

|                                                            |    |
|------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| 1001.00 - Principles And Objectives Of Community Relations | 2  |
| 1003.00 - Examination Of District Records                  | 3  |
| 1004.01 - Media Relations                                  | 4  |
| 1004.02 - Press Release, Conferences                       | 5  |
| 1004.03 - Live Broadcast Or Videotaping                    | 6  |
| 1004.04 - Crisis Management Communications                 | 7  |
| 1005.02 - Parent Relations Goals                           | 8  |
| 1005.03 - Parental And Family Involvement                  | 9  |
| 1005.04 - Community Relations Goals                        | 11 |
| 1005.05 - Community Involvement In Decisions               | 12 |
| 1005.06 - Community Resource Persons                       | 13 |
| 1005.07 - Visitors To School                               | 14 |
| 1005.08 - Public Conduct                                   | 16 |
| 1005.09 - Skateboarding And Rollerblading                  | 18 |
| 1005.10 - Distribution Of Materials                        | 19 |
| 1005.11 - Volunteers In The Schools                        | 21 |
| 1005.12 - Title 1 Parent And Family Member Engagement      | 22 |
| 1005.50 - Adult Sponsors                                   | 24 |
| 1006.01 - Community Use Of Facilities                      | 25 |
| 1006.02 - Tobacco Free Environment                         | 26 |
| 1007.00 - Education Agency Relations                       | 27 |
| 1040 - Annual Report                                       | 28 |
| 1110 - Bulletin Boards                                     | 29 |

## PRINCIPLES AND OBJECTIVES FOR COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Successful education programs require the support of the school district community. The board addresses the importance of the role of the school district community in the school district in this series of the policy manual. The board recognizes this support is dependent on the school district community's understanding of participation in the efforts, goals, problems and programs of the school district.

In this section, the board sets out its policies defining its relationship with the school district community. In striving to obtain the support of the school district community, the board will:

- Provide access to school district records;
- Inform the school district community of the school district's goals, objectives, achievements, and needs;
- Invite the input of the school district community; and,
- Encourage cooperation between the school district and the school district community.

## PUBLIC EXAMINATION OF SCHOOL DISTRICT RECORDS

Public records of the school district may be viewed by the public during the regular business hours of the administration offices of the school district. These hours are 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday, except for holidays and recesses.

Records defined by law as confidential records shall be viewed or copied upon receipt of written permission by the administration office from the person or entity whose confidential records are being requested. Lacking such permission, the superintendent will issue a written denial of the request.

Persons wishing to view the school district's public records shall contact the central administration office and make arrangements for the viewing. The office personnel will make arrangements for viewing the records as soon as practicable, and within 4 business days if possible.

Persons wanting copies may be assessed a fee for the copies not to exceed the actual costs. If the estimated cost of the records exceeds \$50.00, the office will obtain an advance deposit equal to the estimated cost. Records will not be made available in any form in which that record is not already maintained or produced. Persons making requests to use their own copying equipment must make arrangements satisfactory to the administration office.

It shall be the responsibility of the administration office to maintain accurate and current records of the school district. It shall be the responsibility of the office to respond in a timely manner to requests for viewing and receiving public information of the school district. If the office is unable to provide the requested records within 4 business days, the secretary will issue a written explanation with a revised date for completion, an estimate of cost, and allow the requester to modify or prioritize the information request.

Legal Reference: Nebraska Statutes 84-712.0 et seq.

Cross Reference: 507.01 Student Records Access

Approved August 10<sup>th</sup> 2020 Reviewed Mr. L July 2020 Revised \_\_\_\_\_

## MEDIA RELATIONS

The board recognizes the value of and supports open, fair and honest communication with the news media. The board will maintain a cooperative relationship with the news media. As part of this cooperative relationship, the board and the media will develop a means for sharing information while respecting each party's limitations.

Members of the news media are encouraged and welcome to attend open board meetings. The board president shall be the spokesperson for the board, and the superintendent shall be the spokesperson for the school district. It shall be the responsibility of the board president and superintendent to respond to inquiries from the news media about the school district.

Members of the news media seeking information about the school district shall direct their inquiries to the superintendent. The superintendent shall accurately and objectively provide the facts and board positions in response to inquiries from the news media about the school district.

Approved August 10<sup>th</sup> 2020    Reviewed Mr. L. July 2020    Revised \_\_\_\_\_

## NEWS CONFERENCES AND INTERVIEWS

The superintendent, on behalf of the board and the school district, may hold a news conference or respond to a request for an interview with the news media.

