CLAIBORNE PARISH SCHOOL BOARD

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

November 5, 2026

The Claiborne Parish School Board met in a regular session at the Summerfield High School Auditorium in Summerfield, Louisiana, at six o'clock November 5, 2026 with the following members:

Present: *Patricia Stevens, William Maddox, Linda Knox, Yolanda Coleman, Perry Anderson, Roy Mardis, David Nokes, Mark Perot*

Absent: *Stewart Griffin, Tommy Davidson*

There was also present Mr. Chris Brooks, Secretary of the Board.

Sonnie Vinson, Summerfield High School 9th grader, opened the meeting with prayer and led us in the Pledge of Allegiance. Sonnie is the daughter of Tony and Holly Vinson. She is a member of Summerfield Baptist Church. Sonnie participates in high school softball, FBLA, FCA, 4-H, and FFA, and is involved in the Gifted and Talented Art programs. In her free time, she enjoys playing softball, creating art, playing with her cat, and spending time with her family.

The minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting, Educational Meeting and Regular Called meeting held October 15, 2026, which had been emailed to the Board Members previously, were approved unanimously with a motion made by Mr. Mardis, seconded by Ms. Coleman. Motion passed by a vote of 8 yes, 0 no.

In recognition of Red Ribbon Week, Mrs. Monica Morrow, Student Success Coordinator, recognized the following essay winners: K–2: Mckynzlee Cooper, Summerfield High School (Second Grade); 3–5: Kenadee Jenkins, Homer Elementary (3rd Grade); 6–8: Walker Cutlip, Summerfield High School (7th Grade); and 9–12: Karson Crew, Homer High School (12th Grade). Superintendent Brooks and Mr. Perry Anderson, Board President, congratulated each student by presenting them with a plaque in recognition of their hard work, and gift cards donated by Gibsland Bank and Trust.

Ms. Sheppard, Technology Supervisor, requested approval of entering into a contract with Piraino Consulting for chromebooks and interactive boards. Motion to approve was made by Mrs. Knox, seconded by Mrs. Stevens. Motion passed by a vote of 8 yes, 0 no.

Superintendent Brooks discussedt the MOU with David Raines. He stated that it was a four-year MOU and the clinic would open with a target date of the beginning of the 2027-28 school year. Mr. Mardis made a motion to approve the contract, seconded by Ms. Coleman. Motion passed by a vote of 8 yes, 0 no.

Mrs. Turner reviewed the calculated amounts for the upcoming 13th check, scheduled for distribution on December 4th. She reminded the board that while supplemental funds from the general fund were used to increase last year's distribution, no supplemental allocation is needed this year. Certified staff will receive $3,474.10, and support staff will receive $1,493.86. Mrs. Knox made a motion to approve the 13th check, seconded by Ms. Stevens seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 8 yes, 0 no.

Mr. Anderson asked the board to consider rescheduling the December board meeting from Thursday, December 10th to Tuesday, December 15th. Mr. Brooks announced that a reception honoring outgoing board members will be held at 5 o'clock at the cottage prior to the meeting. Mr. Mardis made a motion to approve rescheduling to December 15th, seconded by Ms. Coleman. Motion passed by a vote of 8 yes, 0 no.

Mr. Joey Guillory, Maintenance Supervisor, asked for approval for the bid from Camus Electric for the Homer High School Football Field Lighting Project. He stated that the bid came in $200,000 less than the amount

awarded through The Public Service Commissioner's office. Ms. Coleman made a motion to approve the bid, seconded by Ms. Stevens. Motion passed by a vote of 8 yes, 0 no.

Mr. Anderson recognized Mr. Todd Hollenshead, who works very closely with Mr. Foster Campbell, Louisiana Public Service Commissioner, his assistance to the district in obtaining these grants.

Mr. Brooks outlined the Superintendent's Evaluation Process and explained the process he developed to assist the board with its evaluations. He noted that an artifact binder is available in Mrs. Moss's office for board members to review. He also discussed the evaluation process and the importance of submitting the completed evaluations to allow sufficient time for the results to be tabulated before the December 15th board meeting. He requested that they be turned into Mrs. Moss by December 3rd.

Mrs. Turner briefly discussed the October 2026 financials and reviewed the interest rates for accounts.

Superintendent's Report:

1. Personnel Activity that has occurred since the October 15, 2026 meeting:

Personnel Actions – November 5, 2026

I. To be Hired:

a. Certified Teaching or Administrative Positions

Name	Position	Effective	Replacing

b. Classified, Support, Bus Drivers or Other Non-Certificated Positions

Name	Position	Effective	Replacing

II. Resignations, Retirements:

Name	Position	Effective	Reason
Mario Fisher	Food Tech-Haynesville Jr/Sr	10/12/26	Resigned
Byron Sanford	Teacher-Haynesville Jr/Sr	10/15/26	Resigned
Jaycee Barron	Teacher – Homer Elementary	10/28/26	Resigned

III. Transfers:

Name	Position	Effective	Reason

1. Veterans' Day Programs will be next Wednesday, November 11th – Summerfield (still working on it); Homer Elementary (9:30) and Haynesville Elementary (9:00).
2. Final rough draft of next year's school calendar will be emailed out to board members. Any feedback needs to be sent to him before December's meeting.
3. Mr. Brooks thanked Ms. Stevens for the homemade refreshments she provided and commended Summerfield High on a great job of hosting the board meeting.
4. Mr. Brooks also talked about what a blessing it has been to work with the board members and that he will miss them but also looks forward to working with the newly elected members.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Anderson adjourned the meeting.

