

SCHOOL DISTRICT - COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Series 900

- 900 Principles and Objectives for Community Relations
- 901 Public Examination of School District Records
- 902 Press, Radio, and Television News Media
 - 902.01 News Media Relations
 - 902.02 News Conferences and Interviews
 - 902.03 News Releases
 - 902.04 Live Broadcast or Recording
- 903 Public Participation in the School District
 - 903.01 School - Community Groups
 - 903.02 Community Resource Persons and Volunteers
 - 903.03 Visitors to School District Buildings & Sites
 - 903.04 Public Conduct on School Premises
 - 903.05 Distribution of Materials
 - 903.05R1 Distribution of Materials Regulation
- 904 Community Activities Involving Students
 - 904.01 Transporting Students in Private Vehicles
 - 904.02 Advertising and Promotion
- 905 Use of School District Facilities & Equipment
 - 905.01 Community Use of School District Facilities & Equipment
 - 905.01E1 Use of Facilities-Application Form
 - 905.01E2 Use of School Facilities-Indemnity and Liability Insurance Agreement
 - 905.01R1 Use of School District Facilities Regulation
 - 905.01R2 Fees for Use of School District Facilities
 - 905.02 Nicotine/Tobacco-Free Environment
 - 905.03 Weapons in the School District
- 906 Unmanned Aircrafts (Drones)
- 907 District Operation During a Public Emergency
 - 907.R1 District Operation During a Public Health Emergency Regulation

PRINCIPLES AND OBJECTIVES FOR COMMUNITY RELATIONS

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

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

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

Approved 10.17.2011

Reviewed 9.19.11, 11.19.18, 10.23.23 Revised _____

PUBLIC EXAMINATION OF SCHOOL DISTRICT RECORDS

Public records of the school district may be viewed by the public during the regular business hours of the administration offices of the school district. These hours are 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, except for holidays and recesses.

Persons wishing to view the school district's public records will contact the board secretary and make arrangements for the viewing. The board secretary will make arrangements for viewing the records as soon as practicable, depending on the nature of the request.

Persons may request copies of public records by telephone or in writing, including electronically. The school district may require pre-payment of the costs prior to copy and mailing.

Persons wanting copies may be assessed a reasonable fee for the copy. Persons wanting compilation of information may be assessed a reasonable fee for the time of the employee to review and compile the requested information. The district will make every effort to provide the public record requested at no cost other than copying costs for a record which takes less than thirty minutes to produce.

Costs for legal services utilized for the redaction or review of legally protected confidential information may also be assessed to the individual requesting the records. Printing of materials for the public at the expense of the school district will only occur when the event is sponsored by the school district.

Pursuant to Iowa law, the board has determined certain records need to be confidential as their disclosure could jeopardize the safety of persons or property and include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Security procedures
- Emergency preparedness procedures
- Evacuation procedures
- Security codes and passwords

It is the responsibility of the board secretary to maintain accurate and current records of the school district. It is the responsibility of the board secretary to respond in a timely manner to requests for viewing and receiving public information of the school district.

NOTE: This is a mandatory policy and is consistent with the Iowa public records law regarding access to, copying of and charging for copies of public records. By law, individuals have a right to access public records during the hours of 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m.- 4:00 p.m. unless the board sets other hours. IASB recommends that the board establish specific hours in board policy, and blanks are provided in the first paragraph for that purpose

PUBLIC EXAMINATION OF SCHOOL DISTRICT RECORDS

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 21.4; 22.7; 291.6.

Cross Reference: 215 Board of Directors' Records
401.5 Employee Records
506 Student Records
708 Care, Maintenance, and Disposal of School District Records
902.1 News Media Relations

Approved 10.17.2011 Reviewed 9.19.11, 11.19.18, 12.20.22, 10.23.23 Revised _____

NEWS MEDIA RELATIONS

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

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

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

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 21.4; 22; 279.8.

Cross Reference: 902 Press, Radio and Television News Media

Approved 10.17.2011

Reviewed 9.19.11, 11.19.18, 10.23.23 Revised _____

NEWS CONFERENCES AND INTERVIEWS

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

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

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

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

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 21.4; 22; 279.8.

Cross Reference: 902 Press, Radio and Television News Media

Approved 10.17.2011

Reviewed 9.19.11, 11.19.18, 10.23.23 Revised _____

NEWS RELEASES

The superintendent will determine when a news release about internal school district and board matters will be issued. In making this determination, the superintendent will strive to keep the media and the school district community accurately and objectively informed. Further, the superintendent will strive to create and maintain a positive image for the school district. It is the responsibility of the superintendent to approve news releases originating within the school district prior to their release.

