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STUDENT TRANSPORTATION

Students living more than four miles from their designated school attendance centers shall be entitled to transportation to and from their attendance center at the expense of the school district.

Parents of students who live where transportation by bus is impracticable or unavailable may be required to furnish transportation to and from the designated attendance center at the expense of the school district. Those parents who transport their children at the expense of the school district shall be reimbursed in accordance with state statute.

A student may be required, at the board's discretion, to meet a school vehicle without reimbursement up to three-fourths of a mile. The board may require the parent to transport their children up to two miles to connect with school bus vehicles at the expense of the school district when conditions deem it advisable. It shall be within the discretion of the board to determine such conditions.

Legal Reference: Neb. Statute 79-611

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FOSTER CARE TRANSPORTATION PLAN

Upon notification of any foster care student locating to the district whose school of origin is in a different district, administrators will work with the local area social services agency to determine appropriate procedures for transportation provisions, arrangements, and funding for the duration of that student's time in local foster care.

These procedures shall ensure that the student in foster care who needs transportation to the originating district promptly receives it in a cost-effective manner and if there are additional costs incurred in providing transportation to the school of origin, the school district will provide transportation if:

1. The local agency agrees to reimburse the school district;
2. The school district agrees to pay the costs; or
3. The school district and the local agency agree to share the costs.

The district's Foster Care Point of Contact is as follows:

Name and/or Title: _____

Address: _____

Telephone No.: _____

The district will post the Foster Care Point of Contact information on its website and provide that information to the local area social services agency when notified of students in district foster care custody.

SPECIAL EDUCATION STUDENT TRANSPORTATION

Transportation of students who require special education services shall generally be provided as for other students, when appropriate. Specialized transportation of a student to and from a special education instructional service is a function of that service and, therefore, an appropriate expenditure of special education instructional funds generated through the weighting plan.

Transportation of special education students shall be specified in the individual education program. When the IEP team determines that unique transportation arrangements are required and the arrangements are specified in the IEP, the school district will provide one or more of the following transportation arrangements for instructional services or support services:

- Transportation from the student's residence to the location of the special education or care services and back to the student's residence.
- Special assistance or adaptations in getting the student to and from and on and off the vehicle, en route to and from the special education.
- Reimbursement of the actual costs of transportation when by mutual agreement the parents provide transportation for the student to and from the special education.

Legal Reference: 20 U.S.C. §§ 1401, 1701 et seq. (1994).
34 C.F.R. Pt. 300 et seq. (1996).

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BUS SCHEDULING AND ROUTING

School bus stops and routes will be determined by Superintendent and/or Principal and will be based upon efficiency, safety, board policy and applicable state and federal laws and rules.

The superintendent will:

1. Annually review and assess school bus routes, stops and loading zones for safety, changing student population and supervision of students;
2. Advise parents of any changes in transportation policy affecting their students as early as possible and be responsive to parents' calls for assistance in seeking alternatives to busing; and
3. Work with cities, the county and other appropriate governmental agencies on a continuing basis regarding transportation issues.

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BUS SAFETY PROGRAM

The superintendent shall direct the preparation of a Safe Pupil Transportation Plan that, at a minimum, shall address weapons, dangerous objects, pupil behavior, terroristic threats, severe weather, hazardous materials, medical emergencies, driver/passenger procedures in the event of mechanical breakdowns of the vehicle, and driver procedures in the event that the drop-off location is uncertain or appears unsafe to leave students. The plan shall also address general guidelines for the functional capacity of a pupil transportation driver and a process to confirm a driver's ability to conduct daily tasks and emergency evacuations.

The superintendent shall plan and implement a safety-training program for pupil transportation vehicle operators and vehicle passengers. The superintendent shall monitor the scheduling of inservice and educational opportunities for transportation personnel to improve their awareness and skills regarding pupil transportation vehicle safety. Pupil transportation vehicle operators shall attend local workshops and all inservice meetings.

Administrative rules and regulations shall be adopted to govern the safe operation of pupil transportation vehicle. Students violating these regulations may have their riding privileges revoked or suspended. Parents will be responsible for damage done to transportation vehicles or equipment by their children.

The school district shall conduct pupil transportation vehicle safe riding practices instruction and emergency safety drills at least twice a year for students who utilize school district transportation. The emergency evacuation drill procedures should be conducted according to guidelines established by the Nebraska Department of Education.

Each pupil transportation vehicle shall have, in addition to the regular emergency safety drill, a plan for helping those students who require special assistance to safety during an emergency. This shall include, but not be limited to, students with disabilities.

Pupil transportation vehicle drivers are required to attend each safety drill.

Pupil transportation operator procedures will include a prohibition against use of a handheld wireless communication device to read a written communication, manually type a written communication, or send a written communication while operating a pupil transportation vehicle which is in motion. Handheld wireless communication device means any device that provides for written communication between two or more parties and is capable of receiving, displaying, or transmitting written communication. Written communication includes, but is not limited to, a text message, an instant message, electronic mail, and Internet web sites.

Minimum Equipment Standards for pupil transportation vehicles. The superintendent shall develop a systematic preventive maintenance program including daily, weekly, monthly, and annual schedules to insure vehicle safety and reliability. This will include a record keeping system for maintaining inspection reports along with procedures for filing reports and certifications to meet requirements of the Nebraska Department of Education.

Cross Reference: 508.05 Emergency Plans and Drills
905 Safety Program

SAFE PUPIL TRANSPORTATION PLAN

This Safe Pupil Transportation Plan sets forth the District's plan for providing safe transportation to students being transported in pupil transportation vehicles.

1. Weapons – Upon becoming aware of a weapon aboard a pupil transportation vehicle, the driver will make every attempt to:
 - A. Radio transportation dispatch and notify them of the situation if possible. If not possible, the driver will make every attempt to telephone dispatch from a cellular telephone or from the nearest safe haven location. Examples of a safe haven include, but are not limited to, any school building site, emergency service station (law enforcement or fire department), community service agency, etc.
 - B. Pull vehicle over to safe and secure area.
 - C. Confiscate weapon (if it doesn't jeopardize student or driver safety).
 - D. Give description of weapon and participating parties to dispatch.
 - E. Dispatch will immediately notify appropriate law enforcement agencies and school administration.
2. Pupil behavior – Students are expected to follow student conduct rules while in a pupil transportation vehicle. The pupil transportation driver is responsible for controlling behavior which affects safety and for reporting rule violations to school administration. In the event a student's behavior jeopardizes safety, the driver will make every attempt to:
 - A. Contact transportation dispatch electronically and notify them of situation if possible. If not possible, the driver will make every attempt to telephone dispatch from a cellular telephone or from the nearest safe haven location.
 - B. First seek to resolve incident through discussion with the student(s) involved.
 - C. Activate emergency flashers.
 - D. Bring vehicle to a safe stop. Seek to resolve the incident, using physical force only as necessary to protect students or yourself.
 - E. Report and document discipline problems to the school administrator on a Bus Conduct Report/Incident Form.
3. Terrorist Threats – A person commits a terroristic threat if the person threatens to commit a crime of violence with the intent to terrorize another or with the intent of causing evacuation of a building, place of assembly or facility of public transportation or in reckless disregard of the risk of causing such terror or evacuation. Upon becoming aware of a terroristic threat relating to a pupil transportation vehicle, the driver will make every attempt to:

