a parent or guardian of that child or knowingly allow any person under 21 years of age unless the educator is a parent or guardian of that child to consume alcohol or illegal/unauthorized drugs in the presence of the educator.

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Standard 3.8 The educator shall maintain appropriate professional educator-student relationships and boundaries based on a reasonably prudent educator standard.
Standard 3.9 The educator shall refrain from inappropriate communication with a student or minor, including, but not limited to, electronic communication such as cell phone, text messaging, email, instant messaging, blogging, or other social network communication. Factors that may be considered in assessing whether the communication is inappropriate include, but are not limited to:

(i) the nature, purpose, timing, and amount of the communication;
(ii) the subject matter of the communication;
(iii) whether the communication was made openly or the educator attempted to conceal the communication;
(iv) whether the communication could be reasonably interpreted as soliciting sexual contact or a romantic relationship;
(v) whether the communication was sexually explicit; and
(vi) whether the communication involved discussion(s) of the physical or sexual attractiveness or the sexual history, activities, preferences, or fantasies of either the educator or the student.

Discrimination, Harassment, and Retaliation

Policies DH, DIA

Employees shall not engage in prohibited harassment, including sexual harassment, of other employees or students. While acting in the course of their employment, employees shall not engage in prohibited harassment of other persons including board members, vendors, contractors, volunteers, or parents. A substantiated charge of harassment will result in disciplinary action up to and including termination.

Individuals who believe they have been discriminated against or retaliated against or harassed are encouraged to promptly report such incidents to the campus principal, supervisor, or appropriate District official. If the campus principal, supervisor, or District official is the subject of a complaint, the employee should report the complaint directly to the superintendent or the superintendent's designee. A complaint against the superintendent may be made directly to the board.

The District's policy that includes definitions and procedures for reporting and investigating discrimination, harassment, and retaliation is reprinted below:

Policy DIA (Local)

The District prohibits sexual harassment and harassment based on a person's race, color, gender, national origin, disability, religion, or age. Employees shall not tolerate harassment of others and shall make reports as required at reporting procedures, below.

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Sexual Harassment

Sexual harassment of an employee is defined as unwelcome sexual advances; requests for sexual favors; sexually motivated physical, verbal, or nonverbal conduct; or other conduct or communication of a sexual nature when:

1. Submission to the conduct is either explicitly or implicitly a condition of an employee's employment, or when submission to or rejection of the conduct is the basis for an employment action affecting the employee; or

2. The conduct is so severe, persistent, or pervasive that it has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with the employee's work performance or creates an intimidating, threatening, hostile, or offensive work environment.

Examples
Examples of sexual harassment may include, but are not limited to, sexual advances; touching intimate body parts; coercing or forcing a sexual act on another; jokes or conversations of a sexual nature; and other sexually motivated conduct, communication, or contact.

Other Prohibited Harassment
Harassment of a District employee on the basis of the employee's race, color, gender, national origin, disability, religion, or age includes physical, verbal, or nonverbal conduct related to these characteristics when the conduct is so severe, persistent, or pervasive
that the conduct:

1. Has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with the employee's work performance;
2. Creates an intimidating, threatening, hostile, or offensive work environment; or
3. Otherwise adversely affects the employee's employment opportunities.

Examples
Examples of prohibited harassment may include, but are not limited to, offensive or derogatory language directed at another person's religious beliefs or practices, accent, skin color, or need for workplace accommodation; threatening or intimidating conduct; offensive jokes, name calling, slurs, or rumors; physical aggression or assault; display of graffiti or printed material promoting racial, ethnic, or other negative stereotypes; or other types of aggressive conduct such as theft or damage to property.

Reporting Procedures
An employee who believes that he or she has experienced prohibited harassment should immediately report the alleged acts to an appropriate person designated below.

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Any District employee with supervisory authority who receives notice that another employee has or may have experienced prohibited harassment is required to immediately report the alleged acts and take whatever other steps are required by this policy.

Any other person who knows or believes that a District employee has experienced harassment should immediately report the alleged acts to the appropriate person designated by this policy.

Timely Reporting
Reports of harassment shall be made as soon as possible after the alleged acts. A failure to promptly report alleged harassment may impair the District's ability to investigate and address the harassment.

A District employee may report harassment to his or her supervisor or campus principal. A person shall not be required to report harassment to the alleged harasser; nothing in this policy prevents a person from reporting harassment directly to one of the District officials below:

District Officials

1. For sexual harassment, the Title IX coordinator, Asheley Brown, Executive Director of Human Resource Services . [See DAA(LOCAL)]

2. For all other prohibited harassment, the Superintendent.

A report against the Title IX coordinator may be made directly to the Superintendent; a report against the Superintendent may be made directly to the Board.

Notification of Report
Upon receipt of a report of harassment, a supervisor or principal shall immediately notify the appropriate District official listed above.

Confidentiality
To the greatest extent possible, the District shall respect the privacy of the complainant, persons against whom a report is filed, and witnesses. Limited disclosures may be necessary in order to conduct a thorough investigation and comply with applicable law.

Investigation of the Report
The District may request, but shall not insist upon, a written report. If a report is made orally, the District official shall reduce the report to written form.

Upon receipt or notification of a report, the District official shall determine whether the allegations, if proven, would constitute sexual harassment or other prohibited harassment as defined by District policy. If so, the District official shall immediately authorize or undertake an investigation.

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If appropriate, the District shall promptly take interim action to prevent harassment during the course of an investigation.

The investigation may be conducted by the District official or a designee, such as the campus principal, or by a third party designated by the District, such as an attorney. When appropriate, the campus principal or supervisor shall be involved in or informed of the investigation.

The investigation may consist of personal interviews with the person making the report, the person against whom the report is filed, and others with knowledge of the circumstances surrounding the allegations. The investigation may also include analysis of other information or documents related to the allegations.

The District's obligation to conduct an investigation is not satisfied by the fact that a criminal or regulatory investigation regarding the same or similar allegations is pending.

Concluding the Investigation
Absent extenuating circumstances, the investigation should be completed within ten business days from the date of the report; however, the investigator shall take additional time if necessary to complete a thorough investigation.

The investigator shall prepare a written report of the investigation. The report shall be filed with the District official overseeing the investigation.

District Action
If the results of an investigation indicate that prohibited harassment occurred, the District shall promptly respond by taking appropriate disciplinary or corrective action reasonably calculated to address the harassment.

The District may take disciplinary action based on the results of an investigation, even if the District concludes that the conduct did not rise to the level of harassment prohibited by law or District policy.

Appeal
A complainant who is dissatisfied with the outcome of the investigation may appeal through DGBA(LOCAL), beginning at the appropriate level.

The complainant shall be informed of his or her right to file a complaint with the Texas Workforce Commission Civil Rights Division, the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, or the United States Department of Education Office for Civil Rights.

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Retaliation Prohibited
Retaliation against an employee alleged to have experienced harassment, a witness, or another person who makes a report or participates in an investigation is strictly prohibited. A person who makes a good faith report of prohibited harassment shall not suffer retaliation for making the report. A person who intentionally makes a false claim, offers false statements, or refuses to cooperate with a District investigation regarding prohibited harassment is subject to appropriate discipline.

Records Retention
Retention of records shall be in accordance with DAA(LOCAL).

Access to Policy
This policy shall be distributed annually to District employees. Copies of the policy shall be readily available at each campus and the District administrative offices.

Harassment of Students

Policies DF, DH, DHB, FFG, FFH, FFI

Sexual and other harassment of students by employees are forms of discrimination and are prohibited by law. Romantic or inappropriate social relationships between students and District employees are prohibited.

Employees who suspect a student may have experienced prohibited harassment are obligated to report their concerns to the campus principal or other appropriate District official. Any district employee who suspects or receives direct or indirect notice that a student or group of students has or may have experienced prohibited conduct based on sex, including sexual harassment, of a student shall immediately notify the district's Title IX coordinator, the ADA/Section 504 coordinator, or superintendent and take any other steps required by district policy.

All allegations of prohibited harassment of a student by an employee or adult will be reported to the student's parents and promptly investigated. An employee who knows of or has reasonable cause to believe that child abuse or neglect occured must also report his or her knowledge or suspicion to the appropriate authorities, as required by law. See *Reporting Suspected Child Abuse* page 57 and *Bullying* page 53-54 for additional information.

The District's policy that includes definitions and procedures for reporting and investigating harassment of students is reprinted below:

"Solicitation of a romantic relationship" means deliberate or repeated acts that can be reasonably interpreted as the solicitation by an educator of a relationship with a student that is romantic in nature. A romantic relationship is often characterized by a strong emotional or sexual attachment and/or patterns of exclusivity, but does not include appropriate educator-student relationships that arise out of legitimate contexts such as familial connections or longtime

acquaintance. The following acts, considered in context, may constitute prima facie evidence of the solicitation by an educator of a romantic relationship with a student:

1. Behavior, gestures, expressions, or communications with a student that are unrelated to the educator's job duties and evidence a romantic intent or interest in the student, including statements of love, affection, or attraction. Factors that may be considered in determining the romantic intent of such communications or behavior include:
    - The nature of the communications;
    - The timing of the communications;
    - The extent of the communications;
    - Whether the communications were made openly or secretly;
    - The extent that the educator attempts to conceal the communications;
    - If the educator claims to be counseling a student, SBEC may consider whether the educator's job duties included counseling, whether the educator reported the subject of the counseling to the student's guardians or to the appropriate school personnel, or, in the case of alleged abuse or neglect, whether the educator reported the abuse or neglect to the appropriate authorities; and
    - Any other evidence tending to show the context of the communications between educator and student.
2. Making inappropriate comments about a student's body, creating or transmitting sexually suggestive photographs or images, or encouraging the student to transmit sexually suggestive photographs or images.
3. Making sexually demeaning comments to a student.
4. Making comments about a student's potential sexual performance.
5. Requesting details of a student's sexual history
6. Requesting a date, sexual contact, or any activity intended for the sexual gratification of the educator.
7. Engaging in conversations regarding the sexual problems, preferences, or fantasies of either party.
8. Inappropriate hugging, kissing, or excessive touching.
9. Providing the student with drugs or alcohol.
10. Suggestions that a romantic relationship is desired after the student graduates, including post-graduation plans for dating or marriage.
11. Any other acts tending to show that the educator solicited a romantic relationship with the student. 19 TAC 249.3(51)

FFH (Local)

The District prohibits sexual harassment and harassment based on a person's race, color, gender, national origin, disability, or religion.

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Employees shall not tolerate harassment of students and shall make reports as required at REPORTING PROCEDURES, below.

Sexual Harassment

Sexual harassment of a student by a District employee includes both welcome and unwelcome sexual advances; requests for sexual favors; sexually motivated physical, verbal, or nonverbal conduct; or other conduct or communication of a sexual nature when:

By an Employee

1. A District employee causes the student to believe that the student must submit to the conduct in order to participate in a school program or activity, or that the employee will make an educational decision based on whether or not the student submits to the conduct; or
2. The conduct is so severe, persistent, or pervasive that it:
    - Affects the student's ability to participate in or benefit from an educational program or activity, or otherwise adversely affects the student's educational opportunities; or
    - Creates an intimidating, threatening, hostile, or abusive educational environment.

Romantic or inappropriate social relationships between students and District employees are prohibited. Any sexual relationship between a student and a District employee is always prohibited, even if consensual.

By Others

Sexual harassment of a student, including harassment committed by another student, includes unwelcome sexual advances; requests for sexual favors; or sexually motivated physical, verbal, or nonverbal conduct when the conduct is so severe, persistent, or pervasive that it:

1. Affects a student's ability to participate in or benefit from an educational program or activity, or creates an intimidating, threatening, hostile, or offensive educational environment;
2. Has the purpose or effect of substantially or unreasonably interfering with the student's academic performance; or
3. Otherwise adversely affects the student's educational opportunities.

Examples

Examples of sexual harassment of a student may include, but are not limited to, sexual advances; touching intimate body parts or coercing physical contact that is sexual in nature; jokes or conversations of a sexual nature; and other sexually motivated conduct, communications, or contact.

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Necessary or permissible physical contact such as assisting a child by taking the child's hand, comforting a child with a hug, or other physical contact not reasonably construed as sexual in nature is not sexual harassment.

Other Prohibited Harassment

Prohibited harassment of a student is defined as physical, verbal, or nonverbal conduct based on the student's race, color, gender, national origin, disability, or religion that is so severe, persistent, or pervasive that the conduct:

1. Affects a student's ability to participate in or benefit from an educational program or activity, or creates an intimidating, threatening, hostile, or offensive educational environment;
2. Has the purpose or effect of substantially or unreasonably interfering with the student's academic performance; or
3. Otherwise adversely affects the student's educational opportunities.

Examples

Examples of prohibited harassment may include, but are not limited to, offensive or derogatory language directed at another person's religious beliefs or practices, accent, skin color, or need for accommodation; threatening or intimidating conduct; offensive jokes, name calling, slurs, or rumors; physical aggression or assault; display of graffiti or printed material promoting racial, ethnic, or other negative stereotypes; or other kinds of aggressive conduct such as theft or damage to property.

Reporting Procedures

Any student who believes that he or she has experienced prohibited harassment should immediately report the alleged acts to a teacher, counselor, principal, or other District employee.

Any District employee who receives notice that a student has or may have experienced prohibited harassment is required to immediately report the alleged acts to an appropriate person designated below.

Any other person who knows or believes that a student has experienced prohibited harassment should immediately report the alleged acts to the appropriate person designated below.

Reports of known or suspected child abuse or neglect shall be made as required by law. [See FFG]

Timely Reporting

Reports of harassment shall be made as soon as possible after the alleged acts. A failure to promptly report alleged harassment may impair the District's ability to investigate and address the harassment.

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Oral or written reports of prohibited harassment shall normally be made to the campus principal. A person shall not be required to report harassment to the alleged harasser; nothing in this policy prevents a person from reporting harassment directly to one of the
District officials below:

District Officials
1. For sexual harassment, the Title IX coordinator, Charese Duffey, Title IX Administrator. [See FB(LOCAL)]

2. For all other prohibited harassment, the Superintendent or his/her designee.

A report against the Title IX coordinator may be made directly to the Superintendent; a report against the Superintendent may be made directly to the Board.

Notification of Report
Upon receipt of a report of harassment, a principal shall immediately notify the appropriate District official listed above.

Notice to Parents
The principal or District official shall promptly notify the parents of any student alleged to have experienced prohibited harassment by a District employee or another adult associated with the District. In cases of student-to-student harassment, the District shall promptly notify the parents of any student alleged to have experienced harassment when the allegations presented, if proven, would constitute sexual harassment or other prohibited harassment as defined by District policy.

Confidentiality
To the greatest extent possible, the District shall respect the privacy of the complainant, persons against whom a report is filed, and witnesses. Limited disclosures may be necessary in order to conduct a thorough investigation and comply with applicable law.

Investigation of the Report
The District may request, but shall not insist upon, a written report. If a report is made orally, the District official shall reduce the report to written form.

Upon receipt or notification of a report, the District official shall determine whether the allegations, if proven, would constitute sexual harassment or other prohibited harassment as defined by District policy. If so, the District official shall immediately authorize or undertake an investigation.

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If appropriate, the District shall promptly take interim action to prevent harassment during the course of an investigation.

The investigation may be conducted by the District official or a designee, such as the campus principal, or by a third party designated by the District, such as an attorney. When appropriate, the campus principal shall be involved in or informed of the investigation.

The investigation may consist of personal interviews with the person making the report, the person against whom the report is filed, and others with knowledge of the circumstances surrounding the allegations. The investigation may also include analysis of other information or documents related to the allegations.

The District's obligation to conduct an investigation is not satisfied by the fact that a criminal or regulatory investigation regarding the same or similar allegations is pending.

Concluding the Investigation
Absent extenuating circumstances, the investigation should be completed within ten business days from the date of the report; however, the investigator shall take additional time if necessary to complete a thorough investigation.

The investigator shall prepare a written report of the investigation. The report shall be filed with the District official overseeing the investigation.

District Action
If the results of an investigation indicate that prohibited harassment occurred, the District shall promptly respond by taking appropriate disciplinary or corrective action reasonably calculated to address the harassment.

The District may take disciplinary action based on the results of an investigation, even if the District concludes that the conduct did not rise to the level of harassment prohibited by law or District policy.

Appeal
A student, including a complainant, may appeal through FNG (LOCAL), beginning at the appropriate level. A complainant shall be informed of his or her right to file a complaint with the United States Department of Education Office for Civil Rights.

Retaliation Prohibited
Retaliation against a student alleged to have experienced harassment, a witness, or another person who makes a report or participates in an investigation is strictly prohibited. A person who makes a good faith report of prohibited harassment shall not suffer retaliation for making the report. A person who intentionally makes a false claim, offers false statements, or refuses to

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cooperate with a District investigation regarding prohibited harassment is subject to appropriate discipline.

Records Retention
Retention of records shall be in accordance with FB(LOCAL).

Access to Policy
Information regarding this policy shall be distributed annually to District employees and included in the student handbook. Copies of the policy shall be readily available at each campus and the District's administrative offices.

Reporting Suspected Child Abuse

Policies DG, GRA

All employees with reasonable cause to believe that a child's physical or mental health or welfare has been adversely affected by abuse or neglect, as defined by Texas Family Code §261.001, are required by state law to make a report to a law enforcement agency, the Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS), or appropriate state agency (e.g., state agency operating, licensing, certifying, or registering the facility) within 24 hours after the employee first has reasonable cause to believe that the child has been abused or neglected. Law enforcement agency includes the Texas Department of Public Safety, a municipal police department, a county sheriff's office, or a county constable's office and does not include the district police.

A person responsible for the care, custody, or welfare of the child (including a teacher) is required to report alleged abuse or neglect to DFPS even if a report is made to law enforcement.

Employees are also required to make a report if they have reasonable cause to believe that an adult was a victim of abuse or neglect as a child and they determine in good faith that the disclosure of the information is necessary to protect the health and safety of another child or person with a disability.

Reports to DFPS can be made using the Texas Abuse Hotline to https://www.txabusehotline.org/Login/Default.aspx or 800-252-5400. ***State law specifies that an employee may not delegate to or rely on another person or administrator to make the report.***

Under state law, a person reporting or assisting in the investigation of reported child abuse or neglect is immune from liability unless the report is made in bad faith or with malicious intent. In addition, the District is prohibited from retaliating against an employee who, in good faith, reports child abuse or neglect or who participates in an investigation regarding an allegation of child abuse or neglect.

An employee's failure to make the required report may result in prosecution as a Class A misdemeanor. The offense of failure to report by a professional may be a state jail felony if it is shown the individual intended to conceal the abuse or neglect. In addition, a certified employee's

failure to report suspected child abuse may result in disciplinary procedures by SBEC for a violation of the Texas Educators' Code of Ethics.

Employees who suspect that a student has been or may be abused or neglected should also report their concerns to the campus principal. This includes students with disabilities who are no longer minors. Employees are not required to report their concern to the principal before making a report to the appropriate agency.

Reporting the concern to the principal does not relieve the employee of the requirement to report it to the appropriate state agency. In addition, employees must cooperate with investigators of child abuse and neglect. Interference with a child abuse investigation by denying an interviewer's request to interview a student at school or requiring the presence of a parent or school administrator against the desires of the duly authorized investigator is prohibited.

Sexual Abuse and Maltreatment of Children

The District has established a plan for addressing sexual abuse and other maltreatment of children, which may be accessed at the LEISD Student Code of Conduct. As an employee, it is important for you to be aware of warning signs that could indicate a child may have been or is being sexually abused or maltreated. Abuse in the Texas Family Code is defined to include any sexual conduct harmful to a child's mental, emotional, or physical welfare, including conduct that constitutes the offense of continuous sexual abuse of a young child or disabled individual, indecency with a child, improper relationship between an educator and a student, sexual assault, or encouraging a child to engage in sexual conduct, as well as a failure to make a reasonable effort to prevent sexual conduct with a child. Maltreatment is defined as abuse or neglect. Anyone who suspects that a child has been or may be abused or neglected has a legal responsibility under state law for reporting the suspected abuse or neglect to law enforcement or to Child Protective Services (CPS). Employees are required to follow the procedures described above in *Reporting Suspected Child Abuse*.

What to look for:

Physical Abuse
Common indicators of physical abuse include:

- Frequent injuries such as bruises, cuts, black eyes, or burns, especially when the child cannot adequately explain their cause
- Frequent complaints of pain without obvious injury
- Burns or bruises in an unusual pattern which may indicate the use of an instrument or a human bite; cigarette burns may be seen on the face, arms, or palms
- Aggressive, disruptive, and destructive behavior
- Passive, withdrawn, and emotionless behavior
- Lack of reaction to pain
- Fear of going home, seeing parents
- Injuries which appear after the child has not been seen for several days

- Wears unseasonable clothes, which may hide injuries to arms or legs

Neglect
Common indicators of neglect include:

- Obvious malnourishment
- Lack of personal cleanliness
- Habitually dressed in torn and/or dirty clothes
- Unattended for long periods of time
- Needs glasses, dental care, or other medical attention
- Begs or steals food
- Frequently absent or late to school

Sexual Abuse
Common indicators of sexual abuse include:

- Physical signs of sexually transmitted disease
- Evidence of injury to the genital areas
- Pregnancy in a young girl
- Difficulty in walking or sitting
- Frequent expressions of their own or other children's sexual involvement with adults
- Extreme fear of being alone with members of the opposite sex
- Engages in sexually suggestive or promiscuous behavior
- Knowledgeable about sexual relations
- Reports sexual assault

Reports to Texas Education Agency

Policies DF, DHB, DHC

The conduct of an employee must be reported to TEA if there is evidence that the employee was involved in any of the following:

- Any form of sexual or physical abuse of a minor or any other unlawful conduct with a student or a minor
- Soliciting or engaging in sexual contact or a romantic relationship with a student or minor
- Engaged in inappropriate communication with a student or minor
- Failed to maintain appropriate boundaries with a student or minor
- The possession, transfer, sale, or distribution of a controlled substance
- The illegal transfer, appropriation, or expenditure of district or school property or funds
- An attempt by fraudulent or unauthorized means to obtain or alter any certificate or permit for the purpose of promotion or additional compensation

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- Committing a criminal offense or any part of a criminal offense on district property or at a school-sponsored event

The reporting requirements above are in addition to the superintendent's ongoing duty to notify TEA when a certified employee or an applicant for certification has a reported criminal history or engaged in conduct violating the assessment security procedures established under TEC 39.0301. "Reported criminal history" means any formal criminal justice system charges and dispositions including arrests, detentions, indictments, criminal information, convictions, deferred adjudications, and probations in any state or federal jurisdiction that is obtained by a means other than the Fingerprint-based Applicant Clearinghouse of Texas (FACT).

Reporting Crime

Policy DG

The Texas Whistleblower Act Protects district employees who make good faith reports of violations of law by the district to an appropriate law enforcement authority. The district is prohibited from suspending, terminating the employment of, or taking other adverse personnel action against, an employee who makes a report under the Act. State law also provides employees with the right to report a crime witnessed at the school to any peace officer with authority to investigate the crime.

Scope and Sequence

Policy DG

If a teacher determines that students need more or less time in a specific area to demonstrate proficiency in the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) for that subject and grade level, the district will not penalize the teacher for not following the district's scope and sequence.

The district may take appropriate action if the teacher does not follow the district's scope and sequence based on documented evidence of a deficiency in classroom instruction. This documentation can be obtained through observation or substantiated and documented third-party information.

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Technology Resources

Policy CQ

The District's technology resources, including its networks, e-mail accounts, devices connected to its networks, and all District-owned devices used on or off school property are primarily for administrative and instructional purposes. Limited personal use is permitted if the use:

- Imposes no tangible cost to the District.
- Does not unduly burden the District's computer or network resources
- Has no adverse effect on job performance or on a student's academic performance
- Artificial intelligence (AI) should only be used as a support tool to improve student outcomes, not to replace the decisions made by teachers or students

Electronic mail transmissions and other use of the technology resources are not confidential and can be monitored at any time to ensure appropriate use.

Employees are required to abide by the provisions of the acceptable use agreement and administrative procedures. Failure to do so can result in suspension of access or termination of privileges and may lead to disciplinary action. Employees with questions about computer use and data management can contact the Director of Instructional Technology.

Personal Use of Electronic Media

Policy CQ, CY, DH

Electronic communications includes all forms of social media, such as text messaging, instant messaging, electronic mail (e-mail), web logs (blogs), wikis, electronic forums (chat rooms), video-sharing websites (e.g., YouTube), editorial comments posted on the Internet, and social network sites (e.g., Facebook, X, LinkedIn, Instagram). Electronic communications also includes all forms of telecommunication such as landlines, cell phones, and web-based applications.

As role models for the district's students, employees are responsible for their public conduct even when they are not acting as district employees. Employees will be held to the same professional standards in their public use of electronic media as they are for any other public conduct. If an employee's use of electronic media interferes with the employee's ability to effectively perform his or her job duties, the employee is subject to disciplinary action, up to and including termination of employment. If an employee wishes to use a social network site or similar media for personal purposes, the employee is responsible for the content on the employee's page, including content added by the employee, the employee's friends, or members of the public who can access the employee's page, and for web links on the employee's page. The employee is also responsible for maintaining privacy settings appropriate to the content.

An employee who uses electronic media for personal purposes shall observe the following:

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- The employee may not set up or update the employee's personal social network pages(s) using the district's computers, network, or equipment.
- The employee shall limit use of personal electronic communication devices to send or receive calls, text messages, pictures, and videos to breaks, meal times, and before and after scheduled work hours, unless there is an emergency or the use is authorized by a supervisor to conduct district business.
- The employee shall not use district and campus trademarks, including names, logos, mascots, and symbols or other copyrighted material on social media or in texts without express written consent.
- An employee may not share or post, in any format, information, videos, or pictures obtained while on duty or on district business unless the employee first obtains written approval from the employee's immediate supervisor. Employees should be cognizant that they have access to information and images that, if transmitted to the public, could violate privacy concerns.
- The employee continues to be subject to applicable state and federal laws, local policies, administrative regulations, and the Texas Educators' Code of Ethics, even when communicating regarding personal and private matters, regardless of whether the employee is using private or public equipment, on or off campus. These restrictions include:
    - Confidentiality of student records [See Policy FL]
    - Confidentiality of health or personnel information concerning colleagues, unless disclosure serves lawful professional purposes or is required by law [See DH (EXHIBIT)]
    - Confidentiality of district records, including educator evaluations and private email addresses. [See Policy GBA]
    - Copyright law [See Policy CY]
    - Prohibition against harming others by knowingly making false statements about a colleague or the school system. [See DH (EXHIBIT)]

See *Electronic Communications between Employees, Students, and Parents*, below, for regulations on employee communication with students through electronic media.

Electronic Communications between Employees, Students, and Parents

Policy DH

A certified or licensed employee, or any other employee designated in writing by the superintendent or a campus principal, may use electronic communications with students who are currently enrolled in the district. The employee must comply with the provisions outlined below. Electronic communications between all other employees and students who are enrolled in the

district are prohibited. Employees are not required to provide students with their personal phone number or email address.

An employee is not subject to provisions regarding electronic communications with a student to the extent the employee has a social or family relationship with a student. For example, an employee may have a relationship with a niece or nephew, a student who is the child of an adult friend, a student who is a friend of the employee's child, or a member or participant in the same civic, social, recreational, or religious organization. An employee who claims an exception based on a social relationship shall provide written consent from the student's parent. The written consent shall include an acknowledgement by the parent that:

- The employee has provided the parent with a copy of this protocol
- The employee and the student have a social relationship outside of school;
- The parent understands that the employee's communications with the student are exempted from district regulation; and
- The parent is solely responsible for monitoring electronic communications between the employee and the student.

The following definitions apply for the use of electronic media with students:

- *Electronic communications* means any communication facilitated by the use of any electronic device, including a telephone, cellular telephone, computer, computer network, personal data assistant, or pager. The term includes e-mail, text messages, instant messages, and any communication made through an Internet website, including a social media website or a social networking website.
- *Communicate* means to convey information and includes a one-way communication as well as a dialogue between two or more people. A public communication by an employee that is not targeted at students (e.g., a posting on the employee's personal social network page or a blog) is not a *communication*: however, the employee may be subject to district regulations on personal electronic communications. See *Personal Use of Electronic Media*, above. Unsolicited contact from a student through electronic means is not a *communication*.
- *Certified or licensed employee* means a person employed in a position requiring SBEC certification or a professional license, and whose job duties may require the employee to communicate electronically with students. The term includes classroom teachers, counselors, principals, librarians, paraprofessionals, nurses, educational diagnosticians, licensed therapists, and athletic trainers.

An employee who communicates electronically with students shall observe the following:

- The employee is prohibited from knowingly communicating with students using any form of electronic communications, including mobile and web applications, that are not provided or accessible by the district unless a specific exception is noted below.
- Only a teacher, trainer, or other employee who has an extracurricular duty may use text messaging, and then only to communicate with students who participate in the

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extracurricular activity over which the employee has responsibility. An employee who communicates with a student using text messaging shall comply with the following protocol:

- **For each text message addressed to one or more students, the employee shall send a copy of the text message to the employee's district email address.**

- The employee shall limit communications to matters within the scope of the employee's professional responsibilities (e.g., for classroom teachers, matters relating to class work, homework, and tests; for an employee with an extracurricular duty, matters relating to the extracurricular activity).
- The employee is prohibited from knowingly communicating with students through a personal social network page; the employee must create a separate social network page ("professional page") for the purpose of communicating with students. The employee must enable administration and parents to access the employee's professional page.
- The employee shall not communicate directly with any student between the hours of 7:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. An employee may, however, make public posts to a social network site, blog, or similar application at any time.
- The employee does not have a right to privacy with respect to communications with students and parents.
- The employee continues to be subject to applicable state and federal laws, local policies, administrative regulations, and the Texas Educators' Code of Ethics including:
    - Compliance with the Public Information Act and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), including retention and confidentiality of student records. [See Policies CPC and FL]
    - Copyright law [Policy CY]
    - Prohibitions against soliciting or engaging in sexual conduct or a romantic relationship with a student. [See Policy DH]
- Upon request from administration, an employee will provide the phone number(s), social network site(s), or other information regarding the method(s) of electronic media the employee uses to communicate with one or more currently-enrolled students.
- Upon written request from a parent or student, the employee shall discontinue communicating with the student through e-mail, text messaging, instant messaging, or any other form of one-to-one communication.
- An employee may request an exception from one or more of the limitations above by submitting a written request to his or her immediate supervisor.
- All staff are required to use school email accounts for all electronic communications with parents. Communication about school issues through personal email accounts or text messages are not allowed as they cannot be preserved in accordance with the district's record retention policy

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- An employee shall notify his supervisor in writing within one business day if a student engages in an improper electronic communication with the employee. The employee should describe the form and content of the electronic communication.

Public Information on Private Devices

Policy DH

Employees should not maintain district information on privately owned devices. Any district information must be forwarded or transferred to the district to be preserved. The district will take reasonable efforts to obtain public information in compliance with the Public Information Act. Reasonable efforts may include:

- Verbal or written directive
- Remote access to district-owned devices and services

Criminal History Background Checks

Policy DBAA

All employees are subject to a review of their criminal history record information at any time during employment. National criminal history checks based on an individual's fingerprints, photo, and other identification will be conducted and entered into the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) Clearinghouse. This database provides the District and SBEC with access to an employee's current national criminal history and updates to the employee's subsequent criminal history.

Employee Arrests and Convictions

Policy DH, DHB, DHC

An employee must notify his or her principal or immediate supervisor within three calendar days of any arrest, indictment, conviction, no contest or guilty plea, or other adjudication of any felony, and any of the other offenses listed below:

- Crimes involving school property or funds
- Crimes involving attempt by fraudulent or unauthorized means to obtain or alter any certificate or permit that would entitle any person to hold or obtain a position as an educator
- Crimes that occur wholly or in part on school property or at a school-sponsored activity
- Crimes involving moral turpitude

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Moral turpitude includes the following:

- Dishonesty
- Fraud
- Deceit
- Theft
- Misrepresentation
- Deliberate violence
- Base, vile, or depraved acts that are intended to arouse or gratify the sexual desire of the actor
- Crimes involving any felony possession or conspiracy to possess, or any misdemeanor or felony transfer, sale, distribution, or conspiracy to transfer, sell, or distribute any controlled substance
- Felonies involving driving while intoxicated (DWI)
- Acts constituting abuse or neglect under the Texas Family Code

If an employee is arrested or criminally charged, the superintendent is also required to report the educators' criminal history to the Division of Investigations at TEA.

The superintendent is required to report the misconduct or criminal history of an employee to TEA. Information about misconduct or allegations of misconduct of an employee obtained by a means other than the criminal history clearinghouse will be reported to TEA. Refer to Policies DHB (LEGAL) and DHC (LEGAL) for timelines and conduct that will result in reporting.

Alcohol and Drug-Abuse Prevention

Policy DH

Little Elm ISD is committed to maintaining an alcohol- and drug-free environment and will not tolerate the use of alcohol and illegal drugs in the workplace and at school-related or school-sanctioned activities on or off school property. Employees who use or are under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs as defined by the Texas Controlled Substances Act during working hours may be dismissed. The District's policy regarding employee drug use follows:

Policy DH (LOCAL)

Employees shall not unlawfully manufacture, distribute, dispense, possess, use, or be under the influence of any of the following substances during working hours while at school or at school-related activities during or outside of usual working hours:

1. Any controlled substance or dangerous drug as defined by law, including but not limited to marijuana, any narcotic drug, hallucinogen, stimulant, depressant, amphetamine, or barbiturate.
2. Alcohol or any alcoholic beverage.

3. Any abusable glue, aerosol paint, or any other chemical substance for inhalation.
4. Any other intoxicant, or mood-changing, mind-altering, or behavior-altering drugs.

An employee need not be legally intoxicated to be considered "under the influence" of a controlled substance.

Compliance with these requirements and prohibitions is mandatory and is a condition of employment. As a further condition of employment, an employee shall notify the superintendent of any criminal drug statute conviction the employee incurs for a violation in a workplace no later than five days after such conviction.

Within 30 calendar days of the superintendent receiving notice of any source of conviction for any drug statute violation occurring in the workplace, the superintendent or designee shall either (1) take appropriate personnel action against the employee, up to and including termination of employment or referral for prosecution or (2) require the employee to participate satisfactorily in a drug and alcohol abuse assistance or rehabilitation program approved for such purposes by a federal, state, or local health agency, law enforcement agency, or other appropriate agency. The cost of any such program shall be borne by the employee

[This notice complies with notice requirements imposed by the federal Drug-Free Workplace Act [20 U.S.C. 3471, 1221e-3(a)(1) and 34 CFR 85.630]; notice requirements imposed by the federal Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act Amendments of 1989 [20 U.S.C. 3224a and 34 CFR 86.201: and requirements imposed by the Texas Workers' Compensation Commission rules at 28 TAC 169.2]

An employee who uses a drug authorized by a licensed physician through a prescription specifically for that employee's use shall not be considered to have violated this policy.

Tobacco and Nicotine Products and E-Cigarette Use

Policies DH, FNCD GKA

State law prohibits smoking, using tobacco and nicotine products, or e-cigarettes on all District-owned property and at school-related or school-sanctioned activities, on or off school property. This includes all buildings, playground areas, parking facilities, and facilities used for athletics and other activities. Drivers of District-owned vehicles are prohibited from smoking, using tobacco products, or e-cigarettes while inside the vehicle. Notices stating that smoking is prohibited by law and punishable by a fine are displayed in prominent places in all school buildings.

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Fraud and Financial Impropriety

Policy CAA

All employees should act with integrity and diligence in duties involving the District's financial resources. The District prohibits fraud and financial impropriety, as defined below. Fraud and financial impropriety include the following:

- Forgery or unauthorized alteration of any document or account belonging to the District
- Forgery or unauthorized alteration of a check, bank draft, or any other financial document
- Misappropriation of funds, securities, supplies, or other District assets including employee time
- Impropriety in the handling of money or reporting of District financial transactions
- Profiteering as a result of insider knowledge of District information or activities
- Unauthorized disclosure of confidential or proprietary information to outside parties
- Unauthorized disclosure of investment activities engaged in or contemplated by the District
- Accepting or seeking anything of material value from contractors, vendors, or other persons providing services or materials to the District, except as otherwise permitted by law or District policy
- Inappropriately destroying, removing, or inappropriately using records, furniture, fixtures, or equipment
- Failing to provide financial records required by state or local entities
- Failure to disclose conflicts of interest as required by law or District policy
- Any other dishonest act regarding the finances of the District
- Failure to comply with requirements imposed by law, the awarding agency, or a pass-through entity for state and federal awards

Conflict of Interest

Policy CB, DBD

Employees are required to disclose to their supervisor any situation that creates a potential conflict of interest with proper discharge of assigned duties and responsibilities or creates a potential conflict of interest with the best interests of the District. This includes the following:

- A personal financial interest
- A business interest
- Any other obligation or relationship
- Non-school employment

Employees should contact their supervisor for additional information.

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Gifts and Favors

Policy DBD

Employees may not accept gifts or favors that could influence, or be construed to influence, the employee's discharge of assigned duties. The acceptance of a gift, favor, or service by an administrator or teacher that might reasonably tend to influence the selection of textbooks, electronic textbooks, instructional materials or technological equipment may result in prosecution of a Class B misdemeanor offense. This does not include staff development, teacher training, or instructional materials such as maps or worksheets that convey information to students or contribute to the learning process.

Copyrighted Materials

Policy CY

Employees are expected to comply with the provisions of federal copyright law and policy relating to the use, reproduction, distribution, performance, or display of copyrighted materials (i.e., printed material, videos, computer data and programs, etc.). Electronic media, including motion pictures and other audiovisual works, are to be used in the classroom for instructional purposes only. Duplications are to be used in the classroom for educational purposes only. Duplication or backup of computer programs and data must be made within the provisions of the purchase agreement.

Associations and Political Activities

Policy DGA

The District will not directly or indirectly discourage employees from participating in political affairs or require any employee to join any group, club, committee, organization, or association. Employees may join or refuse to join any professional association or organization.

An individual's employment will not be affected by membership or a decision not to be a member of any employee organization that exists for the purpose of dealing with employers concerning grievances, labor disputes, wages, rates of pay, hours of employment, or conditions of work. Use of District resources including work time for political activities is prohibited.

The District encourages personal participation in the political process, including voting. Employees who need to be absent from work to vote during the early voting period or on election day must communicate with their immediate supervisor prior to the absence.

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Charitable Contributions

Policy DG

The Board or any employee may not directly or indirectly require or coerce an employee to make a contribution to a charitable organization or in response to a fund-raiser. Employees cannot be required to attend a meeting called for the purpose of soliciting charitable contributions. In addition, the Board or any employee may not directly or indirectly require or coerce an employee to refrain from making a contribution to a charitable organization or in response to a fund raiser or attending a meeting called for the purpose of soliciting charitable contributions.

Safety and Security

Policy CK series

The District has developed and promotes a comprehensive program to ensure the safety and security of its employees, students, and visitors. The safety and security program includes written guidelines and procedures for responding to emergencies and activities to help reduce the frequency of accidents and injuries.

Employees must follow established protocols and response to emergencies for each campus and department. Refer to written security procedures specific to your location and work area.

To prevent or minimize injuries to employees, coworkers, and students and to protect and conserve District equipment, employees must comply with the following requirements:

- Observe all safety rules.
- Keep work areas clean and orderly at all times.
- Immediately report all accidents to their supervisor.
- Operate only equipment or machines for which they have training and authorization.

While driving on district business, employees are required to abide by all state and local traffic laws. Employees driving on district business are prohibited from texting and using other electronic devices that require both visual and manual attention while the vehicle is in motion.Employees will exercise care and sound judgment on whether to use hands-free technology while the vehicle is in motion.

It is every employee's responsibility to ensure that their campus is safe and secure at all times. Exterior doors should never be unlocked or propped open. Classroom doors should always be locked from the outside and shut. If you are having problems with your door locking, it is your responsibility to report it to your campus principal or assistant principal.

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Pursuant to International Fire Code 2003 Section 308, a person shall not utilize or be allowed to utilize a candle, open flame and/or candle warmers in connection with a public meeting place or gathering for purposes of educational occupancy.

Furthermore, pursuant to Fire Code Chapter 803.3.2, artwork and teaching materials shall be limited on the walls to not more than 20% of the wall area.

Employees with questions or concerns relating to safety programs and issues can contact Clint Miller, Director of Student Services/Safety & Security at 972-947-9340.

Possession of Firearms and Weapons

Policies DH, FNCG, GKA

Employees, visitors, and students, including those with a license to carry a concealed handgun, are prohibited from bringing firearms, knives, clubs or other prohibited weapons onto school premises (i.e., building or portion of a building) or any grounds or building where a school-sponsored activity takes place. A person, including an employee, who holds a license to carry a handgun may transport or store a handgun or other firearm or ammunition in a locked vehicle in a parking lot, garage, or other district provided parking area, provided the handgun or firearm or ammunition is properly stored, and not in plain view. To ensure the safety of all persons, employees who observe or suspect a violation of the District's weapons policy should report it to their supervisor or call the local authorities immediately.

Visitors in the Workplace

Policy GKC

All visitors are expected to enter any District facility through the main entrance and sign in or report to the building's main office. Authorized visitors will receive directions or be escorted to their destination. Employees who observe an unauthorized individual on the District premises should immediately direct him or her to the building office or contact the administrator in charge.

Any guests/visiting teachers must submit a background check (level 3) through the District system at least 48 hours prior to their scheduled visit to the campus. Guest/visiting teachers without background clearance will not be permitted on campus with students.

Asbestos Management Plan

Policy CSC

The District is committed to providing a safe environment for employees. An accredited management planner has developed an asbestos management plan for each school. A copy of the

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District's management plan is kept in each building's office and is available for inspection during normal business hours.

Pest Control Treatment

Policies CLB, DI

Employees are prohibited from applying any pesticide or herbicide without appropriate training and prior approval of the integrated pest management (IPM) coordinator. Any application of pesticide or herbicide must be done in a manner prescribed by law and the District's integrated pest management program.

Notices of planned pest control treatment will be posted in a District building 48 hours before the treatment begins. Notices are generally located in the main entrances of the building. In addition, individual employees may request in writing to be notified of pesticide applications. An employee who requests individualized notice will be notified by telephone, written or electric means. Pest control information sheets are available from Danny Cogdell, the District IPM Coordinator, at (972) 947-9456 x13004 or email at dcogdell@leisd.ws upon request.

Little Elm ISD has a policy that requires us to follow integrated pest management (IPM) procedures to control pests on school grounds. Little Elm ISD strives to use the safest effective procedures to manage pests, including a variety of non-chemical control measures; however pesticide use is sometimes necessary to maintain adequate pest control and assure a safe, pest-free school environment.

All pesticides used in our District are registered for their intended use by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and are applied only by certified pesticide applicators. Prior to indoor applications, signs will be posted 48 hours in advance of the treatment. All outdoor applications will be posted at the time of treatment and signs will remain until it is safe to enter the area. Parents with further questions, or who wish to be notified directly about upcoming pesticide applications on their children's campus, can contact Danny Cogdell, the District IPM Coordinator, at (972) 947-9456 x13004 or email at dcogdell@leisd.ws

General Procedures

Emergency School Closing

Policy EB

The District may close schools because of severe weather, epidemics, or other emergency conditions. When such conditions exist, the Superintendent will make the official decision concerning the closing of the District's facilities. When it becomes necessary to open late, to release students early, or to cancel school, District officials will post a notice on the District's website, Blackboard mass notification email, and posts to the District's social media platforms.

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Emergencies

Policies CKC, CKD

All employees should be familiar with the safety procedures for responding to emergencies, including a medical emergency. Employees should locate evacuation diagrams posted in their work areas and be familiar with shelter in place, lockout, and lockdown procedures. . Emergency drills will be conducted to familiarize employees and students with safety and evacuation procedures. Each campus is equipped with an automatic external defibrillator and Stop the Bleed Kit. Fire extinguishers are located throughout all District buildings. Employees should know the location of these devices and procedures for their use.

Purchasing Procedures

Policy CH

All requests for purchases must be submitted to the Little Elm ISD Business Services department on an official District purchase order (PO) form with the appropriate approval signatures. No purchases, charges, or commitments to buy goods or services for the District can be made without a PO number. The District will not reimburse employees or assume responsibility for purchases made without authorization. Employees are not permitted to purchase supplies or equipment for personal use through the District's business office. Contact Little Elm ISD Business Services department for additional information on purchasing procedures.

Accounting - Cash in School Buildings This applies to all state funds, local taxes, cafeteria or activity funds, and funds raised by students. Any District employee who comes into possession of any District funds shall turn the same into the school office (or designated official) on a daily basis. The employee turning in the money shall be given a proper receipt and shall be responsible for obtaining such receipt. The money turned in shall be deposited in a school vault daily. District funds coming into the hands of any employee from any source shall be kept separate until turned in and receipted; no employee shall allow District funds to be commingled with personal funds.

Money Handling

No money shall be kept in the school buildings overnight except for enough to make change next day. Teachers who sell things or collect money should turn that money into the principal's office **daily.** Each principal is responsible for managing a sound method for the handling and accounting of money.

Returned Check Policy The District uses a third party, Paytek Solutions, to process returned checks on our behalf. Checks that do not clear the bank on the initial presentation are forwarded to Paytek for collection. Paytek will charge the check writer a $31.88 fee for their service.

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Name and Address Changes

It is important that employment records be kept up to date. Employees must notify the Little Elm ISD Human Resource Services office if there are any changes or corrections to their name, home address, contact telephone number, marital status, emergency contact, or beneficiary. **Address and phone changes may be submitted through Employee Access accounts.** Please contact the Benefits Department for assistance. You will also need to update records with TEA (SBEC) and TRS.

Personnel Records

Policy DBA, GBA

Most District records, including personnel records, are public information and must be released upon request. In most cases, an employee's personal email address is confidential and may not be released without the employee's permission.

Employees may choose to have the following personal information withheld:

- Address
- Phone number, including cell phone number
- Emergency contact information
- Information that reveals whether they have family members
- Personal e-mail address

The choice to not allow public access to this information may be made at any time by submitting a written request to Little Elm ISD Human Resource Services department. New or terminated employees have 14 days after hire or termination to submit a request. Otherwise, personal information will be released to the public until a request to withhold the information is submitted or another exception for release of information under law applies. An employee is responsible for notifying the district if he or she is subject to any exception for disclosure of personal or confidential information.

HB 2961 specifies that the social security number of an employee or former employee is confidential and cannot be used as an employee identifier except for tax purposes.

Facility Use

Policies DGA, GKD

Employees who wish to use District facilities after school hours must follow established procedures. The building principal and the maintenance department is responsible for scheduling

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the use of facilities after school hours. Contact the campus principal to request to use school facilities and to obtain information on the fees charged.

Keys and Access Fobs

Principals issue the keys and access fobs to their buildings. Keys and access fobs are checked out at the beginning of the year and must be checked back in at the end of the school year. School keys and access fobs are **not** to be copied or loaned to others.

Dress

DH (Local)

The dress and grooming of District employees shall be clean, neat, in a manner appropriate for assignments and in accordance with any additional standards established by their supervisors and approved by the Superintendent.

Only professional attire shall be worn by professional and paraprofessional personnel for days of student instruction and for professional learning days on or off campus. Employees shall act as role models by exemplifying the highest standard of professional appearance for the educational purposes of teaching community values and proper grooming and hygiene.

1. Employees are expected to dress in a manner that projects a professional image for the employee, District, and community.
2. Style of clothing should always reflect a professional and business-like atmosphere. Clothing should not attract unfavorable attention. This guideline applies to regular workday, professional learning and summer employment time.
3. Tattoos, body art, or piercings that are distracting, lewd, provocative, or depict unlawful actions or products, incite violence or lawlessness are inappropriate and must be covered or removed at work.
4. Administrators and supervisors shall have the discretion to determine appropriateness of attire for all personnel in certain grades or subjects (physical education, agriculture, auto mechanics, building trades, special education), or for medical necessities.
5. Support staff (custodial, food service, maintenance, and transportation employees) shall dress appropriately as described in their respective guidelines.
6. District employee's hair should be appropriate and not a distraction to the learning environment.

Recommended Standards Of Dress:

Employees in the Child Care, Custodian, Maintenance, Grounds, and Child Nutrition departments will follow their department specific dress guidelines provided by their supervisor. All other professional and paraprofessional district employees will adhere to the following minimum standard of professional dress:

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- Slacks (may be Docker-style), skirts and dresses of appropriate length
- Shirts (not t-shirts) and blouses with or without collars can be button-down or plain front)
- Dress-style polo shirts
- Sweaters or turtlenecks
- Dress capri/cropped pants that are at least mid-calf length
- Sensible shoes appropriate to the assignment

Conditions Under Which Exceptions Could Be Made

- Designated casual days
- Designated "special occasion day"
- Spirit Day at schools
- Medical necessity
- Teacher workday
- Other conditions that are deemed occupationally necessary

Clothing Items That Are Inappropriate In Any Venue

- Flip flops / beach wear
- Torn or worn-out clothing
- Pants with frayed hems or that drag the ground
- Tight fitting or revealing clothing
- Tops with spaghetti straps or tank tops without a jacket
- Clothing that shows bare midriffs
- Lingerie-style clothing
- Short skirts
- Workout clothing/jogging suits/sweatpants and sweatshirts/spandex or jeggings
- Sheer or see-through clothing
- Pajamas/sleepwear/house slippers
- Shorts/skorts (unless occupationally necessary – ie., PE teachers/coaches*)

  *Coaches wear athletic clothing only during athletic periods. Professional dress is required during your instructional teaching assignments.

Jeans And Spirit Wear

- Jeans may only be worn on Spirit Days in conjunction with a school shirt.
- They may also be worn on specially designated days, as approved by the supervisor

The principal/supervisor may authorize exceptions to the dress code for special days and/or when an activity warrants exceptions.

Employees who fail to adhere to the aforementioned standards of dress, will be asked to leave the work setting and return when appropriately attired. Repeated failure to demonstrate appropriate personal appearance will result in disciplinary action up to and including termination of employment.

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Termination of Employment

Resignations

Policy DFE, DHB

Contract Employees. Contract employees may resign their position without penalty at the end of any school year if written notice is received at least 45 days before the first day of instruction of the following school year. A written notice of resignation should be submitted to Human Resource Services as the superintendent's designee through TalentEd. Supervisors who have not been designated by the board to accept resignations shall instruct the employee to submit the resignation to Human Resource Services as the superintendent's designee.

Contract employees may resign at any other time only with the approval of the superintendent or the board of trustees. Resignation without consent may result in disciplinary action by the State Board for Educator Certification (SBEC).

The principal is required to notify the superintendent of an educator's resignation within seven business days of the following:

- Certain misconduct, abuse, unlawful act
- Involvement or solicitation of a romantic relationship with a student or minor
- Solicitation or engaging in sexual conduct with a student or minor
- Inappropriate communications with a student or minor
- Failure to maintain appropriate boundaries with a student or minor
- Possession, transfer, sale, or distribution of a controlled substance
- Illegal transfer, appropriation, or expenditure of district or school property or funds
- An attempt by fraudulent or unauthorized means to obtain or alter any certificate or permit for the purpose of promotion or additional compensation
- Committing a criminal offense or any part of a criminal offense on district property or at a school-sponsored event.

The superintendent is required to report such conduct to SBEC.

Noncontract Employees. Noncontract employees may resign their position at any time. A written notice of resignation should be submitted through the TalentEd system at least two weeks prior to the effective date. Employees are encouraged to include the reasons for leaving in the letter of resignation but are not required to do so.

Additional information regarding the resignation process can be found here on the LEISD Human Resources Department website.

The principal or director is required to notify the superintendent of a noncertified employee's resignation or termination within seven business days for any of the following:

- Alleged incident of misconduct of abuse or otherwise committed an unlawful act with a student or minor
- Was involved in or solicited a romantic relationship with a student or minor
- Engaged in inappropriate communications with a student or minor
- Failed to maintain appropriate boundaries with a student or minor

The superintendent is required to report such conduct to SBEC.

All employees. Resignations must be entered through the TalentEd system by logging in to the employee's account and entering the required information. ***Please note: All employees are required to work on their last day of employment to ensure a smooth transition.

Dismissal or Nonrenewal of Contract Employees

Policy DF Series, DHB, DP

Employees on probationary, term, and continuing contracts can be dismissed during the school year according to the procedures outlined in District policies. Employees on probationary or term contracts can be nonrenewed at the end of the contract term. Contract employees dismissed during the school year, suspended without pay, or subject to a reduction in force are entitled to receive notice of the recommended action, an explanation of the charges against them, and an opportunity for a hearing. The timelines and procedures to be followed when a suspension, termination, or nonrenewal occurs will be provided when a written notice is given to an employee.

The reporting requirements for termination of a contract employee are the same as those listed above in Resignations/Contract Employees.

Advance notification requirements do not apply when a contract employee is dismissed for failing to obtain or maintain appropriate certification or when the employee's certification is revoked for misconduct. Information on the timelines and procedures can be found in the DF series policies that are provided to employees or are available on line.

Dismissal of Noncontract Employees

Policy DHC, DP

Noncontract employees are employed at will and may be dismissed without notice, a description of the reasons for dismissal, or a hearing. It is unlawful for the District to dismiss any employee for reasons of race, color, religion, gender, national origin, age, disability, military status, genetic information, any other basis protected by law, or in retaliation for the exercise of certain

protected legal rights. Noncontract employees who are dismissed have the right to grieve the termination. The dismissed employee must follow the District process outlined in this handbook when pursuing the grievance. (See *Complaints and Grievances* on page 39)

The reporting requirements for termination of a noncertified employee are the same as those listed above in Resignations/Noncontract Employees.

Discharge of Convicted Employees

Policy DF

The District shall discharge any employee who has been convicted of a felony under Title 5 Penal Code or convicted of or placed on deferred adjudication community supervision for the following:

- An offense requiring the registration as a sex offender
- Improper relationship between an educator and a student
- Sale, distribution, or display of harmful materials to a minor
- Public indecency
- A felony offense involving school property

If the Title 5, Penal Code offense is more than 30 years before the date the person's employment began or the person satisfied all terms of the court order entered on conviction the requirement to discharge does not apply.

Exit Interviews and Procedures

Exit interviews will be conducted electronically through TalentEd for all employees leaving the District. Information on the continuation of benefits, release of information, and procedures for requesting references will be provided at this time. Separating employees are asked to provide the District with a forwarding address and phone number and complete a questionnaire that provides the District with feedback on his or her employment experience. All District keys, books, property, including intellectual property, and equipment must be returned upon separation from employment.

Additional information regarding the resignation process can be found here on the LEISD Human Resource Services website.

Reports Concerning Court-Ordered Withholding

The district is required to report the termination of employees that are under court order or writ of withholding for child support or spousal maintenance. Notice of the following must be sent to

the support recipient and the court or, in the case of child support, the Texas Attorney General Child Support Division:

- Termination of employment not later than the seventh day after the date of termination
- Employee's last known address
- Name and address of the employee's new employer, if known

Student Issues

Equal Educational Opportunities

Policies FB, FFH

In an effort to promote nondiscrimination and as required by law, Little Elm ISD does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, or disability in providing education services, activities, and programs, including Career and Technical Education (CTE), in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972; and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.

Questions or concerns about discrimination of students based on any of the reasons listed above should be directed to Asheley Brown, Executive Director of Human Resource Services.

Student Records

Policy FL

Student records are confidential and are protected from unauthorized inspection or use. Employees should take precautions to maintain the confidentiality of all student records. The following people are the only people who have general access to a student's records:

- Parents: Married, separated, or divorced unless parental rights have been legally terminated and the school has been given a copy of the court order terminating parental rights
- The student: The rights of parents transfer to a student who turns 18 or is enrolled in an institution of post-secondary education. A District is not prohibited from granting the student access to the student's records before this time.
- School officials with legitimate educational interests

The student handbook provides parents and students with detailed information on student records. Parents or students who want to review student records should be directed to the campus principal for assistance.

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Parent and Student Complaints

Policy FNG

In an effort to hear and resolve parent and student complaints in a timely manner and at the lowest administrative level possible, the board has adopted orderly processes for handling complaints on different issues. Any campus office or the superintendent's office can provide parents and students with information on filing a complaint.

Parents are encouraged to discuss problems or complaints with the teacher or the appropriate administrator at any time. Parents and students with complaints that cannot be resolved to their satisfaction should be directed to the campus principal. The formal complaint process provides parents and students with an opportunity to be heard up to the highest level of management if they are dissatisfied with a principal's response.

Administering Medication to Students

Policy FFAC, FFAF

Only designated employees may administer prescription medication, nonprescription medication, and herbal or dietary supplements to students. Exceptions apply to the administration of medication for respiratory distress, medication for anaphylaxis (e.g., EpiPen®), opioid antagonists, and medication for diabetes management, if the medication is administered in accordance with District policy and procedures. A student who must take any other medication during the school day must bring a written request from his or her parent and the medicine in its original, properly labeled container. Contact the principal or school nurse for information on procedures that must be followed when administering medication to students.

Dietary Supplements

Policies DH, FFAC

District employees are prohibited by state law from knowingly selling, marketing, or distributing a dietary supplement that contains performance-enhancing compounds to a student with whom the employee has contact as part of his or her school District duties. In addition, employees may not knowingly endorse or suggest the ingestion, intranasal application, or inhalation of a performance-enhancing dietary supplement to any student.

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Psychotropic Drugs

Policy FFAC

A psychotropic drug is a substance used in the diagnosis, treatment, or prevention of a disease or as a component of a medication. It is intended to have an altering effect on perception, emotion, or behavior and is commonly described as a mood- or behavior-altering substance.

District employees are prohibited by state law from doing the following:

- Recommending that a student use a psychotropic drug
- Suggesting a particular diagnosis
- Excluding from class or school-related activity a student whose parent refuses to consent to a psychiatric evaluation or to authorize the administration of a psychotropic drug to a student

Student Conduct and Discipline

Policies in the FN series and FO series

Students are expected to follow the classroom rules, campus rules, and rules listed in the Student Handbook and Student Code of Conduct. Teachers and administrators are responsible for taking disciplinary action based on a range of discipline management strategies that have been adopted by the District. Other employees that have concerns about a particular student's conduct should contact the classroom teacher or campus principal.

Student Attendance

Policy FEB

Teachers and staff should be familiar with the District's policies and procedures for attendance accounting. These procedures require minor students to have parental consent before they are allowed to leave campus. When absent from school, the student upon returning to school, must bring a note signed by the parent that describes the reason for the absence. These requirements are addressed in campus training and in the student handbook. Contact the campus principal for additional information.

Bullying

Policy FFI

Bullying is defined by §TEC 37.0832. All employees are required to report student complaints of bullying, including cyber bullying, to campus administration. The district's policy includes

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definitions and procedures for reporting and investigating bullying of students and is reprinted below:

FFI (LOCAL)

Hazing

Policy FNCC

Students must have prior approval from the principal or designee for any type of "initiation rites" of a school club or organization. While most initiation rites are permissible, engaging in or permitting "hazing" is a criminal offense. Any teacher, administrator, or employee who observes a student engaged in any form of hazing, who has reason to know or suspect that a student intends to engage in hazing, or has engaged in hazing must report that fact or suspicion to the designated campus administrator.

Transporting Students in Personal Vehicle

Employees shall not transport students in their personal vehicles without prior written authorization of the student's parent/guardian and written approval from the employee's supervisor.

Other Student Issues

For any other student services issues not included, please contact LEISD Student Services and/or HR Services for guidance.

Suggestions for additions and improvements to this handbook are welcome and may be sent to the Human Resource Services Department.

DRAFT

Board Agenda Item

Little Elm Independent School District
400 Lobo Lane
Little Elm, Texas 75068

Board Mtg. Date **8-21-2025**	**Reports of the Superintendent** ☐	**Action Item** ☒	**Consent Agenda** ☐	**Reports, Routine Monthly** ☐	**Other** ☐	
Subject:	**DELEGATE AND ALTERNATE TO THE 2025 TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL BOARDS (TASB) DELEGATE ASSEMBLY**					
Presenter or Contact Person:	Sonia S. Flores					
Policy/Code:	N/A					
Strategic Plan Goal:	N/A					
Summary:	TASB'S 2024 Delegate Assembly will be held September 12, 2025, during txEDCON25. Attending Delegate Assembly gives the board the chance to participate in the democratic process that governs TASB. Delegates will elect TASB officers and directors, vote on TASB's Advocacy Agenda, have the opportunity to interact with other board members in our region, and earn continuing education training credit.					
Financial Implications:	There is no financial impact to the budget.					
Attachments:	Endorsement Forms					
Recommendation:	**The Administration recommends that the Board of Trustees selects a member as the Official Voting Delegate and Alternate.**					
Motion:	**I move that the Board approve the selected Board Members to represent us as the Official Voting Delegate and Alternate at the 2025 TASB Delegate Assembly.**					

Name your Delegate.

2

Place an item on your upcoming board agenda.

Take action now, so you are prepared when registration opens July 22.

Suggested agenda language:

- **Item name:** Discuss and consider board approval of a Delegate and Alternate to the 2025 Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) Delegate Assembly.
- **Background:** TASB's 2025 Delegate Assembly will be held Sept. 13, 2025, during txEDCON25 in Houston. Attending Delegate Assembly gives the board the chance to participate in the democratic process that governs TASB. Delegates will elect TASB officers and directors, vote on TASB's Advocacy Agenda, have the opportunity to interact with other board members in our region, and earn continuing education training credit.
- **Recommended Action:** I recommend that the Board of Trustees name [INSERT NAME] as the Official Voting Delegate and [INSERT NAME] as the Alternate to the 2025 TASB Delegate Assembly.

Select your Delegate and Alternate.

Your Delegate, or Alternate, will be voting on important Association business, so carefully consider who you want representing your board and district. As school board members, all of you already have the most important qualification: a passion for Texas public schools and the students they serve. Now, think about who would best fit these qualities:

- **Knowledge:** The Assembly will consider a wide range of advocacy issues. Who has the best background on the challenges and concerns for your district and community?
- **Voice:** Delegates may submit amendments to proposed action items. Who would be best equipped to consider how amendments may affect your district and then take action based on your board's priorities?
- **Commitment:** The Regional Caucuses and Assembly are held during the Saturday of txEDCON25. Who can commit their time to the full meeting?

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Name your delegate.

Register your representatives

Registration will open July 22 as part of txEDCON25 registration. Make sure your board takes action now to select your representatives, so you are ready as soon as registration opens!

Your superintendent or superintendent secretary will be able to submit your board's Delegate and Alternate at the same time as they register your team for convention.

More information will be shared in late June.

> *" Delegate Assembly is the most effective way that we as Texas trustees can come together in one united voice to speak up for our kids!"*
>
> *– Pam Watts*
> *Midway ISD-McLennan County*

Watch for your Assembly materials.

In late August, the *Delegate Handbook* and Nominations Committee Report will be posted at **tasb.org/delegate**. Your registered Delegate and Alternate, as well as your board president and superintendent, will receive an email when the materials are available.

Questions?

If you have any questions about Delegate Assembly or naming your board's representatives, contact TASB Board and Management Services at **800-580-8272** or **membercommunications@tasb.org**.

Your Association. Your Voice.

TASB Delegate Assembly

tasb.org/delegate

TASB

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Board Agenda Item

Little Elm Independent School District
400 Lobo Lane
Little Elm, Texas 75068

Board Mtg. Date **8-18-2025**	**Reports of the Superintendent** ☐	**Action Item** X	**Consent Agenda** ☐	**Reports, Routine Monthly** ☐	**Other** ☐	
Subject:	**LEISD STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT**					
Presenter or Contact Person:	Donald Bartlett, Deputy Superintendent					
Policy/Code:						
Strategic Plan Goal:	N/A					
Summary:	The administration is seeking the consideration and approval of the LEISD Student Code of Conduct.					
Financial Implications:	No immediate financial implications.					
Attachments:	N/A					
Recommendation:	**The administration recommends the Board approve the Student Code of Conduct.**					
Motion:	**I move the Board to approve the Student Code of Conduct as submitted.**					

Little Elm Independent School District

Student Code of Conduct

2025-26 School Year

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Student Code of Conduct

Accessibility

If you have difficulty accessing the information in this document because of disability, please contact the Director for Student Services - Terilyn Thomas-Monday at tthomas-monday@littleelmisd.net or 972.947.9340 ext.10106.

Purpose

The Student Code of Conduct ("Code of Conduct"), as required by Chapter 37 of the Texas Education Code, provides methods and options for managing student behavior, preventing and intervening in student discipline problems, and imposing discipline.

The law requires the district to define misconduct that may—or must—result in a range of specific disciplinary consequences, including removal from a regular classroom or campus, out-of-school suspension, placement in a disciplinary alternative education program (DAEP), placement in a juvenile justice alternative education program (JJAEP), or expulsion from school.

This Code of Conduct has been adopted by the Little Elm ISD board of trustees and developed with the advice of the district-level planning and decision-making committee. It provides information to parents and students regarding standards of conduct, consequences of misconduct, and procedures for administering discipline. This Code of Conduct remains in effect during summer school and at all school-related events and activities outside the school year until the board adopts an updated version for the next school year.

In accordance with state law, the Code of Conduct shall be posted at each school campus or shall be available for review at the campus principal's office. Additionally, the Code of Conduct shall be available at the campus behavior coordinator's office and posted on the district's website. Parents shall be notified of any conduct violation that may result in a student being suspended, placed in a DAEP or JJAEP, expelled, or taken into custody by a law enforcement officer under Chapter 37of the Education Code.

Not later than the first day of the 2025-2026 school year, the Texas Education Agency (TEA) shall prepare and provide to each school district a report identifying each law relating to school discipline that was amended or added by the 89th Legislature, Regular Session, 2025. A school district shall provide to each student and the parent of or person standing in parental relation to the student the prepared report.

Because the Code of Conduct is adopted by the district's board of trustees, it has the force of policy. In the event of a conflict between the Code of Conduct and the Student Handbook, the Code of Conduct shall prevail.

Please note: The discipline of students with disabilities who are eligible for services under federal law (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973) is subject to the provisions of those laws.

School District Authority and Jurisdiction

School rules and the district's authority to administer discipline apply whenever the interest of the district is involved, on or off school grounds, in conjunction with or independent of classes and school-sponsored activities.

The district has disciplinary authority over a student:

1. During the regular school day;
2. While the student is traveling on district transportation;
3. During lunch periods in which a student is allowed to leave campus;
4. At any school-related activity, regardless of time or location;
5. For any school-related misconduct, regardless of time or location;
6. When retaliation against a school employee, board member, or volunteer occurs or is threatened, regardless of time or location;
7. When a student engages in cyberbullying, as defined by Education Code 37.0832;
8. When criminal mischief is committed on or off school property or at a school-related event;
9. For certain offenses committed within 300 feet of school property as measured from any point on the school's real property boundary line;
10. For certain offenses committed while on school property or while attending a school-sponsored or school-related activity of another district in Texas;
11. When the student commits a felony, as provided by Education Code 37.006, 37.007, or 37.0081; and
12. When the student is required to register as a sex offender.

Campus Behavior Coordinator

As required by law, a single person at each campus must be designated to serve as the campus behavior coordinator (CBC). The designated person may be the principal, or any other campus administrator selected by the principal. Additional staff members may assist the CBC in the performance of the CBC's duties, provided that the CBC personally verifies that all aspects of Chapter 37, Subchapter A are appropriately implemented. The CBC is primarily responsible for maintaining student discipline. The CBC shall monitor disciplinary referrals and report the following behavior to the campus's threat assessment and safe and supportive school team:

- Conduct that contains the elements of the offense of terroristic threat under Penal Code 22.07;
- Conduct that contains the elements of the offense of unlawfully carrying weapons under Penal Code 46.02;

- Conduct that contains the elements of the offense of exhibiting, using, or threatening to exhibit or use a firearm under Education Code 37.125; and
- Any concerning student behaviors or behavioral trends that may pose a serious risk of violence to the student or others.

The district shall post on its website and in the Student Handbook, for each campus, the email address and telephone number of the person serving as CBC. Contact information and a digital copy of the Student Handbook may be found at www.littleelmisd.net.

Threat Assessment and Safe and Supportive School Team

The CBC or other appropriate administrator will work closely with the campus threat assessment and safe and supportive school team to implement the district's threat assessment policy and procedures, as required by law, and shall take appropriate disciplinary action in accordance with the Code of Conduct.

Searches

District officials may conduct searches of students, their belongings, and their vehicles in accordance with state and federal law and district policy. Searches of students shall be conducted in a reasonable and nondiscriminatory manner. Refer to the district's policies at FNF(LEGAL) and FNF(LOCAL) for more information regarding investigations and searches.

The district has the right to search a vehicle driven to school by a student and parked on school property whenever there is reasonable suspicion to believe it contains articles or materials prohibited by the district.

Desks, lockers, district-provided technology, and similar items are the property of the district and are provided for student use as a matter of convenience. District property is subject to search or inspection at any time without notice.

Reporting Crimes

The principal or CBC and other school administrators as appropriate shall report crimes as required by law and shall call local law enforcement when an administrator suspects that a crime has been committed on campus.

Security Personnel

The board utilizes school resource officers (SROs) to ensure the security and protection of students, staff, and property. In accordance with law, the board has coordinated with the CBC and other district employees to ensure appropriate law enforcement duties are assigned to these persons. Provisions addressing the various types of security personnel can be found in the CKE policy series.

The law enforcement duties of school resource officers are:

- Establish rapport with the students
- Establish rapport with the parents, faculty, staff, and administrators.

- Create programs that benefit the students, school district and police.
- Be a positive role model for students and adults.
- Provide safety for students, faculty, staff and all persons involved with the school district.
- Provide limited counseling to students, parents and staff as necessary.
- Assist in maintaining order and enforcing school policies on school property. In conjunction with school officials, the SRO will take the appropriate law enforcement action, consistent with a police officer's duty. As soon as practicable, the SRO shall make the principal of the school aware of such action. At the principal's request, the SRO shall take appropriate law enforcement action against intruders and unwanted guests who may appear at the school and related school functions, to the extent that the SRO may do so under authority of law.
- Refer students and/or their families to the appropriate agencies for assistance when the need is determined.
- **The SRO shall not act as a school disciplinarian**. However, if the principal believes an incident is a violation of the law, the principal should contact the SRO. Furthermore, upon request by any school official, staff member or any district employee the SRO is required to attend disciplinary proceedings or meetings with students and/or parents especially where safety may be a concern.
- Provide access and encourage classroom participation by SRO. Providing guidance lessons about proper police interaction between students and police.
- Provide the opportunity for SRO to address teachers and administrators about the SRO program, goals and objectives.
- **The SRO is first and foremost a law enforcement officer. This fact must be constantly reinforced.** Nothing required herein is intended to or will constitute a relationship of duty for the assigned police officer or the Town beyond the general duties that exist for the law enforcement officer within the State.

"Parent" Defined

Throughout the Code of Conduct and related discipline policies, the term "parent" includes a parent, legal guardian, or other person having lawful control of the child.

Participating in Graduation Activities

The district has the right to limit a student's participation in graduation activities for violating the district's Code of Conduct.

Participation might include a speaking role, as established by district policy and procedures.

Students eligible to give the opening and closing remarks at graduation shall be notified by the campus principal. Notwithstanding any other eligibility requirements, in order to be considered eligible, a student shall not have engaged in any misconduct that resulted in an out-of-school suspension, removal to a DAEP, or expulsion during the semester immediately preceding graduation.

The valedictorian and salutatorian may also have speaking roles at graduation. No student shall be eligible to have such a speaking role if he or she engaged in any misconduct that resulted in an out-of-school suspension, removal to a DAEP, or expulsion during the semester immediately preceding graduation.

(See **Restrictions During Placement** for information regarding a student assigned to DAEP at the time of graduation.)

Unauthorized Persons

In accordance with Education Code 37.105, a school administrator, SRO, or district police officer shall have the authority to refuse entry to or eject a person from district property if the person refuses to leave peaceably on request and:

1. The person poses a substantial risk of harm to any person; or
2. The person behaves in a manner that is inappropriate for a school setting and persists in the behavior after being given a verbal warning that the behavior is inappropriate and may result in refusal of entry or ejection.

Appeals regarding refusal of entry or ejection from district property may be filed in accordance with policies FNG(LOCAL) or GF(LOCAL), as appropriate. However, the timelines for the district's grievance procedures shall be adjusted as necessary to permit the person to address the board in person within 90 calendar days, unless the complaint is resolved before a board hearing.

Standards for Student Conduct

Each student is expected to:

- Demonstrate courtesy, even when others do not.
- Behave in a responsible manner.
- Exercise self-discipline.
- Attend all classes regularly and on time.
- Bring appropriate materials and assignments to class.
- Meet district and campus standards of grooming and dress.
- Obey all campus and classroom rules.
- Respect the rights and privileges of students, teachers, and other district staff and volunteers.
- Respect the property of others, including district property and facilities.
- Cooperate with and assist the school staff in maintaining safety, order, and discipline.
- Adhere to the requirements of the Code of Conduct.

General Conduct Violations

The categories of conduct below are prohibited at school, in vehicles owned or operated by the district, and at all school-related activities, but the list does not include the most severe offenses. In the subsequent sections on In-School Suspension, Out-of-School Suspension, Disciplinary Alternative Education Program (DAEP) Placement, Placement and/or Expulsion for Certain Offenses, and Expulsion, those offenses that require or permit specific consequences are listed. Any offense, however, may be severe enough to result in Removal from the Regular Educational Setting.

Disregard for Authority

Students shall not:

- Fail to comply with directives given by school personnel.
- Leave school grounds or school-sponsored events without permission.
- Disobey rules for conduct in district vehicles.
- Refuse to accept discipline or consequence assigned by a teacher or principal.
- Fail to cooperate with or be forthcoming in an investigation conducted by school personnel.

Mistreatment of Others

Students shall not:

- Use profanity or vulgar language or make obscene gestures.
- Fight or scuffle. (See **Placement and/or Expulsion for Certain Offenses** for assault.)
- Threaten a district student, employee, or volunteer, including off school property if the conduct causes a substantial disruption to the educational environment.
- Engage in any behavior that violates the Student Code of Conduct and is motivated by antisemitism. (See **Glossary**)
- Engage in bullying, cyberbullying, harassment, or making hit lists. (See **Glossary** for all four terms.)
- Release or threaten to release intimate visual material of a minor or a student who is 18 years of age or older without the student's consent.
- Engage in sexual or gender-based harassment or sexual abuse, whether by word, gesture, or any other conduct directed toward another person, including a district student, employee, board member, or volunteer.
- Engage in conduct that constitutes dating violence. (See **Glossary**)
- Engage in inappropriate or indecent exposure of private body parts.

- Participate in hazing. (See **Glossary**)
- Coerce an individual to act through the use or threat of force.
- Commit extortion or blackmail.
- Engage in inappropriate verbal, physical, or sexual conduct directed toward another person, including a district student, employee, or volunteer.
- Record the voice or image of another without the prior consent of the individual being recorded or in any way that disrupts the educational environment or invades the privacy of others.

Property Offenses

Students shall not:

- Damage or vandalize property owned by others. (See **Placement and/or Expulsion for Certain Offenses** for felony criminal mischief.)
- Deface or damage school property, including textbooks, technology and electronic resources, lockers, furniture, and other equipment, with graffiti or by other means.
- Steal from students, staff, or the school.
- Commit or assist in a robbery or theft, even if it does not constitute a felony according to the Penal Code. (See **Placement and/or Expulsion for Certain Offenses** for felony robbery, aggravated robbery, and theft.)
- Enter, without authorization, district facilities that are not open for operations.

Possession of Prohibited Items

Students shall not possess or use:

- Fireworks of any kind, smoke or stink bombs, or any other pyrotechnic device;
- A razor, box cutter, chain, or any other object used in a way that threatens or inflicts bodily injury to another person;
- A “look-alike” weapon that is intended to be used as a weapon or could reasonably be perceived as a weapon;
- An air gun or BB gun;
- A short barrel firearm;
- Ammunition;
- A hand instrument designed to cut or stab another by being thrown;
- A firearm silencer or suppressor;
- *A location-restricted knife;
- *A club;

- *A firearm;
- A stun gun;
- Knuckles;
- A pocketknife or any other small knife;
- Mace or pepper spray;
- Pornographic material;
- Tobacco products (including nicotine pouches), cigarettes, e-cigarettes, and any component, part, or accessory for an e-cigarette device;
- Matches or a lighter;
- A laser pointer, unless it is for an approved use; or
- Any articles not generally considered to be weapons, including school supplies, when the principal or designee determines that a danger exists.

*See **Placement and/or Expulsion for Certain Offenses** for weapons and firearms. In many circumstances, possession of these items is punishable by mandatory expulsion under federal or state law.

Possession of Personal Communication Devices

Students shall not:

- Bring or use a personal communication device, including a cell phone, or other electronic device on school property during the school day. (See **Glossary**)
- The district may authorize the use of a personal communication device for the following reasons:
    - To implement an individualized education program (IEP) or for a plan created under Section 504, Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C Section 794) or a similar program or plan;
    - With documented need based on a directive from a qualified physician; or
    - To comply with a health or safety requirement imposed by law or as part of the district's safety protocols.

Inappropriate use of a personal communication device during the school day will result in disciplinary action in accordance with this Code of Conduct.

- First violation – Device will be taken up by the teacher and returned at the end of the class period. Teacher will document the violation as a warning.
- Second violation – Device will be taken up by an administrator or by the teacher and turned into the main office. Student may pick up the device at the end of the school day.

- Third violation – Device will be taken up by the teacher or administrator. Parent may pick up the device during school hours or at the end of the school day. Student will begin receiving campus consequences using a progressive discipline plan.
- Fourth and additional violations – The behavior has become insubordination and consequences will be assigned accordingly, including possible DAEP placement.
- Refusal to turn in a device may expedite campus consequences or result in additional discipline.

Illegal, Prescription, and Over-the-Counter Drugs

Students shall not:

- Possess, use, give, or sell alcohol or an illegal drug. (See **Disciplinary Alternative Education Program (DAEP) Placement** and **Expulsion for** mandatory and permissive consequences under state law.)
- Possess or sell seeds or pieces of marijuana in less than a usable amount.
- Possess, use, give, or sell paraphernalia related to any prohibited substance. (See **Glossary** for "paraphernalia.")
- Possess, use, abuse, or sell look-alike drugs or attempt to pass items off as drugs or contraband.
- Abuse the student's own prescription drug, give a prescription drug to another student, or possess or be under the influence of another person's prescription drug on school property or at a school-related event. (See **Glossary** for "abuse.")
- Abuse over-the-counter drugs. (See **Glossary** for "abuse.")
- Be under the influence of prescription or over-the-counter drugs that cause impairment to body or mind. (See **Glossary** for "under the influence.")
- Have or take prescription drugs or over-the-counter drugs at school other than as provided by district policy.

Misuse of Technology Resources and the Internet

Students shall not:

- Violate policies, rules, or agreements signed by the student or the student's parent regarding the use of technology resources.
- Attempt to access or circumvent passwords or other security-related information of the district, students, or employees or upload or create computer viruses, including off school property if the conduct causes a substantial disruption to the educational environment.
- Attempt to alter, destroy, or disable district technology resources including, but not limited to, computers and related equipment, district data, the data of others, or

other networks connected to the district's system, including off school property if the conduct causes a substantial disruption to the educational environment.

- Use the internet or other electronic communications to threaten or harass district students, employees, board members, or volunteers, including off school property if the conduct causes a substantial disruption to the educational environment or infringes on the rights of another student at school.
- Send, post, deliver, or possess electronic messages that are abusive, obscene, sexually oriented, threatening, harassing, damaging to another's reputation, or illegal, including cyberbullying and "sexting," either on or off school property, if the conduct causes a substantial disruption to the educational environment or infringes on the rights of another student at school.
- Use the internet or other electronic communication to engage in or encourage illegal behavior or threaten school safety, including off school property if the conduct causes a substantial disruption to the educational environment or infringes on the rights of another student at school.
- Utilize artificial intelligence in a way that would constitute academic dishonesty or as a means of engaging in any other prohibited conduct.

Safety Transgressions

Students shall not:

- Possess published or electronic material that is designed to promote or encourage illegal behavior or that could threaten school safety.
- Engage in verbal (oral or written) exchanges that threaten the safety of another student, a school employee, or school property.
- Make false accusations or perpetrate hoaxes regarding school safety.
- Engage in any conduct that school officials might reasonably believe will substantially disrupt the school program or incite violence.
- Throw objects that can cause bodily injury or property damage.
- Discharge a fire extinguisher without valid cause.
- Prop open exterior doors or open any exterior door for any other student, staff member, or visitor.

Miscellaneous Offenses

Students shall not:

- Violate dress and grooming standards as communicated in the Student Handbook.

- Engage in academic dishonesty, which includes cheating or copying the work of another student, unauthorized use of artificial intelligence, plagiarism, and unauthorized communication between students during an examination.
- Gamble.
- Falsify records, passes, or other school-related documents.
- Engage in actions or demonstrations that substantially disrupt or materially interfere with school activities.
- Repeatedly violate other communicated campus or classroom standards of conduct.

The district may impose campus or classroom rules in addition to those found in the Code of Conduct. These rules may be posted in classrooms or given to the student and may or may not constitute violations of the Code of Conduct.

Discipline Management Techniques

Discipline shall be designed to improve conduct and encourage students to be responsible members of the school community. Disciplinary action shall draw on the professional judgment of teachers and administrators and on a range of discipline management techniques, including restorative practices. Discipline shall be based on the seriousness of the offense, the student's age and grade level, the frequency of misbehavior, the student's attitude, the effect of the misconduct on the school environment, and statutory requirements.

First-Time Offense of Possession or Use of Nicotine Delivery Product or E-Cigarette

An appropriate administrator may place a student in a disciplinary alternative education program for the first-time offense of possession or use of a nicotine delivery product or e-cigarette, as defined by Section 161.081, Health and Safety Code.

If a student who possesses or uses an e-cigarette is not placed in a disciplinary alternative education program for the first-time offense under Education Code 37.008, the student shall be placed in in-school suspension for a period of at least 10 school days.

Students with Disabilities

The discipline of students with disabilities is subject to applicable state and federal law in addition to the Code of Conduct. In the event of any conflict, the district shall comply with federal law. For more information regarding discipline of students with disabilities, see policy FOF(LEGAL).

In accordance with the Education Code, a student who receives special education services may not be disciplined in a manner that results in a change to the student's educational placement for conduct meeting the definition of bullying, cyberbullying, harassment, or making hit lists [see Glossary] until an Admission, Review, and Dismissal (ARD) committee meeting has been held to review the conduct.

In deciding whether to order suspension, DAEP placement, or expulsion, regardless of whether the action is mandatory or discretionary, the district shall take into consideration a disability that substantially impairs the student's capacity to appreciate the wrongfulness of the student's conduct.

Techniques

The following discipline management techniques may be used alone, in combination, or as part of progressive interventions for behavior prohibited by the Code of Conduct or by campus or classroom rules:

- Verbal correction, oral or written.
- Cooling-off time or a brief "time-out" period, in accordance with law.
- Seating changes within the classroom or vehicles owned or operated by the district.
- Temporary confiscation of items that disrupt the educational process.

- Rewards or demerits.
- Behavioral contracts.
- Counseling by teachers, school counselors, or administrative personnel.
- Parent-teacher conferences.
- Behavior coaching.
- Anger management classes.
- Mediation (victim-offender).
- Classroom circles.
- Family group conferencing.
- Grade reductions for cheating, plagiarism, and as otherwise permitted by policy.
- Detention, including outside regular school hours.
- Sending the student to the office, another assigned area, or to in-school suspension (ISS).
- Assignment of school duties, such as cleaning or picking up litter.
- Withdrawal of privileges, such as participation in extracurricular activities, eligibility for seeking and holding honorary offices, or membership in school-sponsored clubs and organizations.
- Penalties identified in student organizations' extracurricular standards of behavior.
- Restriction or revocation of district transportation privileges.
- School-assessed and school-administered probation.
- In-school suspension, as specified in **In-School Suspension**.
- Out-of-school suspension, as specified in **Out-of-School Suspension**.
- Placement in a DAEP, as specified in **Disciplinary Alternative Education Program (DAEP) Placement**.
- Expulsion and/or placement in an alternative educational setting, as specified in **Placement and/or Expulsion for Certain Offenses**.
- Expulsion, as specified in **Expulsion**.
- Referral to an outside agency or legal authority for criminal prosecution in addition to disciplinary measures imposed by the district.
- Other strategies and consequences as determined by school officials.

Prohibited Aversive Techniques

Aversive techniques are prohibited for use with students and are defined as techniques or interventions intended to reduce the reoccurrence of a behavior by intentionally inflicting significant physical or emotional discomfort or pain. Aversive techniques include:

- Using techniques designed or likely to cause physical pain. (See policy FO(LOCAL))
- Using techniques designed or likely to cause physical pain by electric shock or any procedure involving pressure points or joint locks.
- Directed release of noxious, toxic, or unpleasant spray, mist, or substance near a student's face.
- Denying adequate sleep, air, food, water, shelter, bedding, physical comfort, supervision, or access to a restroom facility.
- Ridiculing or demeaning a student in a manner that adversely affects or endangers the learning or mental health of the student or constitutes verbal abuse.
- Employing a device, material, or object that immobilizes all four of a student's extremities, including prone or supine floor restraint.
- Impairing the student's breathing, including applying pressure to the student's torso or neck or placing something in, on, or over the student's mouth or nose or covering the student's face.
- Restricting the student's circulation.
- Securing the student to a stationary object while the student is standing or sitting.
- Inhibiting, reducing, or hindering the student's ability to communicate.
- Using chemical restraints.
- Using time-out in a manner that prevents the student from being able to be involved in and progress appropriately in the required curriculum or any applicable individualized education program (IEP) goals, including isolating the student using physical barriers.
- Depriving the student of one or more of the student's senses, unless the technique does not cause the student discomfort or complies with the student's IEP or behavior intervention plan (BIP).

Notification

The CBC shall promptly notify a student's parent by phone or in person of any violation that may result in in-school or out-of-school suspension, placement in a DAEP, placement in a JJAEP, or expulsion. The CBC shall also notify a student's parent if the student is taken into custody by a law enforcement officer under the disciplinary provisions of Education Code 37.0012(d).

A good-faith effort shall be made to provide written notice of the disciplinary action to the student, on the day the action was taken, for delivery to the student's parent. If the parent has not been reached by telephone or in person by 5:00 p.m. of the first business day after the day the disciplinary action was taken, the CBC shall send written notification by U.S. Mail. If the CBC is not able to provide notice to the parent, the principal or designee shall provide the notice.

Before the principal or appropriate administrator assigns a student under age 18 to detention outside regular school hours, notice shall be given to the student's parent to inform him or her of the reason for the detention and permit arrangements for necessary transportation.

Parental Involvement

The principal, campus behavior coordinator, or other appropriate administrator shall notify the parent of or person standing in parental relation to a student who has been placed in a disciplinary alternative education program (DAEP) or expelled of the parent's or person's right to request a behavioral agreement that specifies the responsibilities of the parent or person and student.