News releases will be prepared and disseminated to news media in the school district community. Questions about news releases will be directed to the superintendent.

Legal Reference: Widmer v. Reitzler, 182 N.W.2d 177 (Iowa 1970).
 Dobrovolny v. Reinhardt, 173 N.W.2d 837 (Iowa 1970).
 Iowa Code §§ 21.4; 22.2.

Cross Reference: 902 Press, Radio and Television News Media

Approved 10.17.2011 Reviewed 9.19.11, 11.19.18, 10.23.23 Revised _____

LIVE BROADCAST OR RECORDING

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

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

Recording of classroom activities will be allowed at the discretion of the superintendent. Parents will be notified prior to recording of classroom activities.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent to develop administrative regulations outlining the procedures for making the request and the rules for operation if the request is granted.

NOTE: This policy states that prior to recording of classroom activities, parents will be notified but does not require parental permission. Notification is not a legal requirement, but it is recommended. The policy gives the school district the flexibility to have one notice to cover the entire year and can be placed in the student directory info policy, a parent newsletter or handbook.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 21.4, .7; 22; 279.8.

Cross Reference: 506.2 Student Directory Information
902.1 News Media Relations
903.3 Visitors to School District Buildings and Sites

Approved 10.17.2011

Reviewed 9.19.11, 11.19.18, 10.23.23 Revised _____

SCHOOL - COMMUNITY GROUPS

The board values the participation and the support of school district-community groups, including, but not limited to, the booster club and parent-teacher organizations, which strive for the betterment of the school district and the education program. The board will work closely with these groups.

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

Funds raised by these groups for the school district will be held by the district within a custodial fund account, and may be held in separate account(s).

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

NOTE: Boards may want to personalize this policy to reflect the actual groups, organizations and associations within the school district. Districts should clarify whether school-community group funds are going to be kept separate from the school district, or whether these funds will be held in custodial funds accounts, then eliminate the bracketed language that does not apply.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 279.8

Cross Reference: 903 Public Participation in the School District

Approved 9.17.2018

Reviewed 9.17.18, 11.19.18, 10.23.23 Revised _____

COMMUNITY RESOURCE PERSONS AND VOLUNTEERS

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

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

Volunteers within the district are held to the same high standards of behavior as school employees and will be subject to background checks prior to interacting with the students in a volunteer capacity. It is the responsibility of the superintendent or the superintendent's designee to create regulations necessary to carry out this policy.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 279.8; 670.

Cross Reference: 603.1 Basic Instruction Program
903.3 Visitors to School District Buildings and Sites

Approved 9.17.2018 Reviewed 9.17.18, 11.19.18, 10.23.23 Revised _____

VISITORS TO SCHOOL DISTRICT BUILDINGS & SITES

The board welcomes the interest of parents and other members of the school district community and invites them to visit the school buildings and sites. Visitors, which include persons other than employees or students, must notify the principal of their presence in the facility upon arrival.

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

Visitors will conduct themselves in a manner fitting to their age level and maturity and with mutual respect and consideration for the rights of others while attending school events. Visitors failing to conduct themselves accordingly may be asked to leave the premises. Children who wish to visit school must be accompanied by a parent or responsible adult.

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

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 279.8; 716.7.

Cross Reference: 902 Press, Radio and Television News Media
903.2 Community Resource Persons and Volunteers

Approved 9.17.2018

Reviewed 9.17.18, 11.19.18, 10.23.23 Revised _____

PUBLIC CONDUCT ON SCHOOL PREMISES

The board expects that students, employees and visitors will treat each other with respect, engage in responsible behavior, exercise self-discipline and model fairness, equity and respect. Individuals violating this policy will be subject to discipline. Students will be disciplined consistent with the student conduct policies. Employees will be disciplined consistent with employee discipline policies and laws. Others will be subject to discipline according to this policy.

Individuals are permitted to attend school sponsored or approved activities or visit school premises only as guests of the school district, and, as a condition, they must comply with the school district's rules and policies. Individuals will not be allowed to interfere with or disrupt the education program or activity. Visitors, like the participants, are expected to display mature, responsible behavior. The failure of individuals to do so is not only disruptive but embarrassing to the students, the school district and the entire community.

