

## EMPLOYEES

### Series 400

- 400 Role of and Guiding Principles for Employees
- 401 Employees and Internal Relations
  - 401.1 Equal Employment Opportunity
  - 401.2 Employee Conflict of Interest
  - 401.3 Nepotism
  - 401.4 Employee Complaints
  - 401.5 Employee Records
    - 401.5R1 Employee Records Regulation
  - 401.6 Limitation to Employment References
  - 401.7 Employee Travel Compensation
  - 401.8 Recognition for Service of Employees
  - 401.9 Employee Political Activity
  - 401.10 Credit Cards and Procurement Cards
  - 401.11 Employee Orientation
  - 401.12 Employee Use of Cell Phones
    - 401.12R1 Employee Use of Cell Phones Regulation
  - 401.13 Staff Technology Use/Social Networking
    - 401.13R1 Staff Technology Use/Social Networking Regulation
- 402 Employees and Outside Relations
  - 402.1 Release of Credit Information
  - 402.2 Child Abuse Reporting
  - 402.3 Abuse of Students by School District Employees
  - 402.4 Gifts to Employees
  - 402.6 Employee Outside Employment
- 403 Employees' Health and Well-Being
  - 403.1 Employee Physical Examinations
  - 403.2 Employee Injury on the Job
  - 403.3 Communicable Diseases - Employees
    - 403.3E1 Hepatitis B Vaccine Information and Record
    - 403.3R1 Universal Precautions Regulation
  - 403.4 Hazardous Chemical Disclosure
  - 403.5 Substance-Free Workplace
    - 403.5E1 Substance-Free Workplace Notice to Employees
    - 403.5R1 Substance-Free Workplace Regulation
  - 403.6 Drug and Alcohol Testing Program
    - 403.6E1 Drug and Alcohol Testing Program Notice to Employees
    - 403.6E2 Drug and Alcohol Testing Program Acknowledgment Form
    - 403.6E3 Drug and Alcohol Pre-Employment Testing Written Consent to Share Information
- 404 Employee Conduct and Appearance
  - 404.R1 Code Of Professional Conduct And Ethics Regulation
  - 404.R2 Code of Rights and Responsibilities Regulation

- 405 Licensed Employees - General
  - 405.1 Licensed Employee Defined
  - 405.2 Licensed Employee Qualifications, Recruitment, Selection
  - 405.3 Licensed Employee Individual Contracts
  - 405.4 Licensed Employee Continuing Contracts
  - 405.5 Licensed Employee Work Day
  - 405.6 Licensed Employee Assignment
  - 405.7 Licensed Employee Transfers
  - 405.8 Licensed Employee Evaluation
  - 405.9 Licensed Employee Probationary Status
  
- 406 Licensed Employee Compensation and Benefits
  - 406.1 Licensed Employee Compensation
  - 406.2 Licensed Employee Compensation Advancement
  - 406.3 Licensed Employee Continued Education Credit
  - 406.4 Licensed Employee Compensation for Extra Duty
  - 406.5 Licensed Employee Group Insurance Benefits
  - 406.6 Licensed Employee Tax Shelter Programs
  
- 407 Licensed Employee Termination of Employment
  - 407.1 Licensed Employee Resignation
  - 407.2 Licensed Employee Contract Release
  - 407.3 Licensed Employee Retirement
  - 407.4 Licensed Employee Suspension
  - 407.5 Licensed Employee Reduction in Force
  
- 408 Licensed Employee Professional Growth
  - 408.1 Licensed Employee Professional Development
  - 408.2 Licensed Employee Publication or Creation of Materials
  - 408.3 Licensed Employee Tutoring
  
- 409 Employee Vacations and Leaves of Absence
  - 409.1 Employee Vacation - Holidays
  - 409.2 Employee Leave of Absence
  - 409.3 Licensed Employee Family and Medical Leave
    - 409.3E1 Licensed Employee Family and Medical Leave Notice to Employees
    - 409.3E2 Licensed Employee Family and Medical Leave Request Form
    - 409.3R1 Licensed Employee Family and Medical Leave Regulation
    - 409.3R2 Licensed Employee Family and Medical Leave Definitions
  
- 410 Other Licensed Employee
  - 410.1 Substitute Teachers
  - 410.2 Summer School Licensed Employees
  - 410.4 Education Associate

- 411 Classified Employees - General
  - 411.1 Classified Employee Defined
  - 411.2 Classified Employee Qualifications, Recruitment, Selection
  - 411.3 Classified Employee Letter of Assignment
  - 411.4 Classified Employee Licensing/Certification
  - 411.5 Classified Employee Assignment
  - 411.6 Classified Employee Transfers
  - 411.7 Classified Employee Evaluation
  - 411.8 Classified Employee Probationary Status
  
- 412 Classified Employee Compensation and Benefits
  - 412.1 Classified Employee Compensation
  - 412.2 Classified Employee Wage and Overtime Compensation
  - 412.3 Classified Employee Group Benefits
  - 412.4 Classified Employee Tax Shelter Programs
  
- 413 Classified Employee Termination of Employment
  - 413.1 Classified Employee Resignation
  - 413.2 Classified Employee Retirement
  - 413.3 Classified Employee Suspension
  - 413.4 Classified Employee Dismissal
  - 413.5 Classified Employee Reduction in Force
  
- 414 Classified Employee Vacations and Leaves of Absence
  - 414.1 Classified Employee Professional Purpose Leave

## ROLE OF AND GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR EMPLOYEES

This series of the board policy manual is devoted to the board's goals and objectives for employees in the performance of their jobs. Employees provide a variety of important services for the children of the school district community. They may be teaching or assisting in the classroom, working in the office, maintaining the facilities, driving or repairing the school buses, or cooking lunches. Each employee plays a vital role in providing an equal opportunity for a quality education for students commensurate with the students' individual needs. While the teachers have the most direct impact on the formal instruction of students, all employees have an impact on the school environment by their dedication to their work and their actions. As role models for the students, employees shall promote a cooperative, enthusiastic, and supportive learning environment for the students.

In striving to achieve a quality education program, the board's goal is to obtain and retain qualified and effective employees. The board shall have complete discretion to determine the number, the qualifications, and the duties of the positions and the school district's standards of acceptable performance. It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent to make recommendations to the board in these areas prior to board action. The board recognizes its duty to bargain collectively with duly certified collective bargaining units. To the extent a group of employees has a recognized collective bargaining unit, the provisions of the master contract regarding such topics shall prevail.

Board policies in this series relating to general employees shall apply to employees regardless of their position as a licensed employee, classified employee, substitute or administrator. Board policies relating to licensed employees will apply to positions that require a teaching license or administrator's certificate or other professional license, certificate or endorsement, unless administrative positions are specifically excluded from the policy or a more specific policy is in the 300 series, Administration. Classified employees' policies included in this series will apply to positions that do not fall within the definition of licensed employee.

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Reviewed October 8, 2012  
June 10, 2019  
March 8, 2021

Revised April 12, 2021

## EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The St. Ansgar Community School District will provide equal opportunity to employees and applicants for employment in accordance with applicable equal employment opportunity and affirmative action laws, directives and regulations of federal, state and local governing bodies. Opportunity to all employees and applicants for employment includes hiring, placement, promotion, transfer or demotion, recruitment, advertising or solicitation for employment, treatment during employment, rates of pay or other forms of compensation, and layoff or termination. The school district will take affirmative action in major job categories where women, men, minorities and persons with disabilities are underrepresented. Employees will support and comply with the district's established equal employment opportunity and affirmative action policies. Employees will be given notice of this policy annually.

The board will appoint an affirmative action coordinator. The affirmative action coordinator will have the responsibility for drafting the affirmative action plan. The affirmative action plan will be reviewed by the board at least every two years.

Individuals who file an application with the school district will be given consideration for employment if they meet or exceed the qualifications set by the board, administration, and Iowa Department of Education for the position for which they apply. In employing individuals, the board will consider the qualifications, credentials, and records of the applicants without regard to race, color, creed, sex, national origin, religion, age, sexual orientation, gender identity or disability. In keeping with the law the board will consider the veteran status of applicants.

Prior to a final offer of employment for any teaching position the school district will perform the background checks required by law. The district may determine on a case-by-case basis that, based on the duties, other positions within the district will also require background checks. Based upon the results of the background checks, the school district will determine whether an offer will be extended. If the candidate is a teacher who has an initial license from the BOEE, then the requirement for a background check is waived.

Advertisements and notices for vacancies within the district will contain the following statement: "The St. Ansgar Community School District is an EEO/AA employer." The statement will also appear on application forms.

Inquiries by employees or applicants for employment regarding compliance with equal employment opportunity and affirmative action laws and policies, including but not limited to complaints of discrimination, will be directed to the Affirmative Action Coordinator by writing to the Affirmative Action Coordinator, St. Ansgar Community School District, 206 East 8<sup>th</sup> Street, St. Ansgar, IA 50472; or by telephoning (641) 713-4720.

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## EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Inquiries by employees or applicants for employment regarding compliance with equal employment opportunity and affirmative action laws and policies, including but not limited to complaints of discrimination, may also be directed in writing to the Equal Employment Opportunity Commissions, Milwaukee Area Office, Reuss Federal Plaza, 310 West Wisconsin Ave., Suite 00, Milwaukee, WI., 53203-2292, (900) 669-4000 or TTY (800)669-6820. <http://www.eeoc.gov/field/milwaukee/index.cfm> or the Iowa Civil Rights Commission, 400 E. 14<sup>th</sup> Street, Des Moines, Iowa, 50319-1004, (515) 281-4121 or 1-800-457-4416, <http://www.state.ia.us/government/erc/index.html>. This inquiry or complaint to the federal office may be done instead of, or in addition to, an inquiry or complaint at the local level.

Further information and copies of the procedures for filing a complaint are available in the school district's central administrative office and the administrative office in each attendance center.

Legal Reference: 29 U.S.C. §§ 621-634  
42 U.S.C. §§ 2000e *et seq.*  
42 U.S.C. §§ 12101 *et seq.*  
Iowa Code §§ 19B; 20; 35C; 73; 216; 279.8;  
281 I.A.C. 12.4; 95.

Cross Reference: 102 Equal Educational Opportunity  
104 Anti Bullying/Anti Harassment  
405.2 Licensed Employee Qualifications, Recruitment, Selection  
411.2 Classified Employee Qualifications, Recruitment, Selection

## EMPLOYEE CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Employees' use of their position with the school district for financial gain is considered a conflict of interest with their position as employees and may subject employees to disciplinary action.

Employees have access to information and a captive audience that could award the employee personal or financial gain. No employee may solicit other employees or students for personal or financial gain to the employee without the approval of the superintendent. If the approval of the superintendent is given, the employee must conduct the solicitations within the conditions set by the superintendent. Further, the superintendent may, upon five days' notice, require the employee to cease such solicitations as a condition of continued employment.

Employees will not act as an agent or dealer for the sale of textbooks or other school supply companies doing business with the school district. Employees will not participate for personal financial remuneration in outside activities wherein their position on the staff is used to sell goods or services to students or to parents. Employees will not engage in outside work or activities where the source of information concerning the customer, client or employer originates from information obtained because of the employee's position in the school district.

It will also be a conflict of interest for an employee to engage in any outside employment or activity which is in conflict with the employee's official duties and responsibilities. In determining whether outside employment or activity of an employee creates a conflict of interest, situations in which an unacceptable conflict of interest is deemed to exist will include, but not be limited to, any of the following:

- (1) The outside employment or activity involves the use of the school district's time, facilities, equipment and supplies or the use of the school district's badge, uniform, business card or other evidences of office to give the employee or the employee's immediate family an advantage or pecuniary benefit that is not available to other similarly situated members or classes of members of the general public. For purposes of this section, a person is not "similarly situated" merely by being related to an employee who is employed by the school district.
- (2) The outside employment or activity involves the receipt of, promise of, or acceptance of more or other consideration by the employee or a member of the employee's immediate family from anyone other than the school district for the performance of any act that the employee would be required or expected to perform as part of the employee's regular duties or during the hours during which the employee performs service or work for the school district.
- (3) The outside employment or activity is subject to the official control, inspection, review, audit, or enforcement authority of the employee during the performance of the employee's duties.

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April 12, 2021

## EMPLOYEE CONFLICT OF INTEREST

If the outside employment or activity is employment or activity in (1) or (2) above, the employee must cease the employment of or activity. If the activity or employment falls under (3), then the employee must:

- Cease the outside employment or activity; or
- Publicly disclose the existence of the conflict and refrain from taking any official action or performing any official duty that would detrimentally affect or create a benefit for the outside employment or activity. Official action or official duty includes, but is not limited to, participating in any vote, taking affirmative action to influence any vote, or providing any other official service or thing that is not available generally to members of the public in order to further the interests of the outside employment or activity.

When the procurement is supported by the Federal Child Nutrition funds, employees will not participate in the selection, award, or administration of a contract if there is a real or apparent conflict of interest in the contract. Contract, for the purpose of this paragraph, includes a contract where the employee, employee's immediate family, partner, or a non-school district employer of these individuals is a party to the contract.

It shall be the responsibility of each employee to be aware of and take the necessary action to eliminate a potential conflict of interest should it arise.

Legal Reference: 7 C.F.R. 3016.36(3)  
Iowa Code §§ 20.7; 68B; 279.8; 301.28 ~~(2011)~~.

Cross Reference: 203 Board of Directors' Conflict of Interest  
402.4 Gifts to Employees  
402.7 Employee's Outside Employment  
404 Employee Conduct and Appearance

NEPOTISM

More than one family member may be an employee of the school district. It is within the discretion of the superintendent to allow one family member employed by the school district to supervise another family member employed by the school district subject to the approval of the board.

The employment of more than one individual in a family is on the basis of their qualifications, credentials and records.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 20; 71; 277.27; 279.8 ~~(2011)~~.

Cross Reference: 405.2 Licensed Employee Qualifications, Recruitment Selection  
411.2 Classified Employee Qualifications, Recruitment Selection

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March 8, 2021

## EMPLOYEE COMPLAINTS

Complaints of employees against fellow employees should be discussed directly between employees. If necessary, complaints shall be brought directly to the immediate supervisor, principal or superintendent and will be made in a constructive and professional manner. Complaints will never be made in the presence of other employees, students or outside persons.