The superintendent shall respond accurately, openly, honestly, and objectively to inquiries from the news media about the school district.

News conferences and interviews planned or pre-arranged for school district activities shall include the board and the superintendent. News conferences for issues requiring an immediate response may be held by the superintendent. It shall be within the discretion of the superintendent to determine whether a news conference or interview shall be held to provide an immediate response to an issue.

It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent to keep the board apprised of news conferences and interviews.

Information about school activities and issues will be provided to the community in a way which will create and maintain a dignified and professionally responsible image for the district.

The procedures listed below will be followed in giving official information to the news media:

1. The board president will be the official spokesman for the board, unless this duty is delegated;
2. News releases that are of districtwide interest or that pertain to established district policy will be the responsibility of the superintendent;
3. The superintendent will establish regulations for the dissemination of news releases pertaining to the district.

When individual board members receive requests from press media representatives for information about board meetings or actions, members will refer these representatives to the board president, who is the spokesman for the board. The president may designate others to speak on behalf of the board at his/her discretion.

Press conferences will be authorized by the board president.

Nothing in this policy is intended to limit the rights of individual board members to speak their personal opinions.

Approved **August 10<sup>th</sup> 2020** Reviewed **Mr. L. July 2020** Revised \_\_\_\_\_

## LIVE BROADCAST OR VIDEOTAPING

Within the limitations described below, individuals may broadcast or videotape public school district events, including open board meetings, as long as it does not interfere with or disrupt the school district event and it does not create an undue burden in adapting the buildings and sites to accommodate the request.

It shall be within the discretion of the superintendent to determine whether the request is unduly burdensome and whether the broadcast or videotaping will interfere with or disrupt the school district event.

In addition to limitations on recording or transmitting image or sound in policy 504.12 referenced below, anyone recording or transmitting any sound or image of any person (including themselves) must have the prior consent of the person or persons being recorded or whose image or sound is being transmitted. This requirement applies to all persons, including staff, students, volunteers, and community members, at district facilities or attending district sponsored events. This policy does not apply to District-sponsored athletic events or activities where the focus of the recording or transmission is on the student performances or activity. Nothing in this policy shall prohibit the recording of an Individualized Education Program meeting when necessary to implement parental rights as guaranteed by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act or in conducting meetings to implement Section 504.

News media coverage of sports and other special events is encouraged. Radio broadcasts of events will be arranged through the superintendent's office. Videotaping of classroom activities will be allowed at the discretion of the superintendent. Parents will be notified prior to videotaping of classroom activities.

It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent to implement this policy and for handling requests for other broadcasting or videotaping activities.

Cross Reference:        504.12        Regulated Electronic Devices

Approved **October 12<sup>th</sup> 2020** Reviewed **Mr. L10.6.20** Revised \_\_\_\_\_

## CRISIS MANAGEMENT COMMUNICATIONS

A school crisis may occur at any time, may take various shapes, and may hit with varying degrees of severity. The superintendent is directed to develop a School Communications Crisis Procedure to manage information more effectively and to ensure the crisis will be managed more effectively.

The procedure should include the following provisions:

1. Designation of a crisis spokesperson and description of the spokespersons duties;
2. Preparations to be taken before a crisis for dealing with the media;
3. Procedures for contacting various groups such as emergency response units, employees, parents, and the media;
4. Procedures for developing and releasing a public statement soon after the initiation of the crisis; and
5. Procedures for developing a public statement or report following the conclusion of the crisis.

Cross Reference: 905 Safety Program

Approved **August 10<sup>th</sup> 2020** Reviewed **Mr. L July 2020** Revised \_\_\_\_\_

## PARENT RELATIONS GOALS

It is the general goal of the district to foster relationships with parents which encourage cooperation between the home and school in establishing and achieving common educational goals for students. The board believes parents should be active participants in education by demonstrating interest in and support for their school and the district, by becoming informed about their role as partners in education, and by becoming involved in the education of their children.

While parents are individually responsible for their children, the district provides direct services of education and indirect services of child care for students during the time when they are within the supervision of school personnel. Consistent with these shared responsibilities and as appropriate to the maturity of the student, members of the school staff will consult with parents regarding student progress and achievement, methods to enhance student development, and matters of correction.