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- A. Contact transportation dispatch electronically and notify them of situation if possible. If not possible, the driver will make every attempt to telephone dispatch from a cellular telephone or from the nearest safe haven location.
 - B. Make every attempt to keep passengers calm (this may mean complying with the terrorist).
 - C. Dispatch will immediately notify appropriate law enforcement agencies and school administration.
 - D. Driver should wait for instructions from dispatch if possible.
4. Severe weather – Upon becoming aware of severe weather while aboard a pupil transportation vehicle, the driver will make every attempt to:
- A. Contact transportation dispatch electronically and notify them of situation if possible. If not possible, the driver will make every attempt to telephone dispatch from a cellular telephone or from the nearest safe haven location.
 - B. Return to the school if less than five minutes away and follow the directions of the school administrator.
 - C. If more than five minutes away from school, go to the nearest school and follow the directions of the school administrator.
 - D. If more than five minutes away from the nearest school or there is immediate danger, get to the nearest basement or underground shelter with all students.
 - E. If there is no shelter and there is immediate danger the driver and passengers are to follow evacuation procedures and get everyone off the vehicle into the nearest ditch or culvert at least 100 feet away from the vehicle.
5. Hazardous materials – Upon becoming aware of a hazardous material aboard a pupil transportation vehicle, the driver will make every attempt to:
- A. Contact transportation dispatch electronically and notify them of situation if possible. If not possible, the driver will make every attempt to telephone dispatch from a cellular telephone or from the nearest safe haven location.
 - B. Pull vehicle over to safe and secure area.
 - C. Give description of hazardous materials in question to dispatch.
 - D. Dispatch will immediately notify appropriate law enforcement and school administration.
6. Medical emergencies – Upon becoming aware of a medical emergency aboard a pupil transportation vehicle, the driver will make every attempt to:
- A. Contact transportation dispatch electronically and notify them of situation if possible. If not possible, the driver will make every attempt to telephone dispatch from a cellular telephone or from the nearest safe haven location.
 - B. Dispatch will immediately notify appropriate medical agencies and school administration.

- C. Driver should follow instructions from dispatch, school officials, and parents when such information can be obtained quickly enough. If not available, follow emergency first aid procedures.
 - D. Only if necessary, the driver should move passengers only enough to get them out of danger or traffic or fire. If moved, the driver and aide are to keep them where placed until a medical agency arrives, unless a parent has taken charge of their child.
 - E. Driver should try to keep student passengers as calm as possible.
7. Procedures in the event of mechanical breakdowns of the vehicle – Upon becoming aware of a mechanical breakdown aboard a pupil transportation vehicle, the driver will make every attempt to:
- A. Pull vehicle over to safe and secure area if possible.
 - B. Contact transportation dispatch electronically and notify them of situation if possible. If not possible, the driver will make every attempt to telephone dispatch from a cellular phone or from the nearest safe haven location.
 - C. Activate emergency flashers and place warning flares/reflectors in accordance with safety guidelines, if not in secure area.
 - D. Driver should try to keep student passengers as calm as possible.
 - E. Dispatch will arrange assistance and a relief vehicle if needed.
8. Documentation under Safe Pupil Transportation Plan – Each pupil transportation driver is required to complete and submit to the school administration a bus conduct report or incident report involving the pupil transportation vehicle operated by the driver or any pupils transported in it. Documentation is to include the occurrence of any of the following events: weapons, student behavior which affects safety, terroristic threats, severe weather, hazardous materials, or medical emergencies. Documentation of such events shall be completed and submitted as soon as practicable after the incident.
9. Transportation of Unsafe Items – Drivers shall not permit pupil transportation vehicles to transport any items, animals, materials, weapons or look-a-like weapons or equipment which in any way would endanger the lives, health or safety of the children or other passengers and the driver. Look-a-like weapons associated with a school sponsored or approved activity may be transported only with written permission of a school administrator. Any items that would break or could produce injury if tossed about inside the pupil transportation vehicle when involved in an accident or sudden stop shall be secured.
10. Supplemental Information – A copy of this plan shall be placed in each pupil transportation vehicle, kept at each school building, and made available upon request. Supplemental information with respect to operational and procedural guidelines used to administer this plan can be found in the District's safety and security plan adopted pursuant to 92 Nebraska Administrative Code 10 and in the Nebraska Department of Education Pupil Transportation Guide.

EMERGENCY EVACUATION PROCEDURES

(For Students Being Transported in Small Vehicles – (Cars and Vans)

In a vehicle accident or emergency situation, the driver must use his/her best judgment to decide what action shall be taken. As a driver, your primary responsibility is student safety. In an emergency, it may be necessary that the vehicle be evacuated.

A Vehicle Must Be Evacuated In These Situations:

- The vehicle is on fire. It must be stopped and evacuated immediately. Passengers will move to a point 100 feet or more from the vehicle and remain there until the vehicle driver has determined that no danger remains. If a vehicle is unable to move and is close to existing fire or highly combustible materials, the danger of fire shall be assumed and all passengers must be evacuated.
- The vehicle is stopped in an unsafe location and is unable to proceed (e.g. – due to an accident or weather conditions). The driver must determine immediately if it is safer for passengers to remain on the vehicle or to evacuate. For example, if the vehicle is in the path of any train, or on or closely adjacent to any railroad tracks.
- The vehicle could change position and increase the danger. For example, if a vehicle were to come to rest near a body of water or precipice where it could slide into the water or over a cliff, it must be evacuated:
- If there is danger of collision. Under normal traffic conditions, the vehicle should be visible for a distance of 300 feet or more. A position over a hill or around a curve where such visibility does not exist should be considered reason for evacuation.

Important Factors In School Vehicle Evacuation: The safety of the pupils is of utmost importance and must be given first consideration. Prior to evacuation, the emergency brakes shall be set, ignition turned off, the transmission placed in an appropriate gear; and hazard flashers turned on to warn traffic. The driver should stay in the vehicle during evacuation to facilitate the evacuation procedures. The driver should be familiar with any extra equipment on the vehicle that would aid in an evacuation of a student with a disability and assure that the student is safely evacuated.

Students should be instructed to evacuate on side of the vehicle away from the roadway – typically the passenger side. Evacuations shall be conducted with deliberate speed. A time interval of 1 ½ to 2 seconds per passenger has proven to be the safest and most efficient. A vehicle should be completely evacuated in 2 ½ minutes. To insure a safe exit, passengers must have their hands free. They must leave personal belongings in the vehicle except those needed for their safety (coats, etc.). During an evacuation, passengers must be directed to a safe point at least 100 feet from the vehicle and remain there until given further directions.

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Upon evacuation, the driver should attend to any injured students and immediately contact emergency service (call 911 and the school). Discuss the accident only with police and school district officials. Do not leave the scene of an accident until the safe transportation of all students has been arranged by the student's parent, the school, or emergency personnel.

To assist the driver in evacuations (or to respond to situations where the driver is incapacitated), mature, responsible students should be selected and trained to lead passengers to safety from each door utilized for evacuation. The selected student should be trained to:

- turn off ignition switches;
- set emergency brakes;
- summon help when and where needed (instructions and telephone numbers shall be available);
- use windows for evacuation in emergencies;
- set flags and reflectors or reflective triangles;
- open and close service and emergency exit doors;
- direct school vehicle evacuations;
- perform other duties as directed by the driver.

