

Policy Guidance

Everything that is new in the policies is underlined in red.

The portions that are to be removed from the policies are ~~struck through~~ and are in blue.

Policies Changed or added

1.1—LEGAL STATUS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS - To address phone calls as well as changes from the LEARNS Act, the policy was updated to clarify the times when the board is expected to act as a objective trier of fact. In addition, the Legal References were updated to cite additional statutes where this is required.

1.2—BOARD ORGANIZATION and VACANCIES - The policy was updated to address questions regarding when the officer terms end when the office of president is on the ballot. In addition, it was updated account for the changes to the causes of vacancies from Act 883 of 2023 that became effective on May 1, 2024.

1.14—MEETING AGENDA - The policy was updated to addressed calls and emails regarding what timelines were being waived to account for special/called board meetings.

2.1—DUTIES OF THE SUPERINTENDENT - Item 4 was updated to clarify the authority of the superintendent and the board regarding personnel. In addition, the notes section was updated to align with other policies.

3.2—LICENSED PERSONNEL EVALUATIONS - The policy was updated to incorporate the changes to the Rules governing Educator Performance (formerly the Rules Governing Educator Support and Development).

4.2—ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS - The language regarding residence requirements and kindergarten enrollment was updated to try and make the different options easier to read.

4.5F—SCHOOL CHOICE CAPACITY RESOLUTION - The language regarding exemptions due to desegregation orders was updated to more closely match the statutory process for an exemption.

4.17—STUDENT DISCIPLINE - The reasons for potentially disciplining a student for off campus activity was broken down into a list format for easier reading.

4.18—PROHIBITED CONDUCT - Prohibited conduct #8 was updated to more closely match the statutory language in A.C.A. § 6-18-515.

4.24—DRUGS AND ALCOHOL - Several list sets were broken out into bulleted lists for ease of reading. In addition, a note was added to explain the interaction between the policy and the Medical Marijuana Amendment. The Legal References were updated to include section 6 of Amendment 98.

4.42—STUDENT HANDBOOK - The policy was updated to add a longhand to the parenthetical eighteen. In addition, a note was added to inform why “Policies” was used when referring to Policy 4.45.

4.47— POSSESSION AND USE OF CELL PHONES AND OTHER ELECTRONIC DEVICES - The definition of “electronic device” was updated to more closely that of A.C.A. § 6-18-515.

4.63—STUDENT RELIGIOUS EXPRESSION - A couple of changes were made with numbers in order to standardize the formatting across policies. In addition, one of the Legal References was updated to correct a codification error.

5.17—HONOR ROLL AND HONOR GRADUATES - Several updates were made to standardize the formatting as well as to correct a reference to Footnote 3 in Footnote 2.

5.17F— HONOR ROLL AND GRADUATE OPT OUT FORM - Language regarding a student’s age was updated to standardize the formatting with other policies.

5.21—ADVANCED PLACEMENT, INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE, and HONORS COURSES - Some of the language was amended to align with formatting in other policies.

5.24—STUDENT PARTICIPATION IN SURVEYS - The policy was updated to try and make the policy easier to read as well as standardize some of the formatting with other policies.

5.24F—OBJECTION TO PARTICIPATION IN SURVEYS, ANALYSIS, OR EVALUATIONS - The form was updated to standardize some formatting with other policies.

5.24F2—PERMISSION TO PARTICIPATE IN A SURVEY, ANALYSIS, OR EVALUATION - The form was updated to standardize some formatting with other policies.

5.25—MARKETING OF PERSONAL INFORMATION - The policy was updated to standardize some of the language with other policies.

5.26.1—~~ALE~~ ALTERNATIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT PROGRAM EVALUATION - Some of the language was updated to make it easier to read as well as to standardize formatting with other policies.

5.28—ENHANCED STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT FUNDING EXPENDITURES - Some language was amended to standardize in relation to other policies. In addition, Footnote 1 was repealed due to the timeline having passed.

6.5—VISITORS TO THE SCHOOLS - Due to questions regarding the process for an individual to enter a school, we have added language from A.C.A. § 6-21-607 to address the procedures that should be in place before a visitor enters a school building for something other than an event open to the general public.

7.5—PURCHASES AND PROCUREMENT - Footnote #7 was updated to incorporate the new language for TIPS construction services purchases, including that a waiver must be request to exceed one million dollars (\$1,000,000) in a calendar year. In addition, the Legal References were updated. These changes do not require board action.

7.5F3—WAIVER REQUEST TO EXCEED COOPERATIVE PURCHASING FOR CONSTRUCTION SERVICES AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 19-11-249 (d) - This is a new model form to be used for TIPS construction projects.

7.12—EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT - A couple of changes were made in order to standardize language and formatting with other policies.

7.15—RECORD RETENTION AND DESTRUCTION - The policy was updated to standardize formatting with other policies.

Title IX Related Policies

The following policies have been carefully updated to account for the Governor’s Executive order 24-06 and guidance from DESE. The primary purpose of these updates is to incorporate available changes regarding the grievance process to provide a more streamlined process for districts and to update associated language with those changes in related policies. In recognition of the Governor’s Executive Order 24-06 as well as the Arkansas Attorney General’s lawsuit, we have not amended Policies 3.57, 4.61, 4.62, and 8.47 at this time.

3.17—LICENSED PERSONNEL CODE OF CONDUCT - This update is to align with the updated grievance process set forth in Policy 3.26 by changing the phrase “sexual harassment” to “sex-based harassment”.

3.19—LICENSED PERSONNEL EMPLOYMENT - This update is to align with the updated grievance process set forth in Policy 3.26 by changing the phrase “sexual harassment” to “sex-based harassment”.

3.26—LICENSED PERSONNEL SEX DISCRIMINATION AND ~~SEXUAL~~ SEX-BASED HARASSMENT - The policy was updated to incorporate changes to the definition of complaint as well as to select the single investigator model as the default procedural process for sex-based harassment complaints.

4.11—EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY - This update is to align with the updated grievance process set forth in Policy 4.27 by changing the phrase “sexual harassment” to “sex-based harassment”.

4.18—PROHIBITED CONDUCT - In addition to the update reason above, this update is to align with the updated grievance process set forth in Policy 4.27 by changing the phrase “sexual harassment” to “sex-based harassment” in #21.

4.27—STUDENT SEX DISCRIMINATION AND ~~SEXUAL~~ SEX-BASED HARASSMENT - The policy was updated to incorporate changes to the definition of complaint as well as to select the single investigator model as the default procedural process for sex-based harassment complaints.

8.13—CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL EMPLOYMENT - This update is to align with the updated grievance process set forth in Policy 8.20 by changing the phrase “sexual harassment” to “sex-based harassment”.

8.20—CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL SEX DISCRIMINATION AND ~~SEXUAL~~ SEX-BASED HARASSMENT - The policy was updated to incorporate changes to the definition of complaint as well as to select the single investigator model as the default procedural process for sex-based harassment complaints.

8.45—CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL CODE OF CONDUCT - This update is to align with the updated grievance process set forth in Policy 8.20 by changing the phrase “sexual harassment” to “sex-based harassment”.