_____
Perry Anderson, President
Claiborne Parish School Board

ATTEST:

_____
Mr. Chris Brooks, Secretary
Claiborne Parish School Board

Claiborne Parish Schools

2027-2028

Academic Year Calendar

July 27						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
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4	5	6	7	8	9	10
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August 27						
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September 27						
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October 27						
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November 27						
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December 27						
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Events
July 29-30: Professional Development (staff only)
August 2: Professional Development (staff only)
August 3: Students 1st Day
August 27: Professional Development (staff only)
September 27: Professional Development (staff only)
October 11-15: Fall Break
October 25: Parent Teacher Conference
November 22-26: Thanksgiving Break
December 13: Student Virtual Day
December 20-Jan. 3: Christmas Break
January 4: Professional Development (staff only)
January 5: Students Return
February 7: Professional Development (staff only)
March 20: Parent Teacher Conference
March 27-31: Spring Break
April 14-17: Easter Holiday
May 8-12: High School Graduation Week
May 19: Last Day for Students/Staff PD

Color Coded Legend
Yellow: Professional Deveopment Day for Staff
Orange: Parent Teacher Conference Days / Student Virtual Day
Red: No School
Green: First/Last Day for Students
Purple: Flex/Testing Days
Blue: Virtual Day

Teacher PD Days
July 29 & 30, 2027
August 2, 2027
August 27, 2027
September 27, 2027
January 4, 2028
February 7, 2028

1st Nine Weeks
August 3-October 1
Progress Reports: September 3
Report Cards: October 25

2nd Nine Weeks
October 5-December 17
Progress Reports: November 12
Report Cards: January 7

3rd Nine Weeks
January 5-March 14
Progress Reports: February 4
Report Cards: March 20

4th Nine Weeks
March 15-May 19
Progress Reports: April 21
Report Cards Mailed week of May 22

Activate
Elevate
Celebrate

January 28						
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February 28						
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March 28						
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May 28						
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June 28						
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25	26	27	28	29	30	

1st Semester: 76 days

2nd Semester: 76 days

430 Instructional Minutes

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

The Claiborne Parish School Board recognizes the connection between a student's social, emotional, and mental well-being and the student's academic success. The School Board desires to assist students in developing the social and emotional skills needed for participation in the educational environment and society at large. In addition to any support services provided by the School Board, the School Board shall allow behavioral health providers to provide medically necessary behavioral health services authorized by an independent third-party payor, including but not limited to Medicaid and commercial insurance, to a student at school during school hours if the student's parent or legal guardian provides a written request for such behavioral health provider and services to the Superintendent or Superintendent's designee, and all other requirements of La. Rev. Stat. Ann. §17:173, this policy, and any administrative procedures are met.

A behavioral health provider who provides services according to this policy shall:

1. Maintain general liability insurance coverage in an amount not less than $1,000,000.00 per occurrence and $1,000,000.00 per aggregate and provide a certificate of insurance naming the public school as the certificate holder.

2. No person who has been convicted of or pled nolo contendere to a crime listed in La. Rev. Stat. Ann. §15:587.1 (C) shall be permitted to provide behavioral health services to a student at school during school hours.

3. Complete a criminal background check conducted by the Louisiana State Police and shall pay all related costs. Applied behavior analysis providers who are licensed, certified, or registered by the Louisiana Behavior Analyst Board, who provide documentation of having passed a criminal background check conducted by the Louisiana State Police and are in good standing with the Board shall not be required to complete an additional criminal background check in order to begin providing behavioral health services at a school.

Behavioral health services shall be permitted during school hours if the student's parent or legal guardian presents a behavioral health evaluation performed by an evaluator as well as an assessment and authorized treatment plan performed by a behavioral health provider chosen by the parent or legal guardian and the evaluation indicates that the services are necessary during school hours to assist the student with behavioral health impairments associated with a medical diagnosis that the evaluator determines are interfering with the student's ability to thrive in the educational setting. A behavioral health evaluation or assessment presented by the parent or legal guardian of a student shall not be construed as an independent educational evaluation for purposes of determining if a student meets the criteria established for eligibility for special education and related services.

In addition, the parent or legal guardian of a student receiving services from a behavioral service provider shall be required to execute a *consent to release information* form between the provider and the School Board.

No behavioral health evaluation, assessment, or authorized treatment plan shall be prohibited from being performed on school property in order to establish medical necessity or to deliver medically necessary services. ~~Behavioral health services may be provided during any part of the school day, including any and all instructional time in English, reading, mathematics, and science.~~ Behavioral health services shall be provided in a physical classroom, to the extent that it is medically necessary, during any part of the school day, including any and all instructional time in courses including but not limited to English, reading, mathematics, and science. However, behavioral health services shall also be provided outside of the physical classroom to the extent that it is medically necessary.

The school administrator and service provider shall work collaboratively to create a consistent schedule that meets the medical needs of the student and complies with the provider's ethical code of conduct. In developing the student's plan, consideration shall include impacts on a school's operations and a student's testing schedule. If the parties cannot agree, then the parties shall engage in a dispute resolution process set forth by the state Department of Education.

The School Board shall not enter into a contract or an exclusive agreement with a behavioral health provider that prohibits the parent or legal guardian from choosing the behavioral health provider for the student. However, the provisions of this paragraph shall not impair any existing contract on the effective date of this policy, or the renewal thereof.

The cost of all behavioral health services provided to a student shall be the sole responsibility of the parent or legal guardian, individually or through an applicable health insurance policy, Medicaid, or other third-party payor, other than the School Board, that has made funds available for the payment for the services provided.

While on a school campus, a behavioral health ~~service~~ provider shall comply with, and abide by, the terms of any *Individualized Education Program, Individualized Accommodation Plan, Section 504 Plan, Behavior Management Plan*, or *Individualized Health Plan* applicable to a student who is a patient of the behavioral health provider. The services furnished by a behavioral health provider shall be incorporated into a written treatment plan applicable to a student.

The School Board shall establish reporting requirements for a behavioral health provider related to the student's progress and student and school safety concerns as related to the student's educational program.

SCHOOL-BASED SERVICE DELIVERY REVIEW MEETING

The Superintendent shall approve administrative procedures to provide for student safety

and effective implementation of this policy.

Within twenty-one days after a parent or guardian submits a behavioral health treatment plan to a school administrator and no later than fourteen school days after behavioral health services begin, the school administrator or his designee shall ensure that a *school-based service delivery review meeting* is held in person or virtually.

At a minimum, the meeting shall include the school administrator or his designee, the student's classroom teacher(s), and the behavioral health provider. The meeting may also include the student's special education teacher, case manager, or other school employee responsible for implementation of the student's *Individualized Education Plan, Individualized Accommodation Plan, Section 504 Plan, Behavior Intervention Plan*, or *Individualized Health Plan*.