To protect the rights of students to participate in the education program or activities without fear of interference or disruption and to permit the school officials, employees and activity sponsors and officials to perform their duties without interference or disruption, the following provisions are in effect:

- Abusive, verbal or physical conduct of individuals directed at students, school officials, employees, officials and activity sponsors of sponsored or approved activities or at other individuals will not be tolerated.
- Verbal or physical conduct of individuals that interferes with the performance of students, school officials, employees, officials and activity sponsors of sponsored or approved activities will not be tolerated.
- The use of vulgar, obscene or demeaning expression directed at students, school officials, employees, officials and activity sponsors of sponsored or approved activities participating in a sponsored or approved activity or at other individuals will not be tolerated.

If an individual becomes physically or verbally abusive, uses vulgar, obscene or demeaning expression, or in any way interrupts an activity, the individual may be removed from the event by the individual in charge of the event. Law enforcement may be contacted for assistance.

Individuals removed from school premises have the ability to follow the board's chain of command and complaint policies should they choose to do so. The exclusion is in effect should the individual choose to appeal the decision of the superintendent. The term "individual" as used in the policy also includes students and employees.

If an individual has been notified of exclusion and thereafter tries to enter a school building or attends a sponsored or approved activity, the individual will be advised that his/her attendance will result in prosecution. The school district may obtain a court order for permanent exclusion from the school building or from future school sponsored or approved activities.

PUBLIC CONDUCT ON SCHOOL PREMISES

NOTE: This policy reflects the Iowa civility and trespass law, and outlines a school district's authority to enforce the law. The first paragraph of the policy addressing civility is mandatory, but the remaining portions are optional. Boards can amend the language as needed to fit their individual needs. For more detailed discussion of this issue, see IASB's Policy Primer, Vol. 20 #2- September 13, 2007..

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 279.8, .66; 716.7.

Cross Reference: 205 Board Member Liability
504 Student Activities
802.6 Vandalism
903 Public Participation in the School District

Approved 11.19.2018

Reviewed 11.19.18, 10.23.23

Revised _____

DISTRIBUTION OF MATERIALS

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

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

NOTE: The regulation accompanying this policy has been approved by the 8th Circuit Court of Appeals in Bystrom v. Fridley High School, 822 F.2d 747 (8th Cir. 1987). Amendments to or deviation from this regulation should be addressed to local counsel prior to adoption.

Legal Reference: U.S. Const. amend. I.
Hazelwood School District v. Kuhlmeier, 484 U.S. 260 (1988).
Bethel School District v. Fraser, 478 U.S. 675 (1986).
New Jersey v. T.L.O., 469 U.S. 325 (1985).
Tinker v. Des Moines Ind. Comm. Sch. Dist., 393 U.S. 503 (1969).
Bystrom v. Fridley High School, 822 F.2d 747 (8th Cir. 1987).
Iowa Code §§ 279.8; 280.22.

Cross References: 502.3 Freedom of Expression
503.1 Student Conduct
504 Student Activities
603.9 Academic Freedom

Approved 10.17.2011 Reviewed 9.19.11, 11.19.18, 10.23.23 Revised _____

DISTRIBUTION OF MATERIALS REGULATION

I. Guidelines.

Individuals, including students, may have the right to distribute on school premises, at reasonable times and places, unofficial written material, petitions, buttons, badges or other insignia, except expression which:

1. is obscene to minors;
2. is libelous;
3. contains indecent, vulgar, profane or lewd language;
4. advertises any product or service not permitted to minors by law;
5. constitutes insulting or fighting words, the very expression of which injures or harasses other people (e.g., threats of violence, defamation of character or of a person's race, religion, gender, disability, age or ethnic origin);
6. presents a clear and present likelihood that, either because of its content or the manner of distribution, it will cause a material and substantial disruption of the proper and orderly operation and discipline of the school or school activities, will cause the commission of unlawful acts or the violation of lawful school regulations.

Distribution on school premises of material in categories (1) through (4) to any student is prohibited. Distribution on school premises of material in categories (5) and (6) to a substantial number of students is prohibited.

II. Procedures.

Anyone wishing to distribute unofficial written material must first submit for approval a copy of the material to the building principal at least twenty-four hours in advance of desired distribution time, together with the following information:

1. Name and phone number of the person submitting request and, if a student, the homeroom number;
2. Date(s) and time(s) of day of intended display or distribution;
3. Location where material will be displayed or distributed;
4. The grade(s) of students to whom the display or distribution is intended.

Within twenty-four hours of submission, the principal will render a decision whether the material violates the guidelines in subsection I or the time, place and manner restrictions in subsection III of this policy. In the event that permission to distribute the material is denied, the person submitting the request should be informed in writing of the reasons for the denial. Permission to distribute material does not imply approval of its contents by either, the school, the administration, the board or the individual reviewing the material submitted.