The behavioral agreement must specify the responsibilities of the student and parent/guardian. If followed, the agreement may result in a reduced disciplinary placement period, as outlined in the agreement. Reduction in the disciplinary placement period does not entitle the student to different disciplinary placement. The decision to reduce, revoke, or amend the disciplinary placement period is at the sole discretion of the school administration. Compliance with the agreement is required for the reduction to remain valid.

Appeals

Questions from parents regarding disciplinary measures should be addressed to the teacher, campus administration, or CBC, as appropriate. Appeals or complaints regarding the use of specific discipline management techniques should be addressed in accordance with policy FNG(LOCAL). A copy of this policy may be obtained from the central administration office or online at Little Elm ISD Board Policy Manual.

The district shall not delay a disciplinary consequence while a student or parent pursues a grievance. In the instance of a student who is accused of conduct that meets the definition of sexual harassment as defined by Title IX, the district will comply with applicable federal law, including the Title IX formal complaint process. (See policies FFH(LEGAL) and (LOCAL))

Removal from the School Bus

A bus driver may refer a student to the principal's office or the CBC's office to maintain effective discipline on the bus. The principal or CBC must employ additional discipline management techniques, as appropriate, which can include restricting or revoking a student's bus riding privileges.

To transport students safely, the vehicle operator must focus on driving and not be distracted by student misbehavior. Therefore, when appropriate disciplinary management techniques fail to improve student behavior or when specific misconduct warrants immediate removal, the principal or the CBC may restrict or revoke a student's transportation privileges, in accordance with law.

Removal from the Regular Educational Setting

In addition to other discipline management techniques, misconduct may result in removal from the regular educational setting in the form of a routine referral or a formal removal.

Routine Referral

A routine referral occurs when a teacher sends a student to the CBC's office as a discipline management technique. The CBC shall employ alternative discipline management techniques, including progressive interventions. A teacher or administrator may remove a student from class for behavior that violates this Code of Conduct to maintain effective discipline in the classroom.

Formal Teacher Removal

A teacher may initiate a formal removal from class if:

1. A student's behavior repeatedly interferes with the teacher's ability to teach the class or with other students' ability to learn.
2. A student demonstrates behavior that is unruly, disruptive, or abusive toward the teacher, another adult, or another student in the classroom.
3. A student engages in conduct that constitutes bullying, as defined by Education Code 37.0832.0.

A teacher, CBC, or other appropriate administrator must notify a parent or person standing in parental relation to the student of the formal removal. A teacher may remove a student from class based on a single incident of behavior.

Within three school days of the formal removal, the CBC or appropriate administrator shall schedule a conference with the student's parent, the student, the teacher who removed the student from class, and any other appropriate administrator.

At the conference, the CBC or appropriate administrator shall inform the student of the alleged misconduct and the proposed consequences. The student shall have an opportunity to respond to the allegations.

When a student is removed from the regular classroom by a teacher and a conference is pending, the CBC or other administrator may place the student in:

- Another appropriate classroom.
- ISS.
- Out-of-school suspension.
- DAEP.

A teacher or administrator must remove a student from class if the student engages in behavior that under the Education Code requires or permits the student to be placed in a DAEP or expelled. When removing for those reasons, the procedures in the subsequent sections on DAEP or expulsion shall be followed.

Returning a Student to the Classroom

A student who has been formally removed from class by a teacher for conduct against the teacher containing the elements of assault, aggravated assault, sexual assault, or aggravated sexual assault may not be returned to the teacher's class without the teacher's written consent.

A student who has been formally removed by a teacher for any other conduct may not be returned to the teacher's class without the teacher's written consent unless the placement review committee determines that the teacher's class is the best or only alternative, and not later than the third class day after the day the student was removed from class, a conference in which the teacher was provided an opportunity to participate has been held. The student may not be returned to the teacher's class unless the teacher provides written consent for the student's return or a return to class plan has been prepared for that student.

Appeals of Formal Teacher Removals

A student may appeal the teacher's removal of the student from class to the school's placement review committee or the campus's threat assessment and safe and supportive school team, in accordance with a district policy providing for such an appeal to be made to this team.

In-School Suspension

An in-school suspension is not subject to any time limit.

A school's principal or other appropriate administrator shall review the in-school suspension of a student at least once every 10 school days after the date of the suspension begins to evaluate the educational progress of the student and to determine if continued in-school suspension is appropriate.

During in-school suspension, a student shall receive appropriate behavioral support services and comparable educational services as the student would receive in the classroom. If the student receives special education services, the student must continue to receive special education and related services specified in the student's individualized education program (IEP) and continue to have an opportunity to progress in the general curriculum.

(See **First-Time Offense of Possession or Use of Nicotine Delivery Product or E-Cigarette** for limitations to the general rule.)

Process

Before being suspended, a student shall have an informal conference with the CBC or appropriate administrator, who shall inform the student of the alleged misconduct and give the student an opportunity to respond to the allegation before the administrator makes a decision.

The CBC shall determine the number of days of a student's suspension.

In deciding whether to order in-school suspension, the CBC shall take into consideration:

1. Self-defense (see **Glossary**);
2. Intent or lack of intent at the time the student engaged in the conduct;
3. The student's disciplinary history;
4. A disability that substantially impairs the student's capacity to appreciate the wrongfulness of the student's conduct;
5. A student's status in the conservatorship of the Department of Family and Protective Services (foster care); or
6. A student's status as homeless.

The appropriate administrator shall determine any restrictions on participation in school-sponsored or school-related extracurricular and cocurricular activities.

Out-of-School Suspension

Misconduct

Students may be suspended for behavior listed in the Code of Conduct as a general conduct violation, DAEP offense, or expellable offense.

The district shall not use out-of-school suspension for students below grade 3 unless the conduct meets the requirements established in law.

A student below grade 3 or a student who is homeless shall not be placed in out-of-school suspension unless, while on school property or while attending a school-sponsored or school-related activity on or off school property, the student engages in:

- Conduct that contains the elements of a weapons offense, as provided in Penal Code sections 46.02 or 46.05;
- Conduct that threatens the immediate health and safety of other students in the classroom;
- Documented conduct that results in repeated or significant disruption to the classroom; or
- Selling, giving, or delivering to another person or possessing, using, or being under the influence of any amount of marijuana, an alcoholic beverage, or a controlled substance or dangerous drug as defined by federal or state law.

The district shall use a positive behavior program as a disciplinary alternative for students below grade 3 who commit general conduct violations instead of suspension or placement in a DAEP. The program shall meet the requirements of law.

Process

State law allows a student to be assigned to out-of-school suspension for no more than three school days per behavior violation, with no limit on the number of times a student may be suspended in a semester or school year.

Before being suspended a student shall have an informal conference with the CBC or appropriate administrator, who shall inform the student of the alleged misconduct and give the student an opportunity to respond to the allegation before the administrator makes a decision.

The CBC shall determine the number of days of a student's suspension, not to exceed three school days.

In deciding whether to order out-of-school suspension, the CBC shall take into consideration:

1. Self-defense (see **Glossary**);
2. Intent or lack of intent at the time the student engaged in the conduct;

3. The student's disciplinary history;
4. A disability that substantially impairs the student's capacity to appreciate the wrongfulness of the student's conduct;
5. A student's status in the conservatorship of the Department of Family and Protective Services (foster care); or
6. A student's status as homeless.

The appropriate administrator shall determine any restrictions on participation in school-sponsored or school-related extracurricular and cocurricular activities.

Alternative Assignment

A parent or person standing in parental relation to the student may submit a written request to the principal or other appropriate administrator to reassign a student placed in out-of-school suspension. The parent or person standing in parental relation to the student must provide information and documentation that they are unable to provide suitable supervision for the student during school hours during the period of the suspension. It is the sole discretion of the principal or other appropriate administrator to reassign the student placed in out-of-school suspension.

Coursework During Suspension

The district shall ensure a student receives access to coursework for foundation curriculum courses while the student is placed in in-school or out-of-school suspension, including at least one method of receiving this coursework that doesn't require the use of the internet.

A student removed from the regular classroom to ISS or another setting, other than a DAEP, will have an opportunity before the beginning of the next school year to complete each course the student was enrolled in at the time of removal. The district may provide the opportunity by any method available, including a correspondence course, another distance learning option, or summer school. The district will not charge the student for any method of completion provided by the district.

Disciplinary Alternative Education Program (DAEP) Placement

Disciplinary Alternative Education Program (DAEP) Placement

The DAEP shall be provided in a setting other than the student's regular classroom. An elementary school student may not be placed in a DAEP with a student who is not an elementary school student.

For purposes of DAEP, elementary classification shall be kindergarten-grade 5 and secondary classification shall be grades 6-12.

Summer programs provided by the district shall serve students assigned to a DAEP in conjunction with other students.

A student who is expelled for an offense that otherwise would have resulted in a DAEP placement does not have to be placed in a DAEP in addition to the expulsion.

In deciding whether to place a student in a DAEP, regardless of whether the action is mandatory or discretionary, the CBC shall take into consideration:

1. Self-defense (see **Glossary**);
2. Intent or lack of intent at the time the student engaged in the conduct;
3. The student's disciplinary history;
4. A disability that substantially impairs the student's capacity to appreciate the wrongfulness of the student's conduct;
5. A student's status in the conservatorship of the Department of Family and Protective Services (foster care); or
6. A student's status as homeless.

Discretionary Placement: Misconduct That May Result in DAEP Placement

A student may be placed in a DAEP for behaviors prohibited in the General Conduct Violations section of this Code of Conduct.

Misconduct Identified in State Law

In accordance with state law, a student **may** be placed in a DAEP for any of the following offenses:

- Engaging in bullying that encourages a student to die by suicide.
- Inciting violence against a student through group bullying.
- Releasing or threatening to release intimate visual material of a minor or of a student who is 18 years of age or older without the student's consent.
- Involvement in a public school fraternity, sorority, or secret society, or gang including participating as a member or pledge, or soliciting another person to become a pledge or member of a public school fraternity, sorority, secret society, or gang. (see **Glossary**)

- Involvement in criminal street gang activity. (see **Glossary**)
- Any criminal mischief, including a felony.
- Assault (no bodily injury) with threat of imminent bodily injury.
- Assault by offensive or provocative physical contact.
- Engages in conduct that contains the elements of the offense of disruptive activities under Education Code 37.123.
- Engages in conduct that contains the elements of the offense of disruption of classes under Education Code 37.124.
- Possesses or uses an e-cigarette, as defined by Section 161.081,Health and Safety Code, except that if a student who possesses or uses an e-cigarette is not placed in a disciplinary alternative education program for the first-time offense under Education Code 37.008, the student shall be placed in in-school suspension for a period of at least 10 school days. See **First-Time Offense of Possession or Use of Nicotine Delivery Product or E-Cigarette** for additional information.

In accordance with state law, a student **may** be placed in a DAEP if the superintendent or the superintendent's designee has reasonable belief (see **Glossary**) that the student engaged in conduct punishable as a felony that occurs off school property and not at a school-sponsored or school-related event, if the student's presence in the regular classroom threatens the safety of other students or teachers or will be detrimental to the educational process. Aggravated robbery or felonies listed as offenses in Title 5 (see **Glossary**) of the Penal Code are punishable as mandatory expulsions.

The CBC **may** place a student in a DAEP for off-campus conduct for which DAEP placement is required by state law if the administrator does not have knowledge of the conduct before the first anniversary of the date the conduct occurred.

Mandatory Placement: Misconduct That Requires DAEP Placement

A student **must** be placed in a DAEP if the student:

- Engages in conduct relating to a false alarm or report (including a bomb threat) or a terroristic threat involving a public school. (see **Glossary**)
- Commits the following offenses on school property, within 300 feet of school property as measured from any point on the school's real property boundary line, or while attending a school-sponsored or school-related activity on or off school property:
    - Engages in conduct punishable as a felony.
    - Commits an assault (see **Glossary**) under Penal Code 22.01(a)(1).
    - Except as provided by Education Code 37.007(a)(3), sells, gives, or delivers to another person or possesses, uses, or is under the influence of a controlled substance or dangerous drug in an amount not constituting a

felony offense. (School-related felony drug offenses are addressed in **Expulsion**.) (See **Glossary** for "under the influence," "controlled substance," and "dangerous drug.")

- Sells, gives, or delivers to another person or possesses, uses, or is under the influence of marijuana or THC. A student with a valid prescription for low-THC cannabis as authorized by Chapter 487 of the Health and Safety Code does not violate this provision.
- Sells, gives, or delivers to another person an alcoholic beverage; commits a serious act or offense while under the influence of alcohol; or possesses, uses, or is under the influence of alcohol.
- Behaves in a manner that contains the elements of an offense relating to abusable volatile chemicals.
- Sells, gives, or delivers to another person an e-cigarette, as defined by Section 161.081, Health and Safety Code.
- Behaves in a manner that contains the elements of the offense of public lewdness or indecent exposure. (see **Glossary**)
- Engages in conduct that contains the elements of an offense of harassment against an employee under Penal Code sections 42.07(a)(1), (2), (3), or (7).

- Engages in expellable conduct and is six to nine years of age.
- Commits a federal firearms violation and is younger than six years of age.
- Engages in conduct that contains the elements of the offense of retaliation under Penal Code 36.06 against any school employee or volunteer on or off school property.
- Engages in conduct that contains the elements of harassment under Penal Code 42.07 against any school employee or volunteer on or off of school property.

The student receives deferred prosecution (see **Glossary**), or a court or jury finds that the student has engaged in delinquent conduct (see **Glossary**), or the superintendent or designee has a reasonable belief (see **Glossary**) under Section 53.03, Family Code, for conduct defined as any of the following offenses under the Penal Code:

1. A felony offense under Title 5;
2. The offense of deadly conduct under Section 22.05;
3. The felony offense of aggravated robbery under Section 29.03;
4. The offense of disorderly conduct involving a firearm under Section 42.01(a)(7) or (8); or
5. The offense of unlawfully carrying weapons under Section 46.02, except for an offense punishable as a Class C misdemeanor under that section.

Disciplinary Alternative Education Program (DAEP) Placement

Sexual Assault and Campus Assignments

A student shall be transferred to another campus if:

- The student has been convicted of continuous sexual abuse of a young child or disabled individual or convicted of or placed on deferred adjudication for sexual assault or aggravated sexual assault against another student on the same campus; and
- The victim's parent or another person with the authority to act on behalf of the victim requests that the board transfer the offending student to another campus.

If there is no other campus in the district serving the grade level of the offending student, the offending student shall be transferred to a DAEP.

Process

Removals to a DAEP shall be made by the CBC.

Conference

When a student is removed from class for a DAEP offense, the CBC or appropriate administrator shall schedule a conference within three school days with the student's parent, the student, and, in the case of a teacher removal, the teacher.

At the conference, the CBC or appropriate administrator shall provide the student:

- Information, orally or in writing, of the reasons for the removal;
- An explanation of the basis for the removal; and
- An opportunity to respond to the reasons for the removal.

Following valid attempts to require attendance, the district may hold the conference and make a placement decision regardless of whether the student or the student's parents attend the conference.

Consideration of Mitigating Factors

In deciding whether to place a student in a DAEP, regardless of whether the action is mandatory or discretionary, the CBC shall take into consideration:

1. Self-defense (see **Glossary**);
2. Intent or lack of intent at the time the student engaged in the conduct;
3. The student's disciplinary history;
4. A disability that substantially impairs the student's capacity to appreciate the wrongfulness of the student's conduct;
5. A student's status in the conservatorship of the Department of Family and Protective Services (foster care); or
6. A student's status as homeless.

Disciplinary Alternative Education Program (DAEP) Placement

Placement Order

After the conference, if the student is placed in a DAEP, the CBC shall write a placement order. A copy of the DAEP placement order and information for the parent or person standing in parental relation to the student regarding the process for requesting a full individual and initial evaluation of the student for purposes of special education services shall be sent to the student and the student's parent.

Not later than the second business day after the conference, the board's designee shall deliver to the juvenile court a copy of the placement order and all information required by Section 52.04 of the Family Code.

If the student is placed in a DAEP and the length of placement is inconsistent with the guidelines included in this Code of Conduct, the placement order shall give notice of the inconsistency.

DAEP at Capacity

If a DAEP is at capacity at the time the CBC is deciding placement for conduct related to marijuana, THC, an e-cigarette, alcohol, or an abusable volatile chemical, the student shall be placed in ISS then transferred to a DAEP for the remainder of the period if space becomes available before the expiration of the period of the placement.

If a DAEP is at capacity at the time the CBC is deciding placement for a student who engaged in violent conduct, a student placed in a DAEP for conduct related to marijuana, THC, an e-cigarette, alcohol, or an abusable volatile chemical may be placed in ISS to make a position in the DAEP available for the student who engaged in violent conduct. If a position becomes available in a DAEP before the expiration of the period of the placement for the student removed, the student shall be returned to a DAEP for the remainder of the period.

Coursework Notice

The parent or guardian of a student placed in DAEP shall be given written notice of the student's opportunity to complete, at no cost to the student, a foundation curriculum course in which the student was enrolled at the time of removal, and which is required for graduation. The notice shall include information regarding all methods available for completing the coursework.

Length of Placement

The CBC shall determine the duration of a student's placement in a DAEP.

The duration of a student's placement shall be determined case by case based on the seriousness of the offense, the student's age and grade level, the frequency of misconduct, the student's attitude, and statutory requirements.

The maximum period of DAEP placement shall be one calendar year, except as provided below.

Disciplinary Alternative Education Program (DAEP) Placement

Unless otherwise specified in the placement order, days absent from a DAEP shall not count toward fulfilling the total number of days required in a student's DAEP placement order.

The district shall administer the required pre- and post-assessments for students assigned to DAEP for a period of 90 days or longer in accordance with established district administrative procedures for administering other diagnostic or benchmark assessments.

Exceeds One Year

Placement in a DAEP may exceed one year when a review by the district determines that the student is a threat to the safety of other students or to district employees.

The statutory limitations on the length of a DAEP placement do not apply to a placement resulting from the board's decision to place a student who engaged in the sexual assault of another student so that the students are not assigned to the same campus.

Exceeds School Year

Students who are in a DAEP placement at the end of one school year may be required to continue that placement at the start of the next school year to complete the assigned term of placement.

For placement in a DAEP to extend beyond the end of the school year, the CBC or the board's designee must determine that:

1. The student's presence in the regular classroom or campus presents a danger of physical harm to the student or others; or
2. The student has engaged in serious or persistent misbehavior (see **Glossary**) that violates the district's Code of Conduct.

Exceeds 60 Days

For placement in a DAEP to extend beyond 60 days or the end of the next grading period, whichever is sooner, a student's parent shall be given notice and the opportunity to participate in a proceeding before the board or the board's designee.

Appeals

Questions from parents regarding disciplinary measures should be addressed to the campus administration.

Student or parent appeals regarding a student's placement in a DAEP should be addressed in accordance with policy FNG(LOCAL). A copy of this policy may be obtained from the central administration office or online at Little Elm ISD Board Policy Manual

Appeals shall begin at Level One with the campus principal.

The district shall not delay disciplinary consequences pending the outcome of an appeal. The decision to place a student in a DAEP cannot be appealed beyond the board.

Disciplinary Alternative Education Program (DAEP) Placement

Restrictions During Placement

State law prohibits a student placed in a DAEP for reasons specified in state law from attending or participating in school-sponsored or school-related extracurricular activities.

The district shall provide transportation to students in a DAEP.

For seniors who are eligible to graduate and are assigned to a DAEP at the time of graduation, the last day of placement in the program shall be the last instructional day, and the student shall be allowed to participate in the graduation ceremony and related graduation activities unless otherwise specified in the DAEP placement order.

Placement Review

A student placed in a DAEP shall be provided a review of his or her status, including academic status, by the CBC or the board's designee at intervals not to exceed 120 days. In the case of a high school student, the student's progress toward graduation and the student's graduation plan shall also be reviewed. At the review, the student or the student's parent shall be given the opportunity to present arguments for the student's return to the regular classroom or campus. The student may not be returned to the classroom of a teacher who removed the student without that teacher's consent.

Additional Misconduct

If during the term of placement in a DAEP the student engages in additional misconduct for which placement in a DAEP or expulsion is required or permitted, additional proceedings may be conducted, and the CBC may enter an additional disciplinary order as a result of those proceedings.

Notice of Criminal Proceedings

When a student is placed in a DAEP for certain offenses, the office of the prosecuting attorney shall notify the district if:

1. Prosecution of a student's case was refused for lack of prosecutorial merit or insufficient evidence, and no formal proceedings, deferred adjudication (see **Glossary**), or deferred prosecution will be initiated; or
2. The court or jury found a student not guilty or made a finding that the student did not engage in delinquent conduct or conduct indicating a need for supervision, and the case was dismissed with prejudice.

If a student was placed in a DAEP for such conduct, on receiving the notice from the prosecutor, the superintendent or designee shall review the student's placement and schedule a review with the student's parent not later than the third day after the superintendent or designee receives notice from the prosecutor. The student may not be returned to the regular classroom pending the review.

After reviewing the notice and receiving information from the student's parent, the superintendent or designee may continue the student's placement if there is reason to

believe that the presence of the student in the regular classroom threatens the safety of other students or teachers.

The student or the student's parent may appeal the superintendent's decision to the board. The student may not be returned to the regular classroom pending the appeal. In the case of an appeal, the board shall, at the next scheduled meeting, review the notice from the prosecutor and receive information from the student, the student's parent, and the superintendent or designee, and confirm or reverse the decision of the superintendent or designee. The board shall make a record of the proceedings.

If the board confirms the decision of the superintendent or designee, the student and the student's parent may appeal to the Commissioner of Education. The student may not be returned to the regular classroom pending the appeal.

Withdrawal During Process

When a student violates the district's Code of Conduct in a way that requires or permits the student to be placed in a DAEP and the student withdraws from the district before a placement order is completed, the CBC may complete the proceedings and issue a placement order. If the student then re-enrolls in the district during the same or a subsequent school year, the district may enforce the order at that time, less any period of the placement that has been served by the student during enrollment in another district. If the CBC or the board fails to issue a placement order after the student withdraws, the next district in which the student enrolls may complete the proceedings and issue a placement order.

Newly Enrolled Students

The district shall continue the DAEP placement of a student who enrolls in the district and was assigned to a DAEP in an open-enrollment charter school or another district including a district in another state.

When a student enrolls in the district with a DAEP placement from a district in another state, the district has the right to place the student in DAEP to the same extent as any other newly enrolled student if the behavior committed is a reason for DAEP placement in the receiving district.

State law requires the district to reduce a placement imposed by a district in another state that exceeds one year so that the total placement does not exceed one year. After a review, however, the placement may be extended beyond a year if the district determines that the student is a threat to the safety of other students or employees, or if the extended placement is in the best interest of the student.

Emergency Placement Procedure

When an emergency placement is necessary because the student's behavior is so unruly, disruptive, or abusive that it seriously interferes with classroom or school operations, the student shall be given oral notice of the reason for the action. Not later than the tenth day

after the date of the placement, the student shall be given the appropriate conference required for assignment to a DAEP.

Transition Services

In accordance with law and district procedures, campus staff shall provide transition services to a student returning to the regular classroom from an alternative education program, including a DAEP. (See policy FOCA(LEGAL) for more information.)

Placement and/or Expulsion for Certain Offenses

This section includes two categories of offenses for which the Education Code provides unique procedures and specific consequences.

Registered Sex Offenders

Upon receiving notification in accordance with state law that a student is currently required to register as a sex offender, the district must remove the student from the regular classroom and determine appropriate placement unless the court orders JJAEP placement.

If the student is under any form of court supervision, including probation, community supervision, or parole, the student shall be placed in either DAEP or JJAEP for at least one semester.

If the student is not under any form of court supervision, the student may be placed in DAEP or JJAEP for one semester or placed in a regular classroom. The student may not be placed in the regular classroom if the board or its designee determines that the student's presence:

1. Threatens the safety of other students or teachers;
2. Will be detrimental to the educational process; or
3. Is not in the best interests of the district's students.

Review Committee

At the end of the first semester of a student's placement in an alternative educational setting and before the beginning of each school year for which the student remains in an alternative placement, the district shall convene a committee, in accordance with state law, to review the student's placement. The committee shall recommend whether the student should return to the regular classroom or remain in the placement. Absent a special finding, the board or its designee must follow the committee's recommendation.

The placement review of a student with a disability who receives special education services must be made by the ARD committee.

Newly Enrolled Students

If a student enrolls in the district during a mandatory placement as a registered sex offender, the district may count any time already spent by the student in a placement or may require an additional semester in an alternative placement without conducting a review of the placement.

Appeal

A student or the student's parent may appeal the placement by requesting a conference between the board or its designee, the student, and the student's parent. The conference is limited to the factual question of whether the student is required to register as a sex

offender. Any decision of the board or its designee under this section is final and may not be appealed.

Expulsion

In deciding whether to order expulsion, regardless of whether the action is mandatory or discretionary, the CBC shall take into consideration:

1. Self-defense (see **Glossary**);
2. Intent or lack of intent at the time the student engaged in the conduct;
3. The student's disciplinary history;
4. A disability that substantially impairs the student's capacity to appreciate the wrongfulness of the student's conduct;
5. A student's status in the conservatorship of the Department of Family and Protective Services (foster care); or
6. A student's status as homeless.

Discretionary Expulsion: Misconduct That May Result in Expulsion

Some of the following types of misconduct may result in mandatory placement in a DAEP, whether or not a student is expelled. (see **Disciplinary Alternative Education Program (DAEP) Placement**)

Any Location

A student **may** be expelled for:

- Engaging in bullying that encourages a student to die by suicide.
- Inciting violence against a student through group bullying.
- Releasing or threatening to release intimate visual material of a minor or of a student who is 18 years of age or older without the student's consent.
- Criminal mischief, if punishable as a felony.
- Breach of computer security. (see Glossary)
- Engaging in conduct relating to a false alarm or report (including a bomb threat) or a terroristic threat involving a public school.

At School, Within 300 Feet, or at a School Event

A student **may** be expelled for committing any of the following offenses on or within 300 feet of school property, as measured from any point on the school's real property boundary line, or while attending a school-sponsored or school-related activity on or off school property:

- Selling, giving, or delivering to another person, or possessing, using, or being under the influence of any amount of marijuana, a controlled substance, or a dangerous drug, unless the conduct is punishable as a felony. A student with a valid prescription for low-THC cannabis as authorized by Chapter 487 of the Health and

Safety Code does not violate this provision. (See **Glossary** for "under the influence.")

- Selling, giving, or delivering to another person, or possessing, using, or being under the influence of alcohol; or committing a serious act or offense while under the influence of alcohol.
- Engaging in conduct that contains the elements of an offense relating to abusable volatile chemicals.
- Engaging in deadly conduct. (see **Glossary**)

Within 300 Feet of School

A student may be expelled for possession of a firearm, as defined by federal law, while within 300 feet of school property, as measured from any point on the school's real property boundary line.

Property of Another District

A student **may** be expelled for committing any offense that is a state-mandated expellable offense if the offense is committed on the property of another district in Texas or while the student is attending a school-sponsored or school-related activity of a school in another district in Texas.

While in a DAEP

A student may be expelled for engaging in documented serious misbehavior that violates the district's Code of Conduct, despite documented behavioral interventions while placed in a DAEP. For purposes of discretionary expulsion from a DAEP, serious misbehavior means:

1. Deliberate violent behavior that poses a direct threat to the health or safety of others;
2. Extortion, meaning the gaining of money or other property by force or threat;
3. Conduct that constitutes coercion, as defined by Penal Code 1.07; or
4. Conduct that constitutes the offense of:
    a. Public lewdness under Penal Code 21.07;
    b. Indecent exposure under Penal Code 21.08;
    c. Criminal mischief under Penal Code 28.03;
    d. Hazing under Education Code 37.152; or
    e. Harassment under Penal Code 42.07(a)(1) of a student or district employee.

Mandatory Expulsion: Misconduct That Requires Expulsion

A student **must** be expelled under federal or state law for any of the following offenses that occur on or off school property.

Under Federal Law

Bringing to school or possessing at school, including any setting that is under the district's control or supervision for the purpose of a school activity, a firearm, as defined by federal law. (see **Glossary**)

Note: Mandatory expulsion under the federal Gun Free Schools Act does not apply to a firearm that is lawfully stored inside a locked vehicle or to firearms used in activities approved and authorized by the district when the district has adopted appropriate safeguards to ensure student safety.

Under the Penal Code

- Unlawfully carrying on or about the student's person the following, in the manner prohibited by Penal Code 46.02:
    - A handgun, defined by state law as any firearm designed, made, or adapted to be used with one hand. (see **Glossary**) *Note*: A student may not be expelled solely on the basis of the student's use, exhibition, or possession of a firearm that occurs at an approved target range facility that is not located on a school campus; while participating in or preparing for a school-sponsored, shooting sports competition or a shooting sports educational activity that is sponsored or supported by the Parks and Wildlife Department; or a shooting sports sanctioning organization working with the department. (See policy FNCG(LEGAL))
    - A location-restricted knife, as defined by state law. [see Glossary]
- Possessing, manufacturing, transporting, repairing, or selling a prohibited weapon, as defined in state law. (see **Glossary**)
- Engages in conduct that contains the elements of the offense of exhibiting, using, or threatening to exhibit or use a firearm under Education Code 37.125.
- Behaving in a manner that contains elements of the following offenses under the Penal Code:
    - Aggravated assault, sexual assault, or aggravated sexual assault.
    - Arson. (see **Glossary**)
    - Murder, capital murder, or criminal attempt to commit murder or capital murder.
    - Indecency with a child.
    - Kidnapping or aggravated kidnapping.

- Burglary, robbery or aggravated robbery.
- Manslaughter.
- Criminally negligent homicide.
- Continuous sexual abuse of a young child or disabled individual.
- Behavior punishable as a felony that involves selling, giving, or delivering to another person or possessing, using, or being under the influence of a controlled substance or a dangerous drug.
- Engaging in conduct that contains elements of assault against a school employee or volunteer.

Under Age 10

When a student under the age of 10 engages in behavior that is expellable behavior, the student shall not be expelled but shall be placed in a DAEP. A student under age six shall not be placed in a DAEP unless the student commits a federal firearm offense.

Virtual Expulsion Program

In some circumstances, a student may be placed in a virtual expulsion program.

- The school must ensure students in the program have the necessary technology and internet and must provide it if needed.
- The virtual program must, as much as possible, meet the same requirements as an in-person disciplinary alternative education program (DAEP).
- The student's placement must be reviewed every 45 school days.
- If an in-person spot becomes available, the school should plan the student's return to in-person learning.
- If continued virtual placement is appropriate, the school must document the decision.

Consideration of Virtual Education as Alternative to Expulsion

Before a school district may expel a student, the district must consider the appropriateness and feasibility of, as an alternative to expulsion, enrolling the student in a full-time hybrid program, full-time virtual program, full-time hybrid campus, or full-time virtual campus. This requirement does not apply to a student expelled under Education Code 37.0081 or 37.007(a), (d), or(e).

Process

If a student is believed to have committed an expellable offense, the CBC or other appropriate administrator shall schedule a hearing within a reasonable time. The student's parent shall be invited in writing to attend the hearing.

Until a hearing can be held, the CBC or other administrator may place the student in:

- Another appropriate classroom.
- ISS.
- Out-of-school suspension.
- DAEP.

Hearing

A student facing expulsion shall be given a hearing with appropriate due process. The student is entitled to:

1. Representation by the student's parent or another adult who can provide guidance to the student and who is not an employee of the district;
2. An opportunity to testify and to present evidence and witnesses in the student's defense; and
3. An opportunity to question the witnesses called by the district at the hearing.

After providing notice to the student and parent of the hearing, the district may hold the hearing regardless of whether the student or the student's parent attends.

The board of trustees delegates to the Deputy Superintendent the authority to conduct hearings and expel students.

Board Review of Expulsion

After the due process hearing, the expelled student may request that the board review the expulsion decisions. The student or parent must submit a written request to the superintendent within seven days after receipt of the written decision. The superintendent must provide the student or parent written notice of the date, time, and place of the meeting at which the board will review the decision.

The board shall review the record of the expulsion hearing in a closed meeting unless the parent requests in writing that the matter be held in an open meeting. The board may also hear a statement from the student or parent and from the board's designee.

The board shall consider and base its decision on evidence reflected in the record and any statements made by the parties at the review. The board shall make and communicate its decision orally at the conclusion of the presentation. Consequences shall not be deferred pending the outcome of the hearing.

Expulsion Order

Before ordering the expulsion, the board or CBC shall take into consideration:

1. Self-defense (see **Glossary**);
2. Intent or lack of intent at the time the student engaged in the conduct;
3. The student's disciplinary history;

4. A disability that substantially impairs the student's capacity to appreciate the wrongfulness of the student's conduct;
5. A student's status in the conservatorship of the Department of Family and Protective Services (foster care); or
6. A student's status as homeless.

If the student is expelled, the board or its designee shall deliver to the student and the student's parent a copy of the order expelling the student.

Not later than the second business day after the hearing, the ***Deputy Superintendent*** shall deliver to the juvenile court a copy of the expulsion order and the information required by Section 52.04 of the Family Code.

If the length of the expulsion is inconsistent with the guidelines included in the Code of Conduct, the expulsion order shall give notice of the inconsistency.

Length of Expulsion

The length of an expulsion shall be based on the seriousness of the offense, the student's age and grade level, the frequency of misbehavior, the student's attitude, and statutory requirements.

The duration of a student's expulsion shall be determined on a case-by-case basis. The maximum period of expulsion is one calendar year, except as provided below.

An expulsion may not exceed one year unless, after review, the district determines that:

1. The student is a threat to the safety of other students or to district employees; or
2. Extended expulsion is in the best interest of the student.

State and federal law require a student to be expelled from the regular classroom for a period of at least one calendar year for bringing a firearm, as defined by federal law, to school. However, the superintendent may modify the length of the expulsion on a case-by-case basis.

Students who commit offenses that require expulsion at the end of one school year may be expelled into the next school year to complete the term of expulsion.

Withdrawal During Process

When a student's conduct requires or permits expulsion from the district and the student withdraws from the district before the expulsion hearing takes place, the district may conduct the hearing after sending written notice to the parent and student.

If the student then re-enrolls in the district during the same or subsequent school year, the district may enforce the expulsion order at that time, less any expulsion period that has been served by the student during enrollment in another district.

If the CBC or the board fails to issue an expulsion order after the student withdraws, the next district in which the student enrolls may complete the proceedings.

Additional Misconduct

If during the expulsion, the student engages in additional conduct for which placement in a DAEP or expulsion is required or permitted, additional proceedings may be conducted, and the CBC or the board may issue an additional disciplinary order as a result of those proceedings.

Restrictions During Expulsion

Expelled students are prohibited from being on school grounds or attending school-sponsored or school-related activities during the period of expulsion.

No district academic credit shall be earned for work missed during the period of expulsion unless the student is enrolled in a JJAEP or another district-approved program.

Newly Enrolled Students

The district shall continue the expulsion of any newly enrolled student expelled from another district or an open-enrollment charter school until the period of the expulsion is completed.

If a student expelled in another state enrolls in the district, the district may continue the expulsion under the terms of the expulsion order, may place the student in a DAEP for the period specified in the order, or may allow the student to attend regular classes if:

1. The out-of-state district provides the district with a copy of the expulsion order; and
2. The offense resulting in the expulsion is also an expellable offense in the district in which the student is enrolling.

If a student is expelled by a district in another state for a period that exceeds one year and the district continues the expulsion or places the student in a DAEP, the district shall reduce the period of the expulsion or DAEP placement so that the entire period does not exceed one year, unless after a review it is determined that:

1. The student is a threat to the safety of other students or district employees; or
2. Extended placement is in the best interest of the student.

Emergency Expulsion Procedures

When an emergency expulsion is necessary to protect persons or property from imminent harm, the student shall be given verbal notice of the reason for the action. Emergency expulsion may be ordered based on a single incident of behavior by the student. Within 10 days after the date of the emergency expulsion, the student shall be given appropriate due process required for a student facing expulsion.

DAEP Placement of Expelled Students

The district may provide educational services to any expelled student in a DAEP; however, educational services in the DAEP must be provided if the student is less than 10 years of age.

Transition Services

In accordance with law and district procedures, campus staff shall provide transition services for a student returning to the regular classroom from placement in an alternative education program, including a DAEP or JJAEP. See policies FOCA(LEGAL) and FODA(LEGAL) for more information.

Certain Felonies

Regardless of whether DAEP placement or expulsion is required or permitted by one of the reasons in the DAEP Placement or Expulsion sections, in accordance with Education Code 37.0081, a student may be expelled and placed in either DAEP or JJAEP if the board or CBC makes certain findings and the following circumstances exist in relation to aggravated robbery or a felony offense under Title 5 [see Glossary] of the Penal Code. The student must have:

- Received deferred prosecution for conduct defined as aggravated robbery or a Title 5 felony offense;
- Been found by a court or jury to have engaged in delinquent conduct for conduct defined as aggravated robbery or a Title 5 felony offense;
- Been charged with engaging in conduct defined as aggravated robbery or a Title 5 felony offense;
- Been referred to a juvenile court for allegedly engaging in delinquent conduct for conduct defined as aggravated robbery or a Title 5 felony offense; or
- Received probation or deferred adjudication or have been arrested for, charged with, or convicted of aggravated robbery or a Title 5 felony offense.

The district may expel the student and order placement under these circumstances regardless of:

1. The date on which the student's conduct occurred;
2. The location at which the conduct occurred;
3. Whether the conduct occurred while the student was enrolled in the district; or
4. Whether the student has successfully completed any court disposition requirements imposed in connection with the conduct.

Hearing and Required Findings

The student must first have a hearing before the board or its designee, who must determine that in addition to the circumstances above that allow for the expulsion, the student's presence in the regular classroom:

1. Threatens the safety of other students or teachers;
2. Will be detrimental to the educational process; or
3. Is not in the best interest of the district's students.

Any decision of the board or the board's designee under this section is final and may not be appealed.

Length of Placement

The student is subject to the placement until:

1. The student graduates from high school;
2. The charges are dismissed or reduced to a misdemeanor offense; or
3. The student completes the term of the placement or is assigned to another program.

Placement Review

A student placed in a DAEP or JJAEP under this section is entitled to a review of his or her status, including academic status, by the CBC or board's designee at intervals not to exceed 120 days. In the case of a high school student, the student's progress toward graduation and the student's graduation plan shall also be reviewed. At the review, the student or the student's parent shall have the opportunity to present arguments for the student's return to the regular classroom or campus.

Newly Enrolled Students

A student who enrolls in the district before completing a placement under this section from another school district must complete the term of the placement.

Glossary

Abuse is improper or excessive use.

Aggravated robbery is defined in part by Penal Code 29.03(a) as when a person commits robbery and:

1. Causes serious bodily injury to another;
2. Uses or exhibits a deadly weapon; or
3. Causes bodily injury to another person or threatens or places another person in fear of imminent bodily injury or death, if the other person is:
    a. 65 years of age or older; or
    b. A disabled person.

Antisemitism is defined by Government Code section 448.001 as a certain perception of Jews that may be expressed as hatred toward Jews. The term includes rhetorical and physical acts of antisemitism directed toward Jewish or non-Jewish individuals or their property or toward Jewish community institutions and religious facilities. Examples of antisemitism are included with the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance's "Working Definition of Antisemitism" adopted on May 26, 2016.

Armor-piercing ammunition is defined by Penal Code 46.01 as handgun ammunition used in pistols and revolvers and designed primarily for the purpose of penetrating metal or body armor.

Arson is defined in part by Penal Code 28.02 as a crime that involves:

1. Starting a fire or causing an explosion with intent to destroy or damage:
    a. Any vegetation, fence, or structure on open-space land; or
    b. Any building, habitation, or vehicle:
        (1) Knowing that it is within the limits of an incorporated city or town;
        (2) Knowing that it is insured against damage or destruction;
        (3) Knowing that it is subject to a mortgage or other security interest;
        (4) Knowing that it is located on property belonging to another;
        (5) Knowing that it has located within it property belonging to another; or
        (6) When the person starting the fire is reckless about whether the burning or explosion will endanger the life of some individual or the safety of the property of another.
2. Recklessly starting a fire or causing an explosion while manufacturing or attempting to manufacture a controlled substance if the fire or explosion damages any building, habitation, or vehicle; or

3. Intentionally starting a fire or causing an explosion and in so doing:
    a. Recklessly damaging or destroying a building belonging to another; or
    b. Recklessly causing another person to suffer bodily injury or death.

Assault is defined in part by Penal Code 22.01 as intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly causing bodily injury to another; intentionally or knowingly threatening another with imminent bodily injury; or intentionally or knowingly causing physical contact with another that can reasonably be regarded as offensive or provocative.

Breach of computer security includes knowingly accessing a computer, computer network, or computer system without the effective consent of the owner as defined in Penal Code 33.02, if the conduct involves accessing a computer, computer network, or computer system owned by or operated on behalf of a school district and the student knowingly alters, damages, or deletes school district property or information or commits a breach of any other computer, computer network, or computer system.

Bullying is defined as a single significant act or a pattern of acts by one or more students directed at another student that exploits an imbalance of power and involves engaging in written or verbal expression, expression through electronic means, or physical conduct that:

1. Has the effect or will have the effect of physically harming a student, damaging a student's property, or placing a student in reasonable fear of harm to the student's person or damage to the student's property;
2. Is sufficiently severe, persistent, or pervasive enough that the action or threat creates an intimidating, threatening, or abusive educational environment for a student;
3. Materially and substantially disrupts the educational process or the orderly operation of a classroom or school; or
4. Infringes on the rights of the victim at school.

Bullying includes cyberbullying. (See below.) This state law on bullying prevention applies to:

1. Bullying that occurs on or is delivered to school property or to the site of a school-sponsored or school-related activity on or off school property;
2. Bullying that occurs on a publicly or privately owned school bus or vehicle being used for transportation of students to or from school or a school-sponsored or school-related activity; and
3. Cyberbullying that occurs off school property or outside of a school-sponsored or school-related activity if the cyberbullying interferes with a student's educational opportunities or substantially disrupts the orderly operation of a classroom, school, or school-sponsored or school-related activity.

Chemical dispensing device is defined by Penal Code 46.01 as a device designed, made, or adapted for the purpose of dispensing a substance capable of causing an adverse psychological or physiological effect on a human being. A small chemical dispenser sold commercially for personal protection is not in this category.

Club is defined by Penal Code 46.01 as an instrument, specially designed, made, or adapted for the purpose of inflicting serious bodily injury or death by striking a person with the instrument, and includes but is not limited to a blackjack, nightstick, mace, and tomahawk.

Controlled substance means a substance, including a drug, an adulterant, and a dilutant, listed in Schedules I through V or Penalty Group 1, 1-A, 1-B, 2, 2-A, 3, or 4 of the Texas Controlled Substances Act. The term includes the aggregate weight of any mixture, solution, or other substance containing a controlled substance. The term does not include hemp, as defined by Agriculture Code 121.001, or the tetrahydrocannabinols (THC) in hemp.

Criminal street gang is defined by Penal Code 71.01 as three or more persons having a common identifying sign or symbol or an identifiable leadership who continuously or regularly associate in the commission of criminal activities.

Cyberbullying is defined by Education Code 37.0832 as bullying that is done through the use of any electronic communication device, including through the use of a cellular or other type of telephone, a computer, a camera, electronic mail, instant messaging, text messaging, a social media application, an internet website, or any other internet-based communication tool.

Dangerous drug is defined by Health and Safety Code 483.001 as a device or a drug that is unsafe for self-medication and that is not included in Schedules I through V or Penalty Groups 1 through 4 of the Texas Controlled Substances Act. The term includes a device or drug that federal law prohibits dispensing without prescription or restricts to use by or on the order of a licensed veterinarian.

Dating violence occurs when a person in a current or past dating relationship uses physical, sexual, verbal, or emotional abuse to harm, threaten, intimidate, or control another person in the relationship. Dating violence also occurs when a person commits these acts against a person in a marriage or dating relationship with the individual who is or was once in a marriage or dating relationship with the person committing the offense, as defined by Section 71.0021 of the Family Code.

Deadly conduct under Penal Code 22.05 occurs when a person recklessly engages in conduct that places another in imminent danger of serious bodily injury, such as knowingly discharging a firearm in the direction of an individual, habitation, building, or vehicle.

Deferred adjudication is an alternative to seeking a conviction in court that may be offered to a juvenile for delinquent conduct or conduct indicating a need for supervision.

Deferred prosecution may be offered to a juvenile as an alternative to seeking a conviction in court for delinquent conduct or conduct indicating a need for supervision.

Glossary

Delinquent conduct is conduct that violates either state or federal law and is punishable by imprisonment or confinement in jail. It includes conduct that violates certain juvenile court orders, including probation orders, but does not include violations of traffic laws.

Discretionary means that something is left to or regulated by a local decision maker.

E-cigarette means an electronic cigarette or any other device that simulates smoking by using a mechanical heating element, battery, or electronic circuit to deliver nicotine or other substances to the individual inhaling from the device or a consumable liquid solution or other material aerosolized or vaporized during the use of an electronic cigarette or other device described by this provision. The term includes any device that is manufactured, distributed, or sold as an e-cigarette, e-cigar, or e-pipe or under another product name or description and a component, part, or accessory for the device, regardless of whether the component, part, or accessory is sold separately from the device.

Explosive weapon is defined by Penal Code 46.01 as any explosive or incendiary bomb, grenade, rocket, or mine and its delivery mechanism that is designed, made, or adapted for the purpose of inflicting serious bodily injury, death, or substantial property damage, or for the principal purpose of causing such a loud report as to cause undue public alarm or terror.

False alarm or report under Penal Code 42.06 occurs when a person knowingly initiates, communicates, or circulates a report of a present, past, or future bombing, fire, offense, or other emergency that he or she knows is false or baseless and that would ordinarily:

1. Cause action by an official or volunteer agency organized to deal with emergencies;
2. Place a person in fear of imminent serious bodily injury; or
3. Prevent or interrupt the occupation of a building, room, or place of assembly.

Firearm is defined by federal law (18 U.S.C. 921(a)) as:

1. Any weapon (including a starter gun) that will, is designed to, or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive;
2. The frame or receiver of any such weapon;
3. Any firearm muffler or firearm silencer, defined as any device for silencing, muffling, or diminishing the report of a portable firearm; or
4. Any destructive device, such as any explosive, incendiary or poison gas bomb, or grenade.

Such term does not include an antique firearm.

Graffiti includes markings with paint, an indelible pen or marker, or an etching or engraving device on tangible property without the effective consent of the owner. The markings may include inscriptions, slogans, drawings, or paintings.

Handgun is defined by Penal Code 46.01 as any firearm that is designed, made, or adapted to be fired with one hand.

Harassment includes:

1. Conduct that meets the definition established in district policies DIA(LOCAL) and FFH(LOCAL);
2. Conduct that threatens to cause harm or bodily injury to another person, including a district student, employee, board member, or volunteer; is sexually intimidating; causes physical damage to the property of another student; subjects another student to physical confinement or restraint; or maliciously and substantially harms another student's physical or emotional health or safety, as defined in Education Code 37.001(b)(2); or
3. Conduct that is punishable as a crime under Penal Code 42.07, including the following types of conduct if carried out with the intent to harass, annoy, alarm, abuse, torment, or embarrass another:
    a. Initiating communication and, in the course of the communication, making a comment, request, suggestion, or proposal that is obscene, as defined by law;
    b. Threatening, in a manner reasonably likely to alarm the person receiving the threat, to inflict bodily injury on the person or to commit a felony against the person, a member of the person's family or household, or the person's property;
    c. Conveying, in a manner reasonably likely to alarm the person receiving the report, a false report, which is known by the conveyor to be false, that another person has suffered death or serious bodily injury;
    d. Causing the telephone of another to ring repeatedly or making repeated telephone communications anonymously or in a manner reasonably likely to harass, annoy, alarm, abuse, torment, embarrass, or offend another;
    e. Making a telephone call and intentionally failing to hang up or disengage the connection;
    f. Knowingly permitting a telephone under the person's control to be used by another to commit an offense under this section;
    g. Sending repeated electronic communications in a manner reasonably likely to harass, annoy, alarm, abuse, torment, embarrass, or offend another;
    h. Publishing on an internet website, including a social media platform, repeated electronic communications in a manner reasonably likely to cause emotional distress, abuse, or torment to another person, unless the communications are made in connection with a matter of public concern, as defined by law; or
    i. Making obscene, intimidating, or threatening telephone calls or other electronic communications from a temporary or disposable telephone number provided by an internet application or other technological means.

Hazing is defined by Education Code 37.151 as an intentional, knowing, or reckless act, on or off campus, by one person alone or acting with others, directed against a student for the purpose of pledging, initiation into, affiliation with, holding office in, or maintaining membership in a student organization if the act meets the elements in Education Code 37.151, including:

1. Any type of physical brutality;
2. An activity that subjects the student to an unreasonable risk of harm or that adversely affects the student's mental or physical health, such as sleep deprivation, exposure to the elements, confinement to small spaces, calisthenics, or consumption of food, liquids, drugs, or other substances;
3. An activity that induces, causes, or requires the student to perform a duty or task that violates the Penal Code; or
4. Coercing a student to consume a drug or alcoholic beverage in an amount that would lead a reasonable person to believe the student is intoxicated.

Hit list is defined in Education Code 37.001(b)(3) as a list of people targeted to be harmed, using a firearm, a knife, or any other object to be used with intent to cause bodily harm.

Improvised explosive device is defined by Penal Code 46.01 as a completed and operational bomb designed to cause serious bodily injury, death, or substantial property damage that is fabricated in an improvised manner using nonmilitary components.

Indecent exposure is defined by Penal Code 21.08 as an offense that occurs when a person exposes the person's anus or any part of the person's genitals with intent to arouse or gratify the sexual desire of any person, and is reckless about whether another is present who will be offended or alarmed by the act.

Intimate visual material is defined by Civil Practices and Remedies Code 98B.001 and Penal Code 21.16 as visual material that depicts a person with the person's intimate parts exposed or engaged in sexual conduct. "Visual material" means any film, photograph, video tape, negative, or slide of any photographic reproduction or any other physical medium that allows an image to be displayed on a computer or other video screen and any image transmitted to a computer or other video screen.

Location-restricted knife is defined by Penal Code 46.01 as a knife with a blade over five and one-half inches.

Knuckles means any instrument consisting of finger rings or guards made of a hard substance and designed or adapted for inflicting serious bodily injury or death by striking a person with a fist enclosed in the knuckles.

Look-alike weapon means an item that resembles a weapon but is not intended to be used to cause serious bodily injury.

Machine gun as defined by Penal Code 46.01 is any firearm that is capable of shooting more than two shots automatically, without manual reloading, by a single function of the trigger.

Mandatory means that something is obligatory or required because of an authority.

Paraphernalia are devices that can be used for inhaling, ingesting, injecting, or otherwise introducing a controlled substance into a human body.

Personal Communication Device means a telephone, cell phone such as a smartphone or flip phone, tablet, smartwatch, radio device, paging device, or any other electronic device capable of telecommunication or digital communication.

Possession means to have an item on one's person or in one's personal property, including, but not limited to:

1. Clothing, purse, or backpack;
2. A private vehicle used for transportation to or from school or school-related activities, including, but not limited to, an automobile, truck, motorcycle, or bicycle;
3. Personal communication devices or electronic devices; or
4. Any school property used by the student, including, but not limited to, a locker or desk.

Prohibited weapon under Penal Code 46.05(a) means:

1. The following items, unless registered with the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives or otherwise not subject to that registration requirement or unless the item is classified as a curio or relic by the U.S. Department of Justice:
    a. An explosive weapon; or
    b. A machine gun.
2. Armor-piercing ammunition;
3. A chemical dispensing device;
4. A zip gun;
5. A tire deflation device; or
6. An improvised explosive device.

Public Lewdness is defined by Penal Code 21.07 as an offense that occurs when a person knowingly engages in an act of sexual intercourse, deviate sexual intercourse, or sexual contact in a public place or, if not in a public place, when the person is reckless about whether another is present who will be offended or alarmed by the act.

Public school fraternity, sorority, secret society, or gang means an organization composed wholly or in part of students that seeks to perpetuate itself by taking additional members from the students enrolled in school based on a decision of its membership rather than on the free choice of a qualified student. Educational organizations listed in Education Code 37.121(d) are excepted from this definition.

Reasonable belief is that which an ordinary person of average intelligence and sound mind would believe. Chapter 37 requires certain disciplinary decisions when the

superintendent or designee has a reasonable belief that a student engaged in conduct punishable as a felony offense. In forming such a reasonable belief, the superintendent or designee may use all available information and must consider the information furnished in the notice of a student's arrest under Code of Criminal Procedure Article 15.27.

Self-defense is the use of force against another to the degree a person reasonably believes is immediately necessary to protect himself or herself.

Serious misbehavior means:

1. Deliberate violent behavior that poses a direct threat to the health or safety of others;
2. Extortion, meaning the gaining of money or other property by force or threat;
3. Conduct that constitutes coercion, as defined by Penal Code Section 1.07; or
4. Conduct that constitutes the offense of:
    a. Public lewdness under Penal Code 21.07;
    b. Indecent exposure under Penal Code 21.08;
    c. Criminal mischief under Penal Code 28.03;
    d. Hazing under Education Code 37.152; or
    e. Harassment under Penal Code 42.07(a)(1) of a student or district employee.

Serious or persistent misbehavior includes, but is not limited to:

- Behavior that is grounds for permissible expulsion or mandatory DAEP placement.
- Behavior identified by the district as grounds for discretionary DAEP placement.
- Actions or demonstrations that substantially disrupt or materially interfere with school activities.
- Refusal to attempt or complete schoolwork as assigned.
- Insubordination.
- Profanity, vulgar language, or obscene gestures.
- Leaving school grounds without permission.
- Falsification of records, passes, or other school-related documents.
- Refusal to accept discipline assigned by the teacher or principal.

Short-barrel firearm is defined by Penal Code 46.01 as a rifle with a barrel length of less than 16 inches or a shotgun with a barrel length of less than 18 inches, or any weapon made from a rifle or shotgun that, as altered, has an overall length of less than 26 inches.

Terroristic threat is defined by Penal Code 22.07 as a threat of violence to any person or property with intent to:

1. Cause a reaction of any type by an official or volunteer agency organized to deal with emergencies;
2. Place any person in fear of imminent serious bodily injury;
3. Prevent or interrupt the occupation or use of a building; room, place of assembly, or place to which the public has access; place of employment or occupation; aircraft, automobile, or other form of conveyance; or other public place;
4. Cause impairment or interruption of public communications; public transportation; public water, gas, or power supply; or other public service;
5. Place the public or a substantial group of the public in fear of serious bodily injury; or
6. Influence the conduct or activities of a branch or agency of the federal government, the state, or a political subdivision of the state (including the district).

Tire deflation device is defined in part by Penal Code 46.01 as a device, including a caltrop or spike strip, that, when driven over, impedes or stops the movement of a wheeled vehicle by puncturing one or more of the vehicle's tires.

Title 5 felonies are those crimes listed in Title 5 of the Penal Code that typically involve injury to a person and may include:

- Murder, manslaughter, or homicide under Sections 19.02–.05;
- Kidnapping under Section 20.03;
- Trafficking of persons under Section 20A.02;
- Smuggling or continuous smuggling of persons under Sections 20.05–.06;
- Assault under Section 22.01;
- Aggravated assault under Section 22.02;
- Sexual assault under Section 22.011;
- Aggravated sexual assault under Section 22.021;
- Unlawful restraint under Section 20.02;
- Continuous sexual abuse of a young child or disabled individual under Section 21.02;
- Bestiality under Section 21.09;
- Improper relationship between educator and student under Section 21.12;
- Voyeurism under Section 21.17;
- Indecency with a child under Section 21.11;
- Invasive visual recording under Section 21.15;

- Disclosure or promotion of intimate visual material under Section 21.16;
- Sexual coercion under Section 21.18;
- Injury to a child, an elderly person, or a disabled person of any age under Section 22.04;
- Abandoning or endangering a child under Section 22.041;
- Deadly conduct under Section 22.05;
- Terroristic threat under Section 22.07;
- Aiding a person to die by suicide under Section 22.08; and
- Tampering with a consumer product under Section 22.09.

Under the influence means lacking the normal use of mental or physical faculties. Impairment of a person's physical or mental faculties may be evidenced by a pattern of abnormal or erratic behavior, the presence of physical symptoms of drug or alcohol use, or by admission. A student "under the in-fluence" need not be legally intoxicated to trigger disciplinary action.

Use means voluntarily introducing into one's body, by any means, a prohibited substance.

Zip gun is defined by Penal Code 46.01 as a device or combination of devices that was not originally a firearm and is adapted to expel a projectile through a smooth-bore or rifled-bore barrel by using the energy generated by an explosion or burning substance.

Board Agenda Item

Little Elm Independent School District
400 Lobo Lane
Little Elm, Texas 75068

Board Mtg. Date **08-18-2025**	**Reports of the Superintendent** ☐ **Action Item** ☒ **Consent Agenda** ☐ **Reports, Routine Monthly** ☐ **Other** ☐
Subject:	**ACT ON DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY TO APPROVE THE AGREEMENT FOR THE PURCHASE OF ATTENDANCE CREDIT**
Presenter or Contact Person:	Jesse Wyse, Chief Financial Officer
Policy/Code:	Texas Education Code Chapter 48 and 49 (previously Chapter 41)
Strategic Plan Goal:	Ensuring Fiscal Health and Sustainability
Summary:	HB3 updated the statutes surrounding qualifications for recapture payments. Recapture is no longer tied to a certain level of wealth per WADA. Districts are now subject to recapture payments if they have local revenue in excess of entitlement. A district is considered to have excess local revenue if the district's tier one local share exceeds the district's entitlement. The district must reduce its tier one revenue by selecting one of the following five statutory options: 1) Consolidate with one or more other school districts 2) Detachment of property 3) Purchase of average daily attendance credits from the State 4) Contract for education of non-resident students 5) Tax base consolidation with another district Option #3 is the most feasible for the district, and is the option most districts with excess local revenue chose.

Financial Implications:	LEISD's anticipated 2025-26 cost of recapture will be approximately $1,463,507.00
Attachments:	2025-26 Agreement for the Purchase of Attendance Credit
Recommendation:	**The Administration recommends delegating authority to the Superintendent to approve the Agreement for the Purchase of Attendance Credit.**
Motion:	**I move "For the 2025-26 school year, we delegated contractual authority to obligate the school district under Texas Education Code (TEC) 11.1511(c)(4) to the superintendent, solely for the purpose of obligating the district under TEC, 48.257 and TEC, Chapter 49, Subchapters A and D, and the rules adopted by the commissioner of education as authorized under TEC, 49.006. This included approval of the Agreement for the Purchase of Attendance Credit."**

Agreement for the Purchase of Attendance Credit

This agreement is entered into pursuant to the Texas Education Code (TEC), Chapter 49, Subchapters A and D, and rules adopted by the commissioner of education as authorized by the TEC, §49.006. The purpose of this agreement is to enable the district to reduce its local revenue level to a level not to exceed the level established under TEC, §48.257 for the school year.

The school year to which this agreement applies is _____ (the "school year").

The agreement is for _____ School District ("the district"), with a county-district number of _____, to purchase attendance credit from the state for the school year.

This agreement is subject to the approval of the voters of the district as provided by the TEC, §49.156. The board of trustees of the district agrees to submit to the commissioner of education, on request, a certified copy of the board minutes showing the canvass of the election.

Initial payments will be based on the commissioner's estimate of the total cost of credit as determined under TEC, §49.153, using the district's projected maintenance and operations tax revenue that exceeds the level established under TEC, §48.257 for the school year. The district agrees to make the payments in accordance with the schedule specified in the TEC, §49.154.

The total cost of credit will be determined by the commissioner in accordance with the TEC, §49.153, when final data on the district's maintenance and operations tax revenue that exceeds the level established under TEC, §48.257 for the school year is available. If that amount is less than the amount paid by the district through August 15 of the school year, the difference will be refunded. If that amount is greater than the amount paid, the district shall remit an amount equal to the difference for deposit in the state treasury to be used for the Foundation School Program.

The cost of purchased attendance credit will be reduced for county appraisal district costs. The reduction will be computed in accordance with the TEC, §49.157. If the reduction exceeds the cost for the school year, the difference will be carried forward and applied to each subsequent year's cost until the total amount of the reduction has been exhausted.

_____ Date: _____

Signature of President, Board of Trustees

_____ Date: _____

Signature of Secretary, Board of Trustees

Signature of Superintendent

Date:

Typed Name of Superintendent

Date:

Signature of Commissioner of Education or Designee

Board Agenda Item

Little Elm Independent School District
400 Lobo Lane
Little Elm, Texas 75068

Board Mtg. Date **8-18-2025**	**Reports of the Superintendent** ☐	**Action Item** ☒	**Consent Agenda** ☐	**Reports, Routine Monthly** ☐	**Other** ☐	
Subject:	**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE LITTLE ELM INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT AND USE AGREEMENT**					
Presenter or Contact Person:	Michael Lamb					
Policy/Code:	N/A					
Strategic Plan Goal:	N/A					
Summary:	A Resolution of the Board of Trustees of the LEISD and Use Agreement					
Financial Implications:	There is no financial impact to the budget.					
Attachments:	Resolution					
Recommendation:	**The Administration recommends the approval of the Resolution of the Board of Trustees of the Little Elm Independent School District and Use Agreement**					
Motion:	**I move that the Board approve the attached Resolution of the Board of Trustees of the Little Elm Independent School District and Use Agreement**					

RESOLUTION
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE LITTLE ELM INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

On the ____ day of _____, 2025, the Board of Trustees of the Little Elm Independent School District adopted by vote the following findings and resolution:

WHEREAS, the District owns the former middle school facility located at 511 Lobo Lane, Little Elm, TX 75068 (Collin Powell Center) that is not currently being utilized for school district purposes; and

WHEREAS, the District desires to enter into agreements to permit certain non-profit entities the limited right to use a portion of the Facility for purposes that benefit the District and the District's students and families, and that may provide District students with opportunities for field trips or volunteer experience.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE LITTLE ELM INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT:

1. That the findings and recitals in the preamble of this Resolution are hereby found to be true and correct and are hereby approved and adopted.

2. That the Board of Trustees has determined that there is a public purpose served by the District providing space in the Facility to certain non-profit entities who provide access to important resources for District students and their families, as well as providing the District students with opportunities for field trips or community volunteer experience.

3. That the Board of Trustees has determined that the District will receive value by providing said space in the Facility to certain non-profit entities, because those entities will provide additional resources to District students and their families and may provide field trip and volunteer opportunities to District students, in addition to payment for the use of the Facility.

4. That reasonably adequate controls are in place to ensure that such benefits will be received by the District, because the District intends to enter written agreements regarding the use of the Facility for a limited purpose, and will receive payment in consideration for the use of the Facility.

5. That the Superintendent is authorized to negotiate and execute agreements with non-profit entities for the use of the Facility as described herein.

6. That it is hereby found, determined and declared that sufficient written notice of the date, time, place, and subject of the meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Little Elm Independent School District at which this Resolution was adopted was posted at a place convenient and readily accessible at all times to the general public for the time required by law preceding this meeting, as required by chapter 551, Texas Government Code, and that

this meeting has been open to the public as required by law at all times during which this Resolution and the subject matter thereof has been discussed, considered, and formally acted upon. The Board of Trustees further ratifies, approves, and confirms such written notice and posting thereof.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED this ____ day of _____, 2025.

By: _____
Mary Watkins, President
Board of Trustees of the Little Elm
Independent School District

ATTEST:

By: _____
Ken Beber, Secretary
Board of Trustees of the
Little Elm Independent School District

Certificate for Resolution

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was presented to the Board of Trustees of the Little Elm Independent School District during a regularly scheduled meeting on _____, 2025. A quorum of the Board of Trustees being then present, it was then duly moved and seconded that the resolution be adopted, and such resolution was then adopted according to the following vote:

Ayes: _____
Noes:_____
Abstentions: _____

To certify which, witness my hand this ____ day of _____, 2025.

By: _____
Mary Watkins, President
Board of Trustees of the

Little Elm Independent School District

LITTLE ELM INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
FACILITIES USE AGREEMENT

This Agreement is between the Little Elm Independent School District ("Licensor" or "District"), an Independent School District and political subdivision of the State of Texas, and [insert name of entity] ("Licensee"), a [insert type of entity] non-profit organization, hereinafter collectively referred to as the "Parties."

WHEREAS, the District owns the facility described herein and permits non-school use of such facility when these activities do not conflict with school use or with the District's policies; and

WHEREAS, Licensee has requested use of a portion of said District facility and the Parties are entering into this Agreement in compliance with the requirements of District's Board Policies, including, but limited to Board Policies GKD (Legal) and GKD (Local).

NOW THEREFORE, for and in consideration of the mutual promises and covenants expressed herein, the Parties agree as follows:

I.
Licensed Premises

1.1 License For Facilities Use: In consideration of the mutual covenants and agreements contained herein, and other good and valuable consideration, District grants to Licensee, a limited, non-exclusive license to use a portion of the following District facility described as:

District Facility: [insert detailed description of the specific space they will be using]
Approximate Square Footage: [insert approx. SF]
Address: [insert address]

(hereinafter "Licensed Facility(ies)"). This Agreement does not entitle Licensee or Licensee's officers, agents, employees, contractors, volunteers, guests or invitees to enter, occupy, or use any other area, facility, or building owned or controlled by District.

1.2 Permitted Use. Licensee may use the Licensed Facility only for the following purpose(s):

1.2.1. To serve as a space to provide [insert detailed description of their proposed use of the facility and how it will benefit District students and families]
1.2.2. To allow volunteer and/or field trip opportunities for District students [insert any details regarding volunteer/field trip opportunities].
1.2.3. Such use shall be from [Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.] ("Permitted Hours of Operation"). Any use of Licensed Facilities outside of Permitted Hours of Operation must approved by the District.
1.2.4. The District reserves the right to designate dates that the Licensed Facilities will be used for District activities.

1.2.3 Other uses of the Licensed Facility by Licensee must be agreed to in advance in writing by the District.

1.2.4 In the event that Licensee uses Licensed Facility for a different purpose without advance written consent from the District, this Agreement may be immediately terminated by District.

1.3 Licensee agrees that, in using the Licensed Facilities, it will obey: (a) all applicable laws relating to the use, condition, and occupancy of the Licensed Facilities; and (b) any requirements imposed by utility companies serving, or insurance companies covering, the Licensed Facilities. Licensee further agrees to abide by the District's Board Policies GKD (Legal) and GKD (Local) attached hereto and incorporated herein as **Exhibit A**, as well as any other applicable policies or rules imposed by District. By signing this Agreement, Licensee acknowledges that it has received a copy of District's Board Policies GKD (Legal) and GKD (Local), has read the policies and understands the requirements stated therein.

1.4 Licensee shall not create any nuisance, interfere with District's normal operations, permit any waste or use the Licensed Facilities in any way that would be construed as extra hazardous, would increase District's insurance premiums or void its policy. Licensee shall ensure that the Licensed Facility is adequately cleaned.

1.5 Licensee agrees that it will exercise reasonable care in its utilization of the Licensed Facilities. In the event that the Licensed Facilities are damaged as a result of Licensee's use, the Licensee shall repair or provide for such repair and return the Licensed Facility to the condition in which it was delivered to Licensee. Without prior written approval by the District's authorized representative, Licensee will not cause or permit any signs to be affixed, nor cause or permit any changes, alterations, or repairs, painting or staining on any part of the Licensed Facility, nor do, nor permit to be done anything which will damage or change the finish or appearance of any District-owned building, structure, or furnishings.

II.
Term of Agreement

2.1 The term of this Agreement shall commence on _____, 2025 and shall terminate on _____, 2030, unless earlier terminated as provided herein ("Term"). Subject to mutual written approval, the Parties may agree to extend this Agreement for successive additional one (1) year terms. The extended term shall be on the same terms and conditions as this Agreement, except as otherwise agreed in writing by the Parties.

Commented [EN1]: Confirm - 5 year term with optional 1 year renewals.

III.
Restrictions

3.1 Licensee shall comply with local fire code requirements and assure that the walkways, entries, doors, passages, vestibules, corridors, stairways, and ramps of the Licensed Facility and the access way to utilities for the Licensed Facility are free of obstruction and are not used for any purpose that restricts ingress or egress to the Licensed Facility or access to or from the Licensed Facility.

3.2 POSSESSION OR CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES AND SMOKING IN THE LICENSED FACILITY, ADJACENT PARKING AREA OR ELSEWHERE IN THE DISTRICT FACILITIES IS PROHIBITED AT ALL TIMES. A violation of this restriction will result in immediate termination of this Agreement by the District, and exclusion of the Licensee from the Licensed Facility.

3.3 Neither Licensee nor its officers, agents, employees, contractors, guests, or invitees shall be permitted to bring into the Facility nor onto the adjacent parking area any materials, substance, or object that is likely to cause injury to, or endanger the life of, is any person or that is likely to cause damage to property. The District shall have the right, in its sole discretion, to require the immediate removal of any materials, substance, or object that the District determines constitutes a danger or hazard to person or property.

3.4 No special equipment, fixture, device, engine, or machinery may be installed or operated at or in the Licensed Facility nor may any flammable or explosive substances be brought into the Licensed Facility or onto the adjacent parking area without written amendment to this Agreement signed by authorized representatives of both Parties. No alteration of any nature may be made to the Licensed Facility by Licensee.

3.5 Members of the public shall be permitted to access the Licensed Facility on [insert days of the week and times permitted] ("Public Access Hours").

IV.
Services Provided by District

4.1 The District will be responsible for contracting and funding all costs associated with major mechanical, electrical and plumbing repairs or replacements or repairs arising in connection with the Licensed Facility, in its sole discretion and subject to available funding. Licensee agrees to, immediately upon discovery of such condition, to submit a request in writing to the District for repairs, replacement, and maintenance. During the Term of this Agreement, the District intends to contract and pay for all utility services used in connection with the Licensed Facility. The District may also provide internet connectivity to the Licensed Facility. The use of such internet connectivity must comply with District policy, and may not impose any cost on the District or unduly burden the District's technology resources.

V.
Services, Personnel, and Equipment Provided by Licensee

5.1 All Licensee staff will be employed by and under the direct supervision of the Licensee at all times during the hours of Permitted Use at the Licensed Facility. The Licensee will provide on-site supervision during all times of use of the Licensed Facilities. The District shall have no responsibility or liability for any acts or omissions of the Licensee staff or volunteers.

5.2 Licensee shall take the steps necessary to protect and guard the safety of employees, agents, volunteers, and invitees of the Licensee to the Licensed Facility. All Licensee employees, agents,

and invitees, who are likely to or will have contact with District students must have passed a criminal history background check current within the last year and Licensee will provide all information needed by the District to obtain criminal history record information that relates to Licensee employees, agents, or invitees of the Licensee if that person has or will have continuing duties at the Licensed Facility, and the duties are or will be performed in a location where District students are regularly present. Licensee shall assume all expenses associated with the background checks and shall immediately remove anyone who was convicted of a felony or a misdemeanor involving moral turpitude (or has any disqualifying criminal history as determined by the District) from the location(s) where District students are regularly present. The District shall determine what constitutes "moral turpitude" and "a location where students are regularly present."

5.3 Licensee shall provide its own equipment, materials and other personal property as needed by Licensee at the Licensed Facility ("Licensee Equipment"). The District shall not be responsible for damage, theft or other loss of any Licensee Equipment or personal property at the Licensed Facility.

5.4 The District may retain, destroy, or dispose of any of the Licensee Equipment left by the Licensee at the District's Facility more than thirty (30) days after expiration or termination of this Agreement, unless other arrangements are made in writing, signed by both Parties.

VI.
Use Fee

6.1 As consideration for the use of the Licensed Facility and parking, Licensee shall pay Licensor a License Fee equal to [insert amount] Dollars ($_____.00)] per month.

Commented [EN2]: Is there sufficient parking for the groups and the public? Do we need to divide up the number of parking spaces for the groups?

6.32 Payments shall be made before the first of each month by check payable to the "Little Elm Independent School District". Payment shall be sent to:

Little Elm ISD
Attn: _____
P.O. Box 6000
Little Elm, Texas 75068

VII.
Control of Premises

7.1 By granting Licensee the limited use of the Licensed Facility and adjacent parking under this Agreement, the Licensor does not relinquish custody or control of such premises and retains the right for its authorized representatives to enter such premises at any time during use by Licensee. Licensee understands and agrees that the primary purpose or function of public school facilities is to provide quality educational environments conducive to the learning of the students they serve. For safety and security purposes, the District's employees may enter the Licensed Facility at any time.

7.2 The District shall have the right at any time in its sole discretion to alter, remodel and renovate the Licensed Facility and any adjacent property. The District, as a courtesy, but not as an obligation, agrees to notify Licensee within a reasonable time of its plans for making renovations, alterations, or improvements to the Licensed Facility. Licensee will make every effort not to interfere with construction crews and other contractors who are engaged by the District to complete the work.

VIII.
Laws, Regulations, Taxes, Fees, Licenses

8.1 At all times during the use of the Licensed Facility and adjacent parking, Licensee and its officers, agents, employees, contractors, and invitees shall comply with all applicable state, federal, local laws, and the District's Board policies. Licensee shall be responsible for the payment of all royalties, fees, services, and taxes payable as a result of activities under this Agreement and for obtaining all necessary licenses or permits.

IX.
Liability, Insurance, Indemnification and Immunity

9.1 **Liability and Insurance.**

9.1.1 The District shall have no liability whatsoever for the actions of, or failure to act by, or with respect to any claim or cause of action that arises from the actions or omissions for any officers, employees, invitees, agents or assigns of the Licensee, or with respect to the Licensed Facilities, and the Licensee covenants and agrees that Licensee shall be solely responsible for and with respect to any claim or cause of action arising out of or with respect to any act, omission or failure to act by the Licensee or its officers, employees, invitees, agents, or assigns.

9.1.2 Licensee shall obtain and maintain for the term of this Agreement a policy of commercial general liability insurance from an insurance company authorized to do business in the State of Texas, and which provides evidence of General Liability Coverage in the minimum amounts of $1,000,000.00 per occurrence, $2,000,000.00 aggregate. Such policy or policies shall be issued in the name of the Licensee and shall name the Little Elm Independent School District as an additional insured on the policy of insurance. The Licensee must provide a certificate of such insurance to Licensor prior to using the Licensed Facility.

9.2 Indemnification. TO THE EXTENT PERMITTED BY TEXAS LAW, LICENSEE SHALL DEFEND, INDEMNIFY AND HOLD THE DISTRICT, ITS OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES, HARMLESS OF AND FROM ANY AND ALL LOSSES, DAMAGES, CLAIMS OR EXPENSES, INCLUDING REASONABLE ATTORNEY'S FEES AND COSTS ARISING OUT OF A CLAIM ASSERTED BY ANY PERSON FOR DAMAGE OR INJURY TO, OR DEATH OF, ANY PERSON OR FOR PROPERTY DAMAGE (INCLUDING LOSS OF USE THEREOF) CAUSED BY ANY ACT, FAULT, OMISSION OR NEGLECT OF LICENSEE OR OF ANY EMPLOYEE, AGENT, CONTRACTOR OR INVITEE OF LICENSEE. DISTRICT SHALL NOT BE LIABLE TO LICENSEE OR TO ANY OFFICER, EMPLOYEE, AGENT,

CONTRACTOR OR INVITEE OF LICENSEE FOR ANY INJURY OR DAMAGE TO, OR DEATH OF, ANY PERSON OR PROPERTY DAMAGE FOR ANY REASON WHATSOEVER.

9.3 No Waiver of Governmental Immunity**.** Nothing in the Agreement shall be construed to waive any immunity from suit or liability enjoyed by the District or its respective past or present officers, elected officials, employees, or agents. Nothing herein shall be construed as consent to suit by the District.

X.
Inspection and Repairs

10.1 Licensee has inspected the Licensed Facility and adjacent parking and determined that the Licensed Facility is in good repair and suitable for use by Licenser. Licensee accepts and will be responsible for the condition of the Licensed Facility during its use. Licensee shall pay Licensor the reasonable cost for repair/replacement of any and all damage to the Licensed Facility, its fixtures, equipment, furnishings, machinery, or adjacent parking areas which occur while Licensee's officers, agents, employees, contractors, invitees, guests, or participants are using the Licensed Facility either preceding, during or after scheduled Licensed Use.

XI.
Notice

11.1 Any notice related to this Agreement shall be given via certified mail, return receipt requested, by email, or by personal delivery to the parties as indicated below:

TO DISTRICT:	**TO LICENSEE:**
Little Elm Independent School District Attn: [insert name and title] P.O. Box 6000 Little Elm, Texas 75068 E-mail: [insert email]	[insert entity name] Attn: [insert name and title] [insert address] E-Mail: [insert email address]

XII.
Assignment

12.1 This Agreement and the respective rights and duties of the parties may not be assigned in whole or in part, without the prior written consent of the other Party.

XIII.
Merger and Amendment

13.1 This Agreement constitutes the entire Agreement between the parties with regard to the subject matter and no prior or contemporaneous agreement, oral or written, shall be effective to alter the terms hereof. No amendment shall be effective unless reduced to writing and signed by an authorized representative of both Parties.

XIV.
Law and Venue

14.1 This Agreement shall be construed under and in accordance with the laws of the State of Texas, and all obligations of the Parties created hereunder are performable in Denton County, Texas. Venue for any dispute arising hereunder shall be in Denton County, Texas.

XV.
No Third Party Beneficiary

15.1 This Agreement inures to the benefit of and obligates only the Parties. No term or provision of this License Agreement shall benefit or obligate any person or entity not a party to it. The Parties hereto shall cooperate fully in opposing any attempt by any third person or entity to claim any benefit, protection, release or other consideration under this License Agreement.

XVI.
Termination

16.1 In the event the District's Board of Trustees determine that the Licensed Facilities are needed for District purposes, including but not limited to any sale of said facilities, the District may terminate this Agreement by providing ninety (90) calendar days written notice to the Licensee. In such event, any prepaid funds for the period beyond the date of termination, if any, shall be refunded to Licensee.

16.2 Licensee may terminate this Agreement by providing ninety (90) calendar days written notice to the District.

16.3 If any party breaches its obligations under this Agreement, the non-defaulting party shall have the right to terminate this Agreement by providing the defaulting party with written notice of the alleged default and thirty (30) days within which to cure the default to the reasonable satisfaction of the non-defaulting party. If the defaulting party fails to cure the default to the reasonable satisfaction of the non-defaulting party within thirty (30) days after the date such written notice is given, the non-defaulting party may, in addition to any other remedies which may be available to it under the circumstances, terminate this Agreement effective immediately by providing written notice of such termination to the defaulting party.

16.4 Should the use of the Licensed Facility be prevented or delayed by reason of an act of God, war, civil commotion, fire, flood, or other like casualty, strike, lockout, labor troubles, epidemic or similar event, restrictive governmental laws or regulations, unusually severe weather, or any other cause, either party may terminate this Agreement and the Licensee may, at its option and as its sole remedy, receive a refund of any prepaid fees.

[*Signature page follows.*]

LICENSOR:
LITTLE ELM INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

By: _____ Date: _____
Michael Lamb, Superintendent of Schools

LICENSEE:

By: _____ Date: _____
Name: _____
Title: _____ Telephone: _____

EXHIBIT A

Board Policy GKD (Legal) and (Local)
[to be attached]

Board Agenda Item

Little Elm Independent School District
400 Lobo Lane
Little Elm, Texas 75068

Board Mtg. Date **8-18-2025**	**Reports of the Superintendent** ☐	**Action Item** ☐	**Consent Agenda** ☒	**Reports, Routine Monthly** ☐	**Other** ☐	
Subject:	**WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES – 7/14/2025**					
Presenter or Contact Person:	Sonia S. Flores					
Policy/Code:	N/A					
Strategic Plan Goal:	N/A					
Summary:	Board Meeting Minutes for July 14, 2025.					
Financial Implications:	There is no financial impact to the budget.					
Attachments:	Meeting Minutes					
Recommendation:	**The Administration recommends the approval of the Workshop Meeting Minutes for July 14, 2025.**					
Motion:	**I move that the Board approve the attached Workshop Meeting Minutes for July 14, 2025.**					

Minutes of Workshop Meeting

The Board of Trustees
Little Elm ISD

A Workshop Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Little Elm ISD will be held July 14, 2025, beginning at 6:00 PM in the Little Elm ISD Administration Building.

PRESENT: President Mary Watkins, Vice President DeLeon English, Secretary Ken Beber, Trustee Jason Olson, Trustee Jeff Burton, Trustee Alejandro Flores, and Superintendent Michael Lamb.

NOT PRESENT: Trustee David Montemayor.

The subjects to be discussed or considered or upon which any formal action may be taken are as listed below. Items do not have to be taken in the order shown on this meeting notice.

Unless removed from the consent agenda, items identified within the consent agenda will be acted on at one time.

1. Call to Order Open Session in the PL1 at Little Elm ISD Administration Building on 400 Lobo Lane, Little Elm, Texas 75068. Board President Mary Watkins called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.
2. Introduction and Roll Call
Ms. Sonia S. Flores took roll call.
3. Workshop
The workshop included:
- 89th Legislative Updates
- Cell phone policy
- Dresscode
- Libraries

4. Board President Comments
Presenter: Mary Watkins
There were no comments.
5. Board Comments
There were no comments.
6. Superintendent Comments
There were no comments.
7. Adjournment
Trustee Jason Olson made the first motion to adjourn the meeting. Secretary Ken Beber seconded the motion. The motion passed (6-0).
The meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm.

Board Agenda Item

Little Elm Independent School District
400 Lobo Lane
Little Elm, Texas 75068

Board Mtg. Date **8-18-2025**	**Reports of the Superintendent** ☐	**Action Item** ☐	**Consent Agenda** ☒	**Reports, Routine Monthly** ☐	**Other** ☐	
Subject:	**REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES – 7/21/2025**					
Presenter or Contact Person:	Sonia S. Flores					
Policy/Code:	N/A					
Strategic Plan Goal:	N/A					
Summary:	Board Meeting Minutes for July 21, 2025.					
Financial Implications:	There is no financial impact to the budget.					
Attachments:	Meeting Minutes					
Recommendation:	**The Administration recommends the approval of the Regular Board Meeting Minutes for July 21, 2025**					
Motion:	**I move that the Board approve the attached Regular Board Meeting Minutes for July 21, 2025**					

Agenda of Regular Meeting

The Board of Trustees
Little Elm ISD

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Little Elm ISD will be held July 21, 2025, beginning at 6:00 PM in the Little Elm ISD Administration Building.

PRESENT: President Mary Watkins, Vice President DeLeon English, Secretary Ken Beber, Trustee Jason Olson, Trustee David Montemayor, Trustee Jeff Burton, Trustee Alejandro Flores, and Superintendent Michael Lamb.

The subjects to be discussed or considered or upon which any formal action may be taken are as listed below. Items do not have to be taken in the order shown on this meeting notice.

Unless removed from the consent agenda, items identified within the consent agenda will be acted on at one time.

1. Call to Order Open Session in the Board Room at Little Elm ISD Administration Building on 400 Lobo Lane, Little Elm, Texas 75068. President Mary Watkins called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.
2. The Board recessed into Closed Meeting at 6:00 pm in the Board Support Conference Room as permitted by the Texas Open Meetings Act Code Subchapter 551.072 & 551.074. The Board and Superintendent discussed:
    A. Personnel
    B. Land
    The Board reconvened at 7:00 pm.
3. Pledge of Allegiance

The Board led those present to The Pledges of the United States Flat and The Texas Flag.

4. Invocation

There was no invocation.

5. Introduction and Roll Call

Ms. Sonia S. Flores took roll call.

6. Reports of the Superintendent
    A. Annual Update: Special Populations
    Ms. Kristi Roberts briefed the Board about the following:
    - How many students do we serve?
    - Evaluations
    - Possible reasons for the increase
    - 2024-2025 Cyclical Monitoring by Texas Education Agency
    - Parent Resource Events
    - Strategic Goal
    - Momentum
    - Section 504
7. Citizen Input

Audience participation shall be permitted at regular Board meetings and shall be limited to the public comment portion designated for that purpose

There was no citizen input

8. Action Items

A. Discuss and consider approval of LEHS Addition - Verkada Camera & Vape Detection System and District-Wide Security Camera Upgrade & Vape Detection Sensor Refresh

Mr. Mike Meador shared this information with the Board. The presentation included quotes from Delcom Group for LEHS Addition-Verkada Security Camera & Vape Detection System and Verkada Security Cameras & Environmental Sensors District-Wide Refresh.

Trustee Alejandro Flores made the first motion to approve this item as submitted. Trustee David Montemayor seconded the motion. The motion passed (7-0).

B. Discuss and consider approval of Transportation for Students in Hazardous Traffic Areas

Mr. Jonquez Moore shared with the Board information about this item. This requests approval of hazardous school bus routes servicing students within the two-mile, parent-responsibility zone as required by Little Elm ISD Board Policy CAN (Legal) Transportation Management – Student Transportation.

Secretary Ken Beber made the first motion to approve this item as submitted. Trustee Jeff Burton seconded the motion. The motion passed (7-0).

9. Consent Agenda

A. Discuss and consider approval of June 23, 2025 - Workshop Meeting Minutes
Discuss and consider approval of June 23, 2025 - Public Hearing Meeting Minutes

B. Discuss and consider approval of June 23, 2025 - Regular Meeting Minutes

C. Discuss and consider approval of June 30, 2025 - Special Meeting Minutes

D. Discuss and consider approval of Texas A&M Agrilife Extension Adjunct Faculty Resolution

E. Discuss and consider approval of Region 11 Texas Lesson Study Program Memorandum of Understanding

F. Discuss and consider approval of Little Elm ISD Expenditures over $100,000 Summary Report

G. Discuss and consider approval of the Request for Proposal #2024-005 Food Catering Services

H. Discuss and consider approval of Financial Reports - May 2025

Vice President DeLeon English made the first motion to approve the Consent Agenda as submitted. Trustee Jason Olson seconded the motion. The motion passed (7-0).

Trustee Jason Olson commented about the Memorandum of Understandings and suggested for them to be placed under Interlocal. Mr. Olson mentioned that he just wants to also make sure we are in compliance with the new updates to the legislation.

10. Board President Comments

Ms. Mary Watkins mentioned that she is ready for school to start and it is great to see new staff members with school being less than a month away.

11. Board Comments

Vice President DeLeon English echoed what Ms. Watkins said.

Trustee David Montemayor is excited to send his kids back to school. Mr. Montemayor thanked admin and staff for working in the curriculum and everything that has to happen before school starts.

Trustee Jason Olson echoed what Mr. Montemayor said adding that our legislators made and passed a lot of changes. Mr. Olson suggested reviewing Board Policies and BOP to make sure LEISD is in compliance with all these changes.

Secretary Ken Beber is excited about the new school year.

Trustee Jeff Burton mentioned that it was a quick summer.

Trustee Alejandro Flores thanked the Superintendent's Office for the new shirts and he is looking forward to convocation.