A formal grievance procedure is contained in the master contract between the employee's licensed bargaining unit and the board. This policy shall not apply to a complaint that has been or could be filed at the employee's discretion under that formal grievance procedure.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 20.7, .9; 279.8 (2011).

Cross Reference: 217.2 Board of Directors and Employees  
309 Communication Channels

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## EMPLOYEE RECORDS

The school district shall maintain personnel records on employees. The records are important for the daily administration of the educational program, for implementing board policy, for budget and financial planning, and for meeting state and federal requirements.

The records shall include, but not be limited to, records necessary for the daily administration of the school district, salary records, evaluations, application for employment, references, and other items needed to carry out board policy. Employee personnel files are school district records and are considered confidential records and therefore are not generally open to public inspection or accessibility. Only in certain limited instances, when the employee has given a signed consent, will employee personnel records be accessible to individuals other than the employee or authorized school officials.

Employees may have access to their personnel files, with the exception of letters of reference, and copy items from their personnel files at a time mutually agreed upon between the superintendent and the employee. The school district may charge a reasonable fee for each copy. However, employees will not be allowed access to the employment references written on behalf of the employee. Board members will generally only have access to an employee's file when it is necessary because of an employee related matter before the board.

It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent to keep employees' personnel files current. The board secretary shall be the custodian of employee records.

It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent to develop administrative regulations for the implementation of this policy.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code chs. 20; 21; 22; 91B

Cross Reference: 402.1 Release of Credit Information  
403 Employees' Health and Well-Being  
708 Care, Maintenance and Disposal of School District Records

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June 10, 2019  
March 8, 2021

Revised April 12, 2021

## EMPLOYEE RECORDS REGULATION

Employee Personnel Records Content

1. Employee personnel records may contain the following information:
  - Personal information including, but not limited to, name, address, telephone number, emergency numbers, birth date and spouse.
  - Individual employment contract.
  - Evaluations.
  - Application, resume and references.
  - Salary information.
  - Copy of the employee's license or certificate, if needed for the position.
  - Educational transcripts.
  - Assignment.
  - Records of disciplinary matters.
  
2. Employee health and medical records shall be kept in a file separate from the employee's personnel records. Health and medical records may contain, but are not limited to:
  - Medical professional signed physical form.
  - Sick or long-term disability leave days.
  - Worker's compensation claims.
  - Reasonable accommodation made by the school district to accommodate the employee's disability.
  - Employee's medical history.
  - Employee emergency names and numbers.
  - Family and medical leave request forms.
  
3. The following are considered public personnel records available for inspection:
  - The name and compensation of the individual, including any written agreement establishing compensation or any other terms of employment, except for that information that is otherwise protected. "Compensation" includes the value of benefits conferred including, but not limited to: casualty, disability, life or health insurance, other health or wellness benefits, vacation, holiday and sick leave, severance payments, retirement benefits and deferred compensation;
  - The dates the individual was employed by the government body;
  - The positions the individual holds or has held with the government body;
  - The educational institutions attended by the individual, including any diplomas and degrees earned, and the names of the individual's previous employers, positions previously held and dates of previous employment;
  - The fact that the individual was discharged as the result of a final disciplinary action upon the exhaustion of all applicable contractual, legal and statutory remedies; and,
  - Personal information in confidential personnel records of government bodies relating to student employees shall only be released pursuant to the Family Educational Privacy Rights Act (FERPA.)

## EMPLOYEE RECORDS REGULATION

### Applicant File Records Content

Records on applicants for positions with the school district shall be maintained in the central administration office. The records shall include, but not be limited to:

- Application for employment.
- Resume.
- References.
- Evidence of appropriate license or certificate, if necessary for the position for which the individual applied.
- Affirmative action form, if submitted.

### Record Access

Only authorized school officials shall have access to an employee's records without the written consent of the employee. Authorized school officials may include, but not be limited to, the superintendent, building principal, or board secretary. In the case of a medical emergency, the ~~first-aid~~ ***school nurse*** or safety personnel may have access to the employee's health or medical file without the consent of the employee. Board members will generally only have access to an employee's personnel file without the consent of the employee when necessary for the conducting of board business.

### Employee Record Retention

All employee records, except payroll and salary records, shall be maintained for a minimum of one year after termination of employment with the district. Applicant records shall be maintained for minimum of one year after the position was filled. Payroll and salary records shall be maintained for a minimum of three years after payment.

## LIMITATIONS TO EMPLOYMENT REFERENCES

The district believes in taking appropriate measures to promote the health and welfare of all students. Any school employee, contractor, or agent shall not assist another school employee, contractor, or agent in obtaining a new job, apart from the routine transmission of administrative personnel files, if the individual or agency knows, or has probable cause to believe, that such school employee, contractor, or agent engaged in sexual misconduct regarding a minor or student in violation of the law.

This limitation does not apply if the matter has been properly reported to law enforcement and any other regulatory authorities required by law, and either:

- the matter has been officially closed by the law enforcement agency;
- the individual is acquitted or otherwise exonerated of the alleged misconduct; or
- more than four years has passed since the case was opened, and no charges or indictment have been filed.

### Legal References:

[20 U.S.C. §7926](#)

[281 I.A.C. 12.3\(14\)](#)

### Cross References:

[401.5](#) Employee Records

[402.2](#) Child Abuse Reporting

[402.3](#) Abuse of Students by School District Employees

[405.2](#) Licensed Employee Qualifications, Recruitment, Selection

[411.2](#) Classified Employee Qualifications, Recruitment, Selection

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Reviewed March 8, 2021

Revised

## EMPLOYEE TRAVEL COMPENSATION

Employees traveling on behalf of the school district and performing approved school district business will be reimbursed for their actual and necessary expenses. Actual and necessary travel expenses will include, but not be limited to, transportation and/or mileage costs, lodging expenses, meal expenses and registration costs.

Travel Outside the School District

Travel outside of the school district must be pre-approved. Pre-approval shall include an evaluation of the necessity of the travel, the reason for the travel and an estimate of the cost of the travel to qualify as approved school district business. Travel outside the school district by employees, other than the superintendent, is pre-approved by the superintendent or an immediate supervisor.

Reimbursement for actual and necessary expenses may be allowed for travel outside the school district if the employee received pre-approval for the travel. Prior to reimbursement of actual and necessary expenses, the employee must provide the school district with a detailed, itemized receipt, indicating the date, purpose and nature of the expense for each claim item. In exceptional circumstances, the superintendent may allow a claim without proper receipt. Written documentation explaining the exceptional circumstances is maintained as part of the school district's record of the claim.

Failure to have a detailed, itemized receipt will make the expense a personal expense. Personal expenses, including mileage, in excess of that required for the trip are reimbursed by the employee to the school district no later than 10 working days following the date of the expense.

Reimbursement for actual and necessary expenses for travel outside the school district will be limited to the pre-approved expenses. Pre-approved expenses for registration are limited to the actual cost of the registration.

Pre-approved expenses for transportation within three-hundred miles of the school district administrative office will be by automobile. If a school district vehicle is not available, the employee will be reimbursed at the Internal Revenue Service standard mileage rate. Travel to/from home and work is never a reimbursable travel expense.

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June 10, 2019  
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April 12, 2021

## EMPLOYEE TRAVEL COMPENSATION

Pre-approved expenses for meals within the state are limited to \$10 for breakfast, \$ 12 for lunch and \$15 for dinner. Pre-approved expenses for meals outside the state are limited to \$10 for breakfast, \$12 for lunch and \$15 for dinner. (Meals may be pre-approved for a larger amount by the board.)

### Travel Within the School District

Employees required to travel in their personal vehicle between school district buildings to carry out the duties of their position may be reimbursed at the Internal Revenue Service standard mileage rate. It is the responsibility of the superintendent to approve travel within the school district by employees. It is the responsibility of the board to review the travel within the school district by the superintendent through the board's audit and approval process.

Travel allowances within the district will be provided only after board approval. Employees who are allowed an in-school district travel allowance will have the amount of the allowance actually received during each calendar year included on the employee's W-2 form as taxable income according to the Internal Revenue Code.

### Use of District-Owned Vehicles

Certain district employment positions may require regular and extensive travel. Due to the required duties of these positions, the district may provide certain positions with use of district-owned vehicles. Employees who utilize district-owned vehicles during the course of their job duties are fulfilling the public purpose of meeting the needs of the educational community in an efficient, and time-sensitive manner. District-owned vehicles are purchased and maintained with public money and must be used strictly in accordance with fulfilling a public purpose. These vehicles represent the district in carrying out its educational mission. Therefore, district-owned vehicles will be clearly marked at all times to identify the district.

The superintendent shall be responsible for developing administrative regulations regarding actual and necessary expenses, in-school district travel allowances and assignment of school district vehicles. The administrative regulations shall include the appropriate forms to be filed for reimbursement to the employee from the school district and the procedures for obtaining approval for travel outside of and within the school district.

Legal Reference: Iowa Constitution, Art. III, § 31.  
Iowa Code §§ 70A.9-.11 (2011).

Cross Reference: 219.3 Board of Directors' Member Compensation and Expenses  
401.16 Credit Cards  
905.1 Transporting Students in Private Vehicles

RECOGNITION FOR SERVICE OF EMPLOYEES

The board recognizes and appreciates the service of its employees. Employees who retire or resign may be honored by the board, administration and staff in an appropriate manner.

If the form of honor thought appropriate by the administration and employees involves unusual expense to the school district, the superintendent shall seek prior approval from the board.

Legal Reference: Iowa Const. Art. III, § 31.  
Iowa Code § 279.8 (2011).

Cross Reference: 407 Licensed Employee Termination of Employment  
413 Support Employee Termination of Employment

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Reviewed October 8, 2012  
June 10, 2019  
March 8, 2021

Revised April 12, 2021

EMPLOYEE POLITICAL ACTIVITY

Employees will not engage in political activity upon property under the jurisdiction of the board including the use of school district e-mail accounts. Activities including, but not limited to, posting of political circulars or petitions, the distribution of political circulars or petitions, the collection of or solicitation for campaign funds, solicitation for campaign workers, general information regarding elections or ballot issues and the use of students for writing or addressing political materials, or the distribution of such materials to or by students are specifically prohibited.

Violation of this policy may be grounds for disciplinary action.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 55; 279.8 (2011).

Cross Reference: 409.6 Licensed Employee Political Leave  
414.6 Support Employee Political Leave

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## CREDIT AND PROCUREMENT CARDS

Employees may use school district credit cards and/or procurement cards (p-cards) for the actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of work-related duties. Actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of work-related duties include, but are not limited to travel expenses related to professional development or fulfillment of required job duties, fuel for school district transportation vehicles used for transporting students to and from school and for school-sponsored events, payment of claims related to professional development of the board and employees, and other expenses required by employees and the board in the performance of their duties.

Employees and officers using a school district credit or procurement card must submit a detailed, itemized receipt in addition to a credit or procurement card receipt indicating the date, purpose and nature of the expense for each claim item. Failure to provide a proper receipt will make the employee responsible for expenses incurred. Those expenses are reimbursed to the school district no later than ten working days following use of the school district's credit or procurement card. In exceptional circumstances, the superintendent or board may allow a claim without proper receipt. Written documentation explaining the exceptional circumstances is maintained as part of the school district's record of the claim.

It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent to determine whether the school district credit or procurement card use is for appropriate school business. It is the responsibility of the board to determine through the audit and approval process of the board whether the school district credit or procurement card use by the superintendent and the board is for appropriate school business.

The superintendent is responsible for developing administrative regulations regarding actual and necessary expenses and use of a school district credit or procurement card. The administrative regulations will include the appropriate forms to be filed for obtaining a credit or procurement card.

Legal Reference: Iowa Constitution, Art. III, § 31.  
Iowa Code §§ 279.8, .29, .30  
281 I.A.C. 12.3(1).

Cross Reference: 219.3 Board of Directors' Member Compensation and Expenses  
401.12 Employee Travel Compensation

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EMPLOYEE ORIENTATION

Employees must know their role and duties. New employees may be required to participate in an orientation program for new employees. The employee's immediate supervisor should provide the new employee with a review of the employee's responsibilities and duties. Payroll procedures and employee benefit programs and accompanying forms will be explained to the employee by the (board secretary). Regular employees ineligible for the school district's group health plan will be given information regarding where they can obtain health care or health care insurance.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 20; 279.8 (2011).  
191 I.A.C. 74.

Cross Reference: 404 Employee Conduct and Appearance  
406 Licensed Employee Compensation and Benefits  
412 Support Employee Compensation and Benefits

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Revised April 12, 2021

## EMPLOYEE USE OF CELL PHONES

The use of cell phones and other communication devices may be appropriate to provide for the effective and efficient operation of the school district and to help ensure safety and security of people and property while on school district property or engaged in school-sponsored activities.

The italicized section below is for those boards that have school district-provided cell phones. If your board doesn't have them, this section can be eliminated. If it does, the policy should be amended to reflect local policy and practice. The italics and brackets should also be deleted.

[The Board authorizes the purchase and employee use of cell phones as deemed appropriate by the superintendent. School district-owned cell phones shall be used for authorized school district business purposes, consistent with the school district's mission and goals.

Use of cell phones in violation of board policies, administrative regulations, and/or state/federal laws will result in discipline, up to and including dismissal, and referral to law enforcement officials, as appropriate.

The superintendent is directed to develop administrative regulations for the implementation of this policy, including a uniform and controlled system for identifying employee cell phone needs, monitoring use and reimbursement. Provisions may also be included for staff use of privately owned cell phone for authorized school district business.]

Employees may possess and use cell phones during the school day as outlined in this policy and as provided in the administrative regulation developed by the superintendent. Employees should not use cell phones for personal business while on-duty, including staff development times, parent-teacher conferences, etc., except in the case of an emergency or during prep time or break/lunch times. Employees, except for bus drivers, see below, are prohibited from using cell phones while driving except in the case of an emergency and any such use must comply with applicable state and federal law and district policies and regulations.