Emergency Equipment: The driver should be familiar with and appropriately use emergency equipment during an evacuation. Emergency equipment for a small vehicle may include the following:

- reflector kit;
- vehicle-mounted hazard flashers;
- body fluid clean-up kit;
- first aid kits;
- fire extinguishers;
- triangle shaped reflectors.

BUS DRIVER SUPERVISION

School bus drivers must pass physical examinations and meet other criteria as established by state and federal law and by the Nebraska Department of Education. Bus drivers must have a valid pupil transportation vehicle operator's permit and shall have it in their possession when transporting students. This does not apply to the operator of a small vehicle being used only for extracurricular activities.

The school district shall obtain a record of satisfactory driving for each pupil transportation vehicle operator. It is required that a copy of the individual's driving record be on file with the district before employment as a pupil transportation vehicle operator as defined in NDE rules. The school district shall obtain and keep on file a criminal history record of driver applicants who are not certificated Nebraska teachers or administrators through the Nebraska State Patrol and local law enforcement agency before employment as a pupil transportation vehicle operator.

School bus driver selection procedures will be developed by the superintendent to ensure acceptance of drivers whose capabilities are commensurate with job responsibilities, including minimum requirements for a satisfactory driving record.

Substitute pupil transportation vehicle operators shall meet the same driver requirements and qualifications as a regular pupil transportation vehicle operator. A pupil transportation vehicle operator shall not have the authority to assign a substitute without the prior approval of any school administrator or person designated by the governing school board.

All school bus drivers are required to inform the district immediately of any change in their driving or criminal records that could affect their eligibility to maintain the student transportation vehicle operator's permit.

Pupil transportation vehicle operators shall document and report to the transportation supervisor the occurrence of any events covered by the Safe Pupil Transportation Plan that involved the pupil transportation vehicle operated by the driver, or any pupils transported in it. The superintendent shall develop such reporting procedures.

Legal Reference: NDE Rule 91

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DRIVER CERTIFICATION

This certification is required for all persons who (1) drive District-owned or leased vehicles or (2) drive students as part of their employment or (3) provide a pupil transportation service which is sponsored or approved by the District.

Name: _____ Operator's License No: _____ License Class: _____

I certify that the following information is true and accurate:

I have a current and valid Nebraska motor vehicle license, current proof of insurance, and the physical and mental ability to properly operate a motor vehicle.

My driver's license is subject to the following restrictions (check the applicable restrictions) and I will comply with all such restrictions:

_____ Corrective Lenses	_____ Restricted Area
_____ Outside Mirrors	_____ 2 Lane, 2 Way Only
_____ Automatic Signals	_____ Automatic Trans.
_____ Maximum Speed Rest.	_____ No Interstate Driving
_____ Mechanical Aids	_____ No One Way Streets
_____ Daylight Only	_____ Other

I will abide by all rules of the road and any applicable rules of the Nebraska Department of Education and the District relating to driving a motor vehicle. Seat belts and child restraint systems will be utilized by all occupants. Cell phones will not be used while the vehicle is in motion.

I have been given instruction on emergency evacuation procedures, first aid and other instruction applicable to the group of pupils being transported.

I certify that I am of good moral character and I will not engage in conduct or use language inappropriate for children.

I certify that I meet the "Safe Driving Record Standards for Drivers." I agree to immediately notify my supervisor or the Superintendent upon the occurrence of any of the following events:

- Suspension, revocation, withdrawal or expiration of my driver's license;
- Any ticket or accident while in a District-owned vehicle or while engaged in business;
- Any ticket or accident which could result in the suspension, revocation, or withdrawal of my driver's license while in any vehicle at any time;
- Any circumstance which may result in any of the responses on this Driver certification not continuing to be completely accurate or which may indicate that I should not be driving a school vehicle or transporting students.

Dated this _____ day of _____, 20__

Name of Driver: _____

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SAFE DRIVING STANDARDS

Standard for Pupil Transportation Vehicle Drivers: Each person who is required to have a permit to operate a pupil transportation vehicle for this School District shall meet all requirements to hold and continue to hold a pupil transportation operator's permit and be employable by a Nebraska School System. In addition, they must have a record of satisfactory driving as determined by the Board. If a driver has accumulated or accumulates points under the motor vehicle operator's license point system within the immediate prior 4 years, the determination of whether the person has a satisfactory driving record shall be made by the Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee based on the nature and proximity of the offense as it relates to safe transportation. The school will pay for the required physical upon the bus license being received.

Standard for Drivers of Small Vehicles for Activity Trips: Each person who drives a small vehicle (car or van) other than a pupil transportation vehicle for school activities will not be required to have a permit to operate a pupil transportation vehicle. The driver is required to hold a valid Nebraska driver's license and be employable by a Nebraska School System. In addition, they must have a record of satisfactory driving as determined by the Board. If a driver has accumulated or accumulates points under the motor vehicle operator's license point system within the immediate prior 4 years, the determination of whether the person has a satisfactory driving record shall be made by the Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee based on the nature and proximity of the offense as it relates to safe transportation. The driver will need to satisfactorily complete the computerized test.

Drivers of Other School Vehicles: Each person who drives a school vehicle other than a pupil transportation vehicle and does not transport students in the vehicle will not be required to have a permit to operate a pupil transportation vehicle. The driver is required to hold a valid NE driver's license and be employable by a Nebraska School System. In addition, they must have a record of satisfactory driving as determined by the Board. If a driver has accumulated or accumulates points under the motor vehicle operator's license point system within the immediate prior 4 years, the determination of whether the person has a satisfactory driving record shall be made by the Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee based on the nature and proximity of the offense as it relates to safe transportation. In the event the person's employment position requires driving vehicles as a function of the person's employment, the employment may be terminated in the absence of a record of satisfactory driving. The driver will need to satisfactorily complete the computerized test.

The record of satisfactory driving standards shall apply to all new employees from and after adoption of this policy. Existing employees shall be subject to the same standards, provided that the Superintendent or Superintendent's designee may determine to permit an exception based on the existing employee's record of satisfactory driving while employed with the District and the nature and proximity of prior driving offenses as such offenses relate to safe transportation.

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STUDENT TRANSPORTATION FOR EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

The board in its discretion may provide school district transportation for extracurricular activities including, but not limited to, transporting student participants and other students to and from extracurricular events.

Students participating in extracurricular events, other than those held at the school district facilities, may be transported to the extracurricular event by school district transportation vehicles or by another means approved by the superintendent. Students attending extracurricular events, other than those held at the school district facilities may be transported to the extracurricular event by school district transportation vehicles.

Students, who are provided transportation in school district transportation vehicles for extracurricular events, shall ride both to and from the event in the school vehicle unless arrangements have been made with the building principal prior to the event. A student's parent may personally appear and request to transport the student home from a school-sponsored event in which the student traveled to the event on a school district transportation vehicle.

It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent to make a recommendation to the board annually as to whether the school district shall provide the transportation authorized in this policy. In making the recommendation to the board, the superintendent shall consider the financial condition of the school district, the number of students who would qualify for such transportation, and other factors the board or superintendent deem relevant.

Legal Reference: Neb. Statute 79-610 et seq.

Cross Reference: 504.19 Student Fees

Approved **August 10th 2020** Reviewed **Mr. L July 2020** Revised _____

SUMMER SCHOOL PROGRAM TRANSPORTATION SERVICE

The school district may use school vehicles for transportation to and from summer extracurricular activities. The superintendent shall make a recommendation to the board annually regarding their use.

