

() Required
(X) Local
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COMMUNITY RELATIONS GOALS

The Board of Trustees strives to conduct district affairs by way of a continuing, open dialogue between the community and the schools. Given district residents' high level of interest in the education of children, the Board wishes to maintain its high level of sensitivity to the needs and desires of the community and to act expeditiously to meet changing needs and conditions.

To this end, the Board establishes the following goals for community involvement:

1. to provide a variety of means whereby residents of the school district may have the opportunity to contribute their best thinking to the orderly planning of education for children in the district;
2. to keep the community accurately informed about its schools;
3. to understand community attitudes and aspirations for the schools;
4. to encourage contributions from the parent-teacher associations of the district so that school personnel and parents cooperate to advance the educational welfare of the children;
5. to handle all complaints from the public at the level closest to the issue under review. However, such complaints may be carried to the school Superintendent and/or the Board if the problem cannot be solved at that level;
6. to promote a spirit of cooperation among the Board, the schools, and the community;
7. to develop and maintain the confidence of the community in the Board and the school district staff;
8. to expand the public understanding of every aspect of the school system, and stimulate public interest in the school;
9. to facilitate dissemination of information to the community concerning issues and activities in the school;
10. to ascertain the community's opinions and desires with respect to the operations of the school system, and to incorporate that knowledge into its actions;
11. build relationships with local businesses, local government, health care, social service, civic and community organizations for sharing of resources, in order to meet the academic, social and emotional needs of all of our students; and
12. to develop and maintain an effective means of communication with the people of the district.

Notwithstanding the above, the final decisions in these areas will rest with the Board.

Adoption date: 2/12/13

Amended: 10/16/14

Required
 Local
 Notice

ANNUAL DISTRICT ELECTION AND BUDGET VOTE

The district shall hold an annual meeting and election at which the district's authorized voters will elect members of the Board of Trustees and vote on the district budget for the coming school year. The annual district meeting and election will be held on the third Tuesday in May, unless this date conflicts with religious observances on that day, in which case the annual meeting and election will be held on the second Tuesday in May.

The District Clerk shall publish a notice of the time and place of the annual meeting and election at least four times within the seven weeks prior to the meeting, in at least two newspapers having general circulation within the district. The first publication of the notice shall be at least 45 days prior to the meeting. The notice shall also contain notice of any other matter required by law.

Copies of the budget to be voted upon at the annual meeting election will be available in the school building for district residents upon request at the time of the annual meeting and election and 14 days (other than Saturday, Sunday and holidays) prior to the meeting.

The Board shall appoint the election inspectors necessary for the annual meeting and election at a Board meeting held before the annual meeting and election.

Propositions

The Board has the authority, under the Education Law, to adopt reasonable rules and regulations concerning the submission of petitions to the Board to place propositions on the ballot which may amend the budget. Pursuant to those provisions, the Board establishes the following guidelines:

1. Unless otherwise provided by the Education Law, petitions for the submission of a proposition must contain a minimum of 25 signatures of qualified voters of the district.
2. Petitions must be filed with the District Clerk at least 30 days prior to the annual meeting, except for petitions relating to a proposition which must be included in the notice of the annual meeting (e.g., changing the number of board members). Such petitions must be submitted 60 days in advance of the annual meeting to facilitate the preparation and printing of the ballots.
3. Propositions must include the specific appropriations necessary for the purposes listed.
4. Wording of a petition must comply with legal requirements. If the wording does not comply, it may be changed or altered by the Board, or the Board may reject a petition for failure to comply.

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Propositions received in accordance with these specifications will be placed on the ballot as amendments and will be voted upon by the voters in the same manner as the proposed budget, except that the Board shall not be required to place any proposition on the ballot which is within the exclusive province of the Board, or otherwise forbidden by law. No proposition involving the budget may be submitted to the voters more than twice.

The Board may also, on its own motion, submit propositions.

Ref: Education Law §§416(3); 1608(2); 1716(2) 1804(4); 1906(1); 2002(1); 2003(1)(2); 2004(1)-(7); 2009; 2021;2022(1), (4)-(5); 2035(2); 2601-a(2)
General Construction Law §60
Matter of Hebel, 34 EDR 319 (1994)
Matter of Martin, 32 EDR 567 (1993)
Matter of Como, 30 EDR 214 (1990)

Adoption date: 2/12/13

(X) Required

(x) Local

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SCHOOL DISTRICT RECORDS

It is the policy of the Board of Trustees to inform members of the public about the administration and operation of the public schools in accordance with the Freedom of Information Law of the State of New York.

The Superintendent of Schools will develop regulations, to be adopted by the Board, ensuring compliance with the Freedom of Information Law and setting forth the procedures to be followed to obtain access to district records, and submit such regulations to the Board for approval. Such regulations will address ensuring applicable confidentiality and security of district information, including the protection of student and teacher/principal personally identifiable information in conformance with state Education Law §2-d and regulations 8 NYCRR Part 121. The Superintendent will designate, with Board approval, a Records Access and Records Management Officer, pursuant to law.