Legal References: Internal Revenue Comment Notice, 2009-46, [http://www.irs.gov/irb/2009-23\\_IRB/ar07.html](http://www.irs.gov/irb/2009-23_IRB/ar07.html)  
Iowa Code §§ 279.8; 321.276.

Cross References: 406 Licensed Employee Compensation and Benefits  
412 Classified Employee Compensation and Benefits  
707.5 Internal Controls

Approved April 12, 2021 Reviewed March 8, 2021 Revised \_\_\_\_\_

## EMPLOYEE USE OF CELL PHONES

Cell phones are not to be used for conversations involving confidential student or employee information.  
[School district-provided cell phones devices are not to be loaned to others.]

School bus drivers are prohibited from using any communication device while operating the bus except in the case of an emergency, or to call for assistance, after the vehicle has been stopped. Any such use must comply with applicable state and federal law and district policies and regulations.

Cell Phone Allowance [for districts who utilize an allowance rather than supply district-owned devices]

Certain positions within the district may require the regular use of cell phones to conduct district business. These employees may purchase and/or maintain cell phones and related equipment, at their own expense, to make themselves accessible to the district and to conduct district business more efficiently. The superintendent has discretion to determine which district positions qualify for a cell phone allowance. The monthly cell phone allowance amount shall be established by the superintendent and/or the board. Employees who utilize their personal cell phones shall do so in accordance with this policy and accompanying procedures. The cell phone allowance is neither permanent nor guaranteed. The district reserves the right to rescind the allowance at any time for a violation of district policy or regulation or for any other reason.

Employees violating the policy will be subject to discipline, up to and including, discharge. It is the responsibility of the superintendent to develop administrative regulations regarding this policy.

## EMPLOYEE USE OF CELL PHONES REGULATION

### Cell phone Usage

1. Cell phones shall be used in a manner that does not disrupt instruction and should not be used during school-sponsored programs, meetings, in-services, or other events where there exists a reasonable expectation of quiet attentiveness unless there is a reason of personal health or safety involved.
2. Cell phones should not be used to transmit confidential student or personal information either verbally or written.
3. Employees are prohibited from using a cell phone while driving as part of their work duties, unless in the case of an emergency, unless the vehicle has come to a complete stop and the gear is in park.

[The following are recommended for those school districts that have district-provided cell phones.

4. Cell phones are provided specifically to carry out official school district business when other means of communications are not readily available. These devices may not be used for routine personal communications..
5. Personal use of school district-provided cell phones is limited to making or receiving calls for emergency and/or incidental purposes. Whenever possible, such calls should be made or received on school district or other public telephones.
6. Employees issued a cell phone are responsible for its safekeeping at all times. Defective, lost or stolen cell phones are to be reported immediately to the superintendent who will in turn notify the service provider. Reckless or irresponsible use of school district equipment, resulting in loss or damage may result in the employee having to reimburse the school district for any associated costs of replacement or repair.
7. Cell phones and any other school district issued communication equipment issued for employees are to be returned to the board secretary at the conclusion of the school year, activity or as otherwise specified or immediately upon request.

Cell Phone Authorization - School district-provided cell phones may be purchased and authorized for staff use in accordance with the following guidelines:

## EMPLOYEE USE OF CELL PHONES REGULATION

Cell phones may be assigned or made available on a temporary basis, by the superintendent, when it is determined:

1. The assignment of a cell phone device to the employee is a prudent use of school district resources;
2. The employee's job responsibilities requires the ability to communicate frequently outside of district property and/or regular district hours.
3. The employee's job involves situations where immediate communication is necessary to ensure the safety of individuals and security of school district property.

### Cell Phone Business Procedures

School district employees may be reimbursed for use of privately owned cell phones to conduct school district business in accordance with board policy and this regulation, with prior approval of the superintendent.

1. Requests for reimbursement for authorized use of employee owned cell phones are to be submitted on school district provided forms accompanied by a copy of the billing statement with the school district business related calls highlighted. A notation for each highlighted entry, indicating the nature of the call is required. The employee's immediate supervisor must sign-off on the billing statement verifying the calls were school district business related. School district reimbursement for authorized use of employee owned cell phones will be made in conformance with school district payment procedures. Requests for reimbursement, including the highlighted billing statement must be submitted within thirty (30) days of the end of the time period for which reimbursement is requested. Requests submitted after the reimbursement deadline has passed will be denied.

## STAFF TECHNOLOGY USE/SOCIAL NETWORKING

Computers, electronic devices and other technology are a powerful and valuable education and research tools and, as such, are an important part of the instructional program. In addition, the school district depends upon technology as an integral part of administering and managing the schools' resources, including the compilation of data and recordkeeping for personnel, students, finances, supplies and materials. This policy outlines the board's expectations in regard to these different aspects of the school district's computer resources. Employees must conduct themselves in a manner that does not disrupt from or disrupt the educational process and failure to do so will result in discipline, up to and including, discharge.

### General Provisions

The superintendent is responsible for designating a Technology Committee and Director who will oversee the use of school district technology resources. The Technology Committee will prepare in-service programs for the training and development of school district staff in technology skills, appropriate use of district technology and for the incorporation of technology use in subject areas.

The superintendent, working with appropriate staff, shall establish regulations governing the use and security of the school district's technology resources. The school district will make every reasonable effort to maintain the security of district networks and devices. All users of the school district's technology resources, including students, staff and volunteers, shall comply with this policy and regulation, as well as others impacting the use of school equipment and facilities. Failure to comply may result in disciplinary action, up to and including discharge, as well as suspension and/or revocation of technology access privileges.

Usage of the school district's technology resources is a privilege, not a right, and that use entails responsibility. District-owned technology; and district maintained social media and e-mail accounts are the property of the school district. Therefore, users of the school district's network must not expect, nor does the school district guarantee, privacy for e-mail or use of the school district's network including web sites visited. The school district reserves the right to access and view any material stored on school district equipment or any material used in conjunction with the school district's network.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code § 279.8 281 I.A.C. 13.35, .26

Cross Reference: 104 Anti-Bullying/Harassment  
307 Administrator Code of Ethics  
401.11 Employee Orientation  
407 Licensed Employee Termination of Employment  
413 Classified Employee Termination of Employment  
605 Instructional Materials

Approved \_\_\_\_\_

Reviewed January 20, 2020  
March 8, 2021

Revised February, 10, 2020  
April 12, 2021

## STAFF TECHNOLOGY USE/SOCIAL NETWORKING

The superintendent, working with the appropriate staff, shall establish procedures governing management of technology records in order to exercise appropriate control over records, including financial, personnel and student information. The procedures will address at a minimum:

- passwords,
- system administration,
- separation of duties,
- remote access,
- data back-up (including archiving of e-mail),
- record retention, and
- disaster recovery plans

### Social Networking or Other External Web Sites

For purposes of this policy any web site, other than the school district web site or school-school district sanctioned web sites, are considered external web sites. Employees shall not post confidential or proprietary information, including photographic images, about the school district, its employees, students, agents or others on any external web site without consent of the superintendent. The employee shall adhere to all applicable privacy and confidentiality policies adopted by the school district when on external web sites. Employees shall not use the school district logos, images, iconography, etc. on external web sites. Employees shall not use school district time or property on external sites that are not in direct-relation to the employee's job. Employees, students and volunteers need to realize that the Internet is not a closed system and anything posted on an external site may be viewed by others, all over the world. Employees, students and volunteers who don't want school administrators to know their personal information, should refrain from exposing it on the Internet. Employees should not connect with students via external web sites, without consent of the superintendent. Employees, who would like to start a social media site for school district sanctioned activities, should contact the superintendent.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent to develop administrative regulations implementing this policy.

## STAFF TECHNOLOGY USE/SOCIAL NETWORKING REGULATION

### General

The following rules and regulations govern the use of the school district's network system, employee access to the Internet, and management of digital records:

- Employees will be issued a school district e-mail account. Passwords must be changed periodically.
- Each individual in whose name an access account is issued is responsible at all times for its proper use.
- Employees are expected to review their e-mail regularly throughout the day, and shall reply promptly to inquiries with information that the employee can reasonably be expected to provide.
- Communications with parents and/or students must be made on a school district computer, unless in the case of an emergency.
- Employees may access the Internet for education-related and/or work-related activities.
- Employees shall refrain from using computer resources for personal use, including access to social networking sites.
- Use of the school district technology and school e-mail address is a public record. Employees cannot have an expectation of privacy in the use of the school district's computers.
- Use of technology resources in ways that violate the acceptable use and conduct regulation, outlined below, will be subject to discipline, up to and including discharge.
- Use of the school district's network is a privilege, not a right. Inappropriate use may result in the suspension or revocation of that privilege.
- Off-site access to the school district network will be determined by the superintendent in conjunction with appropriate personnel.
- All network users are expected to abide by the generally accepted rules of network etiquette. This includes being polite and using only appropriate language. Abusive language, vulgarities and swear words are all inappropriate.
- Network users identifying a security problem on the school district's network must notify appropriate staff. Any network user identified as a security risk or having a history of violations of school district computer use guidelines may be denied access to the school district's network.
- Employees are representatives of the district at all times and must model appropriate character, both on and off the worksite. This applies to material posted with personal devices and on personal websites and/or social media accounts. Posted messages or pictures which diminish the professionalism or discredit the capacity to maintain respect of students and parents may result in disciplinary action up to and including termination if the content posted is found to be disruptive to the educational environment and adversely impacts the employee's ability to effectively serve as a role model or perform his/her job duties for the district. The type of material that would affect an employee's ability to serve as an appropriate role model includes, but is not limited to, text or depictions involving hate speech, nudity, obscenity, vulgarity or sexually explicit content. Employee communications with students should be limited as appropriate. If there is any uncertainty, employees should consult their building administrator.

## STAFF TECHNOLOGY USE/SOCIAL NETWORKING REGULATION

### Prohibited Activity and Uses

The following is a list of prohibited activity for all employees concerning use of the school district's network. Any violation of these prohibitions may result in discipline, up to and including discharge, or other appropriate penalty, including suspension or revocation of a user's access to the network.

- Using the network for commercial activity, including advertising, or personal gain.
- Infringing on any copyrights or other intellectual property rights, including copying, installing, receiving, transmitting or making available any copyrighted software on the school district computer network. *See Policy 605.7, Use of Information Resources* for more information.
- Using the network to receive, transmit or make available to others obscene, offensive, or sexually explicit material
  
- Using the network to receive, transmit or make available to others messages that are racist, sexist, and abusive or harassing to others.
- Use of another's account or password.
- Attempting to read, delete, copy or modify the electronic mail (e-mail) of other system users.
- Forging or attempting to forge e-mail messages.
- Engaging in vandalism. Vandalism is defined as any malicious attempt to harm or destroy school district equipment or materials, data of another user of the school district's network or of any of the entities or other networks that are connected to the Internet. This includes, but is not limited to, creating and/or placing a virus on the network.
- Using the network to send anonymous messages or files.
- Revealing the personal address, telephone number or other personal information of oneself or another person.
- Intentionally disrupting network traffic or crashing the network and connected systems.
- Installing personal software or using personal technology on the school district's technology and/or network without the permission of the Technology Director.
- Using the network in a fashion inconsistent with directions from teachers and other staff and generally accepted network etiquette.

### Other Technology Issues

Employees with personal cell phones should avoid using the phones for school district business. Employees should contact students and their parents through school district technology or phone system unless in the case of an emergency or with prior consent of the principal. Employees should not release their cell phone number, personal e-mail address, etc. to students or their parents. Employees, who are coaches or sponsors of activities, may create a text list of students and parents in order to communicate more effectively as long as the texts go to all students and the principal is included in the text.

RELEASE OF CREDIT INFORMATION

The following information will be released to an entity with whom an employee has applied for credit or has obtained credit: title of position, income, and number of years employed. This information will be released without prior written notice to the employee. Confidential information about the employee will be released to an inquiring creditor with a written authorization from the employee.

It shall be the responsibility of the board secretary or superintendent to respond to inquiries from creditors.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 22.7; 279.8 (2011).

Cross Reference: 401.6 Employee Records

Approved July, 2006

Reviewed October 8, 2012  
June 10, 2019  
April 12, 2021

Revised \_\_\_\_\_

## CHILD ABUSE REPORTING

In compliance with state law and to provide protection to victims of child abuse, the board believes incidents of alleged child abuse should be reported to the proper authorities. All licensed school employees, teachers, coaches and paraeducators are mandatory reporters as provided by law and are to report alleged incidents of child abuse they become aware of within the scope of their professional duties.

When a mandatory reporter suspects a student is the victim of child abuse, the mandatory reporter shall make an oral report of the suspected child abuse to the Iowa Department of Human Services within 24 hours of becoming aware of the abusive incident and shall make a written report to the Iowa Department of Human services within 48 hours following the oral report. If the mandatory reporter believes the child is in immediate danger, the local law enforcement agency shall also be notified.

Within six months of their initial employment, mandatory reporters will take a two-hour training course involving the identification and reporting of child abuse, or submit evidence they've taken the course within the previous three years. After July 1, 2019, employees who have previously taken mandatory reporter training will be required to take the two-hour training course before the expiration of their current training certificate. Once the training course has been taken, the certificate will remain valid for three years. Employees who have taken the post-July 1, 2019 two-hour training course will take the one-hour follow up training course every three years and prior to the expiration of their certificate.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 232.67-.77; 232A; 235A; 280.17 441 I.A.C. 9.2; 155; 175.

Cross Reference: 402.3 Abuse of Students by School District Employees  
502.11 Interviews of Students by Outside Agencies  
507 Student Health and Well-Being

Approved July, 2006

Reviewed October 8, 2012  
June 10, 2019  
January 20, 2020  
April 12, 2021

Revised February 10, 2020

## ABUSE OF STUDENTS BY SCHOOL DISTRICT EMPLOYEES

Physical or sexual abuse of students, including inappropriate and intentional sexual behavior, by employees will not be tolerated. The definition of employees for the purpose of this policy includes not only those who work for pay but also those who are volunteers of the school district under the direction and control of the school district. Employees found in violation of this policy will be subject to disciplinary action up to and including discharge.