Behavioral health services may begin prior to the *school-based service delivery review meeting*, if reasonable efforts are made to coordinate with school personnel. A behavioral health provider may initiate and continue medically necessary services, and the school shall provide reasonable access to the student, pending completion of the meeting. Reasonable access shall include the ability to enter the school, observe the student, and deliver authorized services during the school day in coordination with instructional activities.

The *school-based service delivery review meeting* shall, at a minimum address the following:

1. Review of the provider's written treatment plan and any applicable *Individualized Education Plan, Individualized Accommodation Plan, Section 504 Plan, Behavior Intervention Plan*, or *Individualized Health Plan.*

2. The role and responsibilities of the behavioral health provider while on the school campus, including activities to be conducted in the classroom during instructional time.

3. The classroom routines, school policies, and behavioral expectations applicable to the student.

4. The method and frequency of ongoing communication between the behavioral health provider and school personnel and the chain of communication for questions or concerns.

5. The schedule for behavioral health services during the school day, including how services will be coordinated with instructional activities, assessments, and school-wide events.

6. Procedures for requesting a follow-up *school-based service delivery review meeting* when the behavioral health provider changes or there is a material change in the student's classroom or educational placement or in the behavioral health provider's written treatment plan.

7. The school-based service delivery meeting shall not take the place of any meetings required by a student's *Individualized Education Plan.*

A behavioral health provider delivering services shall use reasonable efforts to minimize disruption to instruction and classroom management. Recommendations, concerns, or requested changes regarding classroom strategies, interventions, accommodations, modifications, supports, or safety procedures shall be communicated to the teacher and the school administrator or his designee outside the presence of other students, except when immediate action is necessary to prevent imminent risk of harm to the student or another person. If supervision of the behavioral health provider is conducted virtually, no other student except the student receiving behavioral health services shall be recorded.

A behavioral health provider shall not direct, supervise, or evaluate the job performance of a teacher or other school employee. A behavioral health provider's role in the classroom shall be limited to delivery of services to the designated student, which may include collaboration with school personnel to support implementation of the student's treatment plan. A behavioral health provider shall not implement or direct the implementation of medically necessary services that knowingly interfere, impede, or conflict with services the school is legally required to provide under a student's *Individualized Education Plan*, *Individualized Accommodation Plan*, *Section 504 Plan*, *Behavior Intervention Plan*, or *Individualized Health Plan*, without collaboration and agreement between service providers.

The School Board may establish sanctions, including termination of a provider's authorization to provide services on any school campus, against a behavioral health provider for failure to comply with the provisions of this policy and associated procedures and/or any other School Board policy and procedures. The contract or agreement between the School Board and a behavioral health provider may specify whether a school principal may dismiss a behavioral health provider staff member from the campus and the terms under which such a dismissal is permissible.

Any behavioral health evaluation, assessment, or treatment plan administered by the School Board shall not supersede the behavioral health evaluation, assessment, or treatment plan provided by an independent behavioral health provider of a student's parent's choosing. Any applied behavior analysis services provided by the School Board shall be delivered either by behavioral health providers licensed, certified, or registered by the Louisiana Behavior Analyst Board in accordance with La. Rev. Stat. Ann. §37:3701 et seq. or behavioral health providers providing services in accordance with La. Rev. Stat. Ann. §37:3715.

DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of this policy, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

Applied behavior analysis provider shall mean a provider who is licensed, certified, or registered by the Louisiana Behavior Analyst Board and is in good standing to provide applied behavior analysis services.

Applied behavior analysis services shall include the design, implementation, and evaluation of systematic instructional and environmental modifications by an applied behavior analysis provider to produce socially significant improvements in behavior as described in the Behavior Analyst Practice Act.

Behavioral health evaluation shall include but not be limited to the following criteria:

- Diagnosis.
- Type of intervention.
- Length of intervention.
- Identification of a student's goals.
- Identification of impact of student behavior on a student's educational program.
- Recommendations for applied behavior analysis services.

Behavioral health provider shall mean a provider who is licensed by the Louisiana Department of Health or a health profession licensing board and is in good standing to provide behavioral health services in Louisiana including but not limited to a psychiatrist, psychologist, medical psychologist, licensed specialist in school psychology, marriage and family therapist, professional counselor, clinical social worker, applied behavioral analysis provider, or a behavioral health provider organization licensed to provide health services in Louisiana.

Behavioral health services shall include but not be limited to individual psychotherapy, family psychotherapy, psychotropic medication management, community psychiatric support and treatment, crisis intervention, and medically necessary applied behavior analysis services.

Evaluator shall mean a licensed psychiatrist, psychologist, medical psychologist, licensed specialist in school psychology, professional counselor, marriage and family therapist, clinical social worker, or applied behavior analysis provider who is certified by the respective board of examiners in Louisiana to provide necessary evaluations and who is not an employee of the School Board or the Louisiana Department of Education.

Independent third-party payor means an individual who serves as a case reviewer for Medicaid or commercial insurers.

Medically necessary services means services that meet the following requirements:

1. Provided for the diagnosis, treatment, cure, or relief of a health condition, illness, injury, or disease.

2. Except for clinical trials that are described within the policy, not for experimental, investigational, or cosmetic purposes.

3. Within the generally accepted standards of medical care in the community.

4. Not solely for the convenience of the insured, the insured's family, or the provider.

School-based service delivery review meeting means a meeting held, either in person or virtually, for the purpose of reviewing the delivery of behavioral health services in the school setting, including the behavioral health provider's role, applicable student plans, classroom expectations, communication, scheduling, and other procedures necessary to support uninterrupted instruction and appropriate coordination with school personnel and the behavioral health provider.

A parent or legal guardian shall be the sole person permitted to file a dispute resolution claim in relation to a student, which shall be filed only after an alleged incident has occurred. In the event of a conflict between a student's I*ndividualized Education Plan, Individualized Accommodation Plan, Section 504 Plan, Behavior Intervention Plan,* or *Individualized Health Plan* and a behavioral health provider's written treatment plan, the *Individual Education Plan, Individualized Accommodation Plan, Section 504 Plan, Behavior Intervention Plan,* or *Individualized Health Plan* shall control with respect to the student's educational services and supports. Nothing in this Section shall be construed to require medically necessary behavioral health services authorized under this Section be included in any such student plan as a condition of being delivered on school property, nor shall the absence of such services from any such student plan constitute a basis to deny those services.