12. Superintendent Comments

Mr. Michael Lamb shared the following with the Board:

- You are welcome for the shirts
- Staff in this room and Board are phenomenal
- The hiring and the job fair, HR killed it. I appreciate Asheley and her team
- Kristi Roberts has done an amazing job, she is phenomenal, the best I've worked with
- Mike Meador is doing, helping and learning a lot with a lot going on
- Jesse Wyse and his department, the work they did to get us done with the budget
- Donnie Bartlett and Penny Tramel's week with our administrators and Donnie with safety and security is just amazing
- Jonquez Moore and his presentation nothing short or a miracle
- Technology and Jack Vestal killing it
- Will Poague amazing and so much better that the last guy we had before
- Jason Evans and the great work he does
- Cecelia Jones and her communications department is incredible
- I'm blown away by each one of them
- It is a great day to be a Lobo

13. Adjournment

Trustee Jason Olson made the first motion to adjourn the meeting. Secretary Ken Beber seconded the motion. The motion passed (7-0).

The meeting adjourned at 7:42 pm.

Board Agenda Item

Little Elm Independent School District
300 Lobo Lane
Little Elm, Texas 75068

Board Mtg. Date **8-18-2025**	**Reports of the Superintendent** ☐	**Action Item** ☐	**Consent Agenda** ☒	**Reports, Routine Monthly** ☐	**Other** ☐	
Subject:	**New LOCAL Board Policy EFB and FNCE**					
Presenter or Contact Person:	Renee Pentecost, Director for Human Resource Services					
Policy/Code:	N/A					
Strategic Plan Goal:						
Summary:	Local Policy changes were needed as a result of recent legislation passed during the 89th Legislative Session.					
Financial Implications:	N/A					
Attachments:	LOCAL Policy EFB and FNCE					
Recommendation:	**The Administration recommends approval of LOCAL Policy EFB and FNCE.**					
Motion:	**I move the Board add (LOCAL) Policy EFB and FNCE as submitted.**					

Note: For information related to the selection of instructional materials, see EFA.

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that the District provides a wide range of library materials for students and faculty that support student achievement and present varying levels of difficulty, diversity of appeal, and a variety of points of view. This policy also provides standards for collection development and the selection and evaluation of library materials.

Collection Development Policy

In this policy, "library materials" ~~is defined by law and~~ may include printed and electronic library acquisitions, including online catalogs, and other ancillary or supplementary materials maintained in a campus library. ~~[See EFB(LEGAL)]~~

The library collection development standards shall apply to all library materials available for use or display, including material contained in school libraries, classroom libraries, ~~online catalogs, library mobile applications used in the District, and any other library catalog a student may access~~and online catalogs.

In developing library collections, the District shall consider the age groups, grade levels, and access to library material by all students on a campus.

Responsibility

The District shall ensure librarians, professional library staff, and other designated professional staff ~~are~~ trained ~~or receive information~~ on the proper collection development standards select and acquire library materials in accordance with state law and rules, this collection development policy, and administrative procedures.

The Superintendent shall develop administrative procedures to ensure that library collections comply with applicable law~~, library standards,~~ and the District's collection development purpose and goals.

Collection Development Goals

In addition to the requirements in state law and rules, the District's library collections shall:

1. Present multiple viewpoints related to controversial issues [see EMB regarding instruction about controversial issues].
2. Provide a wide range of background information that will enable students to make intelligent decisions in their daily lives.
3. Include accurate and authentic factual content from authoritative sources.
4. Have a high degree of potential user appeal and interest.

5. Offer a global perspective that promotes equity of access, including print and nonprint materials such as electronic and multimedia, to meet the needs of individual learners.

6. Represent diverse viewpoints and ~~cultural groups of the state and their contributions~~cultures appropriate to ~~the state, the nation, and the world,~~each campus to ensure the collection embodies the unique background of ~~all students~~its student population.

~~Recommendation~~Selection and ~~Procurement~~Evaluation of Materials

Library materials shall be ~~recommended~~selected and ~~procured~~acquired in accordance with guidelines adopted by the Texas State Library and Archives Commission and the District standards and priorities expressed in this policy.

~~Librarians and other professional staff shall develop recommendations to be presented to the Board. The~~When selecting, acquiring, and evaluating library materials, librarians and other professional staff shall ensure that the materials:

1. Enrich and support the TEKS and the state and local curriculum, taking into consideration students' varied interests, maturity levels, abilities, and learning styles.

2. Foster growth in factual knowledge, literary appreciation, aesthetic values, and societal standards.

3. Encourage the enjoyment of reading, foster high-level thinking skills, support personal learning, and encourage discussion based on rational analysis.

4. Represent ethnic, religious, and cultural groups of the state and their contributions to the state, the nation, and the world.

The Superintendent shall ensure that administrative procedures regarding the ~~development of recommendations~~selection of library materials consider at least two of the following factors:

1. Recommendations from students, parents or guardians, teachers, and District ~~residents~~community members.

2. Consultation with District teachers and library staff.

3. Consultation with library staff from other districts.

4. Extensive review of the library material.

5. Context of the library material, including overall fit within the existing collection and support of District curriculum.

6. Reviews of the library material from sources such as professional journals in library science, recognized professional education or content journals with book reviews, national and

state award recognition lists, library science field experts, and highly acclaimed author and literacy expert recommendations.

7. Coverage of topics, authors, series, or genres that fill gaps in the school library collection.

~~The Board shall consider the list of library materials that have been donated or proposed by the administration for procurement. Each Board member may propose changes before the Board takes action on the list of donated or proposed library materials.~~

~~The Board shall either approve or reject the library materials that have been donated or proposed for procurement.~~

~~Donated and Proposed Procurement List~~

~~At least 30 days prior to the Board's vote to accept donated library materials or approve procurement of library materials, the Superintendent shall make accessible to the public the list of library materials in accordance with law.~~

Access Plan

The District shall allow efficient parental access to the District's library and any available online catalogs.

Online catalogs shall be publicly available. The District shall publish information about library material titles, including how and where material can be accessed.

Each campus shall communicate the following to parents and guardians:

- Access to policies relating to school libraries and library materials;
- Consistent access to library materials and resources; and
- Opportunities for students, parents and guardians, educators, and community members to provide feedback on library materials and services.

Parental Involvement

Parents and guardians are the primary decision- makers regarding their ~~child's~~student's access to library material. In general, a student is afforded the opportunity to self-select library materials as part of literacy development and the library program. District staff may assist a student in selecting library material; however, the ultimate determination of appropriateness remains with the student and parent or guardian. Parents and guardians are encouraged to communicate with the campus librarian and their child's teacher about special considerations regarding library materials self-selected by their ~~child~~student.

In accordance with state law and administrative procedures, parents or guardians may ~~submit to the principal or a staff member~~

~~designated by the principal a list of library materials that the parent's or guardian's child shall not be allowed to check out or access for use outside of the school library. The Superintendent shall develop procedures that permit a parent or guardian to submit the request in at least one of the methods permitted by law.~~

~~The parent or guardian may~~ select alternative library materials for their ~~child~~student. [For information on parental rights regarding instructional materials and other instructional resources, see EFA(LEGAL).]

The District shall focus on maximizing transparency with parents while meeting student needs and providing enrichment opportunities with library materials. Parental involvement in library acquisition, maintenance, and campus activities is encouraged.

Access Procedures

School Library

A parent or guardian who wishes to access a school's library shall first submit a request to the principal. The principal or a staff member designated by the principal shall work with the parent or guardian to determine a time to access the library that will not interfere with the delivery of instruction or disrupt student use of library services.

~~Library~~Online Catalog

A parent or guardian who wishes to access ~~the~~an online catalog ~~of library materials for any school in the District~~ shall submit a written request to the ~~school's~~ principal. The principal or a staff member designated by the principal shall respond to the request in accordance with administrative procedures.

Protection from Inappropriate Material

~~In accordance with law and guidance from the Texas State~~ Library ~~and Archives Commission, library~~ materials shall not include "harmful material~~";~~" as defined by Penal Code 43.24(a)(2); "obscene" material as defined by Penal Code 43.21(a)(1); any library material that is pervasively vulgar or educationally unsuitable~~; any library material containing indecent or profane content; any library material that refers a person to a website, including by use~~ as referenced in *Board* *of* ~~a link or QR code, containing content legally prohibited under law~~*Education v. Pico*; or any other material legally prohibited from inclusion in a public school library. [See EFB(LEGAL)]

Obscene material is not protected by the First Amendment to the United States Constitution.

Library materials shall comply with the ~~Children's~~Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA), including technology protection measures. [See CQ]

~~Challenge~~Reconsideration of Library Material

A District employee~~,~~ or a parent or guardian of a District student~~, or District resident~~ may ~~challenge~~request the reconsideration of a library material maintained in the District's library program.

Guiding Principles

The following principles shall guide the review of a ~~challenge of~~request to reconsider a library material:

1. An individual may ~~challenge~~raise an objection to a library material used in the District's library program, despite the fact that the professional staff ~~and~~selecting the ~~Board~~materials were qualified to make the selection, followed the proper procedure, and adhered to the objectives and criteria for ~~recommending and procuring~~ library materials set out in this policy.

2. A parent's or guardian's ability to exercise control over instruction and instructional resources, including library materials, extends only to his or her own child as set forth in Education Code Chapter 26.

~~2.~~3. Access to a challenged material shall not be restricted during the ~~challenge~~reconsideration process, except the District may deny access to a student if requested by the student's parent or guardian.

In addition to compliance with state law and this policy, a criterion for the final decision on challenged library materials is the appropriateness of the material for its intended use. No challenged library material shall be removed solely because of the ideas expressed in the library material or the personal background of the library material's author or the personal background of the characters in the material.

Informal ~~Challenge~~Reconsideration

When the District or a campus receives an objection to the appropriateness of a library material, the appropriate librarian or administrator shall try to resolve the matter informally. The librarian or administrator shall explain the selection process and discuss the intended purpose for the library material.

The librarian or administrator shall offer a concerned parent or guardian an alternative library material to be used by the child in place of the material and, if requested, shall restrict the child's access to the material objected to by the parent or guardian.

If the individual wishes to make a formal challenge, the administrator shall make available to the individual a copy of this policy and ~~the~~a form to request a formal ~~challenge~~reconsideration of the library material.

Formal ~~Challenge~~Request for Reconsideration

The District shall make ~~the Texas Education Agency~~ a form to ~~challenge~~ request reconsideration of library material available ~~on the District's website.~~ [S reconsideration form location].

If ~~a District~~an employee~~,~~ or a parent or guardian of a District student~~, or a District resident~~ wishes to ~~challenge~~request reconsideration of a library material, they shall follow the procedures to complete and submit the ~~challenge~~request for reconsideration form.

After a ~~challenge~~request for reconsideration form is submitted, the form shall be provided to the Superintendent. Copies of the form shall be provided to the school librarian, the Board, and any other staff designated in administrative procedures.

~~Challenge~~Reconsideration Committee

For purposes of this policy, "days" shall mean District business days, unless otherwise noted.

The [S pos appointing committee] shall appoint a ~~challenge~~reconsideration committee and notify committee members ~~in accordance with administrative procedures~~within [S days to appoint committee] days of receiving the request for reconsideration form.

The ~~challenge~~reconsideration committee shall include the librarian and at least one member of the instructional staff who is familiar with the material's content. Other members of the committee may include District-level staff, secondary-level students, parents or guardians, and any other appropriate individuals.

~~The~~ Within [S days to provide material] days of appointment of the committee the District shall provide members of the committee the relevant materials to review ~~in accordance with the deadlines established in administrative procedures and in accordance with law.~~

~~Any meeting of the committee must comply with the meeting requirements under Education Code 33.024(g) and (h), including~~. If additional time is required ~~notices, meeting minutes, audio or video recordings, and submission of minutes and audio or video recordings~~to obtain and distribute the materials for review, all members of the ~~meeting to the District~~committee shall be informed that a reasonable extension of time is needed.

All members of the committee shall review the challenged library material in its entirety and determine whether the material conforms to this policy and whether the material will continue to be available in the library. The committee shall prepare a written report of its findings.

Absent extenuating circumstances, the written report shall be provided to the administration within [S days to provide report] days of the District providing the material to the committee members. In

calculating timelines under this policy, the day the committee is provided the materials is "day zero." The following business day is "day one."

Extensions of time due to extenuating circumstances shall take into consideration the time necessary to convene the committee members, the amount of material being reviewed, and any other pending reconsideration requests being handled by the committee.

An extension of any deadline shall be promptly communicated to the individual who submitted the request for reconsideration.

The Superintendent, the school librarian, the individual submitting the ~~challenge~~request for reconsideration, and any other appropriate ~~staff~~administrators shall receive a copy of the committee's report.

Appeal

An individual who submitted a ~~challenge~~request for reconsideration may appeal the decision ~~to~~of the ~~Board. The individual must provide the notice of appeal~~reconsideration committee in accordance with ~~administrative procedures.~~

~~The Board shall hear the appeal~~appropriate complaint policies, starting at the level immediately preceding Board consideration of a complaint. [See DGBA and ~~render a decision in accordance with the timelines established in law.~~FNG]

~~When considering the appeal, the Board shall consider the factors in Education Code 33.027(f). The Board shall consider appeals in accordance with timelines set out in law.~~

Frequency of Review

After a library material has been ~~challenged and~~reviewed through the ~~Board determines not to remove the library material from a school library catalog~~reconsideration process, it ~~may~~shall not be ~~challenged~~reviewed again ~~before the second anniversary~~within two calendar years of the ~~Board's~~reconsideration committee's final decision ~~not to remove the material~~.

~~Removal of Library Materials~~

~~If a challenge to a library material results in the removal of the library material from the school library catalog, each teacher assigned as the classroom teacher at the grade level for which the library material was removed shall be notified and instructed to remove any copy of the library material from the teacher's classroom library, if applicable.~~

Maintenance of Library Materials

In accordance with state guidelines and District administrative procedures, collections shall be evaluated and updated regularly based on the collections' age, relevance, diversity, and variety. The Superintendent shall ensure administrative procedures are established for regular maintenance of the library collection on each

campus. Standard maintenance procedures for any library collection include repair, replacement, and removal of materials as necessary. Regular maintenance shall also include scheduled inventories of the collection. Disposal of any District-owned library materials shall be in accordance with District policy and procedures. [See CI]

Gifts and Donations

The ~~Board~~District shall accept gifts and donations of library materials with the understanding that the use and disposition of the materials and monies will be in accordance with District policy and the selection criteria noted above. [See CDC]

Policy Review

This policy shall be reviewed at least every three years and revised as necessary.

PROPOSED REVISIONS

Note: For searches of personal ~~telecommunications~~communication devices or other personal electronic devices, see FNF.

Personal ~~Use~~ ~~Telecommunications~~ Communication Devices

A student shall not use a personal communication device on school property during the school day. While on school property, the student shall store any personal communication device in accordance with administrative regulations.

A student who violates this policy or any regulations shall be subject to discipline in accordance with the Board-adopted Student Code of Conduct.

An authorized District employee ~~may~~shall confiscate a student's personal ~~telecommunications~~communication device~~, including a mobile telephone,~~ that is used in violation of this policy or any applicable ~~campus rules~~regulations.

~~A confiscated personal telecommunications device shall be released for a fee determined by the Board. In accordance with the student handbook, the student or the student's parents may retrieve the device after paying the fee.~~

If a personal ~~telecommunications~~communication device is not retrieved, the District shall dispose of the device after providing the notice required by law.

~~Other Electronic Devices~~

~~Guidelines regarding other personal electronic devices shall be addressed in the student handbook.~~

~~**Instructional Use**~~

~~A student shall obtain prior approval before using personal telecommunications or other personal electronic devices for on-campus instructional purposes. The student shall also acknowledge receipt and understanding of applicable regulations and shall sign the appropriate user agreements. [See CQ]~~

Exceptions

A student shall be authorized to use a personal communication device on school property during the school day only under the following circumstances:

1. The student's use is necessary for implementation of the student's individualized education program, a 504 plan, or a similar program or plan;
2. The student's use is required due to a documented need based on a directive from a qualified physician; or

	3. The student's use is necessary to comply with a health or safety requirement imposed by law or as part of the District or campus safety protocols.
Implementation	The Superintendent shall develop regulations to implement this policy.
Compliance	Annually, the Superintendent shall report to the Board on the implementation and compliance of this policy.

Board Agenda Item

Little Elm Independent School District
300 Lobo Lane
Little Elm, Texas 75068

Board Mtg. Date **8-318-2025**	**Reports of the Superintendent** ☐	**Action Item** ☐	**Consent Agenda** ☒	**Reports, Routine Monthly** ☐	**Other** ☐	
Subject:	**Board Policy Updates – TASB Update 125**					
Presenter or Contact Person:	Renee Pentecost, Director for Human Resource Services					
Policy/Code:	Numerous – see attached list.					
Strategic Plan Goal:	N/A					
Summary:	TASB's Update 125 includes recommended (LOCAL) policy revisions to address several changes to the Texas Administrative Code. In addition to these changes, Update 125 includes (LEGAL) policies which were affected by legislative changes and amendments to state rules that are now in effect. For information regarding (LEGAL) changes, review the explanatory notes. (attachment)					
Financial Implications:	N/A					
Attachments:	Local Policy Overview for Update 125 (LOCAL) Policy Comparisons					

Recommendation:	**The Administration recommends approval of Update 125 and all localized policies associated with it as submitted.**
Motion:	**I move the Board add, revise, or delete (LOCAL) policies as offered by TASB Policy Service for consideration and according to Update 125 as submitted.**

(LOCAL) Policy Comparisons

These documents are generated by an automated process that compares the updated policy to the current policy as found in TASB records.

In this packet, you will find:

- Policies being recommended for revision (annotated)
- New policies (not annotated)
- Policies recommended for deletion (annotated in PDF; not shown in Word)

Annotations are shown as follows:

- Deletions are in a red strike-through font: ~~deleted text~~.
- Additions are in a blue font: new text.
- Blocks of text that were moved without changes are shown in green, with double underline and double strike-through formatting to distinguish the text's new placement from its original location: ~~moved text~~ becomes moved text.
- Revision bars appear in the right margin to show sections with changes.

Note: While the annotation software competently identifies simple changes, large or complicated changes — as in an extensive rewrite — may be more difficult to follow. In addition, TASB's recent changes to the policy templates to facilitate accessibility sometimes make formatting changes appear tracked, even though the text remains the same.

For further assistance in understanding policy changes, please refer to the explanatory notes in your Localized Policy Manual update packet or contact your policy consultant.

Contact us:

School Districts and Education Service Centers, call 800-580-7529 or email policy.service@tasb.org.

Community Colleges, call 800-580-1488 or email colleges@tasb.org.

Board Officers

The Board shall elect a President, a Vice President, and a Secretary who shall be members of the Board. ~~The Board may assign a District employee to provide clerical assistance to the Board.~~ Officers shall be elected by majority vote of the members present and voting.

Vacancy

A vacancy among officers of the Board, other than the President, shall be filled by majority action of the Board.

Term and Duties

Board officers shall serve for a term of ~~two years~~two years or until a successor is elected. Officers may succeed themselves in office. Each officer shall perform any legal duties of the office and other duties as required by action of the Board.

President

In addition to the duties required by law, the President of the Board shall~~:~~:

1. Preside at all Board meetings unless unable to attend.
2. Have the right to discuss, make motions ~~and~~, propose resolutions, and vote on all matters coming before the Board.

Vice President

The Vice President of the Board shall:

1. Act in the capacity and perform the duties of the President of the Board in the event of the absence or incapacity of the President.
2. Automatically become President of the Board if a vacancy in that office occurs and serve in this role until the Board reorganizes.

Secretary

The Secretary of the Board shall:

1. Ensure that an accurate record is kept of the proceedings of each Board meeting.
2. Ensure that notices of Board meetings are posted and sent as required by law.
3. In the absence of the President and Vice President, call the meeting to order and act as presiding officer.
4. Sign or countersign documents as directed by action of the Board.

~~Special Committees~~

~~Special committees may be created by the Board to fulfill specific assignments. Members of special committees shall be appointed by majority vote of the Board. These committees shall exclusively include District personnel and sitting Board members. Special committees shall report their findings to the Board and shall be dissolved upon completion of the assigned task or vote of the Board.~~

~~The President of the Board and the Superintendent may be ex officio members of all Board committees, unless otherwise provided by Board action.~~

~~Transacting Business~~

~~The function of special committees~~***Note***: For advisory committees that include staff, parents, community members, or students, see BDF.

Board Committees

For purposes of this policy, a Board committee is a committee composed only of current Board members.

Formation of a Board committee shall be by Board action. When establishing a Board committee, the Board action shall, at a minimum, specify the:

- Number of Board members on the committee;
- Process to appoint Board members to the committee;
- Term of committee membership; and
- Responsibilities of the committee.

A Board committee shall be fact-finding, deliberative, and advisory ~~but not administrative. Committees may transact business only within the specific authority granted by the Board. To be binding, all such business must be reported~~, and shall make recommendations in the areas of their responsibility. Board committees shall report their findings and recommendations to the Board ~~at the next regular~~and shall not assume administrative duties or ~~special meeting for approval and entry into the minutes as a public record.~~ responsibilities.

Standing Committees

The Board shall have the following Standing Committees:

- Curriculum
- Human Resources
- Finance

Standing Committees shall meet at least semiannually unless there is insufficient business before the committee to warrant meeting in a given semester.

Two Board members shall serve on each committee. Committee appointments shall be made each school year and members shall serve for one year, unless re-appointed.

Curriculum Committee

The purpose of the curriculum committee shall be to provide members an opportunity to:

- Meet with the Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum;
- Participate in discussions relating to current and proposed curriculum and discuss potential curriculum;
- Participate in discussions relating to curriculum delivery methods; and
- Discuss state and nationally mandated trends and best practices for instruction.

Human Resources Committee

The purpose of the human resources committee shall be to provide members an opportunity to:

- Meet with the Executive Director for Human Resources;
- Participate in discussions relating to human resources, including but not limited to, functions and methods in hiring; discipline practices; wellness; staff evaluations; staff development both generally and specifically as appropriate; and in as confidential a manner as necessary.

Finance Committee

The purpose of the finance committee shall be to provide members an opportunity to:

- Meet with the chief financial officer (CFO);
- Participate in specific discussions relating to District finance;
- Confer with the CFO on District financial affairs and provide transparency with respect to the financial status and operations of the District;
- Review, discuss, and advise on District finances; and
- Review, discuss, and advise on all internal audit activities.

Transacting Business

Unless specified by the Board, a Board committee shall not have final decision-making authority. Board committee recommendations must be reported to the Board at a regular or special meeting. The

Board shall not accept a Board committee's recommendation without due consideration of the matter.

Dissolution

- A Board committee shall be dissolved upon Board action.

Note: For committees composed only of current Board members, see BDB.

Advisory Committees

For purposes of this policy, an advisory committee is a committee composed primarily of District staff, parents, other community members, and/or students. An advisory committee may also include Board members in numbers less than a quorum of the Board.

Formation of an advisory committee shall be by Board action. When establishing an advisory committee, the Board action shall, at a minimum, specify the:

- Number of members on the committee;
- Process to appoint members to the committee;
- Term of committee membership; and
- Responsibilities of the committee.

An advisory committee shall be fact-finding, deliberative, and advisory and shall not assume administrative duties or responsibilities. Advisory committees shall report their findings and recommendations to the Board.

Transacting Business

An advisory committee may transact business only within the specific authority granted by the Board. To be binding, all such committee recommendations must be reported to the Board at a regular or special meeting for approval and entry into the minutes as a public record.

Dissolution

An advisory committee shall be dissolved upon completion of the assigned task or Board action.

Certificate of Coursework Completion

The District shall not issue a certificate of coursework completion to a student who fails to meet all state and local requirements for graduation. [See EIF, FMH]

Partial Credit

When a student earns a passing grade in only half of a course and the ~~combined grade for~~average of both halves is lower than 70, the District shall award the student credit for the half with the passing grade.

Safe Schools Data

The Superintendent shall ensure that the District complies with Texas Education Agency (TEA) guidelines for the collection and maintenance of data regarding:

1. Mandatory expellable offenses committed at school or at a school-related or school-sponsored activity, on or off school property [see FOD]; and

2. Any student who becomes a victim of one of the following violent criminal offenses~~, as defined by the Penal Code,~~ while on the premises of the school the student attends or while attending a school-sponsored or school-related activity, on or off school property:

   a. Attempted murder;

   b. Indecency with a child;

   c. Aggravated kidnapping;

   d. Aggravated assault on someone other than a District employee or volunteer;

   e. Sexual assault or aggravated sexual assault against someone other than a District employee or volunteer;

   f. Aggravated robbery; ~~or~~

   g. Continuous sexual abuse of a young child or disabled individual; or

   ~~g.~~h. Bullying.

School Safety Transfers

The parent of a student who becomes a victim of a violent criminal offense as described in the state guidance for unsafe school choice options or who is assigned to a campus identified by TEA as persistently dangerous shall be offered a transfer to a safe public or charter school within the District.

For each transfer requested, the District shall explore transfer options, as appropriate. Options may include a transfer agreement with another school district.

From a Persistently Dangerous School

The parent of a student attending a school identified as persistently dangerous shall be provided notification of his or her right to request a transfer. Notification shall occur at least 14 days prior to the start of the school year or, for a student enrolling subsequently, upon the student's enrollment.

The parent must submit to the Superintendent an application for transfer. The Superintendent shall complete the transfer prior to the

beginning of the school year, if applicable, or within 14 calendar days of the request for a subsequently enrolling student.

Any transfer arranged for a student from a campus identified by TEA as persistently dangerous shall be renewed so long as the campus from which the student transferred retains that designation.

The District shall maintain, in accordance with the District's record retention schedule, documentation of notification to parents of the transfer option, transfer applications submitted, and action taken.

For a Victim of a Violent Criminal Offense

Within 14 calendar days after a violent criminal offense described above occurs in or on the premises of the school the student attends or while attending a school-sponsored or school-related activity, on or off school property, the District shall notify the parent of a student who is a victim of the offense of the parent's right to request a transfer. The parent must submit to the Superintendent an application for transfer. The Superintendent shall approve or disapprove the request within 14 calendar days of its submission.

Any transfer arranged for a student who was a victim of a violent crime as described above shall be renewed so long as the threat to the student exists at the campus to which the student would typically be assigned.

For each offense, the District shall maintain for at least five years documentation of the nature and date of the offense, notification to the parent of the transfer option, transfer applications submitted, action taken, and other relevant information regarding the offense.

Additional Transfer Options

In circumstances described by Education Code 25.0341, a parent of a student who has been the victim of a sexual assault, regardless of whether the offense occurred on or off school property, may request a transfer of the parent's child or the student assailant from the same campus.

[For other transfer provisions, see also FDA and FDB.]

~~This policy shall apply to a student who has not been in attendance for 90 percent of the days the class is offered.~~

Absences Considered

Except as otherwise provided by law, all absences incurred while enrolled in the District shall be considered in determining whether a student has ~~attended~~ been in attendance for 90 percent of the ~~required percentage of~~ days ~~under this policy~~the class is offered.

Attendance Committees

The Board ~~shall establish~~ authorizes the establishment of an attendance committee or as many attendance committees as necessary for efficient implementation of ~~Education Code 25.092~~state law.

The Superintendent ~~shall~~is authorized to make the specific appointments in accordance with legal requirements.

Parental Notice of Excessive Absences

A student and the student's parent or guardian shall be given written notice prior to and at such time when a student's attendance in any class drops below 90 percent of the days the class is offered.

Methods for Regaining Credit or Awarding a Final Grade

When a student's attendance drops below 90 percent but remains at least at 75 percent of the days the class is offered, the student may earn credit for the class or a final grade by completing a plan approved by the principal. This plan must provide for the student to meet the instructional requirements of the class as determined by the principal.

If the student fails to successfully complete the plan, or when a student's attendance drops below 75 percent of the days the class is offered, the student, parent, or representative may request award of credit or a final grade by submitting a written petition to the appropriate attendance committee.

~~Petitions~~A petition for credit or a final grade may be filed ~~at any time the student receives notice but, in any event, no later than 30 days after the last day of classes.~~

in accordance with administrative regulations. The attendance committee shall review the student's entire attendance record and the reasons for absences and shall determine whether to award credit or a final grade. ~~The~~[See Imposing Conditions for Awarding Credit or a Final Grade, below]

Regardless of whether a petition is filed, the attendance committee may also~~, whether a petition is filed or not,~~ review the records of all students whose attendance drops below 90 percent of the days the class is offered.

A student who has lost credit or has not received a final grade because of excessive absences may regain credit or be awarded a final grade by fulfilling the requirements established by the attendance committee.

Personal Illness

The principal or attendance committee may require verification from a health-care provider in accordance with administrative regulations as a condition of classifying an absence for personal illness as one for which there are extenuating circumstances.

Best Interest Standard

In reaching consensus regarding a student's absences and how the student can be awarded credit or a final grade, the attendance committee shall attempt to ensure that its decision is in the best interest of the student. The Superintendent shall develop administrative regulations to document the attendance committee's decision.

Guidelines on Extenuating Circumstances

The attendance committee shall consider whether a student has mastered the essential knowledge and skills and maintained passing grades in the course or subject.

When makeup work is completed satisfactorily, the attendance committee shall consider extracurricular absences and other excused absences as days of attendance for award of credit or a final grade. [See FEA]

The attendance committee shall consider whether the reasons for the absences were out of the parent's or student's control and whether documentation for the absence is acceptable.

The student or parent shall be given an opportunity to present any information to the committee about the absences and to discuss ways to earn or regain credit or be awarded a final grade.

Imposing Conditions for Awarding Credit or a Final Grade

The attendance committee or principal, as applicable, is not required to assign a student to attend a specified program for an amount of time equivalent to the student's absences (i.e., "seat time").

The attendance committee or principal, as applicable, shall consider the student's unique circumstances and, if necessary, shall impose other conditions for awarding credit or a final grade that permit the student to meet the instructional requirements of the class ~~rather than assigning a student to attend a specified program for an amount of time equivalent to the student's absences.~~. Conditions may include:

1. Maintaining attendance standards for the rest of the semester.
2. Completing additional assignments, as specified by the committee or teacher.

3. Attending tutorial sessions as scheduled.
4. Completing other instructional programs, as specified by the committee.
5. Taking an examination to earn credit. [See EHDB]

In all cases, the student must earn a passing grade in order to receive credit.

Appeal Process

A parent or student may appeal the decision of the attendance committee in accordance with FNG(LOCAL).

(LOCAL) Policies Packet

For your convenience, this file contains *only* the local policies from your school district's TASB update packet.

What is in this packet?

- Instruction sheet for recommended (LOCAL) policies
- Explanatory Notes for recommended (LOCAL) policies
- Clean copies of recommended (LOCAL) policies
- Annotated (redlined) copies of recommended (LOCAL) policy changes

This is not the full update packet.

To retrieve your district's full update packet, log in to Policy Online® and visit My Policy Manual > Local Manual Updates > Numbered Updates.

What is in the full update packet?

The full update packet contains:

- A summary of the overall policy update
- (LEGAL) policies and (EXHIBIT) documents that describe the statutory framework in which your local policies must operate
- Instructions and Explanatory Notes for every policy change, not just the (LOCAL) policies
- Guidance on how to:
    - Present recommended policy changes to the board
    - Keep minutes
    - Notify TASB of board action
    - Maintain your historical record
    - Update your administrative regulations

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This information is provided for educational purposes only to facilitate a general understanding of the law or other regulatory matter. This information is neither an exhaustive treatment on the subject nor is this intended to substitute for the advice of an attorney or other professional adviser. Consult with your attorney or professional adviser to apply these principles to specific fact situations.

Instruction Sheet

TASB Localized Policy Manual Update 125

Little Elm ISD

Code	Type	Action To Be Taken	Note
BDAA	(LOCAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
BDB	(LOCAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
BDF	(LOCAL)	ADD policy	See explanatory note
EI	(LOCAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
FDE	(LOCAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
FEC	(LOCAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
FFAC	(LOCAL)	No policy enclosed	See explanatory note

Explanatory Notes

TASB Localized Policy Manual Update 125

Little Elm ISD

BDAA(LOCAL) OFFICERS AND OFFICIALS: DUTIES AND REQUIREMENTS OF BOARD OFFICERS

Revisions are recommended to this local policy on board officer duties and requirements. At Board Officers, the sentence indicating that the board may assign a district employee to provide clerical assistance is recommended for deletion since the superintendent, rather than the board, manages staff assignments, including providing support to the board. Under Terms and Duties — Vice President, the revised language clarifies that when the vice president automatically becomes president due to a vacancy, they then serve as president until the board reorganizes.

BDB(LOCAL) BOARD INTERNAL ORGANIZATION: BOARD COMMITTEES

This policy has been revised in coordination with BDF(LOCAL) to clarify the difference between board committees and advisory committees. Accordingly, the subtopic of this code has been changed from Internal Committees to Board Committees, and new provisions are recommended to establish how board committees are formed and outline their purpose. Text addressing Dissolution of board committees is also recommended for inclusion. The language previously at Special Committees has been moved to BDF(LOCAL).

Please note: Your locally developed text on Standing Committees, including the curriculum committee, human resources committee, and finance committee, has been retained with minor revisions for policy style. Please contact your policy consultant with any questions.

BDF(LOCAL) BOARD INTERNAL ORGANIZATION: ADVISORY COMMITTEES

This new local policy is recommended for inclusion to coordinate with the changes at BDB. The subtopic of this code has been changed from Citizen Advisory Committees to Advisory Committees. Language has been moved here from BDB(LOCAL) and updated to clarify how advisory committees are formed and the parameters of their responsibilities. A section on Dissolution of the committees is also recommended for inclusion.

EI(LOCAL) ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

At Partial Credit, recommended revisions replace the phrase "combined grade for" with "average of" to more accurately reflect the determination of awarding credit when a student earns a passing grade in only half of a course.

FDE(LOCAL) ADMISSIONS: SCHOOL SAFETY TRANSFERS

At Safe Schools Data, “bullying” is recommended for inclusion as an offense for which the district must collect and maintain data. The revision aligns with the Unsafe School Choice Option Guidance Handbook.

FEC(LOCAL) ATTENDANCE: ATTENDANCE FOR CREDIT

Revisions throughout this policy are recommended for clarity.

The information in the first sentence of the policy has been incorporated at Absences Considered for improved readability. Rather than directing the board to establish attendance committees, the policy now authorizes the establishment of those committees by the administration. At Methods for Regaining Credit or Awarding a Final Grade, specifics regarding petitions for credit are recommended for deletion in favor of a reference to administrative regulations.

Revisions at Imposing Conditions for Awarding Credit or a Final Grade are recommended to clarify requirements regarding "seat time." For more information, see the TASB.org article TEKS Mastery, Not Seat Time, Required for Attendance for Credit.

Little Elm ISD

The Legal Tips for Policy Development, available in the Policy Online® Governance and Management Library (TASB login required), describe common legal concerns and best practices specific to this policy's topic.

FFAC(LOCAL) WELLNESS AND HEALTH SERVICES: MEDICAL TREATMENT

The revisions to the legal framework at this code reflect the new Department of State Health Services rules on unassigned medication for respiratory distress. If your district currently maintains medication that can be used when a person is experiencing respiratory distress, please contact your policy consultant for appropriate text to include in your local policy.

Board Officers The Board shall elect a President, a Vice President, and a Secretary who shall be members of the Board. Officers shall be elected by majority vote of the members present and voting.

Vacancy A vacancy among officers of the Board, other than the President, shall be filled by majority action of the Board.

Term and Duties Board officers shall serve for a term of two years or until a successor is elected. Officers may succeed themselves in office. Each officer shall perform any legal duties of the office and other duties as required by action of the Board.

President In addition to the duties required by law, the President of the Board shall:

1. Preside at all Board meetings unless unable to attend.
2. Have the right to discuss, make motions, propose resolutions, and vote on all matters coming before the Board.

Vice President The Vice President of the Board shall:

1. Act in the capacity and perform the duties of the President of the Board in the event of the absence or incapacity of the President.
2. Automatically become President of the Board if a vacancy in that office occurs and serve in this role until the Board reorganizes.

Secretary The Secretary of the Board shall:

1. Ensure that an accurate record is kept of the proceedings of each Board meeting.
2. Ensure that notices of Board meetings are posted and sent as required by law.
3. In the absence of the President and Vice President, call the meeting to order and act as presiding officer.
4. Sign or countersign documents as directed by action of the Board.

Note: For advisory committees that include staff, parents, community members, or students, see BDF.

Board Committees

For purposes of this policy, a Board committee is a committee composed only of current Board members.

Formation of a Board committee shall be by Board action. When establishing a Board committee, the Board action shall, at a minimum, specify the:

- Number of Board members on the committee;
- Process to appoint Board members to the committee;
- Term of committee membership; and
- Responsibilities of the committee.

A Board committee shall be fact-finding, deliberative, and advisory, and shall make recommendations in the areas of their responsibility. Board committees shall report their findings and recommendations to the Board and shall not assume administrative duties or responsibilities.

Standing Committees

The Board shall have the following Standing Committees:

- Curriculum
- Human Resources
- Finance

Standing Committees shall meet at least semiannually unless there is insufficient business before the committee to warrant meeting in a given semester.

Two Board members shall serve on each committee. Committee appointments shall be made each school year and members shall serve for one year, unless re-appointed.

Curriculum Committee

The purpose of the curriculum committee shall be to provide members an opportunity to:

- Meet with the Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum;
- Participate in discussions relating to current and proposed curriculum and discuss potential curriculum;
- Participate in discussions relating to curriculum delivery methods; and

- Discuss state and nationally mandated trends and best practices for instruction.

Human Resources Committee

The purpose of the human resources committee shall be to provide members an opportunity to:

- Meet with the Executive Director for Human Resources;
- Participate in discussions relating to human resources, including but not limited to, functions and methods in hiring; discipline practices; wellness; staff evaluations; staff development both generally and specifically as appropriate; and in as confidential a manner as necessary.

Finance Committee

The purpose of the finance committee shall be to provide members an opportunity to:

- Meet with the chief financial officer (CFO);
- Participate in specific discussions relating to District finance;
- Confer with the CFO on District financial affairs and provide transparency with respect to the financial status and operations of the District;
- Review, discuss, and advise on District finances; and
- Review, discuss, and advise on all internal audit activities.

Transacting Business

Unless specified by the Board, a Board committee shall not have final decision-making authority. Board committee recommendations must be reported to the Board at a regular or special meeting. The Board shall not accept a Board committee's recommendation without due consideration of the matter.

Dissolution

A Board committee shall be dissolved upon Board action.

Note: For committees composed only of current Board members, see BDB.

Advisory Committees

For purposes of this policy, an advisory committee is a committee composed primarily of District staff, parents, other community members, and/or students. An advisory committee may also include Board members in numbers less than a quorum of the Board.

Formation of an advisory committee shall be by Board action. When establishing an advisory committee, the Board action shall, at a minimum, specify the:

- Number of members on the committee;
- Process to appoint members to the committee;
- Term of committee membership; and
- Responsibilities of the committee.

An advisory committee shall be fact-finding, deliberative, and advisory and shall not assume administrative duties or responsibilities. Advisory committees shall report their findings and recommendations to the Board.

Transacting Business

An advisory committee may transact business only within the specific authority granted by the Board. To be binding, all such committee recommendations must be reported to the Board at a regular or special meeting for approval and entry into the minutes as a public record.

Dissolution

An advisory committee shall be dissolved upon completion of the assigned task or Board action.

Certificate of Coursework Completion	The District shall not issue a certificate of coursework completion to a student who fails to meet all state and local requirements for graduation. [See EIF, FMH]
Partial Credit	When a student earns a passing grade in only half of a course and the average of both halves is lower than 70, the District shall award the student credit for the half with the passing grade.

Safe Schools Data

The Superintendent shall ensure that the District complies with Texas Education Agency (TEA) guidelines for the collection and maintenance of data regarding:

1. Mandatory expellable offenses committed at school or at a school-related or school-sponsored activity, on or off school property [see FOD]; and
2. Any student who becomes a victim of one of the following violent criminal offenses while on the premises of the school the student attends or while attending a school-sponsored or school-related activity, on or off school property:
    a. Attempted murder;
    b. Indecency with a child;
    c. Aggravated kidnapping;
    d. Aggravated assault on someone other than a District employee or volunteer;
    e. Sexual assault or aggravated sexual assault against someone other than a District employee or volunteer;
    f. Aggravated robbery;
    g. Continuous sexual abuse of a young child or disabled individual; or
    h. Bullying.

School Safety Transfers

The parent of a student who becomes a victim of a violent criminal offense as described in the state guidance for unsafe school choice options or who is assigned to a campus identified by TEA as persistently dangerous shall be offered a transfer to a safe public or charter school within the District.

For each transfer requested, the District shall explore transfer options, as appropriate. Options may include a transfer agreement with another school district.

From a Persistently Dangerous School

The parent of a student attending a school identified as persistently dangerous shall be provided notification of his or her right to request a transfer. Notification shall occur at least 14 days prior to the start of the school year or, for a student enrolling subsequently, upon the student's enrollment.

The parent must submit to the Superintendent an application for transfer. The Superintendent shall complete the transfer prior to the beginning of the school year, if applicable, or within 14 calendar days of the request for a subsequently enrolling student.

Any transfer arranged for a student from a campus identified by TEA as persistently dangerous shall be renewed so long as the campus from which the student transferred retains that designation.

The District shall maintain, in accordance with the District's record retention schedule, documentation of notification to parents of the transfer option, transfer applications submitted, and action taken.

For a Victim of a Violent Criminal Offense

Within 14 calendar days after a violent criminal offense described above occurs in or on the premises of the school the student attends or while attending a school-sponsored or school-related activity, on or off school property, the District shall notify the parent of a student who is a victim of the offense of the parent's right to request a transfer. The parent must submit to the Superintendent an application for transfer. The Superintendent shall approve or disapprove the request within 14 calendar days of its submission.

Any transfer arranged for a student who was a victim of a violent crime as described above shall be renewed so long as the threat to the student exists at the campus to which the student would typically be assigned.

For each offense, the District shall maintain for at least five years documentation of the nature and date of the offense, notification to the parent of the transfer option, transfer applications submitted, action taken, and other relevant information regarding the offense.

Additional Transfer Options

In circumstances described by Education Code 25.0341, a parent of a student who has been the victim of a sexual assault, regardless of whether the offense occurred on or off school property, may request a transfer of the parent's child or the student assailant from the same campus.

[For other transfer provisions, see also FDA and FDB.]

Absences Considered

Except as otherwise provided by law, all absences incurred while enrolled in the District shall be considered in determining whether a student has been in attendance for 90 percent of the days the class is offered.

Attendance Committees

The Board authorizes the establishment of an attendance committee or as many attendance committees as necessary for efficient implementation of state law.

The Superintendent is authorized to make the specific appointments in accordance with legal requirements.

Parental Notice of Excessive Absences

A student and the student's parent or guardian shall be given written notice prior to and at such time when a student's attendance in any class drops below 90 percent of the days the class is offered.

Methods for Regaining Credit or Awarding a Final Grade

When a student's attendance drops below 90 percent but remains at least at 75 percent of the days the class is offered, the student may earn credit for the class or a final grade by completing a plan approved by the principal. This plan must provide for the student to meet the instructional requirements of the class as determined by the principal.

If the student fails to successfully complete the plan, or when a student's attendance drops below 75 percent of the days the class is offered, the student, parent, or representative may request award of credit or a final grade by submitting a written petition to the appropriate attendance committee.

A petition for credit or a final grade may be filed in accordance with administrative regulations. The attendance committee shall review the student's entire attendance record and the reasons for absences and shall determine whether to award credit or a final grade. [See Imposing Conditions for Awarding Credit or a Final Grade, below]

Regardless of whether a petition is filed, the attendance committee may also review the records of all students whose attendance drops below 90 percent of the days the class is offered.

A student who has lost credit or has not received a final grade because of excessive absences may regain credit or be awarded a final grade by fulfilling the requirements established by the attendance committee.

Personal Illness

The principal or attendance committee may require verification from a health-care provider in accordance with administrative regulations as a condition of classifying an absence for personal illness as one for which there are extenuating circumstances.

Best Interest Standard

In reaching consensus regarding a student's absences and how the student can be awarded credit or a final grade, the attendance committee shall attempt to ensure that its decision is in the best interest of the student. The Superintendent shall develop administrative regulations to document the attendance committee's decision.

Guidelines on Extenuating Circumstances

The attendance committee shall consider whether a student has mastered the essential knowledge and skills and maintained passing grades in the course or subject.

When makeup work is completed satisfactorily, the attendance committee shall consider extracurricular absences and other excused absences as days of attendance for award of credit or a final grade. [See FEA]

The attendance committee shall consider whether the reasons for the absences were out of the parent's or student's control and whether documentation for the absence is acceptable.

The student or parent shall be given an opportunity to present any information to the committee about the absences and to discuss ways to earn or regain credit or be awarded a final grade.

Imposing Conditions for Awarding Credit or a Final Grade

The attendance committee or principal, as applicable, is not required to assign a student to attend a specified program for an amount of time equivalent to the student's absences (i.e., "seat time").

The attendance committee or principal, as applicable, shall consider the student's unique circumstances and, if necessary, shall impose other conditions for awarding credit or a final grade that permit the student to meet the instructional requirements of the class. Conditions may include:

1. Maintaining attendance standards for the rest of the semester.
2. Completing additional assignments, as specified by the committee or teacher.
3. Attending tutorial sessions as scheduled.
4. Completing other instructional programs, as specified by the committee.
5. Taking an examination to earn credit. [See EHDB]

In all cases, the student must earn a passing grade in order to receive credit.

Appeal Process

A parent or student may appeal the decision of the attendance committee in accordance with FNG(LOCAL).

(LOCAL) Policy Comparisons

These documents are generated by an automated process that compares the updated policy to the current policy as found in TASB records.

In this packet, you will find:

- Policies being recommended for revision (annotated)
- New policies (not annotated)
- Policies recommended for deletion (annotated in PDF; not shown in Word)

Annotations are shown as follows:

- Deletions are in a red strike-through font: ~~deleted text~~.
- Additions are in a blue font: new text.
- Blocks of text that were moved without changes are shown in green, with double underline and double strike-through formatting to distinguish the text's new placement from its original location: ~~moved text~~ becomes moved text.
- Revision bars appear in the right margin to show sections with changes.

Note: While the annotation software competently identifies simple changes, large or complicated changes — as in an extensive rewrite — may be more difficult to follow. In addition, TASB's recent changes to the policy templates to facilitate accessibility sometimes make formatting changes appear tracked, even though the text remains the same.

For further assistance in understanding policy changes, please refer to the explanatory notes in your Localized Policy Manual update packet or contact your policy consultant.

Contact us:

School Districts and Education Service Centers, call 800-580-7529 or email policy.service@tasb.org.

Community Colleges, call 800-580-1488 or email colleges@tasb.org.

Board Officers

The Board shall elect a President, a Vice President, and a Secretary who shall be members of the Board. ~~The Board may assign a District employee to provide clerical assistance to the Board.~~ Officers shall be elected by majority vote of the members present and voting.

Vacancy

A vacancy among officers of the Board, other than the President, shall be filled by majority action of the Board.

Term and Duties

Board officers shall serve for a term of ~~two years~~two years or until a successor is elected. Officers may succeed themselves in office. Each officer shall perform any legal duties of the office and other duties as required by action of the Board.

President

In addition to the duties required by law, the President of the Board shall~~:~~:

1. Preside at all Board meetings unless unable to attend.
2. Have the right to discuss, make motions ~~and~~, propose resolutions, and vote on all matters coming before the Board.

Vice President

The Vice President of the Board shall:

1. Act in the capacity and perform the duties of the President of the Board in the event of the absence or incapacity of the President.
2. Automatically become President of the Board if a vacancy in that office occurs and serve in this role until the Board reorganizes.

Secretary

The Secretary of the Board shall:

1. Ensure that an accurate record is kept of the proceedings of each Board meeting.
2. Ensure that notices of Board meetings are posted and sent as required by law.
3. In the absence of the President and Vice President, call the meeting to order and act as presiding officer.
4. Sign or countersign documents as directed by action of the Board.

~~Special Committees~~

~~Special committees may be created by the Board to fulfill specific assignments. Members of special committees shall be appointed by majority vote of the Board. These committees shall exclusively include District personnel and sitting Board members. Special committees shall report their findings to the Board and shall be dissolved upon completion of the assigned task or vote of the Board.~~

~~The President of the Board and the Superintendent may be ex officio members of all Board committees, unless otherwise provided by Board action.~~

~~Transacting Business~~

~~The function of special committees~~***Note***: For advisory committees that include staff, parents, community members, or students, see BDF.

Board Committees

For purposes of this policy, a Board committee is a committee composed only of current Board members.

Formation of a Board committee shall be by Board action. When establishing a Board committee, the Board action shall, at a minimum, specify the:

- Number of Board members on the committee;
- Process to appoint Board members to the committee;
- Term of committee membership; and
- Responsibilities of the committee.

A Board committee shall be fact-finding, deliberative, and advisory ~~but not administrative. Committees may transact business only within the specific authority granted by the Board. To be binding, all such business must be reported~~, and shall make recommendations in the areas of their responsibility. Board committees shall report their findings and recommendations to the Board ~~at the next regular~~and shall not assume administrative duties or ~~special meeting for approval and entry into the minutes as a public record.~~ responsibilities.

Standing Committees

The Board shall have the following Standing Committees:

- Curriculum
- Human Resources
- Finance

Standing Committees shall meet at least semiannually unless there is insufficient business before the committee to warrant meeting in a given semester.

Two Board members shall serve on each committee. Committee appointments shall be made each school year and members shall serve for one year, unless re-appointed.

Curriculum Committee

The purpose of the curriculum committee shall be to provide members an opportunity to:

- Meet with the Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum;
- Participate in discussions relating to current and proposed curriculum and discuss potential curriculum;
- Participate in discussions relating to curriculum delivery methods; and
- Discuss state and nationally mandated trends and best practices for instruction.

Human Resources Committee

The purpose of the human resources committee shall be to provide members an opportunity to:

- Meet with the Executive Director for Human Resources;
- Participate in discussions relating to human resources, including but not limited to, functions and methods in hiring; discipline practices; wellness; staff evaluations; staff development both generally and specifically as appropriate; and in as confidential a manner as necessary.

Finance Committee

The purpose of the finance committee shall be to provide members an opportunity to:

- Meet with the chief financial officer (CFO);
- Participate in specific discussions relating to District finance;
- Confer with the CFO on District financial affairs and provide transparency with respect to the financial status and operations of the District;
- Review, discuss, and advise on District finances; and
- Review, discuss, and advise on all internal audit activities.

Transacting Business

Unless specified by the Board, a Board committee shall not have final decision-making authority. Board committee recommendations must be reported to the Board at a regular or special meeting. The

Board shall not accept a Board committee's recommendation without due consideration of the matter.

Dissolution

- A Board committee shall be dissolved upon Board action.

Note: For committees composed only of current Board members, see BDB.

Advisory Committees

For purposes of this policy, an advisory committee is a committee composed primarily of District staff, parents, other community members, and/or students. An advisory committee may also include Board members in numbers less than a quorum of the Board.

Formation of an advisory committee shall be by Board action. When establishing an advisory committee, the Board action shall, at a minimum, specify the:

- Number of members on the committee;
- Process to appoint members to the committee;
- Term of committee membership; and
- Responsibilities of the committee.

An advisory committee shall be fact-finding, deliberative, and advisory and shall not assume administrative duties or responsibilities. Advisory committees shall report their findings and recommendations to the Board.

Transacting Business

An advisory committee may transact business only within the specific authority granted by the Board. To be binding, all such committee recommendations must be reported to the Board at a regular or special meeting for approval and entry into the minutes as a public record.

Dissolution

An advisory committee shall be dissolved upon completion of the assigned task or Board action.

Certificate of Coursework Completion

The District shall not issue a certificate of coursework completion to a student who fails to meet all state and local requirements for graduation. [See EIF, FMH]

Partial Credit

When a student earns a passing grade in only half of a course and the ~~combined grade for~~average of both halves is lower than 70, the District shall award the student credit for the half with the passing grade.

Safe Schools Data

The Superintendent shall ensure that the District complies with Texas Education Agency (TEA) guidelines for the collection and maintenance of data regarding:

1. Mandatory expellable offenses committed at school or at a school-related or school-sponsored activity, on or off school property [see FOD]; and

2. Any student who becomes a victim of one of the following violent criminal offenses~~, as defined by the Penal Code,~~ while on the premises of the school the student attends or while attending a school-sponsored or school-related activity, on or off school property:

   a. Attempted murder;

   b. Indecency with a child;

   c. Aggravated kidnapping;

   d. Aggravated assault on someone other than a District employee or volunteer;

   e. Sexual assault or aggravated sexual assault against someone other than a District employee or volunteer;

   f. Aggravated robbery; ~~or~~

   g. Continuous sexual abuse of a young child or disabled individual; or

   ~~g.~~h. Bullying.

School Safety Transfers

The parent of a student who becomes a victim of a violent criminal offense as described in the state guidance for unsafe school choice options or who is assigned to a campus identified by TEA as persistently dangerous shall be offered a transfer to a safe public or charter school within the District.

For each transfer requested, the District shall explore transfer options, as appropriate. Options may include a transfer agreement with another school district.

From a Persistently Dangerous School

The parent of a student attending a school identified as persistently dangerous shall be provided notification of his or her right to request a transfer. Notification shall occur at least 14 days prior to the start of the school year or, for a student enrolling subsequently, upon the student's enrollment.

The parent must submit to the Superintendent an application for transfer. The Superintendent shall complete the transfer prior to the

beginning of the school year, if applicable, or within 14 calendar days of the request for a subsequently enrolling student.

Any transfer arranged for a student from a campus identified by TEA as persistently dangerous shall be renewed so long as the campus from which the student transferred retains that designation.

The District shall maintain, in accordance with the District's record retention schedule, documentation of notification to parents of the transfer option, transfer applications submitted, and action taken.

For a Victim of a Violent Criminal Offense

Within 14 calendar days after a violent criminal offense described above occurs in or on the premises of the school the student attends or while attending a school-sponsored or school-related activity, on or off school property, the District shall notify the parent of a student who is a victim of the offense of the parent's right to request a transfer. The parent must submit to the Superintendent an application for transfer. The Superintendent shall approve or disapprove the request within 14 calendar days of its submission.

Any transfer arranged for a student who was a victim of a violent crime as described above shall be renewed so long as the threat to the student exists at the campus to which the student would typically be assigned.

For each offense, the District shall maintain for at least five years documentation of the nature and date of the offense, notification to the parent of the transfer option, transfer applications submitted, action taken, and other relevant information regarding the offense.

Additional Transfer Options

In circumstances described by Education Code 25.0341, a parent of a student who has been the victim of a sexual assault, regardless of whether the offense occurred on or off school property, may request a transfer of the parent's child or the student assailant from the same campus.

[For other transfer provisions, see also FDA and FDB.]

~~This policy shall apply to a student who has not been in attendance for 90 percent of the days the class is offered.~~

Absences Considered

Except as otherwise provided by law, all absences incurred while enrolled in the District shall be considered in determining whether a student has ~~attended~~ been in attendance for 90 percent of the ~~required percentage of~~ days ~~under this policy~~the class is offered.

Attendance Committees

The Board ~~shall establish~~ authorizes the establishment of an attendance committee or as many attendance committees as necessary for efficient implementation of ~~Education Code 25.092~~state law.

The Superintendent ~~shall~~is authorized to make the specific appointments in accordance with legal requirements.

Parental Notice of Excessive Absences

A student and the student's parent or guardian shall be given written notice prior to and at such time when a student's attendance in any class drops below 90 percent of the days the class is offered.

Methods for Regaining Credit or Awarding a Final Grade

When a student's attendance drops below 90 percent but remains at least at 75 percent of the days the class is offered, the student may earn credit for the class or a final grade by completing a plan approved by the principal. This plan must provide for the student to meet the instructional requirements of the class as determined by the principal.

If the student fails to successfully complete the plan, or when a student's attendance drops below 75 percent of the days the class is offered, the student, parent, or representative may request award of credit or a final grade by submitting a written petition to the appropriate attendance committee.

~~Petitions~~A petition for credit or a final grade may be filed ~~at any time the student receives notice but, in any event, no later than 30 days after the last day of classes.~~

in accordance with administrative regulations. The attendance committee shall review the student's entire attendance record and the reasons for absences and shall determine whether to award credit or a final grade. ~~The~~[See Imposing Conditions for Awarding Credit or a Final Grade, below]

Regardless of whether a petition is filed, the attendance committee may also~~, whether a petition is filed or not,~~ review the records of all students whose attendance drops below 90 percent of the days the class is offered.

A student who has lost credit or has not received a final grade because of excessive absences may regain credit or be awarded a final grade by fulfilling the requirements established by the attendance committee.

Personal Illness

The principal or attendance committee may require verification from a health-care provider in accordance with administrative regulations as a condition of classifying an absence for personal illness as one for which there are extenuating circumstances.

Best Interest Standard

In reaching consensus regarding a student's absences and how the student can be awarded credit or a final grade, the attendance committee shall attempt to ensure that its decision is in the best interest of the student. The Superintendent shall develop administrative regulations to document the attendance committee's decision.

Guidelines on Extenuating Circumstances

The attendance committee shall consider whether a student has mastered the essential knowledge and skills and maintained passing grades in the course or subject.

When makeup work is completed satisfactorily, the attendance committee shall consider extracurricular absences and other excused absences as days of attendance for award of credit or a final grade. [See FEA]

The attendance committee shall consider whether the reasons for the absences were out of the parent's or student's control and whether documentation for the absence is acceptable.

The student or parent shall be given an opportunity to present any information to the committee about the absences and to discuss ways to earn or regain credit or be awarded a final grade.

Imposing Conditions for Awarding Credit or a Final Grade

The attendance committee or principal, as applicable, is not required to assign a student to attend a specified program for an amount of time equivalent to the student's absences (i.e., "seat time").

The attendance committee or principal, as applicable, shall consider the student's unique circumstances and, if necessary, shall impose other conditions for awarding credit or a final grade that permit the student to meet the instructional requirements of the class ~~rather than assigning a student to attend a specified program for an amount of time equivalent to the student's absences.~~. Conditions may include:

1. Maintaining attendance standards for the rest of the semester.
2. Completing additional assignments, as specified by the committee or teacher.

3. Attending tutorial sessions as scheduled.
4. Completing other instructional programs, as specified by the committee.
5. Taking an examination to earn credit. [See EHDB]

In all cases, the student must earn a passing grade in order to receive credit.

Appeal Process

A parent or student may appeal the decision of the attendance committee in accordance with FNG(LOCAL).

Localized Policy Manual Update 125

061914 Little Elm ISD

Update 125 contains local policies that require board action and adoption notification before we can incorporate the revisions into your district's Policy Online® manual. Local policies are completely within the control of each local school board. You may use the draft local policies provided, amend them, or write your own policy to meet your district's unique needs.

Please note that legal framework documents, which are not adopted by the board, will not be published on Policy Online until the board acts on the local policies or the district specifically requests earlier publication.

What should I do to prepare for board adoption?

1. Log in to Policy Online,[1] select **Local Manual Updates** from the **My Policy Manual** menu, click **Numbered Updates**, then click **UPDATE 125**.
2. Download and save the numbered update resource materials for Update 125.
3. Present the local policies to your board for adoption. Provide your board with the explanatory notes and encourage them to review those along with the local policies.

How do I notify Policy Service that the board has adopted the update?

1. Following board action, go to **Numbered Updates**,[2] select the appropriate numbered update, then click **Notify TASB of Board Action**.
2. Fill out and submit the electronic form so we can incorporate the adopted policies into your district's Policy Online manual.
3. If there are additional changes, submit the annotated changes with your adoption notification.

Questions?

- For questions about Policy Online, visit the User's Guide[3] or contact pol-support@tasb.org.
- For questions about policy text, contact your district's assigned policy consultant.[4]

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[1] Policy Online: https://pol.tasb.org/
[2] Policy Online Numbered Updates: https://pol.tasb.org/Member/LocalManualUpdates
[3] Policy Online User's Guide: https://www.tasb.org/resources/policy-online-user-guide
[4] Policy Consultant contact information: https://pol.tasb.org/Member/PolicyConsultant/Details

Localized Policy Manual Update 125

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You can download a PDF of this update packet, annotated copies of the local policies, editable local policy text, and more under Local Manual Updates on Policy Online®.[1]

Other materials, including an overview video of the local policy changes, are also available in Local Manual Updates.

Need help? Please contact your policy consultant,[2] or call Policy Service at 800-580-7529 or email policy.service@tasb.org.

Overview

Update 125 includes revisions to legal framework documents based on regulatory changes, including amendments to the Texas Administrative Code. Changes to local policies offered for consideration address the following topics:

- Election of board officers
- Board committees
- Advisory committees
- Partial academic credit
- School safety transfers
- Attendance for credit

Please see the Explanatory Notes included in this update packet for a description of the specific changes for each policy.

Board action on the local policies included in the update must occur within a properly posted, open meeting of the board. Instructions for placing policy changes on the agenda for board action and keeping minutes are included with the Update 125 materials under Local Manual Updates[3] on Policy Online.

For more guidance on reviewing and adopting TASB numbered updates, including information on incorporating the update into the district's policy manual and maintaining a historical record of policies, please refer to *The Administrator's Guide to Policy Management*,[4] available in the Policy Online Governance and Management Library[5] (TASB login required).

Scope of Work

Numbered updates involve timely monitoring of statutory sources and regulations, comprehensive review of affected policies, and revisions that are both substantive and related to format, to ensure the legal framework reflects current laws and regulations.

The legal framework documents are drafted and revised by TASB Policy and Legal Services, including attorneys who spend many hours monitoring, researching, analyzing, and drafting. Update 125 took more than 125 legal hours to complete. At a conservative cost of $250 per hour, this legal work provides an approximate value of $31,250. This estimate does not take into consideration the consulting, editing, and production hours that go into providing customized local policy recommendations.

The price of the update is calculated based on pages that are substantively edited, not on the total page count. When changes are made to correct typographical errors or style modifications, there is no charge. TASB Policy Service always endeavors to provide updates to you at the lowest cost possible while maintaining high-quality standards.

(LEGAL) vs. (LOCAL): Remember the Difference

Legal framework documents:

- Reflect the ever-changing legal context for governance and management of the district
- Inform local decision making
- Are NOT adopted, but only reviewed

Local policies:

- Require close attention by the administration and the board
- Reflect the practices of the district and the intentions of the board
- Are changed only by board action (adopt, revise, or repeal)

Keep Your Administrative Regulations Current

Inspect your district's administrative procedures and documents — including exhibits, regulations, handbooks, and guides — that may be affected by Update 125 policy changes. If you need to make changes to the regulations or exhibits contained in your board policy manual, please notify your policy consultant.

The *Regulations Resource Manual*[6] contains model regulations and forms and is available in the Governance and Management Library (TASB login required).

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This information is provided for educational purposes only to facilitate a general understanding of the law or other regulatory matter. This information is neither an exhaustive treatment on the subject nor is this intended to substitute for the advice of an attorney or other professional adviser. Consult with your attorney or professional adviser to apply these principles to specific fact situations.

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[1] Policy Online: https://pol.tasb.org/
[2] Policy Consultant contact information: https://pol.tasb.org/Member/PolicyConsultant/Details
[3] Local Manual Updates: https://pol.tasb.org/Member/LocalManualUpdates
[4] *The Administrator's Guide to Policy Management*: https://pol.tasb.org/Member/Collections/Details?id=10
[5] Governance and Management Library: https://pol.tasb.org/Member/Collections
[6] *TASB Regulations Resource Manual*: https://pol.tasb.org/Member/Collections/Details?id=21

Instruction Sheet

TASB Localized Policy Manual Update 125

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Code	Type	Action To Be Taken	Note
AIA	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
AIE	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
B	(LEGAL)	Replace table of contents	Revised table of contents
BBD	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
BDAA	(LOCAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
BDB	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
BDB	(LOCAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
BDF	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
BDF	(LOCAL)	ADD policy	See explanatory note
BJB	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
CBA	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
CKA	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
CKC	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
CLA	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
CMD	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
CNB	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
CNC	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
DEAB	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
DMA	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
EHBAA	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
EHBAD	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
EHBAF	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
EHBE	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
EHDE	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
EI	(LOCAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
EIF	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
FDA	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
FDE	(LOCAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
FEC	(LOCAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
FFAC	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
FFAC	(LOCAL)	No policy enclosed	See explanatory note
FFB	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
FOC	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
FOF	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy

Explanatory Notes

TASB Localized Policy Manual Update 125

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AIA(LEGAL) ACCOUNTABILITY: ACCREDITATION AND PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Revisions to 19 Administrative Code 97.1003(f)(3), effective February 10, 2025, prompted edits at Local Accountability Plan — Submission and Audit Standards.

AIE(LEGAL) ACCOUNTABILITY: INVESTIGATIONS

A citation to the Administrative Code has been adjusted at the end of the policy.

B(LEGAL) LOCAL GOVERNANCE

The Section B Table of Contents has been updated to reflect revised names for policies BDB, Board Committees, and BDF, Advisory Committees.

BBD(LEGAL) BOARD MEMBERS: TRAINING AND ORIENTATION

19 Administrative Code 61.1051 was repealed on December 6, 2024, but 19 Administrative Code 61.1(b)(7), which references the repealed rule, was not amended. The requirements in the repealed provision were moved to 19 Administrative Code 103.1401. A Note has been added at Identifying and Reporting Abuse to clarify the location of the requirements.

BDAA(LOCAL) OFFICERS AND OFFICIALS: DUTIES AND REQUIREMENTS OF BOARD OFFICERS

Revisions are recommended to this local policy on board officer duties and requirements. At Board Officers, the sentence indicating that the board may assign a district employee to provide clerical assistance is recommended for deletion since the superintendent, rather than the board, manages staff assignments, including providing support to the board. Under Terms and Duties — Vice President, the revised language clarifies that when the vice president automatically becomes president due to a vacancy, they then serve as president until the board reorganizes.

BDB(LEGAL) BOARD INTERNAL ORGANIZATION: BOARD COMMITTEES

To coordinate with the recommended changes to the local policy at this code, the subtopic has been changed from Internal Committees to Board Committees.

BDB(LOCAL) BOARD INTERNAL ORGANIZATION: BOARD COMMITTEES

This policy has been revised in coordination with BDF(LOCAL) to clarify the difference between board committees and advisory committees. Accordingly, the subtopic of this code has been changed from Internal Committees to Board Committees, and new provisions are recommended to establish how board committees are formed and outline their purpose. Text addressing Dissolution of board committees is also recommended for inclusion. The language previously at Special Committees has been moved to BDF(LOCAL).

Please note: Your locally developed text on Standing Committees, including the curriculum committee, human resources committee, and finance committee, has been retained with minor revisions for policy style. Please contact your policy consultant with any questions.

BDF(LEGAL) BOARD INTERNAL ORGANIZATION: ADVISORY COMMITTEES

To coordinate with the recommended changes to the local policy at this code, the subtopic has been changed from Citizen Advisory Committees to Advisory Committees.

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BDF(LOCAL) BOARD INTERNAL ORGANIZATION: ADVISORY COMMITTEES

This new local policy is recommended for inclusion to coordinate with the changes at BDB. The subtopic of this code has been changed from Citizen Advisory Committees to Advisory Committees. Language has been moved here from BDB(LOCAL) and updated to clarify how advisory committees are formed and the parameters of their responsibilities. A section on Dissolution of the committees is also recommended for inclusion.

BJB(LEGAL) SUPERINTENDENT: RECRUITMENT AND APPOINTMENT

New rules at 19 Administrative Code 103.1213 regarding the Sentinel system were adopted on December 13, 2024, and a new section on required reporting in that system after a superintendent change has been added to this legal framework.

CBA(LEGAL) STATE AND FEDERAL REVENUE SOURCES: STATE

Revisions reflect amendments at 19 Administrative Code 61.1034, effective April 13, 2025, to clarify the criteria a district must meet to be eligible for the New Instructional Facility Allotment (NIFA). Additional information about NIFA has also been included to outline eligibility provisions and the application process. NIFA was created in 1999 for districts to provide for operational expenses associated with the opening of a new instructional facility and is available to all public school districts that meet the requirements of the statute and rule.

CKA(LEGAL) SAFETY PROGRAM/RISK MANAGEMENT: SAFETY AND SECURITY AUDITS AND MONITORING

New rules at 19 Administrative Code 103.1213, effective December 15, 2024, relating to the Sentinel system prompted revisions to this legal framework on safety and security audits and monitoring. A section on Reporting Through Sentinel has been added, and additional changes reflecting new reporting requirements for vulnerability assessments and intruder detection audits have been made.

CKC(LEGAL) SAFETY PROGRAM/RISK MANAGEMENT: EMERGENCY PLANS

The new rules regarding the Sentinel system necessitated additional language regarding the Texas School Safety Center's uploading of multihazard emergency operation plans to that system. The new rules became effective December 15, 2024, and are found at 19 Administrative Code 103.1213.

CLA(LEGAL) BUILDINGS, GROUNDS, AND EQUIPMENT MANAGEMENT: SECURITY

New requirements have been added at Human Trafficking Warning Signs to reflect a new rule adopted at 19 Administrative Code 103.1403, effective December 11, 2024.

CMD(LEGAL) EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES MANAGEMENT: INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS CARE AND ACCOUNTING

Changes at 19 Administrative Code 67.1315, effective December 15, 2024, prompted revisions relating to the requirement for districts to adopt an open education resource instructional materials plan unless otherwise exempt.

CNB(LEGAL) TRANSPORTATION MANAGEMENT: DISTRICT VEHICLES

A cross-reference to CNC has been added at School Bus Advertising for clarity regarding reporting requirements for crashes involving buses with advertising.

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CNC(LEGAL) TRANSPORTATION MANAGEMENT: TRANSPORTATION SAFETY

At Annual Report to TEA, revisions to this legal framework were required after 19 Administrative Code 61.1028 was repealed and provisions moved to the new 19 Administrative Code 103.1231, effective March 10, 2025. Other revisions have been made for clarity.

DEAB(LEGAL) COMPENSATION PLAN: WAGE AND HOUR LAWS

At Exempt Employees — Academic Administrators, the salary/fee rate has been removed and replaced with a reference to the established weekly threshold to prevent the need for continuous updating as the Fair Labor Standards Act rules are amended over time.

DMA(LEGAL) PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT: REQUIRED STAFF DEVELOPMENT

A citation change at Child Abuse, Trafficking, and Maltreatment reflects provisions from the Administrative Code that were repealed on December 11, 2024, and moved to 19 Administrative Code 103.1401. At Mental Health, provisions have been added to reflect the adoption of 19 Administrative Code 153.1015, effective December 2, 2024.

EHBAA(LEGAL) SPECIAL EDUCATION: IDENTIFICATION, EVALUATION, AND ELIGIBILITY

At Evaluation for Change in Eligibility, provisions have been removed to reflect amendments to 19 Administrative Code 89.1070, adopted November 1, 2024. A cross-reference to EIF has been added for clarity.

EHBAD(LEGAL) SPECIAL EDUCATION: TRANSITION SERVICES

Provisions at Graduation have been revised to reflect amendments to 19 Administrative Code 89.1070, adopted November 1, 2024.

EHBAF(LEGAL) SPECIAL EDUCATION: VIDEO/AUDIO MONITORING

19 Administrative Code 61.1051 was repealed on December 6, 2024, but 19 Administrative Code 103.1301, which references the repealed rule, was not amended. The requirements in the repealed provision were moved to 19 Administrative Code 103.1401. A Note has been added at Confidentiality — Duty to Report to clarify the location of the requirements.

EHBE(LEGAL) SPECIAL PROGRAMS: BILINGUAL EDUCATION/ESL

Extensive revisions throughout this legal framework reflect amendments to numerous Administrative Code rules, effective February 7, 2025, relating to bilingual and ESL programs.

EHDE(LEGAL) ALTERNATIVE METHODS FOR EARNING CREDIT: DISTANCE LEARNING

Changes throughout this legal framework reflect amendments to the Administrative Code adopted on February 14, 2025.

EI(LOCAL) ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

At Partial Credit, recommended revisions replace the phrase "combined grade for" with "average of" to more accurately reflect the determination of awarding credit when a student earns a passing grade in only half of a course.

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EIF(LEGAL) ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT: GRADUATION

Revisions to this legal framework are a result of amendments to 19 Administrative Code 89.1070, adopted November 1, 2024.

FDA(LEGAL) ADMISSIONS: INTERDISTRICT TRANSFERS

A paragraph has been added at Discipline and Threat Assessment Records as a result of the new Sentinel rules found at 19 Administrative Code 103.1213, effective December 15, 2024.

FDE(LOCAL) ADMISSIONS: SCHOOL SAFETY TRANSFERS

At Safe Schools Data, “bullying” is recommended for inclusion as an offense for which the district must collect and maintain data. The revision aligns with the Unsafe School Choice Option Guidance Handbook.

FEC(LOCAL) ATTENDANCE: ATTENDANCE FOR CREDIT

Revisions throughout this policy are recommended for clarity.

The information in the first sentence of the policy has been incorporated at Absences Considered for improved readability. Rather than directing the board to establish attendance committees, the policy now authorizes the establishment of those committees by the administration. At Methods for Regaining Credit or Awarding a Final Grade, specifics regarding petitions for credit are recommended for deletion in favor of a reference to administrative regulations.

Revisions at Imposing Conditions for Awarding Credit or a Final Grade are recommended to clarify requirements regarding "seat time." For more information, see the TASB.org article TEKS Mastery, Not Seat Time, Required for Attendance for Credit.

The Legal Tips for Policy Development, available in the Policy Online® Governance and Management Library (TASB login required), describe common legal concerns and best practices specific to this policy's topic.

FFAC(LEGAL) WELLNESS AND HEALTH SERVICES: MEDICAL TREATMENT

Extensive changes throughout this legal framework have been made for clarity and to reflect new Department of State Health Services rules on Maintenance and Administration of Medication for Respiratory Distress.

FFAC(LOCAL) WELLNESS AND HEALTH SERVICES: MEDICAL TREATMENT

The revisions to the legal framework at this code reflect the new Department of State Health Services rules on unassigned medication for respiratory distress. If your district currently maintains medication that can be used when a person is experiencing respiratory distress, please contact your policy consultant for appropriate text to include in your local policy.

FFB(LEGAL) STUDENT WELFARE: CRISIS INTERVENTION

A section on Use of Sentinel Assessment Instrument, Manual, and Field Guide has been added to reflect the new Sentinel rules found at 19 Administrative Code 103.1213, effective December 15, 2024.

FOC(LEGAL) STUDENT DISCIPLINE: PLACEMENT IN A DISCIPLINARY ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION SETTING

Revisions to this legal framework at Determination of Violent Conduct reflect new language at 19 Administrative Code 103.1205, effective October 29, 2024.

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FOF(LEGAL) STUDENT DISCIPLINE: STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

A new section on Peace Officer or Security Personnel Use of Restraint or Taser has been added to reflect new language at 19 Administrative Code 89.1053, effective October 7, 2024.

Accreditation

Each district must be accredited by Texas Education Agency (TEA). A district that is not accredited may not receive funds from TEA or hold itself out as operating a public school of this state. *Education Code 11.001, 39.052(f)*

District accreditation is determined in accordance with Education Code Chapter 39, Subchapter C and rules adopted by the commissioner of education at 19 Administrative Code, Chapter 97, Subchapter EE (Accreditation Status, Standards, and Sanctions). *Education Code 39.051*

Statuses

The commissioner shall determine criteria for the following accreditation statuses:

1. Accredited. Accredited means TEA recognizes the district as a public school of this state that meets the standards determined by the commissioner under Education Code 39.052(b) and (c), and specified in 19 Administrative Code 97.1059; and is not currently assigned an accreditation status of Accredited-Warned or Accredited-Probation;

2. Accredited-Warned. Accredited-Warned means the district exhibits deficiencies in performance, as specified in 19 Administrative Code 97.1055(b), that, if not addressed, will lead to probation or revocation of its accreditation status;

3. Accredited-Probation. Accredited-Probation means the district exhibits deficiencies in performance, as specified in 19 Administrative Code 97.1055(c), that must be addressed to avoid revocation of its accreditation status; and

4. Not Accredited-Revoked. Not Accredited-Revoked means TEA does not recognize the district as a Texas public school because the district's performance has failed to meet standards adopted by the commissioner under Education Code 39.052(b) and (c), and specified in 19 Administrative Code 97.1055(d).

Education Code 39.051; 19 TAC 97.1055(a)(1)

Annual Evaluation

Each year, the commissioner shall determine the accreditation status of each district. In determining the accreditation status of a district, the commissioner:

1. Shall evaluate and consider performance:

   a. On achievement indicators under Education Code 39.053 [see Performance Indicators, below]; and

b. Under the financial accountability rating system developed under Education Code, Chapter 39, Subchapter D [see CFA].

2. May evaluate and consider:

a. The district's compliance with statutory requirements and requirements imposed by rule of the commissioner or State Board of Education that relate to:

(1) Reporting data through the Public Education Information Management System (PEIMS) or other reports required by state or federal law or court order;

(2) High school graduation requirements; or

(3) Extracurricular activities, student health and safety, purchasing, elementary class size limits, removal of a disruptive student from the classroom, at-risk programs, and prekindergarten programs;

b. The effectiveness of the district's programs for special populations; and

c. The effectiveness of the district's career and technology program.

Based on a district's performance, the commissioner shall assign each district an accreditation status or revoke the accreditation of the district and order closure of the district.

A district's accreditation status may be raised or lowered based on the district's performance or may be lowered based on the performance of one or more campuses in the district that is below a standard required by Education Code Chapter 39, Subchapter C.

Education Code 7.056(e)(3)(C)-(I), 39.052; 19 TAC 97.1055

For additional information on the commissioner process for assigning accreditation status, see 19 Administrative Code 97.1055.

Notice of Status

The commissioner shall notify a district if the district has received an accreditation status of accredited-warned or accredited-probation, or a campus's performance is below standard. *Education Code 39.052(e)*

To Parents and Property Owners

A district assigned an accreditation status of accredited-warned, accredited-probation, or not accredited-revoked shall notify the parents of students enrolled in the district and property owners in the district as specified in 19 Administrative Code 97.1055. The district's notice must contain information about the accreditation status, the implications of such status, and the steps the district is tak-

ing to address the areas of deficiency identified by the commissioner. The district's notice shall use the format and language determined by the commissioner.

The district's notice must:

1. Not later than 30 calendar days after the accreditation status is assigned, appear on the home page of the district's website, with a link to the required notification, and remain until the district is assigned the accredited status; and

2. Appear in a newspaper of general circulation, as defined in 19 Administrative Code 97.1051 (Definitions), in the district for three consecutive days as follows:

   a. From Sunday through Tuesday of the second week following assignment of the status; or

   b. If the newspaper is not published from Sunday through Tuesday, then for three consecutive issues of the newspaper beginning the second week following assignment of the status; or

3. Not later than 30 calendar days after the status is assigned, be sent by first class mail addressed individually to each parent of a student enrolled in the district and each property owner in the district; or

4. Not later than 30 calendar days after the status is assigned, be presented as a discussion item in a public meeting of the board of trustees conducted at a time and location that allows parents of students enrolled in the district and property owners in the district to attend and provide public comment.

To TEA

A district required to act under this subsection shall send the following to TEA via certified mail, return receipt requested:

1. The universal resource locator (URL) for the link to the notification required above; and

2. Copies of the notice in the newspaper showing dates of publication, or a paid invoice showing the notice content and its dates of publication; or

3. Copies of the notice sent by mail and copies of all mailing lists and postage receipts; or

4. Copies of the notice presented at a public meeting and copies of the board of trustees meeting notice and minutes for the

board meeting in which the notice was presented and publicly discussed.

19 TAC 97.1055(f)

Performance Indicators

The commissioner shall adopt a set of indicators of the quality of learning and achievement, including three domains of achievement indicators. [See Achievement Indicators, below] *Education Code 39.053(a)*

The indicators must measure and evaluate districts and campuses with respect to:

1. Improving student preparedness for success in subsequent grade levels and entering the workforce, the military, or post-secondary education;
2. Reducing, with the goal of eliminating, student academic achievement differentials among students from different racial and ethnic groups and socioeconomic backgrounds; and
3. Informing parents and the community regarding campus and district performance.

Education Code 39.053(a-1)

Achievement Indicators

Districts and campuses must be evaluated based on indicators of achievement grouped in three domains:

1. Student achievement domain;
2. School progress domain; and
3. Closing the gaps domain.

Education Code 39.053(c)

Performance on the achievement indicators in the three domains shall be compared to state-established standards. The indicators must be based on information that is disaggregated by race, ethnicity, and socioeconomic status. *Education Code 39.053(b)*

Each school district shall submit the data required for the indicators to the commissioner. *Education Code 39.053(i)*

A-F Performance Ratings

Except when the commissioner determines the assignment of an overall performance rating would be inappropriate [see Assignment of Not Rated, below], the commissioner shall adopt rules to evaluate district and campus performance and assign each district and campus an overall performance rating of A, B, C, D, or F.

In addition to the overall performance rating, the commissioner shall assign each district and campus a separate domain perfor-

mance rating of A, B, C, D, or F for each domain under Education Code 39.053(c) [see Achievement Indicators, above].

An overall or domain performance rating of:

1. A reflects exemplary performance.
2. B reflects recognized performance.
3. C reflects acceptable performance.
4. D reflects performance that needs improvement.
5. F reflects unacceptable performance.

A district may not receive an overall or domain performance rating of A if the district includes any campus with a corresponding overall or domain performance rating of D or F.

For purposes of assigning districts and campuses an overall and a domain performance rating, the commissioner shall ensure that the method used to evaluate performance is implemented in a manner that provides the mathematical possibility that all districts and campuses receive an A rating.

Not later than August 15 of each year, the following information shall be made publicly available as provided by rules adopted by the commissioner:

1. The performance ratings for each district and campus; and
2. If applicable, the number of consecutive school years of unacceptable performance ratings for each district and campus.

Education Code 39.054(a), (a-3), (b)

Assignment of Not Rated

Notwithstanding any other law, the commissioner may assign a district or campus an overall performance rating of “Not Rated” if the commissioner determines that the assignment of a performance rating of A, B, C, D, or F would be inappropriate because:

1. The district or campus is located in an area that is subject to a declaration of a state of disaster under Government Code Chapter 418 and due to the disaster, performance indicators for the district or campus are difficult to measure or evaluate and would not accurately reflect quality of learning and achievement for the district or campus;
2. The district or campus has experienced breaches or other failures in data integrity to the extent that accurate analysis of data regarding performance indicators is not possible;

3. The number of students enrolled in the district or campus is insufficient to accurately evaluate the performance of the district or campus; or

4. For other reasons outside the control of the district or campus, the performance indicators would not accurately reflect quality of learning and achievement for the district or campus.

Education Code 39.054(a-4)

Calculating Consecutive Years

Notwithstanding any other law, an overall performance rating of "Not Rated" is not included in calculating consecutive school years of unacceptable performance ratings and is not considered a break in consecutive school years of unacceptable performance ratings for purposes of any provision of the Education Code. *Education Code 39.054(a-5)*

Acceptable Performance

A reference in law to an acceptable performance rating or acceptable performance includes an overall or domain performance rating of A, B, or C or performance that is exemplary, recognized, or acceptable. A reference in law to an unacceptable performance rating or unacceptable performance includes an overall or domain performance rating of F. For the purposes of public reporting requirements, an overall or domain performance rating of D shall be referred to as performance that needs improvement. *Education Code 39.0543(a)*

D Rating

A reference in law to an acceptable performance rating or acceptable performance for a district or campus includes an overall performance rating of D if, since previously receiving an overall performance rating of C or higher, the district or campus has not previously received more than one overall performance rating of D or has not received an overall performance rating of F. *Education Code 39.0543(b)*

Local Accountability System

The local accountability system standards established by the commissioner under Education Code 39.0544 shall be used by districts to develop a plan to locally evaluate the performance of their campuses. *19 TAC 97.1003(a)*

Local Accountability Plan

A local accountability plan created by a district must include domain performance ratings assigned by the commissioner under Education Code 39.054, and performance ratings based on locally developed domains or sets of accountability measures. *19 TAC 97.1003(b)*

A district must create its local accountability plan based on school type. The four school types are elementary school, middle school, high school, and kindergarten-grade 12. The plan must include all campuses within a school type. The district may also request to

identify an additional school group within a school type for which to customize its local accountability plan. Otherwise, all campuses within a school type must be evaluated on a common set of components determined by the district. A district may also request to identify a campus rated under alternative education accountability provisions as a unique school type. *19 TAC 97.1003(b)(4)*

Plan Components

A locally developed domain or set of accountability measures is referred to as a plan component. Plan components must describe each item and the reason for its inclusion in the plan. A district must assign each component to one of the following five domains: academics, culture and climate, extra- and co-curricular, future-ready learning, and locally determined. The weight of all plan components must equal 100 percent. *19 TAC 97.1003(b)(1)*

A district may assign weights to each plan component, as determined by the district, provided that the plan components must in the aggregate account for no more than 50 percent of the combined overall performance rating. A local accountability plan may include no fewer than two and no more than 10 components weighted between 5 percent and 60 percent. *19 TAC 97.1003(c)*

Each plan component must contain levels of performance that allow for differentiation, with assigned standards for achieving the differentiated levels that are aligned to a letter grade of A, B, C, D, or F and meet the requirements of 19 Administrative Code 97.1003(d)(1)-(3). *19 TAC 97.1003(d)*

Each plan component measure must meet standards for reliability and validity as required by 19 Administrative Code 97.1003(e)(1)-(3). *19 TAC 97.1003(e)*

Campuses without STAAR or State Ratings

For the purposes of assigning state accountability ratings, a campus that does not serve any grade level for which a State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR) examination is administered is paired with a campus in its district that serves grade levels for which STAAR examinations are administered.

A campus not rated under the state accountability system is not eligible to combine state and local ratings. Local accountability data for a campus without state ratings may be displayed on TEA, district, and campus websites but will not be combined with state accountability data. The state accountability manual adopted under 19 Administrative Code 97.1001 (Accountability Rating System) provides information about campus ratings and eligibility for applicable years.

19 TAC 97.1003(b)(3)

Campus Performance Ratings

A district authorized to assign campus performance ratings shall evaluate the performance of each campus and assign each campus a performance rating of A, B, C, D, or F for overall performance and for each locally developed domain or set of accountability measures. Not later than a date established by the commissioner, the district shall:

1. Report the performance ratings to the agency; and
2. Make the performance ratings available to the public as provided by commissioner rule.

Education Code 39.0544(e)

Each campus with an approved district plan is eligible to receive a local accountability rating. A campus with an overall state accountability rating of C or higher based on ratings derived from student performance at the campus is eligible to combine an overall local accountability rating with the overall state accountability rating to determine the combined rating. *19 TAC 97.1003(b)(2); Education Code 39.054(a)*

Submission and Audit Standards

Calculations for each plan component and overall performance ratings must be capable of being audited by a third party.