The school district will respond promptly to allegations of abuse of students by school district employees by investigating or arranging for the investigation of an allegation. The processing of a complaint or allegation will be handled confidentially to the maximum extent possible. Employees are required to assist in the investigation when requested to provide information and to maintain the confidentiality of the reporting and investigation process.

The school district has appointed a Level I investigator and alternate Level I investigator. The school district has also arranged for a trained, experienced professional to serve as the Level II investigator. The Level I investigator and alternate will be provided training in the conducting of an investigation at the expense of the school district. The names of the investigators are listed in the student handbook, published annually in the local newspaper and posted in all school facilities.

The superintendent is responsible for drafting administrative regulations to implement this policy.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 232.67, .70, .73, .75; 235A; 272A; 280.17; 709; 728.12(1)  
281 I.A.C. 12.3(6), 102; 103.  
441 I.A.C. 155; 175.

Cross Reference: 104 Bullying/Harassment  
402.2 Child Abuse Reporting  
503.5 Corporal Punishment

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June 10, 2019  
March 8, 2021

Revised April 12, 2021

## GIFTS TO EMPLOYEES

Employees may receive a gift on behalf of the school district. Employees will not, either directly or indirectly, solicit, accept or receive any gift, series of gifts or an honorarium unless the donor does not meet the definition of "restricted donor" stated below or the gift or honorarium does not meet the definition of gift or honorarium stated below.

A "restricted donor" is defined as a person or other entity which:

- Is seeking to be, or is a party to, any one or any combination of sales, purchases, leases or contracts to, from or with the school district;
- Will be directly and substantially affected financially by the performance or nonperformance of the employee's official duty in a way that is greater than the effect on the public generally or on a substantial class of persons to which the person belongs as a member of a profession, occupation, industry or region; or,
- Is a lobbyist or a client of a lobbyist with respect to matters within the school district's jurisdiction.

A "gift" is the giving of anything of value in return for which something of equal or greater value is not given or received. However, "gift" does not include any of the following:

- Contributions to a candidate or a candidate's committee;
- Information material relevant to an employee's official function, such as books, pamphlets, reports, documents, periodicals or other information that is recorded in a written, audio or visual format;
- Anything received from a person related within the fourth degree by kinship or marriage, unless the donor is acting as an agent or intermediary for another person not so related;
- An inheritance;
- Anything available or distributed to the general public free of charge without regard to the official status of the employee;
- Items received from a charitable, professional, educational or business organization to which the employee belongs as a dues paying member if the items are given to all members of the organization without regard to an individual member's status or positions held outside of the organization and if the dues paid are not inconsequential when compared to the items received;
- Actual expenses of an employee for food, beverages, travel and lodging for a meeting, which is given in return for participation in a panel or speaking engagement at the meeting when the expenses relate directly to the day or days on which the employee has participation or presentation responsibilities;
- Plaques or items of negligible resale value given as recognition for public service;
- Nonmonetary items with a value of less than three dollars that are received from any one donor during one calendar day;

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June 10, 2019  
March 8, 2021

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## GIFTS TO EMPLOYEES

- Items or services received by members or representatives of members as part of a regularly scheduled event that is part of a business or educational conference, seminar or other meeting that is sponsored and directed by any state, national or regional government organization in which the state of Iowa or a political subdivision of the state of Iowa is a member or received at such an event by members or representatives of members of state, national or regional government organizations whose memberships and officers are primarily composed of state or local government officials or employees;
- Funeral flowers or memorials to a church or nonprofit organization;
- Gifts which are given to an employee for the employee's wedding or twenty-fifth or fiftieth wedding anniversary;
- Payment of salary or expenses by the school district for the cost of attending a meeting of a subunit of an agency when the employee whose expenses are being paid serves on a board, commission, committee, council or other subunit of the agency and the employee is not entitled to receive compensation or reimbursement of expenses from the school district for attending the meeting; or
- Gifts other than food, beverages, travel and lodging received by an employee which are received from a person who is a citizen of a country other than the United States and is given during a ceremonial presentation or as a result of a custom of the other country and is of personal value only to the employee.
- Actual registration costs for informational meetings or sessions which assist a public official or public employee in the performance of the person's official functions. The costs of food, drink, lodging and travel are not "registration costs" under this paragraph. Meetings or sessions which a public official or public employee attends for personal or professional licensing purposes are not "informational meetings or sessions which assist a public official or public employee in the performance of the person's official functions" under this paragraph.

An "honorarium" is anything of value that is accepted by, or on behalf of, an employee as consideration for an appearance, speech or article. An honorarium does not include any of the following:

- Actual expenses of an employee for registration, food, beverages, travel or lodging for a meeting, which is given in return for participation in a panel or speaking engagement at a meeting when the expenses relate directly to the day or days on which the employee has participation or presentation responsibilities;
- A nonmonetary gift or series of nonmonetary gifts donated within thirty days to a public body, an educational or charitable organization or the Iowa department of general services; or
- A payment made to an employee for services rendered as part of a private business, trade or profession in which the employee is engaged if the payment is commensurate with the actual services rendered and is not being made because of the person's status as an employee of the district, but, rather, because of some special expertise or other qualification.

It shall be the responsibility of each employee to know when it is appropriate to accept or reject gifts or an honorarium.

Legal References: Iowa Code ch. 68B (2011).

Cross References: 221 Gifts to Board of Directors  
401.3 Employee Conflict of Interest  
704.4 Gifts-Grants-Bequests

## EMPLOYEE OUTSIDE EMPLOYMENT

The board believes the primary responsibility of employees is to the duties of their position within the school district as outlined in their job description. The board considers an employee's duties as part of a regular, full-time position as full-time employment. The board expects such employees to give the responsibilities of their positions in the school district precedence over any other employment.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent to counsel employees, whether full-time or part-time, if, in the judgment of the superintendent and the employee's immediate supervisor, the employee's outside employment interferes with the performance of the employee's duties required in the employee's position within the school district.

The board may request the employee to cease the outside employment as a condition of continued employment with the school district.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 20.7; 279.8 (~~2011~~).

Cross Reference: 401.3 Employee Conflict of Interest  
408.3 Licensed Employee Tutoring

Approved July, 2006

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June 10, 2019  
March 8, 2021

Revised April 12, 2021

EMPLOYEE PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS

The St. Ansgar Community School District believes good health is important to job performance. School bus drivers will present evidence of good health upon initial hire every other year in the form of a physical examination report unless otherwise required by law or medical opinion. All other employees shall present evidence of good health, in the form of a post-offer, pre-employment physical examination report.\*\*

The cost of the initial examination will be paid by the school district. The form indicating the employee is able to perform the duties with or without reasonable accommodation, for which the employee was hired, must be returned prior to the performance of duties. The cost of bus driver renewal physicals will be paid by the school district up to the cost of a D.O.T physical. The school district will provide the standard examination form to be completed by the personal physician of the employee or a certified medical examiner for bus drivers.

Employees whose physical or mental health, in the judgment of the administration, may be in doubt will submit to additional examinations, to the extent job-related and consistent with business necessity, when requested to do so, at the expense of the school district.

The district will comply with occupational safety and health requirements as applicable to its employees in accordance with the law.

***\*\*NOTE: The law no longer requires a district to conduct physical examinations for all employees upon hire. However, a district could decide to continue such practice, but the physicals should only be done post-offer and any employment decisions made based on the results of such physicals should be made in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). This policy is written to reflect the school district's choice in determining whether they will require post-offer, pre-employment physical examinations and a choice needs to be made for the language in italicized brackets in paragraph one above.***

Legal Reference: 29 C.F.R. Pt. 1910.1030  
[49 C.F.R. §§ 391.41 - 391.49](#)  
Iowa Code §§ 20.9; 279.8, 321.376  
281 I.A.C. 43.15 43.17

Cross Reference: 403 Employees' Health and Well-Being

Approved July, 2006 Reviewed November 12, 2012 Revised April 12, 2021  
June 10, 2019  
March 8, 2021

EMPLOYEE INJURY ON THE JOB

When an employee becomes seriously injured on the job, the employee's supervisor will attempt to notify a member of the family, or an individual of close relationship, as soon as the employee's supervisor becomes aware of the injury.

If possible, an employee may administer emergency or minor first aid. An injured employee will be turned over to the care of the employee's family or qualified medical employees as quickly as possible. The school district is not responsible for medical treatment of an injured employee.

It is the responsibility of the employee injured on the job to inform the superintendent within twenty-four hours of the occurrence. It is the responsibility of the employee's immediate supervisor to file an accident report within twenty-four hours after the employee reported the injury.

It shall be the responsibility of the board secretary to file worker's comp claims.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 85; 279.40; 613.17

Cross Reference: 403 Employees' Health and Well-Being  
409.2 Licensed Employee Personal Illness Leave  
414.2 Classified Employee Personal Illness Leave

Approved July, 2006

Reviewed November 12, 2012  
June 10, 2019  
March 8, 2021

Revised April 12, 2021

## COMMUNICABLE DISEASES - EMPLOYEES

Employees with a communicable disease will be allowed to perform their customary employment duties provided they are able to perform the essential functions of their position and their presence does not create a substantial risk of illness or transmission to students or other employees. The term "communicable disease" will mean an infectious or contagious disease spread from person to person, or animal to person, or as defined by law.

Prevention and control of communicable diseases is included in the school district's bloodborne pathogens exposure control plan. The procedures will include scope and application, definitions, exposure control, methods of compliance, universal precautions, vaccination, post-exposure evaluation, follow-up, communication of hazards to employees and record keeping. This plan shall be reviewed annually by the superintendent and school nurse.

The health risk to immunodepressed employees shall be determined by their personal physician. The health risk to others in the school district environment from the presence of an employee with a communicable disease is determined on a case-by-case basis by the employee's personal physician, a physician chosen by the school district or public health officials.

Health data of an employee is confidential and it will not be disclosed to third parties. Employee medical records are kept in a file separate from their personal file.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent, in conjunction with the school nurse, to develop administrative regulations stating the procedures for dealing with employees with a communicable disease.

Legal Reference: 29 U.S.C. §§ 794, 1910  
42 U.S.C. §§ 12101 *et seq.*  
45 C.F.R. Pt. 84.3  
Iowa Code chs. 139A; 141A  
641 I.A.C. 1.2-.7.

Cross Reference: 401.6 Employee Records  
403.1 Employee Physical Examinations  
507.3 Communicable Diseases - Students

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July 15, 2019  
January 20, 2020  
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Revised February 10, 2020  
April 12, 2021

## HEPATITIS B VACCINE INFORMATION AND RECORD

### The Disease

Hepatitis B is a viral infection caused by the Hepatitis B virus (HBV) which causes death in 1-2% of those infected. Most people with HBV recover completely, but approximately 5-10% becomes chronic carriers of the virus. Most of these people have no symptoms, but can continue to transmit the disease to others. Some may develop chronic active hepatitis and cirrhosis. HBV may be a causative factor in the development of liver cancer. Immunization against HBV can prevent acute hepatitis and its complications.

### The Vaccine

The HBV vaccine is produced from yeast cells. It has been extensively tested for safety and effectiveness in large scale clinical trials.

Approximately 90 percent of healthy people who receive two doses of the vaccine and a third dose as a booster achieve high levels of surface antibody (anti-HBs) and protection against the virus. The HBV vaccine is recommended for workers with potential for contact with blood or body fluids. Full immunization requires three doses of the vaccine over a six-month period, although some persons may not develop immunity even after three doses.

There is no evidence that the vaccine has ever caused Hepatitis B. However, persons who have been infected with HBV prior to receiving the vaccine may go on to develop clinical hepatitis in spite of immunization.

### Dosage and Administration

The vaccine is given in three intramuscular doses in the deltoid muscle. Two initial doses are given one month apart and the third dose is given six months after the first.

### Possible Vaccine Side Effects

The incidence of side effects is very low. No serious side effects have been reported with the vaccine. Ten to 20 percent of persons experience tenderness and redness at the site of injection and low grade fever. Rash, nausea, joint pain, and mild fatigue have also been reported. The possibility exists that other side effects may be identified with more extensive use.

HEPATITIS B VACCINE INFORMATION AND RECORD

Consent of Hepatitis B Vaccination

I have knowledge of Hepatitis B and the Hepatitis B vaccination. I have had an opportunity to ask questions of a qualified nurse or physician and understand the benefits and risks of Hepatitis B vaccination. I understand that I must have three doses of the vaccine to obtain immunity. However, as with all medical treatment, there is no guarantee that I will become immune or that I will not experience side effects from the vaccine. I give my consent to be vaccinated for Hepatitis B.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Employee (consent for Hepatitis B vaccination)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Witness

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Refusal of Hepatitis B Vaccination

I understand that due to my occupational exposure to blood or other potentially infectious materials I may be at risk of acquiring the Hepatitis B virus infection. I have been given the opportunity to be vaccinated with Hepatitis B vaccine at no charge to myself. However, I decline the Hepatitis B vaccination at this time. I understand that by declining this vaccine, I continue to be at risk of acquiring Hepatitis B, a serious disease. If in the future I continue to have occupational exposure to blood or other potentially infectious materials and I want to be vaccinated with the Hepatitis B vaccine, I can receive the vaccination series at no charge to me.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Employee (refusal for Hepatitis B vaccination)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Witness

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

I refuse because I believe I have (check one)

\_\_\_\_\_ started the series

\_\_\_\_\_ completed the series

HEPATITIS B VACCINE INFORMATION AND RECORD

Release for Hepatitis B Medical Information

I hereby authorize \_\_\_\_\_ (individual or organization holding Hepatitis B records and address) to release to the St. Ansgar Community School District, my Hepatitis B vaccination records for required employee records.