Additionally, parental involvement in the schools is encouraged through regular communication with the school principal and staff, the parent/teacher organizations, the school volunteer program, and other opportunities for participation in school activities and district programs. It is assumed that the relationship described in the general goal is fostered if the district will:

- consult with and encourage parents to share in school planning, in setting objectives, and evaluating programs;
- help parents understand the education process and their role in promoting this process;
- provide for parent understanding of school operations;
- provide opportunities for parents to be informed of their child's development and the criteria for its measurement; and
- help parents improve in their role as parents.

Cross Reference:           508.07 Custody and Parental Rights  
                                  611.01 Student Progress Reports  
                                  611.04 Parent Conferences

Approved **August 10<sup>th</sup> 2020**   Reviewed **Mr. L July 2020**   Revised \_\_\_\_\_



## PARENTAL AND FAMILY INVOLVEMENT IN THE SCHOOLS

It is the policy of the district to provide full access to the parent and family members of any student of the district to review textbooks, tests, curriculum and instructional materials, records of a student of any such parent, unless otherwise prohibited by law, and to any surveys of students done by the school district. Summary information regarding the district's curriculum, testing, and surveys will be provided as soon as it becomes available each school year. Requests for access to specific instructional materials should be addressed to the teacher or building principal.

Requests by parents and family members to attend and monitor courses, assemblies, counseling sessions and other instructional activities shall also be made to the building principal or teacher. While requests to monitor are usually granted, if the request is denied, reasons for the denial will be provided.

It is the policy of the district to provide as consistent an experience as possible in all classroom instruction, testing, surveys, and other school experiences. It is the policy of the district not to excuse students from classroom instruction, testing, and other school experiences unless an objection is submitted to the building principal or teacher outlining the specific experience, the basis for the objection and a proposed solution for dealing with the objection that would be satisfactory to the parent and family members.

The request for the student to be excused will be reviewed by the building principal and a decision provided to the parents and family members. While verbal objections and decisions are valid, written follow-up to verbal communications is required from the parent and family members, and the principal. If a student is excused from the requested activity no penalty will be assessed but an agreed upon alternative activity must be performed to the satisfaction of the teacher and principal.

It is the policy of the district to use only testing methods and testing instruments that are not of an experimental nature and to avoid using any testing materials or testing techniques that are not generally recognized by educational professionals to be within sound educational standards and both educationally and academically appropriate. It is the policy of the district to notify parents and family members of any standardized testing that may be scheduled within the school district.

It is the policy of the district to notify parents and family members of any survey which may be scheduled and to conduct student surveys judiciously, with full consideration of the fact that parents and family members may find items of the survey objectionable.

Approved June 13<sup>th</sup> 2022 Reviewed July 20, 2026 Revised \_\_\_\_\_

The following activities will also be included in the district's plan for parental and family involvement:

1. The district will involve parents and family members in the development of the Title I plan, the process for school review of the plan and the process for improvement;
2. The district will provide the coordination, technical assistance and other support necessary to assist participating schools in planning and implementing effective parental and family involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance;
3. The district will build the schools' and parents' and family members' capacity for strong parental and family involvement;
4. The district will coordinate and integrate parental and family involvement strategies under Title I with other programs such as Head Start, Reading First, etc.;
5. The district will conduct with the involvement of parents and family members, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the parental and family involvement policy in improving the academic quality of the school served including identifying barriers to greater participation by parents and family members in Title I activities (with particular attention to parents and families who have low income, Limited English Proficient (LEP), minorities, disabilities and low literacy) and use the findings of the evaluation to design strategies for more effective parental and family involvement and to revise, as necessary, the parental and family involvement policies; and
6. The district will involve parents and family members in Title I activities.

The parent and family members or guardian of a student may have access to that student's records during normal business hours of the district according to Policy 507.01 Student Records Access.

This policy is adopted following a public hearing to receive public comments and suggestions.

Legal Reference:       Neb. Statute 79-530 to 533  
                              No Child Left Behind, Title I, Sec. 1118, P.L. 107-110

Cross Reference:       507.01 Student Records Access  
                              606.03 Objection to Instructional Materials  
                              610.02 Test or Assessment Administration  
                              611.01 Student Progress Reports  
                              611.04 Parent Conferences  
                              1002. District Annual Report  
                              1005.01 Public Complaints

## COMMUNITY RELATIONS GOALS

The school-community relations program is a responsibility of both the Board of Education and the total school staff. Within the bounds of legal and ethical responsibilities to pupils, the school district will attempt to keep the community well informed about the operations and needs of the school district. The school district recognizes the necessity of involving citizens in the work of the schools and of two-way communications with the schools' internal and external publics.