Transportation to and from the student's attendance center for summer school instructional programs shall be within the discretion of the board. It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent to make a recommendation regarding transportation of students in summer school instructional programs at the expense of the school district. In making the recommendation to the board, the superintendent shall consider the financial condition of the school district, the number of students involved in summer school programs, and other factors deemed relevant by the board or the superintendent.

Cross Reference: 604.02 Summer School Instruction

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TRANSPORTATION OF NONRESIDENT AND NONPUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS

The board has sole discretion to determine the method to be utilized for transporting nonresident and nonpublic students. Nonresident students may be, and resident students attending a nonprofit private school accredited by the Nebraska Department of Education, will be transported from one point to another on an established public school vehicle route at times when transportation is being provided for public school children. Nonresident and nonpublic school students shall obtain the permission of the superintendent prior to being transported by the school district. The superintendent shall determine the nearest or most easily accessible points to pick up and discharge the students.

Parents of resident students who provide transportation for their children attending a nonpublic school accredited by the Nebraska Department of Education will be reimbursed at the established state rate. This reimbursement shall be paid only if the school district receives the funds from the state. If less than the amount of funds necessary to fully reimburse parents of the nonpublic students is received by the school district, the funds shall be prorated.

The charge to the nonresident students shall be determined based on the students' pro rata share of the actual costs for transportation. The parents of these students shall be billed for the student's share of the actual costs of transportation. The billing shall be according to the schedule developed by the superintendent. It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent to determine the amount to be charged and report it to the board secretary for billing.

Continued transportation of nonresident and nonpublic school students on a public school vehicle route will be subject to resident public school students' transportation needs. The superintendent shall make a recommendation annually to the board regarding the method to be used. In making a recommendation to the board, the superintendent shall consider the number of students to be transported, the capacity of the school vehicles, the financial condition of the school district and other factors deemed relevant by the board or the superintendent.

Nonresident and nonpublic school students shall be subject to the same conduct regulations as resident public students as prescribed by board policy, and to other policies, rules, or regulations developed by the school district regarding transportation of students by the school district.

Cross Reference: 502.02 Nonresident Students

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TRANSPORTATION OF NONSCHOOL GROUPS

School district vehicles may be available to local nonprofit entities which promote cultural, educational, civic, community, or recreational activities for transporting to and from nonschool-sponsored activities within the state as long as the transportation does not interfere with or disrupt the education program of the school district and does not interfere with or delay the transportation of students. The local nonprofit entity must pay the cost of using the school district vehicle as determined by the superintendent. Prior to making the school district transportation vehicle available to the local nonprofit entity, the "school bus" signs shall be covered and the flashing warning lamps and the stop arm made inoperable.

Cross Reference: 1001 Principles and Objectives for Community Relations

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TRANSPORTATION IN INCLEMENT WEATHER

School district buses will not operate when weather conditions due to fog, rain, snow or other natural elements make it unsafe to do so. Because weather conditions may vary around the school district and may change quickly, the best judgment possible will be used with the information available.

The final judgment as to when conditions are unsafe to operate will be made by the superintendent. The superintendent will be assisted by the actual "on location" decisions and reports of the drivers.

When school is cancelled because of weather anywhere in the school district, all schools will be closed.

When weather conditions deteriorate during the day after school has begun, cancellation notices will be announced on commercial radio and the district website. Students will be returned to their regular drop-off sites unless weather conditions prevent it. In that case, students will be kept at or returned to school until they are picked up by the parents.

Cross Reference: 602.02 School Day

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SCHOOL-OWNED VEHICLES

The board may approve the purchase of vehicles to be used by staff for district business, including transportation services. The superintendent will develop and maintain regulations that define the appropriate use and care of district vehicles and the responsibilities of district staff using those vehicles.

Personal use of district vehicles is prohibited except where authorized by contract.

All drivers operating district-owned vehicles shall use seat belts. Failure to do so is grounds for dismissal.

The driver of any district-owned vehicle, except school buses, is responsible for determining that the proper number of seat belts is available for the passengers. The vehicle shall not be driven until the driver and all passengers are buckled up.

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STUDENT TRANSPORTATION IN PRIVATE VEHICLES

Standing authorization for student transportation in private vehicles shall be granted by the board to school administrators, school nurses and other student services personnel designated by the superintendent.

No employee shall transport students in private vehicles without insurance coverage in compliance with state law.

Special permission for providing student transportation may be granted in exceptional cases by the principal to other professional staff members such as coaches, music teachers and activity sponsors. Exceptional cases shall be determined by review of the number of students traveling, relative costs, safety factors and distance providing as follows:

1. The school administrator has approved the activity;
2. A permission slip signed by the student's parent(s) has been received by the principal or his/her designee, granting permission for the student to participate in the field trip/activity and to ride in a privately-owned vehicle;
3. The employee, parent or other adult driving the vehicle is properly licensed to drive; and
4. The vehicle contains an adequate number of seat restraints and the adult driver requires their use.

The district will develop procedures to implement this policy.

USE OF PRIVATE VEHICLES ON SCHOOL BUSINESS

The board discourages the use of private vehicles for district business. Staff will use district-owned vehicles whenever possible and should schedule activities and transportation far enough in advance to avoid any nonemergency use of private vehicles.

The superintendent will develop regulations for staff use of private vehicles that will safeguard the district, its employees and students in matters of safety, insurance and liability. The board will review such regulations at least annually.

No staff member will use a private vehicle for district business without approval in accordance with established district procedures. Authorization to use a private vehicle must be obtained before actual use of the vehicle. Staff members who are authorized to use a private vehicle on district business will be reimbursed in an amount established by the board.

A student may be allowed to perform district business with his/her own vehicle or a staff member's vehicle. Any student so authorized must obtain prior written approval from the school Principal.

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TRANSPORTATION RECORDS

The superintendent will instruct the transportation supervisor to establish a record keeping system for district transportation services. The system shall itemize usage by vehicle, activity and mileage. Maintenance, repair and depreciation costs shall also be allocated to each vehicle. The board shall review on an annual basis the summary of these records and be advised of recommendations for changes to the district's transportation system.

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USE OF VIDEO CAMERAS ON SCHOOL BUSES

The board supports the use of video cameras on school buses as a means to monitor and maintain a safe environment for students and employees. The video cameras may be used on buses used for transportation to and from school, field trips, curricular events and extracurricular events. The contents of the videotapes may be used as evidence in a student disciplinary proceeding.

Student Records

The content of the videotapes is a student record subject to board policy and administrative regulations regarding confidential student records. Only those persons with a legitimate educational purpose may view the videotapes. In most instances, those individuals with a legitimate educational purpose may be the superintendent, building principal, transportation director, bus driver and special education staffing team. A videotape recorded during a school-sponsored trip, such as an athletic event, may also be accessible to the sponsor or coach of the activity. If the content of the videotape becomes the subject of a student disciplinary proceeding, it may be treated like other evidence in the proceeding.

Notice

The school district will annually provide the following notice to students and parents:

The Board of Education has authorized the use of video cameras on school district buses. The video cameras will be used to monitor student behavior to maintain order on the school buses to promote and maintain a safe environment. Students and parents are hereby notified that the content of the videotapes may be used in a student disciplinary proceeding. The content of the videotapes are confidential student records and will be retained with other student records. Videotapes will only be retained if necessary for use in a student disciplinary proceeding or other matter as determined necessary by the administration. Parents may request to view videotapes of their child if the videotapes are used in a disciplinary proceeding involving their child.