Retention and Destruction of Records

The Board hereby adopts the Records Retention and Disposition Schedule ED-1 issued pursuant to Article 57-A of the Arts and Cultural Affairs Law, which contains the legal minimum retention periods for district records. In accordance with Article 57-A, the district will dispose of only those records described in the schedule after they have met the minimum retention periods set forth in the schedule. The district will dispose of only those records that do not have sufficient administrative, fiscal, legal or historical value to merit retention beyond the established legal minimum periods.

The manner of destruction will be determined by the format of the record (i.e., paper, digital, etc.). In addition, destruction will be appropriately documented.

Employee Notification of Disciplinary Record Requests

As required by Public Officers Law §87, the district will notify current and former employees in writing that the district has responded to a Freedom of Information Law request for their disciplinary records within seven (7) working days after the district provides information in response to the request. For former employees, the district will send notification to the last known address or email address, and if current contact information cannot be found, the district will document its attempts.

For purposes of this policy, the district defines “disciplinary records” as any record created in furtherance of a disciplinary proceeding (i.e., any investigation and subsequent hearing or disciplinary action conducted by the district), including but not limited to:

1. The complaints, allegations, and charges against an employee;
2. The name of the employee complained of or charged;
3. The transcript of any disciplinary hearing, including any exhibits introduced at such hearing;
4. The disposition of any disciplinary proceeding; and
5. The final written opinion or memorandum supporting the disposition and discipline imposed including the district's complete factual findings and its analysis of the conduct and appropriate discipline of the employee.

Litigation-Hold

The Superintendent will establish procedures in the event that the school district is served with legal papers. The Superintendent will communicate with applicable parties, including the school attorney and the records management official, to ensure that, when appropriate, a litigation-hold is properly implemented. The litigation-hold is intended to prevent the destruction or disposal of records that may need to be produced as part of discovery. It is the intention of the Board of Education to comply with applicable rules and regulations regarding the production of necessary documents, data, files, etc. The Board directs the Superintendent to institute such procedures to implement this policy.

The Superintendent or designee, is responsible for developing and disseminating department-specific retention schedules and guidance to staff, as necessary, to ensure adherence to this policy.

Cross-ref: 8630, Computer Resources and Data Management

5500, Student Records

8635, Information and Data Privacy, Security, Breach and Notification

Ref: Public Officers Law §84 *et seq.* (Freedom of Information Law)

Education Law §2116

Arts and Cultural Affairs Law §57.11

Arts and Cultural Affairs Law Article 57-A (Local Government Records Law)

Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, 16, 26

8 NYCRR Part 185 (Appendix L) – Records Retention and Disposition Schedule LGS-1 for New York Government Records; Part 121-21 NYCRR Part 1401

NYS Department of State, Committee on Open Government, Advisory Opinions OML-AO-#19867 (9/16/24)

Adoption date: 2/12/13

Amended: 4/21/16

Amended: 6/18/24

Amended: 12/11/24

SCHOOL DISTRICT RECORDS REGULATION

The following comprises the rules and regulations relating to the inspection and production of school district records:

I. Designation of Officers

1. The Records Access Officer will be District Clerk.
who will,:
 - receive requests for records of the Board of Education and make such records available for inspection or copying when such requests are granted;
 - ensure that district information that is not permitted to be released is not released (see section IV. Records Exempted from Public Access, below); and
 - compile and maintain a detailed current list by subject matter, of all records in the possession of the Board, whether or not available to the public.
2. The Superintendent of Schools will also act as the Records Management Officer for the district. The Records Management Officer will develop and oversee a program for the orderly and efficient management of district records, including maintenance of information security as it pertains to release of district records. The Records Management Officer will ensure proper documentation of the destruction of records, in accordance with the schedule.

II. Definition of Records

1. A record is defined as any information kept, held, filed, produced or reproduced by, with or for the district in any physical form whatsoever, including but not limited to reports, statements, examinations, memoranda, opinions, folders, files, books, manuals, pamphlets, forms, papers, designs, drawings, maps, photos, letters, microfilms, computer tapes or disks, rules, regulations or codes.
2. The Records Access Officer will have the responsibility for compiling and maintaining the following records:
 - a. a record of the final vote of each member of the Board on any proceeding or matter on which the member votes;
 - b. a record setting forth the name, school or office address, title and salary of every officer or employee of the district; and

- c. a reasonably detailed current list by subject matter of all records in possession of the district, whether or not available for public inspection and copying.
3. No record for which there is a pending request for access may be destroyed. However, nothing in these regulations shall require the district to prepare any record not possessed or maintained by it except the records specified in II (2), above.