A district must use a one-to-one correspondence when converting campus grades based on plan component measures to a standard scale of 30-100 where A=90-100, B=80-89, C=70-79, D=60-69, and F=30-59.

Categorical data, or data not on a continuous scale, must be converted to the standard scale of A=90-100, B=80-89, C=70-79, D=60-69, and F=30-59 by assigning the maximum value for each scaled score interval with the corresponding category used in the campus rating scale.

A district is required to submit a local accountability plan that includes components, domains, and overall scaled scores and ratings to TEA on a timeline determined by the commissioner. The timeline will be published on the TEA website.

All scaled scores and letter grades submitted by a school district are subject to audit. Any data discrepancies or any indication that data have been compromised may result in verification and audit of district and campus data used to assign local accountability ratings. The audit process may include requests for data used for campus-level calculation of component and domain scaled scores.

On an annual basis, TEA will randomly select districts for local accountability audits, and, for each such audit, TEA will randomly se-

lect components for review. Selected districts must submit the requested data for review within the timeframe specified. A district must maintain documentation of its local accountability plan, along with all associated data used to assign campus ratings, for two years after the end of the plan implementation period.

Responsibility for the accuracy and quality of data used to determine local accountability ratings rests with each district. Superintendent certification of data accuracy during the ratings submission process shall include an assurance that calculations have been verified to ensure that all data were included as appropriate for all components.

19 TAC 97.1003(f)(1)-(6)

Scorecard and Website

A district must produce a campus scorecard and make available on the district website an explanation of the methodology used to assign local accountability performance ratings. The campus scorecard shall include, at a minimum, the scaled score and rating for each component and domain along with the overall rating. A link to the local accountability ratings posted by the district must be provided to TEA and may be included on the agency-developed school report card. *19 TAC 97.1003(g)*

Appeal and Revision

An appeal of a local accountability rating may be submitted by the superintendent once ratings are released. The local accountability appeals timeline follows the appeal deadline dates and processes as described in the state accountability manual adopted under 19 Administrative Code 97.1001 of this title for the applicable year. *19 TAC 97.1003(f)(7)*

Ratings may be revised as a result of investigative activities by the commissioner as authorized under Education Code 39.057(d) and (e) (redesignated to Education Code 39.003). *19 TAC 97.1003(h)*

Distinction Designations for Outstanding Performance

The commissioner shall award distinction designations for outstanding performance. A distinction designation awarded to a district or campus shall be referenced directly in connection with the performance rating assigned to the district or campus and made publicly available together with the A-F performance ratings.

A district or campus may not be awarded a distinction designation unless the district or campus has acceptable performance under the A-F performance ratings.

Education Code 39.201

Academic Distinction

The commissioner shall establish an academic distinction designation for districts and campuses for outstanding performance in at-

tainment of postsecondary readiness based on the commissioner's adopted criteria. *Education Code 39.202*

Campus Distinction

The commissioner shall award a campus a distinction designation for outstanding performance in:

1. Improvement in student achievement;
2. Closing student achievement differentials; and
3. Academic achievement in English language arts, mathematics, science, or social studies.

Education Code 39.203

The commissioner may award a distinction designation for outstanding performance in advanced middle or junior high school student achievement. *Education Code 39.203(d)*

Excellence Exemptions

Except as listed below, a district or campus that is rated A (exemplary) is exempt from requirements and prohibitions imposed under the Education Code, including regulations adopted under the Education Code.

An exemplary campus or district is not exempt from:

1. A prohibition on conduct that constitutes a criminal offense;
2. Requirements imposed by federal law or rule, including requirements for special education or bilingual education programs;
3. A requirement, restriction, or prohibition relating to:
    a. Curriculum essential knowledge and skills or high school graduation requirements;
    b. Public school accountability;
    c. Extracurricular activities;
    d. Health and safety;
    e. Purchasing;
    f. Elementary class size limits;
    g. Removal of a disruptive student from the classroom;
    h. At-risk programs;
    i. Prekindergarten programs;
    j. Rights and benefits of school employees;

k. Special education programs; or

l. Bilingual education programs.

The commissioner may exempt an exemplary campus from class size limits if the campus submits a written plan showing steps that will be taken to ensure that the exemption will not be harmful to the academic achievement of the students on the school campus. If granted, the exemption remains in effect until the commissioner determines that achievement levels of the campus have declined.

Education Code 39.232

Special Investigations

The commissioner may authorize a special investigation:

1. When excessive numbers of absences of students eligible to be tested on state assessment instruments are determined;
2. When excessive numbers of allowable exemptions from the required state assessment are determined;
3. In response to complaints to the Texas Education Agency (TEA) of alleged violations of civil rights or other requirements imposed on the state by federal law or court order;
4. In response to established compliance reviews of the district's financial accounting practices and state and federal reporting requirements;
5. When extraordinary numbers of student placements in disciplinary alternative education programs, other than placements under Education Code 37.006 and 37.007, are determined;
6. In response to an allegation involving a conflict between members of the board or between the board and the district administration if it appears that the conflict involves a violation of a role or duty of the board members or the administration clearly defined by the Education Code. If TEA's findings indicate the board has observed a lawfully adopted policy, TEA may not substitute its judgment for that of the board;
7. When excessive numbers of students in special education programs are assessed through modified assessment instruments;
8. In response to an allegation regarding, or an analysis using a statistical method result indicating, a possible violation of an assessment instrument security procedure;
9. When a significant pattern of decreased academic performance has developed as a result of the promotion in the preceding two school years of students who did not perform satisfactorily on the state assessments;
10. When excessive numbers of students eligible to enroll fail to complete an Algebra II course or any other advanced course as determined by the commissioner;
11. When resource allocation practices indicate a potential for significant improvement in resource allocation;
12. When a disproportionate number of students of a particular demographic group is graduating with a particular endorsement;

13. When an excessive number of students is graduating with a particular endorsement;

14. When a school district for any reason fails to produce, at the request of TEA, evidence or an investigation report relating to an educator who is under investigation by the State Board for Educator Certification;

15. When 10 percent or more of the students graduating in a particular school year from a particular high school campus are awarded a diploma based on the determination of an individual graduation committee under Education Code 28.0258;

16. In response to a complaint with respect to alleged inaccurate data that is reported through PEIMS or through other reports required by state or federal law or rule or court order and that is used by TEA to make a determination relating to public school accountability, including accreditation, under Education Code Chapter 39;

17. In response to repeated complaints submitted to TEA concerning imposition of excessive paperwork requirements on classroom teachers; or

18. As the commissioner otherwise determines necessary.

Education Code 39.003(a), (c)

TEA shall adopt written procedures for conducting special investigations, including procedures that allow TEA to obtain information from district employees in a manner that prevents a district or campus from screening the information. *Education Code 39.004(a)*

Note: The procedures for conducting a special investigation, holding a hearing following an investigation, the process for commissioner determinations, and judicial appeal are described in Education Code 39.004-.007.

Commissioner Action

Based on the results of a special investigation, the commissioner may:

1. Take appropriate action under Education Code Chapter 39A, [see AIC];

2. Lower the district's accreditation status or a district's or campus's performance rating; or

3. Take action under both items 1 and 2 above.

Education Code 39.003(d)

At any time before issuing a report with the TEA's final findings, the commissioner may defer taking the above action until:

1. A person who is a third party, selected by the commissioner, has reviewed programs or other subjects of a special investigation and submitted a report identifying problems and proposing solutions;
2. A district completes a corrective action plan developed by the commissioner; or
3. The completion of actions under both items 1 and 2 above.

Education Code 39.003(e)

Based on the results of an action taken above, the commissioner may decline to take the deferred action. *Education Code 39.003(f)*

Note: The procedures for an informal review or hearing following an investigation are described in 19 Administrative Code Chapter 157, Subchapter EE.

Monitoring Reviews

In accordance with Education Code 7.028(a), TEA may monitor compliance with requirements applicable to a process or program provided by a district, campus, or program, only as necessary to ensure:

1. Compliance with federal law and regulations;
2. Financial accountability, including compliance with grant requirements;
3. Data integrity for purposes of:
    a. The Public Education Information Management System (PEIMS); and
    b. Accountability under Education Code Chapter 39 and 39A; and
4. Qualification for funding under Education Code Chapter 48.

The board has primary responsibility for ensuring that the district complies with all applicable requirements of state educational programs.

Education Code 7.028

Compliance Monitoring Activities

Districts are subject to general supervision and monitoring activities for compliance with state law and federal regulation, implemented by TEA under 34 C.F.R. 300.600-.609 [see Supervision

Under IDEA, below], and review of program implementation and effectiveness within certain special populations of students.

Activities may include:

1. Random, targeted, or cyclical reviews authorized under Education Code 39.056 (monitoring reviews), conducted remotely or on-site to identify problems implementing state and federal requirements and to provide support for development of reasonable and appropriate strategies to address identified problems; and/or

2. Intensive or special investigative remote or on-site reviews authorized under Education Code 39.003 and 39.004.

Activities described above are applicable for compliance with requirements for reading diagnosis in Education Code 28.006 [see EKC], dyslexia and related disorders in Education Code 38.003 and 19 Administrative Code 74.28 [see EHB], and program effectiveness for emergent bilingual students in Education Code 29.062.

19 TAC 97.1071(b)-(d)

Notice

TEA shall give written notice to the superintendent and the board of trustees of any impending monitoring review. *Education Code 39.056(d)*

Conducting the Review

A monitoring review may include desk reviews and on-site visits, including random on-site visits. In conducting a monitoring review, TEA may obtain information from administrators, other district employees, parents of students enrolled in the district, and other persons as necessary. *Education Code 39.056(c), (g)*

Converting to a Special Investigation

The commissioner may at any time convert a monitoring review to a special investigation under Education Code 39.003, provided the commissioner promptly notifies the district of the conversion. *Education Code 39.056(h)*

Improvements

TEA shall report in writing to the superintendent and president of the board and shall make recommendations concerning any necessary improvements or sources of aid such as regional education service centers. A district that takes action with regard to the recommendations provided by TEA shall make a reasonable effort to seek assistance from a third party in developing an action plan to improve district performance using improvement techniques that are goal-oriented and research-based. *Education Code 39.056(e)-(f)*

Appeals

A decision by the commissioner under Education Code Chapter 39 or 39A is final and may not be appealed unless an applicable provision of Chapter 39 or 39A provides otherwise. *Education Code 39A.906* [See AIC]

Compliance Investigation

A compliance investigation is an investigation by TEA of a state education grant recipient to determine compliance with the statutory or rule requirements of a state education program. A compliance investigation is not a special investigation subject to Education Code 39.003 and 39.004 (above). *19 TAC 102.1401(a)(1)*

Supervision Under IDEA

In exercising its general supervision authority under 34 C.F.R. sections 300.149 and 300.600, TEA has established a process that provides for the investigation and issuance of findings regarding credible allegations of violations of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), Part B, or a state statute or administrative rule created to implement IDEA, that arise from an area of concern. The following guidelines shall apply to this process.

Definitions

"Area of concern" means that TEA has been made aware of an allegation regarding a violation of, or noncompliance with, a requirement of IDEA, Part B, or a state special education law or administrative rule.

"Credible allegation" means that TEA has determined that an allegation arising from an area of concern is credible enough to investigate further to determine if a violation or noncompliance has occurred.

Credibility Determination

Information and awareness of an area of concern may arise directly from TEA or from external sources.

TEA will engage in a process to determine if an area of concern is determined to be a credible allegation, and, if determined credible, TEA will initiate an investigation to determine if findings of noncompliance will be issued.

TEA will generally not engage in the process described below to determine if an area of concern is a credible allegation if it is a media report, social media post, or an anonymous report, unless TEA receives corroborating information and facts that a specific violation of state or federal law or rule has occurred if the allegation were to be confirmed true.

When an individual or organization reports a special education area of concern, TEA may direct the individual or organization to the established dispute resolution processes. Depending on the frequency or specificity of the type of allegation made, TEA may engage in a process to determine credibility of the allegation.

Process

The process to determine if an area of concern is a credible allegation may include one or more of the following actions:

1. Reviewing existing citations of noncompliance or any noncompliance identified within the last two school years on the same or similar alleged violation;
2. Reviewing filed state complaints that are in process of being investigated or that have been substantiated within the last two school years on the same or similar alleged violation;
3. Reviewing due process hearing decisions issued within the last two years in which the hearing officer's final written decision contains a finding of noncompliance on the same or similar alleged violation;
4. Gathering evidence from groups that represent or advocate for families and communities served by the district;
5. Reviewing and analyzing available student- or district-level data that relate to the alleged violation;
6. Reviewing and analyzing fiscal and program information, such as grant applications, contracts, self-assessments, and other special education documents submitted to TEA by the district; and
7. Any other activity or measure used to gather evidence within TEA's general supervision and monitoring authority.

The investigation to determine if a credible allegation will result in the issuance of findings will include contacting the school district that is the subject of the allegation and requesting a response from the school district. Additional investigative actions may include one or more of the following:

1. Conducting interviews with the district, staff, parents, or students;
2. A referral for review or investigation by any other appropriate unit or division within TEA;
3. Utilizing the review and analysis of the activities conducted during the review process in this provision to determine if noncompliance is found; and
4. Any other activity or measure within TEA's general supervision and monitoring authority.

Intervention and Sanction	TEA may apply any intervention or sanction within its authority if noncompliance or a violation is substantiated, including those described in 19 Administrative Code 89.1076 [see AIC]. *19 TAC 97.1071(l)*

Please Note: *This manual does not have policies in all codes. The coding structure is common to all TASB manuals and is designed to accommodate expansion of both (LEGAL) and (LOCAL) policy topics and administrative regulations.*

SECTION B: LOCAL GOVERNANCE

BA	BOARD LEGAL STATUS
BAA	Powers and Duties
BB	BOARD MEMBERS
BBA	Eligibility/Qualifications
BBB	Elections
BBBA	Conducting Elections
BBBB	Post-election Procedures
BBBC	Campaign Finance
BBBD	Campaign Ethics
BBC	Vacancies and Removal from Office
BBD	Training and Orientation
BBE	Authority
BBF	Ethics
BBFA	Conflict of Interest Disclosures
BBFB	Prohibited Practices
BBG	Compensation and Expenses
BBH	Conventions, Conferences, and Workshops
BBI	Technology Resources and Electronic Communications
BC	BOARD MEMBERSHIPS
BD	BOARD INTERNAL ORGANIZATION
BDA	Officers and Officials
BDAA	Duties and Requirements of Board Officers
BDAE	Duties and Requirements of Depository
BDB	Board Committees
BDD	Attorney
BDE	Consultants
BDF	Advisory Committees
BE	BOARD MEETINGS
BEC	Closed Meetings
BED	Public Participation
BEE	News Coverage
BEF	Staff Participation
BF	BOARD POLICIES
BG	BOARD SELF-EVALUATION
BI	ADMINISTRATIVE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Please Note: *This manual does not have policies in all codes. The coding structure is common to all TASB manuals and is designed to accommodate expansion of both (LEGAL) and (LOCAL) policy topics and administrative regulations.*

SECTION B: LOCAL GOVERNANCE

BJ	SUPERINTENDENT
BJA	Qualifications and Duties
BJB	Recruitment and Appointment
BJC	Contract
BJCA	Travel
BJCB	Professional Development
BJCC	Consulting
BJCD	Evaluation
BJCE	Suspension/Termination During Contract
BJCF	Nonrenewal
BJCG	Resignation
BK	ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATION
BKA	Organization Charts
BKB	Line and Staff Relations
BM	ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCILS, CABINETS, AND COMMITTEES
BP	ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS
BQ	PLANNING AND DECISION-MAKING PROCESS
BQA	District-Level
BQB	Campus-Level
BR	REPORTS

Open Meetings Act Training

Not later than the 90th day after taking the oath of office, each board member shall complete training of not less than one and not more than two hours regarding the responsibilities of the board and its members under Government Code Chapter 551 (Open Meetings Act).

The attorney general may provide the training and may also approve other acceptable sources of training.

The board shall maintain and make available for public inspection the record of its members' completion of the training. The failure of one or more members of the board to complete the training does not affect the validity of an action taken by the board.

Gov't Code 551.005

Public Information Act Training

Not later than the 90th day after taking the oath of office, each board member shall complete training of not less than one and not more than two hours regarding the responsibilities of the board and its officers and employees under Government Code Chapter 552 (Public Information Act [PIA]). A board member may designate a public information coordinator to satisfy the training for the board member if the public information coordinator is primarily responsible for administering the responsibilities of the board member or board under the PIA. The attorney general may require a board member to complete the course of training if the attorney general determines that the district has failed to comply with a requirement of the PIA. *Gov't Code 552.012(b), (b-1), (c)* [See GBAA regarding public information coordinator training.]

SBOE-Required Training

A trustee must complete any training required by the State Board of Education (SBOE). *Education Code 11.159*

The SBOE's framework for governance leadership [see BBD(EXHIBIT)] shall be distributed annually by the board president to all current board members and the superintendent. *19 TAC 61.1(a)*

The continuing education required under Education Code 11.159 applies to each member of the board. To the extent possible, an entire board shall participate in continuing education programs together. *19 TAC 61.1(b), (i)*

No continuing education shall take place during a board meeting unless that meeting is called expressly for the delivery of board member continuing education. Continuing education may take place prior to or after a legally called board meeting in accordance with Government Code 551.001(4) (definition of "meeting"). *19 TAC 61.1(e)*

A regional education service center (ESC) board member continuing education program shall be open to any interested person, including a current or prospective board member. A district is not responsible for any costs associated with individuals who are not current board members. *19 TAC 61.1(f)*

Annually, the SBOE shall commend those board-superintendent teams that complete at least eight hours of the continuing education specified at Team Building and Additional Continuing Education, below, as an entire board-superintendent team.

Annually, the SBOE shall commend board-superintendent teams that effectively implement the commissioner of education's trustee improvement and evaluation tool developed under Education Code 11.182 [see BG] or any other tool approved by the commissioner.

19 TAC 61.1(k), (l)

Verification

For each training described below, the provider of continuing education shall provide verification of completion of board member continuing education to the individual participant and to the participant's school district. The verification must include the provider's authorization or registration number. *19 TAC 61.1(h)*

Reporting

At the last regular board meeting before an election of trustees, the board president shall announce the name of each board member who has completed the required continuing education, who has exceeded the required hours of continuing education, and who is deficient in meeting the required continuing education as of the anniversary of the date of each board member's election or appointment to the board or two-year anniversary of his or her previous training, as applicable. The announcement shall state that completing the required continuing education is a basic obligation and expectation of any board member under SBOE rule. The minutes of the last regular board meeting held before an election of trustees must reflect whether each trustee has met or is deficient in meeting the training required for the trustee as of the first anniversary of the date of the trustee's election or appointment or two-year anniversary of his or her previous training, as applicable. The president shall cause the minutes to reflect the announcement and, if the minutes reflect that a trustee is deficient in training as of the anniversary of his or her joining the board, the district shall post the minutes on the district's internet website within 10 business days of the meeting and maintain the posting until the trustee meets the requirements. *19 TAC 61.1(j); Education Code 11.159(b)*

Local District Orientation

Each board member shall complete a local district orientation session. The purpose of the local orientation is to familiarize new

board members with local board policies and procedures and district goals and priorities.

A candidate for school board may complete the training up to one year before he or she is elected or appointed. A newly elected or appointed board member who did not complete this training in the year preceding his or her election or appointment must complete the training within 120 calendar days after election or appointment.

The orientation shall:

1. Be at least three hours in length.
2. Address local district practices in the following, in addition to topics chosen by the local district:
    a. Curriculum and instruction;
    b. Business and finance operations;
    c. District operations;
    d. Superintendent evaluation; and
    e. Board member roles and responsibilities.

Each board member should be made aware of the continuing education requirements of 19 Administrative Code 61.1 and those of the following:

1. Open meetings act in Government Code 551.005 [see Open Meetings Act Training above];
2. Public information act in Government Code 552.012 [see Public Information Act Training above]; and
3. Cybersecurity in Government Code 2054.5191 [see CQB].

The orientation shall be open to any board member who chooses to attend.

19 TAC 61.1(b)(1)

Education Code Orientation

Each board member shall complete a basic orientation to the Education Code and relevant legal obligations. The orientation shall have special, but not exclusive, emphasis on statutory provisions related to governing Texas school districts.

A candidate for school board may complete the training up to one year before he or she is elected or appointed. A newly elected or appointed board member who did not complete this training in the year preceding his or her election or appointment must complete the training within 120 calendar days after election or appointment.

The orientation shall be at least three hours in length. Topics shall include, but not be limited to, Education Code Chapter 26 (Parental Rights and Responsibilities) and Education Code 28.004 (Local School Health Advisory Council and Health Education Instruction).

The orientation shall:

1. Be provided by an ESC.

2. Be open to any board member who chooses to attend.

The continuing education may be fulfilled through online instruction, provided that the training incorporates interactive activities that assess learning and provide feedback to the learner and offers an opportunity for interaction with the instructor.

19 TAC 61.1(b)(2)

Legislative Update

After each session of the Texas Legislature, including each regular session and called session related to education, each board member shall complete an update to the basic orientation to the Education Code.

The update session shall be of sufficient length to familiarize board members with major changes in statute and other relevant legal developments related to school governance.

The update shall be provided by an ESC or a registered provider [see Registered Provider, below].

A board member who has attended an ESC basic orientation session described at Education Code Orientation, above, that incorporated the most recent legislative changes is not required to attend an update.

The continuing education may be fulfilled through online instruction, provided that the training is designed and offered by a registered provider, incorporates interactive activities that assess learning and provide feedback to the learner, and offers an opportunity for interaction with the instructor.

19 TAC 61.1(b)(3)

Team Building

The entire board shall participate with their superintendent in a team-building session.

The purpose of the team-building session is to enhance the effectiveness of the board-superintendent team and to assess the continuing education needs of the board-superintendent team.

The session shall be held annually and shall be at least three hours in length.

The session shall include a review of the roles, rights, and responsibilities of the board as outlined in the framework for governance leadership. [See BBD(EXHIBIT)] The assessment of needs shall be based on the framework for governance leadership and shall be used to plan continuing education activities for the year for the governance leadership team.

The team-building session shall be provided by an ESC or a registered provider [see Registered Provider and Authorized Provider, below].

19 TAC 61.1(b)(4)

Additional Continuing Education (Based on Assessed Needs)

In addition to the continuing education requirements set out above, each board member shall complete additional continuing education based on the framework for governance leadership. [See BBD(EXHIBIT)]

The purpose of continuing education is to address the continuing education needs referenced at Team Building above.

The continuing education shall be completed annually.

At least 50 percent of the continuing education shall be designed and delivered by persons not employed or affiliated with the board member's school district. No more than one hour of the required continuing education that is delivered by the district may use self-instructional materials.

The continuing education shall be provided by an ESC or a registered provider [see Registered Provider, below].

The continuing education may be fulfilled through online instruction, provided that the training is designed and offered by a registered provider, incorporates interactive activities that assess learning and provide feedback to the learner, and offers an opportunity for interaction with the instructor.

First Year

In a board member's first year of service, he or she shall complete at least 10 hours of continuing education in fulfillment of assessed needs.

Subsequent Years

Following a board member's first year of service, he or she shall complete at least five hours of continuing education annually in fulfillment of assessed needs.

Board President

A board president shall complete continuing education related to leadership duties of a board president as some portion of the annual requirement.

19 TAC 61.1(b)(5)

Evaluating Student Academic Performance

Each board member shall complete continuing education on evaluating student academic performance and setting individual campus goals for early childhood literacy and mathematics and college, career, and military readiness.

The purpose of the training on evaluating student academic performance is to provide research-based information to board members that is designed to support the oversight role of the board of trustees outlined in Education Code 11.1515. [See BAA]

The purpose of the continuing education on setting individual campus goals for early childhood literacy and mathematics and college, career, and military readiness is to facilitate boards meeting the requirements of Education Code 11.185 and 11.186.

A candidate for school board may complete the training up to one year before he or she is elected or appointed. A newly elected or appointed board member who did not complete this training in the year preceding his or her election or appointment must complete the training within 120 calendar days after election or appointment.

The continuing education shall be completed every two years and shall be at least three hours in length.

The continuing education required by this provision shall include, at a minimum:

1. Instruction in school board behaviors correlated with improved student outcomes with emphasis on:
    a. Setting specific, quantifiable student outcome goals; and
    b. Adopting plans to improve early literacy and numeracy and college, career, and military readiness for applicable student groups evaluated in the Closing the Gaps domain of the state accountability system established under Education Code Chapter 39;
2. Instruction in progress monitoring practices to improve student outcomes; and
3. Instruction in state accountability with emphasis on the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills, state assessment instruments administered under Education Code Chapter 39, and the state accountability system established under Chapter 39.

The continuing education shall be provided by an authorized provider [see Authorized Provider, below].

If the training is attended by an entire board and its superintendent, includes a review of local school district data on student achieve-

ment, and otherwise meets the requirements described at Team Building above, the training may serve to meet a board member's obligation to complete training described at Team Building and at Evaluating Student Academic Performance, above, as long as the training complies with the Open Meetings Act.

19 TAC 61.1(b)(6)

Identifying and Reporting Abuse

Each board member shall complete continuing education on identifying and reporting potential victims of sexual abuse, human trafficking, and other maltreatment of children in accordance with Education Code 11.159(c)(2).

A candidate for school board may complete the training up to one year before he or she is elected or appointed. A newly elected or appointed board member who did not complete this training in the year preceding his or her election or appointment must complete the training within 120 calendar days after election or appointment.

The training shall be completed every two years and shall be at least one hour in length.

The training must familiarize board members with the requirements of Education Code 38.004 and 38.0041, and 19 Administrative Code 61.1051 (relating to Reporting Child Abuse or Neglect, Including Trafficking of a Child).

Note: 19 Administrative Code 61.1051 was repealed and the requirements were recodified at 19 Administrative Code 103.1401.

The training required by this provision shall include, at a minimum:

1. Instruction in best practices of identifying potential victims of child abuse, human trafficking, and other maltreatment of children;

2. Instruction in legal requirements to report potential victims of child abuse, human trafficking, and other maltreatment of children; and

3. Instruction in resources and organizations that help support victims and prevent child abuse, human trafficking, and other maltreatment of children.

The training sessions shall be provided by a registered provider [see Registered Provider, below].

This training may be completed online, provided that the training is designed and offered by a registered provider, incorporates inter-

active activities that assess learning and provide feedback to the learner, and offers an opportunity for interaction with the instructor.

19 TAC 61.1(b)(7)

School Safety

The SBOE shall require a trustee to complete training on school safety. *Education Code 11.159(b-1)*

The continuing education required under Education Code 11.159(b-1) applies to each member of an independent school district board of trustees.

Each member shall complete the training on school safety adopted by the SBOE. The training requirement shall be fulfilled by completing the online course adopted by the SBOE and made available by the commissioner of education. The training shall be completed every two years.

A candidate for school board may complete the training up to one year before he or she is elected or appointed. A newly elected or appointed trustee who did not complete the training in the year preceding his or her election or appointment must complete the training within 120 calendar days after election or appointment.

A district shall maintain verification of completion for each trustee.

19 TAC 61.3

Training Provider

Registered Provider

For the purposes of 19 Administrative Code 61.1, a registered provider has demonstrated proficiency in the content required for a specific training. A private or professional organization, school district, government agency, college/university, or private consultant shall register with the Texas Education Agency (TEA) to provide the board member continuing education required by 19 Administrative Code 61.1(b)(3), (5), and (7) [see Legislative Update, Additional Continuing Education, and Identifying and Reporting Abuse, above].

A district that provides continuing education exclusively for its own board members is not required to register under 19 Administrative Code 61.1(c)(1)-(2).

19 TAC 61.1(c)

Authorized Provider

An authorized provider meets all the requirements of a registered provider and has demonstrated proficiency in the content required by 19 Administrative Code 61.1(b)(4) and (6). Proficiency may be demonstrated in accordance with 19 Administrative Code 61.1(d).

A private or professional organization, school district, government agency, college/university, or private consultant may be authorized

by TEA to provide the board member training required in 19 Administrative Code 61.1(b)(4) and (6).

An ESC shall be authorized by TEA to provide the board member training required in 19 Administrative Code 61.1(b)(4) and (6).

19 TAC 61.1(d)

[See above for 19 Administrative Code 61.1(b)(4) on Team Building and (b)(6) on Evaluating Student Academic Performance.]

Note: For cybersecurity training requirements, see CQB(LEGAL).

Board Officers The Board shall elect a President, a Vice President, and a Secretary who shall be members of the Board. Officers shall be elected by majority vote of the members present and voting.

Vacancy A vacancy among officers of the Board, other than the President, shall be filled by majority action of the Board.

Term and Duties Board officers shall serve for a term of two years or until a successor is elected. Officers may succeed themselves in office. Each officer shall perform any legal duties of the office and other duties as required by action of the Board.

President In addition to the duties required by law, the President of the Board shall:

1. Preside at all Board meetings unless unable to attend.
2. Have the right to discuss, make motions, propose resolutions, and vote on all matters coming before the Board.

Vice President The Vice President of the Board shall:

1. Act in the capacity and perform the duties of the President of the Board in the event of the absence or incapacity of the President.
2. Automatically become President of the Board if a vacancy in that office occurs and serve in this role until the Board reorganizes.

Secretary The Secretary of the Board shall:

1. Ensure that an accurate record is kept of the proceedings of each Board meeting.
2. Ensure that notices of Board meetings are posted and sent as required by law.
3. In the absence of the President and Vice President, call the meeting to order and act as presiding officer.
4. Sign or countersign documents as directed by action of the Board.

Government Code Chapter 551 (Open Meetings Act) applies to board committee meetings if:

1. At least a quorum of the board is on the committee;

2. A quorum of the board is present at the committee meeting, even though less than a quorum is actually on the committee; or

3. Less than a quorum of the board is on the committee, but the committee is authorized to make final decisions or control or supervise public business.

A committee that includes less than a quorum of board members is not subject to the Open Meetings Act if it serves a purely advisory function, with no power to supervise or control public business.

Atty. Gen. Op. Nos. GA-0957 (2012), JC-0060 (1999), JH-0994 (1977); Willmann v. City of San Antonio, 123 S.W.3d 469 (Tex. App.—San Antonio 2003, pet. denied) [See BE]

Note: For advisory committees that include staff, parents, community members, or students, see BDF.

Board Committees

For purposes of this policy, a Board committee is a committee composed only of current Board members.

Formation of a Board committee shall be by Board action. When establishing a Board committee, the Board action shall, at a minimum, specify the:

- Number of Board members on the committee;
- Process to appoint Board members to the committee;
- Term of committee membership; and
- Responsibilities of the committee.

A Board committee shall be fact-finding, deliberative, and advisory, and shall make recommendations in the areas of their responsibility. Board committees shall report their findings and recommendations to the Board and shall not assume administrative duties or responsibilities.

Standing Committees

The Board shall have the following Standing Committees:

- Curriculum
- Human Resources
- Finance

Standing Committees shall meet at least semiannually unless there is insufficient business before the committee to warrant meeting in a given semester.

Two Board members shall serve on each committee. Committee appointments shall be made each school year and members shall serve for one year, unless re-appointed.

Curriculum Committee

The purpose of the curriculum committee shall be to provide members an opportunity to:

- Meet with the Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum;
- Participate in discussions relating to current and proposed curriculum and discuss potential curriculum;
- Participate in discussions relating to curriculum delivery methods; and

- Discuss state and nationally mandated trends and best practices for instruction.

Human Resources Committee

The purpose of the human resources committee shall be to provide members an opportunity to:

- Meet with the Executive Director for Human Resources;
- Participate in discussions relating to human resources, including but not limited to, functions and methods in hiring; discipline practices; wellness; staff evaluations; staff development both generally and specifically as appropriate; and in as confidential a manner as necessary.

Finance Committee

The purpose of the finance committee shall be to provide members an opportunity to:

- Meet with the chief financial officer (CFO);
- Participate in specific discussions relating to District finance;
- Confer with the CFO on District financial affairs and provide transparency with respect to the financial status and operations of the District;
- Review, discuss, and advise on District finances; and
- Review, discuss, and advise on all internal audit activities.

Transacting Business

Unless specified by the Board, a Board committee shall not have final decision-making authority. Board committee recommendations must be reported to the Board at a regular or special meeting. The Board shall not accept a Board committee's recommendation without due consideration of the matter.

Dissolution

A Board committee shall be dissolved upon Board action.

School Health Advisory Council

The board shall establish a local school health advisory council (SHAC) to assist the district in ensuring that local community values are reflected in the district's health education instruction. *Education Code 28.004(a)* [See EHAA regarding duties of the SHAC.]

Meetings

The SHAC shall meet at least four times each year. For each meeting the SHAC shall:

1. At least 72 hours before the meeting post notice of the date, hour, place, and subject of the meeting on a bulletin board in the central administrative office of each campus in the district; and ensure that the required notice is posted on the district's internet website, if the district has an internet website;
2. Prepare and maintain minutes of the meeting that state the subject and content of each deliberation and each vote, order, decision, or other action taken by the council during the meeting;
3. Make an audio or video recording of the meeting; and
4. Not later than the tenth day after the meeting, submit the minutes and audio or video recording of the meeting to the district.

As soon as practicable after receipt of the minutes and audio or video recording, the district shall post the minutes and audio or video recording on the district's internet website, if the district has an internet website.

Education Code 28.004(d-1), (d-2)

Composition

The board shall appoint at least five members to the SHAC. A majority of members must be persons who are parents of students enrolled in the district and who are not employed by the district. One of those members shall serve as chair or co-chair of the SHAC.

The board also may appoint one or more persons from each of the following groups or a representative from a group other than a group specified:

1. Classroom teachers employed by the district;
2. School counselors certified under Education Code Chapter 21, Subchapter B, employed by the district;
3. School administrators employed by the district;
4. District students;
5. Health-care professionals licensed or certified to practice in this state, including medical or mental health professionals;

6. The business community;
7. Law enforcement;
8. Senior citizens;
9. The clergy;
10. Nonprofit health organizations; and
11. Local domestic violence programs.

Education Code 28.004(d)

Physical Activity and Fitness Planning Subcommittee

The SHAC shall establish a physical activity and fitness planning subcommittee to consider issues relating to student physical activity and fitness and make policy recommendations to increase physical activity and improve fitness among students. *Education Code 28.004(l-1)*

Annual Report

In addition to its other duties, the SHAC shall submit to the board, at least annually, a written report that includes:

1. Any SHAC recommendation concerning the district's health education curriculum and instruction or related matters that the SHAC has not previously submitted to the board;
2. Any suggested modification to a SHAC recommendation previously submitted to the board;
3. A detailed explanation of the SHAC's activities during the period between the date of the current report and the date of the last prior written report; and
4. Any recommendations made by the physical activity and fitness planning subcommittee.

Education Code 28.004(m)

Public Statement

A district shall publish in the student handbook and post on the district's internet website, if the district has an internet website, a statement of:

1. The policies and procedures adopted to promote the physical health and mental health of students, the physical health and mental health resources available at each campus, contact information for the nearest providers of essential public health services under Health and Safety Code Chapter 121, and the contact information for the nearest local mental health authority;
2. The policies adopted to ensure that elementary school, middle school, and junior high school students engage in at least

the amount and level of physical activity required by Education Code 28.002(l) [see EHAB and EHAC];

3. The number of times during the preceding year the SHAC has met;

4. Whether the district has adopted and enforces policies to ensure that district campuses comply with the Texas Education Agency's vending machine and food service guidelines for restricting student access to vending machines;

5. Whether the district has adopted and enforces policies and procedures that prescribe penalties for the use of e-cigarettes, as defined by Education Code 38.006, and tobacco products by students and others on school campuses or at school-sponsored or school-related activities [see DH and GKA];

6. Notice to parents that they can request in writing their child's physical fitness assessment results at the end of the school year [see FFAA]; and

7. Whether each campus in the district has a full-time nurse or full-time school counselor.

Education Code 28.004(k)

Note: For committees composed only of current Board members, see BDB.

Advisory Committees

For purposes of this policy, an advisory committee is a committee composed primarily of District staff, parents, other community members, and/or students. An advisory committee may also include Board members in numbers less than a quorum of the Board.

Formation of an advisory committee shall be by Board action. When establishing an advisory committee, the Board action shall, at a minimum, specify the:

- Number of members on the committee;
- Process to appoint members to the committee;
- Term of committee membership; and
- Responsibilities of the committee.

An advisory committee shall be fact-finding, deliberative, and advisory and shall not assume administrative duties or responsibilities. Advisory committees shall report their findings and recommendations to the Board.

Transacting Business

An advisory committee may transact business only within the specific authority granted by the Board. To be binding, all such committee recommendations must be reported to the Board at a regular or special meeting for approval and entry into the minutes as a public record.

Dissolution

An advisory committee shall be dissolved upon completion of the assigned task or Board action.

Vacancy Posting

A district's employment policy must provide for notice to each current district employee of a vacant position for which a certificate is required. Notice must be provided not later than the 10th school day before the date on which a district fills the position. Notice shall be posted on:

1. A bulletin board at:
    a. A place convenient to the public in the district's central administrative office, and
    b. The central administrative office of each campus during any time the office is open; or
2. The district's internet website, if the district has a website.

A district shall provide each current district employee a reasonable opportunity to apply for the position.

Education Code 11.1513(d)

Names of Applicants

The name of an applicant for superintendent is excepted from disclosure under Chapter 552, Government Code (Public Information Act). However, a board must give public notice of the name or names of the finalists being considered for superintendent at least 21 days before the date of the meeting at which a final action or vote is to be taken on the employment of the person. *Gov't Code 552.126*

Required Reporting After Superintendent Change

Subsequent to a school system superintendent change, the direct contact information of the superintendent (or person acting in that capacity) must be updated in Sentinel within three business days of a corresponding board meeting. *19 TAC 103.1213(e)(3)(F)* [See CKA]

Available School Fund

The available school fund is apportioned annually to Texas counties according to the scholastic population of each. *Education Code 43.001(b)*

Foundation School Program

The purposes of the Foundation School Program (FSP) set forth in Education Code Chapter 48 are to guarantee that each district in the state has:

1. Adequate resources to provide each eligible student a basic instructional program and facilities suitable to the student's educational needs; and
2. Access to a substantially equalized program of financing in excess of basic costs for certain services, as provided by that chapter.

The FSP consists of:

1. Two tiers that in combination provide for:
    a. Sufficient financing for all school districts to provide a basic program of education that is rated acceptable or higher under Education Code 39.054 and meets other applicable legal standards; and
    b. Substantially equal access to funds to provide an enriched program; and
2. A facilities component as provided by Education Code Chapter 46. [See CCA]

Education Code 48.002

The cost of the FSP for a district is the total sum of:

1. The sum of the tier one allotments and other funding as follows:
    a. The basic allotment under Education Code Chapter 48, Subchapter B;
    b. The student-based allotments under Education Code Chapter 48, Subchapter C; and
    c. The additional funding under Education Code Chapter 48, Subchapter D (including the transportation allotment [see CNA] and the new instructional facility allotment below); and
2. The tier two allotment under Education Code Chapter 48, Subchapter E.

The sum of the FSP maintenance and operations costs for all accredited school districts in this state constitutes the total maintenance and operations cost of the FSP.

The FSP shall be financed by:

1. State available school funds distributed in accordance with the law;
2. Ad valorem tax revenue generated by local school district effort [see CCG series]; and
3. State funds appropriated for the purposes of public school education and allocated to each district in an amount sufficient to finance the cost of each district's FSP not covered by other funds specified.

Education Code 48.251

PEIMS

A district shall participate in the Public Education Information Management System (PEIMS) and shall provide through that system information required for the administration of Education Code Chapter 48 (Foundation School Program) and of other appropriate provisions of the Education Code. Data standards, established by the commissioner of education, shall be used by a district to submit required information. *Education Code 48.008; 19 TAC 61.1025(b)*

New Instructional Facility Allotment (NIFA)

A district is entitled to an additional allotment as provided by Education Code 48.152 for operational expenses associated with opening a new instructional facility. A district entitled to an allotment may use funds from the district's allotment to renovate an existing instructional facility to serve as a dedicated cybersecurity computer laboratory. *Education Code 48.152*

Definitions

“Instructional facility” means real property, an improvement to real property, or a necessary fixture of an improvement to real property that is used predominantly for teaching the curriculum required by Education Code 28.002. *Education Code 46.001, 48.152(a)(1); 19 TAC 61.1034(a)(2)* [See CCA for the Instructional Facilities Allotment]

“New instructional facility” is a facility that includes:

1. A newly constructed instructional facility, which is a new instructional campus built from the ground up;
2. A repurposed instructional facility, which is a facility that has been renovated to become an instructional facility for the first time for the applying school district; or

3. A leased facility operating for the first time as an instructional facility with a minimum lease term of not less than 10 years. The lease must not be a continuation of or renegotiation of an existing lease for an instructional facility.

Education Code 48.152(a)(2); 19 TAC 61.1034(a)(3)

Eligibility

The following eligibility criteria apply to the NIFA in accordance with Education Code 48.152.

1. The facility for which NIFA funds are requested must meet the following requirements:

   a. The facility must qualify as an instructional campus and a new instructional facility used for teaching the curriculum required by Education Code Chapter 28.

   b. To qualify for first-year funding, a new facility must not have been occupied in the prior school year. To qualify for follow-up funding, the facility must have been occupied for the first time in the prior school year and funded for the NIFA for that first year. If an instructional facility qualifies as a new instructional facility but did not receive the allotment in the first year of eligibility due to a failure to apply, the school district or open-enrollment charter school may still apply for and receive funding for the average daily attendance (ADA) earned only during the second year of occupation in the new instructional facility.

   c. With the exception of a covered walkway connecting the new facility to another building, the new facility must be physically separate from other existing school structures.

   d. Career and technical education (CTE) campuses must report each CTE campus student’s ADA when the ADA for that student is reported at the student's home campus.

2. Expansion or renovation of existing instructional facilities, as well as portable and temporary structures, are not eligible for the NIFA.

3. All instructional buildings on the campus must be newly constructed as new instructional facilities, except for an existing gymnasium that remains on the campus and will be utilized on the instructional campus.

Application Process

To apply for the NIFA, a district must complete the Texas Education Agency's (TEA) online application process requesting funding pursuant to the NIFA.

The initial (first-year) application, or an application for one-year funding only, must be submitted electronically no later than July 15. The application must include the following:

1. The electronic submission of TEA's online application for initial funding; and
2. The electronic submission of the following materials:
    a. A brief description and photograph of the newly constructed, repurposed, or leased instructional facility;
    b. A copy of a legal document that clearly describes the nature and dates of the new or repurposed construction or a copy of the applicable lease;
    c. A site plan;
    d. A floor plan; and
    e. If applicable, a demolition plan.

Second-year applications require only the electronic submission of TEA's online application for follow-up funding no later than July 15 of the year preceding the applicable school year.

Survey on Days of Instruction

In the fall of the school year after a school year for which an applicant received NIFA funds, the district that received the funds must complete an online survey on the number of instructional days held in the new facility and submit the completed survey electronically. TEA will use submitted survey information in determining the final (settle-up) amount earned by each eligible school district, as described by 19 Administrative Code 61.1034(e)(6).

Costs and Payments

The costs and payments for the NIFA are determined by the commissioner.

The allotment for the NIFA is a part of the cost of the first tier of the FSP. This allotment is not counted in the calculation of weighted average daily attendance for the second tier of the FSP.

If, for all eligible applicants combined, the total cost of the NIFA exceeds the amount appropriated, each allotment is reduced so that the total amount to be distributed equals the amount appropriated. Reductions to allotments are made by applying the same percentage adjustment to each school district.

Allocations will be made in conjunction with allotments for the FSP in accordance with the school district's payment class. For school districts that are subject to the excess local revenue provisions under Education Code 48.257, and do not receive payments from the Foundation School Fund, NIFA distributions will be reflected as reduced recapture payments.

For school districts that are subject to the excess local revenue provisions under Education Code 48.257, NIFA distributions increase the amount of the FSP entitlement and so will automatically reduce any excess local revenue and reduce the requirement to send recapture to the state in the amount of the NIFA allocation.

For all school districts receiving the NIFA, a final (settle-up) amount earned is determined by the commissioner when information reported through the survey described above is available in the fall of the school year after the school year for which NIFA funds were received. [See Survey on Days of Instruction, above] The final amount earned is determined using the submitted survey information and final counts of ADA for the school year for which NIFA funds were received, as reported through PEIMS.

The amount of funds to be distributed for the NIFA to a school district is in addition to any other state aid entitlements.

19 TAC 61.1034(b)-(e)

Safety and Security Audit

At least once every three years, each district shall conduct a safety and security audit of the district's facilities. A district, or a person included in the registry of persons providing school safety or security consulting services established by the Texas School Safety Center (TxSSC) who is engaged by the district to conduct a safety and security audit, shall follow safety and security audit procedures developed by the TxSSC in coordination with the commissioner of education.

A district must confirm that a person is included in the registry before the district may engage the person to provide school safety or security consulting services to the district.

In a district's safety and security audit, the district must certify that the district used the funds provided through the school safety allotment only for the purposes provided by Education Code 48.115.

A district shall report the results of the safety and security audit to the board and, in the manner required by the TxSSC, to the TxSSC. The report provided to the TxSSC must be signed by the board and the superintendent.

Education Code 37.108(b), (b-1), (c), 37.2091(b-1)

In addition to a review of a district's multihazard emergency operations plan under Education Code 37.2071 [see CKC], the TxSSC may require a district to submit its plan for immediate review if the district's audit results indicate that the district is not complying with applicable standards. *Education Code 37.207(c)*

Failure to Report Audit Results

If a district fails to report the results of its audit, the TxSSC shall provide the district with written notice that the district has failed to report its audit results and must immediately report the results to the center.

If three months after the date of the initial notification the district has still not reported the results of its audit to the TxSSC, the TxSSC shall notify the Texas Education Agency (TEA) and the district of the district's requirement to conduct a public hearing under Education Code 37.1081. [See CKC]

Education Code 37.207(d)-(e)

Disclosure

Except as provided by Education Code 37.108(c-2) [see CKC], any document or information collected, developed, or produced during a safety and security audit is not subject to disclosure under Government Code Chapter 552 (Public Information Act). *Education Code 37.108(c-1)*

TEA Monitoring of Safety and Security Requirements

TEA shall monitor the implementation and operation of requirements related to school district safety and security, including school district multihazard emergency operations plans [see CKC] and safety and security audits [see above].

Office of School Safety and Security

TEA shall establish an office of school safety and security to coordinate monitoring and, in coordination with the TxSSC and relevant local law enforcement agencies, provide technical assistance to school districts to support the implementation and operation of safety and security requirements.

Vulnerability Assessments

As part of the technical assistance, TEA shall conduct a detailed vulnerability assessment of each school district on a random basis once every four years. Any documentation requested by TEA for a vulnerability assessment must be uploaded to Sentinel [see below at Reporting Through Sentinel].

On completion of a vulnerability assessment TEA shall provide to the superintendent and school safety and security committee [see CK] for the applicable school district a report on the results of the assessment that includes recommendations and required corrective actions to address any deficiencies in campus security identified by the agency.

District Information and Records

Each school district shall submit information requested by TEA in TEA's efforts to monitor the implementation and operation of school district safety and security requirements, including notice of an event requiring a district's emergency response including the discovery of a firearm on a campus and information regarding the district's response and use of emergency operations procedures during such an event [see below at Reporting Through Sentinel].

TEA may review school district records as necessary to ensure compliance with Education Code Subchapter D (Protection of Building and Grounds) and Subchapter G (Texas School Safety Center).

Any document or information collected, identified, developed, or produced relating to the monitoring of school district safety and security requirements is confidential under Government Code 418.177 and 418.181 (Texas Disaster Act), and not subject to disclosure under Government Code Chapter 552.

Education Code 37.1083; 19 TAC 103.1213(a), (e)(2)(B)

Reporting Through Sentinel

Sentinel is TEA's formal school safety system designed to collect, process, store, and distribute school safety and security information. Sentinel serves as a repository for all safety and security-related data submitted to TEA. Each school district shall report information to TEA through Sentinel, including:

1. On or before June 30th of each year, a district shall input its upcoming school year calendar into Sentinel. Any changes to the school year calendar shall be updated in Sentinel within three business days after approval by district leadership.
2. On or before June 30th of each year, a district must verify that all district facilities listed in Sentinel reflect the correct address and campus emergency contact information.
3. If a district closes for a localized emergency, closure information must be immediately recorded in Sentinel.
4. School districts shall submit information related to events requiring an emergency response, including the discovery of a firearm on a campus [see above] in the Sentinel portal. This is inclusive of notifications regarding a bomb threat or terroristic threat [see CKC]. Submission of information in the Sentinel portal does not substitute the requirement for local law enforcement notification of certain activities [see GRAA].

[For additional requirements for reporting through Sentinel, see BJB for reporting a superintendent change, CKC for TxSSC uploading of multihazard emergency operations plans, FDA for transfer of threat assessments between districts, and FFB for application to behavioral threat assessments.]

19 TAC 103.1213(a), (b)(3), (c), (e)(3)(A)-(D)

Intruder Detection Audits

TEA's office of school safety and security shall establish a school safety review team in each region served by a regional education service center, which shall annually conduct on-site general intruder detection audits of school district campuses in the team's region.

Notice to Superintendent

In conducting an intruder detection audit, a safety review team must notify the superintendent of the district in which the campus being audited is located not later than the seventh day before the date of a scheduled audit.

Documentation

Any documentation requested by TEA for an intruder detection audit must be uploaded to Sentinel [see above at Reporting Through Sentinel].

Report

On completion of the audit, a safety review team must provide to the superintendent and school safety and security committee for the school district in which the campus is located a report on the results of the audit that includes recommendations and required corrective actions to address any deficiencies in campus security identified by the team.

A report produced by a safety review team is confidential and not subject to disclosure under Government Code Chapter 552.

Education Code 37.1084; 19 TAC 103.1213(e)(4)(B)

Assignment of Conservator for Noncompliance

The commissioner may assign a conservator under Education Code Chapter 39A if a school district fails to:

1. Submit to any required monitoring, assessment, or audit under Education Code 37.1083 or 37.1084 [see above];
2. Comply with applicable safety and security requirements; or
3. Address in a reasonable time period, as determined by commissioner rule, issues raised by TEA's monitoring, assessment, or audit of the district under Education Code 37.1083 or 37.1084.

A conservator may exercise the powers and duties of a conservator under Education Code 39A.003 [see AIC] only to correct a failure identified above. TEA may not assign a conservator for a district's failure to comply with Education Code 37.0814 (Armed Security Officer Required) or a good cause exception claimed under that section. [See CKE]

Education Code 37.1085

Notice of Bomb Threat or Terroristic Threat

A district that receives a bomb threat or terroristic threat relating to a campus or other district facility at which students are present shall provide notification of the threat as soon as possible to the parent or guardian of or other person standing in parental relation to each student who is assigned to the campus or who regularly uses the facility, as applicable. *Education Code 37.113*

Notice Regarding Violent Activity

The Texas Education Agency (TEA) shall develop model standards for providing notice regarding violent activity that has occurred or is being investigated at a district campus or other district facility or at a district-sponsored activity to parents, guardians, and other persons standing in parental relation to students who are assigned to the campus, regularly use the facility, or are attending the activity, as applicable. A district shall adopt a policy for providing this notice in a manner that meets TEA standards. *Education Code 37.1131*

Emergency Response Map and Walk-Through

A district shall provide to the Department of Public Safety (DPS) and all appropriate local law enforcement agencies and emergency first responders:

1. An accurate map of each district campus and school building that is developed and documented in accordance with the standards described by Education Code 37.351 related to developing site and floor plans, access control, and exterior door numbering; and
2. An opportunity to conduct a walk-through of each district campus and school building using the map.

Education Code 37.117

Emergency Operations Plan

Each district shall adopt and implement a multihazard emergency operations plan for use in the district's facilities. The plan must address prevention, mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery as defined by the Texas School Safety Center (TxSSC) in conjunction with the governor's office of homeland security and the commissioner. The plan must provide for:

1. Training in responding to an emergency for district employees, including substitute teachers;
2. Measures to ensure district employees, including substitute teachers, have classroom access to a telephone, including a cellular telephone, or another electronic communication device allowing for immediate contact with district emergency services or emergency services agencies, law enforcement agencies, health departments, and fire departments;

3. Measures to ensure district communications technology and infrastructure are adequate to allow for communication during an emergency;

4. Mandatory school drills and exercises, including drills required under Education Code 37.114 (emergency evacuations), to prepare district students and employees for responding to an emergency [see CKB];

5. Measures to ensure coordination with the Texas Department of State Health Services (TDSHS) and local emergency management agencies, law enforcement, health departments, and fire departments in the event of an emergency;

6. The implementation of a required safety and security audit [see CKA]; and

7. Any other requirements established by the TxSSC in consultation with TEA and relevant local law enforcement agencies.

Education Code 37.108(a)

A district shall include in its multihazard emergency operations plan:

1. A chain of command that designates the individual responsible for making final decisions during a disaster or emergency situation and identifies other individuals responsible for making those decisions if the designated person is unavailable;

2. Provisions that address physical and psychological safety for responding to a natural disaster, active shooter, and any other dangerous scenario identified for purposes of these provisions by TEA or TxSSC;

3. Provisions for ensuring the safety of students in portable buildings;

4. Provisions for ensuring that students and district personnel with disabilities are provided equal access to safety during a disaster or emergency situation;

5. Provisions for providing immediate notification to parents, guardians, and other persons standing in parental relation in circumstances involving a significant threat to the health or safety of students, including identification of the individual with responsibility for overseeing the notification;

6. Provisions for supporting the psychological safety of students, district personnel, and the community during the response

and recovery phase following a disaster or emergency situation that:

a. Are aligned with best practice-based programs and research-based practices recommended under Education Code 38.351;

b. Include strategies for ensuring any required professional development training for suicide prevention and grief-informed and trauma-informed care is provided to appropriate school personnel;

c. Include training on integrating psychological safety and suicide prevention strategies into the district's plan, such as psychological first aid for schools training, from an approved list of recommended training established by the commissioner and TxSSC for:

(1) Members of the district's school safety and security committee [see CK];

(2) District school counselors and mental health professionals; and

(3) Educators and other district personnel as determined by the district;

d. Include strategies and procedures for integrating and supporting physical and psychological safety that align with the provisions described by item 2, above; and

e. Implement trauma-informed policies;

7. A policy for providing a substitute teacher access to school campus buildings and materials necessary for the substitute teacher to carry out the duties of a district employee during an emergency or a mandatory emergency drill;

8. The name of each individual on the district's school safety and security committee and the date of each committee meeting during the preceding year [see CK]; and

9. Certification that the district is in compliance with Education Code 37.117 [see Emergency Response Map, above].

Education Code 37.108(f)

Guidelines for Individuals with Disabilities or Impairments

TEA shall establish guidelines for the provisions in a district's multi-hazard emergency operations plan to ensure the safety of students and district personnel with disabilities or impairments during a disaster or emergency situation. A district must follow the guidelines

established by TEA in adopting and implementing the district's multihazard emergency operations plan. *Education Code 37.1086*

Active Shooter Emergency

A district shall include in its multihazard emergency operations plan a policy for responding to an active shooter emergency. The district may use any available community resources in developing the policy. *Education Code 37.108(g)*

Train Derailment

A district shall include in its multihazard emergency operations plan a policy for responding to a train derailment near a district school. A district is only required to adopt the policy if a district facility is located within 1,000 yards of a railroad track, as measured from any point on the school's real property boundary line. A district may use any available community resources in developing the policy. *Education Code 37.108(d)*

Polling Place Security

A district shall include in its multihazard emergency operations plan a policy for district property selected for use as a polling place under Election Code 43.031. In developing the policy, the board may consult with the local law enforcement agency with jurisdiction over the district property selected as a polling place regarding reasonable security accommodations that may be made to the property. This requirement may not be interpreted to require the board to obtain or contract for the presence of law enforcement or security personnel for the purpose of securing a polling place located on district property. Failure to comply with this subsection does not affect the requirement of the board to make a school facility available for use as a polling place under Election Code 43.031. *Education Code 37.108(e)* [See GKD]

Disclosure

A document relating to a district's multihazard emergency operations plan is subject to disclosure if the document enables a person to:

1. Verify that the district has established a plan and determine the agencies involved in the development of the plan and the agencies coordinating with the district to respond to an emergency, including TDSHS, local emergency services agencies, law enforcement agencies, health departments, and fire departments;
2. Verify that the district's plan was reviewed within the last 12 months and determine the specific review dates;
3. Verify that the plan addresses the five phases of emergency management listed above at Emergency Operations Plan;
4. Verify that district employees have been trained to respond to an emergency and determine the types of training, the num-

ber of employees trained, and the person conducting the training;

5. Verify that each campus in the district has conducted mandatory emergency drills and exercises in accordance with the plan and determine the frequency of the drills;

6. Verify that the district has established a plan for responding to a train derailment if required [see Train Derailment, above];

7. Verify that the district has completed a safety and security audit and determine the date the audit was conducted, the person conducting the audit, and the date the district presented the results of the audit to the board [see CKA];

8. Verify that the district has addressed any recommendations by the board for improvement of the plan and determine the district's progress within the last 12 months; and

9. Verify that the district has established a visitor policy and identify the provisions governing access to a district building or other district property.

Education Code 37.108(c-2)

[See GRC for emergency management training requirements and response to requests from other governmental entities for mutual aid.]

Plan Review

A district shall submit its multihazard emergency operations plan to the TxSSC not later than the 30th day after the date the TxSSC requests the submission and in accordance with the review cycle developed under Education Code 37.2071(a).

Any document or information collected, developed, or produced during the review and verification of multihazard emergency operations plans is not subject to disclosure under Government Code Chapter 552 (Public Information Act).

Upon completed review of a district's multihazard emergency operations plan, the TxSSC may upload a copy of that plan, including all required appendices, to the Sentinel portal. [See CKA] *19 TAC 103.1213(e)(3)(E)*

Failure to Submit Plan

If a district fails to submit its multihazard emergency operations plan to the TxSSC for review following a notification by the TxSSC that the district has failed to submit the district's plan, the TxSSC shall provide the district with written notice stating that the district must hold a public hearing as outlined at Public Hearing on Noncompliance, below. The notice must state that the commissioner is

authorized to appoint a conservator under Education Code 37.1082.

Notice of Plan Deficiencies

The TxSSC shall review each district's multihazard emergency operations plan and verify the plan meets the requirements or provide the district with written notice describing the plan's deficiencies, including specific recommendations to correct the deficiencies, and stating that the district must correct the deficiencies in its plan and resubmit the revised plan to the TxSSC.

The TxSSC may approve a district multihazard emergency operations plan that has deficiencies if the district submits a revised plan that the center determines will correct the deficiencies.

Failure to Correct Deficiencies

If one month after the date of initial notification of a plan's deficiencies outlined above a district has not corrected the plan deficiencies, the TxSSC shall provide written notice to the district and TEA that the district has not complied with the requirements and must comply immediately.

If a district still has not corrected the plan deficiencies three months after the date of initial notification, the TxSSC shall provide written notice to the district stating that the district must hold a public hearing as outlined at Public Hearing on Noncompliance, below.

Education Code 37.2071

Public Hearing on Noncompliance

If the board receives notice of noncompliance under Education Code 37.207(e) [see CKA], 37.2071(d) [see Failure to Submit Plan, above] or 37.2071(g) [see Failure to Correct Deficiencies, above], the board shall hold a public hearing to notify the public of:

1. The district's failure to submit or correct deficiencies in a multihazard emergency operations plan or report the results of a safety and security audit to the TxSSC as required by law;
2. The dates during which the district has not been in compliance; and
3. The names of each member of the board and the superintendent serving in that capacity during the dates the district was not in compliance. The district shall provide this information in writing to each person at the hearing.

The board shall give members of the public a reasonable opportunity to appear before the board and to speak on the issue of the district's failure to submit or correct deficiencies in a multihazard emergency operations plan or report the results of a safety and security audit during a hearing held under this provision. A district re-

quired to hold a public hearing shall provide written confirmation to the TxSSC that the district held the hearing.

Education Code 37.1081

Safe Firearm Storage

The TxSSC, in collaboration with DPS, shall provide to each district information and other resources regarding the safe storage of firearms for distribution by the district including information on the offense of making a firearm accessible to a child under Penal Code 46.13 and ways in which parents and guardians can effectively prevent children from accessing firearms.

A district shall provide the information and other resources to the parent or guardian of each student enrolled in the district or school.

Education Code 37.222

Confidential Information under the Texas Disaster Act

Information is confidential if the information is collected, assembled, or maintained by or for a district for the purpose of preventing, detecting, responding to, or investigating an act of terrorism or related criminal activity and:

Emergency Response Provider Information

1. Relates to the staffing requirements of an emergency response provider, including a law enforcement agency, a firefighting agency, or an emergency services agency;
2. Relates to a tactical plan of the provider; or
3. Consists of a list or compilation of pager or telephone numbers, including mobile and cellular telephone numbers, of the provider.

Gov't Code 418.176

Risk or Vulnerability Assessment

Information is confidential if the information:

1. Is collected, assembled, or maintained by or for a district for the purpose of preventing, detecting, or investigating an act of terrorism or related criminal activity; and
2. Relates to an assessment by or for a district, or an assessment that is maintained by a district, of the risk or vulnerability of persons or property, including critical infrastructure, to an act of terrorism or related criminal activity.

Gov't Code 418.177

Information, other than financial information, in the possession of a district is confidential if the information:

1. Is part of a report to an agency of the United States;
2. Relates to an act of terrorism or related criminal activity; and

3. Is specifically required to be kept confidential:

   a. Under the Public Information Act, Government Code 552.101, because of a federal statute or regulation;

   b. To participate in a state-federal information sharing agreement; or

   c. To obtain federal funding.

Security Systems

Financial information in the possession of a district that relates to the expenditure of funds by a district for a security system is public information that is not excepted from required disclosure under the Public Information Act. [See GBA]

Information, including access codes and passwords, in the possession of a district that relates to the specifications, operating procedures, or location of a security system used to protect public or private property from an act of terrorism or related criminal activity is confidential.

Gov't Code 418.182

Disaster Disclosure Exception

At any time during a state of disaster, the superintendent may voluntarily disclose or otherwise make available all or part of the information that is confidential under Government Code 418.175-.182 to another person or another entity if the superintendent believes that the other person or entity has a legitimate need for the information. The disclosure or making available of confidential information under this provision does not waive or affect the confidentiality of the information. *Gov't Code 418.183(b), (e)*

Note: For information regarding the district's ability to request identification, refuse entry, or eject persons from district property, see GKA and GKC.

Safety Rules

The board may adopt rules for the safety and welfare of students, employees, and property and other rules it considers necessary to carry out Education Code Chapter 37, Subchapter D (Protection of Buildings and Grounds) and the governance of the district, including rules providing for the operation and parking of vehicles on school property. *Education Code 37.102(a)* [See also CLC]

Human Trafficking Warning Signs

Each public primary or secondary school shall post warning signs of the increased penalties for trafficking of persons under Penal Code 20A.02(b-1)(2) in a conspicuous place reasonably likely to be viewed by all school employees and visitors.

Each warning sign must:

1. Describe the offense of trafficking in persons as provided under Penal Code 20A.02(a). The sign must emphasize that an offense under Penal Code 20A.02, is a felony of the first degree punishable by imprisonment in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice for life or for a term of not more than 99 years or less than 25 years if it is shown on the trial of the offense that the actor committed the offense in a location that was:
    a. On the premises of or within 1,000 feet of the premises of:
        (1) A school;
        (2) A juvenile detention facility;
        (3) A post-adjudication secure correctional facility;
        (4) A shelter or facility operating as a residential treatment center that serves runaway youth, foster children, people who are homeless, or persons subjected to human trafficking, domestic violence, or sexual assault;
        (5) A community center offering youth services and programs;
        (6) A child-care facility, as defined by Human Resources Code 42.002; or
        (7) An institution of higher education or private or independent institution of higher education, as defined by Education Code 61.003; or

b. On premises or within 1,000 feet of premises where:

(1) An official school function was taking place; or

(2) An event sponsored or sanctioned by the University Interscholastic League was taking place;

2. Be written in English and Spanish; and

3. Be at least 8.5 by 11 inches in size.

Education Code 37.086; 19 TAC 103.1403(c)

Note: For provisions regarding selection and adoption of instructional materials, see EFA.

Instructional Materials and Technology

Instructional materials selected for use in the public schools shall be furnished without cost to the students attending those schools. Except as provided by Education Code 31.104(d), a district may not charge a student for instructional material or technological equipment purchased by the district with the district's technology and instructional materials allotment. *Education Code 31.001*

Each instructional material, including electronic instructional material only to the extent of any applicable licensing agreement, purchased as provided by Education Code Chapter 31 for a district is the property of the district. *Education Code 31.102(a)-(b)*

Allotment

A district is entitled to an allotment each biennium from the state instructional materials and technology fund for each student enrolled in the district on a date during the last year of the preceding biennium specified by the commissioner of education. The commissioner shall determine the amount of the allotment per student each biennium on the basis of the amount of money available in the state instructional materials and technology fund to fund the allotment. The allotment shall be transferred from the state instructional materials and technology fund to the credit of the district's instructional materials and technology account as provided by Education Code 31.0212. *Education Code 31.0211(a)*

The commissioner shall, as early as practicable during each biennium, notify each district of the estimated amount to which the district will be entitled during the next fiscal biennium. *Education Code 31.0215(a)*

Additional State Aid

State-Approved Instructional Materials

For each student enrolled in the district, a school district is entitled to additional state aid for each school year in an amount equal to $40, or a greater amount provided by appropriation, to procure instructional material that has been reviewed by the Texas Education Agency (TEA); placed on the State Board of Education (SBOE) list of approved instructional materials; designated by the SBOE as being included or capable of being included in an instructional materials parent portal; and acquired from a publisher, manufacturer, or other entity that has not been found to violate Education Code 31.151. *Education Code 48.307(a)*

Open Education Resource Instructional Materials

Subject to Education Code 31.0751 (Open Education Resource [OER] transition plan), a district is entitled to additional state aid for each school year in an amount not to exceed $20 for each student for the costs incurred or for which the district is obligated to pay during the school year in which the aid is provided for the printing

and shipping of OER instructional material made available under Education Code Chapter 31, Subchapter B-1. *Education Code 48.308(a)*

Allotment Adjustment

Change in Enrollment

Not later than May 31 of each school year, a district may request that the commissioner adjust the number of students for which the district is entitled to receive an allotment on the grounds that the number of students attending school in the district will increase or decrease during the school year for which the allotment is provided. The commissioner may also adjust the number of students for which a district is entitled to receive an allotment, without a request by the district, if the commissioner determines a different number of students is a more accurate reflection of students who will be attending school in the district. The commissioner's determination is final. *Education Code 31.0211(e)*

High Enrollment Growth

Each year the commissioner shall adjust the instructional materials and technology allotment of districts experiencing high enrollment growth. *Education Code 31.0214(a)*

Permitted Expenditures

The allotment funds may be used to purchase or pay for:

1. Instructional materials, regardless of whether the instructional materials are on the list of approved instructional materials maintained by the SBOE under Education Code 31.022;
2. Consumable instructional materials;
3. Instructional materials for use in bilingual education classes, as provided by Education Code 31.029;
4. Instructional materials for use in college preparatory courses under Education Code 28.014, as provided by Education Code 31.031;
5. Supplemental instructional materials;
6. OER instructional materials, as provided by Education Code Chapter 31, Subchapter B-1;
7. Instructional materials and technological equipment under any continuing contracts of the district in effect on September 1, 2011;
8. Technological equipment necessary to support the use of any instructional materials purchased with an allotment under this provision;
9. Inventory software or systems for storing, managing, and accessing instructional materials and analyzing the usage and effectiveness of instructional materials;

10. Services, equipment, and technology infrastructure necessary to ensure internet connectivity and adequate bandwidth;

11. Training educational personnel directly involved in student learning in the appropriate use of instructional materials and for providing for access to technological equipment for instructional use;

12. Training personnel in the electronic administration of assessment instruments;

13. The salary and other expenses of an employee who provides technical support for the use of technological equipment directly involved in student learning; and

14. Costs associated with distance learning, including services, equipment, and technology such as Wi-Fi, internet access hotspots, wireless network service, broadband service, and other services and technological equipment necessary to facilitate internet access.

The allotment funds may not be used to purchase instructional material that contains obscene or harmful content or would otherwise cause the district to which the funds were allotted to be unable to submit the certification required under Education Code 31.1011(a)(1)(B) [see Certification of Instructional Materials, below].

Education Code 31.0211(c), (f)

Technological Equipment

In purchasing technological equipment, a district shall:

1. Secure technological solutions that meet the varying and unique needs of students and teachers in the district; and

2. Consider both the long-term cost of ownership of the technological equipment and flexibility for innovation.

Education Code 31.0211(d)

Instructional Materials and Technology Account

The commissioner shall maintain an instructional materials and technology account for each district. In the first year of each biennium, the commissioner shall deposit the district's allotment in the account. The commissioner shall pay the cost of instructional materials requisitioned by a district under Education Code 31.103 using funds from the district's instructional materials and technology account.

Money deposited in a district's instructional materials and technology account during each state fiscal biennium remains in the account and available for use by the district for the entire biennium.

At the end of each biennium, a district with unused money in the district's account may carry forward any remaining balance to the next biennium.

A district shall provide to TEA the title and publication information for any instructional materials requisitioned or purchased by the district with the district's instructional materials and technology allotment.

Education Code 31.0212(a)-(d)

Purchasing Method

A district is not required to use a method provided by Education Code 44.031(a) to purchase instructional materials that have been reviewed by TEA and included on the list of approved instructional materials maintained by the SBOE. *Education Code 31.102(d)*

Requisitions, Use, and Distribution

Delegation of Authority

The board may delegate to an employee the authority to requisition, distribute, and manage the inventory of instructional materials, consistent with Education Code Chapter 31 and rules adopted under that chapter. *Education Code 31.104(a)*

Local Funds

A district may use local funds to purchase any instructional materials in addition to those selected under Education Code Chapter 31. *Education Code 31.106*

Online Requisition Program

A district shall make a requisition for instructional materials using the online requisition program maintained by the commissioner. A district may requisition instructional materials for grades above the grade level in which a student is enrolled. *Education Code 31.103(b)-(c)*

Distribution

The board shall distribute printed instructional materials to students in the manner that the board determines is most effective and economical. *Education Code 31.102(c)*

OER Instructional Materials

A district may adopt OER instructional material at any time. Except as otherwise provided by the Education Code, the commissioner may not require a district to adopt or use an OER instructional material. A district may not be charged for a cost associated with the selection of an OER instructional material, except for the cost of printing copies of the material. *Education Code 31.073(a), (c)-(d)*

OER Transition Plan

To qualify for additional state aid under Education Code 48.308, the board must adopt an OER instructional material transition plan to assist classroom teachers in the district who will be using an OER instructional material in a specific subject or grade level for which the teacher has not previously used an OER instructional material.

The plan must ensure that OER instructional materials are used in a manner that maintains the instructional flexibility of a classroom teacher to address the needs of each student.

A district that participates in the program developed and maintained by TEA under Education Code 31.0752 is not required to adopt a transition plan under this provision. [See OER Instructional Material Support Program, below]

Education Code 31.0751

The OER instructional material transition plan shall be submitted in a format determined by the commissioner.

A district is required to have a locally maintained OER transition plan that complies with 19 Administrative Code 67.1315 to access funding allotted under Education Code 48.308.

A district is required to submit an OER instructional material transition plan only when:

1. First adopting an SBOE-approved OER product for a grade level or subject/course; or
2. Expanding implementation of an SBOE-approved OER product to additional campuses and/or grade levels.

The OER instructional material transition plan adopted by the board of trustees shall include the plan of the district to ensure the following:

1. Clear communication and stakeholder change management plans and timelines;
2. Timely access to print materials and related manipulatives through OER procurement and distribution;
3. Sufficient planning and instructional time evidenced by instructional calendars and master schedules aligned to the requirements of the materials;
4. Clear expectations for the implementation of:
    a. Instructional materials;
    b. Internalization and student work analysis protocols; and
    c. Curriculum-embedded assessments;
5. Processes for stakeholder communication and public posting, as outlined in Education Code 26.006, if materials have been modified by the district;

6. The maintenance of instructional flexibility through clear guidance for acceptable teacher modifications to instructional pacing, sequencing, and lesson content to address the needs of each student; and

7. Sufficient professional learning and development for school leaders, instructional coaches, and teachers, including:

    a. Pre-service product onboarding and orientation; and

    b. Ongoing, job-embedded, curriculum-based professional learning, including cycles of observation and feedback.

The commissioner may request and review OER instructional material transition plans before funding is released and reject a plan subsequent to review.

19 TAC 67.1315

OER Instructional Material Support Program

TEA shall develop and maintain a program to assist school districts in adopting and using OER instructional material, including by assisting districts to:

1. Maintain the instructional flexibility of classroom teachers to address the needs of each student; and

2. Schedule instructional periods in a manner that allows classroom teachers sufficient time to effectively prepare and present instructional material within the teacher's normal work day.

Education Code 31.0752

Requisition

A district that selects OER instructional material shall requisition a sufficient number of printed copies for use by students unable to access the instructional material electronically unless the district provides to each student:

1. Electronic access to the instructional material at no cost to the student; or

2. Printed copies of the portion of the instructional material that will be used in the course.

Education Code 31.103(d)

Parent Portal

An entity that hosts an instructional materials parent portal must comply with requests regarding parental access to the portal made by a district in compliance with Education Code 31.154 or Education Code 26.006 [see EFA]. *Education Code 31.154(e)*

[For more information regarding the requirements for certain entities that supply instructional materials to host a parent portal, see Education Code 31.154.]

Bilingual Instructional Materials

A district shall purchase with its allotment or otherwise acquire instructional materials for use in bilingual education classes. *Education Code 31.029*

Certification of Instructional Materials

Prior to the beginning of each school year, a district shall submit to the SBOE and commissioner certification that the district:

1. For each subject in the required curriculum under Education Code 28.002, other than physical education, and each grade level:
    a. Provides each student with instructional materials that cover all elements of the essential knowledge and skills adopted by the SBOE for that subject and grade level; and
    b. In the provision of instructional materials, the district protects students from obscene or harmful content as necessary for compliance with the Children's Internet Protection Act (Pub. L. No. 106-554) [see CQ], Education Code 28.0022 [see EMB], Penal Code 43.22, and any other law or regulation that protects students from obscene or harmful content [see EFA]; and
2. The district used money allocated to the district or school under the instructional materials and technology allotment only for purposes allowed under Education Code 31.0211.

To determine whether each student has instructional materials that cover all elements of the essential knowledge and skills, a district may consider:

1. Instructional materials adopted by the SBOE;
2. Instructional materials developed, purchased, or otherwise acquired by the district; and
3. OER instructional materials and other electronic instructional materials included in the repository under Education Code 31.0722.

Education Code 31.1011

Annual Report

Each district shall annually report to TEA information regarding the instructional materials used by the district during the previous school year, including the cost of each material. *Education Code 31.1012*

Ownership

Except as otherwise provided, a student must return all instructional materials to the teacher at the end of the school year or when the student withdraws from school. At the end of the school year for which OER instructional material that a district does not intend to use for another student is distributed, the printed copy of the OER instructional material becomes the property of the student to whom it is distributed.

This provision does not apply to an electronic copy of OER instructional material.

Education Code 31.104(c), (g)-(h)

Responsibility for Instructional Materials and Equipment

Each student or the student's parent or guardian is responsible for all instructional material and technological equipment not returned in an acceptable condition by the student. A student who fails to return in an acceptable condition all instructional materials and technological equipment forfeits the right to free instructional materials and technological equipment until all instructional materials and technological equipment previously issued but not returned in an acceptable condition are paid for by the student, parent, or guardian.

As provided by board policy, a district may waive or reduce the payment required if the student is from a low-income family. [See FP] The district shall allow the student to use instructional materials and technological equipment at school during each school day.

If instructional materials or technological equipment is not returned in an acceptable condition or paid for, a district may withhold the student's records. A district may not prevent the student from graduating, participating in a graduation ceremony, or receiving a diploma. [See FL and GBA regarding student and parental right to access records; and FD, FFAB, and FL regarding a district's duties to provide records to another district]

The board may not require an employee of the district who acts in good faith to pay for instructional materials or technological equipment that is stolen, misplaced, or not returned by a student. [See DG]

These provisions do not apply to an electronic copy of OER instructional material.

Education Code 31.104(d), (e), (h) [See also EFA]

Acceptable Condition

Printed instructional materials are considered to be in acceptable condition if:

1. The cover, binding, pages, spine, and all integral components of the instructional materials are wholly intact and the instructional materials are fully usable by students; and

2. No component of the instructional materials is soiled, torn, or damaged (whether intentionally or by lack of appropriate care) to the extent that any portion of the content is too disfigured or obscured to be fully accessible to other students.

Electronic instructional materials are considered to be in acceptable condition if:

1. All components or applications that are a part of the electronic instructional materials are returned;

2. The electronic materials perform as they did when they were new;

3. The electronic instructional materials do not contain computer code (e.g., bug, virus, worm, or similar malicious software) that has been designed to self-replicate, damage, change, or otherwise hinder the performance of any computer's memory, file system, or software; and

4. The electronic instructional materials have not been installed with plug-ins, snap-ins, or add-ins without the prior approval of the district.

Technological equipment is considered to be in acceptable condition if:

1. The equipment is returned with the software and hardware in their original condition unless the district authorized changes; and

2. The physical condition of the equipment is fully usable as it was originally intended to be used.

19 TAC 66.1310

Lost or Damaged Instructional Materials

A district may order replacements for instructional materials that have been lost or damaged directly from the publisher of the instructional materials or any source for a printed copy of OER instructional material. *Education Code 31.104(b)*

Sale or Disposal

The board shall determine how the district will dispose of discontinued printed instructional materials, electronic instructional materials, and technological equipment.

Sale

The board may sell printed instructional materials on the date the instructional material is discontinued for use in the public schools by the SBOE or the commissioner. The board may also sell elec-

tronic instructional materials and technological equipment owned by the district.

Use of Proceeds Any funds received by a district from a sale must be used to purchase instructional materials and technological equipment allowed under Education Code 31.0211.

Disposal The board may dispose of printed instructional material before the date the instructional material is discontinued for use in the public schools by the SBOE if the board determines that the instructional material is not needed by the district and the board does not reasonably expect that the instructional material will be needed. A district must notify the commissioner of any instructional material the district disposes of under this provision.

Education Code 31.105

Note: For additional legal requirements applicable to purchases with federal funds, see CBB.

Authorization to Purchase or Lease Vehicles

A district may purchase school motor vehicles through the comptroller or through competitive bidding under Education Code Chapter 44, Subchapter B. *Education Code 34.001(a)* [See CH]

Each contract proposed to be made by a district for the purchase or lease of one or more school buses, including a lease with an option to purchase, must be submitted to competitive bidding when the contract is valued at $20,000 or more. *Education Code 44.031(l)*

When a contract for the purchase of school buses is valued at $20,000 or more, the contract must be made either through competitive bidding or by purchasing the buses through the comptroller. *Atty. Gen. Op. LO-98-063 (1998)*

Payment

A district financially unable to pay for a vehicle the district purchases may, as prescribed by Education Code 34.005, issue interest-bearing time warrants in amounts sufficient to make the purchase. *Education Code 34.005(a)*

A board may issue bonds to purchase new school buses. *Education Code 45.001(a)(1)(D)* [See CCA]

New Van Purchases or Leases

A school system may not purchase or lease a new 15-passenger van if it will be used significantly by, or on behalf of, the school system to transport preprimary, primary, or secondary school students to or from school or an event related to school, unless the 15-passenger van complies with the motor vehicle standards prescribed for school buses and multi-function school activity buses under United States Code Title 49. This provision does not apply in some limited circumstances, including the purchase or lease of a 15-passenger van under a contract executed before August 10, 2005, the date of enactment of this provision. *49 U.S.C. 30112*

Contracts for School Bus Use, Acquisition, or Lease

A board may contract with any person for use, acquisition, or lease with option to purchase a school bus if the board determines the contract to be economically advantageous to the district. Such a contract may have any lawful term of not less than two or more than 10 years. The competitive bidding requirements of Education Code Chapter 44, Subchapter B apply to a contract under this provision. A school bus that is leased or leased with an option to purchase must meet or exceed safety standards set out in Education Code 34.002. *Education Code 34.009* [See CH]

Registration

District-owned vehicles used exclusively in the service of a district are exempt from the state registration fee. The Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) must approve an application for registration before exempt license plates are issued. *Transp. Code 502.451, .453*

Identification

The DMV may not issue exempt license plates unless the applicant for registration certifies in writing that the name of a district is printed on each side of the vehicle, in letters that are at least two inches high or in an emblem that is at least 100 square inches in size. The letters or emblem must be of a color sufficiently different from the body of the vehicle to be clearly legible from a distance of 100 feet. *Transp. Code 502.452(a)*

Maintenance

District vehicles are subject to inspection pursuant to Transportation Code Chapter 548.

School Bus Advertising

The exterior of a school bus may not bear advertising or another paid announcement directed at the public if the advertising or announcement distracts from the effectiveness of required safety-warning equipment. A school bus that violates this provision or rules adopted under this provision shall be placed out of service until it complies. *Transp. Code 547.701(d)*

Advertising Rules

A district may allow advertisements on school buses in accordance with rules. The rules adopted by the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) at 37 Administrative Code 14.61-14.65 apply to all school buses used to transport preprimary, primary, and secondary public school students. *37 TAC 14.61*

"Advertisement"

For purposes of this policy, "advertisement" means any communication brought to the attention of the public by paid announcement or in return for public recognition in connection with an event or offer or sale of a product or service, except for a single-line listing of a district name and/or school or manufacturer logo approved by DPS. *37 TAC 14.1(1)*

Material and Location

Advertisements must be of a material and in a location specified in the rules. *37 TAC 14.62-.64*

Annual Notice

By September 1 of each year, districts involved in an advertising program shall provide the School Bus Transportation Program at DPS written notification of the number of buses operated by or for the district that display exterior advertising or another paid announcement. *37 TAC 14.65(a)(1), (b)* [See CNC for required reporting of crashes involving buses with advertising]

Delivery of Notice

Notices to DPS shall be delivered by facsimile at (512) 424-2238, electronic mail at sbt@txdps.state.tx.us, or mailed to School Bus Transportation, Texas Department of Public Safety, P.O. Box 4087, Austin, TX 78773-0525. *37 TAC 14.65(d)*

Nonschool Use A board may contract with nonschool organizations for use of school buses. The board may provide services relating to the maintenance and operation of the buses in accordance with the contract. *Education Code 34.010*

Sale of Buses At the request of a district, the comptroller shall dispose of a school bus. A district is not required to dispose of a bus through the comptroller. *Education Code 34.006*

Safety Standards

A district shall meet or exceed the safety standards for school buses established by the Department of Public Safety (DPS), with the advice of the Texas Education Agency (TEA). A district that fails or refuses to meet these safety standards for school buses is ineligible to share in the transportation allotment until the first anniversary of the date the district begins complying with the safety standards. *Education Code 34.002; Transp. Code 547.102; 37 TAC 14.51-.52*

Student Safety

Prohibitions

A district may not require or allow a child to stand on a moving bus or passenger van. *Education Code 34.004*

An operator of a school bus, while operating the bus, shall prohibit a passenger from:

1. Standing in the bus; or
2. Sitting:
    a. On the floor of the bus, or
    b. In any location on the bus that is not designed as a seat.

Transp. Code 545.426

Seat Belts

Required on Buses

A bus, including a school bus, a school activity bus, multifunction school activity bus, or school-chartered bus, operated by or contracted for use by a district for the transportation of schoolchildren shall be equipped with a three-point seat belt for each passenger, including the operator. This requirement does not apply to:

1. A bus purchased by a school district that is a model year 2017 or earlier; or
2. A bus purchased by a school district that is a model year 2018 or later if the board:
    a. Determines that the district's budget does not permit the district to purchase a bus that is equipped with the required seat belts; and
    b. Votes to approve that determination in a public meeting.

Transp. Code 547.701(e)

Student Requirement

A district shall require a student riding a bus operated by or contracted for operation by the district to wear a seat belt if the bus is equipped with seat belts for all passengers on the bus. A school district may implement a disciplinary policy to enforce the use of seat belts by students. *Education Code 34.013*

Donations

A board shall consider any offer made by a person to donate three-point seat belts or money for the purchase of three-point seat belts for a district's school buses. A board may accept or decline the offer after adequate consideration.

A board may acknowledge a person who donates three-point seat belts or money for the purchase of three-point seat belts for a school bus by displaying a small, discreet sign on the side or back of the bus recognizing the person who made the donation. The sign may not serve as an advertisement for the person who made the donation.

Education Code 34.014

Use of Warning Signals

When a school bus is being stopped or is stopped on a highway to permit students to board or exit the bus, the operator of the bus shall activate all flashing warning signal lights and other equipment on the bus designed to warn other drivers that the bus is stopping to load or unload children.

A person may not operate a light or other equipment described above except when a school bus is being stopped or is stopped on a highway to:

1. Permit a student to board or exit the bus; or
2. Distribute to a student or the parent or guardian of a student:
    a. Food; or
    b. Technological equipment for use by the student for educational purposes.

Transp. Code 547.701(c), (c-1)

Wireless Communication Devices

An operator commits an offense if the operator uses a portable wireless communication device to read, write, or send an electronic message while operating a motor vehicle unless the vehicle is stopped. *Transp. Code 545.4251(b)*

General Rule

School Property

An operator may not use a wireless communication device while operating a motor vehicle within a school crossing zone or on the property of a public elementary, middle, junior high, or high school served by a school crossing zone, during the time a reduced speed limit is in effect for the school crossing zone, unless:

1. The vehicle is stopped; or
2. The wireless communication device is used with a hands-free device.

Transp. Code 545.4252

An operator may not use a wireless communication device while operating a school bus or passenger bus with a minor passenger on the bus unless the bus is stopped. This provision does not apply to an operator of a school bus or passenger bus using a wireless communication device in the performance of the operator's duties as a bus driver and in a manner similar to using a two-way radio. *Transp. Code 545.425(c), (e-1)*

Definitions

"Hands-free device" means speakerphone capability, a telephone attachment, or another function or other piece of equipment, regardless of whether permanently installed in or on a wireless communication device or in a motor vehicle, that allows use of the wireless communication device without use of either of the operator's hands, except to activate or deactivate a function of the wireless communication device or hands-free device. The term includes voice-operated technology and a push-to-talk function. *Transp. Code 545.425(a)(1)*

"Electronic message" means data that is read from or entered into a wireless communication device for the purpose of communicating with another person. *Transp. Code 545.4251(a)(1)*

Disruption of Transportation

Any person other than a primary or secondary grade student who intentionally disrupts, prevents, or interferes with the lawful transportation of students to and from school on a vehicle owned or operated by a district or to or from activities sponsored by a school on a vehicle owned and/or operated by a district shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. It is an exception to the application of the offense that, at the time the person engaged in the prohibited conduct, the person was younger than 12 years of age. *Education Code 37.126*

Exhibition of Firearm

For information regarding offenses pertaining to firearms on buses, see GKA(LEGAL).