I hereby authorize release of my Hepatitis B status to a health care provider, in the event of an exposure incident.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Employee

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Witness

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



## UNIVERSAL PRECAUTIONS REGULATION

Universal precautions (UP) are intended to prevent transmission of infection, as well as decrease the risk of exposure for employees and students. It is not currently possible to identify all infected individuals, thus precautions must be used with every individual. UP pertain to blood and other potentially infectious materials (OPIM) containing blood. These precautions do not apply to other body fluids and wastes (OBFW) such as saliva, sputum, feces, tears, nasal secretions, vomitus and urine unless blood is visible in the material. However, these OBFW can be sources of other infections and should be handled as if they are infectious. The single most important step in preventing exposure to and transmission of any infection is anticipating potential contact with infectious materials in routine as well as emergency situations. Based on the type of possible contact, employees and students should be prepared to use the appropriate precautions prior to the contact. Diligent and proper hand washing, the use of barriers, appropriate disposal of waste products and needles, and proper decontamination of spills are essential techniques of infection control. All individuals should respond to situations practicing UP followed by the activation of the school response team plan. Using common sense in the application of these measures will enhance protection of employees and students.

### Hand Washing

Proper hand washing is crucial to preventing the spread of infection. Textured jewelry on the hands or wrists should be removed prior to washing and kept off until completion of the procedure and the hands are rewashed. Use of running water, lathering with soap and using friction to clean all hand surfaces is key. Rinse well with running water and dry hands with paper towels.

- Hands should be washed before physical contact with individuals and after contact is completed.
- Hands should be washed after contact with any used equipment.
- If hands (or other skin) come into contact with blood or body fluids, hands should be washed immediately before touching anything else.
- Hands should be washed whether gloves are worn or not and, if gloves are worn, after the gloves are removed.

### Barriers

Barriers anticipated to be used at school include disposable gloves, absorbent materials and resuscitation devices. Their use is intended to reduce the risk of contact with blood and body fluids as well as to control the spread of infectious agents from individual to individual. Gloves should be worn when in contact with blood, OPIM or OBFW. Gloves should be removed without touching the outside and disposed of after each use.

### Disposal of Waste

Blood, OPIM, OBFW, used gloves, barriers and absorbent materials should be placed in a plastic bag and disposed of in the usual procedure. When the blood or OPIM is liquid, semi-liquid or caked with dried blood, it is not absorbed in materials, and is capable of releasing the substance if compressed, special disposal as regulated waste is required. A band-aid, towel, sanitary napkin or other absorbed waste that does not have the potential of releasing the waste if compressed would not be considered regulated waste. It is anticipated schools would only have regulated waste in the case of a severe incident. Needles, syringes and other sharp disposable objects should be placed in special puncture-proof containers and disposed of as regulated waste. Bodily wastes such as urine, vomitus or feces should be disposed of in the sanitary sewer system.

## UNIVERSAL PRECAUTIONS REGULATION

### Clean up

Spills of blood and OPIM should be cleaned up immediately. The employee should:

- Wear gloves.
- Clean up the spill with paper towels or other absorbent material.
- Use a solution of one part household bleach to one hundred parts of water (1:100) or other EPA-approved disinfectant and use it to wash the area well.
- Dispose of gloves, soiled towels and other waste in a plastic bag.
- Clean and disinfect reusable supplies and equipment.

### Laundry

Laundry with blood or OPIM should be handled as little as possible with a minimum of agitation. It should be bagged at the location. If the laundry has the potential of releasing the substance when compacted regulated waste guidelines should be followed. Employees who have contact with this laundry should wear protective barriers.

### Exposure

An exposure to blood or OPIM through contact with broken skin, mucous membrane or by needle or sharp stick requires immediate washing, reporting and follow-up.

- Always wash the exposed area immediately with soap and water.
- If a mucous membrane splash (eye or mouth) or exposure of broken skin occurs, irrigate or wash the area thoroughly.
- If a cut or needle stick injury occurs, wash the area thoroughly with soap and water.

The exposure should be reported immediately, the parent or guardian is notified, and the person exposed contacts a physician for further health care.

## HAZARDOUS CHEMICAL DISCLOSURE

The board authorizes the development of a comprehensive hazardous chemical communication program for the school district to disseminate information about hazardous chemicals in the workplace.

Each employee shall annually review information about hazardous substances in the workplace. When a new employee is hired or transferred to a new position or work site, the information and training, if necessary, is included in the employee's orientation. When an additional hazardous substance enters the workplace, information about it shall be distributed to all employees, and training is conducted for the appropriate employees. The superintendent will maintain a file indicating which hazardous substances are present in the workplace and when training and information sessions take place.

Employees who will be instructing or otherwise working with students shall disseminate information about the hazardous chemicals with which they will be working as part of the instructional program.

It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent to develop administrative regulations regarding this program.

Legal Reference: 29 C.F.R. Pt. 1910; 1200 *et seq.*  
Iowa Code chs. 88; 89B

Cross Reference: 403 Employees' Health and Well-Being  
804 Safety Program

Approved July, 2006

Reviewed November 12, 2012  
June 10, 2019  
January 20, 2020  
March 8, 2021

Revised February 10, 2020  
April 12, 2021

SUBSTANCE-FREE WORKPLACE

The board expects the school district and its employees to remain substance free. No employee shall unlawfully manufacture, distribute, dispense, possess, use, or be under the influence of, in the workplace, any narcotic drug, hallucinogenic drug, amphetamine, barbiturate, marijuana or any other controlled substance or alcoholic beverage as defined by federal or state law. "Workplace" includes school district facilities, school district premises or school district vehicle. A "workplace" also includes nonschool property if the employee is at any school-sponsored, school-approved or school-related activity, event or function, such as field trips or athletic events where students are under the control of the school district or where the employee is engaged in school business.

If an employee is convicted of a violation of any criminal drug offense committed in the workplace, the employee will notify the employee's supervisor of the conviction within five days of the conviction.

The superintendent will make the determination whether to require the employee to undergo substance abuse treatment or to discipline the employee. An employee who violates the terms of this policy may be subject to discipline up to and including termination. An employee who violated this policy may be required to successfully participate in a substance abuse treatment program approved by the board. If the employee fails to successfully participate in a program, the employee may be subject to discipline up to and including termination.

The superintendent shall be responsible for publication and dissemination of this policy to each employee. In addition, the superintendent will oversee the establishment of a substance-free awareness program to educate employees about the dangers of substance abuse and notify them of available substance abuse treatment programs.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent to develop administrative regulations to implement this policy.

Legal Reference: 41 U.S.C. §§ 81.  
42 U.S.C. §§ 12101 *et seq.*  
34 C.F.R. Pt. 85  
Iowa Code §§ 123.46; 124; 279.8

Cross Reference: 404 Employee Conduct and Appearance

Approved July, 2006 Reviewed November 12, 2012 Revised April 12, 2021  
June 10, 2019  
March 8, 2021

SUBSTANCE-FREE WORKPLACE NOTICE TO EMPLOYEES

EMPLOYEES ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED it is a violation of the Substance-Free Workplace policy for an employee to unlawfully manufacture, distribute, dispense, possess, use, or be under the influence of in the workplace any narcotic drug, hallucinogenic drug, amphetamine, barbiturate, marijuana or any other controlled substance or alcohol, as defined in Schedules I through V of section 202 of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 812) and as further defined by regulation at 21 C.F.R. 1300.11 through 1300.15 and *Iowa Code* Ch. 124.

"Workplace" is defined as the site for the performance of work done in the capacity as an employee. This includes school district facilities, other school premises or school district vehicles. Workplace also includes nonschool property if the employee is at any school-sponsored, school-approved or school-related activity, event or function, such as field trips or athletic events where students are under the control of the school district or where the employee is engaged in school business.

Employees who violate the terms of the Substance-Free Workplace policy may be required to successfully participate in a substance abuse treatment program approved by the board. The superintendent retains the discretion to discipline an employee for violation of the Substance-Free Workplace policy. If the employee fails to successfully participate in such a program the employee shall be subject to discipline up to and including termination.

EMPLOYEES ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED it is a condition of their continued employment that they comply with the above policy of the school district and will notify their supervisor of their conviction of any criminal drug statute for a violation committed in the workplace, no later than five days after the conviction.

Substance-Free Workplace Acknowledgment Form

I, \_\_\_\_\_, have read and understand the Substance-Free Workplace policy. I understand that if I violate the Substance-Free Workplace policy, I may be subject to discipline up to and including termination or I may be required to participate in a substance abuse treatment program. If I fail to successfully participate in a substance abuse treatment program, I understand I may be subject to discipline up to and including termination. I understand that if I am required to participate in a substance abuse treatment program and I refuse to participate, I may be subject to discipline up to and including termination. I also understand that if I am convicted of a criminal drug offense committed in the workplace, I must report that conviction to my supervisor within five days of the conviction.

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(Signature of Employee)

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(Date)

## SUBSTANCE-FREE WORKPLACE REGULATION

A superintendent who suspects an employee has a substance abuse problem shall follow these procedures:

1. **Identification** - the superintendent will document the evidence the superintendent has which leads the superintendent to conclude the employee has violated the Substance-Free Workplace policy. After the superintendent has determined there has been a violation of the Substance-Free Workplace policy, the superintendent shall discuss the problem with the employee.
2. **Discipline** - if, after the discussion with the employee, the superintendent determines there has been a violation of the Substance-Free Workplace policy, the superintendent may recommend discipline up to and including termination [or may recommend the employee seek substance abuse treatment]. Participation in a substance abuse treatment program is voluntary.
3. **Failure to participate in referral** – if the employee refuses to participate in a substance abuse treatment program or if the employee does not successfully complete a substance abuse treatment program, the employee may be subject to discipline up to and including termination.
4. **Conviction** - if an employee is convicted of a criminal drug offense committed in the workplace, the employee must notify the employer of the conviction within five days of the conviction.

## DRUG AND ALCOHOL TESTING PROGRAM

Employees who operate school vehicles are subject to drug and alcohol testing if a commercial driver's license is required to operate the school vehicle and the school vehicle transports sixteen or more persons including the driver or the school vehicle weighs twenty-six thousand one pounds or more. For purposes of the drug and alcohol testing program, the term "employees" includes applicants who have been offered a position to operate a school vehicle.

The employees operating a school vehicle as described above are subject to pre-employment drug testing and random, reasonable suspicion and post-accident, drug and alcohol testing. Employees operating school vehicles will not perform a safety-sensitive function within four hours of using alcohol. Employees governed by this policy are subject to the drug and alcohol testing program beginning the first day they operate or are offered a position to operate school vehicles and continue to be subject to the drug and alcohol testing program as long as they may be required to perform a safety-sensitive function as it is defined in the administrative regulations. Employees with questions about the drug and alcohol testing program may contact the school district contact person, superintendent secretary at 206 East 8<sup>th</sup> St. St. Ansgar, IA 50472.

Employees who violate the terms of this policy are subject to discipline, up to and, including termination. The district is required to keep a record of all drug or alcohol violations by employees for a minimum of five years. Employees are put on notice that information related to drug or alcohol violations will be reported to the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) Clearinghouse. Additionally, the district will conduct FMCSA Clearinghouse queries for employees annually. Employees must provide written consent for the district to conduct FMCSA Clearinghouse queries; however, employees who choose to withhold consent will be prohibited from performing any safety sensitive functions.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent to develop administrative regulations to implement this policy in compliance with the law. The superintendent will inform applicants of the requirement for drug and alcohol testing in notices or advertisements for employment.

The superintendent will also be responsible for publication and dissemination of this policy and supporting administrative regulations and forms to employees operating school vehicles. The superintendent will also oversee a substance-free awareness program to educate employees about the dangers of substance abuse and notify them of available substance abuse treatment resources and programs.

IASB Drug and Alcohol testing program (IDATP) Web site:

[https://www.ia-sb.org/Main/Affiliated\\_Programs/Iowa\\_Drug-Alcohol\\_Testing\\_program.aspx](https://www.ia-sb.org/Main/Affiliated_Programs/Iowa_Drug-Alcohol_Testing_program.aspx)

Compliance with the regulations is the responsibility of the school district even if the school district uses a service provider. Boards need to determine who will be responsible for administering the drug and alcohol testing program in the second paragraph and make that determination throughout the policies and regulations.

Approved December 10, 2012

Reviewed June 10, 2019  
January 20, 2020  
March 8, 2021

Revised November 12, 2012  
February, 10, 2020  
April 12, 2021

- Legal Reference: American Trucking Association, Inc., v. Federal Highway Administration, 51 Fed. 3<sup>rd</sup> 405 (4<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1995).  
49 U.S.C. §§ 5331 et seq.  
42 U.S.C. §§ 12101  
41 U.S.C. §§ 81  
49 C.F.R. Pt. 40; 382; 394.  
34 C.F.R. Pt. 85  
Local 301, Internat'l Assoc. of Fire Fighters, AFL-CIO, and City of Burlington, PERB No. 3876 (3-26-91).  
Iowa Code §§ 124; 279.8; 321.375(2); 730.5
- Cross Reference: 403.6 Substance-Free Workplace  
409.2 Licensed Employee Personal Illness Leave  
414.2 Classified Employee Personal Illness Leave

DRUG AND ALCOHOL TESTING PROGRAM NOTICE TO EMPLOYEES

EMPLOYEES GOVERNED BY THE DRUG AND ALCOHOL TESTING POLICY ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED they are subject to the school district's drug and alcohol testing program for pre-employment drug testing and random, reasonable suspicion, and post-accident drug and alcohol testing as outlined in the Drug and Alcohol Testing Program policy, its supporting documents and the law.

Employees who operate school vehicles are subject to drug and alcohol testing if a commercial driver's license is required to operate the school vehicle and the school vehicle transports sixteen or more persons including the driver or the school vehicle weighs twenty-six thousand, one pounds or more. For purposes of the drug and alcohol testing program, "employees" also includes applicants who have been offered a position to operate a school vehicle. Employees that will operate a school-owned commercial motor vehicle are subject to the drug and alcohol testing program regulations beginning the first day they are offered a position to operate a school vehicle and continue to be subject to the drug and alcohol testing program.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent to inform employees of the drug and alcohol testing program requirements. Employees with questions regarding the drug and alcohol testing requirements will contact the school district's contact person.