III. Access to Records

1. Time and place records may be inspected: Records may be requested from, and inspected or copied at, the Office of the Records Access Officer, at the Sagaponack Common School District during the hours of 8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. on any business day on which the district offices are open. Records may also be requested via e-mail at the following address: clerk@sagaponackschool.com.
2. Fees: The fee for documents up to 9 x 14 inches is 25 cents per page. For documents larger than 9 x 14 inches, tape or cassette records, computer printouts, or other records, the cost will be based on the actual cost of reproduction or program utilized. Fees are subject to periodic review and change. However, no fee will be charged for records sent via e-mail, the search for or inspection of records, certification of documents, or copies of documents which have been printed or reproduced for distribution to the public. No fee will be charged if an identical record has been prepared within the past six (6) months and an electronic copy is available, except for the actual cost of a storage device of one is provided in complying with the request. The number of such copies given to any one organization or individual may be limited, in the discretion of the Records Access Officer. In determining the actual cost of reproducing a record, the district may only include: (1) the hourly salary of the lowest paid employee with the necessary skill required to prepare a copy of the record, but only where at least two hours is required, (2) the actual cost of any storage devices or media provided outside service needed to prepare a copy of the record if the district's equipment is not able to prepare a copy. The district will inform the person making the request of the estimated cost, if more than two hours of employee time would be needed, or if it would be necessary to retain an outside service.
3. Procedures: Requests to inspect or secure copies of records will be submitted in writing, either in person, by mail or via e-mail, to the Records Access Officer. [Forms are provided (1120-E.1-2) for written and e-mail requests, but are not required.]
4. All requests for information will be responded to within five business days of receipt of the request. If the request cannot be fulfilled within five business days, the Records Access Officer

- shall acknowledge receipt of the request and provide the approximate date when the request will be granted or denied.
5. If a request cannot be granted within 20 business days from the date of acknowledgement of the request, the district must state in writing both the reason the request cannot be granted within 20 business days, and a date certain within a reasonable period when it will be granted depending on the circumstances of the request.
 6. Denial of Access: When a request for access to a public record is denied, the Records Access Officer will indicate in writing the reasons for such denial, and the right to appeal.
 7. Appeal: An applicant denied access to a public record may file an appeal by delivering a copy of the request and a copy of the denial to the Superintendent within 30 days after the denial from which such appeal is taken.
 8. The applicant and the New York State Committee on Open Government will be informed of the Superintendent's determination in writing within 10 business days of receipt of an appeal. The Superintendent shall transmit to the Committee on Open Government photocopies of all appeals and determinations.

IV. Records Exempted from Public Access

The provisions of this regulation relating to information available for public inspection and copying do not apply to records that:

1. are specifically exempted from disclosure by state and/or federal statute;
2. if disclosed would constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy;
3. if disclosed would impair present or imminent contract awards or collective bargaining negotiations;
4. are trade secrets, or are submitted to the Board by a commercial enterprise (e.g., a for-profit business entity) and which if disclosed would cause substantial injury to the competitive position of that enterprise;
5. are compiled for law enforcement purposes and which, if disclosed, would:
 - a. interfere with law enforcement investigations or judicial proceedings;
 - b. deprive a person of a right to a fair trial or impartial adjudication;
 - c. identify a confidential source or disclose confidential techniques or procedures, except routine techniques or procedures; or
 - d. reveal criminal investigative techniques or procedures, except routine techniques and procedures;

6. which if disclosed would endanger the life or safety of any person;
7. which are interagency or intra-agency communications, except to the extent that such materials consist of:
 - a. statistical or factual tabulations or data;
 - b. instructions to staff which affect the public;
 - c. final Board policy determinations; or
 - d. external audits, including but not limited to audits performed by the comptroller and the federal government;
8. records which are examination questions or answers that are requested prior to the final administration of such questions;
9. records which if disclosed would jeopardize the district's capacity to guarantee the security of its information technology assets (which encompasses both the system and the infrastructure).

V. Prevention of Unwarranted Invasion of Privacy

To prevent an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy, the Records Access Officer may delete identifying details when records are made available. An unwarranted invasion of personal privacy includes but is not limited to:

1. disclosure of confidential personal matters reported to the Board which are not relevant or essential to the ordinary work of the Board;
2. disclosure of employment, medical or credit histories or personal references of applicants for employment, unless the applicant has provided a written release permitting such disclosures;
3. sale or release of lists of names and addresses in the possession of the Board if such lists would be used for private, commercial or fund-raising purposes;
4. disclosure of information of a personal nature when disclosure would result in economic or personal hardship to the subject party and such records are not relevant or essential to the ordinary work of the Board; or
5. disclosure of items involving the medical or personal records of a client or patient in a hospital or medical facility.

Unless otherwise deniable, disclosure is not construed to constitute an unwarranted invasion of privacy when identifying details are deleted, when the person to whom records pertain consents in writing to disclosure, or when upon presenting reasonable proof of identity, a person seeks access to records pertaining to themselves.