The following notice will also be placed on all school buses equipped with a video camera:

This bus is equipped with a video/audio monitoring system.

Review of Videotapes

The school district shall review videotapes (choose one of the following):

1. when necessary as a result of an incident reported by a bus driver or student. The videotapes may be recirculated for erasure after ____ days.

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2. at least (weekly, monthly, etc.). The videotapes may be recirculated for erasure after ____ days. Note: Videotapes should be kept for a minimum of two weeks.
3. randomly. The videotapes may be recirculated for erasure after ____ days.

Viewing of videotapes is limited to the individuals having a legitimate educational purpose. A written log will be kept of those individuals viewing the videotapes stating the time, name of individual viewing and the date the videotape was viewed.

Video Monitoring System

Video cameras will be (choose one of the following):

1. used on all school district buses.
2. rotated randomly on school district buses.
3. used on only a select number of school district buses.

Determination of how video cameras will be used and which school buses will be equipped with video equipment will be made by the superintendent in consultation with the building principals and transportation director.

Student Conduct

Students are prohibited from tampering with the video cameras on the school buses. Students found in violation of this regulation shall be disciplined in accordance with the school district policies and shall reimburse the school district for any repairs or replacement necessary as a result of the tampering.

SCHOOL FOOD PROGRAM

The school district will operate a school lunch and breakfast program in each attendance center. The school food program services will include hot lunches through participation in the National School Lunch Program and supplementary foods for students during the school day. Students may bring their lunches from home and purchase milk or juice and other incidental items.

School food service facilities are provided to serve students and employees when school is in session and during school-related activities. They may also be used under the supervision of the principal and director of food services for food service to employee groups, parent-teacher meetings, civic organizations meeting for the purpose of better understanding the schools, and senior citizens in accordance with board policy.

The school food program is operated on a nonprofit basis. The revenues of the school food program will be used only for paying the regular operating costs of the school food program. Supplies of the school food program shall only be used for the school food program.

The board will set, and periodically review, the prices for school lunches, breakfast and special milk programs. It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent to make a recommendation regarding the prices of school lunch, breakfast and milk.

It shall be the responsibility of the director of food services to administer the program and to cooperate with the superintendent for the proper functioning of the school food program.

Legal Reference: 42 U.S.C. §§ 1751 et seq. (1994).

Cross Reference: 1006.01 Use of School District Facilities and Equipment

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FOOD SERVICE PRICES

The food service prices in effect for the current school year will be published in the student handbook.

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FOOD SERVICE RECORDS AND REPORTS

An independent certified public accountant or registered accountant will audit the food services fund annually. The audit will comply with federal requirements.

The food services program will be operated on a non-profit basis. Any income derived from the operation of the program will be used to support the food services program and will not be used for any other purpose.

The board shall review on an annual basis a summary of the food services financial records and be advised of recommendations for changes to the program.

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FREE OR REDUCED COST MEALS ELIGIBILITY AND MEAL CHARGES

The district shall comply with all state and federal laws applying to providing free and reduced meals under the National School Lunch Program, School Breakfast Program, and other related federal grant programs.

Free or Reduced Meals Eligibility

Families of students enrolled in the district who wish to qualify for free or reduced price meals may submit an application on or after July 1 for the current school year. If the financial situation of a household changes during the school year, they may submit a new application to become eligible. Applications are available at the Central Administrative Office of the school building.

Meal Charges

The written meal charge policy and guidelines shall be in place before the beginning of each school year and parents shall be advised of the available payment systems and meal prices. The district will encourage pre-payment of meal balances but the district must include a method for adding funds during the school day such as cash payments at the school office. A qualifying student with money to purchase a reduced price meal must be provided the meal; the district may not use that money for previously unpaid charges if the student intended to buy a meal that day.

All balances remaining in accounts shall carry over to the next month. Balances of households qualifying for free or reduced meals with funds remaining in the account at the end of the school year shall receive a refund. The district shall attempt to contact the household of all students transferring out or graduating from the district to return any unused funds remaining in the student's account. The district may set varying meal charge guidelines for students of different grade levels including charges relating to alternate meals, ala carte items and limits on charges that a parent may set for a student's daily lunch expenditures.

The district must set written guidelines regarding the collection of delinquent meal charges such as the amount of delinquent meal charges which initiate an established collection process, providing notice to households of those students and carrying out appropriate follow-up. Unpaid meal charges are classified as "delinquent debt" and remain on the food service accounting documents until they are collected or written off as uncollectible.

Guidelines must also cover how the district will handle situations where children eligible for reduced price meals do not have money in their accounts to cover the cost of their meal at the time of service. Households must be notified of all payment methods used by the district, including any fees. At least one payment method must be free of charge. The district cannot solely require the use of an online payment system; another option must be available.

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Confidentiality

The information provided by families on the free and reduced price application will be used only for determining eligibility for meal or milk benefits and verification of eligibility. Only staff members and organizations carrying out the activities of the School Lunch Act shall have access to this information.

The district should use methods of lunch payment systems such as pre-payment to avoid openly identifying children who qualify for free or reduced meals. Meal cards, tickets, tokens or other methods of payment must not be coded or colored to identify such status.

Policy Communication

This policy will be provided in writing to all households at the start of each school year and to households that transfer to the district during the school year.

This policy will also be provided annually to all district staff responsible for enforcing the policy including food service professionals. Staff members such as counselors, school nurses, homeless liaisons, and others assisting students in need should also be informed of the policy.

The district will maintain documentation of the annual distribution of this policy.

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

Legal Reference: 42 U.S.C. §§ 1751 et seq.
 7 C.F.R. §§ 210 et seq.
 USDA Unpaid Meal Charges, SP 46-2016, 47-2016 and 57-2016.

Cross Reference: 504.19 Student Fees

VENDING MACHINES

Food served or purchased by students during the school day and food served or purchased for other than special circumstances shall be approved by the superintendent. Vending machines in the school building shall be the responsibility of the building principal. Purchases from the vending machines, other than juice machines, shall not be made during the lunch periods.

It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent to develop administrative regulations for the use of vending machines and other sales of food to students.

Legal Reference: 42 U.S.C. §§ 1751 et seq. (1994).

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SCHOOL FOOD PROCUREMENT

The following procurement policy statement shall govern all purchasing activities that relate to any aspect of the National School Lunch and Breakfast Programs. This statement is meant to provide guidance to our personnel and vendors on acceptable and / or required procurement practices. Our goal is to fully implement all required and recommended procurement rules, regulations and policies set forth in 2 CFR 200, 7 CFR parts 210, 3016 and by the State Agency.

Procurement Policy

The purchasing procedure to be followed shall be determined by the anticipated total annual expenditure on items related to the food service program:

- When the annual total for food service program related items is less than \$250,000 per year (per procurement event or in aggregate purchases) this District will follow the informal Small Purchase Procedure.
- When the annual total for food service program related items is greater than \$250,000 per year (per procurement event or in aggregate purchases) this District will follow the Formal Competitive Solicitation Procedures.

Micro-Purchase Procedures

Micro-Purchases may be used for a single purchase under \$10,000 made with a vendor [2 CFR 200.320(a)].