If the person submitting the request does not receive a response within twenty-four hours of submission, the person will contact the building principal's office to verify that the lack of response was not due to an inability to locate the person. If the person has made this verification and there is no response to the request, the material may be distributed in accordance with the time, place and manner provisions in subsection III.

DISTRIBUTION OF MATERIALS REGULATION

If the person is dissatisfied with the decision of the principal, the person may submit a written request for appeal to the superintendent. If the person does not receive a response within three school days of submitting the appeal, the person will contact the superintendent to verify that the lack of response is not due to an inability to locate the person. If the person has made this verification and there is no response to the appeal, the material may be distributed in accordance with the time, place and manner provisions in subsection III.

At every level of the process the person submitting the request will have the right to appear and present the reasons, supported by relevant witnesses and material, as to why distribution of the written material is appropriate.

Permission to distribute material does not imply approval of its contents by either, the school district, the board, the administration or the individual reviewing the material submitted.

III. Time, place and manner of distribution.

The distribution of written material is prohibited when it blocks the safe flow of traffic within corridors and entrance ways of the school or otherwise disrupts school activities. The distribution of unofficial material is limited to a reasonable time, place and manner as follows:

1. The material will be distributed from a table set up for the purpose in a location designated by the principal, which location will not block the safe flow of traffic or block the corridors or entrance ways, but which will give reasonable access to students.
2. The material will be distributed either before and/or after the regular instructional day.
3. No written material may be distributed during and at the place of a normal school activity if it is reasonably likely to cause a material and substantial disruption of that activity.

IV. Definitions.

The following definitions apply to the following terms used in this policy:

1. "Obscene to minors" is defined as:
 - (a) The average person, applying contemporary community standards, would find that the written material, taken as a whole, appeals to the prurient interest of minors of the age to whom distribution is requested;
 - (b) The material depicts or describes, in a manner that is patently offensive to prevailing standards in the adult community concerning how such conduct should be presented to minors of the age to whom distribution is requested, sexual conduct such as intimate sexual acts (normal or perverted), masturbation, excretory functions, and lewd exhibition of the genitals; and
 - (c) The material, taken as a whole, lacks serious literary, artistic, political or scientific value for minors.
2. "Minor" means any person under the age of eighteen.

DISTRIBUTION OF MATERIALS REGULATION

3. "Material and substantial disruption" of a normal school activity is defined as follows:
 - (a) Where the normal school activity is an educational program of the district for which student attendance is compulsory, "material and substantial disruption" is defined as any disruption which interferes with or impedes the implementation of that program.
 - (b) Where the normal school activity is voluntary in nature (including, without limitation, school athletic events, school plays and concerts, and lunch periods), "material and substantial disruption" is defined as student rioting, unlawful seizures of property, widespread shouting or boisterous demonstration, sit-in, stand-in, walk-out, or other related forms of activity.
 - (c) In order for expression to be considered disruptive, there must exist specific facts upon which the likelihood of disruption can be forecasted including past experience in the school, current events influencing student activities and behavior, and instances of actual or threatened disruption relating to the written material in question.
4. "School activities" means any activity of students sponsored by the school and includes, by way of example but not limited to, classroom work, library activities, physical education classes, official assemblies and other similar gatherings, school athletic contests, band concerts, school plays and in-school lunch periods.
5. "Unofficial" written material includes all written material except school newspapers, literary magazines, yearbooks, and other publications funded and/or sponsored or authorized by the school. Examples include leaflets, brochures, flyers, petitions, placards and underground newspapers, whether written by students or others.
6. "Libelous" is a false and unprivileged statement about a specific individual that tends to harm the individual's reputation or to lower him/her in the esteem of the community.
7. "Distribution" means circulation or dissemination of written material by means of handing out free copies, selling or offering copies for sale and accepting donations for copies. It includes displaying written material in areas of the school which are generally frequented by students.

V. Disciplinary action.

Distribution by any student of unofficial written material prohibited in subsection I or in violation of subsection III may be halted, and students may be subject to discipline including suspension and expulsion. Any other party violating this policy may be requested to leave the school property immediately and, if necessary, local law enforcement officials will be called.

VI. Notice of policy to students.

A copy of this policy will be published in student handbooks and posted conspicuously in school buildings.

TRANSPORTING STUDENTS IN PRIVATE VEHICLES

Generally, transporting students for school purposes is done in a vehicle owned by the school district and driven by a school bus driver. Students may be transported in private vehicles for school purposes. It is within the discretion of the superintendent to determine when this is appropriate.