Additionally, even if a release of information would be permitted under the state's Freedom of Information Law (FOIL), the district will not use or disclose any student or staff personally identifiable information (PII) unless it benefits students and the district, in conformance with state Education Law §2-d ("§2-d") and state regulations 8 NYCRR Part 121 ("Part 121"). Releases that "benefit students and the district" include:

- improving academic achievement,
- empowering parents and students with information, and
- and/or advancing efficient and effective school operations.

PII for student data is defined in federal regulations 34 CFR §99.3, and PII for teacher and principal data is defined in state Education Law §3012-c(10). The Superintendent, the district's Data Protection Officer, and the district's attorney, if necessary, will assist in determining whether complying with a FOIL request can be done in conformance with §2-d and Part 121.

VI. Listing of Records

Pursuant to Section 87(3)(c) of the Public Officers Law, the current records retention schedule for school districts, published by the Commissioner of Education, serves as the list by subject matter of all records in the possession of the school district, whether or not available under the law. The Superintendent or his/her designee, will develop and disseminate department-specific guidance so that staff can implement this policy and regulation.

VII. Litigation-Hold

The Superintendent will designate a "discovery" team, comprised of the school attorney, District Clerk, the Records Access and Records Management Officer and other personnel as needed. The discovery team will convene in the event that litigation is commenced to plan to respond to the request for records. The Superintendent will ensure that measures are put in place to preserve applicable records.

Adoption date: 4/21/16

Amended: 6/18/24

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NEWS MEDIA RELATIONS

The Board of Trustees invites and welcomes the active participation of all forms of mass media, print and electronic, in educating the public and improving education within the district and the wider community. The Board and Superintendent will make every reasonable effort to cooperate with the media by providing accurate information about district operations, to the extent permissible by statute and regulation.

The Board President is designated as the spokesperson for the Board when the Board is making a statement on an issue. No other member of the Board individually will speak for, or in the name of, the Board unless by explicit direction of the Board. Board members should emphasize to the media when asked to speak as a Board member that they can only speak as private citizens unless they have been empowered by the Board to speak for it.]

The school Superintendent is designated as the spokesperson for the district.

All staff intending to release information to the media should first notify the Superintendent. The school Superintendent shall establish all necessary procedures to govern day-to-day interactions between the schools and the news media.

Ref: Arts and Cultural Affairs Law §61.09

Adoption date: 2/12/13

() Required
(X) Local
(x) Notice

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT BOARD MEETINGS

The Board of Trustees encourages public comment on school related matters at Board meetings. Public comments will usually be scheduled for the latter part of the meeting.

Persons wishing to address the Board shall be called by the Board President one at a time. Any group or organization wishing to address the Board must identify a single spokesperson. Presentation should be as brief as possible to allow time for all speakers, and to keep district business moving smoothly.

The Board will not permit in public session discussion involving individual district personnel or students. Persons wishing to discuss matters involving individual district personnel or students should present their comments and/or concerns to the Superintendent during regular business hours.

All speakers and observers are to conduct themselves in a civil manner. Obscene language, defamatory statements, threats of violence, statements advocating racial, religious, or other forms of prejudice will not be tolerated.

Questions and comments from the public concerning matters which are not on the agenda will be taken under consideration and referred to the Superintendent for appropriate action. Persons wishing to have matters included on the agenda shall contact the Superintendent in accordance with Policy 2342, Agenda Preparation.

The President shall be responsible for the orderly conduct of the meeting and shall rule on such matters as the time to be allowed for public discussion and the appropriateness of the subject being presented. The President shall have the right to discontinue any presentation which violates this policy.

For members of the public who are unwilling or unable to speak during public comment periods, including when these periods are closed, they may submit comments to the Board in writing, to P.O. Box 1500, Sagaponack, New York or via email to clerk@sagaponackschool.com. Commentary from the public is addressed in Board policy 1400.

Ref: *Matter of Martin*, 32 EDR 381 (1992)
Appeal of Wittenben, 31 EDR 375 (1992)
Matter of Kramer, 72 EDR 114 (1951)
NYS Department of State, Committee on Open Government,
OML-AO-#2696 (Jan. 8, 1997) and OML-AO-#2717 (Feb. 27, 1997)

Adoption date: 2/12/13

Amended: 9/21/17

Amended:11/18/21

() Required
(X) Local
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PUBLIC COMPLAINTS

The Board of Trustees recognizes the right of community members to register individual or group concerns regarding instruction, district programs, materials, operations, and/or staff members. The main goal of the district is to resolve such concerns specifically with the parties involved, whenever possible.

Public complaints about the school district will be directed to the proper administrative personnel. Complaints regarding the district's implementation and administration of Title I funds are addressed in the section below. Complaints about specific classroom practices shall be directed to the teacher concerned. If the matter is not settled satisfactorily, the complainant shall then contact the Lead Teacher; if there is no resolution on this level, the Superintendent of Schools shall be contacted. The Superintendent shall refer the issue to the Board for final resolution, if necessary.

