

# ADMINISTRATIVE POLICIES OF THE MILWAUKEE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

## ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY 5.04 USE OF DRONES ON SCHOOL PROPERTY

### (1) DEFINITIONS

(a) The term “drone” refers to all Unmanned Aerial Systems (UASs), Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs), and any other device invented, used, or designed to navigate or fly in the air or maneuver over the ground, that is operated without human intervention from within or on the aircraft.

(b) “District property” includes, but is not limited to, all school buildings, field houses, playfields, stadiums, playgrounds, parking lots, and other district facilities.

(c) “Drones regulated by Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)” refers to drones that weigh more than .55 pounds (250 grams) and less than 55 pounds that must be registered with the FAA.

(d) Drones that weigh less than .55 pounds (250 grams) are not required to be registered with the FAA but may be subject to the same district policies as drones regulated by the FAA.

### (2) APPLICATION OF POLICY

(a) To maintain the safety, security, and privacy of students, staff, and visitors of Milwaukee Public Schools, the use or operation of drones by any individual is strictly prohibited unless prior authorization has been obtained, as described herein.

(b) All operators of drones regulated by the FAA on MPS sites shall maintain knowledge of, and shall be in compliance with, all federal laws, regulations of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), and state and local laws related to the use of drones.

(c) All operators of drones regulated by the FAA on MPS sites shall maintain knowledge of, and shall be in compliance with, the limitations created by the proximity to FAA-registered airports/airstrips, including, but not limited to, Mitchell International Airport and Lawrence J. Timmerman Airport.

(d) The use of drones shall in all instances be limited to outdoor events unless prior authorization has been obtained and proper safety precautions which include but are not limited to netting, are put in place within district buildings.

(e) All operation of drones regulated by the FAA at events requires a Certificate of Authorization (COA) and compliance with the FAA’s rule for small unmanned aircraft, Part 107.

(f) Use of drones for the purpose of conducting research or gathering data shall not be permitted without additional review and approval of the Department of Innovation Development-Research and Evaluation (or its successor department).

(g) Use of drones on MPS property by any contracted vendor or service provider is prohibited, unless permission has been granted in the contract.

(h) This policy shall be reviewed every two years, and any necessary revisions shall be brought to the Board for approval.

### (3) AUTHORIZATION FOR USE BY STUDENTS USE PROHIBITED

(a) Use of drones on district property by students is prohibited unless prior authorization is granted, and the activity is related to classroom instruction or extra-curricular events under the supervision of an authorized district employee or contractor.

### (4) AUTHORIZATION FOR USE BY STAFF

(a) Use of drones on MPS property by staff shall be strictly for educational purposes.

(b) Staff shall obtain the pre-authorization of the building administrator, or the Superintendent, or designee.

(c) Building administrators shall obtain written consent authorization from the Regional Superintendent at least 48 hours prior to the use of the drone.

(d) A detailed description of the type of drone and the anticipated operation of the drone is required.

(e) The staff who is the operator of the drone regulated by the FAA shall provide proof that he/she is licensed and/or has passed The Recreational UAS Safety Test (TRUST), administered by the FAA to operate the drone. The staff who is the operator of the drone shall provide the district with verification that the drone to be used is consistent with the FAA's requirements.

#### **(5) AUTHORIZATION FOR USE BY THE PUBLIC**

(a) Use of drones by minors on district property is prohibited.

(b) A permit granting permission to use a drone on MPS property shall be obtained by the operator of the drone from the Department of Recreation prior to the use of any drone. The Department of Recreation shall consult with other departments, as necessary, to determine the appropriateness of the request.

(c) A detailed description of the type of drone and the drone's anticipated operation is required.

(d) The operator of the drone shall provide proof that he/she is licensed by the FAA to operate the drone. The operator of the drone must provide the district with verification that the drone to be used is consistent with the FAA's requirements.

(e) The operator of the drone shall provide a signed agreement holding the district harmless from any claims of harm to individuals or damage to property.

(f) The operator of the drone shall provide the district with a current certificate of aviation liability insurance with limits of not less than \$1 million. The certificate shall also document a waiver of any subrogation involving Milwaukee Public Schools or its insurance.

#### **(6) USE REQUIREMENTS AND LIMITATIONS**

(a) All drones must remain under the control of the operator of the drone at all times and shall remain within the line of sight of the operator.

(b) The use of drones shall be limited to the scope of operation in the permit/authorization for use, to include whether the operator of the drone may record and/or transmit audio, video, and/or images.

(c) The use of drones shall in all instances be limited to outdoor events unless prior authorization has been obtained and proper safety precautions which includes but not limited to netting, are put in place within district buildings. The use of drones within any district building is strictly prohibited.

(d) Operators of drones are prohibited from flying drones over playing surfaces and seating and spectator areas where and when people are present, as well as over event parking areas where and when people and/or vehicles are present.

(e) All operators of drones and their employers (as applicable) are responsible for ensuring that the operators of drones are trained and proficient in the use of the drones which they will operate. Operators of drones must be aware of the risks of drones' use, including, but not limited to, personal injury and property damage caused by the drone as a result of weather, operator error or judgment, and/or failure of drone systems and equipment — and must exercise due care to avoid such risks.

(f) Drones may not be operated in any way that would create a public safety hazard, damage property, violate privacy, or in such a way that unduly affects the environment of those entering, exiting, working in, or moving about MPS property.

(g) When recording and/or transmitting audio, video, and/or images, operators of drones must, at all times, avoid areas reasonably considered private, such as restrooms, locker rooms, individual residences, and medical treatment rooms/areas.

(h) Event managers shall refuse admission to any individual or group attempting or intending to use a drone without authorization at any district-sanctioned event.

(i) Event managers are authorized to suspend play or activities, if necessary, in order to remove and to confiscate any unauthorized drone or to terminate any authorized use that is in prohibited areas during a district event.

(j) Failure to follow this policy may result in the drone's operator's being denied admission to future events on school or district grounds and/or the denial of future request for the use of drones.

(k) Prior approval of the use of a drone may be revoked at any time if district staff has good reason to believe the safety, security, and/or privacy of students, staff, or visitors are at risk.

**(7) USE AT WISCONSIN INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION (WIAA) EVENTS**

(a) All operators of drones shall adhere to the WIAA's regulations relative to the transmission, internet streaming, photography, imaging, filming, videotaping, audio recording, and play-by-play depiction or description of any competition and/or game. Such action is prohibited without written consent of the WIAA.

(b) All "real-time" or tape-delayed audio, video, or textual transmission of play-by-play is the exclusive property of the WIAA and rights-granted entities. Any account or transmission of real-time video, audio, or textual play-by-play is prohibited on-site or off-site without consent of the WIAA.

**History:** Adopted 02-22-2018; Revised 03-23-2023