The board will work closely with school district-community groups, including, but not limited to, the booster club and parent-teacher organizations. The Board expects all district staff to demonstrate commitment to the involvement of parents and community members in education.

Prior to any purchase of, or fund raising for, goods or services for the school district, the group shall confer with the superintendent to assist the group in purchasing goods or services to meet the school district's needs.

Funds raised by these groups for the school district may be kept as part of the accounts of the school district.

It shall be the responsibility of the building principal to be the liaison with the school district-community groups affiliated with the building principal's attendance center.

Approved **August 10<sup>th</sup> 2020** Reviewed **Mr. L July 2020** Revised \_\_\_\_\_

## COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT IN DECISION MAKING

The Board endorses the concept that community participation in school affairs is essential if the school system and the community are to maintain mutual confidence and respect and work together to improve the quality of education for students. It therefore intends to exert every effort to identify the community's desires and to be responsive, through its actions, to those desires.

All district citizens will be encouraged to express their ideas, concerns and judgments about the schools through such means as: (1) written suggestion(s) or proposal(s); (2) presentations at hearings; (3) responses to surveys made through interviews, written instruments or other means; (4) comments at Board meetings; and (5) service on citizens' advisory committees and school improvement teams.

The public advice will be given careful consideration. In evaluating such advice, the first concern will be for the educational program as it affects students. The Board's final decisions may depart from public advice when, in the judgment of staff and the Board, such advice is not consistent with goals adopted by the Board or with good educational practice or within available financial resources.

Approved August 10<sup>th</sup> 2020    Reviewed Mr. L July 2020    Revised \_\_\_\_\_

## COMMUNITY RESOURCE PERSONS AND VOLUNTEERS

The board recognizes the valuable resource it has in the members of the school district community. When possible and in concert with the education program, members of the school district community may be asked to make presentations to the students or to assist employees in duties other than teaching. The school district may officially recognize the contributions made by volunteers.

Recruitment, training, utilization, and the maintenance of records for the purposes of insurance coverage or recognition of school district volunteers are responsibilities of the superintendent.

Approved August 10<sup>th</sup> 2020    Reviewed Mr. L July 2020    Revised \_\_\_\_\_

## VISITORS TO SCHOOL

The Board encourages parents and other district citizens to visit the school and classrooms at any time to observe the work of students, teachers and other employees. All visitors, which includes persons other than employees or students, must notify the principal of their presence in the facility upon arrival and request authorization to visit elsewhere in the building.

Persons who wish to visit a classroom while school is in session are asked to notify the principal and obtain approval from the principal prior to the visit so appropriate arrangements can be made and so class disruption can be minimized. Teachers and other employees shall not take time from their duties to discuss matters with visitors.

Visitors shall conduct themselves in a manner fitting to their age level and maturity and with mutual respect and consideration for the rights of others while attending school events. Visitors failing to conduct themselves accordingly may be asked to leave the premises. The board and administration will not tolerate any person or persons whose presence disturbs classes or school activities or hinders the instructional process. Children who wish to visit school must be accompanied by a parent or responsible adult.

It shall be the responsibility of employees to report inappropriate conduct. It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent and principals to take the action necessary to cease the inappropriate conduct. If the superintendent or principals are not available, a school district employee shall act to cease the inappropriate conduct.

The Board discourages using the school as a site for parents without custody to visit their children. The principal may deny the parent without custody the opportunity to deliver packages, gifts, messages, etc., to the child and/or to see the child during the school day without the approval of the custodial parent or legal guardian. In this paragraph, "without custody" means the parent lacks joint legal custody under Nebraska law.

The school district shall notify parents, students, and staff members of any registered sex offenders residing in the district. The notice will provide information about Nebraska's Sex Offender Registry (at <https://sor.nebraska.gov/>) which allows the public to sign up for notifications of any sex offenders living in their area. No confidential information other than the information offered by the Registry shall be included in the notification.

This information is to be used to provide public notice and information about a registrant so a community can develop constructive plans to prepare themselves and their family. Sex offender registry information shall not be used to retaliate against the registrants, their families, or their employers in any way. Vandalism, verbal or written threats of harm are illegal and will result in arrest and prosecution.