All matters referred to the Superintendent and/or the Board shall be in writing. Concerns registered directly to the Board as a whole or to an individual Board member shall be referred as soon as is reasonably possible to the Superintendent for investigation, report, and/or resolution.

Complaints Regarding Title I of the ESEA or Academic Intervention Services

Any person or entity representative alleging the district has not upheld its responsibilities under Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), as well as the district's responsibilities for Academic Intervention Services under the Commissioner's regulations section 100.2(ee), may submit a complaint in writing to the Superintendent. After 30 days, any decision of the Superintendent which is unsatisfactory to the complainant, or the district's lack of a response to the complaint, may be appealed to the State Education Department (SED).

All such complaints to SED must, as outlined by SED (see the following website: <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/accountability/T1/complaintappeals.htm>):

1. Be submitted in writing to New York State Education Department, Title I School & Community Services Office, Room 320 EB, 89 Washington Avenue, Albany, NY 12234;
2. Be signed by the person or agency representative filing the complaint;
3. Specify the requirement of law or regulation being violated and the related issue, problem, and/or the concern;
4. Contain information/evidence supporting the complaint;
5. State the nature of the corrective action desired;
6. Contain a copy of the original signed complaint; and

7. Contain a copy of the district's response to the original complaint, or a statement that the district failed to respond or resolve the issue within 30 business days.

The district shall disseminate this complaint procedure to parents of students in Title I funded programs, as well as school officials at nonpublic schools for which the district administers or implements Title I funds or programs.

Ref: 20 USC §7844 (ESEA)
34 CFR §§299.10 – 299.12 [299.11(d) – LEAs must disseminate, free of charge, adequate information about the complaint procedures to parents of students, and appropriate private school officials or representatives.]
8 NYCRR §100.2(ee) (Academic Intervention Services)

Adoption date: 2/12/13

Amended: 9/20/18

() Required
(X) Local
(x) Notice

COMPLAINTS ABOUT CURRICULA OR INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

The Board of Trustees recognizes its responsibility for the selection of instructional materials. The Board expects district teachers and administrators to recommend instructional materials in accordance with sound educational principles and practices, and to use them effectively in the classrooms. However, the Board also recognizes the right of community members to voice concerns and/or complaints regarding the implementation of a particular curriculum and/or instructional material.

Any criticism of instructional materials that are in the schools that cannot be resolved informally shall be submitted in writing to the Superintendent of Schools. An Instructional Material Review Committee, consisting of an administrator, a teacher and a parent of a student enrolled in the district, will be designated by the Superintendent to investigate and judge the challenged material.

The committee shall make recommendations to the Superintendent concerning the disposition of the complaint, and the Superintendent will issue a decision. This decision may be appealed to the Board, and the decision of the Board shall be final.

Ref: Education Law §§1709(15); 1711(5)(f)
Board of Educ., Island Trees UFSD v. Pico, 457 US 853 (1982)

Adoption date: 2/12/13

() Required
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PUBLIC USE OF SCHOOL FACILITIES

While the district's school buildings and grounds are maintained primarily for the purpose of educating students within the district, the Board of Trustees recognizes that the buildings and grounds are a valuable community resource and believes that this resource should be available to the community for specific uses that will not interfere with educational activities. This policy is intended to identify the uses that community groups may make of those facilities.

Permitted Uses

District facilities may be used for the purposes listed below, subject to the conditions and restrictions set forth in this policy.

- A. Instruction in any branch of education, learning or the arts.
- B. Public library purposes, subject to provisions of the Education Law, or as stations of public libraries.
- C. Social, civic (including but not limited to meetings of parent associations and parent-teacher associations) and recreational meetings and entertainments, or other uses pertaining to the welfare of the community, so long as such uses are non-exclusive and open to the general public.
- D. Meetings, entertainment and occasions where admission fees are charged, when the proceeds are to be spent for an educational or charitable purpose.
- E. Polling places for holding primaries and elections, and for the registration of voters.
- F. Civic forums and community centers.
- G. Recreation, physical training and athletics, including competitive athletic contests of children attending a private, nonprofit school.
- H. Child-care programs when school is not in session, or when school is in session for the children of students attending schools of the district and, if there is additional space available, for children of employees of the district.
- I. Graduation exercises held by not-for-profit elementary and secondary schools, provided that no religious service is performed.

Additionally, as a condition of receiving state funding, the district permits access to military recruiters to school buildings, grounds and facilities to the same extent it provides access to those who inform students of educational, occupational or career opportunities.

Prohibited Uses

Any use not permitted by this policy is prohibited. In addition, the following uses are specifically prohibited.

- A. Meetings sponsored by political organizations.
- B. Meetings, entertainments and occasions, where admission fees are charged, that are under the exclusive control of and the proceeds are to be applied for the benefit of a society, association or organization of a religious sect or denomination or of a fraternal, secret or exclusive society or organization, other than veterans' organizations or volunteer fire fighters or volunteer ambulance workers.