Prices will be reviewed for reasonableness [2 CFR 200.320(a)].

Purchases will be spread equitably among all qualified sources [2 CFR 200.320(a)].

Small Purchase Procedures

For purchases made below the small purchase threshold, a Small Purchase Procedures will be utilized to purchase necessary goods and services. When Small Purchase Procedures are used, this District will take the following steps:

- 1) Contact a minimum of three potential vendors
- 2) Document each vendor's quoted price
- 3) Select the company that provides the lowest, most responsive, and responsible bid
- 4) Inform all bidding companies in writing of the final decision made by the sponsor
- 5) Write contract for meal service between the sponsor and the winning bidder.

Formal Competitive Solicitation Procedures

For purchases made in excess of the small purchase threshold, a Formal Competitive Solicitation will be conducted. When Formal Competitive Solicitation Procedures are used, this District will take the following steps:

- 1) Prepare an IFB or RFP document specifically addressing the items to be procured
 - a. Include detailed specifications
 - b. Ensure price will be most heavily weighted

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- 2) Publicly announce and advertise the bid/proposal at least 30 calendar days prior to bid opening
 - a. Announcements will include the date, time and location in which bids will be opened
- 3) Determine the most responsive and responsible bid/proposal by using the selection criteria set forth in the bid/proposal document
 - a. Responsive bidders will be those whose bid/proposal conform to all of the terms, conditions and requirements of the IFB/RFP
- 4) Award the contract
 - a. To the most responsive and responsible bidder based on the criteria set forth in the IFB/RFP
 - b. At least two weeks before program operations begin
 - c. If a protest is received, it must be handled in accordance with 7 CFR 210.21
- 5) Retain all records pertaining to the formal competitive bid process for a period of five years plus the current year

(Note: If the bid threshold established in the sponsor's procurement policy statement is less than \$150,000, the smaller bid threshold will govern.)

This District incorporates the following elements into the Procurement Policy Statement, as required by 2 CFR 200 and 7 CFR parts 210.

- A. Competition: We shall demonstrate our goods and services are procured in an openly competitive manner. Competition will not be unreasonably restricted. [7 CFR 210.21(c)(1)] [2 CFR Part 200.319(a)(1-7)]
- B. Comparability: We recognize for true competition to take place, we must maintain reasonable product specifications to adequately describe the products to be purchased and the volume of planned purchases based upon pre-planned menu cycles. 2 CFR 200.319(a)(6)
- C. Documentation: We shall maintain for the current year and the preceding three years all menus, production records, invitations to bid, bid results, bid tabulations or any other significant materials that will serve to document our policies and procedures. [2 CFR 200.318(i)]
- D. Code of Conduct: This program shall be governed by the attached Code of Conduct and it shall apply to all personnel, employees, directors, agents, officers, volunteers or any person(s) acting in any capacity concerning the food service procurement program. [2 CFR 200.318(c)(1)]
- E. Procurement Review Process: This procurement plan shall receive an internal program review on an annual basis by a staff person who is not associated with food service procurement process. This review shall be summarized in written form and kept with the other required program documentation.

F. Contract Administration: Purchases shall be checked or verified by designated staff to assure that all goods and services are received and prices verified. All invoices and receipts shall be signed, dated, and maintained in the documentation file. [2 CFR Part 200.318(b)]

G. General Requirements:

- Small, minority and women's businesses enterprises and labor surplus firms are used when possible. [2 CFR 200.321]
- Ensure compliance with Buy American Provision. [7 CFR 210.21(d)]
- A cost or price analysis in connection with every procurement action in excess of the Simplified Acquisition Threshold including contract modifications. [2 CFR 200.323(a)]
- Documented Procurement Procedures and activities will be maintained. [2 CFR 200.318(a)]

H. Duties of Food Service Supervisor:

1. To work with staff and clients in developing acceptable menus for breakfast and lunch.
2. To compile market orders or requisitions for purchases which accurately reflect the total quantities of required foods to be ordered per (day, week or month).
3. To place and confirm orders with vendors, or make plans to purchase the required items.
4. To keep program menus up to date by testing and using new products and seeking feedback from staff and clients.
5. To send out bid quotation forms to vendors who have expressed an interest in doing business with the sponsor.
6. To make procurement awards based on the lowest and best vendor's response as determined by quality, availability, service and price.
7. To work with vendors on a fair and equal basis.
8. To develop a list of acceptable brands. (multiple Brands per bid item when possible)
9. To conduct an in-house procurement review once per year

School Food Authority Code of Conduct

The District seeks to conduct all procurement procedures in compliance with state and federal regulations and to prohibit conflicts of interest with employees engaged in the selection, award and administration of contracts.

No employee, officer, or agent of the District may participate in the selection, award, or administration of a contract supported by Federal, State, or local funds if he or she has a real or apparent conflict of interest. Such a conflict of interest would arise when the employee, officer, or agent, any member of his or her immediate family, his or her

partner, or an organization which employs or is about to employ any of the parties indicated herein, has a financial or other interest in or a tangible personal benefit from a firm considered for a contract.

No officer, employee, or agent of the District may solicit or accept gratuities, favors, or anything of monetary value from contractors or parties to subcontracts.

Officers, employees, or agents of the District who violate this policy shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary actions.

Legal Reference: 2 CFR 200 Uniform Admin. Reqrmts, Cost Principles,
 and Audit Reqrmts for Federal Awards
 7 CFR 210 National School Lunch Program
 2 CFR 200.317-326 Super Circular
 7 CFR 210.21 NSLP Procurement
 7 CFR 220.16 Breakfast Program
 7 CFR 225 Summer Food Service Program
 7 CFR 3016—Uniform Admin. Reqrmts For Grants And
 Coop. Agreements To State And Local Govnmnts

PHOTOCOPYING SERVICES

Among the facilities available to teachers in carrying out their educational assignments are a variety of machines for reproducing the written and spoken word, either in single or multiple copies.

Infringement on copyrighted material, whether prose, poetry, graphic images, music, audio tape, video or computer-programmed materials, is a serious offense against federal law and contrary to the ethical standards required of staff and students alike.

Violations may result in criminal or civil suits.

Employees shall follow policy and guidelines of policy 606.08 Reproduction of Copyrighted Materials.

Cross Reference: 606.08 Reproduction of Copyrighted Materials

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MAIL AND DELIVERY SERVICE

The interschool mail service is established for school-related purposes. It provides a central mailing service to expedite the distribution of materials and professional communications among schools and staff members.

To avoid overburdening the service, employees will not be allowed to use interschool mail for the delivery of personal letters, notes and materials to other employees.

The recognized collective bargaining unit(s) will be permitted to use the service in accordance with the terms of their contracts, board policy on the use of school facilities and current postal regulations.

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TELEPHONE SERVICE

Cell Phones

The board recognizes that the use of cellular telephones may be appropriate to provide for the effective and efficient operation of the district and to help ensure safety and security of district property, staff and others while on district property or engaged in district-sponsored activities. To this end, the board authorizes the purchase and employee use of cellular telephones, as deemed appropriate by the superintendent.

District-owned cellular telephones shall be used for authorized district business purposes, consistent with the district's mission and goals. Personal use of such equipment is prohibited except in emergency situations. Any expenses incurred for such personal use shall be reimbursed to the district.