Except when individual arrangements have been made by the administrators, the board

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewed \_\_\_\_\_ Revised \_\_\_\_\_

does not allow registered sex offenders on school grounds, at school facilities, or at school activities. Students registered as sex offenders will receive a free and appropriate education from the district and issues related to the student's status will be handled individually.

The district may restrict the use of its buildings and grounds or restrict access to school property to other persons of concern by issuing no trespassing commands and/or stay away/no trespassing letters when deemed necessary by the superintendent when any individual or group:

1. is determined to present a risk to the safety of others,
2. presents a disruption to the learning environment,
3. fails to follow proper check-in and identification procedures, or
4. does not have a legitimate purpose to be present on school grounds or activities.

In the event a person prohibited by this or other board policies is on district property or is attending a district-sponsored event, the superintendent or building principal will tell the person he or she must leave and will notify the person they are not permitted back on district property, except if their presence is required by the district. The superintendent or building principal may contact the proper legal authorities if necessary to enforce this policy and may file a report or sign a complaint on behalf of the district.

Legal Reference:      Neb. Statute 79-8,100

Cross Reference:      1004    Press, Radio and Television News Media

## PUBLIC CONDUCT ON SCHOOL PREMISES

No person on district property will:

- Injure or threaten to injure another;
- Damage the property of another or of the district;
- Violate parking regulations;
- Drive a vehicle in an unsafe manner;
- Impede, delay or otherwise interfere with the orderly conduct of the district's educational program or any other activity taking place on district property which has been authorized by the Board, superintendent, principal or other authorized administrator;
- Enter any portion of district premises at any time for purposes other than those which are lawful and authorized by district officials;
- Possess an unauthorized loaded or unloaded firearm or any other instrument used as a dangerous or deadly weapon as defined in law and Board policy;
- Consume, sell, give or deliver unlawful drugs including drug paraphernalia and alcoholic beverages;
- Smoke or use tobacco products;
- Wear, possess, use, distribute, display or sell any clothing, jewelry, emblem, badge, symbol, sign or other things which are evidence of membership or affiliation in any gang. Use speech or commit any act or omission in furtherance of the interests of any gang or gang activity. A "gang" is defined as a group that identifies itself through the use of a name, unique appearance or language including hand signs, claiming of geographical territory or the espousing of a distinctive belief system that frequently results in criminal activity.
- Willfully violate other district rules and regulations designed to maintain public order on school property.

Spectators are permitted to attend extracurricular activities only as guests of the school district, and, accordingly as a condition of such permission, they must comply with the school district's rules and policies. Spectators will not be allowed to interfere with the enjoyment of the students participating, other spectators or with the performance of employees and officials supervising the extracurricular activity. Spectators, like the student participants, are expected to display mature behavior and sportsmanship. The failure of spectators to do so is not only disruptive but embarrassing to the students, the school district and the entire community.

To protect the rights of students to participate without fear of interference, and to permit the sponsors and officials of extracurricular activities to perform their duties without interference, the following provisions are in effect:

Approved **August 10<sup>th</sup> 2020**    Reviewed **Mr. L July 2020**    Revised \_\_\_\_\_



- Abusive, verbal or physical conduct of spectators directed at participants, officials or sponsors of extracurricular activities or at other spectators will not be tolerated.
- Verbal or physical conduct of spectators that interferes with the performance of students, officials or sponsors of extracurricular activities will not be tolerated.
- The use of vulgar or obscene language directed at students, officials or sponsors participating in an extracurricular activity or at other spectators will not be tolerated.

If a spectator at an extracurricular activity becomes physically or verbally abusive, uses vulgar or obscene language, or in any way impedes the performance of an activity, the spectator may be removed from the event by the individual in charge of the event and the superintendent may recommend the exclusion of the spectator at future extracurricular activities.

Upon recommendation of the superintendent, the board shall cause a notice of exclusion from extracurricular activities to be sent to the spectator involved. The notice shall advise the spectator of the school district's right to exclude the individual from school district activities and events and the duration of the exclusion. If the spectator disobeys the school district's order, law enforcement authorities will be contacted and asked to remove the spectator. If a spectator has been notified of exclusion and thereafter attends an extracurricular activity, the spectator shall be advised that his/her attendance will result in prosecution.

Persons having no legitimate purpose or business on district property or violating or threatening to violate the above rules may be ejected from the premises and/or referred to law enforcement officials.