EMPLOYEES GOVERNED BY THE DRUG AND ALCOHOL TESTING POLICY ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that employees violating this policy, its supporting documents, or the law may be subject to discipline up to and including termination.

EMPLOYEES GOVERNED BY THE DRUG AND ALCOHOL TESTING POLICY ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that information related to drug or alcohol violations will be reported to the Federal Motor Carrier safety administration (FMCSA) Clearinghouse.

EMPLOYEES GOVERNED BY THE DRUG AND ALCOHOL TESTING POLICY ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED it is a condition of their continued employment to comply with the Drug and Alcohol Testing Program policy, its supporting documents and the law. It is a condition of continued employment for employees operating a school vehicle to notify their supervisor of any prescription medication they are using. Drug and alcohol testing records about a driver are confidential and are released in accordance with this policy, its supporting documents or the law.

DRUG & ALCOHOL PROGRAM AND PRE-EMPLOYMENT TESTING  
ACKNOWLEDGMENT FORM

I, ( Name of Employee ), have received a copy, read and understand the Drug and Alcohol Testing Program policy of the \_\_\_\_\_ School District and its supporting documents.

I understand that if I violate the Drug and Alcohol Testing Program policy, its supporting documents or the law, I may be subject to discipline up to and including termination.

I also understand that I must inform my supervisor of any prescription medication I use.

In addition, I have received a copy of the U.S. DOT publication, “What Employees Need to Know about DOT Drug & Alcohol Testing,” and have read and understand its contents.

Furthermore, I know and understand that I am required to submit to a controlled substance (drug) test, the results of which must be received by this employer before being employed by the school district and before being allowed to perform a safety-sensitive function. I also understand that if the results of the pre-employment test are positive, that I will not be considered further for employment with the school district.

I further understand that drug and alcohol testing records and information about me are confidential, and may be released at my request or in accordance with the district’s drug and alcohol testing program policy, its supporting documents or the law.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of Employee)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

DRUG & ALCOHOL PROGRAM AND PRE-EMPLOYMENT TESTING  
WRITTEN CONSENT TO SHARE INFORMATION

I, ( Name of Employee ), understand that as part of my employment in a position that requires a commercial driver's license in the St. Ansgar Community School District, I grant consent for the District to conduct queries of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration ("FMCSA") Commercial Driver's License Drug and Alcohol Clearinghouse to determine whether drug or alcohol violation information about me exists in the Clearinghouse. I further consent to the District sharing information related to my drug and alcohol testing results with prior, current and future employers, as well as the FMCSA Clearinghouse in accordance with state and federal laws.

I understand that the District will check and perform queries of my drug and alcohol testing results prior to my employment in any position which requires the use of a commercial driver's license. I further understand the District will check and perform queries of my testing results annually and is required to report any drug and alcohol violations of this policy to the FMCSA Clearinghouse.

I understand that I am not required to consent to the query of the FMCSA Clearinghouse or the District sharing of drug and alcohol testing information with past, present or future employers or the FMCSA Clearinghouse; but that without my consent I understand I will be prohibited from performing safety sensitive functions, including driving a commercial motor vehicle, as required by FMCSA's drug and alcohol program regulations.

I hereby give my consent to the District to perform queries of the FMCSA Clearinghouse and share my drug and alcohol testing results with past, present and future employers, as well as the FMCSA Clearinghouse.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of Employee)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

EMPLOYEE CONDUCT AND APPEARANCE

Employees are role models for the students who come in contact with them during and after school hours. The board recognizes the positive effect employees can have on students in this capacity. To this end, the board strongly suggests and encourages employees to dress themselves, groom themselves and conduct themselves in a manner appropriate to the educational environment.

Employees will conduct themselves in a professional manner. Employees will dress in attire appropriate for their position. Clothing should be neat, clean, and in good taste. Discretion and common sense call for an avoidance of extremes which would interfere with or have an effect on the educational process.

Licensed employees of the school district, including administrators, will follow the code of ethics for their profession as established by the Iowa Board of Educational Examiners.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code § 279.8 (~~2011~~);  
282 I.A.C. 25; 26.

Cross Reference: 104 Anti-bullying/Harassment  
307 Administrator Code of Ethics  
401.1 Employee Orientation  
403.6 Substance-Free Workplace  
407 Licensed Employee Termination of Employment  
413 Support Employee Termination of Employment

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June 10, 2019  
April 12, 2021

Revised \_\_\_\_\_

## CODE OF PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT AND ETHICS REGULATION

Chapter 25**282—25.1(272) Scope of standards.**

This code of professional conduct and ethics constitutes mandatory minimum standards of practice for all licensed practitioners as defined in *Iowa Code* chapter 272. The adherence to certain professional and ethical standards is essential to maintaining the integrity of the education profession.

**282—25.2(272) Definitions.**

Except where otherwise specifically defined by law:

“*Administrative and supervisory personnel*” means any licensed employee such as superintendent, associate superintendent, assistant superintendent, principal, associate principal, assistant principal, or other person who does not have as a primary duty the instruction of pupils in the schools.

“*Board*” means the Iowa board of educational examiners.

“*Discipline*” means the process of sanctioning a license, certificate or authorization issued by the board.

“*Ethics*” means a set of principles governing the conduct of all persons governed by these rules.

“*Fraud*” means knowingly providing false information or representations on an application for licensure or employment, or knowingly providing false information or representations made in connection with the discharge of duties.

“*License*” means any license, certificate, or authorization granted by the board.

“*Licensee*” means any person holding a license, certificate, or authorization granted by the board.

“*Practitioner*” means an administrator, teacher, or other licensed professional, including an individual who holds a statement of professional recognition, who provides educational assistance to students.

“*Responsibility*” means a duty for which a person is accountable by virtue of licensure.

“*Right*” means a power, privilege, or immunity secured to a person by law.

“*Student*” means a person, regardless of age, enrolled in a prekindergarten through grade 12 school, who is receiving direct or indirect assistance from a person licensed by the board.

“*Teacher*” means any person engaged in the instructional program for prekindergarten through grade 12 children, including a person engaged in teaching, administration, and supervision, and who is required by law to be licensed for the position held. (ARC 7979B, IAB 7/29/09, effective 9-2-2009)

**282—25.3(272) Standards of professional conduct and ethics.**

Licensees are required to abide by all federal, state, and local laws applicable to the fulfillment of professional obligations. Violation of federal, state, or local laws in the fulfillment of professional obligations constitutes unprofessional and unethical conduct which can result in disciplinary action by the board. In addition, it is hereby deemed unprofessional and unethical for any licensee to violate any of the following standards of professional conduct and ethics:

**25.3(1) Standard I—conviction of crimes, sexual or other immoral conduct with or toward a student, and child and dependent adult abuse.** Violation of this standard includes:

a. *Fraud.* Fraud means the same as defined in rule 282-25.2 (272).

b. *Criminal convictions.* The commission of or conviction for a criminal offense as defined by Iowa law or the laws provided that the offense is relevant to or affects teaching or administrative performance.

(1) Disqualifying criminal convictions. The board shall deny an application for licensure and shall revoke a previously issued license if the applicant or licensee has, on or after July 1, 2002, been convicted of, has pled guilty to, or has been found guilty of the following criminal offenses, regardless of whether the judgment of conviction or sentence was deferred:

## CODE OF PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT AND ETHICS REGULATION

1. Any of the following forcible felonies included in *Iowa Code* §702.11: child endangerment, assault, murder, sexual abuse, or kidnapping;
  2. Any of the following criminal sexual offenses, as provided in *Iowa Code* Ch. 709, involving a child:
    - First-, second- or third-degree sexual abuse committed on or with a person who is under the age of 18;
    - Lascivious acts with a child;
    - Assault with intent to commit sexual abuse;
    - Indecent contact with a child;
    - Sexual exploitation by a counselor;
    - Lascivious conduct with a minor;
    - Sexual exploitation by a school employee;
    - Enticing a minor under *Iowa Code* section 710.10; or
    - Human trafficking under *Iowa Code* section 710A.2;
  3. Incest involving a child as prohibited by *Iowa Code* section 726.2;
  4. Dissemination and exhibition of obscene material to minors as prohibited by *Iowa Code* section 728.2;
  5. Telephone dissemination of obscene material to minors as prohibited by *Iowa Code* section 728.15.
  6. Any offense specified in the laws of another jurisdiction, or any offense that may be prosecuted in a federal, military, or foreign court, that is comparable to an offense listed in subparagraph 25.3(1)"b"(1); or
  7. Any offense under prior laws of this state or another jurisdiction, or any offense under prior law that was prosecuted in a federal, military, or foreign court, that is comparable to an offense listed in subparagraph 25.3(1)"b"(1).
- (2) Other criminal convictions and founded child abuse. In determining whether a person should be denied a license or whether a licensee should be disciplined based upon any other criminal conviction, including a conviction for an offense listed in 25.3(1)"b"(1) which occurred before July 1, 2002, or a founded report of abuse of a child, the board shall consider:
1. The nature and seriousness of the crime or founded abuse in relation to the position sought;
  2. The time elapsed since the crime or founded abuse was committed;
  3. The degree of rehabilitation which has taken place since the crime or founded abuse was committed;
  4. The likelihood that the person will commit the same crime or abuse again;
  5. The number of criminal convictions or founded abuses committed; and
  6. Such additional factors as, may in a particular case demonstrate mitigating circumstances or heightened risk to public safety.
- c. Sexual involvement or indecent contact with a student.* Sexual involvement includes, but is not limited to, the following acts, whether consensual or nonconsensual: fondling or touching the inner thigh, groin, buttocks, anus or breasts of a student; permitting or causing to fondle or touch the practitioner's inner thigh, groin, buttocks, anus, or breasts; or the commission of any sex act as defined in *Iowa Code* section 702.17.
- d. Sexual exploitation of a minor.* The commission of or any conviction for an offense prohibited by *Iowa Code* section 728.12, *Iowa Code* Ch. 709 or 18 U.S.C. section 2252A(a)(5)(B).
- e. Student abuse.* Licensees shall maintain professional relationships with all students, both inside and outside the classroom. The following acts or behavior constitutes unethical conduct without regard to the existence of a criminal charge or conviction:
- (1) Committing any act of physical abuse of a student;
  - (2) Committing any act of dependent adult abuse on a dependent adult student;
  - (3) Committing or soliciting any sexual or otherwise indecent act with a student or any minor;

- (4) Soliciting, encouraging, or consummating a romantic or otherwise inappropriate relationship with a student;
- (5) Furnishing alcohol or illegal or unauthorized drugs or drug paraphernalia to any student or knowingly allowing a student to consume alcohol or illegal or unauthorized drugs in the presence of the licensee;
- (6) Failing to report any suspected act of child or dependent adult abuse as required by state law; or
- (7) Committing or soliciting any sexual conduct as defined in Iowa Code section 709.15(3)"b" or soliciting, encouraging, or consummating a romantic relationship with any person who was a student within 90 days prior to any conduct alleged in the complaint, if that person was taught by the practitioner or was supervised by the practitioner in any school activity when that person was a student.

**25.3(2) Standard II—alcohol or drug abuse.** Violation of this standard includes:

- a. Being on school premises or at a school-sponsored activity involving students while under the influence of, possessing, using, or consuming illegal or unauthorized drugs or abusing legal drugs.
- b. Being on school premises or at a school-sponsored activity involving students while under the influence of, possessing, using, or consuming alcohol.

**25.3(3) Standard III—misrepresentation, falsification of information.** Violation of this standard includes:

- a. Falsifying or deliberately misrepresenting or omitting material information regarding professional qualifications, criminal history, college credit, staff development credit, degrees, academic award, or employment history when applying for employment or licensure.
- b. Falsifying or deliberately misrepresenting or omitting material information regarding compliance reports submitted to federal, state, and other governmental agencies.
- c. Falsifying or deliberately misrepresenting or omitting material information submitted in the course of an official inquiry or investigation.
- d. Falsifying any records or information submitted to the board in compliance with the license renewal requirements imposed under 282-Chapter 20.
- e. Falsifying or deliberately misrepresenting or omitting material information regarding the evaluation of students or personnel, including improper administration of any standardized tests, including, but not limited to, changing test answers, providing test answers, copying or teaching identified test items, or using inappropriate accommodations or modifications for such tests.

**25.3(4) Standard IV—misuse of public funds and property.** Violation of this standard includes:

- a. Failing to account properly for funds collected that were entrusted to the practitioner in an educational context.
- b. Converting public property or funds to the personal use of the practitioner.
- c. Submitting fraudulent requests for reimbursement of expenses or for pay.
- d. Combining public or school-related funds with personal funds.
- e. Failing to use time or funds granted for the purpose for which they were intended.

**25.3(5) Standard V—violations of contractual obligations.**

- a. Violation of this standard includes:
  - (1) Asking a practitioner to sign a written professional employment contract before the practitioner has been unconditionally released from a current contract, unless the practitioner provided notice to the practitioner's employing board as set forth in subparagraph 25.3(5)"b"(2).
  - (2) Abandoning a written professional employment contract without prior unconditional release by the employer.

- (3) As an employer, executing a written professional employment contract with a practitioner, which requires the performance of duties that the practitioner is not legally qualified to perform.
- (4) As a practitioner, executing a written professional employment contract, which requires the performance of duties that the practitioner is not legally qualified to perform.
- b. In addressing complaints based upon contractual obligations, the board shall consider factors beyond the practitioner's control. For purposes of enforcement of this standard, a practitioner will not be found to have abandoned an existing contract if:
  - (1) The practitioner obtained a release from the employing board before discontinuing services under the contract; or
  - (2) The practitioner provided notice to the employing board no later than the latest of the following dates:
    - 1. The practitioner's last work day of the school year;
    - 2. The date set for return of the contract as specified in statute; or
    - 3. June 30.