No provisions of this policy shall be construed to supersede any of the following:

1. The authority of a student's Individualized Education Program Team or Section 504 Committee to determine appropriate services for a student pursuant to applicable federal and state law.

2. The provisions of the Behavioral Health Services Provider Licensing Law or any regulation promulgated by the Louisiana Department of Health pursuant to that law.

3. The provisions of the *Behavior Analysis Practice Act*.

New policy: October 11, 2018
Revised: November 7, 2019
Recoded from JGCF: June, 2024
Revised: September 5, 2024
Revised: August, 2026

Ref: 20 USC 1232(g-i) (*Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act*); La. Rev. Stat. Ann.

§§17:7, 17:173; Board minutes, 10-11-18, 11-7-19, 9-5-24.

SUSPENSION

The Claiborne Parish School Board recognizes its authority to maintain good order and discipline within the schools of the school district. Therefore, the School Board recognizes the principal's authority to suspend a student for a specified period of time in accordance with statutory provisions.

Prior to any out-of-school suspension or assignment to alternative placement, the school principal or his/her designee shall advise the student of the particular misconduct of which he/she is accused as well as the basis for such accusation, and the student shall be given an opportunity at that time to explain his/her version of the facts. The principal/designee shall contact the parent or legal guardian of the student to notify them of the suspension, and establish a date and time for a conference with the principal or designee as a requirement for readmitting the student. *Notice* shall be given by contacting the parent or legal guardian by telephone at the telephone number shown on the student's registration card, or by electronic communication or by a certified letter sent to the address shown on the student's registration card. The principal shall promptly advise the Superintendent or designee of all such suspensions, stating the reasons for the suspensions.

A student who is suspended for longer than ten (10) days shall be provided with academic instruction at an alternative setting in accordance with La. Rev. Stat. Ann. §17:416.2.

No suspended student shall be allowed to leave the school premises during the school day until the parent, guardian, or other proper authorities assume responsibility for him/her, unless immediate removal from school due to danger or threat of disruption to academic process is warranted.

If the parent, or legal guardian fails to attend the required conference within five (5) school days of notification, the truancy laws shall be effective. On not more than one occasion each school year when the parent, or legal guardian refuses to respond to the notice, the principal may determine whether readmitting the student is in the best interest of the student. On any subsequent occasions in the same school year, the student shall not be readmitted unless the parent, or legal guardian, court, or other appointed representative responds.

If a teacher, principal, or other school employee is authorized to require the parent, or legal guardian of a student to attend a conference or meeting regarding the student 's behavior and after notice, the parent, or legal guardian willfully refuses to attend, the principal or his/her designee shall file a complaint, in accordance with statutory provisions, with a court exercising juvenile jurisdiction.

When a student is suspended for a second time within one school year, the principal may require a counseling session be held with the parent and student by the school counselor.

In the event there is no school counselor assigned to that school, the principal may require a conference between the parent, student and all the student 's teachers and the principal or other administrator.

After any second suspension of a student during the same school year, the principal or his/her designee and the employee designated by the principal to identify behavioral and mental health support services available shall consult on whether the student's behavior could be attributable to behavioral or emotional challenges. If it is determined that the behavior is attributable to behavioral or emotional challenges and rises to the level that supportive services could be beneficial, the principal or his/her designee and the employee designated for mental and behavioral health assistance shall schedule a conference with the student's parent or legal guardian to discuss the student's behavior and counseling as well as the referral of the student and family to support services or assessment and treatment.

Notwithstanding any public school state or local policies, a student in grades six through twelve who is suspended a third time within the same school year for any offense, excluding those related to dress codes or tardiness, shall be recommended for expulsion.

Any student in grades pre-kindergarten through five, *after being suspended on three (3) occasions* for committing drugs or weapons offenses during the same school year, **shall** *upon committing the fourth offense*, be expelled from all the public schools of the system until the beginning of the next regular school year, and the student 's reinstatement shall be subject to the review and approval of the School Board.

A student suspended for damages to any property belonging to the school system or to property contracted to the school system or any property on school grounds owned by a school employee or student shall not be readmitted until payment in full has been made for such damage, an alternative restitution arrangement has been executed, an alternative payment plan has been arranged, or until directed by the Superintendent. If the property damaged is a school bus owned by, contracted to, or jointly owned by any school board, a student suspended for such damage shall not be permitted to enter or ride any school bus until payment in full has been made for the damage, an alternative restitution arrangement has been executed, an alternative payment plan has been arranged, or until directed by the Superintendent.

The principal and other appropriate personnel shall be required to file written documentation of all suspensions. Said documentation shall include the circumstances surrounding any suspension, the reason for suspension, and any other pertinent facts concerning the disciplinary action. The principal shall file copies of his/her report with the Superintendent, other appropriate personnel and the parent or guardian and retain a copy for his/her records.

Upon the seizure by any teacher, principal, school security guard, or other school administrator of any firearm, knife, or other dangerous implement which could be used as

a weapon or inflict injury, the principal or his or her designee shall be required to report the confiscation to appropriate law enforcement officials.

Appeal

Any parent or legal guardian of a student suspended shall have the right to appeal to the Superintendent or his/her designee, who shall conduct a hearing on the merits. If the parent or legal guardian is not present for the hearing after having been properly notified, the hearing may proceed and the results of the hearing shall be mailed to the parent or legal guardian within three (3) school days by certified mail, return receipt requested. The decision of the Superintendent on the merits of the case, as well as the term of the out-of-school suspension, shall be final, reserving to the Superintendent the right to remit any portion of the time of out-of-school suspension.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, the parent or legal guardian of a student who has been recommended for expulsion but suspended instead following a hearing conducted by the Superintendent or his/her designee shall have the right to request review by the School Board of the findings of the Superintendent or designee at a time set by the School Board. Such request must be made within five (5) days after the decision is rendered, or the decision of the Superintendent or designee shall be final. The School Board may affirm, modify, or reverse the action previously taken.

The parent or legal guardian of the student may, within ten (10) school days, appeal to the judicial district court an adverse ruling of the School Board in upholding the action of the Superintendent or designee. The Court may reverse or revise the ruling of the School Board upon a finding that the ruling of the School Board was based on an absence of any relevant evidence in support thereof.