Cross Reference:     506     Student Activities  
                             903.08 Vandalism  
                             1006    Use of District Facilities and Equipment

## SKATEBOARDING AND ROLLERBLADING

In the interest of maintaining a safe injury-free environment and preventing damage to school equipment, skateboarding and rollerblading are prohibited on the sidewalks, driveways and playgrounds of the school at all times.

Cross Reference:      905      Safety Program

Approved **August 10<sup>th</sup> 2020**      Reviewed **Mr. L July 2020**      Revised \_\_\_\_\_

## DISTRIBUTION OR POSTING OF MATERIALS

The board recognizes that students, employees, parents or citizens may want to distribute materials within the school district that are noncurricular. Noncurricular materials to be distributed must be approved by the building principal and meet certain standards prior to their distribution.

It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent, in conjunction with the building principals to draft administrative regulations regarding this policy.

Materials shall be reviewed based on legitimate educational concerns. Such concerns include: the material is or may be defamatory; the material is inappropriate based on the age, grade level and/or maturity of the reading audience; the material is poorly written, inadequately researched, biased or prejudiced; the material contains information that is not factual; the material is not free of racial, ethnic, religious or sexual bias; or the material contains advertising that violates public school laws, rules and/or policy, is deemed inappropriate for students or that the public might reasonably perceive to bear the sanction or approval of the district.

The superintendent or designee shall determine distribution procedures for noncurricular materials. Such procedures may include:

1. Distribution to each student before or after class if materials are not directly related to the instructional goals;
2. Notification to students or parents of the availability of the materials in a specified location if this procedure is deemed less disruptive to the educational process; or
3. Solicitation of school-related groups such as parent organizations to distribute materials.

The practice of distributing pamphlets, booklets, flyers, brochures and other similar materials shall be periodically reviewed to ensure that the mere volume of requests has not become an interruption to the educational process.

The facilities, the staff or the students of the district shall not be used in any manner to advertise or promote commercial, cultural, organizational or other nonschool interests except that the district may:

1. Utilize films and other instructional aids furnished by private sources when the advertising content is reasonable in the judgment of the building principal;
2. Cooperate through announcements and distribution of program material with nonprofit community organizations that supplement the school program when such cooperation will not interfere with the school program;

Approved August 10<sup>th</sup> 2020 Reviewed Mr. L July 2020 Revised \_\_\_\_\_

3. Permit participation on a student option basis in essay, art, science and similar contests sponsored by outside interests when such activities parallel the curriculum and contribute to the educational program;
4. Release promotional material for nonschool athletic and cultural events only through appropriate school departments;
5. Accept limited advertising on extracurricular activity schedules and programs at the discretion of the principal of the school involved;
6. Permit other exceptions when, in the judgment of the superintendent, students of the district will benefit. The superintendent may, at his/her option, refer specific cases to the board for decision.

Signs and Banners: Signs and banners will be allowed in or upon buildings and other district facilities only with the prior written approval of the superintendent or building principal with consideration for the health, safety and welfare of staff and students.

The following guidelines shall be applied in considering requests to display signs or banners:

1. Signs and banners on sticks require special authorization;
2. Signs and banners fastened to any structure of a building or structures immediately adjacent to an open space shall not be allowed without specific prior written permission;
3. Signs and banners presenting recognizable health or safety hazards are prohibited;
4. Signs and banners presenting false information shall be prohibited.
5. Signs and banners may be removed at the discretion of the administration.

|                   |        |                       |
|-------------------|--------|-----------------------|
| Cross References: | 504.03 | Student Conduct       |
|                   | 504.08 | Freedom of Expression |
|                   | 506    | Student Activities    |
|                   | 604.10 | Academic Freedom      |

## VOLUNTEERS IN THE SCHOOLS

The use of volunteers within the school program enhances the educational process both for students and for the community. Volunteers may provide additional support in the classroom, promote community-school cooperation in facilitating the learning process and provide resource persons for the district who have expertise in various areas.

Building principals shall make the final determination whether an interested community member will serve as a volunteer. The safety and well being of the students, staff and volunteers of the district is the chief concern. Therefore, the district may conduct criminal background checks on all volunteers who work directly with and/or have access to students. Background checks, if completed, will be conducted prior to the first time the individual volunteers work with the students and the district reserves the right to conduct additional background checks periodically thereafter.