**25.3(6) Standard VI—unethical practice toward other members of the profession, parents, students, and the community.** Violation of this standard includes:

- a. Denying the student, without just cause, access to varying points of view.
- b. Deliberately suppressing or distorting subject matter for which the educator bears responsibility.
- c. Failing to make reasonable effort to protect the health and safety of the student or creating conditions harmful to student learning.
- d. Conducting professional business in such a way that the practitioner repeatedly exposes students or other practitioners to unnecessary embarrassment or disparagement.
- e. Engaging in any act of illegal discrimination, or otherwise denying a student or practitioner participation in the benefits of any program on the grounds of race, creed, color, religion, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, marital status, or national origin.
- f. Soliciting students or parents of students to purchase equipment, supplies, or services from the practitioner for the practitioner's personal advantage.
- g. Accepting gifts from vendors or potential vendors where there may be the appearance of or an actual conflict of interest.
- h. Intentionally disclosing confidential information including, but not limited to, unauthorized sharing of information concerning student academic or disciplinary records, health and medical information, assessment or testing results, or family income. Licensees shall comply with state and federal laws and local school board policies relating to the confidentiality of student records, unless disclosure is required or permitted by law.
- i. Refusing to participate in a professional inquiry when requested by the board.
- j. Aiding, assisting, or abetting an unlicensed person in the completion of acts for which licensure is required.
- k. Failing to self-report to the board within 60 days any founded child abuse report, or any conviction for a criminal offense listed in 25.3(1) "b"(1) which requires revocation of the practitioner's license.
- l. Delegating tasks to unqualified personnel.
- m. Failing to comply with federal, state, and local laws applicable to the fulfillment of professional obligations.
- n. Allowing another person to use one's practitioner license for any purpose.
- o. Performing services beyond the authorized scope of practice for which the individual is licensed or prepared or performing services without holding a valid license.
- p. Falsifying, forging, or altering a license issued by the board.

- q. Failure of the practitioner holding a contract under Iowa Code section 279.13 to disclose to the school official responsible for determining assignments a teaching assignment for which the practitioner is not properly licensed.
- r. Failure of a school official responsible for assigning licensed practitioners holding contracts under Iowa Code section 279.13 to adjust an assignment if the practitioner discloses to the official that the practitioner is not properly licensed for an assignment.

**25.3(7)** *Standard VII—compliance with state law governing obligations to state or local governments, child support obligations, and board orders.* Violation of this standard includes:

- a. Failing to comply with 282-Chapter 8 concerning payment of debts to state or local governments.
- b. Failing to comply with 282—Chapter 10 concerning child support obligations.
- c. Failing to comply with a board order.

**25.3(8)** *Standard VIII—incompetence.* Violation of this standard includes, but is not limited to:

- a. Willfully or repeatedly departing from or failing to conform to the minimum standards of acceptable and prevailing educational practice in the state of Iowa.
- b. Willfully or repeatedly failing to practice with reasonable skill and safety.

CODE OF RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES REGULATION

Chapter 26

**282—26.1(272) Purpose.** The code of professional conduct and ethics in 282—Chapter 25 defines unprofessional and unethical conduct justifying disciplinary sanction. The board acknowledges that the discharge of professional obligations should occur in recognition of certain fundamental rights and responsibilities. Accordingly, the board recognizes the following rights and responsibilities of all educators licensed under *Iowa Code Ch. 272* and agrees that the exercise of these rights and responsibilities may present mitigating facts and circumstances in the board's evaluation of allegations of unprofessional or unethical conduct.

**282—26.2(272) Rights.** Educators licensed under *Iowa Code Ch. 272* have the following rights:

1. The educator has a right to be licensed and endorsed under professional standards established and enforced by the board.
2. The educator has a right to refuse assignments for which the educator is not legally authorized, in terms of holding a valid Iowa license with the appropriate endorsement(s) or approval(s).
3. The educator has a right, subject to board and administrator authority, to exercise professional judgment in the evaluation, selection, and use of teaching methods and instructional materials appropriate to the needs, abilities, and background of each student.

**282—26.3(272) Responsibilities.** Educators licensed under *Iowa Code Ch. 272* have the following responsibilities:

1. The educator has a responsibility to maintain and improve the educator's professional competence.
2. The educator has a responsibility to accept only those assignments for which the educator is legally authorized.
3. The educator has a responsibility to provide conditions that are conducive to teaching and student learning.
4. The educator shall protect students from conditions harmful to learning or to health or safety.
5. The educator shall not, without just cause, restrain a student from independent action in the pursuit of learning and shall not, without just cause, deny a student access to varying points of view.
6. The educator shall not use professional relationships with students for personal advantage.
7. The educator shall not discriminate against any student on the grounds of national or ethnic origin, religion, age, sex, disability, membership in a definable minority, or marital status, nor grant any discriminatory consideration or advantage.
8. The educator shall accord just and equitable treatment to all members of the profession.
9. The educator shall keep in confidence personally identifiable information regarding a student or the student's family members that has been obtained in the course of professional service, unless disclosure is required by law or is necessary for the personal safety of the student or others.
10. The educator who has reasonable basis to believe that a student has been abused, as defined by law, shall make all reports required by law and the *Iowa Administrative Code* and which are necessary to ensure the safety and well-being of the student.
11. In the administration of discipline, the educator shall treat all students with respect and in compliance with all policies of the school district served by the educator.
12. The educator shall provide accurate, truthful, and complete information to the board and to the local education system concerning all licensure transactions.
13. The educator shall not refuse to participate in a professional inquiry, when requested by the board.
14. The educator shall not require or direct another educator to violate any provisions of the code of professional conduct and ethics or any rights of a student, parent, educator or citizen.
15. The educator shall not delegate assigned tasks to unqualified personnel.

These rules are intended to implement *Iowa Code §272.2(1)“a.”*

LICENSED EMPLOYEE DEFINED

Licensed employees, including administrators, are those employees required to hold an appropriate license from the Iowa Department of Education for their position as required by the Board of Educational Examiners or others with professional licenses. Licenses required for a position will be considered met if the employee meets the requirements established by the Iowa Department of Education.

It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent to establish job specifications and job descriptions for licensed employees' positions, other than the position of the superintendent. Job descriptions may be approved by the board.

Licensed employees must present evidence of current license to the board secretary prior to payment of salary each year.

Legal Reference: Clay v. Independent School District of Cedar Falls, 187 Iowa  
89, 174 N.W. 47 (1919).  
Iowa Code §§ 256.7(3); 272; 279.8;  
282 I.A.C. 14.  
281 I.A.C. 12.4.

Cross Reference: 405.2 Licensed Employee Qualifications, Recruitment Selection  
410.1 Substitute Teachers  
411.1 Classified Employee Defined

Approved July, 2006

Reviewed November 12, 2012  
March 8, 2021

Revised June 10, 2019  
April 12, 2021

## LICENSED EMPLOYEE QUALIFICATIONS, RECRUITMENT, SELECTION

Persons interested in a licensed position, other than administrative positions which will be employed in accordance with board policies in Series 300, "Administration," will have an opportunity to apply and qualify for licensed positions in the school district in accordance with applicable laws and school district policies regarding equal employment. Job applicants for licensed positions will be considered on the basis of the following:

- Training, experience, and skill;
- Nature of the occupation;
- Demonstrated competence; and
- Possession of, or ability to obtain, state license if required for the position.

All job openings shall be submitted to the Iowa Department of Education for posting on Teach Iowa, the online state job posting system. Additional announcements of the position may occur in a manner which the superintendent believes will inform potential applicants about the position. Whenever possible, the preliminary screening of applicants will be conducted by the administrator who will be directly supervising and overseeing the person being hired.

The board will employ licensed employees after receiving a recommendation from the superintendent. The superintendent, however, will have the authority to employ a licensed employee on a temporary basis until a recommendation can be made and action can be taken by the board on the position.

Legal Reference: 29 U.S.C. §§ 621-634  
 42 U.S.C. §§ 2000e 12101 *et seq.*  
 Iowa Code §§ 20; 35C; 216; 279.13  
 281 I.A.C. 12.  
 282 I.A.C. 14.

Cross Reference: 401.2 Equal Employment Opportunity  
 405 Licensed Employees - General  
 410.1 Substitute Teachers

Approved July, 2006

Reviewed October 10, 2009  
November 12, 2012  
June 10, 2019  
March 8, 2021

Revised October 10, 2009  
April 12, 2021

LICENSED EMPLOYEE INDIVIDUAL CONTRACTS

The board will enter into a written contract with licensed employees, other than administrators, employed on a regular basis. Each contract will be for a period of one year.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent to complete the contracts for licensed employees and present them to the board for approval. The contracts, after being signed by the board president, are returned to the superintendent. The superintendent will obtain the employee's signature. After being signed, the contract shall be filed with the board secretary.

Legal Reference:     Harris v. Manning Independent School District of Manning, 245 Iowa 1295, 66 N.W.2d 438 (1954).  
                          Shackelford v. District Township of Beaver, Polk County, 203 Iowa 243, 212 N.W. 467 (1927).  
                          Burkhead v. Independent School District of Independence, 107 Iowa 29, 77 N.W. 491 (1898).  
                          Iowa Code chs. 20; 279 (2011).

Cross Reference:     405.2 Licensed Employee Qualifications, Recruitment, Selection  
                          405.4 Licensed Employee Continuing Contracts  
                          407    Licensed Employee Termination of Employment

Approved July, 2006

Reviewed November 12, 2012  
                  June 10, 2019  
                  March 8, 2021

Revised April 12, 2021

LICENSED EMPLOYEE CONTINUING CONTRACTS

Contracts entered into with licensed employees, other than an administrator, will continue from year to year except as modified or terminated as provided by law. The board may issue temporary and nonrenewable contracts in accordance with the law.

Licensed employees whose contracts will be recommended for termination by the board will receive Due process as required by law. The superintendent shall make a recommendation to the board for the termination of the licensed employee's contract.

Licensed employees who wish to resign, to be released from a contract, or to retire must comply with applicable law and board policies.

Legal Reference: Ar-We-Va Community School District v. Long and Henkenius, 292 N.W.2d 402 (Iowa 1980).  
Bruton v. Ames Community School District, 291 N.W.2d 351 (Iowa 1980).  
Hartman v. Merged Area VI Community College, 270 N.W.2d 822 (Iowa 1978).  
Keith v. Community School District of Wilton in the Counties of Cedar and Muscatine, 262 N.W.2d 249 (Iowa 1978).  
Iowa Code §§ ~~20~~; 272; 279

Cross Reference: 405.3 Licensed Employee Individual Contracts  
405.9 Licensed Employee Probationary Status  
407 Licensed Employee Termination of Employment

Approved July, 2006

Reviewed November 12, 2012

Revised April 12, 2021

June 10, 2019

March 8, 2021

LICENSED EMPLOYEE WORK DAY

The work day for licensed employees shall begin each day of the school year at a time established by the superintendent. Licensed employees who are employed only during the academic year will have the same work day as other licensed employees. "Day" is defined as one work day regardless of full-time or part-time status of an employee.

Licensed employees are to be in their assigned school building during the work day. Advance approval to be absent from the school building must be obtained from the principal whenever the licensed employees must leave the school building during the work day.

The building principal is authorized to make changes in the work day in order to facilitate the education program. These changes are reported to the superintendent.

The work day outlined in this policy is a minimum work day. Nothing in this policy prohibits licensed employees from working additional hours outside the work day.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 20; 279.8

Cross Reference: 200.3 Powers of the Board of Directors

Approved July, 2006

Reviewed November 12, 2012  
June 10, 2019  
March 8, 2021

Revised April 12, 2021

LICENSED EMPLOYEE ASSIGNMENT

Determining the assignment of each licensed employee is the responsibility of and within the sole discretion of the board. In making such assignments the board will consider the qualifications of each licensed employee and the needs of the school district.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent to make recommendations to the board regarding the assignment of licensed employees.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 279.8

Cross Reference: 200.3 Powers of the Board of Directors

Approved July, 2006

Reviewed November 12, 2012  
June 10, 2019  
March 8, 2021

Revised April 12, 2021

LICENSED EMPLOYEE TRANSFERS

Determining the location where an employee's assignment will be carried out is the responsibility and within the sole discretion of the board. In making such assignments the board shall consider the qualifications of each licensed employee and the needs of the school district.

A transfer may be initiated by the employee, the principal, or the superintendent.

It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent to make recommendations to the board regarding the transfer of licensed employees.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 216.14; 279.8

Cross Reference: 405.2 Licensed Employee Qualifications, Recruitment, Selection  
405.6 Licensed Employee Assignment

Approved July, 2006

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June 10, 2019  
March 8, 2021

Revised April 12, 2021

## LICENSED EMPLOYEE EVALUATION

Evaluation of licensed employees on their skills, abilities, and competence shall be an ongoing process supervised by the building principals and conducted by approved evaluators. The goal of the formal evaluation of licensed employees, other than administrators, but including extracurricular employees, is to improve the education program, to maintain licensed employees who meet or exceed the board's standards of performance, to clarify the licensed employee's role, to ascertain the areas in need of improvement, to clarify the immediate priorities of the board, and to develop a working relationship between the administrators and other employees.

The formal evaluation criteria is in writing and approved by the board. The formal evaluation shall provide an opportunity for the evaluator and the licensed employee to discuss performance and the future areas of growth. The formal evaluation is completed by the evaluator, signed by the licensed employee and filed in the licensed employee's personnel file. This policy supports, and does not preclude, the ongoing informal evaluation of the licensed employee's skills, abilities and competence.

Licensed employees will be required to:

- Demonstrate the ability to enhance academic performance and support for and implementation of the school district's student achievement goals.
- Demonstrate competency in content knowledge appropriate to the teaching position.
- Demonstrate competency in planning and preparation for instruction.
- Use strategies to deliver instruction that meets the multiple learning needs of students.
- Use a variety of methods to monitor student learning.
- Demonstrate competence in classroom management.
- Engage in professional growth.
- Fulfill professional responsibilities established by the school district.

It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent to ensure licensed employees are evaluated. New and probationary licensed employees are evaluated at least twice each year.