Any student suspended or expelled out of school shall be banned from all School Board properties, events, and functions.

MANDATORY SUSPENSION

Firearms, Knives, Other Dangerous Instrumentalities, Drugs

The principal or his/her designee shall be required to suspend a student who:

1. is found carrying or possessing a firearm or a knife with a blade two and one-half (2 ½) inches or longer, or another dangerous instrumentality, except as provided below under the section entitled *Suspension Not Applicable*; or

2. possesses, distributes, sells, gives, or loans any controlled dangerous substance governed by state law, in any form.

Additionally, the principal or his/her designee shall immediately recommend the student's expulsion to the Superintendent, for the above offenses for students in grades six through twelve.

A student found carrying or possessing a knife with a blade less than two and one half (2 ½) inches in length may be suspended by the school principal, but, in appropriate cases, at a minimum, shall be placed in *in-school suspension*.

The School Board has also stipulated mandatory suspensions for students who have committed certain offenses as outlined in the *Student Code of Conduct*.

Assault or Battery of School Employees

Whenever a student is formally accused of violating state law or school disciplinary regulations, or both, by committing assault or battery on any school employee either on or off school property, the principal shall suspend the student from school immediately and the student shall be removed immediately from the school premises or prohibited from returning to the school premises, as applicable, without the benefit of required out-of-school suspension procedures; however, the necessary notifications and other procedures shall be implemented as soon as practicable. The student shall not be readmitted to the school to which the employee is assigned until all hearings and appeals associated with the alleged violation have been exhausted.

For purposes of this section, *School employee* means any person employed by the school and any substitute teacher, substitute bus operator, or school volunteer.

This shall apply to any incident that occurs off of school property only if the incident is a continuation of a documented altercation that began on school property.

Except when the school system has no other school of suitable grade level for the student to attend, no student found guilty by a court of competent jurisdiction of violating the provisions of La. Rev. Stat. Ann. §§14:34.3 (battery) or 14:38.2 (assault), or both, or found guilty at a school system suspension hearing of committing a battery or assault, or both, on any school employee shall be assigned to attend or shall attend the school to which the school employee battered or assaulted by the student is assigned.

A student expelled pursuant to this section shall not, under any circumstances, be assigned to or allowed to attend the school to which the student or school employee battered or assaulted by the student is assigned. In addition, notwithstanding any provision of La. Rev. Stat. Ann. §17:158 to the contrary, a school system shall not be required to provide transportation to any student reassigned to attend a school pursuant to this section if providing such transportation for the student will result in additional transportation costs to the school system.

All documentation relative to this provision shall be included and maintained in the

student's records.

SUSPENSION NOT APPLICABLE

Suspension of a student shall not apply to the following:

1. A student carrying or possessing a firearm or knife for purposes of involvement in a school class, course, or school-approved cocurricular or extracurricular activity or any other activity approved by appropriate school officials.

2. A student possessing any controlled dangerous substance that has been obtained directly or due to a valid prescription or order from a licensed medical provider. However, the student shall carry evidence of the prescription or medical provider's order on his/her person at all times when in possession of any controlled dangerous substance which shall be subject to verification. Evidence of the prescription or medical provider's order includes possession of the controlled dangerous substance in its original packaging as received from the pharmacy.

In addition, school officials, in accordance with statutory provisions, shall have total discretion and shall exercise such discretion in imposing on a student any disciplinary actions authorized by state law for possession by a student of a firearm or knife on school property when such firearm or knife is stored in a motor vehicle and there is no evidence of the student 's intent to use the firearm or knife in a criminal manner.

DRESS CODE VIOLATIONS

A student enrolled in grades prekindergarten through five shall not be suspended from school or suspended from riding on any school bus for a uniform violation that is not tied to willful disregard of school policies.

CREDIT FOR SCHOOL WORK MISSED

A student who is suspended for ten (10) days or fewer shall be assigned school work missed while he/she is suspended and shall receive the same credit originally available for such work, upon the recommendation of the student's teacher, if it is completed satisfactorily and timely as determined by the principal or his/her designee.

A student who is suspended for more than ten (10) days and receives educational services at an alternative school site, shall be assigned work by a certified teacher and shall receive credit for school work if it is completed satisfactorily and timely as determined by the teacher. Such work shall be aligned with the curriculum used at the school from which the student is suspended.

RECUSAL OF ADMINISTRATOR IN DISCIPLINE MATTERS

Any school administrator or administrator's designee who is required to make a recommendation, decide an issue, or take action in a matter involving the discipline of a student shall recuse himself/herself whenever a member of the immediate family of the administrator or administrator's designee is involved in any manner in the discipline matter. In case of recusal, the action to be taken shall be done so by the Superintendent or an impartial designee of the Superintendent.

Immediate family means the individual's children, brothers, sisters, parents, and spouse and the children, brothers, sisters, and parents of the spouse.

SUSPENSION OF STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES OR EXCEPTIONALITIES

Suspension of students with disabilities or exceptionalities, or an Individualized Education Program, or Section 504 Individualized Accommodation Plan shall be to the extent allowed by applicable state or federal law and regulations or the provisions of the student's specific plan.

DEFINITIONS

Definitions of terms used herein shall have the meaning set forth in policy *JD, Discipline*.

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Revised: January 10, 2013
Revised: June 6, 2013
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Revised: August 8, 2024
Revised: August 2026

Ref: La. Rev. Stat. Ann. §§17:223, 17:416, 17:416.1, 17:416.2, 17:416.3, 17:416.23; Goss v. Lopez, 95 S. Ct. 729 (1973); *Regulations for Implementation of the Exceptional Children's Act*, Bulletin 1706, Louisiana Department of Education; Board minutes, 4-5-12, 1-10-13, 6-6-13, 10-8-15, 11-5-15, 12-10-20, 3-16-23, 8-8-24.