Use of cellular telephones in violation of board policies, administrative regulations and/or state and federal law will result in discipline up to and including dismissal and/or 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 cellular telephone needs, monitoring use and reimbursement. Provisions may also be included for staff use of privately-owned cellular telephones for authorized district business.

Personal use of privately-owned cellular telephones by employees authorized to use such equipment for district business is restricted to lunch, breaks or other such times when the employee is not on duty.

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FAX SERVICE

The district shall use FAX transmittals for the purpose of prompt exchange of information.

The superintendent shall develop procedures for:

1. Protecting the FAX code number from unsolicited users;
2. Transmitting confidential information;
3. Types of transmissions for which FAX will be used;
4. Developing a fee structure.

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COMPUTER AND DATA SECURITY

The district will implement and maintain practices regarding physical, technical and administrative safeguards for both paper and electronic records. Access to records including computer data stored within all computer systems will be strictly controlled for security.

The Computer Technology Coordinator is responsible for maintaining security through procedures developed by the superintendent. These procedures will determine who may have various degrees of access to the system and will state requirements for monitoring the continued proper educational use of the system.

These procedures will also describe:

1. Proper methods of disposal of reports containing confidential or financial information at the end of their use.
2. Methods to ensure system security after change of job status of employees having access to system passwords.
3. Methods to provide backup access in the event of the extended absence of the system administrator.

The Superintendent will direct and monitor a process to identify the following elements of computer and data security:

1. What information is considered restricted.
2. Where it currently resides.
3. How it is protected.
4. Who is responsible for providing each level of security for each type of restricted information.
5. Measures to control or reduce district liability in the event of a breach of security including insurable coverage for costs associated with such a breach.

Employees will promptly report to the Superintendent any breach of the district's computerized data that compromises the security, confidentiality or integrity of personal information maintained by the district. The Superintendent will immediately inform the Board of such a breach of information.

Breaches of Security

The Superintendent shall ensure that the district attempts to provide notice of any system security breach, following discovery, to any person whose unencrypted and unredacted personal information was or is reasonably believed to have been accessed and acquired by an unauthorized person. Such attempts to provide notice shall be made with reasonable promptness, except when a law enforcement agency determines and advises the district in writing that the notification would impede a criminal or civil investigation, or the district must take necessary measures to determine the scope of the breach and

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to restore the reasonable integrity of the data system. The district will also provide notice of the breach if the encrypted information is accessed and acquired in an unencrypted form, if the security breach is linked to a breach of security of the encryption, or if the security breach involves a person with access to the encryption key.

Definitions

Breach of system security - unauthorized access and acquisition of computerized data that materially compromises the security or confidentiality of personal information maintained by the district as part of the database of personal information regarding multiple individuals and that the district reasonably believes has caused or will cause loss or injury to any state resident. Good faith acquisition of personal information by an employee or agent of the school district for the purpose of the district is not a breach of the security of the system if the personal information is not used for a purpose other than the lawful purpose of the district and is not subject to further unauthorized disclosure.

Person - means any natural person, not an entity or company.

Personal information - includes an individual's first initial and last name in combination with and linked to any one or more of the following, when not encrypted or redacted:

1. Social security number.
2. Driver's license number or state identification card number issued instead of a driver's license.
3. Financial account number, credit or debit card number, in combination with any required security code, access code or password that would permit access to an individual's financial account.

Personal information does not include publicly available information that is lawfully made available to the general public from federal, state or local government records.

Records - means any material, regardless of its physical form, on which information is recorded or preserved by any means, including written or spoken words, graphically depicted, printed or electromagnetically transmitted. This term does not include publicly available directories containing information that an individual has voluntarily consented to have publicly disseminated or listed, such as name, address or telephone number.

DATA OR RECORDS RETENTION

School district records shall be housed in the central administration office of the school district. It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent to oversee the maintenance and accuracy of the records. The following records shall be kept and preserved at a minimum according to the schedule below:

• Secretary's financial records	Permanently
• Treasurer's financial records	Permanently
• Minutes of the Board of Education	Permanently
• Annual audit reports	Permanently
• Annual budget	Permanently
• Permanent record of individual pupil	Permanently
• Records of payment of judgments against the school district	20 years
• Bonds and bond coupons	10 years
• Written contracts	10 years
• Cancelled warrants, check stubs, bank statements, bills, invoices, inventories and related records	5 years
• Program grants	As determined by the grant
• Nonpayroll personnel records	7 years
• Payroll records	3 years

Employees' records shall be housed in the central administration office of the school district. The employees' records shall be maintained by the superintendent, the building administrator and the employee's immediate supervisor.

The permanent and cumulative records of students currently enrolled in the school district shall be housed where they can be maintained securely and efficiently for the district's needs.

The superintendent may store any or all school district records electronically.

Cross Reference: 203.04 Secretary
 204.11 Meeting Minutes
 402.06 Employee Records
 507 Student Records
 1003 Public Examination of District Records

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E-MAIL RETENTION

This policy will refer to e-mail using the term electronic messaging, but the policy is also intended to be inclusive of electronic fax and any other electronic methods of transmitting messages, documents and other information. The superintendent is responsible for implementing this policy and serving as the records officer of the district.

Electronic messages transmitted using district resources are records and as such are subject to management under the Records Management Act.

The end-user manages electronic messages. Electronic messages should be managed at the end-user's desktop rather than from a central point. Each end-user who creates or receives electronic messages is responsible for managing his or her own records. Individuals with questions regarding the retention of particular electronic messages should obtain an opinion from their supervisor.

A single copy of a record retained by the originator of that record may serve as the official record retained in accordance with the district's retention schedule. All other copies are duplicate copies, and may be destroyed.

There is no single retention period for all electronic messages. Retention and disposition of electronic messages depends on the function and content of the individual message. The various types of electronic messages require various retention periods and fall within three broad categories:

Transitory messages – There is no retention requirement for these messages. Public officials and employees receiving such communications may delete them immediately without obtaining approval of the State Records Administrator. Examples are:

- Messages that address routine administrative, curricular and co-curricular matters, announcements of meetings, schedules of events, etc.
- Messages that take the place of informal discussion and which if they were printed would not be retained in school records.
- Messages that transmit generic information and are not specific to a student's educational program.
- Messages that address personal matters unrelated to the district.
- Messages comprised of unrequested, unneeded or unwanted junk mail.
- Sectarian, religious, persuasive, political or commercial messages or advertising.

Less than permanent retention – These records are governed by the retention period for equivalent hard copy records as specified in the district's records retention schedule. The records should be in hard copy or electronic format which can be retrieved and interpreted for the legal retention period. Individuals creating or receiving such

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communications may delete or destroy the records only according to an approved retention schedule. Examples are:

- Messages that address significant aspects of a specific student's educational program including, but not limited to, health, discipline, special education program, interaction with child protection agencies and communication with parents relating to specific aspects of the student's interaction with the school district.
- Messages that address and/or provide information used in making policy decisions, concerning curricular or co-curricular activities, personnel actions or that relate to the business transactions of the district.
- Messages that address activities of significant interest in the community relating to the district.
- E-mails that are the subject of investigations or litigation when the district has reasonable notice of the proceeding.

Permanent/archival retention: Permanent records are often records relating to district governance, finances, budgets, and student educational progress, such as board secretary or district treasurer financial records, minutes of the Board of Education, educational records of individual students, annual audit reports and annual budgets.