Conditions of Use for District Facilities

- A. Use of district facilities may be permitted unless such facilities are in use for school purposes, or during educational programs. The district reserves exclusive and non-reviewable judgment to determine if a requested use would interfere with or disturb the district's educational programs.
- B. To ensure that district facilities are preserved for the benefit of the greater district community, only community based groups and organizations (that is, groups which are located within the geographic area covered by the district) may be granted access to district facilities.
- C. Use of district facilities will be permitted only where the applicant agrees to pay the district a user fee according to a schedule adopted by the district to cover the costs of heat, electricity, maintenance, custodial services and any other expenses associated with the requested use. Use is further conditioned upon the applicant's agreement to pay additional fees associated with the use of any additional services or equipment. The district retains the right to condition use upon an applicant depositing with the district a sum equaling the estimated costs and fees associated with the proposed use 10 days in advance of the requested use. The district retains the further right to waive user fees for groups that are associated with or sponsored by the district.
- D. Where, in the judgment of the district, the requested use of district facilities requires special equipment or supervision, the district reserves the right to deny such use, or in the alternative, to condition such use upon the applicant's payment of additional fees in accordance with paragraph C above. Only authorized personnel shall operate district equipment.
- E. Use of district facilities will only be permitted where the organization provides the district timely evidence of adequate insurance coverage (\$1,000,000 minimum) to save the district harmless from all liability, property damage, personal injuries and/or medical expenses. The district will exercise complete and unreviewable discretion regarding what constitutes adequate insurance coverage for each proposed use.

- F. The Board reserves the discretion to deny use of district facilities described above, or to terminate use of district facilities:
1. By an applicant who has previously misused or abused district facilities or property or who has violated this policy;
 2. For any use which could have the effect of violating the Establishment Clause of the United States Constitution or other provisions of the United States or New York State Constitutions;
 3. For any use which, in the estimation of the Board, could reasonably be expected to or actually does give rise to a riot or public disturbance;
 4. For any use which the Board deems inconsistent with this policy;
 5. For any use by a private for-profit entity that has the direct or indirect effect of promoting the products or services of such entity;
 6. In any instance where alcoholic beverages or unlawful drugs are sold, distributed, consumed, promoted or possessed;
 7. For any use prohibited by law.

Application Procedure for Use of District Facilities

- A. All applications for use of school facilities shall be made in writing and submitted to the Superintendent of Schools at least 30 days prior to the date of the requested use. A use permit application is available in the Superintendent's office.
- B. The applicant must clearly and completely describe the intended use of the district facility in the application.
- C. All applicants must review this policy prior to submitting the application. All applications must be signed by an authorized agent of the group or organization requesting use. The applicant's signature on the application shall attest to the group or organization's intent to comply with all Board policies and regulations and to use district facilities strictly in accordance with the use described in the application.
- D. All applicants must agree to assume responsibility for all damages resulting from its use of district facilities. Proof of adequate insurance must be provided by the applicant at least 10 days before the date of the requested use.
- E. Permits shall be valid only for the facility, use, dates and time specified in the permit. No adjustment to the permit is allowed except with the prior written approval of the Superintendent. Permits shall not be transferable.
- F. The Superintendent is authorized to alter or cancel any permit if it becomes necessary to use the facility for school purposes or for other justifiable reason.
- G. With regard to scheduling activities, the district retains the right to give preference to groups and organizations which are associated with or sponsored by the district.
- H. Issuance of a permit shall not limit the right of access to the facility by district staff.

Ref: Education Law §§2-a; 414

Adoption date: 7/12/16

() Required
 (X) Local
 (x) Notice

SMOKING AND OTHER TOBACCO USE ON SCHOOL PREMISES

Due to the health hazards associated with smoking, and in accordance with federal and state law, the Board of Trustees prohibits smoking (the burning of a lighted cigar, cigarette, pipe or any other matter or substance which contains tobacco, cannabis or cannabinoid hemp) and all other tobacco use, and use of electronic cigarettes or e-cigarettes, in all school district buildings, on school grounds, and in any vehicle used to transport children or personnel. Smoking or tobacco use and vaping is also prohibited within 100 feet of all school entrances, exits, and outdoor areas, except where that is a residence or residential property. "Electronic cigarette" or "e-cigarette" means an electronic device that delivers vapor which is inhaled by an individual user (including vaporizers, vapor pipes, and vape pens), and includes any refill, cartridge and any other component of such a device. Additionally, ingesting cannabis or concentrated cannabis products is prohibited on school grounds and on school buses. This policy does not apply to lawful medical cannabis use in compliance with state law and regulation for those who are properly certified and registered; however, state regulations do not permit smoking or vaporizing medical cannabis where smoking and vaping are prohibited by law.

The district's smoking policy will be prominently posted in the building. The Board designates the Superintendent of Schools or designee as agent responsible for informing individuals smoking cigarettes or e-cigarettes or using tobacco, cannabis or cannabinoid hemp unlawfully that they are in violation of Article 13-E of the Public Health Law and/or Section 409 of the Education Law and/or the federal Pro-Children Acts of 1994 and 2001. Persons in violation of this policy will be asked to stop. Students and staff may be subject to consequences outlined in the Code of Conduct, and visitors or contractors may be asked to leave school property.