EXPULSION

The Claiborne Parish School Board may expel a student from school if an offense committed by the student is serious enough to warrant such action or is in violation of state law or the School Board's code of conduct. Prior to any expulsion the school principal or his/her designee shall advise the student of the particular misconduct of which he/she is accused as well as the basis for such accusation, and the student shall be given an opportunity at that time to explain his/her version of the facts. The principal/designee shall contact the parent or legal guardian of the student to notify them of the expulsion, and establish a date and time for a conference with the principal or designee as a requirement for readmitting the student. Notice shall be given by contacting the parent or legal guardian by telephone at the telephone number shown on the student 's registration card, or by electronic communication and additionally by a certified letter sent to the address shown on the student's registration card. If the parent or legal guardian fails to attend the required conference within five (5) school days of notification, the truancy laws shall be effective.

Upon the recommendation for expulsion of a student by the principal a hearing shall be conducted by the Superintendent or his/her designee within fifteen (15) school days to determine the facts of the case and make a finding of whether or not the student is guilty of conduct warranting a recommendation of expulsion. The School Board shall provide written notice of the hearing to the student and his/her parent or legal guardian, and the notice shall advise the student and his/her parent or legal guardian of their rights. Notification of the time, date, and place of the expulsion hearing shall be mailed to the parents. Following the hearing, the Superintendent or his/her designee shall notify the parents of the decision rendered.

At the hearing, the principal and/or teacher concerned may be represented by any person appointed by the Superintendent and the concerned teacher shall be permitted to attend and present any relevant information. Until the hearing, the student shall remain suspended with access to classwork and the opportunity to earn academic credit. A student who is expelled for longer than ten (10) days shall be provided with academic instruction at an alternative setting in accordance with La. Rev. Stat. Ann. §17:416.2.

Upon the conclusion of the hearing and upon finding the student guilty of conduct warranting expulsion, the Superintendent shall determine whether such student shall be expelled and the specified period of expulsion, or if other disciplinary action shall be taken. Unless otherwise stipulated by state statutes, the period of expulsion shall not be less than one school semester and may carry over into the next school year, if necessary. During an expulsion, the Superintendent shall place the student in an alternative school or in an alternative educational placement.

APPEALS

The parent or legal guardian of the student who has been recommended for expulsion in

accordance with state law may, within five (5) days after the decision to expel has been rendered, submit a request to the School Board to review the findings of the Superintendent or designee at a time set by the School Board; otherwise the decision of the Superintendent shall be final. If requested, as herein provided and after reviewing the findings of the Superintendent or designee, the School Board may affirm, modify, or reverse the action of the Superintendent or designee.

The parent or legal guardian of the pupil may, within ten (10) school days, appeal to the judicial district court an adverse ruling of the School Board in upholding the action of the Superintendent or designee. The Court may reverse or revise the ruling of the School Board upon a finding that the ruling of the School Board was based on an absence of any relevant evidence in support thereof.

The parent or legal guardian of the pupil shall have such right of review by the School Board and by the district court even if the recommendation for expulsion has been reduced to a suspension of the pupil.

FIREARMS, KNIVES, AND DRUGS

Any student, in grades six (6) through twelve (12), who is found guilty of being in possession of a firearm, a knife with a blade equal to or in excess of two and one-half inches (2 ½ “) in length, or any illegal narcotic, drug, or other controlled substance on school property, on a school bus or at a school-sponsored event, pursuant to a hearing, shall be expelled from school for a minimum period of two (2) complete school semesters and shall be referred to the district attorney for appropriate action. However, the Superintendent, may modify the length of the minimum expulsion required on a case-by-case basis, provided such modification is in writing.

A student found guilty of being in possession of marijuana, tetrahydrocannabinol, or any chemical derivative thereof shall not be subject to such expulsion unless it is the second or subsequent occurrence.

ASSAULT OR BATTERY ON SCHOOL EMPLOYEES

When a student has been immediately suspended for committing an assault or battery, or both, on any school employee in accordance with policy JDD, Suspension, the principal or his/her designee shall immediately recommend the student's expulsion, which shall be subject to the hearing, appeal, and other provisions of this policy except as otherwise provided in this section. Any such expulsion shall be no less than two (2) complete school semesters in duration, during which time the Superintendent shall place the student in an alternative school or in an alternative educational placement, and the student shall participate in an anger management program.

For purposes of this section, school *employee* shall mean any person employed by the school and any substitute teacher, substitute bus operator, or school volunteer.

All documentation relative to the provisions of this section shall be included and maintained in the student's records.

Except as otherwise provided in this section, discipline of a student with exceptionalities shall not conflict with the requirements of La. Rev. Stat. Ann. §17:1941, et seq., and 20 USC 1415(k) (see also EXPULSION OF STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES OR EXCEPTIONALITIES below).

VIRTUAL INSTRUCTION

The provisions related to mandatory recommendation for expulsion shall not be applied to virtual instruction received by a student in the student's home.

ADDITIONAL REASONS FOR EXPULSION

1. Any student, after being suspended for committing violations of any discipline policies or other rule infractions, depending on the severity of the behavior, may be expelled upon recommendation to the Superintendent by the principal and after an appropriate hearing is held by the Superintendent or designee.

2. The principal may recommend expulsion to the Superintendent for any student in grades pre-kindergarten through five who is found carrying or possessing a knife with a blade which equals or exceeds two and one-half (2 ½) inches in length.

3. Any students in grades six through twelve found guilty of being in possession of tobacco, alcohol, or vaping product or found guilty on the first occurrence of being in possession of marijuana, tetrahydrocannabinol, or any chemical derivative thereof on school property, on a school bus, or at a school-sponsored event may be recommended for expulsion.

4. Notwithstanding any public school state or local policies, a student in grades six through twelve who is suspended a third time within the same school year for any offense, excluding those related to dress codes or tardiness, shall be recommended for expulsion.

5. Any student in pre-kindergarten through five, *after being suspended on three (3) occasions* for committing drugs or weapons offenses during the same school year, **shall**, *upon committing the fourth offense*, be expelled from all the public schools of the system until the beginning of the next regular school year, and the student's reinstatement shall be subject to the review and approval of the School Board.

6. In accordance with federal regulations, a student determined to have brought a weapon to a school under the School Board's jurisdiction shall be expelled for a minimum of one calendar year. The Superintendent may modify the expulsion requirement on a case-by-case basis. A *weapon*, in accordance with federal statutes, means a firearm or any device which is designed to expel a projectile or

any destructive device, which in turn means any explosive, incendiary or poison gas, bomb, grenade, rocket, missile, mine or similar device.