School volunteers shall be expected to abide by all applicable laws, district policies and administrative procedures when performing their responsibilities. All district employees working directly with a volunteer are responsible for directing and supervising the activities of the volunteer with broad supervision provided by the building principal/administrators.

It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent to implement this policy.

Approved **August 10<sup>th</sup> 2020**    Reviewed **Mr. L July 2020**    Revised \_\_\_\_\_

## TITLE 1 PARENT AND FAMILY MEMBER ENGAGEMENT

The district commits to meeting all requirements of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 including Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) amendments as they apply to all Title 1 programs conducted within the District. For the purpose of this policy “parents and family members” means “parents and persons in a parental relation to the student.” This Policy will be distributed to all parents annually, in a language that parents can understand.

The District recognizes the unique needs of students who are being served through the Title 1 Program and stresses the importance of parent and family member involvement in the academic success of their children. Opportunities will be provided for parent and family member involvement in their child's education in the following manner:

1. Parents and family members will be involved in the planning, review, development and approval of the Parent and Family Member Engagement Policy through at least one annual meeting held at a convenient time during the first semester.
2. The District will strive to build the capacity for strong engagement of the school, parents and family members by developing School/Parent Compacts to strengthen communication between the home and school:
  - By providing annual meetings in Title 1 buildings to explain Title 1 to parents and family members;
  - By training parents and family members in how to help their children at home;
  - By sharing district standards, benchmarks, and assessments to parents and family members and explaining to them how to help monitor the progress of their children; and
  - By providing parent and family member resource centers at each site.
3. Parents and family members will be provided timely information regarding the District’s curriculum, academic assessments used, and proficiency levels expected of all students through the student handbook, parent/teacher conferences, report cards and progress reports along with other communications opportunities.
4. Parents and family members will be provided opportunities to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children regarding such matters as curriculum, assessments and student performance standards through the School Improvement Plan, Title 1 reviews and plans, and other means as available.
5. The District will coordinate and integrate parent and family member engagement programs and activities with other community programs such as Head Start, Reading First, Title III and Migrant programs, public libraries, public preschools, instructional support services and other federal, state and local programs.

Approved **August 10<sup>th</sup> 2020** Reviewed **Mr. L July 2020** Revised \_\_\_\_\_

Legal Reference: Neb. Statute 79-530 to 533  
Title 92, Chapter 51, Nebraska Administrative Code  
No Child Left Behind, Title 1, Sec. 1118, P.L. 107-110  
Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)

## ADULT SPONSORS

Adult sponsors must be in attendance at all school sponsored activities.

Approved **August 10<sup>th</sup> 2020**    Reviewed **Mr. L July 2020**    Revised \_\_\_\_\_



## COMMUNITY USE OF SCHOOL DISTRICT BUILDINGS, SITES AND EQUIPMENT

School District facilities, sites and equipment will be made available to local nonprofit entities without charge. "Entities" shall include organizations, groups and individuals and their agents. Such use will be permitted only when the use does not interfere with or disrupt the education program or a school-related activity, the use is consistent with state law, and will end no later than midnight. It is within the discretion of the board to selectively allow for-profit entities to use school district facilities, sites and equipment on a fee basis. The fees established shall be consistent with the fee schedule in policy 705.02 (Usage Fees, Admissions and Royalties). It shall be within the discretion of the superintendent to allow use of school district facilities, sites and equipment on Sundays or holidays.

Those who wish to use school district facilities, sites or equipment must apply at the superintendent's office. It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent to determine whether the school district facility or equipment requested is available and whether the application for use meets board policy and administrative regulations. It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent to provide application forms, obtain proof of insurance, and draw up the contract (when required) for use of school district facilities, sites and equipment.

A school district employee shall supervise use of school district facilities, sites and equipment by entities unless special prior arrangements are made with the superintendent. The school district employee shall not accept a fee from the entity using school district facilities and equipment. If appropriate, the school district employee will be paid by the school district.

Entities that use school district buildings or sites must leave the building or site in the same condition it was in prior to its use. Entities that use school district equipment must return the equipment in the same working condition it was in prior to its use. Inappropriate use of school district facilities, sites or equipment may result in additional fees charged to, or the inability of, the entity to use school district facilities, sites or equipment in the future.