Collision Reports

Notice to DPS for Buses With Advertising

A district shall provide DPS written notification of any collision directly or indirectly involving a school bus operated by or for the district that bears advertising or another paid announcement. *37 TAC 14.65(a)(2)* [See CNB for rules related to school bus advertising.]

Notice must be received not more than five days from the date of the collision and shall include the following:

1. The name and address of the owner of the school bus;
2. The name and driver's license number of the school bus operator;
3. The date of the collision;
4. The city or county where the collision occurred; and

5. The investigating police agency.

37 TAC 14.65(c)

Notices to DPS may be delivered by facsimile, electronic mail, or mailed to School Bus Transportation, Texas Department of Public Safety, P.O. Box 4087, Austin, TX 78773-0525. *37 TAC 14.65(d)*

Annual Report to TEA

A district shall report annually to TEA the number of collisions in which its buses were involved in the past year in a manner prescribed by the commissioner of education. A district shall file annual collision reports to TEA only in the period beginning July 1 and ending July 31 and shall include the following information in the report:

1. The total number of bus collisions;
2. The date each collision occurred;
3. The type of bus, as specified in 19 Administrative Code 103.1231(a), involved in each collision;
4. Whether the bus involved in each collision was equipped with seat belts and, if so, the type of seat belts;
5. The number of students and adults involved in each collision;
6. The number and types of injuries that were sustained by the bus passengers in each collision; and
7. Whether the injured passengers in each collision were wearing seat belts at the time of the collision and, if so, the type of seat belts.

A school district shall report a bus collision involving a school bus, a multifunction school activity bus, a school activity bus, or a motor bus if:

1. The bus is owned, leased, contracted, or chartered by a school district and was transporting school district personnel, students, or a combination of personnel and students; or
2. The bus was driven by a school district employee or by an employee of the school district's bus contractor with no passengers on board and the collision involved a pedestrian.

Exceptions

A school district shall not report a bus collision involving a school bus, a multifunction school activity bus, a school activity bus, or a motor bus if:

1. The bus was driven by a school district employee or by an employee of the school district's bus contractor, the collision

occurred when no passenger other than the school district's driver or bus contractor's driver was on board the bus, and the collision did not involve a pedestrian; or

2. The collision involved a bus chartered by a school district for a school activity trip and no school district personnel or students were on board the bus at the time of the collision.

A school district shall not report a collision that occurred in a vehicle that is owned, contracted, or chartered by a school district and is not a school bus, a multifunction school activity bus, a school activity bus, or a motor bus.

Education Code 34.015(b); 19 TAC 103.1231(b)

Fair Labor Standards Act

Minimum Wage and Overtime

Unless an exemption applies, a district shall pay each of its employees not less than minimum wage for all hours worked. *29 U.S.C. 206(a)(1)*

Unless an exemption applies, a district shall pay an employee not less than one and one-half times the employee's regular rate of pay for all hours worked in excess of 40 in any workweek. *29 U.S.C. 207(a)(1); 29 C.F.R. pt. 778*

Breaks for Nonexempt Employees

Rest periods of up to 20 minutes must be counted as hours worked. Coffee breaks or time for snacks are rest periods, not meal periods. *29 C.F.R. 785.18*

Bona fide meal periods of 30 minutes or more are not counted as hours worked if the employee is completely relieved from duty. The employee is not relieved from duty if the employee is required to perform any duties, whether active or inactive, while eating. For example, an office employee who is required to eat at his or her desk is working while eating. It is not necessary that an employee be permitted to leave the premises if the employee is otherwise completely freed from duties during the meal period. *29 C.F.R. 785.19*

Compensatory Time

Accrual

Nonexempt employees may receive, in lieu of overtime compensation, compensatory time off at a rate of not less than one and one-half hours for each hour of overtime work, pursuant to an agreement or understanding arrived at between the employer and employee before the performance of the work. Such agreement or understanding may be informal, such as when an employee works overtime knowing that the employer rewards overtime with compensatory time.

An employee may accrue not more than 240 hours of compensatory time. If the employee's overtime work included a public safety activity, an emergency response activity, or a seasonal activity, the employee may accrue not more than 480 hours of compensatory time. After the employee has reached these limits, the employee shall be paid overtime compensation for additional overtime work.

Payment for Accrued Time

Compensation paid to an employee for accrued compensatory time shall be paid at the regular rate earned by the employee at the time of payment. An employee who has accrued compensatory time off shall be paid for any unused compensatory time upon separation from employment at the rates set forth at 29 U.S.C. 207(o)(4).

Use

An employee who has requested the use of compensatory time shall be permitted to use such time within a reasonable period after making the request if the use of the compensatory time does not unduly disrupt the operations of the district.

The Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) does not prohibit a district from compelling the use of accrued compensatory time.

29 U.S.C. 207(o); Christensen v. Harris Cnty., 529 U.S. 576 (2000); Houston Police Officers' Union v. City of Houston, 330 F.3d 298 (5th Cir. 2003)

Exempt Employees

The minimum wage and overtime provisions do not apply to any employee employed in a bona fide executive, administrative, or professional capacity. *29 U.S.C. 213(a)(1)*

Academic Administrators

The term ''employee employed in a bona fide administrative capacity'' includes an employee:

1. Compensated on a salary or fee basis at the established weekly threshold, exclusive of board, lodging, or other facilities; or on a salary basis which is at least equal to the entrance salary for teachers in the district by which employed; and

2. Whose primary duty is performing administrative functions directly related to academic instruction or training in a district or department or subdivision thereof.

"Performing administrative functions directly related to academic instruction or training'' means work related to the academic operations and functions in a school rather than to administration along the lines of general business operations. Such academic administrative functions include operations directly in the field of education. Jobs relating to areas outside the educational field are not within the definition of academic administration.

Employees engaged in academic administrative functions include:

1. The superintendent or other head of an elementary or secondary school system, and any assistants, responsible for administration of such matters as curriculum, quality and methods of instructing, measuring and testing the learning potential and achievement of students, establishing and maintaining academic and grading standards, and other aspects of the teaching program;

2. The principal and any vice principals responsible for the operation of an elementary or secondary school;

3. Academic counselors who perform work such as administering school testing programs, assisting students with academic problems and advising students concerning degree requirements; and

4. Other employees with similar responsibilities.

Jobs relating to building management and maintenance, jobs relating to the health of the students, and academic staff such as social workers, psychologists, lunchroom managers, or dietitians do not perform academic administrative functions, although such employees may qualify for another exemption.

29 C.F.R. 541.204

Salary Basis

To qualify as an exempt executive, administrative, or professional employee, the employee must be compensated on a salary basis, unless the employee is a teacher. Subject to the exceptions listed in the rule, an employee must receive the full salary for any week in which the employee performs any work, without regard to the number of days or hours worked. A district that makes improper deductions from salary shall lose the exemption if the facts demonstrate that the district did not intend to pay exempt employees on a salary basis. *29 C.F.R. 541.600, .602(a), .603*

Partial-Day Deductions

A district employee who otherwise meets the salary basis requirements shall not be disqualified from exemption on the basis that the employee is paid according to a pay system established by statute, ordinance, or regulation, or by a policy or practice established pursuant to principles of public accountability, under which the employee accrues personal leave and sick leave and which requires the employee's pay to be reduced or the employee to be placed on leave without pay for absences for personal reasons or because of illness or injury of less than one workday when accrued leave is not used by an employee because:

1. Permission for its use has not been sought or has been sought and denied;
2. Accrued leave has been exhausted; or
3. The employee chooses to use leave without pay.

Deductions from the pay of a district employee for absences due to a budget-required furlough shall not disqualify the employee from being paid on a salary basis except in the workweek in which the furlough occurs and for which the employee's pay is accordingly reduced.

29 C.F.R. 541.710

Safe Harbor Policy

If a district has a clearly communicated policy that prohibits improper pay deductions and includes a complaint mechanism, reimburses employees for any improper deductions, and makes a good faith commitment to comply in the future, the district will not lose the exemption unless the district willfully violates the policy by con-

tinuing to make improper deductions after receiving employee complaints.

The best evidence of a clearly communicated policy is a written policy that was distributed to employees before the improper pay deductions by, for example, providing a copy of the policy to employees upon hire, publishing the policy in an employee handbook, or publishing the policy on a district's intranet.

29 C.F.R. 541.603(d)

Teachers

The term ''employee employed in a bona fide professional capacity'' includes any employee with a primary duty of teaching, tutoring, instructing, or lecturing in the activity of imparting knowledge and who is employed and engaged in this activity as a teacher in an elementary or secondary school system by which the employee is employed. The salary basis requirements do not apply to teaching professionals.

Exempt teachers include:

1. Regular academic teachers;
2. Teachers of kindergarten or nursery school pupils;
3. Teachers of gifted or disabled children;
4. Teachers of skilled and semi-skilled trades and occupations;
5. Teachers engaged in automobile driving instruction;
6. Home economics teachers; and
7. Vocal or instrumental music instructors.

Those faculty members who are engaged as teachers but also spend a considerable amount of their time in extracurricular activities such as coaching athletic teams or acting as moderators or advisors in such areas as drama, speech, debate, or journalism are engaged in teaching. Such activities are a recognized part of the schools' responsibility in contributing to the educational development of the student.

The possession of an elementary or secondary teacher's certificate provides a clear means of identifying the individuals contemplated as being within the scope of the exemption for teaching professionals. Teachers who possess a teaching certificate qualify for the exemption regardless of the terminology (e.g., permanent, conditional, standard, provisional, temporary, emergency, or unlimited) used by the state to refer to different kinds of certificates. However, a teacher who is not certified may be considered for

	exemption, provided that such individual is employed as a teacher by the employing school or school system. *29 C.F.R. 541.303*
Wage and Hour Records	A district shall maintain and preserve payroll or other records for nonexempt employees containing the information required by the regulations under the FLSA. *29 C.F.R. 516.2(a)*
Payday Law Exemption	The Texas Payday Law does not apply to the state or a political subdivision. *Labor Code 61.003*

Staff Development

Educator

The staff development provided by a district to an educator other than a principal must be conducted in accordance with standards developed by the district and designed to improve education in the district.

Principal

The staff development provided by a district to a principal shall be governed by Education Code 21.3541 and rules adopted under that section. [See DNB]

Education Code 21.451(a), (a-1)

Professional Development Policy

A board shall annually review the SBEC continuing education and training clearinghouse published under Education Code 21.4514 and adopt a professional development policy that must:

1. Be guided by the recommendations for training in the clearinghouse;
2. Note any differences in the policy adopted by the district or school from the recommendations in the clearinghouse; and
3. Include a schedule of all training required for educators or other school personnel at the district or school.

To the extent of any conflict, a frequency requirement for the completion of training provided by statute prevails over a frequency requirement for that training included in the professional development policy.

Education Code 21.4515(a), (b)

Requirements for Training

In designing staff development for educators other than principals, a district must use procedures that, to the greatest extent possible, ensure the training included in the staff development:

1. Incorporates proactive instructional planning techniques using a framework that:
    a. Provides flexibility in the ways:
        (1) Information is presented;
        (2) Students respond or demonstrate knowledge and skills; and
        (3) Students are engaged;
    b. Reduces barriers in instruction;
    c. Provides appropriate accommodations, supports, and challenges; and

d. Maintains high achievement expectations for all students, including students with disabilities and students of limited English proficiency; and

2. Integrates inclusive and evidence-based instructional practices for all students, including students with disabilities.

Staff development shall be predominantly campus-based, related to achieving campus performance objectives, and developed and approved by the campus-level committee.

A district may use district-wide staff development that has been developed and approved through the district-level decision process. [See BQA and BQB, as appropriate]

Education Code 21.451(a-2), (b), (c)

Optional Training

Staff development may include training in:

1. Technology and digital learning; and

2. Positive behavior intervention and support strategies, including classroom management, district discipline policies, and the Student Code of Conduct.

Technology and digital learning training must:

1. Discuss basic technology proficiency expectations and methods to increase an educator's digital literacy; and

2. Assist an educator in the use of digital technology in learning activities that improve teaching, assessment, and instructional practices.

Staff development may include instruction as to what is permissible under law, including opinions of the United States Supreme Court, regarding prayer in public school.

Education Code 21.451(d)(1), (d-3), (g)

Required Training

Staff development must include training on:

1. Suicide prevention;

2. Strategies for establishing and maintaining positive relationships among students, including conflict resolution; and

3. Preventing, identifying, responding to, and reporting incidents of bullying.

Required training above must be provided in accordance with the board’s professional development policy and use a best practice-based program recommended by the Health and Human Services

Commission under Education Code 38.351 [see FFEB]. Required training may include two or more topics listed together.

Education Code 21.451(d)(3), (d-1)

Instruction of Students with Disabilities

Definition

"Student with a disability" means a student who is:

1. Eligible to participate in a school district's special education program under Education Code 29.003;
2. Covered by Section 504, Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. Section 794); or
3. Covered by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. Section 1400 et seq.).

Education Code 21.001(3-a)

Requirements

Staff development must include training that is evidence-based, as defined by Section 8101, Every Student Succeeds Act (20 USC 7801), and that:

1. Relates to the instruction of students with disabilities, including students with disabilities who also have other intellectual or mental health conditions; and
2. Is designed for educators who work primarily outside the area of special education.

A district is required to provide the training to an educator who works primarily outside the area of special education only if the educator does not possess the knowledge and skills necessary to implement the individualized education program developed for a student receiving instruction from the educator. A district may determine the time and place at which the training is delivered.

In developing or maintaining the training, a district must consult with persons with expertise in research-based practices for students with disabilities, including colleges, universities, private and nonprofit organizations, regional education service centers, qualified district personnel, and any other persons identified as qualified by the district, regardless of whether the training is provided at the campus or district level.

Education Code 21.451(d)(2), (e)-(f)

Suicide Prevention

The required suicide prevention training may be satisfied through independent review of suicide prevention training material that complies with the guidelines developed by the Texas Education Agency (TEA) and is offered online. *Education Code 21.451(d-2); 19 TAC 153.1013(d)*

Suicide prevention programs on TEA's list of recommended best practice-based programs [see FFEB] must include components that provide for training school counselors, teachers, nurses, administrators, and other staff, as well as law enforcement officers and social workers who regularly interact with students, to:

1. Recognize students at risk of attempting suicide, including students who are or may be the victims of or who engage in bullying;

2. Recognize students displaying early warning signs and a possible need for early mental health or substance abuse intervention, which warning signs may include declining academic performance, depression, anxiety, isolation, unexplained changes in sleep or eating habits, and destructive behavior toward self and others;

3. Intervene effectively with students described above by providing notice and referral to a parent or guardian so appropriate action, such as seeking mental health or substance abuse services, may be taken by a parent or guardian; and

4. Assist students in returning to school following treatment of a mental health concern or suicide attempt.

A district shall provide training described in the components above for teachers, school counselors, principals, and all other appropriate personnel. A district is required to provide the training at an elementary school campus only to the extent that sufficient funding and programs are available. A school district may implement a program on TEA's list of recommended best practice-based programs [see FFEB] to satisfy this training requirement.

If a district provides the training, a district shall require completion in accordance with the district's professional development policy and maintain records that include district employees who participated in the training.

A district may satisfy a requirement to implement a program in the area of substance abuse prevention and intervention by providing instruction related to youth substance use and abuse education under Education Code 38.040. [See EHAC]

Education Code 38.351(e), (g), (g-1), (h); 19 TAC 153.1013

Staff Development Account

A district that receives resources from the commissioner of education's staff development account must pay to the commissioner for deposit in the account an amount equal to one-half of the cost of the resources provided to the district. *Education Code 21.453(c)*

Child Abuse, Trafficking, and Maltreatment

A district's methods for increasing awareness of issues regarding sexual abuse, sex trafficking, and other maltreatment of children [see District Improvement Plan at BQ and Sexual Abuse, Trafficking, and Maltreatment Policies and Programs at FFG] must include training concerning prevention techniques for and recognition of sexual abuse, sex trafficking, and all other maltreatment of children, including the sexual abuse, sex trafficking, and other maltreatment of children with significant cognitive disabilities.

The training must be provided in accordance with the district's professional development policy and as part of new employee orientation to all new employees.

The training must include:

1. Factors indicating a child is at risk for sexual abuse, trafficking, or other maltreatment;
2. Warning signs indicating a child may be a victim of sexual abuse, trafficking, or other maltreatment;
3. Internal procedures for seeking assistance for a child who is at risk for sexual abuse, trafficking, or other maltreatment, including referral to a school counselor, a social worker, or another mental health professional;
4. Techniques for reducing a child's risk of sexual abuse, trafficking, or other maltreatment; and
5. Information on community organizations that have relevant research-based programs and that are able to provide training or other education for district staff, students, and parents.

A district must maintain records that include staff members who participated in the training.

To the extent that resources are not yet available from TEA or the commissioner of education, districts shall implement the policies and trainings with existing or publicly available resources. The district may also work in conjunction with a community organization to provide the training at no cost to the district.

Education Code 38.0041(c)-(f); 19 TAC 103.1401(d)

Trauma-Informed Care

A district's efforts to increase awareness and implementation of trauma-informed care must include training to new and existing employees in accordance with the district's professional development policy. [See BQ, FFBA] *Education Code 38.036(c)*

Mental Health

A district shall require each district employee who regularly interacts with students enrolled at the district to complete an evidence-

based mental health training program designed to provide instruction to participants regarding the recognition and support of children and youth who experience a mental health or substance use issue that may pose a threat to school safety.

A district may not require a district employee who has previously completed mental health training offered by a local mental health authority under Health and Safety Code 1001.203 to complete the required training.

Education Code 22.904

To complete the required evidence-based mental health training program, personnel who regularly interact with students shall participate and complete the general training program, participate and complete the training program related to local school district practices and procedures, and submit and maintain supporting documentation of completion. *19 TAC 153.1015(b)*

Records

School districts shall require each district employee to provide the certificate of completion of the general training program to the school district.

Documentation of the training program related to local school district practices and procedures may be satisfied when the employee submits to the district an acknowledgement form signed by the employee who received the current training and a copy of the local procedures and practices that are published in the district handbook and/or district improvement plan.

Documentation of training for the mental health training program must be kept by the school district and made available to TEA upon request, which may include a reporting process, for the duration of the employee's employment with the district.

19 TAC 153.1015(f)(1)-(3)

Student Discipline

Each principal or other appropriate administrator who oversees student discipline shall, at least once every three school years, attend professional development training regarding Education Code Chapter 37, Subchapter G. The professional development shall include training relating to the distinction between a discipline management technique used at the principal's discretion under Education Code 37.002(a) and the discretionary authority of a teacher to remove a disruptive student under Education Code 37.002(b) [see FOA].

The professional development training may be provided in coordination with an education service center through the use of distance

learning methods, such as telecommunications networks, and using available TEA resources.

Education Code 37.0181

Test Administration

The commissioner may require training for district employees involved in the administration of assessment instruments. The commissioner may only require the employee at each district campus who oversees the administration of the assessment instruments to annually receive the training. The district employee who oversees test administration on a district campus may, with discretion, require other district employees involved in the administration of assessment instruments to repeat the training. *Education Code 39.0304(a), (b-1), (b-2)*

Cybersecurity

Employees identified by the district with access to a district computer system or database and who use a computer to perform at least 25 percent of the employee's required duties must complete a cybersecurity training program selected by the board. The district, in consultation with its cybersecurity coordinator, shall determine how frequently employees must complete the training. [See CQB] *Gov't Code 2054.5191(a-1); Education Code 11.175(h-1)*

Special Programs

A district shall ensure that:

Teacher Literacy Achievement Academies (Reading Academies)

1. Not later than the 2022-23 school year, each classroom teacher in kindergarten or first, second, or third grade and each principal at a campus with kindergarten or first, second, or third grade has attended a teacher literacy achievement academy developed under Education Code 21.4552; and

2. Each classroom teacher and each principal initially employed in a grade level or at a campus described above for the 2022-23 school year or a subsequent school year has attended a teacher literacy achievement academy developed under Education Code 21.4552 by the end of the teacher's or principal's first year of placement in that grade level or campus.

Education Code 28.0062(a)(2)

[See EHAB for kindergarten-grade 3 reading standards.]

Gifted and Talented Education

A district shall ensure that:

1. Prior to assignment in the program or within one semester of assignment, teachers who provide instruction and services that are a part of the program for gifted/talented students [see EHBB] have a minimum of 30 hours of professional learning that includes nature and needs of gifted/talented students, as-

sessing student needs, and curriculum and instruction for gifted/talented students;

2. Teachers who provide instruction and services that are a part of the program for gifted/talented students receive a minimum of six hours annually of professional learning in gifted/talented education; and

3. Administrators and counselors who have authority for program decisions have a minimum of six hours of professional learning that includes nature and needs of gifted/talented students and program options with an update after legislative sessions.

19 TAC 89.2

Elective Bible Course

A teacher of an elective Bible course offered under Education Code 28.011 [see EMI] must hold a certificate in language arts, social studies, or history that qualifies the teacher to teach at the grade level at which the course is offered with, where practical, a minor in religious or biblical studies. The teacher must successfully complete staff development training developed by the commissioner for elective Bible courses. An elective Bible course may be taught only by a teacher who has successfully completed the commissioner's training under Education Code 21.459. *Education Code 28.011(f)*

Texas English Language Proficiency Assessment System Training

The employee assigned to oversee the administration of the Texas English Language Proficiency Assessment System (TELPAS) at a district campus may, with discretion, require other district employees involved in administering the TELPAS to complete training or online calibration activities described by Education Code 21.4571(a). An employee may not be required to complete a training or online calibration activity in one sitting. *Education Code 21.4571(b), (c)*

Automated External Defibrillators

A district shall, in accordance with its professional development policy, make available to employees and volunteers instruction in the principles and techniques of cardiopulmonary resuscitation and the use of an automated external defibrillator (AED).

Each school nurse, assistant school nurse, athletic coach or sponsor, physical education instructor, marching band director, cheerleading coach, and any other employee specified by the commissioner, and each student who serves as an athletic trainer, must:

1. Participate in the instruction; and

2. Receive and maintain certification in the use of an AED from the American Heart Association, the American Red Cross, or a similar nationally recognized association.

Education Code 22.902

Extracurricular Activity Safety

The following persons must satisfactorily complete an extracurricular activity safety training program in accordance with the district's professional development policy:

1. A coach, trainer, or sponsor for an extracurricular athletic activity; and

2. A director responsible for a school marching band.

The safety training program must include:

1. Certification of participants by the American Red Cross, the American Heart Association, or a similar organization or by the University Interscholastic League;

2. Current training in:

   a. Emergency action planning;

   b. Communicating effectively with 9-1-1 emergency service operators and other emergency personnel; and

   c. Recognizing symptoms of potentially catastrophic injuries, including head and neck injuries, concussions, injuries related to second impact syndrome, asthma attacks, heatstroke, cardiac arrest, and injuries requiring use of a defibrillator; and

3. A safety drill that incorporates the training and simulates various injuries described above.

Education Code 33.202(b), (c); 19 TAC 76.1003

Records

A superintendent shall maintain complete and accurate records of the district's compliance and the district shall make available to the public proof of compliance for each person employed by or volunteering for the district who is required to receive safety training.

A campus that is determined by a superintendent to be out of compliance with the safety training requirements shall be subject to the range of penalties determined by the UIL.

Education Code 33.206; 19 TAC 76.1003(e)

Steroids

A district shall require that each employee who serves as an athletic coach at or above the seventh grade level for an extracurricular athletic activity sponsored or sanctioned by the UIL complete:

1. The educational program developed by the UIL regarding the health effects of steroids; or
2. A comparable program developed by the district or a private entity with relevant expertise.

Education Code 33.091(c-1)

Concussions

At least once every two years, the following employees shall take a training course from an authorized provider:

1. A coach of an interscholastic athletic activity shall take a course approved by the UIL that provides for not less than two hours of training in the subject matter of concussions, including evaluation, prevention, symptoms, risks, and long-term effects.
2. An athletic trainer who serves as a member of a district's concussion oversight team shall take a course concerning the subject matter of concussions that meets the requirements set by the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR).
3. A school nurse or licensed health-care professional, other than an athletic trainer, who serves as a member of a district's concussion oversight team shall take a course approved by the UIL for coaches or that meets the requirements set by TDLR for athletic trainers, or a course concerning the subject matter of concussions that has been approved for continuing education credit by the appropriate licensing authority for the profession.

The employee must submit proof of timely completion of an approved course to the superintendent or designee. A school nurse or licensed health-care professional who is not in compliance with these training requirements may not serve on a concussion oversight team in any capacity. [See FM]

Education Code 38.158

Seizure Recognition and Related First Aid

A school nurse employed by a district must complete a TEA-approved online course of instruction for school nurses regarding managing students with seizure disorders that includes information about seizure recognition and related first aid.

A district employee, other than a school nurse, whose duties at the school include regular contact with students must complete a TEA-approved online course of instruction for school personnel regard-

ing awareness of students with seizure disorders that includes information about seizure recognition and related first aid.

Education Code 38.033(a), (b)

[See FFAF for information about a seizure management and treatment plan.]

Identification

Child Find

A district shall ensure that all children residing within the district who have disabilities, regardless of the severity of their disabilities, and who are in need of special education and related services are identified, located, and evaluated. This requirement applies to:

1. Homeless children;
2. Children who are wards of the state;
3. Children attending private schools;
4. Highly mobile children (including migrant children); and
5. Children who are suspected of being in need of special education but who are advancing from grade to grade.

20 U.S.C. 1412(a)(3)(A); 34 C.F.R. 300.111(a)(1)(i), (c)

Private School Students

A district shall conduct a timely and meaningful consultation with private school representatives regarding the child find process and the provision of special education and related services to children enrolled in private schools in the district.

A district shall undertake activities similar to those undertaken for public school children and shall complete the child find process for children enrolled in private schools in a time period comparable to that for other students attending public schools in the district.

20 U.S.C. 1412(a)(10)(A)(ii)-(iv) [See EHBAC regarding students in nondistrict placement.]

Preschool Students

A district shall develop a system to notify district residents with children who are at least three and younger than six and who are eligible for enrollment in a special education program of the availability of the program. *Education Code 29.009*

Requests and Referrals for Evaluation

The screening of a student by a teacher or specialist to determine appropriate instructional strategies for curriculum implementation shall not be considered to be an evaluation for eligibility for special education and related services. *20 U.S.C. 1414(a)(1)(E)*

Multi-tiered System

Referral of students for a full individual and initial evaluation (FIIE) must be a part of the district's multi-tiered system of academic and behavioral supports. Students not making progress in the general education classroom should be considered for all interventions and support services available to all students; such as tutorial, compensatory, response to evidence-based intervention, and other academic or behavior support services.

The district cannot require a student to participate in interventions and support services for any specific length of time prior to a referral being made or an FIIE being conducted.

District Obligation to Refer

If the student continues to experience difficulty in the general education classroom with the provision of interventions and support services or at any time district personnel suspect a disability and a possible need for special education and related services, district personnel must refer the student for an FIIE.

A referral or request for an FIIE may be initiated at any time by school personnel, the student's parents or legal guardian, or another person involved in the education or care of the student. While an FIIE is being conducted, a student must continue to receive any necessary interventions and support services to target their academic or behavioral needs.

19 TAC 89.1011(a)

Prior Written Notice

Parent

If a parent submits a written request to a district's director of special education services or to a district administrative employee, such as a campus principal, for a FIIE of a student, the district shall, not later than the 15th school day after the date the district receives the request:

1. Provide the parent with prior written notice of its proposal to conduct an evaluation consistent with 34 C.F.R. 300.503, a copy of the procedural safeguards notice required by 34 C.F.R. 300.504, a copy of the Overview of Special Education for Parents form created by the Texas Education Agency (TEA), and an opportunity to give written consent for the evaluation; or

2. Provide the parent with prior written notice of its refusal to conduct an evaluation consistent with 34 C.F.R. 300.503, a copy of the Overview of Special Education for Parents form created by TEA, and a copy of the procedural safeguards notice required by 34 C.F.R. 300.504.

District

When a district initiates the referral for an FIIE of a student, the district must provide the parent with the information and materials described at item 1 above.

19 TAC 89.1011(b)-(c); Education Code 29.004(c); 20 U.S.C. 1414(a)(1); 34 C.F.R. 300.301

Notice of Rights

A reasonable time before a district proposes or refuses to initiate the identification, evaluation, or educational placement of a student or the provision of a free appropriate public education (FAPE) to a student, the district shall provide written notice to the student's parent or guardian. *20 U.S.C. 1415(b)(3); 34 C.F.R. 300.503(a)* [See EHBAE]

Initial Evaluation Required

A district shall conduct an FIIE before the initial provision of special education and related services. *20 U.S.C. 1414(a)(1)(A)*

Consent for Initial Evaluation

Before a district conducts an initial evaluation, it shall make reasonable efforts to obtain informed parental consent.

If the parent does not provide consent for an initial evaluation, or if the parent fails to respond to a request to provide consent, a district may, but is not required to, pursue the initial evaluation by utilizing due process procedures [see EHBAE], except to the extent inconsistent with state law relating to such parental consent.

Parental consent to initial evaluation shall not be construed as consent for placement for special education and related services.

20 U.S.C. 1414(a)(1)(D)(i)(I); 34 C.F.R. 300.300(b)

Wards of the State

If the child is a ward of the state and is not residing with the child's parent, a district shall make reasonable efforts to obtain the informed consent from the parent for an initial evaluation, unless:

1. Despite reasonable efforts to do so, the district cannot discover the whereabouts of the parent;
2. The rights of the parent have been terminated; or
3. The rights of the parent to make educational decisions have been subrogated and an individual appointed by a judge to represent the student has given consent for an initial evaluation.

20 U.S.C. 1414(a)(1)(D)(iii); 34 C.F.R. 300.300(a)(2)

Time Frame for Completion of Written Report

A district must complete the written report of a full individual and initial evaluation:

1. Not later than the 45th school day following the date on which the district receives written consent for the evaluation from the student's parent. If a student has been absent from school during that period on three or more school days, the period must be extended by a number of school days equal to the number of school days during that period on which the student has been absent; or
2. For students under five years of age by September 1 of the school year and not enrolled in public school and for students enrolled in a private or homeschool setting, not later than the 45th school day following the date on which the district receives written consent for the evaluation from the student's parent.

If a district receives written consent for the evaluation from the student's parent at least 35 but less than 45 school days before the last instructional day of the school year, the written report of a FIIE of a student must be provided to the student's parent not later than June 30 of that year.

If a district receives written consent for the evaluation from the student's parent at least 35 but less than 45 school days before the last instructional day of the school year but the student was absent three or more school days between the time that the school district received written consent and the last instructional day of the school year, the timeline in item 1 above applies to the date the written report of the FIIE must be completed.

If the district received the written consent for the evaluation from the student's parent less than 35 school days before the last day of the school year, the timeline in item 1, above, applies to the date the written report of the FIIE must be completed.

19 TAC 89.1011(d)-(e)

For purposes of the timelines under this provision, "school day" does not include a day that falls after the last instructional day of the spring school term and before the first instructional day of the subsequent fall school term. In the case of a school that operates under a school year calendar without spring and fall terms, a school day does not include a day that falls after the last instructional day of one school year and before the first instructional day of the subsequent school year. *19 TAC 89.1011(i)-(j)*

These time frames do not apply if the parent repeatedly fails or refuses to produce the child for the evaluation. *34 C.F.R. 300.301(d)(1)*

Transfer Students

A district shall ensure that evaluations of children who transfer from one district to another in the same academic year are coordinated with the children's prior and subsequent schools, as necessary and as expeditiously as possible, to ensure prompt completion of evaluations. *34 C.F.R. 300.304(c)(5)*

If a student was in the process of being evaluated for special education eligibility by a district and enrolls in another district before the previous district completed the FIIE, the new district must coordinate with the previous district as necessary and as expeditiously as possible to ensure a prompt completion of the evaluation in accordance with 34 C.F.R., 300.301(d)(2) and (e) and 300.304(c)(5).

The timelines above do not apply in such a situation if:

1. The new school district is making sufficient progress to ensure a prompt completion of the evaluation; and

2. The parent and the new school district agree to a specific time when the evaluation will be completed.

19 TAC 89.1011(f); Education Code 29.004; 20 U.S.C. 1414(a)(1)(C), (b)(3)(D); 34 C.F.R. 300.301(c)-(e)

Student Communication

The evaluation shall be conducted using procedures that are appropriate for the student's most proficient method of communication. *Education Code 29.004(b)*

Psychological Examinations

If a district determines that an additional examination or test is required for the initial and individual evaluation, the district shall provide the information required by Education Code 29.0041(a) and shall obtain additional parental consent. If a parent does not give consent within 20 calendar days after the district provided the information, the parent's consent is considered denied.

The time required for a district to provide information and seek consent may not be counted toward the time frame for completion of an evaluation. [See Time Frame for Completion of Written Report, above]

Education Code 29.0041

Eligibility and Reevaluations

A student is eligible to participate in a district's special education program if:

1. The student is between the ages of 3 and 21, inclusive;

2. The student has one or more of the disabilities listed in federal regulations, state law, or both; and

3. The student's disability(ies) prevents the student from being adequately or safely educated in the public schools without the provision of special services.

20 U.S.C. 1401(3); Education Code 29.003(b); 19 TAC 89.1035

Disability Definitions

To be eligible to receive special education services, a student must be a "child with a disability," as defined in 34 C.F.R. 300.8(a), subject to the provisions of 34 C.F.R. 300.8(c), Education Code Subchapter A, and 19 Administrative Code 89.1040. The provisions in 19 Administrative Code 89.1040 specify criteria to be used in determining whether a student's condition meets one or more of the definitions in federal regulations or in state law. *19 TAC 89.1040(a)*

[For additional information on special education of students with dyslexia and related disorders, see EHB.]

Visual and Auditory Impairments

Students with visual impairments or who are deaf or hard of hearing shall be eligible to participate in a district's special education program from birth. *19 TAC 89.1035(b); Education Code 30.002(e), .081*

Birth Through Age Two

Children from birth through the age of two with visual impairments (VI), who are deaf or hard of hearing (DHH), or who are deaf-blind (DB) must be enrolled at the parent's request by a district when the district becomes aware of a child needing services. The appropriate instructional arrangement [see EHBA] for students from birth through the age of two with VI, DHH, or DB shall be determined in accordance with the individualized family services plan, current attendance guidelines, and the agreement memorandum between TEA and Texas Health and Human Services Commission Early Childhood Intervention (ECI) Services. *19 TAC 89.1005(d)*

Determination of Initial Eligibility

Upon completion of the administration of assessments and other evaluation measures, a team of qualified professionals and the parent shall make the determination of whether the child has a disability and of the educational needs of the child.

A district shall provide a copy of the evaluation report and the documentation of determination of eligibility at no cost to the parent.

20 U.S.C. 1414(b)(4); 34 C.F.R. 300.306(a)

The admission, review, and dismissal (ARD) [see EHBAB] committee must make its decisions regarding a student's initial eligibility determination and, if appropriate, individualized education program (IEP) and placement within 30 calendar days from the date of the completion of the written FIIE report. If the 30th day falls during the summer and school is not in session, the ARD committee must meet not later than the 15th school day of the following school year to finalize decisions concerning the student's initial eligibility determination, and, if appropriate, IEP and placement. If the 30th day falls during the summer and school is not in session but an FIIE report indicates that the student would need extended school year services during that summer, the ARD committee must meet as expeditiously as possible after completion of the report.

Parent Copy

A copy of the written FIIE report must be provided to the parent as soon as possible after completion of the report but no later than five school days prior to the initial ARD committee meeting, which will determine a student's initial eligibility, or not later than June 30 if the district received the written consent for the evaluation from the student's parent at least 35 but less than 45 school days before the last instructional day of the school year.

19 TAC 89.1011(g)-(h); Education Code 29.004(a-1)

[For additional information regarding the evaluation and identification process when dyslexia is a suspected disability, see EHB.]

Consent for Services

Initial Provision of Services

A district must obtain informed consent from the parent for the initial provision of special education and related services. If the parent of a child fails to respond to a request for, or refuses to consent to, the initial provision of services, the district:

1. May not use the procedures in 34 C.F.R. part 300 subpart E (including the mediation and due process procedures) in order to obtain agreement or a ruling that the services may be provided to the child;
2. Will not be considered to be in violation of the requirement to make FAPE available to the child for the failure to provide the services for which the district requests consent; and
3. Is not required to convene an ARD meeting or develop an IEP for the child for the services.

Revoking Consent

If, at any time after the provision of initial services, the parent of a child revokes consent in writing for the continued provision of services, the district:

1. May not continue to provide services to the child, but must provide prior written notice before ceasing services;
2. May not use the procedures in 34 C.F.R. part 300 subpart E in order to obtain agreement or a ruling that the services may be provided to the child;
3. Will not be considered to be in violation of the requirement to make FAPE available to the child because of the failure to provide the child with further services; and
4. Is not required to convene an ARD meeting or develop an IEP for further provision of services.

34 C.F.R. 300.300(b)

Reevaluations

A district shall ensure that each child with a disability is reevaluated if the district determines that the educational or related services needs of the child, including improved academic achievement and functional performance, warrant a reevaluation, or if the child's parent or teacher requests a reevaluation.

Reevaluation shall occur:

1. No more than once a year, unless the parent and the district agree otherwise; and

2. At least once every three years, unless the parent and district agree that a reevaluation is unnecessary.

A district shall obtain informed parental consent before conducting a reevaluation, except that informed parental consent is not needed if the district can demonstrate that it has taken reasonable measures to obtain consent and the child's parent has failed to respond.

20 U.S.C. 1414(a)(2), (c)(3); 34 C.F.R. 300.303

Evaluation for Change in Eligibility

A district must evaluate a child with a disability before determining that the child is no longer a child with a disability. However, an evaluation is not required before the termination of eligibility due to graduation from secondary school with a regular diploma or due to exceeding the age eligibility for FAPE under state law. If a child's eligibility terminates under the aforementioned circumstances, a district must provide a summary of academic achievement and functional performance, which shall include recommendations on how to assist the child in meeting the child's postsecondary goals. *34 C.F.R. 300.305(e); 20 U.S.C. 1414(c)(5)*

[See EIF(LEGAL) at Summary of Academic Achievement and Evaluation.]

Independent Evaluation

The parents have a right to obtain an independent educational evaluation of their child. If a parent requests an independent evaluation, a district shall provide the parents with information regarding where one can be obtained and the district's criteria for independent evaluations.

The results of a parent-initiated independent educational evaluation, whether at public or private expense, must be considered by the district if it meets the district's criteria, in any decision made with respect to providing FAPE to the child.

At Public Expense

If a parent requests an independent evaluation at public expense, the district shall, without unnecessary delay, either:

1. File a due process complaint to request a hearing to show that its evaluation is appropriate; or

2. Ensure that an independent evaluation is provided at public expense, unless the district demonstrates that the evaluation obtained by the parent did not meet district criteria.

At Private Expense

If a district initiates a hearing, and the final decision is that the district's evaluation is appropriate, the parent still has a right to an independent evaluation, but not at public expense.

34 C.F.R. 300.502

Prescription Medication

An employee of a district is prohibited from requiring a child to obtain a prescription for a substance covered under the federal Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 801 et seq.) as a condition of attending school, receiving an evaluation for special education, or receiving special education and related services.

Observations

An employee is not prohibited from consulting or sharing classroom-based observations with parents regarding a student's academic and functional performance, behavior in the classroom or school, or the need for evaluation for special education or related services.

20 U.S.C. 1412(a)(25)

Transition Services Defined

"Transition services" means a coordinated set of activities for a child with a disability that:

1. Is designed to be within a results-oriented process, that is focused on improving the academic and functional achievement of the child to facilitate the child's movement from school to post-school activities, including postsecondary education, vocational education, integrated employment (including supported employment), continuing and adult education, adult services, independent living, or community participation.
2. Is based on the individual child's needs, taking into account the child's strengths, preferences, and interests.
3. Includes instruction, related services, community experiences, the development of employment and other post-school adult living objectives, and if appropriate, acquisition of daily living skills and functional vocational evaluation.

20 U.S.C. 1401(34); 34 C.F.R. 300.43

Individual Transition Planning

14 Years of Age

Not later than the first individualized education program (IEP) to be in effect when a student turns 14 years of age, the admission, review, and dismissal (ARD) committee must consider, and if appropriate, address the following issues in the IEP:

1. Appropriate student involvement in the student's transition to life outside the public school system;
2. Appropriate involvement in the student's transition by the student's parents and other persons invited to participate by the student's parents or the district in which the student is enrolled;
3. Appropriate postsecondary education options, including preparation for postsecondary-level coursework;
4. An appropriate functional vocational evaluation;
5. Appropriate circumstances for facilitating a referral of a student or the student's parents to a governmental agency for services or public benefits, including a referral to a governmental agency to place the student on a waiting list for public benefits available to the student, such as a waiver program established under Section 1915(c), Social Security Act [42 U.S.C. 1396n(c)]; and
6. The use and availability of appropriate supplementary aids, services, curricula, and other opportunities to assist the student in developing decision-making skills; and supports and services to foster the student's independence and self-deter-

mination, including a supported decision-making agreement under Estates Code Chapter 1357.

Beginning not later than the first IEP to be in effect when the student turns 14 years of age, or younger if determined appropriate by the ARD committee, the IEP must include:

1. Appropriate measurable postsecondary goals based upon age-appropriate transition assessments related to training, education, employment, and, where appropriate, independent living skills; and

2. The transition services, including courses of study, needed to assist the student in reaching the postsecondary goals .

18 Years of Age

Beginning not later than the first IEP to be in effect when the student turns 18 years of age, the ARD committee must consider and, if appropriate, address the following issues in the student's IEP:

1. Involvement in the student's transition and future by the student's parents and other persons, if the parent or other person:

   a. Is invited to participate by the student or the district in which the student is enrolled; or

   b. Has the student's consent to participate pursuant to a supported decision-making agreement under Estates Code Chapter 1357; and

2. The availability of age-appropriate instructional environments, including community settings or environments that prepare the student for postsecondary education or training, competitive integrated employment, or independent living, in coordination with the student's transition goals and objectives.

Annual Review

A student's ARD committee shall review at least annually the issues described above and, if necessary, update the portions of the student's IEP that address those issues.

[See EHBAB regarding membership of ARD committee for transition services meetings.]

19 TAC 89.1055(k)-(o); 20 U.S.C. 1414(d)(1)(A)(i)(VIII), 1414(d)(6); 34 C.F.R. 300.320(b); Education Code 29.011(a-1), .0111

Transition and Employment Designee

The transition and employment designee required of each district must complete the required training as developed by the commissioner of education and provide information about transition requirements and coordination among parents, students, and appro-

priate state agencies to ensure that school staff can communicate and collaborate effectively. *19 TAC 89.1075(i)*

Transition and Employment Guide

The Texas Education Agency (TEA) is required to develop a transition and employment guide for students enrolled in special education programs and their parents to provide information on statewide services and programs that assist in the transition to life outside the public school system. A school district shall:

1. Post the transition and employment guide on the district's website if the district maintains a website;
2. Provide written information and, if necessary, assistance to a student or parent regarding how to access the electronic version of the guide at:
    a. The first meeting of the student's ARD committee at which transition is discussed; and
    b. The first committee meeting at which transition is discussed that occurs after the date on which the guide is updated; and
3. On request, provide a printed copy of the guide to a student or parent.

Education Code 29.0112(a), (e)

Graduation

Graduation under 19 Administrative Code 89.1070(b)(1), or reaching maximum age eligibility described by 19 Administrative Code 89.1035 (Age Ranges for Student Eligibility) terminates a student's eligibility for special education services. For students who graduate and receive a diploma according to 19 Administrative Code 89.1070(b)(2) or (b)(3)(A), (B), or (C), the ARD committee must determine needed special education services upon the request of the student or parent to resume services, as long as the student meets the age requirements. *19 TAC 89.1070(a), (j)* [See EHBAA]

Graduation from high school with a regular diploma constitutes a change in placement that requires written prior notice to parents.

A district is not required to conduct an evaluation before termination of eligibility due to graduation from secondary school with a regular high school diploma or due to exceeding the age eligibility for FAPE under state law.

A district shall provide the child with a summary of the child's academic achievement and functional performance, which shall in-

clude recommendations on how to assist the child in meeting the child's postsecondary goals.

[See EIF]

20 U.S.C. 1414(c)(5); 34 C.F.R. 300.102(a)(3), .305(e)(2)

Driving with Disability Program

A district shall provide information regarding the Texas Driving with Disability Program to students who have a health condition or disability that may impede effective communication with a peace officer and who receive special education services or who are covered by Section 504 and their parents.

The information shall be provided to each student who is 16 years of age or older and annually until the earlier of the student's graduation from high school or 21st birthday.

Education Code 29.0113(a)-(b)

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Parental Consent Not Required

An employee of a district is not required to obtain the consent of a child's parent before the employee may make a videotape of a child or authorize the recording of a child's voice if the videotape or voice recording is to be used for a purpose related to the promotion of student safety under Education Code 29.022. *Education Code 26.009(b)*

Video Surveillance of Special Education Settings

In order to promote student safety, on receipt of an authorized written request, a district shall provide equipment, including a video camera, to the campus in the district specified in the request.

Classroom or Other Setting

A campus that receives equipment shall place, operate, and maintain one or more video cameras in self-contained classrooms and other special education settings in which a majority of the students in regular attendance are provided special education and related services and are assigned to one or more self-contained classrooms or other special education settings for at least 50 percent of the instructional day, provided that:

1. A campus that receives equipment as a result of the request by a parent or staff member is required to place equipment only in classrooms or settings in which the parent's child is in regular attendance or to which the staff member is assigned, as applicable; and

2. A campus that receives equipment as a result of the request by a board of trustees, principal, or assistant principal is required to place equipment only in classrooms or settings identified by the requestor, if the requestor limits the request to specific classrooms or settings subject to Education Code 29.022.

Education Code 29.022(a)

Definitions

“Incident” means an event or circumstance that:

Incident

1. Involves alleged “abuse” or “neglect,” as described in Family Code 261.001, of a student by a staff member of the district or alleged “physical abuse” or “sexual abuse,” as described in Family Code 261.410, of a student by another student; and

2. Allegedly occurred in a self-contained classroom or other special education setting in which video surveillance under Education Code 29.022 and 19 Administrative Code 103.1301 is conducted.

Other Special Education Setting

“Other special education setting” means a classroom on a separate campus (i.e., a campus that serves only students who receive special education and related services) of a district—including a room attached to the classroom or setting used for time-out—in which a

majority of the students in regular attendance are provided special education and related services, are assigned to the setting for at least 50 percent of the instructional day, and have one of the following instructional arrangements/settings described in the student attendance accounting handbook:

1. Residential care and treatment facility—separate campus; or
2. Off home campus—separate campus.

Parent "Parent" means a person described in Education Code 26.002, whose child receives special education and related services in one or more self-contained classrooms or other special education settings. "Parent" also means a student who receives special education and related services in one or more self-contained classrooms or other special education settings and who is 18 years of age or older or whose disabilities of minority have been removed for general purposes under Family Code, Chapter 31, unless the student has been determined to be incompetent or the student's rights have been otherwise restricted by a court order.

School Business Day "School business day" means a day that campus or district administrative offices are open.

Self-contained Classroom "Self-contained classroom" means a classroom on a regular campus (i.e., a campus that serves students in general education and students in special education), including a room attached to the classroom used for time-out, but not including a classroom that is a resource room instructional arrangement under Education Code 48.102, in which a majority of the students in regular attendance are provided special education and related services for at least 50 percent of the instructional day and have one of the following instructional arrangements/settings described in the student attendance accounting handbook:

1. Self-contained (mild/moderate/severe) regular campus;
2. Full-time early childhood (preschool program for children with disabilities) special education setting;
3. Residential care and treatment facility—self-contained (mild/moderate/severe) regular campus;
4. Residential care and treatment facility—full-time early childhood special education setting;
5. Off home campus—self-contained (mild/moderate/severe) regular campus; or
6. Off home campus—full-time early childhood special education setting.

Staff Member "Staff member" means a teacher, a related service provider, a paraprofessional, a counselor, or an educational aide assigned to work in the self-contained classroom or other special education setting.

Time-out "Time-out" has the meaning assigned by Education Code 37.0021.

Video Camera "Video camera" means a video surveillance camera with audio recording capabilities.

Video Equipment "Video equipment" means one or more video cameras and any technology and equipment needed to place, operate, and maintain video cameras as required by Education Code 29.022 and 19 Administrative Code 103.1301. "Video equipment" also means any technology and equipment needed to store and access video recordings as required.

19 TAC 103.1301(b); Education Code 29.022

Administrative Coordinator

Each district shall designate an administrator at the primary administrative office of the district with responsibility for coordinating the provision of equipment to schools and campuses. *Education Code 29.022(a-2)*

Authorized Requestors

The following people may request in writing that equipment be provided to a campus at which one or more children receive special education services in a qualifying classroom or setting:

1. A parent of a child who receives special education services for the campus at which the child receives those services;
2. The board of trustees for one or more specified campuses;
3. The principal or assistant principal for their campus; and
4. A staff member assigned to work with one or more children receiving special education services for the campus at which the staff member works.

Education Code 29.022(a-1)

Processing the Request

A written request must be submitted and acted on as follows:

1. A parent, staff member, or assistant principal must submit a request to the principal or the principal's designee of the campus addressed in the request, and the principal or designee must provide a copy of the request to the district's designated administrator;
2. A principal must submit a request by the principal to the district's designated administrator; and

3. A board of trustees must submit a request to the district's designated administrator, and the administrator must provide a copy of the request to the principal or the principal's designee of the campus addressed in the request.

A campus shall operate and maintain the camera in the classroom or setting as long as the classroom or setting continues to satisfy these requirements, for the remainder of the school year in which the campus received the request, unless the requestor withdraws the request in writing.

Education Code 29.022(a-3)-(b)

Video Camera Coverage

The video cameras must be capable of:

1. Covering all areas of the classroom or setting, including a room attached to the classroom or setting used for time-out; and

2. Recording audio from all areas of the classroom or setting, including a room attached to the classroom or setting used for time-out.

The inside of a bathroom or any area in the classroom or other special education setting in which a student's clothes are changed may not be visually monitored, except for incidental coverage of a minor portion of a bathroom or changing area because of the layout of the classroom or setting.

Education Code 29.022(c)-(c-1)

Written Notice

Before a campus activates a video camera in a classroom or special education setting, the campus shall provide written notice of the placement to all campus staff and to the parents of each student attending class or engaging in school activities in the classroom or setting.

If for any reason a campus will discontinue operation of a video camera during a school year, not later than the fifth school day before the date the operation of the video camera will be discontinued, the campus must notify the parents of each student in regular attendance in the classroom or setting that operation of the video camera will not continue unless requested by a person eligible to make a request. Not later than the 10th school day before the end of each school year, the campus must notify the parents of each student in regular attendance in the classroom or setting that operation of the video camera will not continue during the following

school year unless a person eligible to make a request for the next school year submits a new request.

Education Code 29.022(b), (d)

Retention Period

A district shall retain video recorded from a video camera for at least three months after the date the video was recorded.

If a person requests to view a video recording from a video camera, a district must retain the recording from the date of receipt of the request until the person has viewed the recording and a determination has been made as to whether the recording documents an alleged incident. If the recording documents an alleged incident, the district or campus shall retain the recording until the alleged incident has been resolved, including the exhaustion of all appeals.

Education Code 29.022(e)-(e-1)

Gifts, Grants, and Donations

A district may solicit and accept gifts, grants, and donations from any person to implement the requirements of Education Code 29.022 and 19 Administrative Code 103.1301. A district is not permitted to use Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, Part B, funds or state special education funds to implement these requirements. *19 TAC 103.1301(d)*

No Waiver of Immunity

The requirements described by Education Code 29.022 do not:

1. Waive any immunity from liability of a district, or of district officers or employees; or
2. Create any liability for a cause of action against a district or against district officers or employees.

No Monitoring

A district may not:

1. Allow regular or continual monitoring of video recorded under Education Code 29.022; or
2. Use video for teacher evaluation or for any other purpose other than the promotion of safety of students receiving special education services.

Education Code 29.022(g)-(h)

Confidentiality

A video recording of a student made under this provision is confidential and may not be released or viewed except as provided below.

Limited Release

A district shall release a recording for viewing by:

1. An employee who is involved in an alleged incident that is documented by the recording and has been reported to the district, on request of the employee;

2. A parent of a student who is involved in an alleged incident that is documented by the recording and has been reported to the district or campus, on request of the parent;

3. Appropriate Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS) personnel as part of an investigation of alleged or suspected abuse or neglect of a child under Family Code 261.406;

4. A peace officer, a school nurse, a district administrator trained in de-escalation and restraint techniques as provided by commissioners rule, or a human resources staff member designated by the board in response to a report of an alleged incident or an investigation of district personnel or a report of alleged abuse committed by a student; or

5. Appropriate agency or State Board for Educator Certification personnel or agents as part of an investigation.

A contractor or employee performing job duties relating to the installation, operation, or maintenance of video equipment or the retention of video recordings who incidentally views a video recording does not violate these confidentiality provisions.

Education Code 29.022(i)-(i-1); 19 TAC 103.1301(h)-(i)

Duty to Report

If a person described by item 4 or 5, above, views a video recording and has cause to believe that the recording documents possible abuse or neglect of a child under Family Code Chapter 261, the person must submit a report to the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services or other authority in accordance with the local policy adopted under 19 Administrative Code 61.1051 (Reporting Child Abuse and Neglect) and Family Code Chapter 261.

Note: 19 Administrative Code 61.1051 was repealed and the requirements were recodified at 19 Administrative Code 103.1401. [See FFG]

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19 TAC 103.1301(j); Education Code 29.022(j)

Use in Disciplinary Actions Against District Personnel

If a person described by items 3, 4, or 5, above, views the recording and believes that it documents a possible violation of district or campus policy, the person may allow access to the recording to appropriate legal and human resources personnel of the district to the extent not limited by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy

Act (FERPA) or other law. A recording believed to document a possible violation of district policy relating to the neglect or abuse of a student may be used in a disciplinary action against district personnel and must be released in a legal proceeding at the request of a parent of the student involved in the incident documented by the recording. A recording believed to document a possible violation of district policy relating to the neglect or abuse of a student must be released for viewing by the district employee who is the subject of the disciplinary action at the request of the employee. *19 TAC 103.1301(k)*

Federal Law / FERPA

19 Administrative Code 103.1301(j) (child abuse reporting) and (k) (disciplinary actions against personnel) do not limit the access of a student's parent to a record regarding the student under FERPA or other law. To the extent any provisions in Education Code 29.022 and 19 Administrative Code 103.1301 conflict with FERPA or other federal law, federal law prevails. *19 TAC 103.1301(l)*

District Policy

A district must adopt written policies relating to the placement, operation, and maintenance of video cameras under Education Code 29.022 and 19 Administrative Code 103.1301. At a minimum, the policies must include:

1. A statement that video surveillance is for the purpose of promoting student safety in certain self-contained classrooms and other special education settings;

2. Information on how a person may appeal an action by the district that the person believes to be in violation of this section or a policy adopted in accordance with this section, including the appeal and expedited review processes under 19 Administrative Code 103.1303 (Commissioner's Review of Actions Concerning Video Cameras in Special Education Settings) and the appeals process under Education Code 7.057;

3. A requirement that the district provide a response to a request made under this section not later than the seventh school business day after receipt of the request by the person to whom it must be submitted under Education Code 29.022(a-3) (at Limited Release, above) that authorizes the request or states the reason for denying the request;

4. Except as provided by item 6 of this provision, a requirement that a campus begin operation of a video camera in compliance with this provision not later than the 45th school business day, or the first school day after the 45th school business day if that day is not a school day, after the request is authorized unless the Texas Education Agency (TEA) grants an extension of time;

5. A provision permitting the parent of a student whose admission, review, and dismissal (ARD) committee has determined that the student's placement for the following school year will be in a classroom or other special education setting in which a video camera may be placed under this section to make a request for the video camera by the later of:

    a. The date on which the current school year ends; or

    b. The 10th school business day after the date of the placement determination by the ARD committee;

6. A requirement that, if a request is made by a parent in compliance with item 5 of this provision, unless TEA grants an extension of time, a campus begins operation of a video camera in compliance with this provision not later than the later of:

    a. The 10th school day of the fall semester; or

    b. The 45th school business day, or the first school day after the 45th school business day if that day is not a school day, after the date the request is made;

7. The procedures for requesting video surveillance and the procedures for responding to a request for video surveillance;

8. The procedures for providing advanced written notice to the campus staff and the parents of the students assigned to a self-contained classroom or other special education setting that video and audio surveillance will be conducted or cease in the classroom or setting, including procedures for notice, in compliance with Education Code 29.022(b), of the opportunity to request continued video and audio surveillance if video and audio surveillance will otherwise cease;

9. A requirement that video cameras be operated at all times during the instructional day when one or more students are present in a self-contained classroom or other special education setting in which video cameras are placed;

10. A statement regarding the personnel who will have access to video equipment or video recordings for purposes of operating and maintaining the equipment or recordings;

11. A requirement that a campus continue to operate and maintain any video camera placed in a self-contained classroom or other special education setting for as long as the classroom or setting continues to satisfy the requirements in Education Code 29.022(a), for the remainder of the school year in which

the campus received the request, unless the requester withdraws the request in writing;

12. A requirement that video cameras placed in a self-contained classroom or other special education setting be capable of recording video and audio of all areas of the classroom or setting, except that no visual monitoring of bathrooms and areas in which a student's clothes are changed may occur. Incidental visual coverage of the inside of a bathroom or any area of the classroom or other special education setting in which a student's clothes are changed is permitted only to the extent that such coverage is the result of the layout of the classroom or setting. Audio recording of the inside of a bathroom or any area of the classroom or other special education setting in which a student's clothes are changed is required;

13. A statement that video recordings must be retained for at least three months after the date the video was recorded and that video recordings will be maintained in accordance with the requirements of Education Code 29.022(e-1), when applicable;

14. A statement that the regular or continual monitoring of video is prohibited and that video recordings must not be used for teacher evaluation or monitoring or for any purpose other than the promotion of student safety;

15. At the district's discretion, a requirement that campuses post a notice at the entrance of any self-contained classroom or other special education setting in which video cameras are placed stating that video and audio surveillance are conducted in the classroom or setting;

16. The procedures for reporting an allegation to the district that an incident occurred in a self-contained classroom or other special education setting in which video surveillance under Education Code 29.022 and 19 Administrative Code 103.1301 is conducted;

17. The local grievance procedures for filing a complaint alleging violations of Education Code 29.022, and/or 19 Administrative Code 103.1301; and

18. A statement that video recordings made under Education Code 29.022 and 19 Administrative Code 103.1301 are confidential and a description of the limited circumstances under which the recordings may be viewed.

19 TAC 103.1301(g)

Governmental Record

A video recording under this section is a governmental record only for purposes of Penal Code 37.10.

Operation of Camera

These provisions apply to the placement, operation, and maintenance of a video camera in a self-contained classroom or other special education setting during the regular school year and extended school year services.

A video camera placed under this section is not required to be in operation for the time during which students are not present in the classroom or other special education setting.

Education Code 29.022(s)-(t)

Exclusions

A district is not required to provide video equipment to a campus of another district or charter school or to a nonpublic school. *19 TAC 103.1301(c)*

Dispute Resolution

The special education dispute resolution procedures in 34 Code of Federal Regulations 300.151-.153 and 300.504-.515 do not apply to complaints alleging that a district has failed to comply with Education Code 29.022 and 19 Administrative Code 103.1301. Complaints alleging violations of those sections must be addressed through the district's local grievance procedures or other dispute resolution channels. *19 TAC 103.1301(e)*

Denial of Request

The following standards and procedures apply to a denial of a request for placement of a video camera under Education Code 29.022(a), or to the denial of a request to release a video or to view a video made under Education Code 29.022(i) or (l)(2).

Exhaustion of Administrative Remedies

Once a request for placement of a video camera or a request to release a video is administratively denied, the requester must exhaust administrative remedies through the district's grievance process even if the requester opts for the expedited review process. However, a district, parent, staff member, or administrator may request an expedited review even before the local remedies are exhausted.

After local remedies are exhausted by filing a grievance with the board and obtaining a board determination, the requester may appeal the denial to the commissioner of education under Education Code 7.057 by filing a petition for review.

Proper Request

In a case where there is a denial of a request for the placement of a video camera, the commissioner will determine whether the person requesting placement is a person allowed to request placement under Education Code 29.022(a-1) (see Limited Release, above) and whether the requester made a proper request under Education Code 29.022(a-3) (see Processing the Request, above).

Cost The commissioner will not consider the cost to the district of installing cameras or releasing video.

Release Determination In a case where there is a denial of a request to release a video, the commissioner will determine whether the requester is a person allowed to receive a video under Education Code 29.022(i) (described at Limited Release, above).

Timelines for Petition for Review The following timelines are established for filing a petition for review:

1. A petition for review shall be filed with the commissioner within 10 calendar days of the decision of the board denying the request being first communicated to the requester or requester's counsel, whichever occurs first. The petition for review shall be made in accordance with 19 Administrative Code 157.1073(c) (hearings brought under Education Code 7.057) and may include a request for expedited review.
2. The district's answer and local record shall comply with 19 Administrative Code 157.1052(b) and (c) and 19 Administrative Code 157.1073(d) and shall be filed with the commissioner within 10 calendar days of the district receiving notification from the commissioner of the appeal.
3. The procedures specified in 19 Administrative Code 157.1059; .1061; and .1073(e)-(h), (j), and (k) apply to a case brought to the commissioner under this section.

Expedited Review A request for expedited review is governed by the following.

1. The expedited review process is designed to allow a requester to promptly receive a preliminary judgment from the commissioner as to a decision to deny a request for the installation of cameras or a decision to deny a request to release a video while at the same time respecting the school grievance process. The expedited review process does not apply to a request to only view a video. Invoking the expedited review process results in a prompt initial determination. However, the final commissioner's determination is to be based on a substantial evidence review of the district's grievance record. This allows for a full record to be developed at the district level and does not require the requester and the district to make an evidentiary record before TEA in Austin, Texas. Because the requirements of Education Code 7.057 are met when the board's decision is heard by the commissioner, an appeal to district court is allowed under Education Code 7.057(d). Education Code 29.022 does not by itself allow an appeal to district court.

2. A district, parent, staff member, or administrator may request an expedited review. Any request for an expedited review shall include the names, telephone numbers, and addresses of all interested parties to the request. “Interested parties” are all persons who brought the grievance, all persons who have testified or provided written statements as part of the grievance process, and the district. The request for expedited review shall specify whether the district denied a request for the placement of a video camera or the district denied a request to release a video and briefly describe why that decision is either correct or incorrect.

3. A request for expedited review shall be filed with the commissioner no earlier than 14 business days after a request for placement of a video camera or a request to release a video is administratively denied under Education Code 29.022(i) or (l)(2) (see Limited Release and Process, above), and no later than the fifth business day after a board resolves a grievance as to a request for placement of a video camera or a request to release a video. A request for expedited review shall be filed with the commissioner electronically as provided on TEA’s Division of Hearings and Appeals website or by U.S. Mail, facsimile, hand-delivery, or by a commercial delivery service.

4. Whenever an interested party files a document with the commissioner, with the exception of the request for expedited review, the interested party shall send the same document to all other interested parties by the same method that the document was sent to the commissioner. Hand-delivery of the document by the next day may be substituted for service by facsimile delivery.

5. If a request for expedited review is timely filed, the commissioner will establish a briefing schedule and will send to all interested parties a notice that an expedited review has been filed, which will include relevant statutes and rules. Any interested party who knows of any additional interested parties who have not been notified will promptly inform the commissioner in writing.

6. All briefing shall clearly state the facts relied upon. Documents relevant to the issues presented may be attached to a brief. All briefing shall provide the reasons why the commissioner should or should not grant the request for expedited review. Citations to statutes, rules, commissioner decisions, and case law are important to identify the legal basis for the claims made.

7. All interested parties who are in favor of granting the request for expedited review shall file briefing at the time specified for the requester of the expedited review.

8. All interested parties who are opposed to granting the request for expedited review shall file briefing at the same time.

9. Briefing is not limited to the issues specifically raised in the pleadings in the case. However, no new arguments may be raised in the reply briefs. Reply briefs may contain new citations to the record and legal authority as to issues previously raised.

10. A preliminary judgment shall be issued based on the briefing of the interested parties. The preliminary judgment will be sent to the requestor, the district, and all interested parties. If it is determined that a district is not likely to prevail on the issue of a request for the placement of video cameras or the issue of a request to view a video under full review, the district will fully comply with Education Code 29.022.

11. After a preliminary judgment is made, a final judgment will be made in accordance with the procedures set forth in 19 Administrative Code 103.1303(b)(1)-(5) (the Denial of Request Review process).

19 TAC 103.1303(b)

Extension of Time

A request by a district for an extension of time to begin the operation of a video camera under Education Code 29.022 shall be made and decided using the following procedures.

Request

Any request by a district for an extension of time to begin the operation of a video camera shall be filed with the commissioner prior to the 45th school business day after a request to begin operating a video camera is received. However, a district should request an extension of time as soon as it determines that an extension of time should be filed.

A request for an extension of time to begin the operation of a video camera shall specify why an extension of time should be granted. The request shall include affidavits supporting any factual claims made in the request and reference any legal authority as to why the request should be granted. The request may include a request for expedited review. The request shall name the individual who requested the installation of cameras and provide the individual's address and telephone number. Immediately following the individual's address and telephone number there shall appear in bold type: "You have been identified as the individual who requested the operation of a video camera that is the subject of this request to the

commissioner of education to extend the statutory timeline. You may, but are not required to, participate in the proceedings before the commissioner concerning the school district's request for an extension of time. It is entirely up to you whether and to what extent you wish to participate in these proceedings. The procedures governing these proceedings are found at 19 Texas Administrative Code 103.1303(c) and Texas Education Code 29.022."

A request for an extension of time to begin the operation of a video camera shall list the names, telephone numbers, and addresses of all interested parties to the request. All interested parties include all parents of students in the classroom or other special education setting for which a video camera has been requested and all staff who provided services in a classroom for which a video camera has been requested.

Filing Documents All documents in a case shall be filed with the Division of Hearings and Appeals, Texas Education Agency, 1701 N. Congress Ave., Austin, Texas 78701, facsimile number (512) 475-3662. Documents shall be filed electronically as provided on the division's website or by mail, delivery, or facsimile. All documents must be actually received by the Division of Hearings and Appeals by the date specified in this section. The mailbox rule does not apply to filings in a case filed under this subsection. Electronic filing is strongly encouraged.

All filings in a case shall be sent to the district, the individual who initially requested the installation of the cameras, and all interested parties who have filed a request to receive documents filed in the case by the same method as the request is filed with the commissioner. Due to the requirements of FERPA, the names, telephone numbers, and addresses of parents and other publicly identifiable student information may not be given to the interested parties. The copies of the filings sent to interested parties shall be redacted to remove all personally identifiable student information.

Filing Responses Any response to a request for an extension of time to begin the operation of a video camera shall be filed with the commissioner by an interested party within 10 calendar days of the filing of the request. If no response to the request is timely filed, the commissioner shall issue a final decision within 20 calendar days of the filing of the request.

A response to a request for an extension of time to begin the operation of a video camera shall specify why an extension of time should or should not be granted. The response shall include affidavits concerning any factual claims made in the request and reference any legal authority as to why the request should or should not

be granted. The response may include a request for expedited review.

Expedited Review

A request for expedited review must be filed with the commissioner within 10 calendar days of the filing of the request for an extension of time to begin the operation of a video camera. If a request for expedited review is made, all interested parties shall be notified that they have been identified as interested parties in the request for an extension of time to begin the operation of a video camera. In particular, the interested parties will be informed that it is their choice whether to participate in the proceedings before the commissioner, that it is entirely up to them to determine to what extent they wish to participate in the proceedings, that the procedures governing these proceedings are found in 19 Administrative Code 103.1303 and Education Code 29.022, and that upon their written request filed with the commissioner they will be sent all filings in this case.

If a request for an expedited review is not made, the commissioner shall issue a final decision within 45 calendar days of the filing of the request for an extension of time to begin the operation of a video camera, unless the commissioner determines that an evidentiary hearing would be helpful in deciding the issues raised. If the commissioner decides to hold an evidentiary hearing, the commissioner shall establish the timelines and procedures to be used. Whether to conduct the hearing by telephone or other electronic methods will be considered.

If a request for expedited review is made, the following procedures shall be followed:

1. Any reply by the district to any response to the request shall be filed with the commissioner within 25 calendar days of the filing of the request for an extension of time to begin the operation of a video camera.
2. A preliminary judgment shall be made by the commissioner within 35 calendar days of the filing of the request for an extension of time to begin the operation of a video camera.
3. Any interested party or the district may file objections to the preliminary judgment within 40 calendar days of the filing of the request for an extension of time to begin the operation of a video camera.
4. Any reply to an objection to a preliminary judgment must be filed within 45 calendar days of the filing of a request for an extension of time to begin the operation of a video camera.

5. The commissioner shall issue a final decision within 55 calendar days of the filing of the request for an extension of time to begin the operation of a video camera, unless the commissioner determines that an evidentiary hearing would be helpful in deciding the issues raised. If the commissioner decides to hold an evidentiary hearing, the commissioner shall establish the timelines and procedures to be used. Whether to conduct the hearing by telephone or other electronic methods will be considered.

Commissioner Consideration In making either a preliminary judgment or a final judgment under this subsection, the commissioner will consider whether granting the requested extension is reasonable considering all factors, including contracting statutes, architectural and structural issues, and the difference in costs to the district if a moderate extension of time is granted.

No Appeal A commissioner's final decision under this provision is not subject to appeal.

19 TAC 103.1303(c)

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Title III Requirements

A district that receives funds under Title III of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act shall comply with the statutory requirements regarding English learners and immigrant students. *20 U.S.C. 6801-7014*

A district that receives funds under Title I or Title III to provide a language instruction educational program shall, not later than 30 days after the beginning of the school year, inform the parents of an English learner identified for participation in such a program of the information required by 20 U.S.C. 6312(e)(3). *20 U.S.C. 6312(e)(3)*

Definitions

Alternative Methods — "Alternative methods" means a temporary instructional plan that meets the affective, linguistic, and cognitive needs of emergent bilingual (EB) students and equips the teacher under a bilingual exception or an English as a second language (ESL) waiver to align closely to the required bilingual or ESL program through the comprehensive professional development plan.

Certified Bilingual Program Teacher — "Certified bilingual program teacher" means a teacher holding bilingual certification and appropriately certified for the grade level and content area. The term "certified bilingual program teacher" is synonymous with the term "professional bilingual educator" used in Education Code 29.063.

Certified English as a Second Language Teacher — "Certified English as a second language teacher" means a teacher appropriately certified in ESL as well as for the grade level and content area. The term "certified English as a second language teacher" is synonymous with the term "professional transitional language educator" used in Education Code 29.063.

Dual Language Immersion Program — "Dual language immersion (DLI) program" means a state-approved bilingual program in accordance with Education Code 29.066 that uses English and a partner language. The two state-approved DLI program models are one-way DLI and two-way DLI.

Emergent Bilingual — "Emergent bilingual (EB)" means a student whose primary language is other than English and whose English language skills are such that the student has difficulty performing ordinary classwork in English. "Emergent bilingual" also means a student identified by the Language Proficiency Assessment Committee (LPAC) who is in the process of acquiring English and has another language as the student's home language. This term is interchangeable with English learner as used in federal regulations and replaces the term "limited English proficient student."

English as a Second Language Program — "English as a second language (ESL) program" means a special language program in accordance with Education Code, Chapter 29, Subchapter B, to include both content-based and pull-out pro-

	gram models. Another related term for an ESL program is "English as an additional language program."
English Proficient Student	"English proficient student" means a former EB student who has met reclassification as English proficient by the LPAC.
Exit	"Exit" refers to the point when an EB student is reclassified as English proficient and ends bilingual or ESL program participation with LPAC recommendation and parental approval. The term "exit" is synonymous with the description in Education Code, Chapter 29, Subchapter B, of a student having been "transferred out" of bilingual or special language programming. For the purpose of meeting the goals of a DLI program, the LPAC recommends that the EB student is reclassified as English proficient but continues participation in the program to further develop biliteracy for the duration of the program for prekindergarten through grade 12.
Language Proficiency Assessment Committee	"Language Proficiency Assessment Committee" means a designated group of committee members as described in 19 Administrative Code 89.1220 (relating to Language Proficiency Assessment Committee) and Education Code 26.063 that ensures the appropriate identification, placement, assessment, services, reclassification, and monitoring of EB students. The LPAC also meets in conjunction with all other committees related to programs and services for which an EB student qualifies.
Parent	"Parent" includes the parent or legal guardian of the student in accordance with Education Code 29.052(2).
Reclassification	"Reclassification" means the process by which the LPAC determines that an EB student has met the appropriate criteria to be classified as English proficient, and the student enters year 1 of monitoring as indicated in the Texas Student Data System Public Education Information Management System. *Education Code 29.052; 19 TAC 89.1203(1), (3)-(4), (6), (8)-(9), (11), (13), (16), (19), (22)*

District Responsibility

Each district shall:

1. Identify EB students based on criteria established by the state;
2. Provide bilingual education, including bilingual and ESL programs as integral parts of the general program;
3. Seek appropriately certified teaching personnel to ensure that EB students are afforded full opportunity to master the essential knowledge and skills; and

4. Assess academic achievement and linguistic progress in accordance with Education Code Chapter 29, Subchapter B, to ensure accountability for EB students and the schools that serve them.

19 TAC 89.1201(a)

Identification of Emergent Bilingual Students

Within the first four weeks of the first day of school, the LPAC shall determine and report to the board the number of EB students on each campus and shall classify each student according to the language in which the student possesses primary proficiency. A board shall report that information to the Texas Education Agency (TEA) before November 1 each year. *Education Code 29.053(b)*

Language Proficiency Assessment Committees

A district shall by local board policy establish and operate one or more LPACs. The district shall have on file a policy and procedures for the selection, appointment, and orientation of members of the LPAC(s).

A district shall establish and operate a sufficient number of LPACs to enable them to discharge their duties within four calendar weeks of the enrollment of an EB student.

19 TAC 89.1220(a), (e)

Membership of LPAC

The LPAC shall include:

1. An appropriately certified bilingual educator (for students served through a bilingual program);
2. An appropriately certified ESL educator (for students served through an ESL program);
3. A parent of an (EB) student participating in a bilingual or ESL program; and
4. A campus administrator.

A district may add other members to the committee.

All required members of an LPAC must be present either in person or virtually to make individualized student decisions.

No parent serving on the LPAC shall be an employee of the district.

All members of the LPAC, including parents, shall be acting for the district and shall observe all laws and rules governing confidentiality of information concerning individual students. A district shall be responsible for the orientation of all members, including the parents, of the LPAC.

Meetings

The LPAC may use alternative meeting methods, such as phone or video conferencing and the use of electronic signatures that adhere to district policy.

19 TAC 89.1220(b)-(d), (f); Education Code 29.063(a)-(b);

Duties

The LPAC shall have the duties set forth at Education Code 29.063(c) and 19 Administrative Code 89.1220(g)-(i), (k), including duties to review information, classify students, notify parents, and monitor student academic progress.

Home Language Survey

For each new student enrolling for the first time in a Texas public school in any grade from prekindergarten through grade 12, the TEA-developed home language survey shall be administered. This home language survey will serve as the original and only home language survey throughout the student's educational experience in Texas public schools.

The district shall:

1. Ensure that the student's parent understands the language used in the survey and its implications;
2. Require that the survey be signed by the student's parent for each student in prekindergarten through grade 8 or by the student in grades 9-12;
3. Ensure the student's parent is aware of the benefits of bilingual and ESL programs; and
4. Maintain the original copy of the survey in the student's permanent record and transfer it to any subsequent Texas public school districts in which the student enrolls.

If the response on the home language survey indicates that a language other than English is or was used for communication, the student shall be tested in accordance with 19 Administrative Code 89.1226 (Testing and Classification of Students).

If a parent determines an error was made when completing the original home language survey, the parent may request a correction only if the student has not yet been assessed for English proficiency; and corrections are made within two calendar weeks of the student's initial enrollment date in Texas public schools.

19 TAC 89.1215(a), (c), (e)

English Language Proficiency Testing

Within four calendar weeks of initial enrollment in a Texas public school, a student with a language other than English indicated on the home language survey shall be administered the state-approved English language proficiency test in accordance with 19 Ad-

ministrative Code 89.1226(c) and shall be identified as an EB student and recommended for placement into the required bilingual or ESL program in accordance with the testing and classification requirements in 19 Administrative Code 89.1226(f). *19 TAC 89.1226(b)*

Emergent Bilingual Classification

The LPAC may classify a student as EB if:

1. The student's ability in English is so limited or the student's disabilities are so severe that assessment procedures cannot be administered;
2. The student's score or relative degree of achievement on the TEA-approved English proficiency test is below the levels established by TEA as indicative of reasonable proficiency;
3. The student's primary language proficiency score as measured by a TEA-approved test is greater than the student's proficiency in English; or
4. The LPAC determines, based on other information, including a teacher evaluation, parental viewpoint, or student interview, that the student's primary language proficiency is greater than the student's proficiency in English or that the student is not reasonably proficient in English.

Education Code 29.056(c)

Parental Notice and Consent

Not later than the 10th day after the date of the student's classification as an EB student, the LPAC shall give written notice to the student's parent. *Education Code 29.056(d)*

The district shall notify the parent in English and in the parent's home language that their child has been identified as an EB student and recommended for placement in the required bilingual or ESL program using the TEA-developed identification and placement letter.

The parent shall be provided information describing the bilingual or ESL program recommended, its benefits and goals, and its being an integral part of the school program to ensure that the parent understands the purposes and content of the program and their parental rights.

The placement of a student in the bilingual or ESL program must be approved in writing by the student's parent or through allowable alternatives described in 19 Administrative Code 89.1220, in order to have the student included in the bilingual education allotment (BEA). The parent's approval shall be considered valid for the student's continued participation in the required bilingual or ESL pro-

gram until the student meets the reclassification criteria described in 19 Administrative Code 89.1226(i) (Testing and Classification of Students), the student graduates from high school, or a change occurs in program placement. A change between bilingual and ESL program placement requires new parental approval using the TEA-developed continuation of language program services letter.

If a parent denies program placement at any point, the TEA-developed parental denial of program services letter shall be used to ensure parents are informed of the implications of program denial, including understanding that the child will continue to be identified as an EB student and will continue to be assessed annually using the Texas English Language Proficiency Assessment System (TELPAS) until reclassification criteria have been met.

19 TAC 89.1240(a)

Pending completion of the identification process, receipt of LPAC documentation for transferring students, or parental approval of an identified EB student's placement into the bilingual education or ESL program recommended by the LPAC, a district shall place the student in the recommended program. Only EB students with parental approval for program participation will be included in the bilingual education allotment.

A district may place a student in or exit a student from a program without written approval of the student's parent if:

1. The student is 18 years of age or has had the disabilities of minority removed;
2. The parent provides approval through a phone conversation or email that is documented in writing and retained; or
3. An adult who the district recognizes as standing in parental relation to the student provides written approval. This may include a foster parent or employee of a state or local governmental agency with temporary possession or control of the student.

19 TAC 89.1220(j), (m)

Reclassification and Exit Approval

The district shall use the TEA-developed parent notification of reclassification and approval of program exit letter to give written notification to the student's parent of the student's reclassification as English proficient and acquire written approval for their exit from the bilingual or ESL program.

The district shall use the TEA-developed parent notification of reclassification and option to continue in a dual language immersion

program letter to give written notification to the student's parent of the student's reclassification as English proficient and acquire written approval for continued program participation as an English proficient student.

Students meeting reclassification criteria who have been recommended for exit by the LPAC may only exit the bilingual or ESL program with parental approval.

19 TAC 89.1240(b); Education Code 29.056(a)

Participation of Other Students

With the approval of a district and a student's parents, a student who is not LEP may also participate in a bilingual education program. *Education Code 29.058*

The number of participating non-EB students shall not exceed 40 percent of the number of students enrolled in those bilingual or ESL program models district-wide. *19 TAC 89.1233(c)*

Students with Disabilities

For students with disabilities, a district shall utilize the state's criteria for identification of EB students as described in 19 Administrative Code 89.1226(f) (relating to Testing and Classification of Students) and shall establish placement procedures that ensure that the placement recommendation by the LPAC, in conjunction with the admission, review, and dismissal (ARD) committee, in a bilingual or English as a second language program is not refused based on the student's disabling condition.

LPAC members shall meet in conjunction with ARD committee members to review progress and provide recommendations regarding the educational needs of each EB student who also qualifies for services in the district's special education program. [See EHBAB] *19 TAC 89.1230*

Bilingual and ESL Programs

Each district that has an enrollment of 20 or more students identified as EB students in any language classification in the same grade level district-wide shall offer a bilingual program for the EB students in prekindergarten through the elementary grades with that language classification. "Elementary grades" shall include prekindergarten through grade 5; grade 6 shall be included when clustered with elementary grades.

A district required to provide a bilingual program shall offer dual-language instruction (English and home or partner language) in prekindergarten through the elementary grades, using one of the four bilingual program models described in 19 Administrative Code 89.1210 (relating to Program Content and Design).

19 TAC 89.1205(a)-(b); Education Code 29.053(c)-(d)

A district shall provide an ESL program to all EB students for whom a district is not required to offer a bilingual program, regardless of the students' grade levels and home language, and regardless of the number of such students, except in cases where a district exercises the option to provide a bilingual education program that is not required by law [see below]. A district required to provide an ESL program shall provide an ESL program using one of the two models described in 19 Administrative Code 89.1210.*19 TAC 89.1205(c)-(d)*

A district is authorized to establish a bilingual program even if the district has fewer than 20 students identified as EB bilingual students in any language classification in the same grade level district-wide and at grade levels in which the bilingual program is not required under 19 Administrative Code 89.1205(a). If a district does operate such a program under this authorization, the district shall adhere to all program requirements in 19 Administrative Code 89.1210, .1227, .1228, and .1229. *19 TAC 89.1205(f)-(g)*

Exceptions and Waivers

A district shall comply with the requirements for bilingual exceptions and ESL waivers under 19 Administrative Code 89.1207. *Education Code 29.054; 19 TAC 89.1207*

A district that is unable to employ a sufficient number of teachers, including part-time teachers, who meet the certification requirements for the bilingual and ESL programs shall apply on or before November 1 for an exception to the bilingual program or a waiver for the ESL program as provided in 19 Administrative Code 89.1207. *19 TAC 89.1245(b)*

Program Design

A district that is required to offer bilingual education through bilingual or ESL program models shall provide each EB student the opportunity to be enrolled in the required program at their grade level.

A district's bilingual and ESL program models shall comply with the program content and design requirements of 19 Administrative Code 89.1210. A district shall ensure ongoing collaboration between bilingual and ESL programs and the general education programs to provide equitable educational access for all learners.

19 TAC 89.1210(a)-(b)

EB students shall participate with their non-EB peers in general education classes provided in subjects such as art, music, and physical education. A district shall provide students enrolled in the program a meaningful opportunity to participate fully with other non-EB peers in all extracurricular activities. Elective courses included in the curriculum may be taught in a language other than English. *Education Code 29.055, .057(b); 19 TAC 89.1210(f)*

Bilingual Education Program Models

Bilingual education shall be implemented through at least one of the following program models:

1. Transitional bilingual/early exit;
2. Transitional bilingual/late exit;
3. Dual language immersion/one-way; or
4. Dual language immersion/two-way.

19 TAC 89.1210(c)

ESL Program Models

The ESL program shall be implemented through one of the following program models:

1. An ESL/content-based program model is an English acquisition program that serves students identified EB students through English instruction by a teacher appropriately certified in ESL under Education Code 29.061(c), using content-based language instruction in reading and language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies. The goal of content-based ESL is for program participants to attain full proficiency in English in order to participate equitably in school.
2. An ESL/pull-out program model is an English acquisition program that serves identified EB students through English instruction using content-based language instruction methods provided by an appropriately certified ESL teacher under Education Code 29.061(c), in reading and language arts in a pull-out or inclusionary delivery setting. The goal of ESL pull-out is for program participants to attain full proficiency in English in order to participate equitably in school.

19 TAC 89.1210(d)

Dual Language Immersion Program

A district may adopt a DLI program for students enrolled in elementary school grades. *Education Code 28.005(c), .0051(c)*

Implementation

Program implementation shall:

1. Begin at prekindergarten, kindergarten, or grade 1 as applicable, according to the district's earliest grade level provided;
2. Continue without interruption incrementally through the elementary grades;
3. Consider expansion to middle school and high school whenever possible; and

4. Include participation of former EB students who have reclassified as English proficient for the duration of the program.

19 TAC 89.1227(e)

Requirements

A DLI program model shall be a full-time program of academic instruction in the program's partner language and English for all program participants, emphasizing the participation of identified EB students. Access to the DLI program shall not be restricted based on race, creed, color, religious affiliation, age, or disability.

A DLI program shall meet the minimum requirements described in 19 Administrative Code 89.1227.

19 TAC 89.1227(b)

Two-Way DLI Program Enrollment

Student enrollment in a two-way DLI program model is optional for non-EB students. The program shall fully disclose candidate selection criteria and ensure that access to the program is not based on race, creed, color, religious affiliation, age, or disability. Additionally, identified and reclassified EB students and non-EB students shall not be restricted access to the two-way DLI program model based on any linguistic or academic achievement measures in the program's partner language or English.

A district implementing a two-way DLI program model shall develop a policy for enrollment and continuation for students in the program model. The policy must address:

1. Equitable access, including the program's intention to maintain a ratio of 50 percent EB students to 50 percent non-EB students and have no more than two-thirds speakers of the partner language to one-third speakers of English in each classroom;

2. Support of program benefits and goals as stated in 19 Administrative Code 89.1210 (Program Content and Design);

3. The district's commitment to providing equitable access to services for EB students and to ensuring continuity of program for all program participants;

4. The program's language allocation plan for the grade levels in which the program will be implemented; and

5. Expectations for students, families, and district and campus stakeholders.

19 TAC 89.1228(a)-(c)

A district implementing a two-way DLI program model shall obtain written parental approval as follows:

1. For EB students in accordance with 19 Administrative Code 89.1240; and

2. For non-EB students, through a district-developed process.

19 TAC 89.1228(d)

Two-Way DLI Program State Assessment

A district implementing a two-way DLI program model shall determine the appropriate assessment option for program participants as follows:

1. For EB students, the LPAC shall convene before the administration of the state criterion-referenced test each year to determine the appropriate assessment option for each EB student in accordance with 19 Administrative Code 89.1220(i) (Language Proficiency Assessment Committee).

2. For reclassified EB students and non-EB students, the appropriate assessment option for the administration of the state criterion-referenced test each year is determined by the LPAC or through a district-developed process.

19 TAC 89.1228(e)

School District Recognition

A district may recognize one or more of its campuses that implement an exceptional DLI program if the campus meets all of the following criteria. The school shall:

1. Meet the minimum requirements stated in 19 Administrative Code 89.1227;

2. Receive an acceptable performance rating in the state accountability system; and

3. Not have a bilingual and/or ESL program identified in any stage of intervention under the state's accountability system.