These permanent records are further classified as transferred or non-transferred records: Non-transfers – If the decision is made to maintain the records in the district, it is responsible for making the records accessible to the public in a manner consistent with the way the Nebraska State Historical Society (NSHS) would perform this function. The district is responsible for upgrading the system to current technology standards so that data remain usable over time and for testing at regular intervals any storage medium used for accuracy or loss of data.

Transfers – The NSHS is responsible for the care, maintenance and reference use of state records with enduring value, regardless of media. The district may work with NSHS and the State Records Administrator to preserve and access electronic records maintained in the district or to make decisions about the method, frequency and format of the transfer of records to NSHS.

It is important not to rely upon back up servers and media exclusively for retention of electronic messages. Due to storage limitations, electronic messages are routinely deleted from storage media after 60 to 90 days. If non-transitory electronic messages are to be filed electronically, the information systems manager should be consulted and appropriate storage locations should be designated and users should be educated on classification and filing procedures so that the information will not be lost.

Electronic messages should be systematically filed for convenient retrieval following standardized filing rules within the district. Electronic messages needing to be retained should be indexed in an organized and consistent pattern, and reflect the way the files will be used and referenced.

In keeping with state electronic messaging guidelines, the district will create procedures to identify system hardware and software, formalize file naming conventions, back up and security procedures, identify the sources and use of the information, as well as their confidential and non-confidential status, and outline quality control procedures and storage requirements. This documentation should also cover employee training procedures and the verification of employee attendance at training sessions.

Litigation Holds

As soon as the District is made aware of pending or threatened litigation, the superintendent will issue a litigation hold directive. The directive will be given to all individuals who may have records relating to the litigation issue. At that time the District will take all reasonable action to preserve all relevant documents and records including any that may be subject to federal rules of discovery.

This directive cancels any records retention schedule that would normally lead to the deletion or destruction of the records until the litigation hold is removed. The superintendent, working with the network systems administrator, will preserve the e-mail and computer accounts of separated employees until the end of the litigation hold.

Employees who receive notice of a litigation hold will preserve all records as indicated in the directive. Records that would normally be deleted or destroyed automatically by the network should be converted to hard copy or copied electronically to a safe location to ensure their preservation

It shall be a violation of this policy for any employee to delete, destroy or alter records protected by the litigation hold directive. Violation of the litigation hold may subject the employee to disciplinary actions, up to and including dismissal.

Legal Reference: Electronic Messaging and E-Mail Guidelines (Nebr. Secretary of State)
Nebraska Statutes 84-1201 to 1228 (Public Records)

Cross Reference: 402.10 Employee Political Activity
403.07 Employee Use of Social Networks
606.06 Acceptable Use of Computers

INSURANCE

The board will maintain a comprehensive insurance program to provide adequate coverage against major types of risk, loss, or damage, as well as legal liability. The board will purchase insurance at replacement values, when possible, after reviewing the costs and availability of such insurance. The comprehensive insurance program shall be reviewed once every three years.

The school district will assume the risk of property damage, legal liability, and dishonesty in cases in which the exposure is so small or dispersed that a loss does not significantly affect the operation of the education program or financial condition of the school district.

Insurance of buildings, structures, or property in the open will not generally be purchased to cover loss exposures below \$1,000 unless such insurance is required by statute or contract. The school district will make every effort to obtain property, vehicle, and liability insurance at the most economical cost, consistent with required service, by obtaining quotes or by negotiation, using whichever method is advantageous to the district.

Administration of the insurance program, making recommendations for additional insurance coverage, placing the insurance coverage and loss prevention activities shall be the responsibility of the superintendent.

Blanket building and equipment insurance will cover replacement costs with an agreed amount endorsement and with a deductible determined by the superintendent to provide the lowest possible premium costs consistent with adequate protection from unanticipated expenditures.

General and personal liability insurance will cover district Board members and employees only while acting in their official capacity.

The district will provide liability coverage for all district-owned or leased vehicles.

The district will establish and provide the opportunity for students to purchase student accident insurance. The district will not carry student accident insurance other than liability insurance.

The district will not be liable for theft and damage of personal property of students that is not a requirement for attendance or participation. Additionally, the district will not be liable for theft and damage of personal property of staff.

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Internal Board Policies - OrganizationAnnual Organizational Meeting

- A. An organizational meeting of the [Name] School District Board of Education shall be held on or before the third Monday of January of each year for the purposes of seating any new members and electing officers.

The following are procedures for election of officers and other business to take place at the annual organizational meeting of the Board:

1. After new Board members are sworn in, the Board will elect from its members a President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer, and if it is determined by the Board of Education to be needed an ex officio secretary and treasurer and those elected will assume office at the organizational meeting.

Upon call for nominations for each office by the Chair, nominations shall be made by written or oral ballot. Voting will be by oral or written ballot on all members nominated and repeated until a majority is achieved for a nominee. If no member receives a majority of votes after _____ ballots or _____ hours, the Board member who was the President of the Board during the immediately preceding term shall continue as President. In the event that the previous Board President is no longer a Board member, then the Vice President from the immediately preceding term shall become the President. In the event that both the prior President and Vice President are no longer members of the Board, then the longest tenured Board member shall serve as President. The vote may be taken by secret ballot, but the total number of votes for each candidate shall be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.

2. The President shall assume the chair immediately upon the President's election.
3. The motions for the officer elections should read: Move that _____ be elected as _____ (name of office) to serve a term of one year, or until the person's successor is elected and qualified.

- B. The order of business for meeting should be as follows:

1. Call to Order and Roll Call
2. Oath of office for most recently elected
3. Elections
 - a. President

- b. Vice President
 - c. Treasurer
 - d. Secretary
- 4. Approval of committees, positions, and designations
 - a. Consider, discuss and take action to elect Committees as determined by the BOE
 - b. Consider, discuss and take action to select Depository bank(s)
 - c. Designate the method of advance notice of Board meetings
- 5. Approval of current Board policies and regulations
- 6. Designate date for the annual review of BOE policies
- 7. Dissemination to each Board member of conflict of interest statutes
- 8. Adjournment

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

Internal Board Policies - Methods of OperationDesignated Method of Giving Notice of Meetings

The Board of Education will give advance notice of meetings by a method designated by the Board at the Board's organizational meeting each January, or as otherwise determined by the Board. The designated method will be recorded in the Board's meeting minutes.

In addition, at least four times per calendar year, the Board will publish in a newspaper of general circulation the following information: (1) the regular meeting schedule, (2) the location of regular board meetings, and (3) the method of advanced notice designated by the Board. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Board reserves the right to change the regular meeting schedule or location if circumstances require such a change.

Notice shall be given a reasonable time in advance of the meeting. Two (2) days advance notice shall be considered sufficient.

For an emergency meeting, notice shall not be required to be given; however, the Board will complete minutes for such an emergency meeting as required by law. An emergency has been defined as any event or occasional combination of circumstances which calls for immediate action or remedy; pressing necessity; exigency; a sudden or unexpected happening; an unforeseen occurrence or condition.

The Secretary of the Board of Education, or the Secretary's designee, shall maintain a list of the news media requesting notification of meetings and shall make reasonable efforts to provide advance notification to such news media of the time and place of each meeting and the subjects to be discussed at the meeting.

Legal Reference: Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 79-554; 79-555 & 84-1411.

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