Legal Reference: Good News Club v. Milford

Cross Reference: 705.02 Usage Fees, Admissions and Royalties  
904.02 Lease, Sale or Disposal of School District Buildings and Sites  
1001 Principles and Objectives for Community Relations

Approved **August 10<sup>th</sup> 2020** Reviewed **Mr. L July 2020** Revised \_\_\_\_\_

## TOBACCO-FREE ENVIRONMENT

School district facilities, including school vehicles, shall be off limits for smoking or other uses of tobacco products. For purposes of this policy, it includes all products such as cigars, cigarettes, chewing tobacco, nicotine products, vapor products (including e-cigarettes), and any products intended by appearance or effect to replicate tobacco products. This requirement extends to employees and visitors. This policy applies at all times, including school-sponsored and nonschool-sponsored events. Persons failing to abide by this request shall be required to extinguish their smoking material and may be required to leave the school district premises immediately. It shall be the responsibility of the administration to enforce this policy.

Legal Reference:      Goals 2000: Educate America Act, Pub. L. No. 103-227, 108 Stat. 125 (1994).

Approved **August 10<sup>th</sup> 2020**      Reviewed **Mr. L July 2020**      Revised \_\_\_\_\_

## EDUCATION AGENCY RELATIONS

The Board desires that staff and students of this district benefit in every feasible way from resources provided by the colleges and universities of our area. The superintendent is to keep the board informed of opportunities for shared and cooperative services between the district and institutions of higher learning. Additionally, staff members are encouraged to seek out and use the services of college and university faculty members who are willing to serve our schools as instructional resource persons.

Approved August 10<sup>th</sup> 2020      Reviewed Mr. L July 2020      Revised \_\_\_\_\_

Community RelationsAnnual Report and School Improvement

The Superintendent shall prepare and distribute each year an Annual Report in accordance with Nebraska Department of Education Rule 10. The Annual Report shall be distributed or made available to residents of the School District each year. The report shall include information required by NDE Rule 10 and applicable NDE guidance. The results of the annual report shall be used to plan and make needed changes to improve instruction for all students.

The Superintendent shall further ensure that the School District implements a systematic on-going process that guides planning, implementation, and evaluation and renewal of school improvement activities to meet local and statewide goals and priorities. The school improvement process shall focus on improving student learning and include a periodic review by visiting educators who provide consultation to the local school/community in continued accomplishment of plans and goals. The school improvement process shall further include the following activities at least once within each five years:

- A. Review and update of the mission and vision statements.
- B. Collection and analysis of data about student performance, demographics, learning climate, and former high school students.
- C. Selection of improvement goals. At least one goal is directed toward improving student academic achievement.
- D. Development and implementation of an improvement plan which includes procedures, strategies, actions to achieve goals, and an aligned professional development plan.
- E. Evaluation of progress toward improvement goals.

The school improvement process shall further include a visitation by a team of external representatives to review progress and provide written recommendations. A copy of the school system's improvement plan and the written recommendations shall be provided to the Nebraska Department of Education, when appropriate. The external team visits shall be conducted at least once each five years.

At least annually, the Superintendent or designee shall provide a computer science and technology education status report to both the Board of Education and Nebraska State Department of Education. The annual report may include information about student progress on the computer science and technology courses and other relevant measures of student progress in the areas of computer science and technology education. To the extent appropriate, computer science education data may be incorporated into the District's Annual Report and considered as part of the District's ongoing school improvement planning process.

Legal Reference: NDE Rule 10.01, 10.5.02, 10.9 and 10.10  
Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-3305

Date of Adoption: July 20, 2026  
Date of Review: [add date here]  
Date of Revision: [add date here]

Community RelationsBulletin Boards, Display Case, and Posted Material

School bulletin boards, display cases, and posting areas are solely designated for the purposes of conveying information about school activities and programs to students, staff, and the visiting public as deemed appropriate by the Principal or designee.

Upon request, a professional employees' organization, as defined by state law, shall be granted reasonable access to the physical or electronic mailboxes of certificated employees for purposes consistent with state law and Board Policy. The Superintendent or designee may establish reasonable, content-neutral procedures governing the time, place, and manner of such access to ensure that school business is not disrupted and that the District maintains employee privacy. A professional employees' organization shall also be permitted to provide information to certificated employees, including at employee meetings or orientation sessions, subject to reasonable administrative scheduling and oversight.

Legal Reference:      Neb. Rev. Stat. Sec. 79-526  
                                 LB 429 (2026)

Date of Adoption:      July 20, 2026  
Date of Review:        [add date here]  
Date of Revision:      [add date here]