Ref: Education Law §§409(2)
 Public Health Law Article 13-E
 Public Health Law §§206; 340; 347
 The Pro-Children Act of 2001, 20 U.S.C. §§1781 *et seq.*
 The Pro-Children Act of 1994, 20 U.S.C. §§6081 *et seq.*
Cannabis Law §3 (definition of cannabinoid hemp)
 Penal Law §222.00 (definition of cannabis); 222.10 (cannabis use prohibited on school grounds)
 10 NYCRR §1004.18 (prohibitions on medical marijuana in certain places) Adoption date: 2/12/13

Amended date: 3/11/14

Amended date: 10/16/14

Amended date: 9/21/17

Amended date: 10/21/21

() Required
(X) Local
(X) Notice

HOME-SCHOOLED STUDENTS

The Board of Trustees shall ensure that children instructed at home are taught by a competent instructor and receive an education substantially equivalent to that offered in the district's schools.

Parents/Guardians who wish to educate their children at home must submit to the district an individual home instruction plan (IHIP), outlining the educational goals to be met and the course materials and syllabi to be used each year for the child's learning process. The district may accept or deny an IHIP. Parents/Guardians must submit quarterly reports which will provide the district with the necessary information to make determinations of substantial equivalency and competency of instruction on an ongoing basis.

Parents/Guardians may appeal to the Board a determination by the Superintendent of Schools or designee that an IHIP is not in compliance with the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education. Parents/Guardians shall have the right to appeal the final determination of the Board to the Commissioner of Education within 30 days of receipt of such determination.

Special Education

A student with an IHIP, who is a resident of the school district and has a disability, or is suspected of having a disability, is eligible to receive services from the school district, in accordance with law, regulation and district policy (4321 et. seq.). A parent/guardian must request special education services in writing to the Board by June 1st, unless the child is first identified or moves into the district after June 1st. In that case, the parent/guardian must request the services within 30 days of being identified or of moving into the district.

Special Education services will be provided pursuant to an Individualized Education Services Program (IESP) on an equitable basis compared to those provided to other students with disabilities attending public or non-public schools within the district. The Board will determine the location where services will be available to home schooled students.

Participation in Extracurricular Activities

Students instructed at home by their parents are not entitled to participate in interscholastic or intramural sports. However, the Board shall permit such students to participate in other school-sponsored extracurricular activities as long as they can provide either documentation of immunization to, or a medical exemption for immunization from, the same communicable diseases required for entry into the public schools. Specifically, the Board will permit home-schooled students to:

- participate in non-credit-bearing organized school activities such as clubs that are not open to the general public;
- participate in band and/or receive music lessons only if these activities are considered to be extra-curricular (not credit-bearing or graded or required for class);
- use school facilities such as the library, career information center and gymnasium if there is mutual agreement on the part of all involved parties.

Instructional Materials

The Board authorizes the Superintendent to loan instructional materials, if available, to students receiving home instruction. The Superintendent or his/her designee shall determine the availability of resources and develop appropriate procedures.

Cross-ref: 4321, Programs for Students with Disabilities, *et seq.*

Ref: Education Law §§ 3204(2); 3210(2)(d); 3602-c (2-c)
8 NYCRR §§ 100.10; 135.1; 135.4
Appeal of Ponte, 41 EDR 174 (2001)
Matter of Abookire, 33 EDR 473 (1994)
State Education Department Memorandum, “New Requirements for the Provision of Special Education Services to Home-Instructed (“Home-Schooled”) Students, July 2008
State Education Department Memorandum, “Home Instruction Questions and Answers,”
<http://www.p12.nysed.gov/sss/homeinstruction/homeschoolingqanda.html>, Sept. 2016

Adoption date: 2/12/13

Amended date: 7/11/17

Amended date: 11/20/19

Amended date: 10/21/20

(X) Required Local Notice

PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT

The Board of Trustees believes that positive parental involvement is essential to student achievement, and thus encourages such involvement in school educational planning and operations. Parental involvement may take place either in the classroom or during extra-curricular activities. However, the Board also encourages parental involvement at home (e.g., planned home reading time, informal learning activities, and/or homework "contracts" between parents and children). The Board directs the Superintendent of Schools to develop a home-school communications program in an effort to encourage all forms of parental involvement.

Parental Involvement - District Level Policy

For purposes of this policy, parental involvement refers to the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities. At a minimum, parental involvement programs, activities and procedures at both the district and individual school level must ensure that parents:

- Play an integral role in assisting their child's learning;
- Are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school; and
- Are full partners in their child's education and are included, as appropriate, in decision-making and on advisory committees to assist in the education of their child.