Legal Reference: Aplington Community School District v. PERB, 392 N.W.2d 495 (Iowa 1986).  
Saydel Education Association v. PERB, 333 N.W.2d 486 (Iowa 1983).  
281 I.A.C. 83; 12.3

Cross Reference: 405.2 Licensed Employee Qualifications, Recruitment, Selection  
405.9 Licensed Employee Probationary Status

Approved July, 2006

Reviewed June 10, 2019  
March 8, 2021

Revised November 12, 2012  
April 12, 2021

LICENSED EMPLOYEE PROBATIONARY STATUS

The first three consecutive years of a licensed employee's contract is a probationary period unless the employee has already successfully completed the probationary period in an Iowa school district. New employees who have successfully completed a probationary period in a previous Iowa school district will serve a two year probationary period. For purposes of this policy, an employee will have met the requirements for successfully completing a probationary period in another Iowa school district if, at the teacher's most recent performance evaluation, the teacher received at least a satisfactory or better evaluation and the individual has not engaged in conduct which would disqualify the teacher for a continuing contract.

Only the board, in its discretion, may waive the probationary period. The board may extend the probationary period for one additional year with the consent of the licensed employee. The board will make the decision to extend or waive a licensed employee's probationary status based upon the superintendent's recommendation. During this probationary period the board may terminate the licensed employee's contract at the end of the year without cause or immediately discharge the employee consistent with applicable law and board policies.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 279.12-.19B (2011).

Cross Reference: 405.4 Licensed Employee Continuing Contracts  
405.8 Licensed Employee Evaluation

Approved July, 2006

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June 10, 2019  
March 8, 2021

Revised April 12, 2021

LICENSED EMPLOYEE COMPENSATION

The board will establish compensation for licensed employees' positions keeping in mind the financial condition of the school district, the education and experience of the licensed employee, the educational philosophy of the school district, and other factors deemed relevant by the board.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent to make a recommendation to the board annually regarding licensed employee compensation. The base wage of licensed employees are subject to review and modification through the collective bargaining process.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 20.1, .4, .7, .9; 279.8

Cross Reference: 405 Licensed Employees - General  
406.2 Licensed Employee Compensation Advancement

Approved July, 2006

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June 10, 2019  
March 8, 2021

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LICENSED EMPLOYEE COMPENSATION ADVANCEMENT

The board will determine if licensed employees will advance in compensation for the licensed employees' positions, keeping in mind the financial condition of the school district, the education and experience of the licensed employee, the educational philosophy of the school district, and other considerations as determined by the board.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent to make a recommendation to the board for the advancement of licensed employees.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 20.1, .4, .7, .9; 279.8

Cross Reference: 405 Licensed Employees - General  
406 Licensed Employee Compensation and Benefits

Approved July, 2006

Reviewed November 12, 2012  
June 10, 2019  
March 8, 2021

Revised April, 2021

LICENSED EMPLOYEE CONTINUED EDUCATION CREDIT

Continued education on the part of licensed employees may entitle them to advancement in compensation.

Licensed employees who have completed additional hours may be considered for advancement. The board may determine which licensed employees will advance in compensation for continued education keeping in mind the financial condition of the school district, the education and experience of the licensed employee, the educational philosophy of the school district, and any other items deemed relevant by the board.

Licensed employees who wish to obtain additional education for advancement must notify their supervisor by returning the contract for the upcoming school year preceding the actual year when advancement occurs. The superintendent has the discretion to approve credit outside the employee's area of endorsement or responsibility.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent to make a recommendation to the board for the advancement of a licensed employee.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 20.1, .4, .7, .9; 279.8

Cross Reference: 405 Licensed Employees - General  
406 Licensed Employee Compensation and Benefits

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June 10, 2019  
March 8, 2021

Revised April 12, 2021

LICENSED EMPLOYEE COMPENSATION FOR EXTRA DUTY

A licensed employee may volunteer or be required to take on extra duty, with the extra duty being secondary to the major responsibility of the licensed employee. The board may, in its sole discretion, establish compensation for extra duty licensed employee positions, keeping in mind the financial condition of the school district, the education and experience of the licensed employee, the educational philosophy of the school district, and other considerations as determined by the board.

Vacant extra duty positions, for which extra compensation will be earned, will be posted to allow qualified licensed employees to volunteer for the extra duty. If no licensed employee volunteers for extra duty, the superintendent will assign the extra duty positions to qualified licensed employees. The licensed employee will receive compensation for the extra duty required to be performed.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent to make a recommendation to the board annually as to which licensed employees will have the extra duty, and the compensation for extra duty, for the board's review.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 279.8, .13-.15, .19A-B

Cross Reference: 405 Licensed Employees - General  
406 Licensed Employee Compensation and Benefits

Approved July, 2006

Reviewed November 12, 2012  
June 10, 2019  
March 8, 2021

Revised April 12, 2021

LICENSED EMPLOYEE GROUP INSURANCE BENEFITS

Licensed employees may be eligible for group benefits as determined by the board and required by law. . The board shall select the group benefit program(s) and the insurance company or third party administrator which will provide or administer the program.

In accordance with the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA), the board will offer licensed employees who work an average of at least thirty (30) hours per week or one hundred thirty (130) hours per month, based on the measurement method adopted by the board, with minimum essential coverage that is both affordable and provides minimum value. The board will have the authority and right to change or eliminate group benefit programs, other than the group health plan, for its licensed employees.

Licensed employees who work an average of at least thirty (30) hours per week are eligible to participate in the group health plan. Licensed employees who work 30 hours per week are eligible to participate in dental group insurance plans at their expense. Employers should maintain documents regarding eligible employees acceptance and rejection of coverage.

Regular part-time employees (i.e., employees who work less than 30 hours per week ) may participate in the dental group insurance plans at their expense.

Licensed employees and their spouse and dependents may be allowed to continue coverage of the school district's group health program if they cease employment with the school district by meeting the requirements of the plan.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 20.9; 85; 85B; 279.12, .27; 509; 509A; 509B (2011).

Cross Reference: 405.1 Licensed Employee Defined

Approved July, 2006

Reviewed January 21, 2013  
June 10, 2019  
March 8, 2021

Revised April 12, 2021

LICENSED EMPLOYEE TAX SHELTER PROGRAMS

Employees may elect to have amounts withheld from their pay for items authorized by law, subject to agreement of the district. The board may authorize the administration to make a payroll deduction for licensed employees' tax sheltered annuity premiums purchased from a company or program if chosen by the board.

Licensed employees wishing to have payroll deductions for tax sheltered annuities will make a written request to the board secretary.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ ~~20.9~~; 260C; 273; 294.16

Cross Reference: 706 Payroll Procedures

Approved \_\_\_\_\_

Reviewed January 21, 2013  
June 10, 2019  
March 8, 2021

Revised April 12, 2021

LICENSED EMPLOYEE RESIGNATION

A licensed employee who wishes to resign must notify the superintendent in writing within the time period set by the board for return of the contract. This applies to regular contracts for the licensed employee's regular duties and for an extracurricular contract for extra duty. Resignations of this nature will be accepted by the board.

The board may require an individual who has resigned from an extracurricular contract to accept the resigned position for only the subsequent school year when the board has made a good faith effort to find a replacement and the licensed employee is continuing to be employed by the school district.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 91A.2, .3, .5; 279.13, .19A

Cross Reference: 405.3 Licensed Employee Individual Contracts  
405.4 Licensed Employee Continuing Contracts  
407 Licensed Employee Termination of Employment

Approved July, 2006

Reviewed January 21, 2013  
June 10, 2019  
March 8, 2021

Revised April 12, 2021

LICENSED EMPLOYEE CONTRACT RELEASE

Licensed employees who wish to be released from an executed contract must give at least twenty-one days notice to the superintendent. Licensed employees may be released at the discretion of the board. Only in unusual and extreme circumstances will the board release a licensed employee from a contract. The board will have sole discretion to determine what constitutes unusual and extreme circumstances.

Release from a contract shall be contingent upon finding a suitable replacement. Licensed employees requesting release from a contract after it has been signed and before it expires may be required to pay the board the cost of advertising incurred to locate and hire a suitable replacement. Upon written mutual agreement between the employee and the superintendent, the costs may be deducted from the employee's salary. Payment of these costs is a condition for release from the contract at the discretion of the board. Failure of the licensed employee to pay these expenses may result in a cause of action being filed in small claims court.

The superintendent is required to file a complaint with the Board of Educational Examiners against a licensed employee who leaves without proper release from the board.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 216; 272; 279.13, .19A, .46

Cross Reference: 405.3 Licensed Employee Individual Contracts  
405.4 Licensed Employee Continuing Contracts  
407.3 Licensed Employee Retirement

Approved July, 2006

Reviewed January 21, 2013  
June 10, 2019  
March 8, 2021

Revised April 12, 2021

LICENSED EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT

Licensed employees who will complete their current contract with the board may apply for retirement. No licensed employee will be required to retire at a specific age.

Application for retirement will be considered made when the licensed employee states in writing to the superintendent, no later than the date set by the board for the return of the employee's contract to the board, the intent of the employee to retire. The letter must state the employee's desire to retire and be witnessed by another party other than the principal or the superintendent. Applications made after the date set by the board for the return of the employee's contract to the board may be considered by the board if special circumstances exist. It is within the discretion of the board to determine whether special circumstances exist.

Board action to approve a licensed employee's application for retirement is final and such action constitutes nonrenewal of the employee's contract for the next school year.

Licensed employees who retire under this policy may qualify for retirement benefits through the Iowa Public Employees Retirement System.

Licensed employees and their spouse and dependents shall be allowed to continue coverage in the school district's group health insurance program at their own expense by meeting the requirements of the insurer

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 97B; 216; 279.46  
281 I.A.C. 21.

Cross Reference: 407.6 Licensed Employee Early Retirement

Approved July, 2006

Reviewed January 21, 2013  
June 10, 2019  
January 20, 2020  
March 8, 2021

Revised February 10, 2020  
April 12, 2021

LICENSED EMPLOYEE SUSPENSION

Licensed employees will perform their assigned job, respect and follow board policy and obey the law. The superintendent is authorized to suspend a licensed employee pending board action on a discharge, for investigation of charges against the employee, and for disciplinary purposes. It is within the discretion of the superintendent to suspend a licensed employee with or without pay.

In the event of a suspension, appropriate due process will be followed.

Legal Reference: Northeast Community Education Association v. Northeast Community School District, 402 N.W.2d 765 (Iowa 1987).  
McFarland v. Board of Education of Norwalk Community School District, 277 N.W.2d 901 (Iowa 1979).  
Iowa Code §§ 20.7, .24; 279.13, .15-.19, .27

Cross Reference: 404 Employee Conduct and Appearance  
407 Licensed Employee Termination of Employment

Approved July, 2006

Reviewed January 21, 2013  
June 10, 2019  
March 8, 2021

Revised April 12, 2021

LICENSED EMPLOYEE REDUCTION IN FORCE

The board has the exclusive authority to determine the appropriate number of licensed employees. A reduction of licensed employees may occur as a result of, but not be limited to, changes in the education program, staff realignment, changes in the size or nature of the student population, financial situation considerations, and other reasons deemed relevant by the board.

The reduction in licensed employees, other than administrators, will be done through normal attrition if possible. If normal attrition does not meet the necessary reduction in force required, the board may terminate licensed employees.

It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent to make a recommendation for termination to the board. The process for reduction in force shall be as follows: The superintendent shall consider the following criteria in making the recommendations:

- Endorsements and educational preparation within the grade level and subject areas in which the employee is now performing;
- Relative skills, ability and demonstrated performance;
- Qualifications for co-curricular programs; and
- Number of continuous years of service to the school district. This will be considered only when the foregoing factors are relatively equal between licensed employees.

Due process for terminations due to a reduction in force will be followed.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 20; 279

Cross Reference: 407.4 Licensed Employee Suspension  
 413.5 Classified Employee Reduction in Force  
 703 Budget

Approved July, 2006

Reviewed January 21, 2013  
June 10, 2019  
March 8, 2021

Revised April 12, 2021

LICENSED EMPLOYEE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The board encourages licensed employees to attend and participate in professional development activities to maintain, develop, and extend their skills. The board will maintain and support an in-service program for licensed employees.

Requests for attendance or participation in a development program, other than those development programs sponsored by the school district, is made to the superintendent. Approval of the superintendent must be obtained prior to attendance by a licensed employee in a professional development program when the attendance would result in the licensed employee being excused from their duties or when the school district pays the expenses for the program.

The superintendent will have sole discretion to allow or disallow licensed employees to attend or participate in the requested event. When making this determination, the superintendent will consider the value of the program for the licensed employee and the school district, the effect of the licensed employee's absence on the education program and school district operations and the school district's financial situation as well as other factors deemed relevant in the judgment of the superintendent. Requests that involve unusual expenses or overnight travel must also be approved by the board.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code § 279.8  
281 I.A.C. 12.7. 83.6

Cross Reference: 414.10 Classified Employee Professional Purposes Leave

Approved July, 2006

Reviewed January 21, 2013  
June 10, 2019  
March 8, 2021

Revised April 12, 2021

LICENSED EMPLOYEE PUBLICATION OR CREATION OF MATERIALS

Materials created by licensed employees and the financial gain therefrom shall be the property of the school district if school materials and time were used in their creation and/or such materials were created in the scope of the licensed employee's employment. The licensed employee must seek prior written approval of the superintendent concerning such activities.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code § 279.8  
17 U.S.C. Sec. 101 et.al.

Cross Reference: 401.3 Employee Conflict of Interest  
606.6 Student Production of Materials and Services

Approved July, 2006

Reviewed January 21, 2013  
June 10, 2019  
March 8, 2021

Revised April 12, 2021

LICENSED EMPLOYEE TUTORING

Every effort will be made by the licensed employees to help students with learning problems before recommending that the parents engage a tutor. Since there are exceptional cases when tutoring will help students overcome learning deficiencies, tutoring by licensed employees may be approved by the superintendent.

Licensed employees may only tutor students other than those for whom the teacher is currently exercising teaching, administrative or supervisory responsibility unless approved by the superintendent.

Tutoring for a fee may not take place within school facilities or during regular school hours unless approved by the superintendent.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 20.7; 279.8

Cross Reference: 401.3 Employee Conflict of Interest  
402.7 Employee Outside Employment

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