7. The conviction of any student of a felony or the incarceration of any student in a juvenile institution for an act which had it been committed by an adult, would have constituted a felony, may be cause for expulsion of the student for a period of time as determined by the School Board; such expulsions shall require the vote of ***two-thirds ⅔ of the elected members of the School Board***, shall not be for a period of time longer than the student's period of adjudication as determined by the applicable court presiding over the student's criminal matter, and shall run concurrent to the student's period of disposition. If the student was serving an expulsion period when the student was incarcerated for a separate offense and the student completes the period of incarceration with time left in the expulsion period, the Superintendent or his/her designee may require the student to serve the time left in the expulsion period.

8. Any student found guilty of any terrorist act, in accordance with policy *JCDAF, Bullying and Hazing*.

EXPULSION NOT APPLICABLE

Expulsion shall not apply to the following:

1. A student carrying or possessing a firearm or knife for purposes of involvement in a school class, course, or school approved cocurricular or extracurricular activity or any other activity approved by appropriate school officials.

2. A student possessing any controlled dangerous substance that has been obtained directly or due to a valid prescription or order from a licensed medical provider. However, the student shall carry evidence of the prescription or medical provider's order on his/her person at all times when in possession of any controlled dangerous substance which shall be subject to verification. Evidence of the prescription or medical provider's order includes possession of the controlled dangerous substance in its original packaging as received from the pharmacy.

In addition, school officials, in accordance with statutory provisions, shall have total discretion and shall exercise such discretion in imposing on a student any disciplinary actions authorized by state law for possession by a student of a firearm or knife on school property when such firearm or knife is stored in a motor vehicle and there is no evidence of the student's intent to use the firearm or knife in a criminal manner.

DRESS CODE VIOLATIONS

A student enrolled in grades prekindergarten through five shall not be expelled from school for a uniform violation that is not tied to willful disregard of school policies.

READMITTANCE FOLLOWING EXPULSION

Required Parent Conference

In each case of expulsion, the school principal, or his or her designee, shall contact the parent or legal guardian of the student to notify them of the expulsion, and establish a date and time for a conference with the principal or designee as a requirement for readmitting the student. Notice shall be given by sending a certified letter to the address shown on the student's registration card. Also, additional notification may be made by contacting the parent or legal guardian by telephone at the telephone number shown on the student's registration card.

If the parent or legal guardian fails to attend the required conference within five (5) school days of notification, the student may be considered a truant and dealt with according to all applicable statutory provisions. On not more than one occasion each school year when the parents or legal guardian refuses to respond, the principal may determine whether readmitting the student is in the best interest of the student. On any subsequent occasions in the same school year, the student shall not be readmitted unless the parent or legal guardian, court, or other appointed representative responds.
In any case where a teacher, principal, or other school employee is authorized to require the parent or legal guardian of a student to attend a conference or meeting regarding the student's behavior and after notice, the parent or legal guardian willfully refuses to attend, the principal or his or her designee shall file a complaint, in accordance with statutory provisions, with a court exercising juvenile jurisdiction.

Readmittance After All Expulsions

Any student expelled may be readmitted to school on a probationary basis at any time during the expulsion period on such terms and conditions as may be stipulated by the Superintendent. Readmission to school on a probationary basis shall be contingent on the student and legal guardian or custodian agreeing in writing to the conditions stipulated. Any such agreement shall contain a provision for immediate removal of the student from school premises and returned to the school system’s alternative school setting without benefit of a hearing or other procedure upon the principal or Superintendent determining the student has violated any term or condition of the agreement. Immediately thereafter, the principal or designee shall provide proper notification in writing of the determination and reasons for removal to the Superintendent and the student's parent or legal guardian.

Readmittance After Expulsion for Firearms, Knives, Weapons, or Drugs

In addition to the readmittance provisions for all expulsions stated above, a student that has been expelled for possessing on school property or on a bus, a firearm, knife, or other dangerous weapon, or possessing or possession with intent to distribute or distributing, selling, giving, or loaning while on school property or a school bus any controlled

dangerous substance shall not be enrolled or readmitted to any regular public school of the school system on a probationary basis prior to the completion of the period of expulsion at the school system's alternative education setting until the student produces written documentation that he/she and his/her parent or legal guardian have enrolled and participated or is participating in an appropriate rehabilitation or counseling program related to the reason(s) for the student's expulsion. The rehabilitation or counseling programs shall be provided by such programs approved by the juvenile or family court having jurisdiction, if applicable, or by the School Board. The requirement for enrollment and participation in a rehabilitation or counseling program shall be waived only upon a documented showing by the student that no appropriate program is available in the area or that the student cannot enroll or participate due to financial hardship.

Readmittance After Expulsion for Assault and/or Battery of a School Employee

Except when the school system has no other school of suitable grade level for the student to attend, no student found guilty by a court of competent jurisdiction of violating the provisions of La. Rev. Stat. Ann. §§14:34.3 (battery) or 14:38.2 (assault), or both, or found guilty at a school system suspension hearing of committing a battery or assault, or both, on any school employee shall be assigned to attend or shall attend the school to which the school employee battered or assaulted by the student is assigned.

A student expelled pursuant to this section shall not, under any circumstances, be assigned to or allowed to attend the school to which the student or school employee battered or assaulted by the student is assigned. In addition, notwithstanding any provision of R.S. 17:158 to the contrary, a school system shall not be required to provide transportation to any student reassigned to attend a school pursuant to this section if providing such transportation for the student will result in additional transportation costs to the school system.

Review of Records

A student who has been expelled from any school in or out of state shall not be admitted to a school in the school system except upon the review and approval of the School Board following the request for admission. To facilitate the review and approval for readmittance, the student shall provide to the School Board information on the dates of any expulsions and the reasons therefor. Additionally, the transfer of student records to any school or system shall include information on the dates of any expulsions and the reasons therefor.

CREDIT FOR SCHOOL WORK MISSED

A student who is expelled and receives educational services at an alternative school site shall be assigned work by a certified teacher and shall receive credit for school work if it is completed satisfactorily and timely as determined by the teacher. Such work shall be aligned with the curriculum used at the school from which the student was expelled.