The term parents refers to a natural parent, legal guardian or other person standing in *loco parentis* (such as a grandparent or stepparent with whom the child lives, or a person who is legally responsible for the child's welfare).

Parents also will participate in the process for developing a school improvement plan when the school their child attends fails to make adequate yearly progress for two consecutive years and is identified as a school in need of improvement.

Building capacity for parental involvement

To build parent capacity for strong parental involvement to improve their child's academic achievement, the district will, at a minimum:

1. Assist parents in understanding such topics as the state's academic content and student achievement standards, state and local academic assessments, how to monitor their child's progress and how to work with educators to improve the achievement of their child.
2. Provide materials and training to help parents work with their child's academic achievement.
3. Educate its teachers, pupil services personnel, the Principal/Superintendent, and other staff in understanding the value and utility of a parent's contributions and on how to:
 - reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners;
 - implement and coordinate parent programs; and
 - build ties between parents and the schools.

Student Academic Achievement School-Parent Compact

School-Parent Compact

To help our children achieve, we agree to abide by the following conditions during the school year:

School Responsibilities

The school will:

- Provide high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment;
- Hold parent-teacher conferences during these conferences, this compact will be discussed as it relates to your child's academic achievement;
- Provide parents with frequent reports on their child's progress;
- Provide parents reasonable access to staff; and
- Provide parents with opportunities to volunteer and participate in their child's class and to observe classroom activities.

Parent Responsibilities

We, as parents, will support our children's learning in the following ways:

- Monitor my child's attendance;
- Make sure that homework is completed;
- Limit amount of television my child watches;
- Volunteer in my child's school;
- Participate in decisions regarding my children's education;
- Promote positive use of my child's extracurricular time; and
- Stay informed about my child's education and communicate with the school regularly.

Student Responsibilities

As a student, I will share the responsibility to improve my grades, and agree to:

- Do homework every day and ask for help when needed;
- Read at least 20 minutes a day outside of school; and
- Give to my parents all notices and information received by me from my school every day.

Ref: 20 USC §6318(a)(2), No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (§1118 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act)
8 NYCRR §§100.3(b)(3); 100.4(f); 100.5(d)(4); 149.3(16)
U.S. Department of Education, Parental Involvement, Title I, Part A, Non-Regulatory Guidance, April 23, 2004

Adoption date: 6/11/13

(X) Required

() Local

() Notice

INTERPRETERS FOR HEARING-IMPAIRED PARENTS

The Board of Trustees recognizes that those district parents with hearing impairments which prevent meaningful participation in their child's educational program must be afforded an opportunity equal to that afforded other parents to participate in meetings or activities pertaining to the academic and/or disciplinary aspects of their child's education. Accordingly, and pursuant to law, the school district will provide an interpreter for hearing-impaired parents for school-initiated academic and/or disciplinary meetings or activities including, but not limited to:

- Parent/teacher conferences;
- Child/study or building level team meetings;
- Planning meetings with school counselors regarding educational progress;
- Career planning; and
- Suspension hearings or other conferences with school officials relating to disciplinary actions.

The school district will provide an interpreter for the hearing-impaired parent if a written request for the service has been submitted to and received by the district within ten (10) working days prior to the scheduled meeting or activity. If an interpreter is unavailable, the district will then make other reasonable accommodations which are satisfactory to the parents (e.g., notetaker, transcript, decoder, or telecommunication device for the deaf). These services will be made available by the district at no cost to the parents.

The Board directs the Superintendent of Schools to maintain a list of available interpreters and to develop procedures to notify parents of the availability of interpreter services, the time limitation for requesting these services, and of the requirement to make other reasonable accommodations satisfactory to the parents should an interpreter not be available.

Hearing-impaired parents are requested to submit the attached form to request accommodation of their disability.

Ref: Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, 42 U.S.C. §§12131-12134
Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 U.S.C. §794
Education Law §3230

8 NYCRR §100.2(aa)

Rothschild v. Grottenthaler, 907 F.2d 286 (2d Cir. 1990)

Adoption date: 2/12/13

INTERPRETERS FOR HEARING-IMPAIRED PARENTS

Accommodation Request

Parents in need of interpreter services are asked to complete this form:

TO: Superintendent of Schools

_____ School District

FROM: _____

Name

Address

Please identify the type of interpreter needed:

___ Interpreter for the Hearing Impaired: () American Sign; () English

In the event an interpreter is not available, please identify the type of alternative service preferred:

___ Written Communication

___ Transcripts

___ Decoder

___ Telecommunication Device for the Deaf (TDD)

___ Other (please specify) _____

Adoption date: 2/12/13

INTERPRETERS FOR HEARING-IMPAIRED PARENTS EXHIBIT

Response to requests for accommodation

FROM: Superintendent of Schools

_____ School District

TO:

Name

Address

The _____ School District hereby:

_____ grants your request for accommodation of a hearing disability in accordance with Board Policy 1925;

_____ denies your request for accommodation of a hearing disability for the following reason:

Adoption date: 2/12/13