Student Recognition

An individual student participating in a DLI is eligible for local school district recognitions, including a performance acknowledgement in accordance with 19 Administrative Code 74.14. [See EIF]

19 TAC 89.1229

Facilities

Bilingual and ESL programs shall be located in public schools of the district with equitable access to all educational resources rather than in separate facilities. A district may cluster the programs at designated facilities within the district. Recent immigrant EB students shall not remain enrolled in a newcomer center for longer than two years. *Education Code 29.057; 19 TAC 89.1235*

Cooperation Among Districts

A district may join with one or more other districts to provide the required bilingual education or special language programs. The avail-

ability of the programs shall be publicized throughout the districts involved.

A district may allow a nonresident EB student to enroll in or attend its bilingual education or special language programs if the student's district of residence does not provide an appropriate program. The tuition for the student shall be paid by the district in which the student resides.

Education Code 29.059; 19 TAC 89.1205(e)

Documentation

A student's permanent record shall contain the documentation items required by 19 Administrative Code 89.1220(l). Documentation in a student's permanent record shall be forwarded in the same manner as other student records to another school district in which the student enrolls. *19 TAC 89.1220(l)*

For students previously enrolled in a Texas public school, the receiving district shall secure the student records, including the original home language survey and LPAC documentation as described in 19 Administrative Code 89.1220(l), as applicable. All attempts to contact the sending district to request records shall be documented. Multiple attempts to obtain the student's original home language survey shall be made. *19 TAC 89.1215(d)*

Summer Program

If a district is required to offer a bilingual education or special language program, it shall offer a voluntary summer school program for EB children who will be eligible for admission to kindergarten or first grade at the beginning of the next school year.

A school that operates on a semester system shall offer the program during the period school is recessed for the summer and for one-half day for eight weeks or on a similar schedule approved by the board. A school that operates on any other system shall offer 120 hours of instruction on a schedule approved by the board.

The program must be an intensive bilingual education or special language program that meets the standards set by TEA, and the student/teacher ratio may not exceed 18:1. A district shall comply with the requirements of 19 Administrative Code 89.1250 in providing such a program.

Other Programs

A district may establish on a full- or part-time basis other summer school, extended day, or extended week bilingual education or special language programs for EB students and may join with other districts in establishing such programs.

The programs required or authorized by Education Code 29.060 may not be a substitute for programs required to be provided during the regular school year.

Education Code 29.060; 19 TAC 89.1250

Personnel

Teachers assigned to a bilingual education program using one of the following program models must be appropriately certified in bilingual education:

1. Transitional bilingual/early exit program model; or
2. Transitional bilingual/late exit program model.

Education Code 29.061(b)

Teachers assigned to a bilingual education program using a dual language immersion/one-way or two-way program model must be appropriately certified for:

1. Bilingual education for the component of the program provided in a language other than English; and
2. Bilingual education or English as a second language for the component of the program provided in English.

A district that provides a bilingual education program using a dual language immersion/one-way or two-way program model may assign a teacher certified for the language other than English component of the program and a different teacher certified for the English language component.

Education Code 29.061(b-1)-(b-2)

A district shall take all reasonable affirmative steps to assign appropriately certified teachers to the required bilingual and ESL programs. A district that is unable to secure a sufficient number of appropriately certified bilingual education and/or ESL teachers to provide the required programs may request activation of the appropriate permits in accordance with 19 Administrative Code Chapter 230. *19 TAC 89.1245(a); Education Code 29.061(c)*

A district that is unable to provide the required bilingual and/or ESL program because of an insufficient number of appropriately certified teachers shall request from the commissioner of education an exception to the bilingual program and/or a waiver for the ESL program and the approval of temporary alternative methods. EB students with parental approval for program participation under a bilingual exception or an ESL waiver will be included in the bilingual education allotment (BEA) designated for temporary alternative methods. The approval of a bilingual exception and/or an ESL

waiver application shall be valid only during the school year for which it was granted, which includes summer school. The bilingual exception and/or ESL waiver application shall be submitted by November 1 and shall adhere to the requirements in 19 Administrative Code 89.1207. [See Exceptions and Waivers, above] *19 TAC 89.1207(a)-(d); Education Code 29.054*

Emergent Bilingual Students and State Assessments

In kindergarten-grade 12, an EB student shall participate in the state assessment in accordance with commissioner's rules at 19 Administrative Code Chapter 101, Subchapter AA. [See EKBA]

Program Exit

A district may transfer an EB student out of a bilingual education or special language program for the first time or a subsequent time if the student is able to participate equally in a regular all-English instructional program as determined by:

1. TEA-approved tests administered at the end of each school year to determine the extent to which the student has developed oral and written language proficiency and specific language skills in English;
2. Satisfactory performance on the reading assessment instrument under Education Code 39.023(a) or an English language arts assessment instrument under Education Code 39.023(c), as applicable, with the assessment instrument administered in English, or, if the student is enrolled in the first or second grade, an achievement score at or above the 40th percentile in the reading and language arts sections of an English standardized test approved by TEA; and
3. TEA-approved criterion-referenced tests and the results of a subjective teacher evaluation.

Education Code 29.056(g)

Post-Exit Monitoring and Reenrollment

The LPAC may reenroll the student in the program if later evidence suggests that a student who has been transferred out of a bilingual education or special language program has inadequate English proficiency and achievement. Classification of students for reenrollment must be based on the criteria required by Education Code 29.056. *Education Code 29.056(h)*

The LPAC shall reevaluate a student who is transferred out of a bilingual education or special language program if the student earns a failing grade in a subject in the foundation curriculum during any grading period in the first two school years after the student is transferred to determine whether the student should be reenrolled in a bilingual education or special language program.

During the first two school years after a student is transferred out of a bilingual education or special language program, the LPAC shall review the student's performance and consider:

1. The total amount of time the student was enrolled in bilingual education or special language programs;
2. The student's grades each grading period in each subject in the foundation curriculum;
3. The student's performance on state assessment instruments;
4. The number of credits the student has earned toward high school graduation, if applicable; and
5. Any disciplinary actions taken against the student under Education Code Chapter 37, Subchapter A.

After the evaluation, the LPAC may require intensive instruction for the student or reenroll the student in a bilingual education or special language program.

Education Code 29.0561

Program Evaluation

A district that is required to implement a bilingual education or ESL program shall conduct an annual evaluation in accordance with 19 Administrative Code 89.1265. The annual evaluation report shall be presented to the board before November 1 of each year. The report shall be retained at the district level and must meet the requirements of 19 Administrative Code 89.1265(b)-(c).

A district shall report to parents their child's English proficiency development as a result of participation in the program offered to EB students.

In alignment with the district improvement plan, each school year, the principal of each campus, with assistance from the campus level committee, shall develop, review, and revise the campus improvement plan for the purposes of improving student performance for EB students. [See BQB]

19 TAC 89.1265

Distance Learning and Correspondence Courses

Credit toward state graduation requirements may be granted for distance learning and correspondence courses only as follows:

1. The institution offering the correspondence course is The University of Texas at Austin, Texas Tech University, or another public institution of higher education approved by the commissioner of education.
2. Students may earn course credit through distance learning technologies such as satellite, internet, two-way videoconferencing, online courses, the Texas Virtual School Network (TXVSN), and instructional television.
3. The distance learning and correspondence courses must include the state-required essential knowledge and skills for such a course.

19 TAC 74.23

Texas Virtual School Network

The TXVSN is a state-led initiative for online learning authorized by Education Code Chapter 30A. The TXVSN is a partnership network administered by the Texas Education Agency (TEA) in coordination with regional education service centers (ESCs), Texas public school districts and charter schools, institutions of higher education, and other eligible entities.

The TXVSN is comprised of two components—the online school (OLS) program and the statewide course catalog.

19 TAC 70.1001(4)

Online School (OLS) Program

"Online School (OLS) program" is a full-time, virtual instructional program that is made available through an approved course provider and is designed to serve students in grades 3-12 who are not physically present at school. *19 TAC 70.1001(7)*

A TXVSN OLS may serve students in grades 3-12 but may not serve students in kindergarten-grade 2.

A school district that operates a TXVSN OLS that serves students in full-time virtual instruction shall, prior to the start of each academic year, notify TEA of grade levels to be served and the total number of students to be served during that academic year. A school district may not add grade levels after the start of the school year.

A TXVSN OLS or a school district wishing to add additional grade levels to its online program shall certify that the OLS has courses sufficient to comprise a full instructional program for each additional grade level to be served by the OLS prior to serving that grade level.

School districts approved to serve as TXVSN OLSs shall follow the TEA procedures related to obtaining a campus number for the virtual campus through which they serve their TXVSN OLS students.

School districts serving as TXVSN OLSs must follow all requirements in 19 Administrative Code 70.1011.

19 TAC 70.1011

Statewide Course Catalog

"Statewide course catalog" is a supplemental online instructional program available through approved providers. *19 TAC 70.1001(10)*

Course Providers

A TXVSN course provider is an entity that provides an electronic course through the TXVSN. Course providers include TXVSN OLSs and providers in the statewide course catalog. *19 TAC 70.1001(8)*

Electronic Course

"Electronic course" means an educational course in which:

1. Instruction and content are delivered primarily over the internet;
2. A student and teacher are in different locations for a majority of the student's instructional period;
3. Most instructional activities take place in an online environment;
4. The online instructional activities are integral to the academic program;
5. Extensive communication between a student and a teacher and among students is emphasized; and
6. A student is not required to be located on the physical premises of a school district or open-enrollment charter school.

An electronic course is the equivalent of what would typically be taught in one semester. For example: English IA is treated as a single electronic course and English IB is treated as a single electronic course.

Education Code 30A.001(4); 19 TAC 70.1001(1)

OLS Eligibility

To be eligible to serve as a TXVSN OLS, a school district shall:

1. Have a current accreditation status of Accredited under 19 Administrative Code 97.1055 (Accreditation Status);
2. Be rated acceptable under Education Code 39.054;

3. Be rated at the Standard Achievement level or higher under the state financial accountability rating system under 19 Administrative Code 109.1001 (Financial Accountability Ratings);

4. Have met statutory requirements for timely submission of annual audit and compliance reports, Public Education Information Management System (PEIMS) reports, and timely deposits with the Teacher Retirement System, with all records and reports reflecting satisfactory performance;

5. Be in good standing with other programs, grants, and projects administered through TEA; and

6. Have been approved to operate a TXVSN OLS as of January 1, 2013.

19 TAC 70.1009(a)

Statewide Course Catalog Provider Eligibility

To be eligible to serve as a course provider in the TXVSN statewide course catalog, a district must be rated acceptable under Education Code 39.054. A Texas school district may provide an electronic course through the TXVSN to a student enrolled in that district or school, a student enrolled in another school district or school in the state, or a student who resides in Texas who is enrolled in a school other than a public school district or charter school. *19 TAC 70.1007(a)*

General Requirements

TXVSN course providers shall:

1. Provide the TXVSN receiver district in which each TXVSN student is enrolled with written notice of a student's performance in the course at least once every 12 weeks;

2. Provide the TXVSN receiver district in which each TXVSN student is enrolled with written notice of a student's performance at least once every three weeks if the student's performance in the course is consistently unsatisfactory, as determined by the TXVSN course provider;

3. Notify students in writing upon enrollment to participate in the TXVSN course with specific dates and details regarding enrollment;

4. Meet all federal and state requirements for educating students with disabilities;

5. Provide a contingency plan for the continuation of instructional services to all TXVSN students allowing them to complete their TXVSN courses in the event that the contract or agreement through which the electronic courses are provided

are terminated or the TXVSN courses become unavailable to students;

6. Ensure a maximum class size limit of 40 students in a single section of a course and ensure that the class size does not exceed the maximum allowed by law, as applicable, whichever is less; and

7. Meet all reporting requirements established by TXVSN central operations, including timely submission of student performance reports, course completion results, catalog data, data required to verify instructor qualifications, and all data necessary for the TXVSN Informed Choice Report required under 19 Administrative Code 70.1031 (Informed Choice Reports).

19 TAC 70.1007(c)

Receiver District Requirements

A district is eligible to serve as a receiver district in the TXVSN statewide course catalog. Each TXVSN receiver district shall:

1. Register as a receiver district with TXVSN central operations;

2. Assign a qualified staff member to serve as the TXVSN coordinator;

3. Enroll a student who resides in Texas and who is enrolled in a school other than a public school district or charter school upon request by the student and/or parent or guardian; and

4. In accordance with 19 Administrative Code 74.26 (Award of Credit), award credit to a student enrolled in the district who has successfully completed all state and local requirements and received a grade that is the equivalent of 70 on a scale of 100, based upon the essential knowledge and skills for a high school course offered through the TXVSN statewide course catalog.

19 TAC 70.1008

Courses

All electronic courses to be made available through the TXVSN shall be reviewed and approved prior to being offered in accordance with the course requirements at 19 Administrative Code 70.1005. *19 TAC 70.1005(a)*

An electronic course or program that was offered or could have been offered during the 2008-09 school year under former Education Code 29.909, as that section existed on January 1, 2009, may be offered during a subsequent school year through the TXVSN. *Education Code 30A.006*

Student Eligibility

Generally

A student is eligible to enroll in a TXVSN course only if the student:

1. On September 1 of the school year is younger than 21 years of age or is younger than 26 years of age and entitled to the benefits of the Foundation School Program under Education Code 48.003;
2. Has not graduated from high school; and
3. Is otherwise eligible to enroll in a public school in this state.

A student is eligible to enroll full-time in courses provided through the TXVSN only if the student:

1. Was enrolled in a public school in this state in the preceding school year;
2. Is a dependent of a member of the United States military who has been deployed or transferred to this state and was enrolled in a publicly funded school outside of this state in the preceding school year; or
3. Has been placed in substitute care in this state, regardless of whether the student was enrolled in a public school in this state in the preceding school year.

Exception for Military Dependents

A student is eligible to enroll in one or more TXVSN courses or enroll full-time in courses provided through the network if the student:

1. Is a dependent of a member of the United States military;
2. Was previously enrolled in high school in this state; and
3. No longer resides in this state as a result of a military deployment or transfer.

Provisional Enrollment

If a student has not provided required evidence of eligibility to enroll, a TXVSN OLS may enroll a student provisionally for 10 school days and withdraw the student from the OLS if the student does not provide the required evidence of eligibility within 10 school days of the provisional enrollment.

Upon enrolling a student provisionally, the TXVSN OLS shall notify the student and the student's parents or guardians that the student will be withdrawn if documentation is not provided within the required timeframe.

Education Code 30A.002; 19 TAC 70.1013

Enrolled Students

A student who is enrolled in the district as a full-time student may take one or more electronic courses through the TXVSN. *Education Code 30A.107(b)*

Unenrolled Students

A student who resides in this state but who is not enrolled in a school district or open-enrollment charter school in this state as a full-time student may, subject to Education Code 30A.155, enroll in electronic courses through the TXVSN. The student:

1. May not in any semester enroll in more than two electronic courses offered through the TXVSN;
2. Is not considered to be a public school student;
3. Must obtain access to a course provided through the network through the school district or open-enrollment charter school attendance zone in which the student resides;
4. Is not entitled to enroll in a course offered by a school district or open-enrollment charter school other than an electronic course provided through the network; and
5. Is not entitled to any right, privilege, activities, or services available to a student enrolled in a public school, other than the right to receive the appropriate unit of credit for completing an electronic course.

Education Code 30A.107(c)

Enrollment, Advancement, and Withdrawal

A student taking a course through the TXVSN statewide course catalog or a TXVSN OLS program is considered to:

1. Be enrolled in a TXVSN course when he or she begins receiving instruction and actively engages in instructional activities in a TXVSN subject area or course;
2. Have successfully completed a course if the student demonstrates academic proficiency and, for a high school course, earns credit for the course, as determined by the TXVSN teacher; and
3. Be, and must be reported as, withdrawn from the TXVSN when the student is no longer actively participating in the TXVSN course or program.

A student taking a course through the TXVSN statewide course catalog:

1. Shall enroll in each TXVSN course through the TXVSN online registration system;
2. Shall be assigned a grade by the TXVSN teacher after the drop period established by TXVSN central operations;
3. May withdraw from a course taken through the TXVSN after the instructional start date without academic or financial

penalty within the drop period established by TXVSN central operations; and

4. Shall have the grade assigned by the TXVSN teacher added to the student's record by the student's home district, and for a high school course, added to the student's transcript.

A student enrolled full time in a TXVSN online program in grades 3-8 must demonstrate academic proficiency sufficient to earn promotion to the next grade, as determined by the TXVSN teacher for the educational program.

19 TAC 70.1015

Compulsory Attendance

Texas public school students are not required to be in physical attendance while participating in courses through a TXVSN OLS or the TXVSN course catalog.

Based upon successful completion of a TXVSN course for students in grades 9-12 or a TXVSN OLS instructional program for students in grades 3-8, students are considered to have met attendance requirements for that course or program. A student who has successfully completed the grade level or course is eligible to receive any weighted funding for which the student is eligible.

For audit purposes, TXVSN course providers and TXVSN receiver districts shall maintain documentation to support the students' successful completion and to support verification of compulsory attendance.

"TXVSN receiver district" means a Texas public school district that has students enrolled in the school district who take one or more online courses through the TXVSN statewide course catalog.

19 TAC 70.1001(9), .1017

Local Policy

A district shall adopt a written policy that provides students enrolled in the district with the opportunity to enroll in electronic courses provided through the TXVSN statewide course catalog. The policy must be consistent with the requirements regarding notice, enrollment requests, and students with disabilities as described below.

A district shall, at least once per school year, send to a parent of each district student enrolled at the middle or high school level a copy of the policy. A district may send the policy with any other information that the district sends to a parent.

Education Code 30A.007; 19 TAC 70.1033

Notice

At the time and in the manner that a district informs students and parents about courses that are offered in the district's traditional

classroom setting, the district shall notify parents and students of the option to enroll in an electronic course offered through the TXVSN.

Requests to Enroll

Except as provided below, a district may not deny the request of a parent of a full-time student to enroll the student in an electronic course offered through the TXVSN.

A district may deny a request to enroll a student in an electronic course if:

1. A student attempts to enroll in a course load that is inconsistent with the student's high school graduation plan or requirements for college admission or earning an industry certification;
2. The student requests permission to enroll in an electronic course at a time that is not consistent with the enrollment period established by the district providing the course; or
3. The district offers a substantially similar course.

The course provider shall make all reasonable efforts to accommodate the enrollment of a student in the course under special circumstances.

If a parent of a student requests permission to enroll the student in a TXVSN course, a district has discretion to select a course provider approved by TEA for the course in which the student will enroll based on factors including the informed choice report required by Education Code 30A.108(b).

Appeals

A parent may appeal to the commissioner a district's decision to deny a request to enroll a student in an electronic course offered through the TXVSN. The commissioner's decision under this subsection is final and may not be appealed.

Education Code 26.0031; 19 TAC 70.1008, .1035

Students with Disabilities

For purposes of the policy, the determination of whether or not an electronic course will meet the needs of a student with a disability shall be made by the student's admission, review, and dismissal (ARD) committee in a manner consistent with state and federal law, including the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, 20 U.S.C. 1400 et seq., and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 U.S.C. Section 794. *Education Code 30A.007(b)*

Required Enrollment Prohibited

A school district or open-enrollment charter school may not require a student to enroll in an electronic course. *Education Code 30A.107(d)*

Inducements for Enrollment Prohibited	A course provider may not promise or provide equipment or any other thing of value to a student or a student's parent as an inducement for the student to enroll in an electronic course offered through the TXVSN. The commissioner shall revoke approval of electronic courses offered by a course provider that violates this prohibition. The commissioner's action under this section is final and may not be appealed. *Education Code 30A.1052*
Course Portability	A student who transfers from one educational setting to another after beginning enrollment in an electronic course is entitled to continue enrollment in the course. *Education Code 30A.1051; 19 TAC 70.1015(d)*
Student Assessment	All Texas public school students enrolled in the TXVSN are required to take the statewide assessments as required in Education Code 39.023 [see EKB]. The administration of the assessment instrument to the student enrolled in the electronic course must be supervised by a proctor. A district shall report to the commissioner through the Public Education Information Management System (PEIMS) the results of assessment instruments administered to students enrolled in an electronic course offered through the TXVSN separately from the results of assessment instruments administered to other students. All districts participating in the TXVSN OLS program are included in the state's academic accountability system. *Education Code 30A.110; 19 TAC 70.1023*
Funding	A district in which a student is enrolled is entitled to funding under Education Code Chapter 48 for the student's enrollment in a TXVSN course in the same manner that the district is entitled to funding for the student's enrollment in courses provided in a traditional classroom setting, provided that the student successfully completes the electronic course. Funding is limited to a student's enrollment in not more than three electronic courses during any school year, unless the student is enrolled in a full-time online program that was operating on January 1, 2013. *Education Code 30A.153* A district may decline to pay the cost for a student of more than three yearlong electronic courses, or the equivalent, during any school year unless the student is enrolled in a full-time online program that was operating on January 1, 2013. If the district declines to pay the cost, a student is able to enroll in additional electronic courses at the student's cost. *Education Code 26.0031(c-1)*

Course Cost

A district may charge the course cost for enrollment in a TXVSN course to a student who resides in this state and:

1. Is enrolled in the district as a full-time student with a course load greater than that normally taken by students in the equivalent grade level in other school districts; or
2. Elects to enroll in a TXVSN course for which the district in which the student is enrolled as a full-time student declines to pay the cost as authorized by Education Code 26.0031(c-1).

A district may charge the course cost for enrollment in a TXVSN course during the summer.

A district shall charge the course cost for enrollment in a TXVSN course to a student who resides in this state and is not enrolled in a school district or open-enrollment charter school as a full-time student.

A TXVSN course cost may not exceed the lesser of the cost of providing the course or $400.

A district may decline to pay the course costs for a student who chooses to enroll in more than three year-long electronic courses, or the equivalent, during any school year. This does not limit the ability of the student to enroll in additional electronic courses offered through the TXVSN at the student's expense.

A district that is not the course provider may charge a student enrolled in the district a nominal fee, not to exceed $50, if the student enrolls in a TXVSN course that exceeds the course load normally taken by students in the equivalent grade level.

A course provider in the TXVSN statewide course catalog shall receive:

1. No more than 70 percent of the catalog course cost prior to a student successfully completing the course; and
2. The remaining 30 percent of the catalog course cost when the student successfully completes the course.

Education Code 30A.155(a)-(c-1); 19 TAC 70.1025

Educators of Electronic Courses

Each instructor of an electronic course, including a dual credit course, offered through the TXVSN by a course provider must be certified under Education Code Chapter 21, Subchapter B, to teach that course and grade level or meet the credentialing requirements of the institution of higher education with which they are affiliated and that is serving as a course provider.

In addition, each instructor must successfully complete one continuing professional development course specific to online learning every three years, and:

1. Successfully complete a professional development course or program approved by TXVSN central operations before teaching an electronic course offered through the TXVSN; or
2. Have a graduate degree in online or distance learning and have demonstrated mastery of the National Standards for Quality Online Teaching; or
3. Have two or more years of documented experience teaching online courses for students in grades 3-12 and have demonstrated mastery of the National Standards for Quality Online Teaching.

Each instructor of an electronic course, including a dual credit course, offered through the TXVSN by a course provider must meet highly qualified teacher requirements under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, as applicable.

TXVSN course providers shall affirm the preparedness of teachers of TXVSN electronic courses to teach public school-age students in a highly interactive online classroom and shall:

1. Maintain records documenting:
    a. Valid Texas educator certification credentials appropriate for the instructor's TXVSN assignment;
    b. Successful initial completion of TXVSN-approved professional development, evidence of prior online teaching, or a graduate degree in online or distance learning; and
    c. Instructors' demonstrated mastery of the National Standards for Quality Online Teaching prior to teaching through the TXVSN;
2. Conduct and maintain records for background checks;
3. Maintain records of successful completion of continuing professional development;
4. Maintain records documenting successful completion of TXVSN-approved professional development before the end of the school year for any instructor who is hired after the school year has begun; and

5. Make the records specified in this subsection available to TEA and TXVSN central operations upon request.

19 TAC 70.1027

Revocation

The commissioner may revoke the right to participation in the TXVSN based on any of the following factors:

1. Noncompliance with relevant state or federal laws;
2. Noncompliance with requirements and assurances outlined in the contractual agreements with TXVSN central operations and/or these provisions and Education Code Chapter 30A; or
3. Consistently poor student performance rates as evidenced by results on statewide student assessments, student withdrawal rates, student completion rates, successful completion rates, or campus accountability ratings.

19 TAC 70.1029

Applicability

Unless a district chooses to participate in providing an electronic course or an electronic diagnostic assessment under Education Code Chapter 30A to a student who is located on the physical premises of a school district or open-enrollment charter school, Chapter 30A does not affect the provision of a course to such a student.

Requirements imposed by or under Education Code Chapter 30A do not apply to a virtual course provided by a district only to district students if the course is not provided as part of the TXVSN.

Education Code 30A.004

Certificate of Coursework Completion	The District shall not issue a certificate of coursework completion to a student who fails to meet all state and local requirements for graduation. [See EIF, FMH]
Partial Credit	When a student earns a passing grade in only half of a course and the average of both halves is lower than 70, the District shall award the student credit for the half with the passing grade.

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High School Diploma

A student may graduate and receive a diploma only if the student:

1. Successfully completes the curriculum requirements identified by the State Board of Education (SBOE) [see State Graduation Requirements, below], has performed satisfactorily on applicable state assessments [see EKB], and complies with the financial aid application requirements in Education Code 28.0256 [see below]; or

2. Successfully completes an individualized education program (IEP) developed under Education Code 29.005. [See EHBAB]

Education Code 28.025(c)

Note: Education Code 28.0256 applies beginning with students enrolled at the 12th grade level during the 2021-22 school year.

FAFSA Required

Before graduating from high school, each student must complete and submit a free application for federal student aid (FAFSA) or a Texas application for state financial aid (TASFA), except as provided below.

A student is not required to comply with the above provision if:

1. The student's parent or other person standing in parental relation submits a signed form indicating that the parent or other person authorizes the student to decline to complete and submit the financial aid application;

2. The student signs and submits the form described above on the student's own behalf if the student is 18 years of age or older or the student's disabilities of minority have been removed for general purposes under Family Code Chapter 31; or

3. A school counselor authorizes the student to decline to complete and submit the financial aid application for good cause, as determined by the school counselor.

If a school counselor notifies a district whether a student has complied with this section for purposes of determining whether the student meets high school graduation requirements under Education Code 28.025, the school counselor may only indicate whether the student has complied with this section and may not indicate the manner in which the student complied, except as necessary for the district to comply with the commissioner’s rules.

A school counselor may not indicate that a student has not complied with this section if the district fails to provide the required form

to the student or the student's parent or other person standing in parental relation to the student.

Education Code 28.0256; 19 TAC 74.11(b)

Opt-Out Form

The board shall adopt the standard opt-out form provided by the Texas Education Agency (TEA).

The opt-out form shall be available in English, Spanish, and any other language spoken by a majority of the students enrolled in a bilingual education or special language program in the district. A district is responsible for translations not provided by TEA.

The opt-out form must include the student's signature of intent to decline to complete a financial aid application prior to the student's anticipated graduation date.

19 TAC 74.1023(c)

Notification

A district shall provide students with the notifications regarding the financial aid application requirement, in accordance with 19 Administrative Code 74.1023(d).

Proof of Submission

A district shall require one of the following methods of proof that a student has completed and submitted the FAFSA or TASFA.

For completion and submission of the FAFSA:

1. ApplyTexas Counselor Suite FAFSA data;
2. Notification from the U.S. Department of Education that demonstrates a student has completed and submitted a FAFSA; or
3. A local policy developed by a district for the method by which a student must provide proof that the student has completed a FAFSA.

A district shall develop a local policy for the method by which a student must provide proof that the student has completed a TASFA.

19 TAC 74.1023(e)

Information Submission and Confidentiality

A district shall report through the Texas Student Data System Public Education Information Management System (TSDS PEIMS) not later than December 1 of each school year for students awarded diplomas in the previous school year the number of students who completed and submitted a financial aid application and the number of students who submitted an exception.

A district shall maintain student financial aid application information securely and ensure compliance with federal law regarding the

confidentiality of student educational information, including the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (20 U.S.C. Section 1232g), and any state law relating to the privacy of student information [see FL].

19 TAC 74.1023(f)-(g)

Individual Graduation Committee

A student may receive a diploma if the person is eligible for a diploma as determined by an individual graduation committee (IGC) established under Education Code 28.0258. *Education Code 28.025(c-6)*

A student receiving special education services is not subject to the IGC requirements in Education Code 28.0258 or 19 Administrative Code 74.1025. A student's admission, review, and dismissal (ARD) committee determines whether a student is required to achieve satisfactory performance on an end-of-course (EOC) assessment to graduate. *19 TAC 74.1025(n)* [See EHBAB]

For each 11th or 12th grade student who has failed to comply with the EOC assessment instrument performance requirements under Education Code 39.025 for not more than two courses, the district shall establish an IGC at the end of or after the student's 11th grade year to determine whether the student may qualify to graduate. A student may not qualify to graduate as a result of an IGC decision before the student's 12th grade year.

The IGC shall be composed of:

1. The principal or principal's designee;
2. For each EOC assessment instrument on which the student failed to perform satisfactorily, the teacher of the course;
3. The department chair or lead teacher supervising the teacher(s) above; and
4. As applicable:
    a. The student's parent or person standing in parental relation to the student;
    b. A designated advocate if the parent is unable to serve; or
    c. The student, at the student's option, if the student is at least 18 years of age or is an emancipated minor.

The superintendent shall establish procedures for convening the committee.

The district shall provide an appropriate translator, if available, for a parent, advocate, or student who is unable to speak English.

Education Code 28.0258(a)-(c), (c-2); 19 TAC 74.1025(b)

A district may not establish an initial IGC for eligible students after June 10 or before the start of the next school year. Once the IGC has been established, it is the original IGC for that student.

If a student leaves a district after an original IGC has been established and before that original IGC awards a high school diploma to the student, any other district that later enrolls the student shall request information from the student's original IGC of record and shall implement the original IGC recommendations to the extent possible.

Alternate Members

In the event that the teacher identified in item 2 above is unavailable, the principal shall designate as an alternate member of the committee a teacher certified in the subject of the EOC assessment on which the student failed to perform satisfactorily and who is most familiar with the student's performance in that subject area.

In the event that the individual identified above in item 3 above is unavailable, the principal shall designate as an alternate member of the committee an experienced teacher certified in the subject of the EOC assessment on which the student failed to perform satisfactorily and who is familiar with the content of and instructional practices for the applicable course.

In the event that the student's parent or person standing in parental relation to the student is unavailable to participate in the IGC, the principal shall designate an advocate with knowledge of the student to serve as an alternate member of the committee.

19 TAC 74.1025(c), (e), (g)-(i)

Notice

A district shall ensure a good faith effort is made to timely notify the appropriate person described under item 4 above of the time and place for convening the IGC and the purpose of the committee. The notice must be provided in person or by regular mail or email; clear and easy to understand; and written in English, in Spanish, or, to the extent practicable, in the native language of the appropriate person. *Education Code 28.0258(d)*

Curriculum Requirements

To be eligible to graduate and receive a high school diploma from the IGC, a student must successfully complete the curriculum requirements required for high school graduation. [See State Graduation Requirements, below] *Education Code 28.0258(e)*

Additional Requirements to Graduate

A student's IGC shall recommend additional requirements by which the student may qualify to graduate, including additional remediation; and for each EOC assessment instrument on which the student failed to perform satisfactorily:

1. The completion of a project related to the subject area of the course that demonstrates proficiency in the subject area; or
2. The preparation of a portfolio of work samples in the subject area of the course, including work samples from the course that demonstrate proficiency in the subject area.

A student may submit to the IGC coursework previously completed to satisfy a recommended additional requirement.

Education Code 28.0258(f), (g)

In determining whether a student is qualified to graduate, the committee shall consider the criteria at Education Code 28.0258(h) and any other academic information designated for consideration by the board. After considering the criteria, the committee may determine that the student is qualified to graduate. A student may graduate and receive a high school diploma on the basis of the committee's decision only if the student successfully completes all additional requirements recommended by the committee, the student meets applicable curriculum requirements, and the committee's vote is unanimous. The decision of a committee is final and may not be appealed. *Education Code 28.0258(i)*

Emergent Bilingual Students

For provisions related to an IGC and emergent bilingual students, see EKBA.

Special Education

A student receiving special education services who successfully completes the requirements of his or her IEP, including performance on a state assessment required for graduation, shall receive a high school diploma. A student's ARD committee shall determine if the student will be required to meet satisfactory performance on an assessment for purposes of graduation. *19 TAC 101.3023(a)* [See Graduation of Students Receiving Special Education Services, below, and EKB]

Posthumous Diploma

Beginning with students who would have graduated at the end of the 2019-20 school year, and on request of the student's parent, a district shall issue a high school diploma posthumously to each student who died while enrolled in the district at the end of the school year in which the student was expected to graduate under the regular schedule of school attendance. The high school diploma may not be issued before the graduation date of the class in which the student was enrolled at the time of death.

Exception

A district is not required to issue a posthumous diploma if the student was convicted of a felony offense under Penal Code Title 5 or 6 or adjudicated as having engaged in conduct constituting a felony offense under Penal Code Title 5 or 6.

Education Code 28.0254

Diplomas for Veterans

Notwithstanding any other provision of this policy, a district may issue a high school diploma to a person who is an honorably discharged member of the armed forces of the United States; was scheduled to graduate from high school after 1940 and before 1975 or after 1989; and left school after completing the sixth or a higher grade, before graduating from high school, to serve in:

1. World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, the Persian Gulf War, the Iraq War, or the war in Afghanistan; or
2. Any other war formally declared by the United States, military engagement authorized by the United States Congress, military engagement authorized by a United Nations Security Council resolution and funded by the United States Congress, or conflict authorized by the president of the United States under the War Powers Resolution of 1973, 50 U.S.C. 1541, et seq.

Education Code 28.0251

Texas First Early High School Completion Program

A district shall allow a student to graduate and receive a high school diploma under the Texas First Early High School Completion Program if, using the standards established by TEA and the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board and eligible institutions of higher education, the student demonstrates mastery of and early readiness for college in each of the subject areas described by the standards and in a language other than English, notwithstanding any other local or state requirements.

A student who earns a high school diploma through the program is considered to have earned a distinguished level of achievement.

Notice Upon Enrollment

On a student's initial enrollment in high school in a grade level below grade 12 in a district, the district shall provide to the student and the student's parent or guardian information regarding the requirements to earn a high school diploma under the Texas First Early High School Completion Program and the Texas First Scholarship Program.

Education Code 28.0253(e)-(g); 19 TAC 21.52(a)

The notice must include information about the requirement that a student must provide an official copy of their assessment results

and transcripts, as applicable, to receive credit for the assessments and credits required to receive early graduation from the program. *19 TAC 21.54*

Personal Graduation Plan

Junior High or Middle School PGP

A principal of a junior high or middle school shall designate a school counselor, teacher, or other appropriate individual to develop and administer a personal graduation plan (PGP) for each student enrolled in the junior high or middle school who:

1. Does not perform satisfactorily on a state assessment instrument; or
2. Is not likely to receive a high school diploma before the fifth school year following the student's enrollment in grade level 9, as determined by a district.

A PGP must:

1. Identify educational goals for the student;
2. Include diagnostic information, appropriate monitoring and intervention, and other evaluation strategies;
3. Include an intensive instruction program described in Education Code 28.0213 [see EHBC];
4. Address participation of the student's parent or guardian, including consideration of the parent's or guardian's educational expectations for the student; and
5. Provide innovative methods to promote the student's advancement, including flexible scheduling, alternative learning environments, online instruction, and other interventions that are proven to accelerate the learning process and have been scientifically validated to improve learning and cognitive ability.

Education Code 28.0212

Students Receiving Special Education Services

For a student receiving special education services, the student's ARD committee and the district are responsible for developing the student's PGP.

A student's IEP developed under Education Code 29.005 may be used as the student's PGP.

Education Code 28.0212(c); 19 TAC 89.1050(a) [See EHBAB]

High School PGP

A principal of a high school shall designate a school counselor or school administrator to review PGP options with each student entering grade 9 together with that student's parent or guardian. The

PGP options reviewed must include the distinguished level of achievement and endorsements.

Before the conclusion of the school year, the student and the student's parent or guardian must confirm and sign a PGP for the student that identifies a course of study that:

1. Promotes college and workforce readiness and career placement and advancement; and
2. Facilitates the student's transition from secondary to postsecondary education.

A district may not prevent a student and the student's parent or guardian from confirming a PGP that includes pursuit of a distinguished level of achievement or an endorsement.

A student may amend the student's PGP after the initial confirmation of the plan. If a student amends the student's PGP, the school must send written notice to the student's parents regarding the change.

TEA must make available to a district information that explains the advantages of the distinguished level of achievement described by Education Code 28.025(b-15) and each endorsement described by Education Code 28.025(c-1). A district, in turn, shall publish the information from TEA on the internet website of the district and ensure that the information is available to students in grades nine and above and the parents or legal guardians of those students in the language in which the parents or legal guardians are most proficient.

A district is required to provide this information in the language in which the parents or legal guardians are most proficient only if at least 20 students in a grade level primarily speak that language.

Education Code 28.02121

Early Graduation

A parent is entitled to request, with the expectation that the request will not be unreasonably denied, that the parent's child be permitted to graduate from high school earlier than the child would normally graduate, if the child completes each course required for graduation. The decision of a board concerning the request is final and may not be appealed. *Education Code 26.003(a)(3)(C), (b)*
[See FMH, FNG]

State Graduation Requirements

Note: For current state graduation requirements, including those for students who entered grade 9 before the 2007-08 school year but that are not otherwise referenced in this policy, see Education Code 28.025 and 19 Administrative Code Chapter 74.

Students Entering Grade 9

To receive a high school diploma, a student entering grade 9 in the 2014-15 school year and thereafter must complete:

1. Requirements of the foundation high school program under 19 Administrative Code 74.12 [see Foundation High School Program, below];
2. Testing requirements for graduation under 19 Administrative Code Chapter 101 [see EKB]; and
3. Demonstrated proficiency, in grade 8 or higher, as determined by the district, in delivering clear verbal messages; choosing effective nonverbal behaviors; listening for desired results; applying valid critical-thinking and problem-solving processes; and identifying, analyzing, developing, and evaluating communication skills needed for professional and social success in interpersonal situations, group interactions, and personal and professional presentations.

A student shall enroll in the courses necessary to complete the curriculum requirements for the foundation high school program and the curriculum requirements for at least one endorsement.

Education Code 28.025(c); 19 TAC 74.11(a), (d)

Foundation High School Program

A student must earn at least 22 credits to complete the foundation high school program and must demonstrate proficiency in the following core courses:

1. English language arts — 4 credits;
2. Mathematics — 3 credits;
3. Science — 3 credits;
4. Social Studies — 3 credits;
5. Languages other than English — 2 credits;
6. Physical Education — 1 credit;
7. Fine Arts — 1 credit; and
8. Elective courses — 5 credits.

19 TAC 74.12(a)-(b)

Endorsements

A student shall specify in writing an endorsement the student intends to earn upon entering grade 9. *19 TAC 74.13(a)*

A student may earn any of the following endorsements:

1. Science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM);
2. Business and industry;
3. Public services;
4. Arts and humanities; and
5. Multidisciplinary studies.

A district must make at least one endorsement available to students. A district that offers only one endorsement curriculum must offer multidisciplinary studies.

To earn an endorsement a student must demonstrate proficiency in the curriculum requirements for the foundation high school program and, in accordance with 19 Administrative Code 74.13(e), earn:

1. A fourth credit in mathematics;
2. An additional credit in science; and
3. Two additional elective credits.

A course completed as part of the four courses needed to satisfy an endorsement requirement may also satisfy a requirement under the foundation high school program, including an elective requirement. The same course may count as part of the set of four courses for more than one endorsement.

A district shall permit a student to enroll in courses under more than one endorsement before the student's junior year and to choose, at any time, to earn an endorsement other than the endorsement the student previously indicated.

A student must earn at least 26 credits to earn an endorsement, but a student is not entitled to remain enrolled to earn more than 26 credits.

A district may define advanced courses and determine a coherent sequence of courses for an endorsement area, provided that prerequisites in 19 Administrative Code Chapters 110-117, 127, and 130 are followed.

19 TAC 74.13(a)-(d); Education Code 28.025

For more information on endorsements, including the requirements for specific endorsements, see 19 Administrative Code 74.13(e)-(g).

Exception

A student may graduate under the foundation high school program without earning an endorsement if, after the student's sophomore year:

1. The student and the student's parent or person standing in parental relation to the student are advised by a school counselor of the specific benefits of graduating from high school with one or more endorsements; and
2. The student's parent or person standing in parental relation to the student files with a school counselor written permission, on a form adopted by TEA, allowing the student to graduate under the foundation high school program without earning an endorsement.

19 TAC 74.11(e)

Distinguished Level of Achievement

A student may earn a distinguished level of achievement by successfully completing the curriculum requirements for the foundation high school program and the curriculum requirements for at least one endorsement, including four credits in science and four credits in mathematics, including Algebra II. *19 TAC 74.11(f)*

Algebra II Notification

Not later than September 1 of each school year, a district shall notify by regular mail or email the parent of or other person standing in parental relation to each student enrolled in grade 9 or above that the student is not required to complete an Algebra II course to graduate under the foundation high school program. The notification must include information regarding the potential consequences to a student of not completing an Algebra II course, including the impact on eligibility for:

1. Automatic college admission under Education Code 51.803; and
2. Certain financial aid authorized under Title 3 of the Education Code.

Education Code 28.02123

Prerequisites

A student may not be enrolled in a course that has a required prerequisite unless:

1. The student has completed the prerequisite course(s);
2. The student has demonstrated equivalent knowledge as determined by the district; or

3. The student was already enrolled in the course in an out-of-state, an out-of-country, or a Texas nonpublic school and transferred to a Texas public school prior to successfully completing the course.

A district may award credit for a course a student completed without having met the prerequisites if the student completed the course in an out-of-state, an out-of-country, or a Texas nonpublic school where there was not a prerequisite.

19 TAC 74.11(j)-(k)

Dual Credit Courses

Courses offered for dual credit at or in conjunction with an institution of higher education (IHE) that provide advanced academic instruction beyond, or in greater depth than, the essential knowledge and skills for the equivalent high school course required for graduation may satisfy graduation requirements, including requirements for required courses, advanced courses, and courses for elective credit as well as requirements for endorsements. *19 TAC 74.11(i)*

Core Curriculum College Courses

A district shall permit a student to comply with the curriculum requirements under the foundation high school program by successfully completing appropriate courses in the core curriculum of an IHE. A student who has completed the core curriculum of an IHE in accordance with Education Code 61.822, as certified by the IHE in accordance with Education Code 4.28:

1. Is considered to have earned an endorsement by successfully completing the appropriate courses for that endorsement;

2. Is considered to have earned a distinguished level of achievement under the foundation high school program; and

3. Is entitled to receive a high school diploma.

19 TAC 74.11(o)

Languages Other Than English

Students may earn credit for languages other than English in accordance with 19 Administrative Code 74.12(b)(5).

A student who successfully completes a dual language immersion program may satisfy one credit of the two credits required in a language other English in accordance with 19 Administrative Code 74.12(b)(5)(F).

19 TAC 74.12(b)(5)

A student who successfully completes a course in American Sign Language while in elementary school may satisfy one credit of the two credits required in a language other than English. *19 TAC 74.12(b)(5)(G)*

Physical Education

The required credit may be selected from one full credit or a combination of two half credits from two different courses from the following courses:

1. Lifetime Fitness and Wellness Pursuits;
2. Lifetime Recreation and Outdoor Pursuits; and
3. Skill-Based Lifetime Activities.

Other Physical Education Activities

In accordance with local district policy, the required physical education credit may be earned through completion of any TEKS-based course that meets the requirement for 100 minutes of moderate to vigorous physical activity per five-day school week and that is not being used to satisfy another specific graduation requirement. [See Restrictions, below]

In accordance with local district policy, credit for any physical education course may be earned through participation in the following activities:

1. Athletics;
2. Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC); and
3. Appropriate private or commercially sponsored physical activity programs conducted on or off campus. A district must apply to the commissioner for approval of such programs, which may be substituted for state graduation credit in physical education. Such approval may be granted under the following conditions:
    a. Olympic-level participation and/or competition includes a minimum of 15 hours per week of highly intensive, professional, supervised training. The training facility, instructors, and the activities involved in the program must be certified by the superintendent to be of exceptional quality. Students qualifying and participating at this level may be dismissed from school one hour per day. Students dismissed may not miss any class other than physical education.
    b. Private or commercially sponsored physical activities include those certified by the superintendent to be of high quality and well supervised by appropriately trained instructors. Student participation of at least five hours per week must be required. Students certified to participate at this level may not be dismissed from any part of the regular school day.

In accordance with local district policy, up to one credit for any one of the required physical education courses may be earned through participation in any of the following activities:

1. Drill team;
2. Marching band; and
3. Cheerleading.

Restrictions

All substitution activities permitted by local district policy must include at least 100 minutes of moderate to vigorous physical activity per five-day school week.

No more than four substitution credits may be earned through any combination of substitutions listed above.

Credit may not be earned more than once for the Lifetime Fitness and Wellness Pursuits course or the Skill-Based Lifetime Activities course. Credit may not be earned more than twice for the Lifetime Recreation and Outdoor Pursuits course.

Student with Disability or Illness

A student who is unable to participate in physical activity due to disability or illness may substitute an academic elective credit in English language arts, mathematics, science, social studies, or a course that is offered for credit as provided by Education Code 28.002(g-1) for the required physical education credit. A credit allowed to be substituted may not also be used by the student to satisfy a graduation requirement other than completion of the physical education credit. The determination regarding a student's ability to participate in physical activity must be made by:

1. The student's ARD committee if the student receives special education services under Education Code Chapter 29, Subchapter A;
2. The committee established for the student under Section 504, Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. Section 794) if the student does not receive special education services under Education Code Chapter 29, Subchapter A but is covered by the Rehabilitation Act of 1973; or
3. A committee, established by the district, of persons with appropriate knowledge regarding the student if each of the committees described above is inapplicable. This committee must follow the same procedures required of an ARD or a Section 504 committee.

19 TAC 74.12(b)(6); Education Code 28.025(b-10)-(b-11)

Community-Based Fine Arts Programs

In accordance with local district policy, the required fine arts credit may be earned through participation in a community-based fine arts program not provided by the school district in which the student is enrolled.

In accordance with local policy, credit may be earned through participation in the community-based fine arts program only if the program meets each of the following requirements:

1. The district must apply to the commissioner for approval of the community-based fine arts program;
2. The board must certify that the program provides instruction in the essential knowledge and skills for fine arts as defined by 19 Administrative Code Chapter 117, Subchapter C;
3. The district must document student completion of the approved activity;
4. The program must be organized and monitored by appropriately trained instructors;
5. The fine arts program may be provided on or off a school campus and outside the regular school day; and
6. Students may not be dismissed from any part of the regular school day to participate in the community-based fine arts program.

The district shall require that instructors of the community-based fine arts program provide the district, at its request, the information necessary to obtain the criminal history record information required for school personnel in accordance with 19 Administrative Code Chapter 153, Subchapter DD, if the community-based program is offered on campus.

Education Code 28.025(b-9); 19 TAC 74.12(b)(7)(B), .1030

Performance Acknowledgments

In accordance with the requirements of 19 Administrative Code 74.14, a student may earn a performance acknowledgment on the student's transcript for:

1. Outstanding performance:
    a. In a dual credit course;
    b. In bilingualism and biliteracy;
    c. On a College Board advanced placement test or international baccalaureate examination;

d. On an established, valid, reliable, and nationally norm-referenced preliminary college preparation assessment instrument used to measure a student's progress toward readiness for college and the workplace; or

e. On an established, valid, reliable, and nationally norm-referenced assessment instrument used by colleges and universities as part of their undergraduate admissions process; or

2. Earning a state-recognized or nationally or internationally recognized business or industry certification or license.

Education Code 28.025(c-5); 19 TAC 74.14

Students Who Entered Grade 9 Before the 2014-15 School Year

All credit for graduation must be earned no later than grade 12. *19 TAC 74.61(b), .71(b)*

Minimum High School Program

A student entering grade 9 prior to the 2014-15 school year who does not choose to complete the curriculum requirements for high school graduation under the foundation high school program must enroll in the courses necessary to complete the curriculum requirements for the Recommended High School Program or the Advanced/Distinguished Achievement High School Program, unless the student, the student's parent or other person standing in parental relation to the student, and a school counselor or school administrator agree in writing signed by each party that the student should be permitted to take courses under the Minimum High School Program, and the student:

1. Is at least 16 years of age;

2. Has completed two credits required for graduation in each subject of the foundation curriculum under Education Code 28.002(a)(1); or

3. Has failed to be promoted to the 10th grade one or more times as determined by the school district.

Students with Disabilities

If an ARD committee makes decisions that place a student with a disability on a modified curriculum in a subject area, the student will be automatically placed in the Minimum High School Program.

Applicability

A student who was permitted to take courses under the Minimum High School Program prior to the 2009-10 school year may remain in the Minimum High School Program.

19 TAC 74.61(c), (d), .71(c), (d)

Requirements

A student must earn at least 22 credits to complete the Minimum High School Program.

A student who entered grade 9 in the 2012-13 or 2013-14 school year must demonstrate proficiency in the program requirements listed at 19 Administrative Code 74.72.

A student who enters grade 9 before the 2012-13 school year must meet the applicable program requirements in 19 Administrative Code Chapter 74, Subchapters D-F.

Education Code 28.025; 19 TAC 74.62, .72

Recommended High School Program

A student who entered grade 9 in the 2012-13 or 2013-14 school year must earn at least 26 credits to complete the Recommended High School Program. A student must demonstrate proficiency in the program requirements listed at 19 Administrative Code 74.73. *Education Code 28.025; 19 TAC 74.63, .73*

Advanced / Distinguished Achievement High School Program

A student who entered grade 9 in the 2012-13 or 2013-14 school year must earn at least 26 credits to complete the Advanced/Distinguished Achievement High School Program. A student must demonstrate proficiency in the program requirements listed at 19 Administrative Code 74.74. *Education Code 28.025; 19 TAC 74.64, .74*

Substitutions

No substitutions are allowed for high school graduation requirements in the Recommended and Advanced/Distinguished Achievement High School Programs, except as provided by State Board rule. *19 TAC 74.63(d), .64(e), .73(d), .74(e)*

AP or IB Courses

College Board advanced placement and international baccalaureate courses may be substituted for required courses in appropriate areas. These courses may be used as electives in all three high school graduation programs. *19 TAC 74.61(k), .71(i)*

Reading

A district may offer a maximum of 3 credits of reading for state graduation elective credit for identified students if the district:

1. Adopts policies to identify students in need of additional reading instruction;
2. Has procedures that include assessment of individual student needs and ongoing evaluation of each student's progress; and
3. Monitors instructional activities to ensure that student needs are addressed.

Reading credits may be selected from Reading I, II, or III.

19 TAC 74.61(h), .71(f)

College Courses

A student may comply with the curriculum requirements under the Minimum, Recommended, or Advanced/Distinguished Achievement High School Program for each subject of the foundation curriculum and for languages other than English by successfully completing appropriate courses in the core curriculum of an IHE. *19 TAC 74.61(l), .71(j)*

Physical Education Substitutions

Other Physical Activity

In accordance with local district policy, credit for any physical education course may be earned through participation in the following activities:

1. Athletics;
2. JROTC; and
3. Appropriate private or commercially sponsored physical activity programs conducted on or off campus. A district must apply to the commissioner for approval of such programs, which may be substituted for state graduation credit in physical education. Such approval may be granted under the following conditions:
    a. Olympic-level participation and/or competition includes a minimum of 15 hours per week of highly intensive, professional, supervised training. The training facility, instructors, and the activities involved in the program must be certified by the superintendent to be of exceptional quality. Students qualifying and participating at this level may be dismissed from school one hour per day. Students dismissed may not miss any class other than physical education.
    b. Private or commercially sponsored physical activities include those certified by the superintendent to be of high quality and well supervised by appropriately trained instructors. Student participation of at least five hours per week must be required. Students certified to participate at this level may not be dismissed from any part of the regular school day.

In accordance with local district policy, up to one credit for any one of the physical education courses listed in 19 Administrative Code Chapter 74 [see EHAC] may be earned through participation in any of the following activities:

1. Drill team;
2. Marching band; and
3. Cheerleading.

Restrictions

All substitution activities must include at least 100 minutes per five-day school week of moderate to vigorous physical activity.

No more than four substitution credits may be earned through any combination of substitutions listed above.

Student with Disability or Illness

A student who is unable to participate in physical activity due to disability or illness may substitute an academic elective credit in English language arts, mathematics, science, or social studies for the required physical education credit. A credit allowed to be substituted may not also be used by the student to satisfy a graduation requirement other than completion of the physical education credit. The determination regarding a student's ability to participate in physical activity must be made by:

1. The student's ARD committee if the student receives special education services under Education Code Chapter 29, Subchapter A;
2. The committee established for the student under Section 504, Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. Section 794) if the student does not receive special education services under Education Code Chapter 29, Subchapter A but is covered by the Rehabilitation Act of 1973; or
3. A committee, established by the district, of persons with appropriate knowledge regarding the student if each of the committees described above is inapplicable. This committee must follow the same procedures required of an ARD or a Section 504 committee.

Student with Physical Limitations

If a student entering grade 9 during the 2007-08 school year or thereafter is unable to comply with all of the requirements for a physical education course due to a physical limitation certified by a licensed medical practitioner, a modification to a physical education course does not prohibit the student from earning a Recommended or Advanced/Distinguished High School Program diploma. A student with a physical limitation must still demonstrate proficiency in the relevant knowledge and skills in a physical education course that do not require physical activity.

Education Code 28.025(b-10)-(b-11); 19 TAC 74.62(b)(7), .63(b)(7), .64(b)(7), .72(b)(6), .73(b)(6), .74(b)(6)

Transfers from Out-of-State or Nonpublic Schools

Out-of-state or out-of-country transfer students (including foreign exchange students) and transfer students from Texas nonpublic schools are eligible to receive Texas diplomas but shall complete all applicable high school graduation requirements. Any course credits required for graduation that are not completed before enrollment may be satisfied through credit by examination, correspon-

dence courses, distance learning, or completing the course, according to the provisions of 19 Administrative Code 74.26. *19 TAC 74.11(g)* [See EHDB, EHDC, EHDE, and EI]

Graduation of Students Receiving Special Education Services

Modified Curriculum and Content

Modified curriculum and modified content refer to any reduction of the amount or complexity of the required knowledge and skills in 19 Administrative Code Chapters 110-117, 126-128, and 130. Substitutions that are specifically authorized in statute or rule must not be considered modified curriculum or modified content. *19 TAC 89.1070(k)*

Employability and Self-Help Skills

Employability and self-help skills are those skills directly related to the preparation of students for employment, including general skills necessary to obtain or retain employment. *19 TAC 89.1070(i)*

Summary of Academic Achievement and Evaluation

A summary of academic achievement and functional performance must be provided prior to exit from public school for students who meet one of the following conditions:

1. A student who has met requirements for graduation specified in 19 Administrative Code 89.1070(b)(1) or who has exceeded the maximum age eligibility as described by 19 Administrative Code 89.1035; or

2. A student who has met requirements for graduation specified in 19 Administrative Code 89.1070(b)(2) or (b)(3)(A), (B), or (C). A student meeting this condition is entitled to an evaluation as described by 34 C.F.R. 300.305(e)(1).

The summary of performance must include recommendations on how to assist the student in meeting the student's postsecondary goals, as required by 34 C.F.R. 300.305(e)(3). This summary must also consider, as appropriate, the views of the parent and student and written recommendations from adult service agencies on how to assist the student in meeting postsecondary goals. Students who meet graduation requirements under 19 Administrative Code 89.1070(b)(2) or (b)(3)(A), (B),or (C) and who will continue enrollment in public school to receive special education services aligned to their transition plan will be provided the summary of performance upon exit from the public school system. These students are entitled to participate in commencement ceremonies and receive a certificate of attendance after completing four years of high school.

19 TAC 89.1070 (f)-(h)

Graduation Criteria

A student who receives special education services may graduate and be awarded a diploma if the student meets one of the following conditions:

1. The student has demonstrated mastery of the required state standards (or district standards if greater) in 19 Administrative Code Chapters 110-117, 126-128, and 130; satisfactorily completed credit requirements for graduation under the foundation high school program applicable to students in general education; and demonstrated satisfactory performance as established in Education Code Chapters 28 and 39, on the required EOC assessment instruments, which could include meeting the requirements of 19 Administrative Code 89.1070(d).

2. The student has demonstrated mastery of the required state standards (or district standards if greater) in 19 Administrative Code Chapters 110-117, 126-128, and 130; the student has satisfactorily completed credit requirements for graduation under the foundation high school program specified in 19 Administrative Code 74.12 applicable to students in general education; and the student's ARD committee has determined that satisfactory performance, beyond what would otherwise by required in 19 Administrative Code 89.1070(b)(1) and (d), on the required EOC assessment instruments is not required for graduation.

3. The student has satisfactorily completed credit requirements for graduation under the foundation high school program, one or more of which contain modified curriculum that is aligned to the standards applicable to students in general education; demonstrated mastery of the required state standards (or district standards if greater) in 19 Administrative Code Chapters 110-117, 126-128, and 130 in accordance with modified content and curriculum expectations established in the student's IEP; and demonstrated satisfactory performance on the required EOC assessment instruments, unless the student's ARD committee has determined that satisfactory performance on the required EOC assessment instruments is not required for graduation. The student must also successfully complete the student's IEP and meet one of the following conditions:

    a. Consistent with the IEP, the student has obtained full-time employment, based on the student's abilities and local employment opportunities, in addition to mastering sufficient self-help skills to enable the student to maintain the employment without direct and ongoing educational support of the local school district;

    b. Consistent with the IEP, the student has demonstrated mastery of specific employability skills and self-help

skills that do not require direct ongoing educational support of the local school district; or

c. The student has access to services or other supports that are not within the legal responsibility of public education, including employment or postsecondary education established through transition planning.

When a student receives a diploma under item 2 or 3(a), (b), or (c), above, the ARD committee must determine needed educational services upon the request of the student or parent to resume services, as long as the student meets the age eligibility requirements.

19 TAC 89.1070(b), (j)

Endorsements

A student who is enrolled in a special education program may earn an endorsement on the student's transcript by:

1. Successfully completing, with or without modification of the curriculum:

   a. The curriculum requirements identified by the SBOE for the foundation high school program; and

   b. The additional endorsement curriculum requirements prescribed by the SBOE; and

2. Successfully completing all curriculum requirements for that endorsement adopted by the SBOE:

   a. Without modification of the curriculum; or

   b. With modification of the curriculum, provided that the curriculum, as modified, is sufficiently rigorous as determined by the student's ARD committee.

The ARD committee of a student in a special education program shall determine whether the student is required to achieve satisfactory performance on an end-of-course assessment instrument to earn an endorsement on the student's transcript.

Education Code 28.025(c-7)-(c-8), 19 TAC 89.1070(c)

Graduation of Military Dependents

Course Waiver

District officials shall waive specific courses required for graduation if similar coursework has been satisfactorily completed by a military student in another district or shall provide reasonable justification for denial. Should a waiver not be granted to a student who would qualify to graduate from the sending school, the district shall provide an alternative means of acquiring required coursework so that graduation may occur on time.

Transfers During Senior Year	Should a military student transferring at the beginning or during the student's senior year be ineligible to graduate from the district after all alternatives have been considered, the sending and receiving districts shall ensure the receipt of a diploma from the sending district, if the student meets the graduation requirements of the sending district. In the event that one of the states in question is not a member of this compact, the member state shall use best efforts to facilitate the on-time graduation of the student.
Substitute Passing Standard	The commissioner shall adopt a passing standard on one or more national norm-referenced achievement tests for purposes of permitting a qualified military dependent to meet that standard as a substitute for completing a specific course otherwise required for graduation. The passing standard is available only for a student who enrolls in a public school in this state for the first time after completing the ninth grade or who reenrolls in a public school in this state at or above the 10th-grade level after an absence of at least two years from the public schools of this state. Each passing standard in effect when a student first enrolls in a Texas public high school remains applicable to the student for the duration of the student's high school enrollment, regardless of any subsequent revision of the standard. *Education Code 162.002 art. VII, A, C* [See FDD]
Graduation of Student Who Is Homeless or in Conservatorship of DFPS	If an 11th or 12th grade student who is homeless or in the conservatorship of the Department of Family and Protective Services transfers to a different school district and the student is ineligible to graduate from the district to which the student transfers, the district from which the student transferred shall award a diploma at the student's request, if the student meets the graduation requirements of the district from which the student transferred. *Education Code 28.025(i)*

Agreement Between Districts

The boards of two or more adjoining school districts or the boards of county school trustees of two or more adjoining counties may, by agreement and in accordance with Education Code 25.032-.034, arrange for the transfer and assignment of any student from the jurisdiction of one board to that of another. In the case of the transfer and assignment of a student under this provision, the participating governing boards shall also agree to the transfer of school funds or other payments proportionate to the transfer of attendance. *Education Code 25.035*

Initiated by Student or Parent

Any student, other than a high school graduate, who is under 21 years of age and eligible for enrollment on September 1, may transfer to another Texas district, provided that both the receiving district and the applicant's parent, guardian, or person having lawful control agree in writing to the transfer.

Discipline and Threat Assessment Records

In the case of a transfer under this provision, a child's district of residence shall provide the receiving district with the child's disciplinary record and any threat assessment involving the child's behavior conducted under Education Code 37.115 [see FFB].

Effective August 1, 2025, a district shall utilize Sentinel to securely transfer any threat assessment conducted on a student to a receiving district when a student transfers to a new district [see CKA]. All threat assessments for a student are subject to the transfer requirement. Any threat assessments conducted prior to August 1, 2025, that are associated with a student transfer shall be uploaded into Sentinel in a manner determined by the Texas Education Agency (TEA).

Education Code 25.036; 19 TAC 103.1213(e)(1)(B) [See FD for placement of transfer students.]

Transfer to a District Offering In-Person Instruction

If a district provides notice to the parent or person standing in parental relation to a student enrolled in the district of the district's intent to offer only virtual instruction for more than one grading period during a school year, the student may transfer for that school year to another district that offers in-person instruction during that school year and accepts the student's transfer.

"Virtual instruction" means instructional activities delivered to students primarily over the internet.

A student who transfers to another school district under this section may not be charged tuition. The student is included in the average daily attendance of the district in which the student attends school.

Education Code 25.045

Basis for Transfer

A board or its designee must make transfer decisions on an individual basis and may not consider as a factor in arriving at any decision regarding assignments any matter relating to the national origin of the student or the student's ancestral language. *Education Code 25.032* [See FDAA]

Transportation

A board may establish and operate an economical public school transportation system outside the district if students enrolled in the district reside outside the district and the district meets the requirements of Education Code 34.007(a)(3) [see CNA]. *Education Code 34.007(a)*

Funding for Transfers

Upon the filing and certification of any transfer, the state per capita apportionment shall transfer with the student. For purposes of computing state allotments to districts eligible under the Foundation School Program, the student's attendance prior to the date of transfer shall be counted by the sending district and the student's attendance after transfer shall be counted by the receiving district. *Education Code 25.037*

Credits and Records

Credits earned in local credit courses may be transferred at the enrolling district's discretion. Transfer students shall not be prohibited from attending school pending receipt of transcripts or academic records from the district the student previously attended. *19 TAC 74.26(a)(1)*

Nonpublic Schools

Records and transcripts of students from Texas nonpublic schools or from out of state or out of the country (including foreign exchange students) shall be evaluated, and students shall be placed promptly in appropriate classes. A district may use a wide variety of methods to verify the content of courses for which a transfer student has earned credit. *19 TAC 74.26(a)(2)*

Tuition Fee for Transfer Students

A receiving district may charge a tuition fee to the extent that the district's actual expenditure per student in average daily attendance exceeds the sum of state available school fund apportionment benefits transferred under Education Code 25.037. However, unless a tuition fee is prescribed and set out in a transfer agreement prior to its execution by the parties, no increase in tuition charge shall be made for the year of that transfer that exceeds the tuition charge, if any, of the preceding school year. *Education Code 25.038*

Transfer by Servicemember Request

On request of a servicemember who is a parent of or person standing in parental relation to a student, the board or the board's designee shall transfer the student to another district campus or to another school district under an agreement under Education Code 25.035 [see Agreement Between Districts, above].

"Servicemember" means an active duty member of the armed forces of the United States, a reserve component of the armed forces of the United States, or the Texas National Guard.

A transfer under this provision must be to the campus or district, as applicable, selected by the servicemember making the request.

A district is not required to provide transportation to a student who transfers to another campus or district under this provision.

Education Code 25.0344

Transfer by Peace Officer Request

On request of a peace officer who is a parent of or person standing in parental relation to a student, the board or the board's designee shall transfer the student to another district campus or to another district under an agreement under Education Code 25.035.

"Peace officer" has the meaning assigned by Occupations Code 1701.001.

A transfer under this provision must be to the campus or school district, as applicable, selected by the peace officer making the request.

A district is not required to provide transportation to a student who transfers to another campus or district under this provision.

Education Code 25.0344

Transfers to Adjoining States

Note: The following provision applies to a district located on the border of an adjoining state.

Any student who would be entitled to attend the public school of any district situated on the border of Louisiana, Arkansas, Oklahoma, or New Mexico and who may find it more convenient to attend the public school in a district in one of those contiguous states, may have the state and county per capita apportionment of the available school funds paid to the school district of the contiguous state and may have additional tuition, if necessary, paid by the district of residence on such terms as may be agreed upon by the trustees of the receiving district and the trustees of the residence district. *Education Code 25.040*

Contracts for Education Outside Districts

Note: The following section applies only to districts that do not offer all grades, kindergarten-grade 12.

A district that does not offer each grade, kindergarten-grade 12, may provide by contract for students residing in the district who are at grade levels not offered by the district to be educated at those

grade levels in one or more other districts. In each contract, the districts also shall agree to the transfer of school funds or other payments proportionate to the transfer of attendance.

Tuition

The district in which the students reside shall pay tuition to any district with which it has a contract under this section for each of its students attending school in that district at a grade level for which the district has contracted. The amount of the tuition paid may not exceed the greater of the amount provided for by Education Code 25.038 [see above], or an amount specified by commissioner rule [see below].

A district is not required to pay tuition to any district with which it has not contracted for the attendance by any of its students at a grade level for which it has contracted under this provision with another district.

A contract under this provision may not be for a period exceeding five years.

Education Code 25.039

Definitions

"Home district" means a district of residence of a transferring student.

"Receiving district" means a district to which a student is transferring for the purpose of obtaining an education.

"Tuition" means an amount charged to the home district by the receiving district to educate the transfer student.

Tuition Allotment of the Home District

For the purposes of calculating the tuition allotment of the home district as authorized by Education Code 48.154, the amount of tuition that may be attributed to a home district for a transfer student in payment for that student's education may not exceed an amount per enrollee calculated for each receiving district. The calculated limit applies only to tuition paid to a receiving district for the education of a student at a grade level not offered in the home district. Tuition may be set at a rate higher than the calculated limit if both districts enter a written agreement, but the calculated tuition limit will be used in the calculation of the tuition allotment for the home district. The calculation will use the most currently available data in an ongoing school year to determine the limit that applies to the subsequent school year. For purposes of this provision, the number of students enrolled in a district will be appropriately adjusted to account for students ineligible for the Foundation School Program funding and those eligible for half-day attendance.

Calculated Tuition Limit

The calculated tuition limit is the sum of the excess maintenance and operations (M&O) revenue per enrollee and the excess debt

revenue per enrollee, as calculated in 19 Administrative Code 61.1012(b)(2)-(3).

Notification and Appeal Process

In the spring of each school year, the commissioner will provide each district with its calculated tuition limit and a worksheet with a description of the derivation process. A district may appeal to the commissioner if it can provide evidence that the use of projected student counts from the LPE in making the calculation is so inaccurate as to result in an inappropriately low authorized tuition charge and undue financial hardship. A district that used significant nontax sources to make any of its debt service payments during the base year for the computation may appeal to the commissioner to use projections of its tax collections for the year for which the tuition limit will apply. The commissioner's decision regarding an appeal is final.

19 TAC 61.1012

Safe Schools Data

The Superintendent shall ensure that the District complies with Texas Education Agency (TEA) guidelines for the collection and maintenance of data regarding:

1. Mandatory expellable offenses committed at school or at a school-related or school-sponsored activity, on or off school property [see FOD]; and
2. Any student who becomes a victim of one of the following violent criminal offenses while on the premises of the school the student attends or while attending a school-sponsored or school-related activity, on or off school property:
    a. Attempted murder;
    b. Indecency with a child;
    c. Aggravated kidnapping;
    d. Aggravated assault on someone other than a District employee or volunteer;
    e. Sexual assault or aggravated sexual assault against someone other than a District employee or volunteer;
    f. Aggravated robbery;
    g. Continuous sexual abuse of a young child or disabled individual; or
    h. Bullying.

School Safety Transfers

The parent of a student who becomes a victim of a violent criminal offense as described in the state guidance for unsafe school choice options or who is assigned to a campus identified by TEA as persistently dangerous shall be offered a transfer to a safe public or charter school within the District.

For each transfer requested, the District shall explore transfer options, as appropriate. Options may include a transfer agreement with another school district.

From a Persistently Dangerous School

The parent of a student attending a school identified as persistently dangerous shall be provided notification of his or her right to request a transfer. Notification shall occur at least 14 days prior to the start of the school year or, for a student enrolling subsequently, upon the student's enrollment.

The parent must submit to the Superintendent an application for transfer. The Superintendent shall complete the transfer prior to the beginning of the school year, if applicable, or within 14 calendar days of the request for a subsequently enrolling student.

Any transfer arranged for a student from a campus identified by TEA as persistently dangerous shall be renewed so long as the campus from which the student transferred retains that designation.

The District shall maintain, in accordance with the District's record retention schedule, documentation of notification to parents of the transfer option, transfer applications submitted, and action taken.

For a Victim of a Violent Criminal Offense

Within 14 calendar days after a violent criminal offense described above occurs in or on the premises of the school the student attends or while attending a school-sponsored or school-related activity, on or off school property, the District shall notify the parent of a student who is a victim of the offense of the parent's right to request a transfer. The parent must submit to the Superintendent an application for transfer. The Superintendent shall approve or disapprove the request within 14 calendar days of its submission.

Any transfer arranged for a student who was a victim of a violent crime as described above shall be renewed so long as the threat to the student exists at the campus to which the student would typically be assigned.

For each offense, the District shall maintain for at least five years documentation of the nature and date of the offense, notification to the parent of the transfer option, transfer applications submitted, action taken, and other relevant information regarding the offense.

Additional Transfer Options

In circumstances described by Education Code 25.0341, a parent of a student who has been the victim of a sexual assault, regardless of whether the offense occurred on or off school property, may request a transfer of the parent's child or the student assailant from the same campus.

[For other transfer provisions, see also FDA and FDB.]

Absences Considered

Except as otherwise provided by law, all absences incurred while enrolled in the District shall be considered in determining whether a student has been in attendance for 90 percent of the days the class is offered.

Attendance Committees

The Board authorizes the establishment of an attendance committee or as many attendance committees as necessary for efficient implementation of state law.

The Superintendent is authorized to make the specific appointments in accordance with legal requirements.

Parental Notice of Excessive Absences

A student and the student's parent or guardian shall be given written notice prior to and at such time when a student's attendance in any class drops below 90 percent of the days the class is offered.

Methods for Regaining Credit or Awarding a Final Grade

When a student's attendance drops below 90 percent but remains at least at 75 percent of the days the class is offered, the student may earn credit for the class or a final grade by completing a plan approved by the principal. This plan must provide for the student to meet the instructional requirements of the class as determined by the principal.

If the student fails to successfully complete the plan, or when a student's attendance drops below 75 percent of the days the class is offered, the student, parent, or representative may request award of credit or a final grade by submitting a written petition to the appropriate attendance committee.

A petition for credit or a final grade may be filed in accordance with administrative regulations. The attendance committee shall review the student's entire attendance record and the reasons for absences and shall determine whether to award credit or a final grade. [See Imposing Conditions for Awarding Credit or a Final Grade, below]

Regardless of whether a petition is filed, the attendance committee may also review the records of all students whose attendance drops below 90 percent of the days the class is offered.

A student who has lost credit or has not received a final grade because of excessive absences may regain credit or be awarded a final grade by fulfilling the requirements established by the attendance committee.

Personal Illness

The principal or attendance committee may require verification from a health-care provider in accordance with administrative regulations as a condition of classifying an absence for personal illness as one for which there are extenuating circumstances.

Best Interest Standard

In reaching consensus regarding a student's absences and how the student can be awarded credit or a final grade, the attendance committee shall attempt to ensure that its decision is in the best interest of the student. The Superintendent shall develop administrative regulations to document the attendance committee's decision.

Guidelines on Extenuating Circumstances

The attendance committee shall consider whether a student has mastered the essential knowledge and skills and maintained passing grades in the course or subject.

When makeup work is completed satisfactorily, the attendance committee shall consider extracurricular absences and other excused absences as days of attendance for award of credit or a final grade. [See FEA]

The attendance committee shall consider whether the reasons for the absences were out of the parent's or student's control and whether documentation for the absence is acceptable.

The student or parent shall be given an opportunity to present any information to the committee about the absences and to discuss ways to earn or regain credit or be awarded a final grade.

Imposing Conditions for Awarding Credit or a Final Grade

The attendance committee or principal, as applicable, is not required to assign a student to attend a specified program for an amount of time equivalent to the student's absences (i.e., "seat time").

The attendance committee or principal, as applicable, shall consider the student's unique circumstances and, if necessary, shall impose other conditions for awarding credit or a final grade that permit the student to meet the instructional requirements of the class. Conditions may include:

1. Maintaining attendance standards for the rest of the semester.
2. Completing additional assignments, as specified by the committee or teacher.
3. Attending tutorial sessions as scheduled.
4. Completing other instructional programs, as specified by the committee.
5. Taking an examination to earn credit. [See EHDB]

In all cases, the student must earn a passing grade in order to receive credit.

Appeal Process

A parent or student may appeal the decision of the attendance committee in accordance with FNG(LOCAL).

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Consent to Medical Treatment

The school in which a minor student is enrolled may consent to medical, dental, psychological, and surgical treatment of that student, provided all of the following conditions are met:

1. The person having the power to consent as otherwise provided by law cannot be contacted.
2. Actual notice to the contrary has not been given by that person.
3. Written authorization to consent has been received from that person.

Family Code 32.001(a)(4)

Form of Consent

Consent to medical treatment under this policy shall be in writing, signed by the school official giving consent, and given to the doctor, hospital, or other medical facility that administers the treatment. The consent must contain:

1. The name of the student.
2. The name of one or both parents, if known, and the name of the managing conservator or guardian of the student, if either has been appointed.
3. The name of the person giving consent and the person's relation to the student.
4. A statement of the nature of the medical treatment to be given.
5. The date on which the treatment is to begin.

Family Code 32.002

Minor's Consent to Treatment

A minor may consent to medical, dental, psychological, and surgical treatment furnished by a licensed physician or dentist if the minor:

1. Is 16 years of age and residing separate and apart from the minor's parents, managing conservator, or guardian, with or without the consent of the parents, conservator, or guardian and regardless of the duration of the residence, and is managing his or her own financial affairs, regardless of the source of the income;
2. Consents to the diagnosis and treatment of any infectious, contagious, or communicable disease required to be reported to the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS), including all reportable diseases under Health and Safety Code 81.041;

3. Is unmarried and pregnant, and consents to hospital, medical, or surgical treatment, other than abortion, related to her pregnancy; or

4. Consents to examination and treatment for drug or chemical addiction, drug or chemical dependency, or any other condition directly related to drug or chemical use.

Family Code 32.003; Planned Parenthood of Cent. Mo. v. Danforth, 428 U.S. 52 (1976); Bellotti v. Baird, 443 U.S. 622 (1979)

Telehealth in Medicaid Covered Services

Telemedicine medical services and telehealth services authorized as Texas Medicaid covered services must meet the conditions specified in 1 Administrative Code 354.1432(5). *1 TAC 354.1432(5)*

Administering Medication

Upon adoption of policies concerning the administration of medication to students by district employees, the district, its board, and its employees are immune as described below, provided:

1. The district has received a written request to administer the medication from the parent, legal guardian, or other person having legal control of the student.

2. When administering prescription medication, the medication is administered either:

   a. From a container that appears to be the original container and to be properly labeled; or

   b. From a properly labeled unit dosage container filled by a registered nurse or another qualified district employee, as determined by district policy, from a container that appears to be the original container and to be properly labeled.

By Volunteer Professionals

If a district provides liability insurance for a licensed physician or registered nurse who provides volunteer services to the district, a board may allow the physician or nurse to administer to any student nonprescription medication or medication currently prescribed for the student by the student's personal physician.

Immunity from Civil Liability

A district, a board, and its employees shall be immune from civil liability for damages or injuries resulting from the administration of medication to a student in accordance with this policy.

Education Code 22.052(a)-(b)

[See DG regarding protection of nurses for refusal to perform acts.]

Self-Administration of Asthma or Anaphylaxis Medicine

A student with asthma or anaphylaxis may possess and self-administer prescription asthma or anaphylaxis medicine while on school property or at a school-related event or activity if:

1. The medicine has been prescribed for that student as indicated by the prescription label on the medicine;
2. The student has demonstrated to the student's physician or other licensed health-care provider and the school nurse, if available, the skill level necessary to self-administer the prescription medication, including the use of any device required to administer the medication;
3. The self-administration is done in compliance with the prescription or written instructions from the student's physician or other licensed health-care provider; and
4. A parent of the student provides to the school:
    a. Written authorization, signed by the parent, for the student to self-administer the prescription medicine while on school property or at a school-related event or activity; and
    b. A written statement, signed by the student's physician or other licensed health-care provider, that states:
        (1) That the student has asthma or anaphylaxis and is capable of self-administering the medicine;
        (2) The name and purpose of the medicine;
        (3) The prescribed dosage for the medicine;
        (4) The times at which or circumstances under which the medicine may be administered; and
        (5) The period for which the medicine is prescribed.

The physician's statement must be kept on file in the school nurse's office, or, if there is no school nurse, in the office of the principal of the school the student attends.

[See FFAF for care of students with diagnosed food allergies at risk for anaphylaxis.]

No Waiver of Immunity

The provisions above neither waive any liability or immunity nor create any liability for or a cause of action against a district, a board, or its employees.

Education Code 38.015

Sunscreen Products

A student may possess and use a topical sunscreen product while on school property or at a school-related event or activity to avoid overexposure to the sun and not for the medical treatment of an injury or illness if the product is approved by the federal Food and Drug Administration for over-the-counter use. This provision does not waive any immunity from liability of a district, its board, or its employees; or create any liability for or a cause of action against a district, its board, or its employees. *Education Code 38.021*

Dietary Supplements

A district employee commits a Class C misdemeanor offense if the employee:

1. Knowingly sells, markets, or distributes a dietary supplement that contains performance enhancing compounds to a primary or secondary education student with whom the employee has contact as part of the employee's school district duties; or

2. Knowingly endorses or suggests the ingestion, intranasal application, or inhalation of a dietary supplement that contains performance enhancing compounds by a primary or secondary education student with whom the employee has contact as part of the employee's school district duties.

Education Code 38.011(a), (c)

Prescription Medication and Special Education Students

An employee of a district is prohibited from requiring a child to obtain a prescription for a substance covered under the federal Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 801 et seq.) as a condition of attending school, receiving an evaluation for special education, or receiving special education and related services.

An employee is not prohibited from consulting or sharing classroom-based observations with parents regarding a student's academic and functional performance, behavior in the classroom or school, or the need for evaluation for special education or related services.

20 U.S.C. 1412(a)(25)

[See FFEB for information regarding psychotropic drugs and psychiatric evaluations]

Low-THC Cannabis

A district may not enact, adopt, or enforce a rule, ordinance, order, resolution, or other regulation that prohibits the cultivation, production, dispensing, or possession of low-THC cannabis, as authorized by the Texas Compassionate-Use Act. *Health and Safety Code 487.201*

Dextromethorphan (Certain Cold Medication)

A district may not adopt or enforce an ordinance, order, rule, regulation, or policy that governs the sale, distribution, or possession of dextromethorphan. *Health and Safety Code 488.005*

Maintenance and Administration of Opioid Antagonists

Each district shall adopt and implement a policy regarding the maintenance, administration, and disposal of opioid antagonists at each campus in the district that serves students in grades 6 through 12 and may adopt and implement such a policy at each campus in the district, including campuses serving students in a grade level below grade 6.

The policy adopted must:

1. Provide that school personnel and school volunteers who are authorized and trained may administer an opioid antagonist to a person who is reasonably believed to be experiencing an opioid-related drug overdose;
2. Require that each school campus subject to a policy adopted under this provision have one or more school personnel members or school volunteers authorized and trained to administer an opioid antagonist present during regular school hours;
3. Establish the number of opioid antagonists that must be available at each campus at any given time; and
4. Require that the supply of opioid antagonists at each school campus subject to a policy adopted under this provision must be stored in a secure location and be easily accessible to school personnel and school volunteers authorized and trained to administer an opioid antagonist.

Education Code 38.222(a), (c); 25 TAC 40.84(b)-(c); 19 TAC 103.1103

Definitions

“Authorized health-care provider” means a physician, as defined in Education Code 38.201, or person who has been delegated prescriptive authority by a physician under Occupations Code Chapter 157.

“Campus” means a unit of a district that has an assigned administrator, has enrolled students who are counted for average daily attendance, has assigned instructional staff, provides instructional services to students, has one or more grades in the range from early childhood education through grade 12 or is ungraded, and complies with relevant Texas laws.

“Opioid antagonist” as defined in Health and Safety Code 483.101, means any drug that binds to opioid receptors and blocks or otherwise inhibits the effects of opioids acting on those receptors.

	"Opioid-related drug overdose" as defined in Health and Safety Code 483.101, means a condition, evidenced by symptoms of extreme physical illness, decreased level of consciousness, constriction of the pupils, respiratory depression, or coma, that a layperson would reasonably believe to be the result of the consumption or use of an opioid. *25 TAC 40.82(2)-(3), (5)-(6)*
Maintenance	Once a district adopts an opioid antagonist medication policy, a campus implementing an opioid policy must stock opioid antagonist medication.
Prescription	A campus must obtain a prescription from a physician or a person who has been delegated prescriptive authority to stock, possess, and maintain the established number of doses of opioid antagonists as determined by a district, on each campus as described in Education Code 38.225 (Prescription of Opioid Antagonists). The campus must renew this prescription or obtain a new prescription annually. The number of additional doses may be determined by an individual campus review led by a physician or a person who has been delegated prescriptive authority. *25 TAC 40.85(a)-(b)*
Standing Order	A physician or person who has been delegated prescriptive authority under Occupations Code Chapter 157 may prescribe opioid antagonists in the name of a school district. *Education Code 38.225(a); 25 TAC 40.85(c)*
Storage of Medication	The unassigned opioid antagonist medication must be stored in a secure location and be easily accessible, in accordance with the manufacturer's guidelines and local policy of the district.
Disposal	Used, unassigned opioid antagonists are considered infectious waste and must be disposed of according to the school's bloodborne pathogen control policy. Expired, unassigned opioid antagonists must be disposed of in accordance with the Federal Drug Administration's disposal of unused medications guidelines and local policy of the district. *25 TAC 40.85(d)-(f)*
Reporting Requirement	The campus must submit the report no later than the 10th business day after the date a school personnel member or school volunteer administers an opioid antagonist in accordance with the unassigned opioid antagonist medication policy.

The report shall be submitted to the following individuals and entities:

1. The district;
2. The physician or other person who prescribed the opioid antagonist; and
3. The commissioner of DSHS.

Notifications to the commissioner of DSHS must be submitted on the designated electronic form available on DSHS School Health Program website found at dshs.texas.gov.

25 TAC 40.87(b)-(c)

The school shall report the following information:

1. The age of the person who received the administration of the opioid antagonist;
2. Whether the person who received the administration of the opioid antagonist was a student, a school personnel member or school volunteer, or a visitor;
3. The physical location where the opioid antagonist was administered;
4. The number of doses of opioid antagonist administered;
5. The title of the person who administered the opioid antagonist; and
6. Any other information required by the commissioner of education.

Education Code 38.223(b)

Records Retention

Records relating to implementing and administering the district unassigned opioid antagonist medication policy must be retained per the campus record retention schedule. *25 TAC 40.87(a)*

Training

A district that adopts an opioid antagonist policy is responsible for training school personnel and school volunteers in the administration of an opioid antagonist. *Education Code 38.224(a)*

Training must include information on:

1. Recognizing the signs and symptoms of an opioid-related drug overdose;
2. Responding to an opioid-related drug overdose and administering an opioid antagonist;

3. Implementing emergency procedures, after administering an opioid antagonist;

4. Understanding the medical purpose and misuse of opioids; and

5. Properly disposing of used or expired opioid antagonists.

Training must:

1. Be provided annually in a formal training session or through online education, including practicing the administration of an opioid antagonist with an opioid antagonist trainer device; and

2. Be provided in accordance with the policy adopted under Education Code 21.4515.

Each campus must maintain training records and must make available upon request a list of school personnel and school volunteers who are trained and authorized to administer the unassigned opioid antagonist medication on the campus.

25 TAC 40.86(b)-(c)

Gifts, Grants, and Donations

A district may accept gifts, grants, donations, and federal and local funds to implement these provisions. *Education Code 38.226*

Immunity

A person who in good faith takes, or fails to take, any action under Education Code Chapter 38, Subchapter E-1 is immune from civil or criminal liability or disciplinary action resulting from that action or failure to act as described by Education Code 38.227. *Education Code 38.227*

Maintenance and Administration of Epinephrine Auto-Injectors

Note: The following provisions apply only to a district that adopts an unassigned epinephrine auto-injector policy.

A district may adopt and implement a policy regarding the maintenance, administration, and disposal of epinephrine auto-injectors at each campus in the district.

If a policy is adopted, the policy:

1. Must provide that school personnel and school volunteers who are authorized and trained may administer an epinephrine auto-injector to a person who is reasonably believed to be experiencing anaphylaxis on a school campus; and

2. May provide that school personnel and school volunteers who are authorized and trained may administer an epinephrine auto-injector to a person who is reasonably believed to be ex-

periencing anaphylaxis at an off-campus school event or while in transit to or from a school event.

A district that adopts a policy must require that each campus have one or more school personnel members or school volunteers authorized and trained to administer an epinephrine auto-injector present during all hours the campus is open. The supply of epinephrine auto-injectors at each campus must be stored in a secure location and be easily accessible to school personnel and school volunteers authorized and trained to administer an epinephrine auto-injector.