RECUSAL OF ADMINISTRATOR IN DISCIPLINE MATTERS

Any school administrator or administrator's designee who is required to make a recommendation, decide an issue, or take action in a matter involving the discipline of a student shall recuse himself/herself whenever a member of the immediate family of the administrator or administrator's designee is involved in any manner in the discipline matter. In case of recusal, the action to be taken shall be done so by the Superintendent or an impartial designee of the Superintendent.

Immediate family means the individual's children, brothers, sisters, parents, and spouse and the children, brothers, sisters, and parents of the spouse.

EXPULSION OF STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES OR EXCEPTIONALITIES

Expulsion of students with disabilities or exceptionalities, or an Individualized Education Program or Section 504 Individualized Accommodation Plan, shall be to the extent allowed by applicable state or federal law and regulations or the provisions of the student's specific plan.

DEFINITIONS

Definitions of terms used herein shall have the meaning set forth in policy *JD, Discipline*.

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Revised: August 2026

Ref: 18 USC 921 (*Firearms – Definitions*); 20 USC 7151 (*Gun-Free Schools Act*); La. Rev. Stat. Ann. §§17:223, 17:416, 17:416.1,17:416.2, 17:2092; Goss v. Lopez, 95. S. Ct. 729 (1973); *Regulations for Implementation of the Exceptional Children's Act*, Bulletin 1706, Louisiana Department of Education; Board minutes, 11-6-08, 4-5-12, 1-10-13, 10-8-15, 12-10-20, 3-16-23, 8-8-24, 9-11-25.

CAMERAS IN SPECIAL EDUCATION CLASSROOMS

The Claiborne Parish School Board shall install and operate cameras that record both video and audio in each special education classroom, as required by Louisiana law, and in accordance with procedures established by the Superintendent. The School Board shall verify periodically that the cameras remain in operation. Should a camera be out of operation for more than two (2) consecutive school days, the school shall provide notice to parents of students in the affected classroom via normal school communication channels.

APPLICABILITY

This policy is applicable to certain Self-contained Classrooms or Other Special Education Settings in which a majority of 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 (classroom on another school campus that serves only students receiving special education and related services such as school for deal/visually impaired) for at least fifty percent (50%) of the instructional day. This policy is not applicable to special education classrooms and other special education settings where the only students with exceptionalities receiving special education and related services are those identified as gifted or talented (under Louisiana Department of Education (LDE) Bulletin 1508, Pupil Appraisal Handbook) who have not been identified as also having a disability under Bulletin 1508 and served in special instructional settings for fifty percent (50%) of the day as described hereinabove.

PURPOSE

In accordance with La. Rev. Stat. Ann. §§ 17:1948, 17:3996(B)(59), and 44.4.1(B)(9) as amended, the School Board adopts and implements this policy applicable to the installation and operation of audio/video recording cameras in certain special education classrooms; exceptions relative to public records; matters relative to funding and implementation; and other related matters. Audio/Video recording may be made available in certain Self-contained Classrooms and Other Special Education Settings for the purposes of promoting student safety in compliance with Louisiana law.

GENERAL

The Superintendent shall establish administrative procedures to implement this policy as required by law. The Superintendent shall designate an administrator (Designated District Representative) with responsibility for coordinating implementation of La. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 17:1948 in accordance with School Board policy and procedures.

The School Board prohibits the location and placement of cameras in the interior of restrooms of any areas designated for students to change or remove clothing. Training will be provided to any teacher or other school employee who provides services in a

classroom where cameras are installed. Advance written notice of audio/video recording will be provided, as applicable, to affected parents/legal guardians, staff, and authorized visitors. Such notice of audio/video recording shall be posted and available at affected schools.

The School Board expects staff to be vigilant in their observation and protection of all students. If a staff member suspects that an audio/video recording shows a violation of federal or State law, the mandatory reporter must report the suspected violation to the Louisiana Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) or the appropriate law enforcement agency in accordance with State law.

Audio/video recordings captured by the School Board will only be released for viewing to certain individuals as defined by Louisiana statute and in accordance with the School Board's administrative procedures. Viewings of audio/video recordings shall be limited to the Superintendent and his designee(s) (designated district representative(s)), the parent or legal guardian of a recorded student, or law enforcement officials, as part of an investigation regarding suspected violations of State or federal laws. Initial viewing of the recordings shall be made by both the Superintendent and his designee or two designees of the Superintendent during the initial viewing of a recording in response to a valid request. District personnel or contractors whose job duties involve installation, operation, or maintenance of the audio/video equipment or the retention of the recordings shall have access to the equipment and recordings only to the extent necessary to fulfill their assigned responsibilities. Continual monitoring of an audio/video feed is prohibited. Standing or on-going requests for viewing recordings are not authorized.

Audio/video recordings are confidential but are not considered personally identifiable information as defined in La. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 17:3914. Audio/video recordings shall not be subject to public records requests. Specific exceptions, exemptions, and limitations to laws pertaining to public records are incorporated by reference into La. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 17:1948. Audio/video recordings shall be stored in a safe and secure manner whether on on-site or off-site servers or in cloud storage.

In accordance with State law, the School Board will ensure retention of captured audio/video recordings for at least one (1) month after the recording date. The Superintendent and his designee(s) are authorized to dispose of recordings after a one-month period unless there is an outstanding request for viewing of the recording. No one has a right to obtain a copy of an audio/video recording except that a copy may be released at the request of the student's parent or guardian in a legal proceeding.

The School Board is authorized to accept, administer, and make use of federal, state, and local funds, any public and private grants and donations, and when appropriate, to accept non-monetary resources in the form of services or equipment for use in connection with the installation and operation of audio/video cameras as described in administrative procedures. The use of *Individuals with Disabilities Education Act* (IDEA) funds and State special education funds to implement the requirements of this policy is prohibited. Any

installed cameras must be in compliance with the National Fire Protection Association's Life Safety Code.

Complaints related to audio/video recording, requests for audio/video recording, or use of audio/video recording shall be filed through the School Board's designated representative.

New policy: [DATE]
Revised: [DATE]
Revised: _____ 2026

Ref: La. Rev. Stat. Ann. §17:1948; Board minutes, _____.