Education Code 38.208

A district that chooses to adopt and implement a written unassigned epinephrine auto-injector policy under Education Code Chapter 38, Subchapter E is not required to create an additional policy for care of certain students at risk for anaphylaxis under Education Code 38.0151 [see FFAF]. *25 TAC 40.62(c)*

A district may develop, as part of the policy, provisions for additional doses to be stocked and utilized at off-campus school events, or in transit to or from school events. *25 TAC 40.65(a)(2)*

Definitions

All Hours the Campus Is Open

“All hours the campus is open” is defined as, at a minimum, during regular on-campus school hours, and when school personnel are physically on site for school-sponsored activities.

Campus

A “campus” is defined as a unit of a school district that has an assigned administrator, has enrolled students who are counted for average daily attendance, has assigned instructional staff, provides instructional services to students, has one or more grades in the range from early childhood education through grade 12 or is ungraded, and complies with relevant Texas laws.

Unassigned Epinephrine Auto-Injector

An “unassigned epinephrine auto-injector” is an epinephrine auto-injector prescribed by an authorized health-care provider in the name of the school issued with a non-patient-specific standing delegation order for the administration of an epinephrine auto-injector, issued by a physician or person who has been delegated prescriptive authority under Occupations Code Chapter 157.

25 TAC 40.63(1), (4), (11)

Prompt Notification

Local emergency medical services must be promptly notified by the school when an individual is suspected of experiencing anaphylaxis and when an epinephrine auto-injector is administered. If the trained school personnel or school volunteer is the only individual available to notify emergency medical services, the trained individ-

ual should administer the unassigned epinephrine auto-injector before notifying emergency medical services.

The parent, legal guardian, or emergency contact must be promptly notified by the school when an unassigned epinephrine auto-injector is utilized on their child as soon as is feasible during the emergency response to suspected anaphylaxis.

25 TAC 40.65(e)-(f)

Records

School records of the administration of the unassigned epinephrine auto-injector and suspected anaphylaxis must be provided to the parent or guardian of the recipient upon request.

Records relating to implementation and administration of the school's unassigned epinephrine auto-injector policy shall be retained per the record retention schedule for records of public school districts found in 13 Administrative Code 7.125 [see CPC].

25 TAC 40.65(f)-(g)

Reports

Not later than the 10th business day after the date a school personnel member or school volunteer administers an epinephrine auto-injector in accordance with district policy, the school shall send a report to the school district; the physician who prescribed the epinephrine auto-injector; and the commissioner of state health services.

The report must include the following information:

1. The age of the person who received the administration of the epinephrine auto-injector;
2. Whether the person who received the administration of the epinephrine auto-injector was a student, a school personnel member or school volunteer, or a visitor;
3. The physical location where the epinephrine auto-injector was administered;
4. The number of doses of epinephrine auto-injector administered;
5. The title of the person who administered the epinephrine auto-injector; and
6. Any other information required by the commissioner of education.

Education Code 38.209

Notifications to the commissioner of DSHS shall be submitted on the designated electronic form available on the DSHS School Health Program website. *25 TAC 40.68(b)*

Assignment of Trained Individuals

At each campus in which a school adopts an unassigned epinephrine auto-injector policy, the principal may assign school personnel or school volunteers to be trained to administer unassigned epinephrine auto-injectors or seek school personnel or school volunteers who volunteer to be trained to administer unassigned epinephrine auto-injectors.

In order to increase the number of trained individuals in the administration of unassigned epinephrine auto-injectors, schools may distribute to school personnel or school volunteers in the district, at least once per school year, a notice that includes a description of the request seeking volunteers to be trained to administer an epinephrine auto-injector to a person believed to be experiencing anaphylaxis and a description of the training that the school personnel or school volunteers will receive in the administration of epinephrine with an auto-injector.

25 TAC 40.66(a)-(b)

Signed Statement

Trained school personnel or school volunteers who administer the unassigned epinephrine auto-injector must submit a signed statement indicating that they agree to perform the service of administering an unassigned epinephrine auto-injector to a student or individual that may be experiencing anaphylaxis. *25 TAC 40.66(c)*

Training

A district that adopts an unassigned epinephrine auto-injector written policy is responsible for training school personnel and school volunteers in the administration of an unassigned epinephrine auto-injector.

Training must include information on:

1. Recognizing the signs and symptoms of anaphylaxis;
2. Administering an epinephrine auto-injector;
3. Implementing emergency procedures, if necessary, after administering an epinephrine auto-injector; and
4. Properly disposing of used or expired epinephrine auto-injectors.

Training must be provided in accordance with the district professional development policy [see DMA].

Education Code 38.210(a), (b)

Each assigned school personnel or school volunteer shall receive initial training and an annual refresher training.

Training:

1. Shall be consistent with the most recent Voluntary Guidelines for Managing Food Allergies in Schools and Early Care and Education Programs published by the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention;
2. May be provided in a formal face-to-face training session or through an online education course;
3. Must include information on properly inspecting unassigned epinephrine auto-injectors for usage and expiration; and
4. Must include information about promptly notifying local emergency medical services.

25 TAC 40.67(1)-(2), (5)

The initial training must include hands-on training with an epinephrine auto-injector trainer. The annual refresher training must include a hands-on demonstration of administration skills.

Each school campus shall maintain training records and make available upon request a list of those school personnel or school volunteers trained and authorized to administer the unassigned epinephrine auto-injector on the campus.

25 TAC 40.67(3)-(4), (6)

Standing Orders

A physician or person who has been delegated prescriptive authority under Occupations Code Chapter 157 may prescribe epinephrine auto-injectors in the name of a district in accordance with law. *Education Code 38.211(a)*

A district shall obtain a prescription from an authorized health-care provider each year, to stock, possess, and maintain at least one unassigned adult epinephrine auto-injector pack (two doses) on each school campus.

A school may choose to stock unassigned pediatric epinephrine auto-injector packs, based on the need of the school's population.

25 TAC 40.65(a)-(a)(1)

Epinephrine Coordinator

The superintendent will designate appropriate school personnel to coordinate and manage policy implementation, including training of school personnel, and the acquisition or purchase, usage, expiration, and disposal of unassigned epinephrine auto-injectors. Throughout the school calendar year, the designated school per-

	sonnel must coordinate with each campus to ensure that the unassigned epinephrine auto-injectors are checked monthly for expiration and usage and the findings are documented. *25 TAC 40.65(b)*
Notice to Parents	If a district implements a policy for the maintenance, administration, and disposal of epinephrine auto-injectors, the district shall provide written notice of the policy to a parent or guardian of each student enrolled in the district. Notice must be provided before the policy is implemented by the district and before the start of each school year. *Education Code 38.212* A district shall provide electronic or written notice to the parent or guardian of each student. If a district changes or discontinues the policy under this subchapter, written or electronic notice detailing the change or discontinuation must be provided to the parent or guardian of each student within 15 calendar days. *25 TAC 40.69*
Storage	Unassigned epinephrine auto-injectors shall be stored in a secure, easily accessible area for an emergency, in accordance with manufacturer's guidelines. It is recommended that the school administrator develop a map to be placed in high traffic areas that indicates the location of the unassigned epinephrine auto-injectors on each school campus. It is recommended that the map also indicates the locations of the automated external defibrillator (AED). *25 TAC 40.65(h)*
Replacement	The district shall develop a plan to replace, as soon as reasonably possible, any unassigned epinephrine auto-injector that is used or close to expiration. *25 TAC 40.65(i)*
Disposal	Used unassigned epinephrine auto-injectors shall be considered infectious waste and shall be disposed of according to the school's bloodborne pathogen control policy. Expired unassigned epinephrine auto-injectors shall be disposed of according to the school's medication disposal policy. *25 TAC 40.65(j)-(k)* [See DBB]
Gifts, Grants, and Donations	A district may accept gifts, grants, donations, and federal and local funds to implement its policy. *Education Code 38.213*

Maintenance and Administration of Medication for Respiratory Distress

Note: The following provisions apply only to a district that adopts a policy on medication for respiratory distress.

A district may adopt and implement a policy regarding the maintenance, administration, and disposal of unassigned medication for respiratory distress at each campus in the district. *Education Code 38.208(a-1); 25 TAC 40.44(a)*

If a policy is adopted, the policy must provide that school personnel and school volunteers who are authorized and trained may administer medication for respiratory distress to a person reasonably believed to be experiencing respiratory distress on a school campus, or at a school-sponsored or school-related activity on or off school property. *Education Code 38.208(b-1); 25 TAC 40.44(a)(1)(C)*

In developing the policy, a district may consider performing a review to include:

1. Consultation with school nurses, the local school health advisory committee, local health-care providers, or any department or organization involved with student well-being;
2. Campus geography; and
3. Student population size.

19 TAC 40.44(b)

An adopted unassigned medication for respiratory distress policy must be publicly available. *25 TAC 40.44(d)*

Definitions

“School personnel” means an employee of a district. The term includes a member of the board.

“School volunteer” means a person providing services for or on behalf of a district, on the premises of the district or at a school-sponsored or school-related activity on or off school property, who does not receive compensation in excess of reimbursement for expenses.

“Unassigned medication for respiratory distress” means albuterol, levalbuterol, or another medication based on the best available medical evidence for the treatment of respiratory distress that is:

1. Delivered by metered-dose inhaler (MDI) with a spacer (valved holding chamber) or by a nebulizer as a rescue medication;
2. Prescribed by an authorized health-care provider in the name of the district;

3. Issued with a non-patient-specific standing delegation order for the administration of a medication for respiratory distress; and

4. Issued by an authorized health-care provider.

Education Code 38.201(3-a), (6), 22.053(b); 25 TAC 40.42(8), (10), (12)

Each Campus During Regular School Hours

Each district that adopts a policy must require that each campus have one or more school personnel or school volunteers authorized and trained to administer unassigned medication for respiratory distress present during regular school hours, which means at least 30 minutes before the first bell to 30 minutes after the last bell of the school day. *Education Code 38.208(d-1); 25 TAC 40.42(5), 40.44(a)(1)(C)*

A “campus” is defined as a geographic unit of a district that:

1. Has an assigned administrator;

2. Has enrolled students who are counted for average daily attendance;

3. Has assigned instructional staff;

4. Provides instructional services to students;

5. Has one or more grades in the range from early childhood education through grade 12 or is ungraded; and

6. Is subject to Texas laws.

25 TAC 40.42(2)

Medication Inventory

Subject to the availability of funding, a district that adopts a policy must allow for treatment of multiple students and secure or obtain at least:

1. One MDI with appropriate spacers (valved holding chambers) to accommodate the developmental needs of the student population; or

2. At least five vials of nebulizer solution with appropriate nebulizer-required equipment to accommodate the developmental needs of the student population.

25 TAC 40.44(a)(2)

In addition to the minimum number of doses described above, the number of additional doses may be determined by an individual campus review led by an authorized health-care provider. *25 TAC 40.45(b)(2)*

Designated Campus Administrator

A district that adopts a policy must include in the policy the designated campus administrator to coordinate and manage policy implementation for each campus, which includes:

1. Conducting a review at the campus to determine the need for additional doses;
2. Training school personnel and school volunteers;
3. Acquiring or purchasing, maintaining, storing, and using unassigned medication for respiratory distress, subject to available campus funding; and
4. Disposing of expired unassigned medication for respiratory distress.

25 TAC 40.44(c)(1)

Notification Procedures

Each district that adopts a policy must include in the policy the procedures for notifying a parent, prescribing authorized health-care provider, and the student's primary health-care provider when unassigned medication for respiratory distress is administered. *25 TAC 40.44(c)(4)*

Referral Required

If unassigned medication for respiratory distress is administered to a student whose parent or guardian has not provided notification to the school that the student has been diagnosed with asthma, the school must refer the student to the student’s primary care provider on the day the medication for respiratory distress is administered and inform the student’s parent or guardian regarding the referral. The referral must include:

1. The symptoms of respiratory distress observed;
2. The name and dosage of the unassigned medication for respiratory distress administered to the student;
3. Any patient care instructions given to the student; and
4. Information about the purpose and use of an asthma action plan and medical authorization for schools, including a blank copy of the plan and authorization the provider completes and returns to the school.

If a student who has received medication for respiratory distress does not have a primary care provider or the parent or guardian of the student has not engaged a primary care provider for the student, the student’s parent or guardian must receive information to assist the parent or guardian in selecting a primary care provider for the student.

Education Code 38.208(b-2)-(b-3); 25 TAC 40.44(c)(6)-(7)

Storage

The supply of medication for respiratory distress at each campus must be stored in accordance with the manufacturer's guidelines and local policy of the district in a secure location and be easily accessible to authorized school personnel and school volunteers. *Education Code 38.208(e-1); 25 TAC 40.45(d)*

The location of the unassigned medication for respiratory distress must be specified in the policy. *25 TAC 40.44(c)(3)*

Disposal

The policy must include a plan to check inventory of unassigned medication for respiratory distress for expiration at least twice during the school year, to replace, as soon as reasonably possible, and to document the findings. *25 TAC 40.44(c)(5)*

Expired unassigned medication for respiratory distress and other used or expired supplies must be disposed of in accordance with the manufacturer's guidelines and local policy of the district. *25 TAC 40.45(e)*

Records Retention

Records relating to implementing and administering the district's unassigned medication for respiratory distress policy must be retained per the campus record retention schedule. *25 TAC 40.47(a)*

Training

Each district that adopts a policy for the administration of medication for respiratory distress is responsible for training school personnel and school volunteers in the administration of medication for respiratory distress. Each authorized school personnel or school volunteer must receive initial training and an annual refresher training. The training must:

1. Include information on recognizing the signs and symptoms of respiratory distress;
2. Include information on administering medication for respiratory distress;
3. Include information on implementing emergency procedures, if necessary, after administering medication for respiratory distress;
4. Include information on proper sanitization, reuse, and disposal of medication for respiratory distress;
5. Cover the authorized health-care provider's standing order;
6. Include processes to follow-up with the prescribing authorized health-care provider and the student's primary health-care provider;
7. Provide information on the report required after administering unassigned medication [see below];

8. Include information on the district's adopted unassigned medication for respiratory distress policy;

9. Incorporate hands-on training with unassigned medication for respiratory distress; and

10. Inform school personnel or school volunteers of the purpose and use of asthma action plans.

Education Code 38.210(a-1); 25 TAC 40.46(a)

Training must be provided in a formal training session or through online education and must be provided in accordance with the district professional development policy [see DMA]. *Education Code 38.210(b)*

The policy must include a list of trained and authorized school personnel and school volunteers available to administer unassigned medication for respiratory distress. *25 TAC 40.44(c)(2)*

Each campus must maintain training records and must make available upon request a list of school personnel and school volunteers trained and authorized to administer unassigned medication for respiratory distress at the campus or at a school-sponsored event. *25 TAC 40.46(b)*

Reporting Requirement

Not later than the 10th business day after the date a school personnel member or school volunteer administers medication for respiratory distress to a person experiencing respiratory distress, the school shall report the following information to the district, the physician or other person who prescribed the medication for respiratory distress, and the commissioner of state health services:

1. The age of the person who received the administration of the medication for respiratory distress;

2. Whether the person who received the administration of the medication for respiratory distress was a student, a school personnel member or school volunteer, or a visitor;

3. The dosage of the medication for respiratory distress administered;

4. The title of the person who administered the medication for respiratory distress; and

5. Any other information required by the commissioner.

Notifications to the commissioner of state health services must be submitted on the designated electronic form available on the DSHS School Health Program website found at dshs.texas.gov.

Education Code 38.2091; 25 TAC 40.47

No Negative Fiscal Impact

The policy may not require a district to purchase prescription medication for respiratory distress or require any other expenditure related to the maintenance or administration of medication for respiratory distress that would result in a negative fiscal impact on the district or school. *Education Code 38.208(f)*

Standing Order

A physician or person who has been delegated prescriptive authority under Occupations Code Chapter 157 may prescribe medication for respiratory distress in the name of a school district. *Education Code 38.211(a)*

Each district campus in a district that adopts a policy for the administration of medication for respiratory distress must obtain a prescription from an authorized health-care provider to stock, possess, and maintain unassigned medication for respiratory distress at each campus and any equipment necessary to administer the medication. The campus must renew this prescription or obtain a new prescription annually. *25 TAC 40.45(b)*

Notice to Parents

If a district implements a policy for the maintenance, administration, and disposal of medication for respiratory distress, the district shall provide written or electronic notice of the policy to a parent or guardian of each student enrolled in the district. Notice must be provided before the policy is implemented by the district and before the start of each school year. *Education Code 38.212; 25 TAC 40.48(a)*

If a district changes or discontinues the unassigned medication for respiratory distress policy, the campus must provide written or electronic notice detailing the change or discontinuation of the policy to a parent or guardian of each student within 15 calendar days after the change or discontinuation. *25 TAC 40.48(b)*

Refusal to Administer

A school personnel member or school volunteer may not be subject to any penalty or disciplinary action for refusing to administer or receive training to administer epinephrine auto-injectors or medication for respiratory distress, as applicable, in accordance with a policy for the maintenance and administration of epinephrine autoinjectors or a policy for medication for respiratory distress. *Education Code 38.208(d-2)*

Immunity from Liability

A person who in good faith takes, or fails to take, any action related to Education Code Chapter 38, Subchapter E, related to the maintenance and administration of epinephrine auto-injectors and medi-

cation for respiratory distress, is immune from civil or criminal liability or disciplinary action resulting from that action or failure to act as described by Education Code 38.215 and 25 Administrative Code 40.49. *Education Code 38.215; 25 TAC 40.71*

Threat Assessment

Definitions

"Harmful, threatening, or violent behavior" includes behaviors, such as verbal threats, threats of self harm, bullying, cyberbullying, fighting, the use or possession of a weapon, sexual assault, sexual harassment, dating violence, stalking, or assault, by a student that could result in:

1. Specific interventions, including mental health or behavioral supports;
2. In-school suspension;
3. Out-of-school suspension; or
4. The student's expulsion or removal to a disciplinary alternative education program (DAEP) or a juvenile justice alternative education program (JJAEP).

"Team" means a threat assessment and safe and supportive school team established by the board under Education Code 37.115.

Education Code 37.115(a)

Threat Assessment and Safe and Supportive Schools Team

The board shall establish a threat assessment and safe and supportive school team to serve at each campus of the district and shall adopt policies and procedures for the teams.

The team is responsible for developing and implementing the safe and supportive school program in compliance with Texas Education Agency (TEA) rules at the district campus served by the team.

The policies and procedures adopted under Education Code 37.115 must:

1. Be consistent with the model policies and procedures developed by the Texas School Safety Center (TxSSC) [see Education Code 37.220];
2. Require each team to complete training provided by the TxSSC or a regional education service center (ESC) regarding evidence-based threat assessment programs;
3. Require each team established under this section to report the required information regarding the team's activities to TEA [see Reporting to TEA, below];
4. Require each district campus to establish a clear procedure for a student to report concerning behavior exhibited by another student for assessment by the team or other appropriate school employee; and

5. Provide for:

    a. A district employee who reports a potential threat to a team to elect for the employee's identity to be confidential and not subject to disclosure Government Code Chapter 552 (Public Information Act), except as necessary for the team, the district, or law enforcement to investigate the potential threat; and

    b. The district to maintain a record of the identity of a district employee who elects for the employee's identity to be confidential.

Membership

The superintendent shall ensure, to the greatest extent practicable, that the members appointed to each team have expertise in counseling, behavior management, mental health and substance use, classroom instruction, special education, school administration, school safety and security, emergency management, and law enforcement. A team may serve more than one campus of a district, provided that each district campus is assigned a team.

Oversight Committee

The superintendent may establish a committee, or assign to an existing committee established by the district, the duty to oversee the operations of teams established for the district. A committee with oversight responsibility must include members with expertise in human resources, education, special education, counseling, behavior management, school administration, mental health and substance use, school safety and security, emergency management, and law enforcement.

Team Duties

Each team shall:

1. Conduct a threat assessment that includes assessing and reporting individuals who make threats of violence or exhibit harmful, threatening, or violent behavior in accordance with district policies and procedures; and gathering and analyzing data to determine the level of risk and appropriate intervention, including:

    a. Referring a student for mental health assessment; and

    b. Implementing an escalation procedure, if appropriate, based on the team's assessment, in accordance with district policy;

2. Provide guidance to students and school employees on recognizing harmful, threatening, or violent behavior that may pose a threat to the community, school, or individual; and

3. Support the district in implementing the district's multihazard emergency operations plan [see CKC].

Use of Sentinel Assessment Instrument, Manual, and Field Guide

Effective August 1, 2025, when conducting a threat assessment, members of a threat assessment team shall utilize the threat assessment instrument, manual, and field guide in Sentinel [see CKA], which are consistent with the model policies published by the TxSSC. *19 TAC 103.1213(e)(1)(A)*

Parental Participation

Before a team may conduct a threat assessment of a student, the team must notify the parent of or person standing in parental relation to the student regarding the assessment. In conducting the assessment, the team shall provide an opportunity for the parent or person to participate in the assessment, either in person or remotely, and to submit to the team information regarding the student.

After completing a threat assessment of a student, the team shall provide to the parent of or person standing in parental relation to the student the team's findings and conclusions regarding the student.

Consent for Mental Health-Care Service

A team may not provide a mental health-care service to a student who is under 18 years of age unless the team obtains written consent from the parent of or the person standing in parental relation to the student before providing the mental health-care service. The consent must be submitted on a form developed by the district that complies with all applicable state and federal law. The student's parent or person standing in parental relation to the student may give consent for a student to receive ongoing services or may limit consent to one or more services provided on a single occasion.

Education Code 37.115(c)-(g)

Determination of Risk

On determination that a student or other individual poses a serious risk of violence to self or others, a team shall immediately report the team's determination to the superintendent. If the individual is a student, the superintendent shall immediately attempt to inform the parent or person standing in parental relation to the student. These requirements do not prevent an employee of the school from acting immediately to prevent an imminent threat or respond to an emergency.

A team identifying a student at risk of suicide shall act in accordance with the district's suicide prevention program. If the student at risk of suicide also makes a threat of violence to others, the team shall conduct a threat assessment in addition to actions taken in accordance with the district's suicide prevention program.

A team identifying a student using or possessing tobacco, drugs, or alcohol shall act in accordance with district policies and procedures related to substance use prevention and intervention.

Education Code 37.115(h)-(j)

Recordkeeping

Materials and information provided to or produced by a team during a threat assessment of a student under this provision must be maintained in the student's school record until the student's 24th birthday. *Education Code 37.115(j-1)*

[For information regarding the transfer of threat assessment records between school districts, see FD and FDA.]

Reporting to TEA

A team must report to TEA in accordance with TEA-developed guidelines the following information regarding the team's activities and other information for each campus the team serves:

1. The occupation of each person appointed to the team;
2. The number of threats and description of the type of threats reported to the team;
3. The outcome of each assessment made by the team, including:
    a. Any disciplinary action taken, including a change in school placement;
    b. Any action taken by law enforcement; or
    c. A referral to or change in counseling, mental health, special education, or other services;
4. The total number, disaggregated by student gender, race, and status as receiving special education services, being at risk of dropping out of school, being in foster care, experiencing homelessness, being a dependent of military personnel, being pregnant or a parent, having limited English proficiency, or being a migratory child, of, in connection with an assessment or reported threat by the team:
    a. Citations issued for Class C misdemeanor offenses;
    b. Arrests;
    c. Incidents of uses of restraint;
    d. Changes in school placement, including placement in a JJAEP or DAEP;
    e. Referrals to or changes in counseling, mental health, special education, or other services;

f. Placements in in-school suspension or out-of-school suspension and incidents of expulsion;

g. Unexcused absences of 15 or more days during the school year; and

h. Referrals to juvenile court for truancy; and

5. The number and percentage of school personnel trained in:

a. A best-practices program or research-based practice under Education Code 38.351 [see FFEB], including the number and percentage of school personnel trained in suicide prevention or grief and trauma-informed practices;

b. Mental health or psychological first aid for schools;

c. Training relating to the safe and supportive school program; or

d. Any other program relating to safety identified by the commissioner.

Education Code 37.115(k)

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Removal Under Student Code of Conduct

The Student Code of Conduct must specify conditions that authorize or require a principal or other appropriate administrator to transfer a student to a disciplinary alternative education program (DAEP). *Education Code 37.001(a)(2)*

Mandatory Placement in DAEP

A student shall be removed from class and placed in a DAEP if the student engages in conduct described in Education Code 37.006 that requires placement, subject to the requirements of Education Code 37.009(a) [see Process for Removal and Mitigating Factors, below]. *Education Code 37.006*

[For additional factors that must be considered in each decision concerning suspension, removal to a DAEP, expulsion, or placement in a juvenile justice alternative education program (JJAEP), see FO and the Student Code of Conduct.]

School-Related Misconduct

A student shall be removed from class and placed in a DAEP if the student engages in conduct involving a public school that contains the elements of the offense of false alarm or report under Penal Code 42.06, or terroristic threat under Penal Code 22.07.

A student shall also be removed from class and placed in a DAEP if the student commits the following on or within 300 feet of school property, as measured from any point on the school's real property boundary line, or while attending a school-sponsored or school-related activity on or off school property:

1. Engages in conduct punishable as a felony.
2. Engages in conduct that contains the elements of assault, under Penal Code 22.01(a)(1).
3. Sells, gives, or delivers to another person or possesses, uses, or is under the influence of:
    a. A controlled substance, as defined by the Texas Controlled Substances Act, Health and Safety Code Chapter 481, or by 21 U.S.C. 801, et seq., excluding marijuana, as defined by Health and Safety Code 481.002, or tetrahydrocannabinol, as defined by Department of Public Safety rule;
    b. A dangerous drug, as defined by the Texas Dangerous Drug Act, Health and Safety Code Chapter 483.
4. Possesses, uses, or is under the influence of, or sells, gives, or delivers to another person marijuana or tetrahydrocannabinol, as defined above;

5. Possesses, uses, sells, gives, or delivers to another person an e-cigarette, as defined by Health and Safety Code 161.081 [see FNCD];

6. Sells, gives, or delivers to another person an alcoholic beverage, as defined by Alcoholic Beverage Code 1.04, or commits a serious act or offense while under the influence of alcohol, or possesses, uses, or is under the influence of an alcoholic beverage.

7. Engages in conduct that contains the elements of an offense relating to an abusable volatile chemical under Health and Safety Code 485.031 through 485.034.

8. Engages in conduct that contains the elements of the offense of public lewdness under Penal Code 21.07.

9. Engages in conduct that contains the elements of the offense of indecent exposure under Penal Code 21.08.

10. Engages in conduct that contains the elements of the offense of harassment under Penal Code 42.07(a)(1), (2), (3), or (7) against an employee of the district.

Education Code 37.006(a)

Exception Removal to a DAEP for school-related misconduct is not required if the student is expelled for the same conduct. *Education Code 37.006(m)*

Retaliation Except where a student engages in retaliatory acts against a district employee for which expulsion is mandatory [see FOD], a student shall be removed from class and placed in a DAEP if the student engages in conduct on or off school property containing the elements of retaliation under Penal Code 36.06, against any school employee. *Education Code 37.006(b)*

Conduct Unrelated to School In addition to the circumstances listed above, a student shall be removed from class and placed in a DAEP based on conduct occurring off campus and while the student is not in attendance at a school-sponsored or school-related activity if:

1. The student receives deferred prosecution under Family Code 53.03 for conduct defined as a felony offense in Penal Code Title 5 or the felony offense of aggravated robbery under Penal Code 29.03;

2. A court or jury finds that the student has engaged in delinquent conduct under Family Code 54.03 for conduct defined as a felony offense in Penal Code Title 5 or the felony offense of aggravated robbery under Penal Code 29.03; or

3. The superintendent or designee has a reasonable belief that the student has engaged in conduct defined as a felony offense in Penal Code Title 5 or the felony offense of aggravated robbery under Penal Code 29.03.

Education Code 37.006(c)

Reasonable Belief

In determining whether there is a reasonable belief that a student has engaged in conduct defined as a felony offense, a superintendent or a superintendent's designee may consider all available information and must consider the information furnished under Code of Criminal Procedure Article 15.27 other than information requested under Code of Criminal Procedure Article 15.27(k-1). *Education Code 37.006(e); Code of Criminal Procedure 15.27(a)* [See GRAA]

Title 5 Felonies

The following are felony offenses listed in Penal Code, Title 5, Offenses Against the Person.

1. Murder. *Penal Code 19.02*
2. Capital Murder. *Penal Code 19.03*
3. Manslaughter. *Penal Code 19.04*
4. Criminally Negligent Homicide. *Penal Code 19.05*
5. Unlawful Restraint, if:
    a. The person restrained was younger than 17 years of age; or
    b. The actor recklessly exposes the victim to a substantial risk of serious bodily injury; restrains an individual the actor knows is a public servant while the public servant is lawfully discharging an official duty or in retaliation or on account of an exercise of official power or performance of an official duty; or while in custody restrains any other person. *Penal Code 20.02*
6. Kidnapping. *Penal Code 20.03*
7. Aggravated Kidnapping. *Penal Code 20.04*
8. Smuggling of Persons. *Penal Code 20.05*
9. Continuous Smuggling of Persons. *Penal Code 20.06*
10. Trafficking of Persons. *Penal Code 20A.02*
11. Continuous Trafficking of Persons. *Penal Code 20A.03*

12. Continuous Sexual Abuse of Young Child or Disabled Individual. *Penal Code 21.02*
13. Bestiality. *Penal Code 21.09*
14. Indecency with a Child. *Penal Code 21.11*
15. Improper Relationship between Educator and Student. *Penal Code 21.12*
16. Invasive Visual Recording. *Penal Code 21.15*
17. Unlawful Disclosure or Promotion of Intimate Visual Material. *Penal Code 21.16*
18. Voyeurism, if the victim was younger than 14 years of age at the time of the offense. *Penal Code 21.17*
19. Sexual Coercion. *Penal Code 21.18*
20. Assault, if the offense is punishable as a felony. *Penal Code 22.01*
21. Sexual Assault. *Penal Code 22.011*
22. Aggravated Assault. *Penal Code 22.02*
23. Aggravated Sexual Assault. *Penal Code 22.021*
24. Injury to a Child, Elderly Individual, or Disabled Individual. *Penal Code 22.04*
25. Abandoning or Endangering a Child, Elderly Individual, or Disabled Individual. *Penal Code 22.041*
26. Deadly Conduct, if the person knowingly discharges a firearm at or in the direction of one or more individuals, or at or in the direction of a habitation, building, or vehicle and is reckless as to whether the habitation, building, or vehicle is occupied. *Penal Code 22.05*
27. Terroristic Threat, if the actor threatens to commit any offense involving violence to any person or property with intent to:
    a. Place any person in fear of imminent serious bodily injury if the actor knows the person is a peace officer or judge;
    b. Prevent or interrupt the occupation or use of a building, room, place of assembly, place to which the public has access, place of employment or occupation, aircraft, automobile, or other form of conveyance, or other public

place if the prevention or interruption causes pecuniary loss of $1,500 or more to the owner;

c. Cause impairment or interruption of public communications, public transportation, public water, gas, or power supply or other public service;

d. Place the public or a substantial group of the public in fear of serious bodily injury; or

e. Influence the conduct or activities of a branch or agency of the federal government, the state, or a political subdivision. *Penal Code 22.07*

28. Aiding Suicide, if the conduct causes suicide or attempted suicide that results in serious bodily injury. *Penal Code 22.08*

29. Tampering with Consumer Product. *Penal Code 22.09*

30. Harassment by Persons in Certain Facilities or of Public Servant. *Penal Code 22.11*

Sexual Assault of Another Student

A student shall be removed from class and placed in a DAEP or juvenile justice alternative education program (JJAEP) if:

1. The student was convicted of, received adjudication for, or was placed on probation for sexual assault of another student who was a young child or disabled individual while the students were assigned to the same campus, regardless of whether the assault occurred on or off school property;

2. The parent of the victim of the assault has requested that the student be transferred to a campus other than that to which the victim is assigned; and

3. There is only one campus in a district serving the grade level in which the student is enrolled.

Education Code 25.0341, 37.0051(a) [See FDE at Sexual Assault Transfer—Transfer of Assailant]

A limitation imposed by Education Code Chapter 37 on the length of placement in a DAEP or a JJAEP does not apply to a placement under this provision. *Education Code 37.0051(b)*

Permissive Removal

Non-Title 5 Felony

A student may be removed from class and placed in a DAEP based on conduct occurring off campus and while the student is not in attendance at a school-sponsored or school-related activity if:

1. The superintendent or designee has a reasonable belief [see Reasonable Belief, above] that the student has engaged in

conduct defined as a felony offense other than aggravated robbery under Penal Code 29.03, or those offenses listed in Penal Code Title 5 [see above at Title 5 Felonies]; and

2. The continued presence of the student in the regular classroom threatens the safety of other students or teachers or will be detrimental to the educational process.

Education Code 37.006(d)-(e)

Bullying

A student may be removed from class and placed in a DAEP if the student:

1. Engages in bullying that encourages a student to commit or attempt to commit suicide;

2. Incites violence against a student through group bullying; or

3. Releases or threatens to release intimate visual material of a minor or student who is 18 years of age or older without the student's consent.

Nothing in this provision exempts a school from reporting a finding of intimate visual material of a minor.

Definitions

Bullying

"Bullying" has the meaning assigned by Education Code 37.0832. [See FFI]

Intimate Visual Material

"Intimate visual material" has the meaning assigned by Civil Practice and Remedies Code 98B.001.

Education Code 37.0052

One Year After Conduct

A principal or other appropriate administrator may, but is not required to, remove a student to a DAEP for off-campus conduct, for which removal would otherwise be required, if the principal or other appropriate administrator did not have knowledge of the conduct before the first anniversary of the date the conduct occurred. *Education Code 37.006(n)*

Certain Organization and Gang Membership and Solicitation

A board or an educator shall recommend placing in DAEP any student who commits the misdemeanor offenses described in Education Code 37.121(a) and (c), regarding membership in or solicitation to join a public school fraternity, sorority, secret society, or gang [see FNCC]. *Education Code 37.121(b)*

Older Students

A person who is 21 years of age or older and is admitted by a district for the purpose of completing the requirements for a diploma is not eligible for placement in a DAEP if the person engages in conduct that would require or authorize such placement for a student under the age of 21. If the student engages in such conduct, the

district shall revoke the student's admission. *Education Code 25.001(b-1)*

Placement of Younger Students

A student who is younger than 10 shall be removed from class and placed in a DAEP if the student engages in conduct for which expulsion would be required by Section 37.007. *Education Code 37.006(f), .007(e)* [See FOD]

Students Younger Than Six

Notwithstanding any other provision of the Education Code, a student who is younger than six years of age may not be removed from class and placed in a DAEP, except that a student younger than six years of age who has been expelled pursuant to the Gun Free Schools Act [see FOD] shall be provided educational services in a DAEP. *Education Code 37.006(l), .007(e)(2)*

Process for Removal

Conference

Not later than the third class day after a student is removed by a teacher or by the school principal or other appropriate administrator, the campus behavior coordinator (CBC) or other appropriate administrator shall schedule a conference among the CBC or other appropriate administrator, the student's parent or guardian, the teacher removing the student from class, if any, and the student. At the conference, the student is entitled to written or oral notice of the reasons for the removal, an explanation of the basis for the removal, and an opportunity to respond to the reasons for the removal. The student may not be returned to the regular class pending the conference.

Mitigating Factors

Before ordering removal, the CBC must consider whether the student acted in self-defense, the intent or lack of intent at the time the student engaged in the conduct, the student's disciplinary history, and whether the student has a disability that substantially impairs the student's capacity to appreciate the wrongfulness of the student's conduct, regardless of whether the decision of the behavior coordinator concerns a mandatory or discretionary action.

Order

Following the conference, and whether or not each requested person is in attendance after valid attempts to require the person's attendance, the CBC, after considering any mitigating factors under Education Code 37.001(a)(4) [see FO], shall order the placement of the student for a period consistent with the Student Code of Conduct.

Appeal

If district policy allows a student to appeal to the board or the board's designee a decision of the CBC or other appropriate administrator, the decision of the board or the board's designee is final and may not be appealed.

Education Code 37.009(a) [See Student Code of Conduct]

Right to Request a Special Education Evaluation

On the placement of a student in a DAEP, the district shall provide information to the student's parent or person standing in parental relation to the student regarding the process for requesting a full individual and initial evaluation of the student under Education Code 29.004 [see EHBAA]. *Education Code 37.006(p)*

Term of Removal

The period of the placement after removal may not exceed one year unless, after a review, a district determines that the student is a threat to the safety of other students or to district employees. *Education Code 37.009(a)*

A board or designee shall set a term for a student's placement in a DAEP. If the period of placement is inconsistent with the guidelines in the Student Code of Conduct, the order must give notice of the inconsistency. The period of placement in a DAEP may not exceed one year unless, after a review, a district determines that the student is a threat to the safety of other students or to district employees or extended placement is in the best interest of the student. *Education Code 37.009(d)*

Beyond Grading Period or 60 Days

If placement in a DAEP is to extend beyond 60 days or the end of the next grading period, whichever is earlier, the student's parent or guardian is entitled to notice of and an opportunity to participate in a proceeding before a board or designee.

No Appeal

Any decision of a board or designee concerning placement beyond 60 days or the end of the next grading period is final and cannot be appealed.

Education Code 37.009(b)

Beyond End of School Year

Before a student may be placed in a DAEP for a period that extends beyond the end of the school year, a board or designee must determine that:

1. The student's presence in the regular classroom program or at the student's regular campus presents a danger of physical harm to the student or another individual; or
2. The student has engaged in serious or persistent misbehavior that violates the Student Code of Conduct.

Education Code 37.009(c)

Order of Removal

A board or designee shall deliver to the student and the student's parent or guardian a copy of the order placing the student in a DAEP. *Education Code 37.009(g)*

Not later than the second business day after the date of the removal conference, a board or designee shall deliver a copy of the order placing the student in a DAEP and any information required

under Family Code 52.04 to the authorized officer of the juvenile court in the county in which the juvenile resides. *Education Code 37.010(a)*

Activities

The terms of a placement under Education Code 37.006 must prohibit the student from attending or participating in school-sponsored or school-related activities. *Education Code 37.006(g)*

In addition to any notice required under Code of Criminal Procedure 15.27 [see GRAA], a principal or designee shall inform each educator who has responsibility for, or is under the direction and supervision of an educator who has responsibility for, the instruction of a student who has engaged in conduct for which DAEP placement must or may be ordered.

Each educator shall keep the information confidential from any person not entitled to the information, except that the educator may share the information with the student's parent or guardian as provided by state or federal law. An educator's certificate may be suspended or revoked for intentional failure to keep such information confidential.

Education Code 37.006(o)

DAEP at Capacity

If a DAEP is at capacity at the time a CBC is deciding placement for a student who engaged in conduct described under Education Code 37.006(a)(2)(C-1) (possession or use of marijuana), (C-2) (possession, use, delivery of an e-cigarette), (D) (delivery of alcohol), or (E) (abuse of volatile chemical), the student shall be placed in in-school suspension; and if a position becomes available in the program before the expiration of the period of the placement, transferred to the program for the remainder of the period.

Placement of Student Who Engaged in Violent Conduct

If a DAEP is at capacity at the time a CBC is deciding placement for a student who engaged in conduct described under Education Code 37.007 that constitutes violent conduct [see below at Determination of Violent Conduct], a student who has been placed in the program for conduct described under Education Code 37.006(a)(2)(C-1), (C-2), (D), or (E) (above) may be removed from the program and placed in in-school suspension to make a position in the program available for the student who engaged in violent conduct. If removed from the program and a position in the program becomes available before the expiration of the period of the placement, the student shall be returned to the program for the remainder of the period.

Determination of Violent Conduct

Violent conduct means an act by a student against another person that is intended to result in physical harm, bodily injury, or assault or a threat that reasonably places the other person in fear of immi-

nent physical harm, bodily injury, or assault. A CBC may determine whether a specific instance of conduct listed below rises to the level of violent conduct for purposes of determining placement in a DAEP.

1. The student engages in conduct involving a public school that contains the elements of the offense of false alarm or report under Penal Code 42.06, or terroristic threat under Penal Code 22.07.

2. While on or within 300 feet of school property, or while attending a school-sponsored or school-related activity on or off school property, the student engages in conduct that contains the elements of the offense of assault under Penal Code 22.01(a)(1), including when committed as an act of retaliation against an employee or volunteer, as described in Education Code 37.007(d).

3. While on or within 300 feet of school property or while attending a school-sponsored or school-related activity on or off school property, the student engages in conduct that contains the elements of the offense of deadly conduct under Penal Code 22.05.

4. While within 300 feet of school property, or when committed as an act of retaliation against an employee or volunteer, whether the conduct occurs on or off school property or while attending a school-sponsored or school-related activity on or off school property, the student engages in:

    a. Conduct that contains the elements of the offense of unlawful carrying of weapons under Penal Code 46.02;

    b. An offense relating to prohibited weapons under Penal Code 46.05;

    c. Aggravated assault under Penal Code 22.02;

    d. Sexual assault under Penal Code 22.011;

    e. Aggravated sexual assault under Penal Code 22.021;

    f. Arson under Penal Code 28.02;

    g. Murder under Penal Code 19.02;

    h. Capital murder under Penal Code 19.03;

    i. Criminal attempt to commit murder or capital murder under Penal Code 15.01;

    j. Indecency with a child under Penal Code 21.11;

k. Aggravated kidnapping under Penal Code 20.04;

l. Aggravated robbery under Penal Code 29.03;

m. Manslaughter under Penal Code 19.04;

n. Criminally negligent homicide under Penal Code 19.05;

o. Continuous sexual abuse of a young child or an individual with disabilities under Penal Code 21.02;

p. Selling, giving, delivering to another person, possessing, using, or being under the influence of a controlled substance or dangerous drug, excluding marijuana or tetrahydrocannabinol; or

q. Possessing a firearm, as defined by 18 U.S.C. 921.

5. The student engages in conduct against another student, without regard to whether the conduct occurs on or off school property or while attending a school-sponsored or school-related activity on or off school property, that contains the elements of:

a. The offense of aggravated assault under Penal Code 22.02;

b. Sexual assault under Penal Code 22.011;

c. Aggravated sexual assault under Penal Code 22.021;

d. Murder under Penal Code 19.02;

e. Capital murder under Penal Code 19.03; or

f. Criminal attempt to commit murder or capital murder under Penal Code 15.01.

6. While placed in a DAEP and on the program campus, the student engages in documented serious misbehavior despite documented behavioral interventions.

Education Code 37.009(a-1)-(a-2); 19 TAC 103.1205

Completion of Proceedings Upon Withdrawal

If a student withdraws from a district before an order for placement in a DAEP is entered, the principal or board, as appropriate, may complete the proceedings and enter an order. If the student re-enrolls in the district the same or subsequent school year, the district may enforce the order at that time except for any period of the placement that has been served by the student in another district that honored the order. If the principal or board fails to enter an order after the student withdraws, the next district in which the stu-

dent enrolls may complete the proceedings and enter an order. *Education Code 37.009(i)*

Enrollment in Another District

If a student placed in a DAEP enrolls in another district before the expiration of the placement, a board shall provide to the district in which the student enrolls a copy of the placement order at the same time it provides other records. The district in which the student enrolls shall inform each educator who will have responsibility for, or will be under the direction and supervision of an educator who will have responsibility for, the instruction of the student of the contents of the placement order. Each educator shall keep the information confidential from any person not entitled to the information, except that the educator may share the information with the student's parent or guardian as provided by state or federal law.

The district in which the student enrolls may continue the placement or allow the student to attend regular classes without completing the period of placement. [See FO] The district in which the student enrolls may take any of these actions if:

1. The student was placed in a DAEP by an open-enrollment charter school and the charter school provides the district a copy of the placement order; or
2. The student was placed in a DAEP by a district in another state and:
    a. The out-of-state district provides a copy of the placement order; and
    b. The grounds for placement are the same as grounds for placement in the enrolling district.

Education Code 37.008(j)

Out-of-State Placement

If a student was placed in a DAEP in another state for more than one year and the enrolling district continues the placement under Education Code 37.008(j), the enrolling district shall reduce the period of placement so that the aggregate period does not exceed one year unless the enrolling district determines that:

1. The student is a threat to the safety of other students or to district employees; or
2. Extended placement is in the best interest of the student.

Education Code 37.008(j-1)

Court-Ordered Placement

Unless a board and the juvenile board for the county in which a district's central administrative office is located have entered into a memorandum of understanding concerning the juvenile probation

department's role in supervising and providing other support services for students in DAEP programs:

1. A court may not order a student expelled under Section 37.007 to attend a school district DAEP as a condition of probation;

2. A court may not order a student to attend a DAEP without a district's consent, until the student has successfully completed any sentencing requirements, if the court has ordered the student to attend a DAEP as a condition of probation once during a school year and the student is referred to juvenile court again during that school year.

Education Code 37.010(c)-(d)

School Activities

Any court placement in a DAEP must prohibit the student from attending or participating in school-sponsored or school-related activities. *Education Code 37.010(e)*

Placement After Court Disposition

After the student has successfully completed any court disposition requirements, including conditions of deferred prosecution or conditions required by the prosecutor or probation department, a district may not refuse to admit the student if the student meets the requirements for admission into the public schools. A district may place the student in the DAEP.

Notwithstanding Education Code 37.002(d) [see FOA], the student may not be returned to the classroom of the teacher under whose supervision the offense occurred without that teacher's consent. The teacher may not be coerced to consent.

Education Code 37.010(f)

Not Guilty/ Insufficient Evidence/Charges Dropped

The office of the prosecuting attorney or the office or official designated by the juvenile board shall, within two working days, notify the school district that removed a student to a DAEP under Education Code 37.006 if:

1. Prosecution of a student was refused for lack of prosecutorial merit or insufficient evidence, and no formal proceedings, deferred adjudication, or deferred prosecution will be initiated; or

2. A court or jury found the student not guilty or made a finding the child did not engage in delinquent conduct or conduct indicating a need for supervision and the case was dismissed with prejudice.

On receipt of the notice, the superintendent or designee shall review the student's placement in the DAEP. The student may not be returned to the regular classroom pending the review. The superin-

tendent or designee shall schedule a review of the student's placement with the student's parent or guardian not later than the third class day after the superintendent or designee receives notice from the office or official designated by the court.

After reviewing the notice and receiving information from the student's parent or guardian, the superintendent or designee may continue the student's placement in the DAEP if there is reason to believe that the presence of the student in the regular classroom threatens the safety of other students or teachers.

Education Code 37.006(h); Code of Criminal Procedure 15.27(g)

Appeal After Placement Upheld

The student or the student's parent or guardian may appeal a superintendent's decision to the board. The student may not be returned to the regular classroom pending the appeal. A board shall, at the next scheduled meeting, review the notice provided by the office of the prosecuting attorney or the office or official designated by the juvenile board; receive information from the student, the student's parent or guardian, and the superintendent or designee; and confirm or reverse the superintendent's decision. The board shall make a record of the proceedings.

If a board confirms the decision, the board shall inform the student and the student's parent or guardian of the right to appeal to the commissioner of education. The student may not be returned to the regular classroom pending the appeal to the commissioner.

Education Code 37.006(i)-(j)

120-Day Review of Status

A student placed in a DAEP shall be provided a review of the student's status, including a review of the student's academic status, by a board's designee at intervals not to exceed 120 days. In the case of a high school student, the board's designee, with the student's parent or guardian, shall review the student's progress toward meeting high school graduation requirements and shall establish a specific graduation plan for the student. The district is not required to provide a course in the DAEP, except as required by Education Code 37.008(l). [See FOCA] At the review, the student or the student's parent or guardian must be given the opportunity to present arguments for the student's return to the regular classroom or campus. The student may not be returned to the classroom of the teacher who removed the student without that teacher's consent. The teacher may not be coerced to consent. *Education Code 37.009(e)*

Additional Proceedings

If, during the term of placement, a student engages in additional conduct for which placement in a DAEP or expulsion is required or permitted, additional proceedings may be conducted and the prin-

cipal or board, as appropriate, may enter an additional order. *Education Code 37.009(j)*

Reporting

A district may include the number of students removed to a DAEP in its annual performance report. *Education Code 39.306(e)(5)* [See AIB]

Note: See FOF for provisions concerning students with disabilities.

Students with Disabilities Under Section 504

A district shall conduct an evaluation in accordance with 34 C.F.R. 104.35(b) before taking any action with respect to any significant change in placement of a student with a disability who needs or is believed to need special education and related services. *34 C.F.R. 104.35(a)*

A district may take disciplinary action pertaining to the use or possession of illegal drugs or alcohol against any student with a disability who is currently engaging in the illegal use of drugs or in the use of alcohol to the same extent that the district would take disciplinary action against nondisabled students. The due process procedures afforded under Section 504 do not apply to such disciplinary action. *29 U.S.C. 705(20)(C)(iv)*

Note: The provisions below apply only to students eligible for special education and related services under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

Students Receiving Special Education Services

ARD Committee Required

Except as set forth below, the placement of a student with a disability who receives special education services may be made only by a duly constituted admission, review, and dismissal (ARD) committee. Any disciplinary action regarding the student shall be determined in accordance with federal law and regulations. *Education Code 37.004(a)-(b)*

The methods adopted in the Student Code of Conduct [see FO] for discipline management and for preventing and intervening in student discipline problems must provide that a student who is enrolled in the special education program may not be disciplined for bullying, harassment, or making hit lists until an ARD committee meeting has been held to review the conduct. *Education Code 37.001(b-1)*

DAEP Placement Not Solely for Educational Purposes

A student with a disability who receives special education services may not be placed in a disciplinary alternative education program (DAEP) solely for educational purposes. A teacher in a DAEP who has a special education assignment must hold an appropriate certificate or permit for that assignment. *Education Code 37.004(c)-(d)*

Removal for 10 Days or Less

School personnel may remove a student with a disability who violates a student code of conduct from his or her current placement to an appropriate interim alternative educational setting, another setting, or suspension, for not more than 10 consecutive school days, to the extent those alternatives are applied to children without disabilities. *20 U.S.C. 1415(k)(1)(B); 34 C.F.R. 300.530(b)(1)*

Services During Removal	A district is required to provide services during the period of removal if the district provides services to a child without disabilities who is similarly removed. *34 C.F.R. 300.530(d)*
Subsequent Removals of 10 Days or Less	School personnel may remove the student for additional removals of not more than 10 consecutive school days in that same school year for separate incidents of misconduct, as long as those removals do not constitute a change in placement (see below). *34 C.F.R. 300.530(b)(1)*
Services During Removal	After a student has been removed from his or her current placement for 10 school days in the same school year, during any subsequent removal of 10 consecutive school days or less, school personnel, in consultation with at least one of the student's teachers, shall determine the extent to which services are needed so as to enable the student to continue to participate in the general education curriculum, although in another setting, and to progress toward meeting the goals set out in the student's individualized education program (IEP). *20 U.S.C. 1415(k)(1)(D); 34 C.F.R. 300.530(d)(4)*
Notice of Procedural Safeguards	Not later than the date on which the decision to take the disciplinary action is made, a district shall notify the student's parents of the decision and of all procedural safeguards [see EHBAE]. *20 U.S.C. 1415(k)(1)(H)*
Removals That Are a Change in Placement	Any disciplinary action that would constitute a change in placement may be taken only after the student's ARD committee conducts a manifestation determination review. Any disciplinary action regarding the student shall be determined in accordance with federal law and regulations, including laws or regulations requiring the provision of functional behavioral assessments; positive behavioral interventions, strategies, and supports; behavioral intervention plans; and the manifestation determination review [see Manifestation Determination, below]. *Education Code 37.004(b)*
Behavior Assessment and Intervention	If a district takes a disciplinary action regarding a student with a disability who receives special education services that constitutes a change in placement under federal law, the district shall: 1. Not later than the 10th school day after the change in placement: a. Seek consent from the student's parent or person standing in parental relation to the student to conduct a functional behavioral assessment of the student, if a functional behavioral assessment has never been conducted

on the student or the student's most recent functional behavioral assessment is more than one year old; and

b. Review any previously conducted functional behavioral assessment of the student and any behavior improvement plan or behavioral intervention plan developed for the student based on that assessment; and

2. As necessary, develop a behavior improvement plan or behavioral intervention plan for the student if the student does not have a plan or, if the student has a behavior improvement plan or behavioral intervention plan, revise the student's plan.

Education Code 37.004(b-1)

Change in Placement

For purposes of disciplinary removal of a student with a disability, a change in placement occurs if a student is:

1. Removed from the student's current educational placement for more than 10 consecutive school days; or

2. Subjected to a series of removals that constitute a pattern because:

a. The series of removals total more than 10 school days in a school year;

b. The student's behavior is substantially similar to the student's behavior in the previous incidents that resulted in the series of removals; and

c. Additional factors exist, such as the length of each removal, the total amount of time the student is removed, and the proximity of the removals to one another.

The district determines, on a case-by-case basis, whether a pattern of removals constitutes a change in placement. The district's determination is subject to review through due process and judicial proceedings.

34 C.F.R. 300.536

School personnel may consider any unique circumstances on a case-by-case basis when determining whether to order a change in placement for a student who violates a code of student conduct. *20 U.S.C. 1415(k)(1)(A)*

Manifestation Determination

Within 10 school days of any decision to change the placement of a student because of a violation of a code of student conduct, a district, parents, and relevant members of the ARD committee (as determined by the parent and the district) shall review all relevant information in the student's file, including the student's IEP, any

teacher observations, and any relevant information provided by the parents to determine whether the conduct in question was:

1. Caused by, or had a direct and substantial relationship to, the student's disability; or

2. The direct result of the district's failure to implement the IEP.

If the district, the parent, and relevant members of the ARD committee determine that either of the above is applicable, the conduct shall be determined to be a manifestation of the student's disability.

If the district, the parent, and relevant members of the ARD committee determine the conduct was the direct result of the district's failure to implement the IEP, the district must take immediate steps to remedy those deficiencies.

20 U.S.C. 1415(k)(1)(E); 34 C.F.R. 300.530(e)

Not a Manifestation

If the determination is that the student's behavior was not a manifestation of the student's disability, school personnel may apply the relevant disciplinary procedures to the student in the same manner and for the same duration as for students without disabilities. The ARD committee shall determine the interim alternative educational setting. *20 U.S.C. 1415(k)(1)(C), (k)(2); 34 C.F.R. 300.530(c)*

Expulsion

In a county with a juvenile justice alternative education program (JJAEP) [see FODA], a district must invite the administrator of the JJAEP or the administrator's designee to an ARD committee meeting convened to discuss the discretionary expulsion under Education Code 37.007 of a student with a disability. The district must provide written notice of the meeting at least five school days before the meeting or a shorter timeframe agreed to by the student's parents. A copy of the student's current IEP must be provided to the JJAEP representative with the notice. If the JJAEP representative is unable to attend the ARD committee meeting, the representative must be given the opportunity to participate in the meeting through alternative means, including conference telephone calls. The JJAEP representative may participate in the meeting to the extent that the meeting relates to the student's placement in the JJAEP and implementation of the student's current IEP in the JJAEP. *19 TAC 89.1052*

Services During Removal

The student must:

1. Continue to receive educational services so as to enable the student to continue to participate in the general education curriculum, although in another setting, and to progress toward meeting the goals in the student's IEP.

2. Receive, as appropriate, a functional behavioral assessment, and behavioral intervention services and modifications, that are designed to address the behavior violation so that it does not recur.

These services may be provided in an interim alternative educational setting.

34 C.F.R. 300.530(d)(1)-(2)

For a student with a disability who was expelled under a discretionary expulsion under Education Code 37.007, an ARD committee meeting must be convened to reconsider placement of the student in the JJAEP if the JJAEP provides written notice to the district of specific concerns that the student's education or behavioral needs cannot be met in JJAEP.

The district must invite the JJAEP administrator or the administrator's designee to the meeting and must provide written notice of the meeting at least five school days before the meeting or a shorter timeframe agreed to by the student's parents. If the JJAEP representative is unable to attend the ARD committee meeting, the representative must be given the opportunity to participate in the meeting through alternative means, including conference telephone calls. The JJAEP may participate in the meeting to the extent that the meeting relates to the student's continued placement in JJAEP.

19 TAC 89.1052

Manifestation

If the district, the parents, and relevant members of the ARD committee determine that the conduct was a manifestation of the student's disability, the ARD committee shall:

1. Conduct a functional behavioral assessment (FBA), unless the district had conducted an FBA before the behavior that resulted in the change in placement occurred, and implement a behavioral intervention plan (BIP) for the student; or

2. If a BIP has already been developed, review the BIP and modify it, as necessary, to address the behavior.

Except as provided at Special Circumstances, below, the ARD committee shall return the student to the placement from which the student was removed, unless the parent and the district agree to a change in placement as part of the modification of the BIP.

20 U.S.C. 1415(k)(1)(F); 34 C.F.R. 300.530(f)

Special Circumstances

School personnel may remove a student to an interim alternative educational setting for not more than 45 school days without regard to whether the behavior is determined to be a manifestation of the student's disability, if the student:

1. Carries or possesses a weapon to or at school, on school premises, or to or at a school function under the jurisdiction of the Texas Education Agency (TEA) or a school district;
2. Knowingly possesses or uses illegal drugs or sells or solicits the sale of a controlled substance while at school, on school premises, or at a school function under the jurisdiction of TEA or a school district; or
3. Has inflicted serious bodily injury upon another person while at school, on school premises, or at a school function under the jurisdiction of TEA or the district.

20 U.S.C. 1415(k)(1)(G); 34 C.F.R. 300.530(g)

The ARD committee shall determine the interim alternative education setting. *20 U.S.C. 1415(k)(2)*

Services During Removal

The student must:

1. Continue to receive educational services so as to enable the student to continue to participate in the general education curriculum, although in another setting, and to progress toward meeting the goals in the student's IEP.
2. Receive, as appropriate, a functional behavioral assessment, and behavioral intervention services and modifications, that are designed to address the behavior violation so that it does not recur.

These services may be provided in an interim alternative educational setting.

34 C.F.R. 300.530(d)(1)

Appeals

A parent who disagrees with a placement decision or the manifestation determination may request a hearing. A district that believes that maintaining a current placement of a student is substantially likely to result in injury to the student or others may request a hearing. *20 U.S.C. 1415(k)(3)(A); 34 C.F.R. 300.532(a); 19 TAC 89.1151* [See EHBAE]

Placement During Appeals

When an appeal has been requested by a parent or a district, the student shall remain in the interim alternative educational setting pending the decision of the hearing officer or until the expiration of the student's assignment to the alternative setting, whichever oc-

curs first, unless the parent and district agree otherwise. *20 U.S.C. 1415(k)(4); 34 C.F.R. 300.533*

Reporting Crimes

Federal law does not prohibit a district from reporting a crime committed by a student with a disability to appropriate authorities. If a district reports a crime, the district shall ensure that copies of the special education and disciplinary records of the student are transmitted for consideration by the appropriate authorities to whom the district reported the crime. A district may transmit records only to the extent permitted by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). *20 U.S.C. 1415(k)(6); 34 C.F.R. 300.535* [See FL]

Students Not Yet Identified

A student who has not been determined to be eligible for special education and related services and who has engaged in behavior that violated a code of student conduct may assert any of the protections provided for in the IDEA if a district had knowledge that the student had a disability before the behavior that precipitated that disciplinary action occurred. *20 U.S.C. 1415(k)(5)(A); 34 C.F.R. 300.534(a)*

District Knowledge

A district shall be deemed to have knowledge that a student has a disability if, before the behavior that precipitated the disciplinary action occurred:

1. The parent of the student expressed concern in writing to supervisory or administrative personnel of the district, or to the teacher of the student, that the student was in need of special education and related services;
2. The parent requested an evaluation of the student for special education and related services; or
3. The student's teacher, or other district personnel, expressed specific concerns about a pattern of behavior demonstrated by the student directly to the special education director or to other supervisory personnel of the district.

20 U.S.C. 1415(k)(5)(B); 34 C.F.R. 300.534(b)

Exception

A district shall not be deemed to have knowledge that the student had a disability if:

1. The parent has not allowed an evaluation of the student;
2. The parent has refused services; or
3. The student has been evaluated and it was determined that the student did not have a disability.

20 U.S.C. 1415(k)(5)(C); 34 C.F.R. 300.534(c)

If a district does not have knowledge (as described above), before taking disciplinary measures, that a student has a disability, the student may be subjected to the same disciplinary measures applied to students without disabilities who engaged in comparable behaviors.

However, if a request is made for an evaluation during the time period in which the student is subjected to disciplinary measures, the evaluation shall be conducted in an expedited manner. Until the evaluation is completed, the student shall remain in the educational placement determined by school authorities, which can include suspension or expulsion without educational services.

20 U.S.C. 1415(k)(5)(D); 34 C.F.R. 300.534(d)

Behavior Management Techniques

It is the policy of the state to treat all students with dignity and respect, including students with disabilities who receive special education services. Any behavior management technique and/or discipline management practice must be implemented in such a way as to protect the health and safety of the student and others. No discipline management practice may be calculated to inflict injury, cause harm, demean, or deprive the student of basic human necessities. *Education Code 37.0021(a); 19 TAC 89.1053(j)*

[For restrictions on aversive techniques, see FO.]

Rules on Restraint and Seclusion

The commissioner by rule shall adopt procedures for the use of restraint and time-out by a district employee or volunteer or an independent contractor of a district in the case of a student with a disability receiving special education services. The procedures must be consistent with Education Code 37.0021(d). *Education Code 37.0021(d)*

School Peace Officers

This provision and any rules or procedures adopted under this provision apply to a peace officer only if the peace officer:

1. Is employed or commissioned by a district; or
2. Provides, as a school resource officer, a regular police presence on a district campus under a memorandum of understanding between the district and a local law enforcement agency.

Education Code 37.0021(h); 19 TAC 89.1053(m)

Exceptions

Education Code 37.0021 (use of confinement, seclusion, restraint, and time-out) does not apply to:

1. A peace officer, while performing law enforcement duties, except as provided above [see School Peace Officers] and by

Education Code 37.0021(i) [see Restraint, Documentation, below];

2. Juvenile probation, detention, or corrections personnel; or

3. An educational services provider with whom a student is placed by a judicial authority, unless the services are provided in an educational program of a school district.

Law Enforcement Duties

"Law enforcement duties" means activities of a peace officer relating to the investigation and enforcement of state criminal laws and other duties authorized by the Code of Criminal Procedure.

Education Code 37.0021(b)(4), (g); 19 TAC 89.1053(m), (n)

Further, Education Code 37.0021 does not prevent a student's locked, unattended confinement in an emergency situation while awaiting the arrival of law enforcement personnel if:

1. The student possesses a weapon; and

2. The confinement is necessary to prevent the student from causing bodily harm to the student or another person.

For these purposes, "weapon" includes any weapon described under Education Code 37.007(a)(1). [See FNCG]

Education Code 37.0021(f)

Peace Officer or Security Personnel Use of Restraint or Taser

A peace officer performing law enforcement duties or school security personnel performing security-related duties on school property or at a school-sponsored or school-related activity must not restrain or use a chemical irritant spray or Taser on a student enrolled in fifth grade or below, unless the student poses a serious risk of harm to the student or another person [see FO defining Taser]. *19 TAC 89.1053(l)*

Confinement

A student with a disability who receives special education services may not be confined in a locked box, locked closet, or other specially designed locked space as either a discipline management practice or a behavior management technique. *Education Code 37.0021(a)*

Seclusion

A district employee or volunteer or an independent contractor of a district may not place a student in seclusion. *Education Code 37.0021(c)*

"Seclusion" means a behavior management technique in which a student is confined in a locked box, locked closet, or locked room that:

1. Is designed solely to seclude a person; and

2. Contains less than 50 square feet of space.

Education Code 37.0021(b)(2)

Restraint

"Restraint" means the use of physical force or a mechanical device to significantly restrict the free movement of all or a portion of a student's body. *19 TAC 89.1053(b)(2)*

The following provisions do not apply to the use of physical force or a mechanical device that does not significantly restrict the free movement of all or a portion of the student's body. Restraint that involves significant restriction as referenced above does not include:

1. Physical contact or appropriately prescribed adaptive equipment to promote normative body positioning and/or physical functioning;
2. Limited physical contact with a student to promote safety (e.g., holding a student's hand), prevent a potentially harmful action (e.g., running into the street), teach a skill, redirect attention, provide guidance to a location, or provide comfort;
3. Limited physical contact or appropriately prescribed adaptive equipment to prevent a student from engaging in ongoing, repetitive self-injurious behaviors, with the expectation that instruction will be reflected in the IEP as required by 34 C.F.R. 300.324(a)(2)(i) to promote student learning and reduce and/or prevent the need for ongoing intervention; or
4. Seat belts and other safety equipment used to secure students during transportation.

19 TAC 89.1053(f)

Limitations on Use of Restraint

A school employee, volunteer, or independent contractor may use restraint only in an emergency and with the following limitations:

1. Restraint shall be limited to the use of such reasonable force as is necessary to address the emergency.
2. Restraint shall be discontinued at the point at which the emergency no longer exists.
3. Restraint shall be implemented in such a way as to protect the health and safety of the student and others.
4. Restraint shall not deprive the student of basic human necessities.

19 TAC 89.1053(c)

Emergency

"Emergency" means a situation in which a student's behavior poses a threat of:

1. Imminent, serious physical harm to the student or others; or
2. Imminent, serious property destruction.

19 TAC 89.1053(b)(1)

Training

Training for school employees, volunteers, or independent contractors regarding the use of restraint shall be provided according to the requirements set forth at 19 Administrative Code 89.1053(d).

Documentation

In a case in which restraint is used, school employees, volunteers, or independent contractors shall implement the documentation and notification requirements set forth at 19 Administrative Code 89.1053(e).

A district shall report electronically to TEA, in accordance with standards provided by commissioner rule, information relating to the use of restraint by a peace officer performing law enforcement duties on school property or during a school-sponsored or school-related activity. The report must be consistent with the requirements adopted by commissioner rule for reporting the use of restraint involving students with disabilities.

Education Code 37.0021(i)

Time-Out

"Time-out" means a behavior management technique in which, to provide a student with an opportunity to regain self-control, the student is separated from other students for a limited period in a setting:

1. That is not locked; and
2. From which the exit is not physically blocked by furniture, a closed door held shut from the outside, or another inanimate object.

19 TAC 89.1053(b)(3)

Limitations on Use of Time-Out

A school employee, volunteer, or independent contractor may use time-out with the following limitations:

1. Physical force or threat of physical force shall not be used to place a student in time-out.
2. Time-out may only be used in conjunction with an array of positive behavior intervention strategies and techniques and must be included in the student's IEP and/or behavior improvement plan or behavioral intervention plan if it is utilized

on a recurrent basis to increase or decrease targeted behavior.

3. Use of time-out shall not be implemented in a fashion that precludes the ability of the student to be involved in and progress in the general curriculum and advance appropriately toward attaining the annual goals specified in the student's IEP.

19 TAC 89.1053(g)

Training Training for school employees, volunteers, or independent contractors regarding the use of time-out shall be provided according to the requirements set forth at 19 Administrative Code 89.1053(h).

Documentation Necessary documentation or data collection regarding the use of time-out, if any, must be addressed in the IEP and/or behavior improvement plan or behavioral intervention plan. If a student has a behavior improvement plan or behavioral intervention plan, the district must document each use of time-out prompted by a behavior of the student specified in the student's behavior improvement plan or behavioral intervention plan, including a description of the behavior that prompted the time-out. The ARD committee must use any collected data to judge the effectiveness of the intervention and provide a basis for making determinations regarding its continued use.

19 TAC 89.1053(i)

Board Agenda Item

Little Elm Independent School District
300 Lobo Lane
Little Elm, Texas 75068

Board Mtg. Date **08-18-2025**	**Reports of the Superintendent** ☐	**Action Item** ☐	**Consent Agenda** ☒	**Reports, Routine Monthly** ☐	**Other** ☐	
Subject:	**T-TESS APPRAISERS and APPRAISAL CALENDAR**					
Presenter or Contact Person:	Renee Pentecost, Director for Human Resource Services					
Policy/Code:	DNB (LEGAL)					
Summary:	Approval of T-TESS Evaluation Appraisers and the 2025-2026 T-TESS Appraisal Calendar. The administrators submitted have been certified through the Texas Teacher Evaluation & Support System (T-TESS) to serve as appraisers for the 2025-2026 school year.					
Financial Implications:	N/A					
Attachments:	List of administrators certified through T-TESS and the 2025-2026 LEISD T-TESS Appraisal Calendar.					
Recommendation:	**The Administration recommends approval of the T-TESS certified appraisers and the LEISD T-TESS Appraisal Calendar for the 2025-2026 school year, as submitted.**					
Motion:	**I move the Board approve the T-TESS certified appraisers and the LEISD T-TESS Appraisal Calendar for the 2025-2026 school year, as submitted.**					

LEISD Appraisal Calendar 2025-2026

Aug 4-September 5, 2025	September 8, 2025-March 27, 2026	March 30-April 24, 2026
Teacher Goal Setting Meetings	Ongoing: Teacher T-TESS Overview for late hires completed within 10 business days of being in the classroom.	
Teacher self-assessment and goal setting (review of teacher and student data to self-assess, establish goals and develop a professional development plan).	Ongoing review of teacher and student data; Ongoing review of goals and professional development impact on teacher and student performance with recommended formative review of goals and progress toward these goals	End of year conference to discuss final scores for Domains 1-3, review evidence for Domain 4 and discuss next year's goal(s) and professional development plan Note: Domain 4 is not scored in summative form until after the teacher has been afforded the opportunity to present evidence related to each of the four dimensions in this domain during the end-of-year conference
	Walkthroughs with ongoing analysis of results and options; A minimum of two documented walkthroughs for ALL teachers is required.	
	Formal observations : A minimum of one observation must be an announced observation with the post- conference occurring within 10 business days of the formal observation per LEISD Expectations for Teachers Appraised Yearly or on a 3-Year Cycle There will be no walkthroughs or formal observations (used as appraisal data) before or after holidays or state testing days.	

Board Agenda Item

Little Elm Independent School District
400 Lobo Lane
Little Elm, Texas 75068

Board Mtg. Date **08-18-2025**	**Reports of the Superintendent** ☐	**Action Item** ☐	**Consent Agenda** ☒	**Reports, Routine Monthly** ☐	**Other** ☐	
Subject:	**STAFF DEVELOPMENT WAIVER FOR 2025-2026 SCHOOL YEAR**					
Presenter or Contact Person:	Dr. Penny Tramel, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Learning					
Policy/Code:	TEC) §25.081					
Strategic Plan Goal:	We will engage each employee in meaningful learning experiences that support student success.					
Summary:	Pursuant to Texas Education Code (TEC) §25.081 this waiver allows the district to train staff on various educational strategies designed to improve student performance in lieu of a maximum of: • 2,100 minutes of student instruction for districts that provide operational and instructional minutes					
Financial Implications:	N/A					
Attachments:	N/A					
Recommendation:	**The District recommends the Board approve the submission of the Staff Development Waiver for the 2025-2026 School Year.**					
Motion:	**I move the Board approve the submittal of the Staff Development Waiver for the 2025-2026 School Year.**					

Board Agenda Item

Little Elm Independent School District
400 Lobo Lane
Little Elm, Texas 75068

Board Mtg. Date **08-18-2025**	**Reports of the Superintendent** ☐	**Action Item** ☐	**Consent Agenda** ☒	**Reports, Routine Monthly** ☐	**Other** ☐	

Subject:	**APPLICATION FOR FOREIGN EXCHANGE STUDENT WAIVER**
Presenter or Contact Person:	Dr. Penny Tramel, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Learning Services
Policy/Code:	BF(LEGAL), FD(LEGAL)
Strategic Plan Goal:	We will engage each student in learning experiences that increase student growth and achievement.
Summary:	This waiver allows the districts or charter schools to limit the number of foreign exchange students to a number that is 5 or more per high school under Texas Education Code §25.001 (e).
Financial Implications:	There is no financial impact to the budget.
Attachments:	N/A
Recommendation:	**The Administration recommends approval of application for the Foreign Exchange Student Waiver to TEA as submitted.**
Motion:	**I move the Board approve the application for the Foreign Exchange Student Waiver to TEA as submitted.**

Board Agenda Item

Little Elm Independent School District
400 Lobo Lane
Little Elm, Texas 75068

Board Mtg. Date **08-18-2025**	**Reports of the Superintendent** ☐	**Action Item** ☐	**Consent Agenda** ☒	**Reports, Routine Monthly** ☐	**Other** ☐

Subject:	**OFF-CAMPUS PHYSICAL EDUCATION SITES**
Presenter or Contact Person:	Dr. Penny Tramel, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Learning
Policy/Code:	FEB (LEGAL)
Strategic Plan Goal:	We will engage each student in learning experiences that increase student growth and achievement.
Summary:	The Off-Campus PE Sites, President Talon Martial Arts, Inc. and Texas Ford Aquatics are submitted for Board approval. Both of these sites have been approved by the Superintendent and TEA.
Financial Implications:	There is no financial impact to the budget.
Attachments:	President Talon Martial Arts, Inc. Texas Ford Aquatics
Recommendation:	**The Administration recommends the Board approve the Off-Campus PE Site as submitted.**
Motion:	**I move the Board approve the Off-Campus PE Site as submitted.**

Texas Education Agency

Commissioner Mike Morath

1701 North Congress Avenue • Austin, Texas 78701-1494 • 512 463-9734 • 512 463-9838 FAX • tea.texas.gov

July 25, 2025

Mr. Michael Lamb
Superintendent
Little Elm ISD
400 Lobo Lane
Little Elm, TX 75068

Dear Mr. Lamb:

This letter is to acknowledge receipt and approval of your request that the Little Elm Independent School District award physical education credit for off-campus, commercially-sponsored physical activities in Category I and/or Category II as allowed by 19 Texas Administrative Code, Chapter 74, Subchapter B, Graduation Requirements. Please note that by submitting the list of identified programs you have certified that each physical activity program meets all the criteria for either Category I or Category II (high school only). The Texas Education Agency does not have the authority to approve off-campus physical activity programs for middle school (Grades 6-8). This letter of approval applies to high school only. A copy of your approved application is attached.

Approval of your request has been placed on file at the Texas Education Agency and will apply for the 2025-2026, 2026-2027, and 2027-2028 school years. At the end of the three-year period, it will be necessary for you to submit a request for renewal. For additional information or assistance please feel free to call (512) 463-9581 or email barney.fudge@tea.texas.gov.

Sincerely,

Barney Fudge
Health and Physical Education Coordinator
Curriculum Standards and Programs

Board Agenda Item

Little Elm Independent School District
400 Lobo Lane
Little Elm, Texas 75068

Board Mtg. Date **08-18-2025**	**Reports of the Superintendent** ☐	**Action Item** ☐	**Consent Agenda** ☒	**Reports, Routine Monthly** ☐	**Other** ☐

Subject:	**APPLICATION FOR MODIFIED SCHEDULE FOR STATE ASSESSMENT TESTING DAYS WAIVER**
Presenter or Contact Person:	Dr. Penny Tramel, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Learning
Policy/Code:	TEC 32.258
Strategic Plan Goal:	N/A
Summary:	This waiver allows the district or charter school to modify the schedule of classes for students who are not being tested to report to school after the state assessment testing period has ended thereby eliminating interruptions during testing period.
Financial Implications:	There is no financial implication to the budget.
Attachments:	N/A
Recommendation:	**The Administration recommends approval of the application for the Modified Schedule for State Assessment Testing Days Waiver for the 2025-2026 school year as submitted.**
Motion:	**I move the Board to approve the application for the Modified Schedule for State Assessment Testing Days Waiver for the 2025-2026 school year as submitted.**

Board Agenda Item

Little Elm Independent School District
400 Lobo Lane
Little Elm, Texas 75068

Board Mtg. Date **08-18-2025**	**Reports of the Superintendent** ☐	**Action Item** ☐	**Consent Agenda** ☒	**Reports, Routine Monthly** ☐	**Other** ☐	
Subject:	**APPLICATION FOR TEACHER DATA PORTAL OF THE TEXAS ASSESSMENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM WAIVER**					
Presenter or Contact Person:	Dr. Penny Tramel, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Learning					
Policy/Code:	TEC 32.258					
Strategic Plan Goal:	N/A					
Summary:	Pursuant to §32.258 this waiver allows school districts and charter schools to apply for a waiver of participation in the teacher portal component of the Texas Assessment Management System. A waiver is granted if a district can provide assurance that the local teacher data portal meets the statutory requirements outlined in TEC 32.258. The District utilizes Edugence as the District Assessment Management Portal which is in full compliance with the requirements for the waiver. The District has had a waiver from this requirement since its inception in 2011 as it is a burdensome requirement to have two systems in which student data is housed.					
Financial Implications:	There is no financial implication to the budget.					
Attachments:	N/A					

Recommendation:	**The Administration recommends approval of the application for the Teacher Data Portal of the Texas Assessment Management System Waiver as submitted.**
Motion:	**I move the Board approve the application for the Teacher Data Portal of the Texas Assessment Management System Waiver as submitted.**

Board Agenda Item

Little Elm Independent School District
400 Lobo Lane
Little Elm, Texas 75068

Board Mtg. Date **08-18-2025**	**Reports of the Superintendent** ☐	**Action Item** ☐	**Consent Agenda** ☒	**Reports, Routine Monthly** ☐	**Other** ☐	
Subject:	**HB 3372 ADMINISTRATOR OUTSIDE CONTRACT WORK APPROVAL**					
Presenter or Contact Person:	Dr. Penny Tramel, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Learning					
Policy/Code:	HB 3372					
Strategic Plan Goal:	N/A					
Summary:	As a result of the 89th Legislative Session, HB 3372 is in effect requiring board approval for administrators to conduct contract work on their personal time. An administrator , other than a member of a board of managers, superintendent, or assistant superintendent, may receive a financial benefit under Subsection (b)(2) or (3) if: 1) a written contract describing the services to be performed by the administrator is provided to the board of trustees of the administrator's employing district; and 2) the board of trustees for the administrator's employing district votes to approve the contract after determining that: a) the contract will not harm the district; b) the arrangement does not present a conflict of interest; and c) the services to be performed by the administrator will be performed entirely on the administrator's personal time. Contracts presented to the board are subject to disclosure under Chapter 552, Government Code. An administrator who violates this section is liable to the state for a civil penalty in the amount of $10,000 for each violation.					
Financial Implications:	There is no financial implication to the budget.					

Attachments:	Under separate cover
Recommendation:	**The Administration recommends approval of the contract(s) for administrators to perform contract work on their personal time as submitted.**
Motion:	**I move the Board approve the contract(s) for administrators to perform contract work on their personal time as submitted.**

Employee Agreement

THIS EMPLOYEE AGREEMENT (the "Agreement") is entered into by and between (i) Learners Edge LLC, d/b/a K12 Coalition (the "Company"), its companies and divisions, and (ii) Alissa Royal ("Employee").

WHEREAS, the Company desires to employ Employee, and Employee desires to be employed by the Company, all upon the terms and subject to the conditions hereinafter provided.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants and agreements herein contained, the parties hereto, intending to be legally bound, agree as follows:

1. **At-Will Employment.** Employee's employment by the Company shall commence on May 12, 2025, which shall be the effective date of the Agreement (the "Effective Date"), and shall continue until terminated by either the Company or Employee (the "Term"). This Agreement is not a promise of continued employment. Employment may be terminated by the Company, at any time, without notice, for any reason or no reason. No commitment or other term of employment shall be inferred or otherwise assumed from any source whatsoever, written or oral, except as provided for above.

2. **Other Activities.** To ensure the avoidance of any conflict, Employee may not engage in any other employment or business activities, or render services to any person or entity, while employed by the Company, unless advance approval in writing is provided by the [Chief Executive Officer or his or her designee] of the Company.

3. **Acknowledgements.** Employee acknowledges that the Company provides unique services to its clients; employs novel methods, content, and approaches, developed over the course of years, in providing those educational services; and must protect its customer, employee, and consultant relationships to ensure a viable business. Employee further acknowledges that the restrictions contained in Non-Disclosure, Non-Competition *(if applicable)*, and Non-Solicitation Sections impose no greater restrictions than needed to protect the Company's legitimate protectable interests, does not impose an undue hardship on Employee, is reasonably limited temporally and geographically.

4. **Non-Disclosure.**

a. Employee acknowledges and agrees that Employee currently possesses, or will acquire, learn, obtain or develop during Employee's employment with the Company, "Confidential Information." "Confidential Information" means any information of a secret, sensitive or confidential nature or not known to the general public, which is received by Employee during Employee's employment with the Company, from any source, concerning the Company, its affiliated individuals or entities, or any individuals or entities with which Employee may come into contact during the course of Employee's employment. "Confidential Information" for purposes hereof may also include, but is not limited to, the following: trade secrets, proprietary information, sensitive information, intellectual

property, client information or lists, member information or lists, vendor information or lists, student information, business affairs, markets, investments, operational methods, pricing, methods, plans, documents, records, data, drawings, manuals, notebooks, reports, models, inventions, formulas, processes, computer software, codes, passwords, information systems, software authoring techniques, contracts, negotiations, strategic planning, proposals, alliances, training and educational materials, and any information concerning costs and profits, projections, new business ventures, and/or expansion/contraction plans, contacts, personnel, or any other proprietary information about the Company's business activities or operations or the business or the business activities or operations of other individuals or entities obtained in the course of Employee's employment, which is not generally known by the public, regardless of whether any such Confidential Information is in oral, written, machine, computer readable, or some other form. When in doubt, Employee agrees to assume the information is Confidential Information and to treat it as Confidential Information.

b. Employee will hold in a fiduciary capacity, for the benefit of the Company, all Confidential Information, which Employee has or may acquire, learn, obtain or develop during Employee's employment with the Company. Employee will not, apart from the performance of Employee's work responsibilities for the Company, during the period of Employee's employment with the Company or any time thereafter, directly or indirectly, disclose, use, communicate, or divulge for any purpose whatsoever, including but not limited to for Employee's benefit or for the benefit of another person, corporation, entity or third party, any such Confidential Information other than: (i) information in the public domain; (ii) with the express written authorization of the Company; (iii) as required by applicable law or as ordered by a court of competent jurisdiction; or (iv) with respect to matters that are generally known to the public.
c. Employee hereby makes the same commitments hereunder with respect to the Confidential Information of those affiliates, suppliers, clients, vendors and others with whom the Company has a business relationship or to whom the Company or its affiliated entities owe a duty of confidentiality.
d. Employee further acknowledges that the services to be performed by Employee under the Agreement are of a special, unique, unusual, extraordinary and intellectual character, that the business of the Company will be conducted throughout the Territory, that the Company competes and will compete in nearly all of its business activities with other organizations which are located in nearly any part of the Territory and that the nature of the relationship of Employee with the Company is such that Employee is capable of competing with the Company from nearly any location in the Territory. In recognition of the foregoing, Employee covenants and agrees during the Term and thereafter:
    i. that Employee will keep secret all Confidential Information and not disclose such information to anyone outside of the Company, either during or after the Term, except with the Company's prior written consent, or as required by applicable law or judicial or administrative process with subpoena power;
    ii. that Employee will not make use of Confidential Information for Employee's own purposes or the benefit of anyone other than the Company; and

iii. that Employee will deliver promptly to the Company on termination of Employee's employment for any reason, or at any time the Company may so request, all information relating to the business of the Company, which Employee may then possess or have under Employee's control.

e. If the Employee is required by court order or subpoena to disclose any Confidential Information, the Employee shall notify the Company in writing and provide a copy of any court order or subpoena within three business days of becoming aware of such a court order or subpoena and prior to disclosure of such Confidential Information.

f. Notwithstanding the foregoing, under 18 U.S.C. § 1833(b), Employee shall not be held criminally or civilly liable under any Federal or State trade secret law for disclosing a trade secret in confidence: (A) to either a Federal, State, or local government official, either directly or indirectly, or to an attorney, solely for the purpose of reporting or investigating a suspected violation of law; or (B) in a complaint or other document filed in a lawsuit or other proceeding, if such filing is made under seal. Should Employee file a retaliation lawsuit alleging that Employee was retaliated against for reporting a suspected violation of law, Employee may disclose trade secret information to Employee's attorney and use that information in a court proceeding so long as (x) Employee files any document containing the trade secret information under seal, and (y) does not disclose the trade secret, except pursuant to court order. This constitutes notice under 18 U.S.C. § 1833(b)(3).

g. **Confidentiality Notice**. Employee understands and acknowledges that, notwithstanding anything contained herein to the contrary, nothing in this Agreement is intended to prevent Employee from reporting alleged criminal conduct or any form of unlawful discrimination, harassment, or retaliation that is actionable under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, or any other related state or federal rule or law or filing a charge or complaint with or from participating in an investigation or proceeding conducted by any federal, state or local agency charged with the enforcement of any employment laws, including, but not limited to the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission ("EEOC") or a comparable state or local agency or the National Labor Relations Board ("NLRB"). This Agreement also does not limit Employee's right to receive an award for information provided to a government agency. Further, nothing contained in this Agreement shall be construed as interfering with, restraining, or limiting my ability to exercise any rights under Section 7 of the National Labor Relations Act, including the ability to speak with current or former coworkers regarding workplace issues or terms and conditions of employment, engage in organization or collective bargaining, and/or assist with the filing or investigation of an unfair labor practice charge with the National Labor Relations Board; provided, however, this sentence shall not apply if Employee's most recent position for Company included supervisory or managerial job duties.

5. Non-Solicitation.

a. During the Term of the Employee's employment, and for a period of twelve (12) months following the Date of Termination, regardless of the reason, method, or type of termination, Employee will not:

i. Directly or indirectly, individually or on behalf of any other Person, solicit or take any action to entice or induce any employee, independent contractor, or consultant of the Company to quit or terminate employment or service with the Company.

ii. Solicit or engage with the Company's Clients to offer competing educational products or services.

iii. Encourage (directly or indirectly) any of the Company's Clients to terminate their relationship with the Company or to decrease their contracts with the Company.

6. Definitions (applies to the Non-Compete *(if applicable)* and Non-Solicitation Section(s)).

a. The term "Territory" will mean any area in which the Company conducts business, including but not limited to the United States.

b. The term "Business of the Company" will mean the development and sale of K-12 curricula, professional development services, continuing education products, educational consulting services, alternative teacher certification, teacher licensure exam preparation resources, and/or the development and sale of similar products or services sold or in development by the Company.

c. The term "Person" shall mean an individual, corporation, trust, partnership, LLC, LLP, firm, entity, or business enterprise.

d. The term "Client(s)" or "Client(s) of the Company" means current or prospective clients with whom the Employee had contact, knowledge of, or obtained Confidential Information during employment.

i. For clarity, nothing in Non-Compete *(if applicable)* and Non-Solicitation prevents Employee from being employed by or working as an independent contractor for a network, district, or school, so long as that organization is not a Client of the Company.

ii. If Employee desires to work for a Client, they must contact HR (hr@k12coalition.com) and may proceed only upon receiving prior written authorization, which will not be unreasonably withheld.

7. Covenant Regarding Inventions and Copyrights.

a. Employee shall disclose promptly to the Company any and all inventions, discoveries, improvements and patentable or copyrightable works initiated, conceived or made by Employee, either alone or in conjunction with others, during the Term and related to the business or activities of the Company, including without limitation works fixed in any tangible medium of expression as defined in the United States Copyright Code, Title 17 of the United States Code, Section 101, created, developed or revised by the employee during the course of rendering services for or on behalf of the Company (the "Works") and the which shall be considered Works made for hire for the Company and the sole and exclusive property of the Company to the extent the Works do not constitute a work made for hire, the Employee hereby assigns to the Company all right, title and interest that the Employee may have to, or acquire in, all such Works. Employee assigns all of Employee's interest therein to the Company or its nominee; whenever requested to do

so by Employer, Employee shall execute any and all applications, assignments or other instruments which the Company shall deem necessary to apply for and obtain letters patent or copyrights of the United States or any foreign country, or otherwise protect the Company's interest therein. These obligations shall continue beyond the conclusion of the Term with respect to inventions, discoveries, improvements or copyrightable works initiated, conceived or made by Employee during the Term and shall be binding upon Employee's assigns, executors, administrators and other legal representatives.

b. THIS PROVISION SHALL NOT APPLY TO AN INVENTION THAT THE EMPLOYEE DEVELOPED ENTIRELY ON HIS OR HER OWN TIME WITHOUT USING THE COMPANY'S EQUIPMENT, SUPPLIES, FACILITIES, OR TRADE SECRET INFORMATION EXCEPT FOR THOSE INVENTIONS THAT EITHER: (A) RELATE AT THE TIME OF CONCEPTION OR REDUCTION TO PRACTICE OF THE INVENTION TO THE COMPANY'S BUSINESS, OR ACTUAL OR DEMONSTRABLE ANTICIPATED RESEARCH OR DEVELOPMENT OF THE COMPANY; OR (B) RESULT FROM ANY WORK PERFORMED BY THE EMPLOYEE FOR THE COMPANY.

8. **Remedies.**

a. For purposes of Non-Disclosure, Non-Competition *(if applicable)*, and Non-Solicitation Sections of the Agreement, references to the Company shall include all current and future entities owned, operated, serviced or managed by the Company, or any of its subsidiaries or affiliates and all current and future joint ventures in which the Company may from time to time be involved and all entities managed by the Company.

b. It is understood by Employee and the Company that (i) if Employee violates any of the terms of Non-Disclosure, Non-Competition *(if applicable)*, and Non-Solicitation Sections, the Company would be harmed; (ii) the parties have entered into this Agreement to guard against such potential harm; and (iii) the covenants contained in the Covenant Regarding Inventions and Copyrights Section and in Non-Disclosure, Non-Competition *(if applicable)*, and Non-Solicitation Sections of the Agreement are essential elements of the Agreement and that, but for the agreement of Employee to comply with such covenants, the Company would not have agreed to enter into the Agreement.

c. The Company and Employee have had the opportunity to independently consult with their respective counsel and have been, or have had the opportunity to have been, advised concerning the reasonableness and propriety of such covenants with specific regard to the nature of the business conducted by the Company and all interests of Employers.

d. It is the desire and intent of the Employee and the Company that the provisions of this Agreement, including, but not limited to, the covenants contained in Non-Disclosure, Non-Competition *(if applicable)*, and Non-Solicitation Sections, be enforced to the fullest extent permissible under the laws of the jurisdiction in which enforcement is sought.

9. **Independence, Severability and Non-Exclusivity.** Each of the rights enumerated in the Non-Disclosure, Non-Competition *(if applicable)*, and Non-Solicitation Sections of the Agreement and the remedies enumerated in the Covenant Regarding Inventions and Copyrights Section of the Agreement shall be independent of the others and shall be in

addition to and not in lieu of any other rights and remedies available to the Company at law or in equity. If any of the covenants contained in Non-Disclosure, Non-Competition *(if applicable)*, and Non-Solicitation Sections, or any part of any of them, are hereafter construed or adjudicated to be invalid or unenforceable, the same shall not affect the remainder of the covenant or covenants or rights or remedies which shall be given full effect without regard to the invalid portions. If any of the covenants contained in Non-Disclosure, Non-Competition *(if applicable)*, and Non-Solicitation Sections are held to be invalid or unenforceable because of the duration of such provision or the area covered thereby, the parties agree that the court making such determination shall have the power to reduce the duration and/or area of such provision and in its reduced form said provision shall then be enforceable.

10. **Arbitration.** Except for the Company's rights of enforcement under Non-Disclosure, Non-Competition *(if applicable)* and Non-Solicitation Sections and the Covenant Regarding Inventions and Copyrights Section of this Agreement, any dispute, controversy or claim (i) arising out of or related to this Agreement or any breach of this Agreement, or (ii) otherwise concerning or related to the employment relationship between Employee and the Company, shall be submitted exclusively to and decided by binding arbitration. Arbitration shall be administered exclusively by the American Arbitration Association ("AAA") in Virginia and shall be conducted in accordance with the rules, regulations, and requirements thereof as well as any requirements imposed by applicable state law. In addition, any jurisdictional, threshold, or gateway disputes, such as, inter alia, whether the parties have agreed to arbitration, whether this provision is valid, or whether the dispute or a claim is arbitrable, shall be determined and settled by arbitration in accordance with the rules of the AAA. Any arbitral award determination shall be final and binding upon the Parties, and may be enforced in any court of competent jurisdiction. For the avoidance of doubt, this arbitration provision shall extend to claims against the Company's officers, directors, principals and employees that are related to claims against officers, directors, principals and agents of the Company.

11. **Successors; Binding Agreement.** All provisions of this Agreement will inure to the benefit of and be binding upon the parties hereto, their heirs, personal representatives, successors and assigns. This Agreement contemplates the Employee will personally provide the services described herein, and accordingly, may not assign his rights or obligations hereunder, whether by operation of law or otherwise, in whole or in part, without the prior written consent of the Company. This Agreement may, however, be assigned by the Company at its sole discretion.

12. **Absence of Conflict.** Employee represents that (i) Employee has the right to enter into the Agreement, (ii) that Employee's employment by Employer will not violate the terms of any restrictive covenant to which Employee is subject, (iii) that Employee's performance of all the terms of the Agreement as an employee of the Company does not and will not breach any confidentiality agreement with any other employer, and (iv) that Employee

agrees that Employee will not enter into any agreement, either written or oral, in conflict with the Agreement.

13. **Modifications and Waivers.** No term, provision or condition of the Agreement may be modified or discharged unless such modification or discharge is authorized by the Chief Executive Officer of the Company and is agreed to, in writing, and signed by Employee and the Company. No waiver by either party hereto of any breach by the other party hereto of any term, provision or condition of this Agreement to be performed by such other party shall be deemed a waiver of similar or dissimilar provisions or conditions at the same or at any prior or subsequent time.

14. **Entire Agreement.** The Agreement constitutes the entire understanding between the parties hereto relating to the subject matter hereof, superseding all negotiations, prior discussions, preliminary agreements and agreements relating to the subject matter hereof made prior to the date hereof.

15. **Law Governing.** Except as otherwise explicitly noted, the Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Texas applicable to agreements made and to be performed entirely within such State, without regard to the conflicts of law principles that would require the application of the laws of any jurisdiction other than the State of Texas, unless the law of the state where the Employee works mandates application of that state law, in which that state's law will control.

16. **Invalidity.** Except as otherwise specified herein, the invalidity or unenforceability of any term or terms of the Agreement shall not invalidate, make unenforceable, or otherwise affect any other term of the Agreement which shall remain in full force and effect.

17. **Counterparts.** This Agreement may be executed and delivered (including by facsimile, PDF or other electronic transmission) in one or more counterparts, and by the different parties hereto in separate counterparts, each of which when executed shall be deemed to be an original and all of which taken together constitute one and the same agreement.

18. **Survival.** The following provisions of the Agreement shall survive, including Non-Disclosure, Non-Competition *(if applicable)*, Non-Solicitation, Covenant Regarding Inventions and Copyrights, Remedies, Independence and Severability, Arbitration, and Sections 13 through 20.

19. **Notices.** All notices, consents or other communications required or permitted to be given by any party hereunder shall be in writing and shall be given by personal delivery, certified or registered mail, postage prepaid, or email as follows:

To the Company:	**To Employee:**

K12 Coalition 2410 Old Ivy Road, #205, Charlottesville, VA 22903 Attention: K12 Coalition Human Resources Email: HR@k12coalition.com	Via Secure Email

or at such other address as either party may from time to time specify in writing to the other. Any notice, consent or other communication hereunder shall have been deemed to be given on the date of mailing, personal delivery, or email (provided any appropriate answer back is received) thereof and shall be conclusively presumed to have been received on the second business day following the date of mailing or, in the case of personal delivery or email, the day of delivery thereof.

State Law Addendum

For California, Delaware, Illinois, Kansas, Minnesota, New Jersey, North Carolina and Washington Employees

THIS IS TO NOTIFY you in accordance with applicable state law, this Agreement between you and Employer does not apply to an invention that you developed entirely on your own time without using Employer's equipment, supplies, facilities, or trade secret information, except for those inventions that either:

(1) Relate at the time of conception or use to Employer's business, or actual or demonstrably anticipated research or development; or

(2) Result from any work you perform for Employer.

To the extent a provision in the foregoing Agreement purports to require you to assign an invention otherwise excluded from the preceding paragraph, the provision is against the public policy of this state and is void and unenforceable.

For Nevada Employees

THIS IS TO NOTIFY you in accordance with NRS § 600.500, unless there is an express written agreement to the contrary, Employer is the sole owner of any "patentable invention or trade secret" developed by you during the course and scope of your employment that relates directly to work performed during the course and scope of employment.

For Utah Employees Only

THIS IS TO NOTIFY you in accordance with Utah Code §§ 34-39-1 to 34-39-3 that the foregoing Agreement between you and Company will not apply to an invention that is both (i) created by you on your own time, and (ii) not an "employment invention."
An "employment invention" means an invention or any part that is:

- Conceived, developed, or reduced to practice or created by you: ○ within the scope of your employment;
    - on Employer's time; or
    - with the aid, assistance, or use of any of Employer's property, equipment, facilities, supplies, resources, or intellectual property.
- The result of any work, services, or duties performed by you for Employer.
- Related to Employer's industry or trade.
- Related to Employer's current or demonstrably anticipated business, research, or development.

To the extent a provision in the foregoing Agreement purports to require you to assign an invention otherwise excluded from the preceding paragraph, the provision is against the public policy of this state and is void and unenforceable.

JURISDICTION-SPECIFIC PROVISIONS (AS APPLICABLE)

For California, Minnesota, North Dakota, and Oklahoma. Employees Only
I acknowledge that the Non-Compete Section *(if present)* of this Agreement will not apply to me.

For Alabama Employees Only
I acknowledge that I agree to the Non-Compete Section *(if present)* of this Agreement in order to protect Company's protectable business interests pursuant to Ala. Code §§ 8- 1-190 to 8-1-197. I acknowledge that during my employment I will have access to and knowledge of Confidential Information and such Confidential Information contains trade secrets pursuant to Ala. Code § 8-27-2.

For Colorado Employees Only
I acknowledge that during my employment I will have access to and knowledge of Confidential Information and such Confidential Information contains trade secrets pursuant to C.R.S. Section 8-2-113(b) and that I make at least 60% of the "highly compensated individual" threshold defined in C.R.S. Section 8-2-113(2)(c).

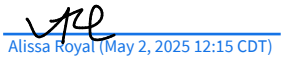
For Illinois Employees Only
I acknowledge and understand that the Non-Compete Section *(if present)* of this Agreement shall apply to me only if my actual or expected annualized rate of earnings exceeds the applicable earnings threshold under the Illinois Freedom to Work Act (820 ILSC 90/10).

JURISDICTION-SPECIFIC NON-COMPETE PROVISIONS (AS APPLICABLE)

For California, Minnesota, North Dakota, and Oklahoma. Employees Only
I acknowledge that the Non-Compete Section *(if present)* of this Agreement will not apply to me.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have executed the Agreement on the day and year set forth above.

Employee

By: 
Alissa Royal (May 2, 2025 12:15 CDT)

Name: Alissa Royal

Title: Instructor

Date: 05/02/2025

Learners Edge LLC, DBA K12 Coalition

By: Allison Nguyen

Name: Allison Nguyen

Title: HR Business Partner

Date: 05/05/2025

Alissa Royal - K12 Coalition Employment Agreement.docx

Final Audit Report 2025-05-05

Created:	2025-05-02
By:	Ally Nguyen (allison.nguyen@k12coalition.com)
Status:	Signed
Transaction ID:	CBJCHBCAABAAtn8pYy6a4jQ1VbbDhkc_d11HtthnOiVt

"Alissa Royal - K12 Coalition Employment Agreement.docx" History

Document created by Ally Nguyen (allison.nguyen@k12coalition.com)
2025-05-02 - 4:55:09 PM GMT

Document emailed to royal.alissa@gmail.com for signature
2025-05-02 - 4:56:21 PM GMT

Email viewed by royal.alissa@gmail.com
2025-05-02 - 5:14:35 PM GMT

Signer royal.alissa@gmail.com entered name at signing as Alissa Royal
2025-05-02 - 5:15:53 PM GMT

Document e-signed by Alissa Royal (royal.alissa@gmail.com)
Signature Date: 2025-05-02 - 5:15:55 PM GMT - Time Source: server

Document emailed to Ally Nguyen (allison.nguyen@k12coalition.com) for signature
2025-05-02 - 5:15:56 PM GMT

Document e-signed by Ally Nguyen (allison.nguyen@k12coalition.com)
Signature Date: 2025-05-05 - 2:35:06 PM GMT - Time Source: server

Agreement completed.
2025-05-05 - 2:35:06 PM GMT

Adobe Acrobat Sign

WORK FOR HIRE AGREEMENT
(COVER PAGE)

"Contractor":	Tosha Hoefert
"Effective Date":	Date: 5/27/25
Work Product:	The Company desires to retain Contractor to produce certain work product for the Company, as detailed in Exhibit B, in accordance with the terms and conditions of this Agreement. As consideration for Contractor producing the work product under this Agreement, Contractor shall be entitled to compensation in accordance with Exhibit C.
Contractor's Notice Address:	**1607 Wood Ridge Court** **Corinth, TX 76210**
Company's Notice Address: **With a copy to:**	hand2mind, Inc. 500 Greenview Court Vernon Hills, IL 60061 Facsimile: (847) 816-5066 Attn: President Much Shelist, P.C. 191 N. Wacker Drive, Suite 1800 Chicago, Illinois 60606 Facsimile: (312) 521-2854 Attn: David T. Brown
Exhibit(s):	Exhibit A (General Terms & Conditions) Exhibit B (Work Product) Exhibit C (Compensation)

THIS WORK FOR HIRE AGREEMENT (this **"Agreement"**) is made as of the Effective Date by and for the benefit of the Contractor set forth above and by and for the benefit of the Company set forth above and its parent and subsidiary companies, divisions and affiliates (collectively the **"Company"**). Contractor and the Company sometimes will be referred to collectively as the **"Parties,"** and individually as a **"Party**." This Agreement consists of this Cover Page together with the "Exhibit(s)" specified above.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Company and Contractor hereby agree to all terms of this Agreement as of the Effective Date.

Company: hand2mind, Inc.	**Contractor:**
Signature: Vinita Jha	Signature:
Type/Print Name: **Vinita Jha**	Type/Print Name: Tosha Hoefert
Title: Editorial Manager	Title: Contractor
Date: 5/27/25	Date:

EXHIBIT A

GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. Cover Page. The Cover Page is hereby incorporated into this Agreement.

2. Engagement of the Contractor. Subject to the terms and conditions contained in this Agreement, the Company hereby engages the Contractor as its independent contractor for production of the work product set forth in Exhibit B and such other work product agreed to by the Parties (the **"Work Product**"), and Contractor hereby accepts such engagement, all upon the terms and conditions set forth in this Agreement.

3. Milestones. All Work Product shall be finished no later than the completion dates for each phase of the Work Product as set forth in Exhibit B (each phase being a "**Milestone**").

4. Termination. Either Party may terminate this Agreement for a material breach of the Agreement by the other Party upon providing the other Party with fourteen (14) days' prior written notice specifying such breach and such Party's failure to cure such breach within such fourteen (14) day period. Company may terminate this Agreement at any time for convenience by providing Contractor ten (10) days' written notice. Upon termination of this Agreement (except for Company's material breach): (a) Contractor will promptly deliver to Company all completed and in-progress Work Product, and (b) Company will not be obligated to pay any amounts for Work Product provided after the effective date of such termination.

5. Contractor's Obligations. Contractor agrees to produce the Work Product and deliver same to Company prior to or upon the completion of the Milestone. Contractor's compensation shall be contingent on the timely completion of the Work Product to the Company's satisfaction within the time period provided for the Milestone. After delivery of the completed Work Product, Contractor shall make any reasonable revisions to the Work Product requested by the Company within the time specified by the Company for such revisions. The Company is not responsible for payment for work done without proper approval.

6. Compensation. As consideration for Contractor providing the Work Product under this Agreement, and for the grant of rights from Contractor to Company, Contractor shall be entitled to compensation in accordance with Exhibit C (the "**Compensation**"). The Company agrees to pay Contractor the Compensation within 30 days of invoice date provided that the Contractor has turned the Work Product over to the Company, completed the work to the Company's satisfaction within the time period for the applicable Milestone, and thereafter submitted a final invoice. The Compensation shall be full payment for the Work Product and Contractor shall not be entitled to any further or additional payment from the Company for the Work Product.

7. **Expenses**. The Company agrees to reimburse Contractor for the types of expenses that are set forth in Exhibit C that have been approved in advance by the Company. Payment of expenses will be made within 30 days of submission of invoice and supporting documents of expenses.

8. Indemnification. Contractor will indemnify and defend Company (including Company's officers, agents and employees, collectively the "Company Indemnified Parties") from and against any and all settlements, judgments, awards, fines, penalties, interest, liabilities, losses, costs, damages, and expenses (including reasonable attorney's fees and disbursements and court costs) sustained or incurred by any of the Company Indemnified Parties, based upon, relating to or arising from (a) any claims, actions, suits, proceedings, or investigations alleging that any Work Product provided by Contractor misappropriates, infringes or violates any intellectual property right of any third party, or (b) any breach by Contractor of any provision of this Agreement (including any warranty or representation made by Contractor).

9. Limitation of Liability. In no event will Company be liable to Contractor for any indirect, special, punitive, or consequential damages that may arise in connection with this Agreement, regardless of the cause of action or characterization of the damages, even if Company has been advised of the possibility of such damages. In no event will Company's aggregate liability to Contractor exceed the amount of fees paid or payable to Contractor in the 12-month period immediately preceding the event giving rise to liability.

10. **No Partnership or Joint Venture; Independent Contractor**. It is hereby agreed that Contractor is an independent contractor and not an employee of the Company and that the engagement hereunder shall not change or otherwise alter Contractor's status as an independent contractor. Contractor may produce the Work Product by any means and manner Contractor deems appropriate, which Work Product shall be subject to the final approval of the Company. Contractor shall control the aggregate number of hours actually worked and substantially all of the

scheduling of the hours worked. All work is to be performed at the sole risk of the Contractor and Contractor shall take all precautions for the proper and safe performance thereof. Furthermore, Contractor acknowledges and agrees to maintain in full force and effect appropriate medical and other insurance as Contractor deems appropriate to provide for Contractor's needs in performance of Contractor's work hereunder. Contractor shall, at its own expense, furnish all necessary tools, equipment, materials and other facilities for production of the Work Product, except as otherwise noted in this Agreement.

11. Work Made for Hire.

(a) The Work Product shall be a work make made for hire (as defined under the U.S. Copyright Act) owned by and for the benefit of the Company and if it does not qualify as a work made for hire, Contractor will and hereby does assign to the Company all of Contractor's rights, title and interest in the Work Product, including all copyrights, patents, trademarks, designs and other intellectual property rights, throughout the world in any form or media. Contractor shall sign any documents needed to confirm that the Work Product is a Work Made for Hire and/or to effectuate the assignment of Contractor's rights therein to the Company. Contractor shall sign any documents needed to prepare U.S. or foreign copyright, trademark, design and/or patent applications covering the Work Product.

(b) The Company shall hold all right, title, and interest in the Work Product. It is understood and agreed that the Company has the exclusive and unrestricted right to use or not use the Work Product and to use, reproduce, re-use, alter, modify, edit, change or further develop the Work Product in any form or media throughout the world as it sees fit and for any purpose, and the Work Product shall not be returned.

12. Confidential Information.

(a) "Confidential Information" means any data or information relating to Company, or Company's business which Company informs Contractor is confidential, or which would reasonably be considered to be private or proprietary to Company. Confidential Information will not include any information that (i) at the time of disclosure to Contractor, had previously been published or was otherwise publicly available; (ii) is published or becomes otherwise publicly available after having been disclosed to Contractor, unless through the breach by Contractor of its obligations under this Agreement; (iii) is independently developed by Contractor without reference to or reliance upon the Confidential information; or (iv) prior to disclosure to Contractor, was already in Contractor's possession on a non-confidential basis.

(b) Contractor will hold the Confidential Information in confidence with at least as much care as it holds its own confidential information (and in no event using less than reasonable care) and will not disclose any Confidential Information to any third party. Contractor will not use the Confidential Information for any purpose other than its performance under this Agreement.

(c) The obligations of confidentiality will apply during the term of this Agreement and will survive indefinitely upon termination of this Agreement. All Confidential Information disclosed or provided by Company to Contractor is Confidential Information and subject to the protections set forth in this section regardless of whether it was provided before or after the Effective Date of this Agreement, and regardless of how it was provided to Contractor.

(d) Contractor may disclose Confidential Information as required by court order or otherwise by law, provided that it gives Company written notice in advance of such disclosure sufficient to permit Company to seek a protective order and, if so ordered, discloses only the minimum Confidential Information necessary to comply with the order.

(e) Upon termination of this Agreement or at any time upon written request of Company, Contractor will return (or destroy at Company's option) all copies of Confidential Information in its possession, custody, or control. Upon written request of Company, Contractor will certify in writing its compliance with this requirement.

13. Representations and Warranties. Contractor represents and warrants to Company that the Work Product and any and all elements thereof, do not and will not infringe upon any patent rights, copyrights, trademark rights, rights of publicity, or property right of any third party, and that the Work Product will not contain any subject matter that is defamatory, obscene or which would otherwise subject Company to liability to any third party. Contractor represents and warrants that it has all legal right and ability to enter into this Agreement, and that its performance under this Agreement will not violate any other agreement to which Contractor is a party.

14. Notices. Notices required or permitted under this Agreement shall be deemed to have been given on personal delivery (including overnight courier service) or by facsimile upon a confirmation of receipt and if by

mail on the third day after the mail is deposited in the U.S. Mail, by first class mail, postage prepaid return receipt requested and addressed to the Company or Contractor at their respective addresses set forth on the Cover Page.

15. Applicable Law. This Agreement will be exclusively governed by and construed in accordance with the domestic laws of the State of Illinois without giving effect to any choice or conflict of law provision or rule (whether of the State of Illinois or any other jurisdiction) that would cause the application of the laws of any jurisdiction other than the State of Illinois. The Parties shall submit all disputes which arise under this Agreement to state or federal courts located solely in the City of Chicago, Illinois for resolution. The Parties acknowledge and irrevocably agree that the aforesaid courts have exclusive jurisdiction over this Agreement and specifically waive any claims they may have which involve jurisdiction or venue, including but not limited to *forum non conveniens*. Service of process for any claim which arises under this Agreement shall be valid if mailed to the Party being served, by first-class air mail, DHL, Federal Express, UPS, or another overnight carrier. If service of process is made as aforesaid, the Party served agrees that such service shall constitute- valid service and specifically waives and agrees not to plead any objections the Party served may have under any law or rule of any governmental authority concerning service of process. Service of process in accordance with this Section shall be in addition to and not to the exclusion of any other service of process method legally available. Notwithstanding any other provision in this Agreement, any Party may seek preliminary injunctive relief from any court of competent jurisdiction, pending the final judgment of any competent court that may have jurisdiction over disputes arising out of this Agreement under the provisions of this Agreement.

16. General. This Agreement may be executed in counterparts and such counterparts, taken together, will be one and the same Agreement. A true and correct facsimile or electronic copy of an executed copy of this Agreement will constitute an original for any evidentiary purpose. All waivers must be in writing and signed by the party waiving its rights. If any court of competent jurisdiction finds any portion of any provision of this Agreement to be unenforceable or contrary to applicable law, the parties agree that the provision will be deemed modified to the least extent necessary to make it enforceable, and all other provisions of this Agreement will remain unaffected. This Agreement, together with any schedules, constitutes the entire agreement between the parties with respect to its subject matter, and supersedes all other agreements (express or implied), proposals, negotiations, representations or communications relating to the subject matter. Both parties acknowledge that they have not been induced to enter this Agreement by any representations or promises not specifically stated in this Agreement. The protections of this Agreement will apply to actions of the parties performed in preparation for and anticipation of the execution of this Agreement. Any amendment to this Agreement must be in writing and signed by duly authorized representatives of the parties.

[End of document]

EXHIBIT B
WORK PRODUCT

Project Objective:

Contractor to provide Editorial Services for ongoing hand2mind projects from **5/27/25 through 12/31/25.**

Editorial Projects will be shared with the Contractor by hand2mind as they are available.

Contractor will accept Editorial Projects based on their availability.

See Projects section for individual project details.

Contractor Deliverables:

The parties acknowledge that the Contractor will provide one or more of the following Editorial Services in Table B, depending on the needs of the project and agreement between the parties. The Company will determine which service or combination of services will be provided. These services may include, but are not limited to, the services described below. The Company reserves the right to modify or adjust the selected services as necessary throughout the term of this agreement.

The Contractor will provide estimated hours or a flat rate prior to starting a project.

Timeline:

A timeline will be established by hand2mind and agreed upon by the Contractor prior to starting each project to meet hand2mind delivery dates and based on estimated hours or a flat rate provided by the Contractor prior to starting a project. Hours will vary by project based on the scope and delivery dates, to be agreed upon by both parties.

Table B: Editorial Services and Estimated Hours

Service	Description
Line Editing	Edit for structure, flow, language. Create a **style sheet** for the product/series.
Copyediting	Edit text to be correct, consistent, clear, concise, and complete.
Contextual Copyediting/Cross-Checking	Edit text with images/cross-check text with other files.
Proofreading	Edit text for spelling, grammar, consistency, and punctuation.
Fact Checking	Check facts and provide sources; correct factual errors.
Revise/Rewrite	Rewrite or revise existing text.
Writing	Write new content or copy.
InCopy	Work in InCopy or InDesign to revise text.
Subject Matter Expertise	List any educational/other areas.
Other	Please provide details and rates for any other editorial services.

EXHIBIT C
COMPENSATION

Before starting a project, contractor to provide estimates of total hours and/or a flat rate, to be approved by hand2mind.

Projects to be billed monthly, at the end of each month, to be paid after approval by hand2mind.

Rates are as follows:

Editorial Services/Rates

Service	Description	Hourly Rate
Line Editing	Edit for structure, flow, language. Create a **style sheet** for the product/series.	
Copyediting	Edit text to be correct, consistent, clear, concise, and complete.	
Contextual Copyediting/Cross-Checking	Edit text with images/cross-check text with other files.	
Proofreading	Edit text for spelling, grammar, consistency, and punctuation.	
Fact Checking	Check facts and provide sources; correct factual errors.	Included in writing
Revise/Rewrite	Rewrite or revise existing text.	
Writing	Write new content or copy.	Flat Rate
InCopy	Work in InCopy or InDesign to revise text.	
Subject Matter Expertise	List any educational/other areas.	Flat Rate
Other	Please provide details and rates for any other editorial services.	

Projects

Learning at Home 2026

Deliverables/Scope

- **Write 3 Learning at Home Books for Grades K, 1, and 2.**
    - Includes **one first draft** and **one revision draft**.
    - *Writer's guidelines, series style guide, references/samples, and scope and sequence to be provided by hand2mind.*
- Editorial Scope: Components for each Student Activity Book includes the following. The text is light, like student workbook pages, but science will have more instructions. *This is an overview of the scope and structure only—pages and content may vary.*

    * 72 pages per book (80 with front/end matter)
    * Each student activity book has 48 activities and 6 games. (This may vary with science.)
    * Each guide has appx 5 printables for organizational tools (Venn Diagram) or graphic organizers.
    * Each guide has letter to the family in English and Spanish. The manipulatives are the only thing that changes. (A translator will work on the Spanish.)
    * Each guide has a 6-week calendar. 1 in English and 1 in Spanish.
    * Each guide has a working with manipulative section. This changes based on the manipulatives included in the kit.

Estimated Schedule/Timeline (subject to change*)

- June 2: Writing Round 1 starts
- June 18: Writing Round 1 ends
- June 30: Writing Round 2 starts
- July 4: Writing Round 2 ends
- July 15: Writing Round 3 starts
- July 21: Writing Round 3 ends

- Writing Round 1 allows for 10 business days and 14 total days for writing.
- Writing round 2 allows for 5 business days and 7 total days for writing edits.
- Writing round 3 (if applicable) allows for 5 business days and 7 total days for writing edits.
- 1st grade would follow the same path but would begin June 17th and end August 4th
- 2nd grade would follow the same path but would begin July 1st and would end August 18th.

***Final schedule to be shared and agreed upon by Development Editor and Writer.**

Compensation

- **Writer to be paid $1,000 per book, or $3,000 total.**
- **Invoice monthly**, once writing is complete, per book. Allow a minimum of 30 days for payment processing.

Region 10 ESC
Experience the Power of 10

Check all boxes that are applicable:
- ☐ **Vendor provides same services to other businesses**
- ☐ **Vendor presents their own material**
- ☒ **No current employees doing similar work**
- ☒ **Not currently employed by Region 10**

If all boxes checked, determination form not needed

400 E. Spring Valley Road
Richardson, Texas 75081-5101

Personal Service Contract

PO #: **Account #:** **Account #:** 191-13-6299.00-279-500
Requisition #: **Account #:** **Account #:**

This contract is entered into, by, and between Education Service Center Region 10, hereinafter designated "Center" and hereinafter designated "Contractor" (Attach resume or vita, if applicable).
Contractor Info: Ethnicity Gender Female

1. **Scope of Work/Term** - During the period beginning 8/8/25 and ending 8/22/25 Contractor shall provide to the Center, the following services for the use and benefit of public education in Texas, including rate of pay:
   Audit 1700 World History items to realign standards and add keywords for $1000.00.
   Rate: $ 1000 per: fix rate

2. **Fee** - For the satisfactory performance of the services described above, Center shall pay to Contractor a fee equal to $1000. The total amount payable to Contractor by Center pursuant to this contract shall in no event exceed the sum of $1000. **All payments will be made to Contractor upon completion of work and submission of an itemized invoice with necessary receipts. A completed and signed W-9 must be on file for the current tax year before payment can be released.**

3. **Independent Contractor** – Both the Center and the Contractor agree that the Contractor will act as an independent contractor in the performance of its duties under this contract. As an independent contractor, the contractor or assigned designee is responsible for all taxes and is not entitled to employee benefits. **All payments made to the Contractor will be included on IRS Form 1099-MISC.**

4. **Confidentiality** - The Contractor agrees that any information received in accordance with this contract which concerns the personal, financial or other affairs of the Center or contracted school districts/charter schools will be treated as confidential.

5. **Use of Funds for Political Activities** - Contractor agrees that no funds provided by Center pursuant to this contract shall be used by Contractor for any political activity and that the Contractor is prohibited from using such funds for influencing or attempting to influence any member of Congress, it's employees or any Federal Agency employee concerning the making or awarding of a federal grant.

6. **Notice of Felony Conviction** - Contractor certifies that neither they, the owner of the company, or operator of their business have been convicted of a felony, nor are any of the named persons presently debarred, suspended, proposed for disbarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this proposed contract by any Federal or State department or agency.

7. **Property of Center** - All intellectual property, materials, and products developed under this contract belong exclusively to the Center. This excludes items the Contractor developed before the contract's effective date. The Contractor cannot make any claims, including copyright and patent claims, regarding the items developed under this contract without the Center's written consent.

8. **Contractor Products** – Contractor may demonstrate products for purchase as appropriate to the contracted service described above, but may not consummate sales during the service activities outlined.

9. **Prohibition of Texting while Driving** – Contractor agrees that during the delivery of service for Center, individual will not send, receive text messages or check email while driving. This is in compliance with Operational Procedures of the Texas Education Agency following Presidential Executive Order 13513.

10. **Non-Discrimination** – It is our policy not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender or handicap in its vocational programs, services or activities as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended: Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; and Section 503 and 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended. Contractor agrees to follow this policy.

11. **Former Employee** – If former Center employee, is vendor doing the same work done when employed by the Center? ☐Yes ☒No

12. **Conflict of Interest -** Contractor affirms that this contract does not create a conflict of interest with his/her present employer. Contractor affirms there is no conflict of interest, either personal or financial, with any Center employee. If Contractor determines there is a conflict of interest then the Contractor must verbally disclose the conflict to Program Manager of this contract.

13. **Assignment -** This contract may not be assigned by the Contractor without the written consent of the Center.

14. **Termination -** This contract may be terminated by either party on ten (10) days written notice. This contract may also be terminated by the Center for cause. Specifically, although not exclusively, cause shall include the Center having to cancel an event related to the Contractor's performance for reasons beyond its control, or for the Contractor's failure to perform as contemplated by the Center. In the case of the cause described herein, should a dispute arise over whether cause exists the judgment of the Center will control. On termination the Contractor shall be due only compensation earned, and reimbursement for approved costs. No fee will be due when termination is given with less than ten (10) day notice.

15. **Compliance with Laws -** This contract is subject to all applicable federal and state laws, including the availability of appropriated funds for the purposes stated herein. Notwithstanding any other provision in this contract or any other document, this contract is void upon sufficient appropriated funds becoming unavailable.

16. **Prohibited Activities by Administrators of Texas Public Schools -** Per HB 3372 from the 89th Texas Legislative Session - Contractor is hereby warned that he or she faces a potential $10,000.00 civil penalty under Texas Education Code ("TEC") §11.006(e) if the Contractor is a public-school administrator as defined by TEC 11.006(a) and receives a financial benefit under this contract, unless the Contractor's employing Board of Trustees has:

    1. Been provided this contract; and
    2. Taken a vote to approve the contract after determining:
        a. The contract will not harm the district;
        b. The arrangement does not present a conflict of interest; and
        c. The services to be performed by Contractor will be performed entirely on the Contractor's personal time.

    According to TEC 11.006(a):
    An "administrator" is defined as someone with significant administrative duties related to operating a school district, including its campuses, programs, or other subdivisions. This definition excludes employees whose primary role is in-classroom instruction and school district trustees.
    Please note that, according to TEC 11.006(c), ***superintendents and assistant superintendents are prohibited from receiving any financial benefit for the performance of personal services for an ESC under any circumstances***.

17. **Business Type -** If you are one of the following types of businesses, please check the appropriate box and attach a copy of certificate, or check N/A.

☐ Minority Owned ☐ HUB ☐ Women's Enterprise ☐ Disadvantaged Business Enterprise ☐ N/A

AGREED and accepted on behalf of Contractor to be effective on the earliest date written above by a person authorized to bind Contractor.

	Kerry Blank	Aug 4, 2025	
Contractor's Signature Date	Program Manager	Date	Director (if $5,000 to $14,999) Date

If employed by Region 10 district, supervisor must sign.

_____

_____
Deputy Exec Director (if $15,000 to $29,999) Date

_____
Executive Director (if $30,000 or more) Date

A copy of this executed contract should be retained by both parties.

revised 7/16/2025

Board Agenda Item

Little Elm Independent School District
400 Lobo Lane
Little Elm, Texas 75068

Board Mtg. Date **08-18-2025**	**Reports of the Superintendent** ☐ **Action Item** ☐ **Consent Agenda** ☒ **Reports, Routine Monthly** ☐ **Other** ☐
Subject:	**LITTLE ELM ISD EXPENDITURES OVER $100,000 SUMMARY REPORT**
Presenter or Contact Person:	Jesse Wyse, Chief Financial Officer
Policy/Code:	CH (LOCAL) Purchasing and Acquisition
Strategic Plan Goal:	Ensuring Fiscal Health and Sustainability
Summary:	Allows LEISD to purchase products or services valued over $100,000 (listed on attachment) which have been properly purchased through statutorily authorized methods.
Financial Implications:	See attached spreadsheet of expenditures and summary of services.
Attachments:	Little Elm ISD Expenditures Over $100,000 Summary Report for Approval
Recommendation:	**The Administration recommends approval of the Little Elm ISD Expenditures Over $100,000 Summary Report as submitted.**
Motion:	**I move that the Board approve the Little Elm ISD Expenditures Over $100,000 Summary Report dated August 18, 2025 as submitted.**

Little Elm ISD Expenditures Over $100,000 Summary Report for Approval

Board Meeting Date: August 18, 2025

Ref #	Vendor Name	Department	Status (New, Renewal, Vendor Change)	Prior Year Contract Amount	Change/Renewal Amount	Change/Purchase Amount	Effective Date	Expiration Date	Description	Administrator
1	Beyond Therapy	Special Populations	New	N/A	N/A	$217,882	8/1/2025	5/31/2025	Addition of two contracted services Texas License Speech Language Pathologists for Little Elm ISD.	Kristi Roberts

Board Agenda Item

Little Elm Independent School District
400 Lobo Lane
Little Elm, Texas 75068

Board Mtg. Date **08-18-2025**	**Reports of the Superintendent** ☐ **Action Item** ☐ **Consent Agenda** ☒ **Reports, Routine Monthly** ☐ **Other** ☐
Subject:	**FINANCIAL REPORTS – JUNE 2025**
Presenter or Contact Person:	Jesse Wyse, Chief Financial Officer
Policy/Code:	Board Legal Status Powers and Duties – BAA (LOCAL) Annual Operating Budget – CE (LOCAL)
Strategic Plan Goal:	Ensuring Fiscal Health & Sustainability
Summary:	Monthly financial reports are prepared by the Business Services Department. **Financial report format currently under construction for improved clarity for end users.*
Financial Implications:	As this is a report only, there are no direct financial implications. Each month, financial reports are prepared detailing the status of the District's budget as of the most recent accounting period. The following reports are included to provide financial transparency.
Attachments:	Financial Reports Expenditures by Major Object (for Board Adopted Funds 199, 240, 511) Budget to Actuals (for Board Adopted Funds 199, 240, 511) Cash Flow Statement Cash Position Property Tax Collection Reports Capital Projects Reports Quarterly Investment Reports Quarterly Expenditures >$50k and <$100k Quarterly Donations

Recommendation:	**The Administration recommends approval of the June 2025 Financial Reports as presented.**
Motion:	**I move that the Board approve the June 2025 Financial Reports as presented.**

Financial Report
June

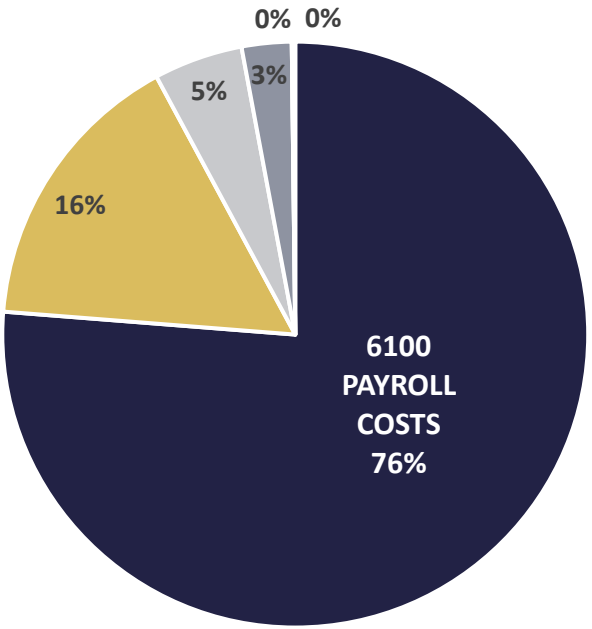


- Budget to Actuals
- Expenditures by Major Object
- Cash Flow Statement
- Cash Position
- Quarterly Investment Reports
- Property Tax Collection Report
- Capital Project Reports
- Quarterly Expenditures > $50k and < $100k
- Quarterly Donations

Jesse Wyse
Chief Financial Officer
Business & Finance Services

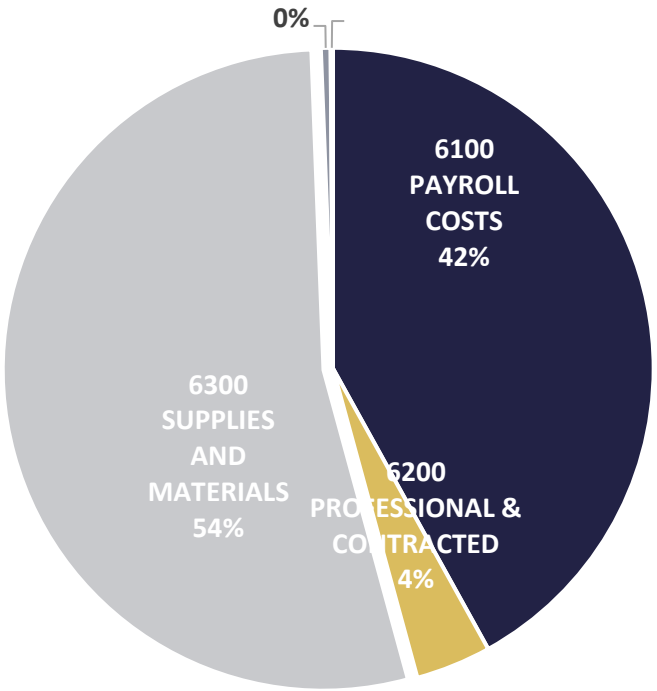
Revenue and Expenditures
By Major Object Code
Through Accounting Period: June 2025

General Fund - 199



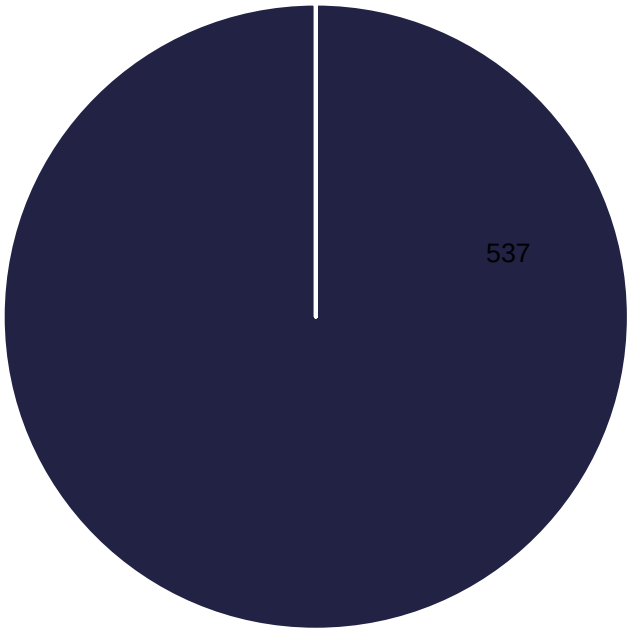
- 6100 PAYROLL COSTS
- 6200 PROFESSIONAL & CONTRACTED
- 6300 SUPPLIES AND MATERIALS
- 6400 OTHER OPERATING COSTS
- 6500 DEBT SERVICE
- 6600 CPTL OUTLY LAND BLDG & EQUIP

Child Nutrition - 240

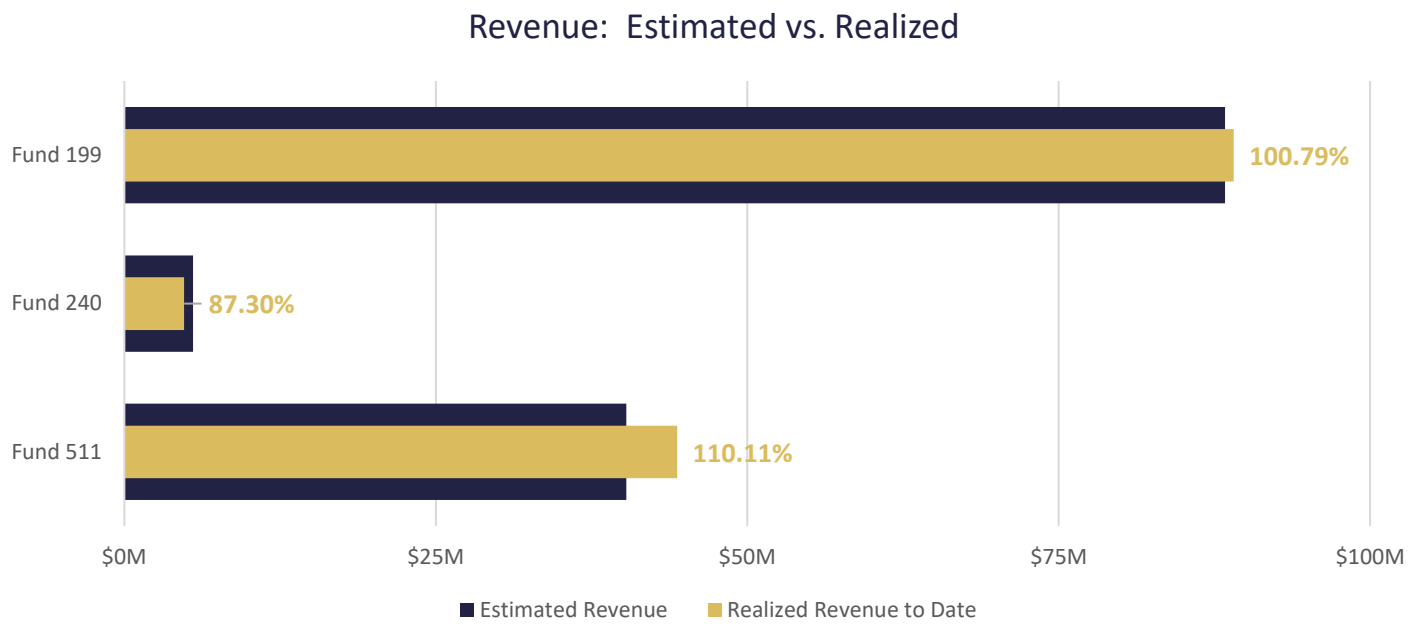


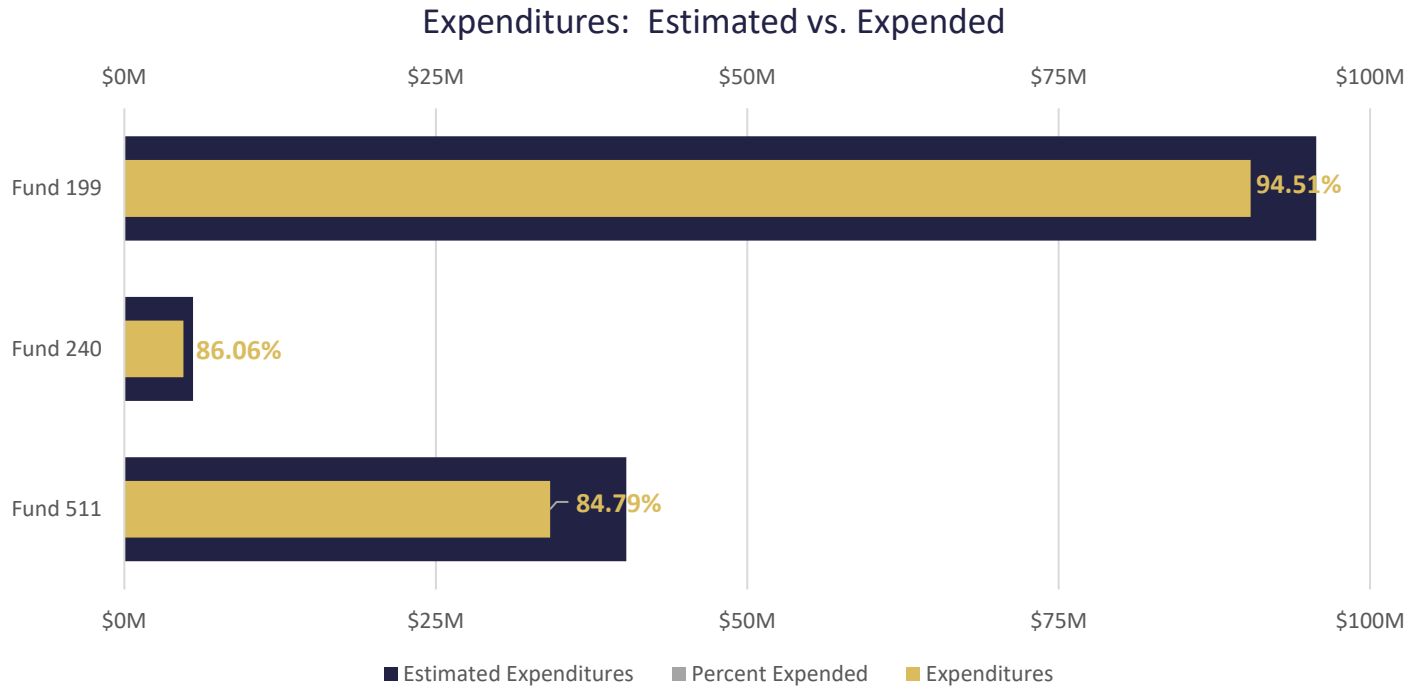
- 6100 PAYROLL COSTS
- 6200 PROFESSIONAL & CONTRACTED
- 6300 SUPPLIES AND MATERIALS
- 6400 OTHER OPERATING COSTS
- 6600 CPTL OUTLY LAND BLDG & EQUIP

DEBT SERVICE - 511



- 6500 DEBT SERVICE


Revenue: Estimated vs. Realized
Fund 199
Fund 240
Fund 511
100.79%
87.30%
110.11%
$0M
$25M
$50M
$75M
$100M
Estimated Revenue
Realized Revenue to Date


Expenditures: Estimated vs. Expended
$0M
$25M
$50M
$75M
$100M
Fund 199
Fund 240
Fund 511
94.51%
86.06%
84.79%
Estimated Expenditures
Percent Expended
Expenditures

Revenues and Expenditures by Major Object Code
LITTLE ELM I.S.D
Accounting Periods: 07 through 06
ACTUALS FOR THE MONTH OF JUN 2025

Class/Major Object Code	Est Rev/Approp	Encumbrances	Real Rev/Exp	Balances
Fund Code 199 / 5 - GENERAL FUND				
6100 PAYROLL COSTS	-68,503,699.09	.00	68,945,238.81	441,539.72
6200 PROFESSIONAL & CONTRACTED SVS	-16,253,581.50	.00	14,370,765.32	-1,882,816.18
6300 SUPPLIES AND MATERIALS	-7,476,247.55	.00	4,441,957.70	-3,034,289.85
6400 OTHER OPERATING COSTS	-3,255,743.86	.00	2,490,089.25	-765,654.61
6600 CPTL OUTLY LAND BLDG & EQUIP	-179,803.00	.00	172,268.43	-7,534.57
Subtotals for Fund 199 / 5	**-95,669,075.00**	**.00**	**90,420,319.51**	**-5,248,755.49**
Fund Code 240 / 5 - NATL BREAKFAST/LUNCH PROGRAM				
6100 PAYROLL COSTS	-2,182,446.00	.00	1,985,780.62	-196,665.38
6200 PROFESSIONAL & CONTRACTED SVS	-222,000.00	.00	180,072.06	-41,927.94
6300 SUPPLIES AND MATERIALS	-3,055,154.00	.00	2,538,662.22	-516,491.78
6400 OTHER OPERATING COSTS	-34,800.00	.00	23,086.36	-11,713.64
6600 CPTL OUTLY LAND BLDG & EQUIP	-5,600.00	.00	5,545.45	-54.55
Subtotals for Fund 240 / 5	**-5,500,000.00**	**.00**	**4,733,146.71**	**-766,853.29**
Fund Code 511 / 5 - DEBT SERVICE FUND				
6500 DEBT SERVICE	-40,300,000.00	.00	34,171,755.57	-6,128,244.43
Subtotals for Fund 511 / 5	**-40,300,000.00**	**.00**	**34,171,755.57**	**-6,128,244.43**
Grand Totals	**-141,469,075.00**	**.00**	**129,325,221.79**	**-12,143,853.21**

End of Report

Revenues and Expenditures by Major Object Code
LITTLE ELM I.S.D
Accounting Periods: 07 through 06
ACTUALS FOR THE MONTH OF JUN 2025

Class/Major Object Code	Est Rev/Approp	Encumbrances	Real Rev/Exp	Balances
Fund Code 199 / 5 - GENERAL FUND				
5700 REVENUE-LOCAL AND INTERMEDIATE	63,599,985.00	.00	-61,324,474.44	2,275,510.56
5800 STATE PROGRAM REVENUES	22,262,908.00	.00	-26,409,439.58	-4,146,531.58
5900 FEDERAL PROGRAM REVENUES	2,500,000.00	.00	-1,325,289.45	1,174,710.55
Subtotals for Fund 199 / 5	**88,362,893.00**	**.00**	**-89,059,203.47**	**-696,310.47**
Fund Code 240 / 5 - NATL BREAKFAST/LUNCH PROGRAM				
5700 REVENUE-LOCAL AND INTERMEDIATE	2,291,461.00	.00	-1,780,606.98	510,854.02
5800 STATE PROGRAM REVENUES	20,000.00	.00	-23,599.30	-3,599.30
5900 FEDERAL PROGRAM REVENUES	3,188,539.00	.00	-2,995,234.63	193,304.37
Subtotals for Fund 240 / 5	**5,500,000.00**	**.00**	**-4,799,440.91**	**700,559.09**
Fund Code 511 / 5 - DEBT SERVICE FUND				
5700 REVENUE-LOCAL AND INTERMEDIATE	36,296,000.00	.00	-37,824,713.51	-1,528,713.51
5800 STATE PROGRAM REVENUES	4,004,000.00	.00	-6,551,070.00	-2,547,070.00
Subtotals for Fund 511 / 5	**40,300,000.00**	**.00**	**-44,375,783.51**	**-4,075,783.51**
Grand Totals	**134,162,893.00**	**.00**	**-138,234,427.89**	**-4,071,534.89**

End of Report

Little Elm Independent School District
General Operating Cash Flow Statement
FY 2024-2025

	July Actual	August Actual	September Actual	October Actual	November Actual	December Actual	January Actual	February Actual	March Actual	April Actual	May Actual	June Actual	TOTAL
Beginning Cash Balance in Bank	31,927,385.78	32,041,095.02	28,618,631.19	31,641,036.35	35,352,735.87	33,263,359.65	23,055,204.58	21,824,738.64	23,482,962.06	24,228,211.75	21,612,615.21	20,859,304.25	31,927,385.78
RECEIPTS													
Tax Collections	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-
Interest	52,515.56	42,720.29	40,342.26	51,142.81	48,724.16	37,338.30	26,014.77	26,261.69	27,125.62	23,237.54	24,345.52	22,566.95	422,335.47
Other Local Revenue	68,126.63	165,699.08	217,026.38	271,938.30	117,496.47	126,694.11	250,155.04	167,316.08	120,231.20	163,987.56	136,004.62	231,619.88	2,036,295.35
State Revenue - Available School	402.78	423.77	55.48	-	-	0.00	-	229,823.01	3,010.89	3,877.40	609.33	2,198.29	240,400.95
State Revenue - Foundation	190,418.00	649,150.00	309,524.00	318,581.00	317,071.00	545,082.00	-	-	578,291.00	304,543.00	317,071.00	671,106.00	4,200,837.00
State Revenue - Debt Service	-	5,909,657.00	9,546,655.00	7,431,622.00	-	0.00	-	-	-	-	-	618,734.00	23,506,668.00
State Revenue - Misc	1,631,931.00	-	-	-	4,919,139.00	0.00	-	-	-	-	-	0.00	6,551,070.00
SHARS Receipts	534,149.95	420,397.00	120,832.88	-	339,572.00	350.00	24,952.63	3,112.50	61,745.00	-	-	24,839.97	1,529,951.93
Federal Program Revenue	475,849.08	571,333.29	492,619.16	9,988.17	72,433.11	0.00	49,128.60	823,467.20	428,599.00	-	426,237.24	811,683.19	4,161,338.04
Federal Program Revenue 240	25,362.05	70.50	249,945.58	319,266.12	276,196.79	236,531.22	238,295.13	239,417.95	306,906.50	242,145.97	328,541.89	226,831.16	2,689,510.86
Lunch Revenue - local 240	3,983.05	182,283.28	211,094.73	180,870.94	179,907.70	147,889.86	146,467.11	187,310.42	177,990.12	204,750.23	134,219.44	29,087.03	1,785,853.91
Payroll Deposits	1,826.86	1,569.39	1,261.23	399.39	136.00	331.24	752.89	752.95	549.85	862.54	1,490.78	2,349.78	12,282.90
Transfers from Debt Service	-	-	(1,605,631.00)	-	-	(4,704,359.48)	-	-	-	-	-	0.00	(6,309,990.48)
Transfers from Investment Acct	7,000,000.00	-	2,000,000.00	6,058,078.89	-	1,712,633.84	6,000,000.00	7,891,446.86	7,000,000.00	4,745,320.09	6,000,000.00	6,000,000.00	54,407,479.68
Total Revenue	9,984,564.96	7,943,303.60	11,583,725.70	14,641,887.62	6,270,676.23	(1,897,508.91)	6,735,766.17	9,568,908.66	8,704,449.18	5,688,724.33	7,368,519.82	8,641,016.25	95,234,033.61
DISBURSEMENTS													
Payroll Checks	4,806,054.74	4,000,213.61	4,029,729.34	4,064,940.97	4,081,369.09	4,061,284.38	4,022,283.92	4,054,117.26	4,059,236.51	4,046,735.22	4,088,319.94	4,037,614.35	49,351,899.33
Accounts Payable Checks	6,923,786.15	5,184,443.07	2,692,445.42	5,298,178.99	3,012,997.06	2,757,545.70	1,997,932.71	2,113,941.57	2,033,627.16	2,660,863.27	2,389,814.89	2,380,530.01	39,446,106.00
TRS	-	1,208,130.79	1,165,067.83	1,194,362.44	1,190,900.96	1,881,133.51	481,036.00	1,175,598.29	1,172,019.55	1,177,484.67	1,174,150.81	1,878,711.55	13,698,596.40
IRS	528,381.69	458,548.15	458,850.96	462,851.70	466,930.96	467,941.57	452,143.05	456,526.54	458,058.20	458,403.56	469,164.09	465,725.58	5,603,526.05
Bank Charges/ NSFs/Bk Trans	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.00	-	0.00	-	-
Total Expenditures	12,258,222.58	10,851,335.62	8,346,093.55	11,020,334.10	8,752,198.07	9,167,905.16	6,953,395.68	7,800,183.66	7,722,941.42	8,343,486.72	8,121,449.73	8,762,581.49	108,100,127.78
Cash Transfer to TEA	-	-	-	-									-
Cash Transfer to Debt Service	-	-	-	-									-
Transfers to Investment Accounts	-	-	-	-									-
In Transit	(2,387,366.86)	514,431.81	215,226.99	(90,146.00)	(392,145.62)	(857,259.00)	1,012,836.43	110,501.58	236,258.07	(39,165.85)	381.05	(388,623.73)	(2,065,071.13)
Total Expenditures & Transfers	9,870,855.72	11,365,767.43	8,561,320.54	10,930,188.10	8,360,052.45	8,310,646.16	7,966,232.11	7,910,685.24	7,959,199.49	8,304,320.87	8,121,830.78	8,373,957.76	106,035,056.65
Net Change in Cash	113,709.24	(3,422,463.83)	3,022,405.16	3,711,699.52	(2,089,376.22)	(10,208,155.07)	(1,230,465.94)	1,658,223.42	745,249.69	(2,615,596.54)	(753,310.96)	267,058.49	(10,801,023.04)
Ending Cash Balance	32,041,095.02	28,618,631.19	31,641,036.35	35,352,735.87	33,263,359.65	23,055,204.58	21,824,738.64	23,482,962.06	24,228,211.75	21,612,615.21	20,859,304.25	21,126,362.74	21,126,362.74
Beginning Cash Balance Lone Star	18,999,277.92	19,085,771.21	19,172,488.70	19,254,654.68	16,228,349.10	16,292,047.69	15,722,702.53	15,782,175.77	15,205,733.23	15,262,425.13	15,317,411.90	15,374,155.68	18,999,277.92
Beginning Cash Balance TexStar	1,601,636.17	1,608,863.58	1,616,097.32	1,622,912.61	1,629,628.26	1,635,938.57	1,642,279.31	1,648,401.19	1,653,916.25	1,660,010.46	1,665,916.69	1,671,994.22	1,601,636.17
Beginning Cash Balance Texas Class	93,458,589.96	193,658,474.35	192,487,866.43	188,106,572.04	183,651,287.63	182,680,044.97	207,415,934.70	212,428,804.36	211,822,322.92	200,761,154.79	189,933,592.57	177,150,247.74	93,458,589.96
Beginning Cash Balance TX Class UMB	100,097,529.96	100,474,301.34	100,802,579.86	101,117,007.07	101,103,564.44	101,210,251.57	102,966,390.56	103,045,401.54	103,125,372.83	103,254,641.09	103,327,574.51	103,438,247.46	100,097,529.96
Interest Earned Lone Star	86,493.29	86,717.49	82,165.98	70,760.51	63,698.59	61,812.07	59,473.24	53,116.70	56,691.90	54,986.77	56,743.78	54,442.33	787,102.65
Interest Earned TexStar	7,227.41	7,233.74	6,815.29	6,715.65	6,310.31	6,340.74	6,121.88	5,515.06	6,094.21	5,906.23	6,077.53	5,886.92	76,244.97
Interest Earned TexasClass	552,983.75	887,837.12	816,034.05	759,026.45	704,019.82	715,512.53	771,735.66	703,668.41	746,412.65	686,864.51	652,388.27	585,053.40	8,581,536.62
Misc Earned TexasClass UMB		328,278.52	314,427.21	(13,442.63)	106,687.13	1,593,750.00	79,010.98	79,971.29	129,268.26	72,933.42	116,308.35	1,966,294.06	4,773,486.59
Transfers in	108,442,193.87	129,016.06	108,854,462.24	58,587.84	958,557.45	33,157,764.23	12,780,518.30	12,064,137.61	578,884.59	369,002.25	249,520.40	227,006.40	277,869,651.24
Transfers out	(8,418,521.85)	(2,187,461.10)	(114,051,790.68)	(8,369,964.79)	(2,633,819.93)	(9,606,155.27)	(8,539,384.30)	(14,003,846.70)	(12,386,465.37)	(11,883,428.98)	(13,690,888.90)	(19,266,462.68)	(225,038,190.55)
In Transit	52,230.97	3,359.33	1,916.91	64,212.26	129,571.06	1,768,163.55	5,357,395.56	116,460.41	118,053.85	66,395.53	30,052.34		
Ending Cash Balance Invested	314,879,641.45	314,082,391.64	310,103,063.31	302,677,041.69	301,947,853.86	329,515,470.65	338,262,178.42	331,923,805.64	321,056,285.32	310,310,891.20	297,664,697.44	281,206,865.53	281,206,865.53
TOTAL CASH AVAILABLE	346,920,736.47	342,701,022.83	341,744,099.66	338,029,777.56	335,211,213.51	352,570,675.23	360,086,917.06	355,406,767.70	345,284,497.07	331,923,506.41	318,524,001.69	302,333,228.27	302,333,228.27

Little Elm Independent School District
Debt Service Cash Flow Statement
FY 2024-2025

	July Actual	August Actual	September Actual	October Actual	November Actual	December Actual	January Actual	February Actual	March Actual	April Actual	May Actual	June Actual	TOTAL
Beginning Cash Balance in Bank	3,735,186.35	3,755,089.63	3,763,208.49	5,377,272.58	5,388,427.64	5,398,816.66	10,119,001.81	10,137,856.77	10,154,590.59	10,173,149.54	10,191,142.11	10,209,767.87	3,735,186.35
RECEIPTS													
Tax Collections	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Interest	8,083.24	8,118.86	8,433.09	11,155.06	10,389.02	15,825.67	18,854.96	16,733.82	18,558.95	17,992.57	18,625.76	18,057.34	170,828.34
Bond Issuance	11,820.04												11,820.04
Transfer from General Operating	-					4,704,359.48							4,704,359.48
Transfers from Investment Acct	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-		-
Total Revenue	19,903.28	8,118.86	8,433.09	11,155.06	10,389.02	4,720,185.15	18,854.96	16,733.82	18,558.95	17,992.57	18,625.76	18,057.34	4,887,007.86
									-		-	-	
DISBURSEMENTS													
Wire Bond Issuance Fees	-		-	-	-	-	-			-	-		-
Bank Charges/ NSFs/Bk Trans	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-		-
Total Expenditures	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-
Transfers to Investment Accounts	-	-	1,605,631.00	-	-		-	-	-	-	-		1,605,631.00
Transfer to General Operating	-	-	-	-	-		-	-		-			-
Total Expenditures & Transfers	-	-	1,605,631.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,605,631.00
Net Change in Cash	19,903.28	8,118.86	1,614,064.09	11,155.06	10,389.02	4,720,185.15	18,854.96	16,733.82	18,558.95	17,992.57	18,625.76	18,057.34	6,492,638.86
Ending Cash Balance in bank	3,755,089.63	3,763,208.49	5,377,272.58	5,388,427.64	5,398,816.66	10,119,001.81	10,137,856.77	10,154,590.59	10,173,149.54	10,191,142.11	10,209,767.87	10,227,825.21	10,227,825.21
Statement Beg Cash Balance TexPool	28,531,936.65	28,761,691.21	7,335,406.51	7,389,973.45	7,454,189.40	8,087,718.15	28,394,473.16	36,465,505.87	31,028,261.98	31,477,227.27	31,818,088.18	32,090,831.26	28,531,936.65
Interest Earned TexPool	129,075.01	57,695.72	31,190.42	30,924.89	30,064.20	55,240.38	119,393.03	114,367.11	114,857.09	112,716.61	116,776.31	113,661.19	1,025,961.96
Transfers in	100,679.55	77,932.31	23,376.52	33,291.06	603,464.55	20,251,514.63	7,951,639.68	6,985,822.30	334,108.20	228,144.30	155,966.77	140,966.30	36,886,906.17
Transfers out	-	(21,561,912.73)						(12,537,433.30)					(34,099,346.03)
In Transit	31,880.08	2,038.61	875.50	47,072.98	79,946.14	1,100,255.97	3,335,444.25	72,024.07	73,173.02	41,260.49	19,147.37		19,147.37
Ending Cash Balance Invested	28,793,571.29	7,337,445.12	7,390,848.95	7,501,262.38	8,167,664.29	29,494,729.13	39,800,950.12	31,100,286.05	31,550,400.29	31,859,348.67	32,109,978.63	32,345,458.75	32,364,606.12
TOTAL CASH AVAILABLE	32,548,660.92	11,100,653.61	12,768,121.53	12,889,690.02	13,566,480.95	39,613,730.94	49,938,806.89	41,254,876.64	41,723,549.83	42,050,490.78	42,319,746.50	42,573,283.96	42,592,431.33

0001 - GENERAL OPERATING

Cash Ending Balance:		11,063,540.79
Add Investment:		
	Total:	**11,063,540.79**

0002 - PAYROLL CLEARING

Cash Ending Balance:		9,703.00
Add Investment:		
	Total:	**9,703.00**

0003 - DEBT SERVICE

Cash Ending Balance:		10,227,825.21
Add Investment:		
	Total:	**10,227,825.21**

0004 - CREDIT CARD

Cash Ending Balance:		53,118.95
Add Investment:		
	Total:	**53,118.95**

0005 - ECR

Cash Ending Balance:		10,000,000.00
Add Investment:		
	Total:	**10,000,000.00**

0006 - LONESTAR

Cash Ending Balance:		14,385,264.26
Add Investment:		
	Total:	**14,385,264.26**

0007 - TEXSTAR

Cash Ending Balance:		1,677,881.14
Add Investment:		
	Total:	**1,677,881.14**

0008 - TEXAS CLASS

Cash Ending Balance:		265,143,720.13
Add Investment:		
	Total:	**265,143,720.13**

0009 - TEXPOOL

Cash Ending Balance:		32,345,458.75
Add Investment:		
	Total:	**32,345,458.75**

TOTALS

Cash Ending Balance	**344,906,512.23**
Add Investment Balance	**.00**
Totals	**344,906,512.23**

End of Report

Denton County Tax Office

Run Date: 7/1/2025 10:39:56AM **Distribution Summary 2 Report**

Deposit Date from 6/1/2025 to 6/30/2025 and Tax Units = 60

S10- LITTLE ELM ISD

Cur. Levy M&O	155,192.94	Del. Levy M&O	4,222.32
Cur. Interest M&O	6,138.89	Del. Interest M&O	3,791.73
Cur. Penalty M&O	12,752.80	Del. Penalty M&O	2,173.09
Cur. Rendition Penalty M&O	338.55	Del. Rendition Penalty M&O	7.46
Total Current M&O	174,423.18	Total Delinquent M&O	10,194.60
Cur. Levy I&S	96,584.56	Del. Levy I&S	2,576.16
Cur. Interest I&S	3,809.81	Del. Interest I&S	2,247.17
Cur. Penalty I&S	7,915.02	Del. Penalty I&S	1,326.45
Cur. Rendition Penalty I&S	0.00	Del. Rendition Penalty I&S	0.00
Total Current I&S	108,309.39	Total Delinquent I&S	6,149.78
Cur. Levy S1	0.00	Del. Levy S1	0.00
Cur. Interest S1	0.00	Del. Interest S1	0.00
Cur. Penalty S1	0.00	Del. Penalty S1	0.00
Cur. Rendition Penalty S1	0.00	Del. Rendition Penalty S1	0.00
Total Current S1	0.00	Total Delinquent S1	0.00

Cur. Levy	251,777.50	Del. Levy	6,798.48
Cur. Interest	9,948.70	Del. Interest	6,038.90
Cur. Penalty	20,667.82	Del. Penalty	3,499.54
Cur. Rendition Penalty	338.55	Del. Rendition Penalty	7.46
Total Current	282,732.57	Total Delinquent	16,344.38

Grand Total M&O	184,617.78
Grand Total I&S	114,459.17
Grand Total S1	0.00
Total Due to Jurisdiction	299,076.95
Total Due to Delq Tax Atty	12,310.06

School Fund Coding Totals (if applicable)

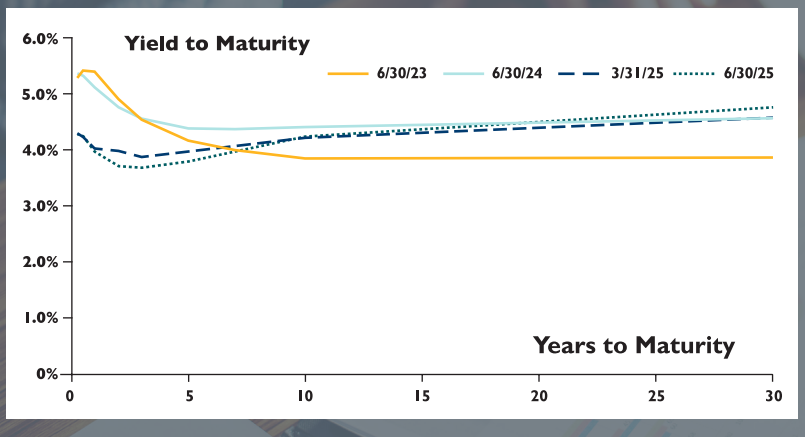
M&O Current Year	199-5711	155,192.94
M&O Prior Years	199-5712	4,222.32
M&O Penalty & Interest	199-5719	25,202.52
I&S Current Year	599-5711	96,584.56
I&S Prior Year	599-5712	2,576.16
I&S Penalty & Interest	599-5719	15,298.45

Lone Star Investment Pool

Distributed by FIRST PUBLIC

12007 Research Blvd.
Austin, Texas 78759
lonestarinvestmentpool.com

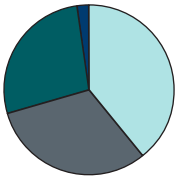
Quarterly Position Report
June 30, 2025



After selling off in the first quarter due to the uncertainty leading up to the implementation of widespread tariffs, positive news of trade deals pushed equity prices sharply higher in the second quarter as the Dow Jones Industrial Average, S&P 500, and Nasdaq-100 indexes gained 5.5%, 10.9%, and 18.0%, respectively. There were two Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC) meetings in the second quarter. At both the May 7 and June 18 FOMC meetings, the committee voted to leave the fed funds target range unchanged at 4.25% and 4.50%. At the June meeting, the key focus for markets was whether the median 2025 dot would show one or two cuts in the Summary of Economic Projections (SEP). The release showed two rate cuts in 2025, unchanged from the March release. The June payroll data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) was much stronger than expected, especially considering that the ADP report showed a net job loss. The June report showed 147,000 jobs were added, a +16,000 revision to the previous two months, and a decline in the unemployment rate to 4.1%.

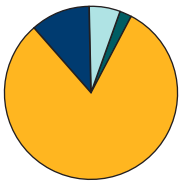
Government Overnight Fund		**Duration 0.19614**
	Participant Assets	**Market Value**
Beginning of Quarter Balance	8,045,258,538.70	8,045,976,777.46
Deposits	1,451,540,381.40	
Withdrawals	(3,118,049,004.04)	
End of Quarter Balance	6,378,749,916.06	6,379,228,811.27

Cash/Repo	39%
Agencies	32%
Treasuries	27%
MM Funds	2%



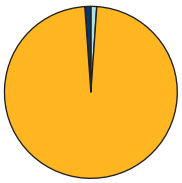
Corporate Overnight Fund		**Duration 0.22625**
	Participant Assets	**Market Value**
Beginning of Quarter Balance	4,258,242,093.29	4,258,323,756.17
Deposits	719,702,716.92	
Withdrawals	(1,151,414,429.21)	
End of Quarter Balance	3,826,530,381.00	3,826,315,084.75

Commercial Paper	81%
MM Funds	11%
Cash/Repo	6%
Treasuries	2%



Corporate Overnight Plus Fund		**Duration 0.07754**
	Participant Assets	**Market Value**
Beginning of Quarter Balance	13,613,883,338.76	13,614,529,658.59
Deposits	3,243,806,875.19	
Withdrawals	(5,667,832,894.47)	
End of Quarter Balance	11,189,857,319.48	11,189,116,735.94

Commercial Paper	98%
MM Funds	1%
Cash/Repo	1%



Returns	**April**		**May**		**June**	
	Average Rate	**7-day SEC Yield**	**Average Rate**	**7-day SEC Yield**	**Average Rate**	**7-day SEC Yield**
Govt Overnight Fund	4.33%	4.32%	4.30%	4.31%	4.30%	4.33%
Corp Overnight Fund	4.43%	4.43%	4.42%	4.42%	4.41%	4.43%
Corp Overnight Plus Fund	4.47%	4.46%	4.44%	4.44%	4.43%	4.45%

William Mastrodicasa

Lone Star Investment Pool Investment Officers

Tammy Davis

The Lone Star Information Statement should be read carefully before investing. Investors should consider the investment objectives, risks, charges, and expenses associated with this or any security prior to investing. Investment in Lone Star Investment Pool is not insured or guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) or any other government agency, and although Lone Star seeks to preserve the value of the investment at a fixed share price, it is possible to lose money by investing in Lone Star. For further information or for an Information Statement, contact First Public at 800.558.8875. The return information is net of all current operating expenses. The return represents past performance and is no indication of future results.

First Public is a registered broker dealer with the Securities and Exchange Commission, the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, and the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board. First Public is not acting as a municipal advisor and is not providing advice or recommending any action to any municipal entity (including governmental entities under Section 15B of the U.S. Securities Exchange Act) or any of such entity's obligated persons. First Public does not assume or owe any fiduciary duty under Section 15B of the U.S. Securities Exchange Act with respect to the information contained herein. Please consult your professional and legal advisors and fiduciaries before acting on any of this information.

Custom Account Statement Texas CLASS			
Entity Name	**Start Date**	**End Date**	**Average Yield for the Period**
Little Elm ISD	4/1/2025	6/30/2025	4.4155%

Account Name	Beginning Balance	Contributions	Withdrawals	Ending Balance	Income Earned for Period
CONSTRUCTION BOND 2016	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CONSTRUCTION BOND 2023	44,256,844.40	0.00	27,548,477.46	17,048,991.13	340,624.19
Total	44,256,844.40	0.00	27,548,477.46	17,048,991.13	340,624.19

Custom Account Statement Texas CLASS Government			
Entity Name	**Start Date**	**End Date**	**Average Yield for the Period**
Little Elm ISD	4/1/2025	6/30/2025	4.2273%

Account Name	Beginning Balance	Contributions	Withdrawals	Ending Balance	Income Earned for Period
GENERAL FUND	39,841,332.70	845,529.05	16,000,000.00	25,035,648.22	348,786.47
CONSTRUCTION BOND 2018	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CONSTRUCTION BOND 2020	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CONSTRUCTION BOND 2022	6,147,668.80	0.00	0.00	6,212,796.95	65,128.15
CONSTRUCTION BOND 2024	110,515,308.89	0.00	237,489.73	111,447,586.53	1,169,767.37
Total	156,504,310.39	845,529.05	16,237,489.73	142,696,031.70	1,583,681.99

TexPool Participant Services
1001 Texas Avenue, Suite 1150
Houston, TX 77022

LITTLE ELM ISD
Interest and Sinking

Statement Period 04/01/2025 - 06/30/2025

04/01/2025 - 04/30/2025

Pool Name	Beginning Balance	Total Deposit	Total Withdrawal	Total Interest	Current Balance	Average Balance
TexPool	$31,477,227.27	$228,144.30	$0.00	$112,716.61	$31,818,088.18	$31,635,406.08
Total Dollar Value	$31,477,227.27	$228,144.30	$0.00	$112,716.61	$31,818,088.18	

05/01/2025 - 05/31/2025

Pool Name	Beginning Balance	Total Deposit	Total Withdrawal	Total Interest	Current Balance	Average Balance
TexPool	$31,818,088.18	$155,966.77	$0.00	$116,776.31	$32,090,831.26	$31,926,204.26
Total Dollar Value	$31,818,088.18	$155,966.77	$0.00	$116,776.31	$32,090,831.26	

06/01/2025 - 06/30/2025

Pool Name	Beginning Balance	Total Deposit	Total Withdrawal	Total Interest	Current Balance	Average Balance
TexPool	$32,090,831.26	$140,966.30	$0.00	$113,661.19	$32,345,458.75	$32,186,067.14
Total Dollar Value	$32,090,831.26	$140,966.30	$0.00	$113,661.19	$32,345,458.75	

Account Totals

Pool Name	Beginning Balance	Total Deposit	Total Withdrawal	Total Interest	Current Balance
TexPool	$31,477,227.27	$525,077.37	$0.00	$343,154.11	$32,345,458.75
Total Dollar Value	$31,477,227.27	$525,077.37	$0.00	$343,154.11	$32,345,458.75

LITTLE ELM ISD GENERAL FUND

Settlement Date	Transaction Type	Amount:	Balance
06/30/2025	MONTHLY POSTING	5,886.92	1,677,881.14
05/30/2025	MONTHLY POSTING	6,077.53	1,671,994.22
04/30/2025	MONTHLY POSTING	5,906.23	1,665,916.69

Summary	
Period Begining Balance:	1,665,916.69
Total Deposit:	
Total Withdrawals:	
Total Interest:	17,870.68
Period Ending Balance:	1,677,881.14

Little Elm ISD
Engage Equip Empower

Capital Projects Update as of June 30, 2025 Bond 2022 Status

High School Renovations

Budgeted $164,550,000

Expended $ 33,474,006

20.3%

Safety/Technology/Building Upgrades

Budgeted $32,250,000

Expended $ 11,487,153

35.6%

$289,500,000

Bond Package

Lakewood Elementary

72.1%

Budgeted $50,400,000

Expended $36,348,513

Miscellaneous Projects

0%

Budgeted $42,300,000

Expended $ 0

Little Elm ISD
Engage Equip Empower

Capital Projects Update as of June 30, 2025 Bond 2022 Status

Safety & Security

Budgeted $9,500,000

Expended $ 5,504,180

57.9%

Technology

Budgeted $7,000,000

Expended $ 749,411

10.7%

$32,250,000

Safety/Technology/Building Upgrades/Transportation

Interior/Exterior Upgrades

Budgeted $15,445,000

Expended $ 4,928,562

31.9%

Transportation

Budgeted $305,000

Expended $305,000

100%

LITTLE ELM INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

DONATIONS

April - June 2025

Campus/Dept	Fund	Donation From	Description	Date	Monetary	Non-	Total
Chavez Elementary	461	National Wholesale Supply, Inc.	5th Grade Field Trip	3/27/2025	1,744.00		1,744.00
Special Education	499	Sorsby Enterprises	Special Olympics	4/2/2025	3,364.00		3,364.00
LE High School	461	Ezrael Garcia	Giftcards	4/9/2025		100.00	100.00
LE High School	865	LE Alumni	Food for Senior Sunset	4/17/2025	500.00		500.00
Athletic Department	461	Football Booster Club	Football Uniform Pants	4/17/2025	8,055.00		8,055.00
Athletic Department	461	CyberGrants - CAF America	Soccer Equipment	4/23/2025	200.00		200.00
Athletic Department	461	CyberGrants - CAF America	Soccer Equipment	5/7/2025	200.00		200.00
Athletic Department	461	Lobo Club	Volleyball Uniforms	5/7/2025	1,263.60		1,263.60
Strike Middle School	461	First Bank	Multicultural Night	6/4/2025	500.00		500.00
					15,826.60	100.00	15,926.60

Expenditures Between $50K-$100K

Vendor Name	Department	SUMMARY OF PURCHASE/ PURPOSE	Price	Purchasing Method
SchooLinks	Curriculum & Learning	Onsite Training for software platform	$52,525.05	TIPS 210101, Exp: 05/31/2026
Lone Star Furnishings, LLC	Construction Services	Classroom Furniture for 3 new classrooms - SMS	$51,189.59	EPCNT-Mesquite ISD, RFP 2024-006, Exp: 06/30/2029
Lone Star Furnishings, LLC	Construction Services	Teacher Den furniture reconfiguration - SMS	$55,352.02	EPCNT-Mesquite ISD, RFP 2024-006, Exp: 06/30/2029
Lone Star Furnishings, LLC	Construction Services	Classroom Furniture for 3 new classrooms - SMS	$51,189.59	EPCNT-Mesquite ISD, RFP 2024-006, Exp: 06/30/2029
Lone Star Furnishings, LLC	Construction Services	Teacher Den furniture reconfiguration - WMS	$55,352.02	EPCNT-Mesquite ISD, RFP 2024-006, Exp: 06/30/2029
Texas AirSystems	Operational Services	HVAC Repairs, parts & services	$90,000.00	BuyBoard 720-23, Exp: 11/30/2025
Apple Computer	Technology Services	iPads for Zellars ECLC	$57,843.50	Choice Partners, Contract Number: 22/038SG-26 Contract Terms: Initial Award Date: August 17, 2022 1st Renewal Start Date: August 17, 2023 Current Expiration Date: August 16, 2024 Renewal Options Remaining: 3
Hidell & Associates	Construction Services	Transportation/Operations Ground Water Issue Additional Testing	$67,000.00	RFQ 2022-005, Architect Services
Vernier Software	Curriculum & Learning	Probes Software	$59,594.00	BuyBoard 760-25, Exp: 01/31/2026

Board Agenda Item

Little Elm Independent School District
400 Lobo Lane
Little Elm, Texas 75068

Board Mtg. Date **08-18-2025**	**Reports of the Superintendent** ☐	**Action Item** ☐	**Consent Agenda** ☒	**Reports, Routine Monthly** ☐	**Other** ☐	
Subject:	**LITTLE ELM ISD INTERLOCAL SUMMARY REPORT**					
Presenter or Contact Person:	Jesse Wyse, Chief Financial Officer					
Policy/Code:	GRB (LEGAL)					
Strategic Plan Goal:	Ensuring Fiscal Health and Sustainability					
Summary:	Allows LEISD to purchase products or services from other governmental entities (listed on attachment) which have been properly awarded contracts through statutorily authorized methods.					
Financial Implications:	See attached summary report.					
Attachments:	Little Elm ISD Interlocal Summary Report for Approval					
Recommendation:	**The Administration recommends approval of the Little Elm ISD Interlocal Summary Report as submitted.**					
Motion:	**I move that the Board approve the Little Elm ISD Interlocal Summary Report dated August 18, 2025 as submitted.**					

Little Elm ISD Interlocal Summary Report for Approval

Board Meeting Date August 18, 2025

Ref #	Vendor Name	Department	Status (New, Renewal, Vendor Change)	Prior Year Contract Amount	Renewal Amount	Purchase Amount/Change	Effective Date	Expiration Date	Description	Administrator
1	**Denton County Juvenile Justice Alternative Education Program (JJAEP)**	Deputy Superintendent	Renewal	NTE $50,000	NTE $50,000	$0	8/19/2025	6/30/2026	The MOU is entered pursuant to Chapter 37 of the TEC between Little Elm ISD and the Denton County Juvenile Justice Alternative Education Program (JJAEP) as the agent to the Juvenile Board of Denton County, Texas. The parties agree the DCJJAEP is a cooperative effort between the educational community and the juvenile justice system with the primary goals being the education of students with behavioral problems and rehabilitation of juvenile offenders, but not the treatment of emotional problems. The cost is $125 per student per day in attendance.	Donnie Bartlett
2	**Denton County Tax Assessor-Collector**	Business & Finance Services	Renewal	NTE $25,000	NTE $25,000	$0	10/1/2025	9/30/2026	The 2025-2026 Denton County Tax Collection Agreement states that the parcel fee for consolidated collections is $1.41 per parcel.	Jesse Wyse
3	**ESC Region 11**	Curriculum & Learning	New	N/A	N/A	$461,000	9/1/2025	5/31/2026	ESC Region 11 will support and assist Little Elm ISD in the implementation of Bluebonnet Learning K-Algebra 1 Math during the 2025-2026 school year as a Strong Foundations Implementation Approved Provider.	Dr. Penny Tramel
4	**TASB Risk Management Fund**	Business & Finance Services	Renewal	$67,249	$56,489	-$10,760.00	10/1/2025	9/30/2026	Renewal of Little Elm ISD's unemployment compensation coverage for 2025-2026. The agreement provides coverage for statutory unemployment compensation benefits and assistance with general unemployment compensation matters.	Jesse Wyse

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5	**The University of North Texas Speech & Hearing Center**	Special Populations	Renewal	$40,000.00	$40,000.00	$0.00	8/19/2025	5/30/2026	Professional Services Agreement between Little Elm ISD and The University of North Texas. The University of North Texas, on behalf of its Speech and Hearing Center agrees to provide professional education audiology services to Little Elm ISD on an as needed basis. Services will be provided by a licensed UNT audiologist and agreement is not to exceed $40,000.00 annually.	Kristi Roberts