Individuals transporting students for school purposes in private vehicles must have the permission of the superintendent and meet all applicable requirements set by the district. Prior to transporting students in private vehicles, the district may require the following:

- The vehicle used to transport the student(s) is in good condition and meets all applicable safety requirements;
- The driver transporting the student(s) possesses a valid driver's license;
- Proof of insurance has been supplied to the superintendent and the insurance satisfies the minimum coverage requirements for driving personal vehicles in the State of Iowa ; and
- The parents of the students to be transported have given written permission to the superintendent.

The school district assumes no responsibility for those students who have not received the approval of the superintendent and who ride in private vehicles for school purposes. If transportation is not provided by the school district, or if transportation provided by the school district is declined by the student or parent/guardian, then the responsibility and corresponding liability for transportation for school purposes shall rest solely with the student and parent/guardian.

This policy statement applies to transportation of students for school purposes in addition to transporting students to and from their designated attendance center. The superintendent may develop an administrative process to implement this policy.

NOTE: It is important for districts to remember that if language is included in the policy, it needs to be followed in practice. For example, if the district requires written permission as stated above, the district needs to make sure that this is in fact being required for every student, every time. If the district finds a requirement to be impractical, then it should not be included in the policy.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 279.8; 285; 321.
281 I.A.C. 43.

Cross Reference: 401.7 Employee Travel Compensation
711 Transportation

Approved 10.17.2011

Reviewed 9.19.11, 7.18.16, 8.15.16, 11.19.18, 10.23.23

Revised _____

ADVERTISING AND PROMOTION

The use of students, the school district name, or its buildings and sites for advertising and promoting products and/or services of entities and organizations operating for a profit is not allowed except with prior board approval. Nonprofit entities and organizations may be allowed to use students, the school district name, or its buildings and sites if the purpose is educationally related and prior approval has been obtained from the board.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code § 279.8

Cross Reference: 504.5 Student Fund Raising
904 Community Activities Involving Students

Approved 10.17.2011

Reviewed 9.19.11, 11.19.18, 10.23.23 Revised _____

COMMUNITY USE OF SCHOOL DISTRICT FACILITIES & EQUIPMENT

School district facilities and equipment will be made available to local nonprofit entities which promote cultural, educational, civic, community, or recreational activities. "Entity(ies)" will include organizations, groups and individuals and their agents. Any district employee using district-owned property or facilities for a use outside their duties as an employee is doing so as a community member, and not as a district employee. Prior to using district resources for activities outside the scope of their job duties, employees must meet the requirements to be considered a qualifying entity. Such use will be permitted only when the use does not interfere with or disrupt the education program or a school-related activity, the use is consistent with state law, and will end no later than midnight. It is within the discretion of the board to allow for-profit entities to use school district facilities and equipment. The board reserves the right to deny use of the facilities and equipment to an entity. It is within the discretion of the superintendent to allow use of school district facilities and equipment on Sundays.

Entities that wish to use school district facilities or equipment must apply at Office of the Superintendent or website. It is the responsibility of the board secretary or superintendent to determine whether the school district facility or equipment requested is available and whether the application for use meets board policy and administrative regulations. It is the responsibility of the superintendent and board secretary to provide application forms, obtain proof of insurance, and draw up the contract for use of school district facilities and equipment.

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

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

COMMUNITY USE OF SCHOOL DISTRICT FACILITIES & EQUIPMENT

The board may allow entities, such as the Boy and Girl Scouts and 4-H, to use the school district facilities and equipment without charge. While such entities may use the facilities and equipment without charge, they may be required to pay a custodial fee.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent to develop a fee schedule for the board's approval and to develop administrative regulations regarding this policy.

NOTE: This policy requires that all users of school district facilities provide proof of insurance. This is not a legal requirement. It is there for the protection of the school district. Prior to waiving insurance requirements for groups, a school district should check with its insurance carrier to clarify coverage.

This policy also addresses use of the school district's ICN classroom. Language in brackets and italics should be used only if the district maintains an ICN classroom. Otherwise, remove this language and DO NOT USE 905.1R1, 905.1R2, 905.1E1 and 905.1E2. The language the fifth paragraph addresses the school district's sponsorship of outside groups use of the ICN. Boards can limit their sponsorship if they choose. The policy is also written to pass on the ICN costs to the sponsored group.

The language in the sixth paragraph represents mandatory policy language. The seventh paragraph is language that is recommended but is not mandatory. The supporting administrative regulations address matters specific to ICN classroom use for the board's consideration. The new ICN regulation is at 905.1R2.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 8D; 123.46; 276; 278.1(4); 279.8; 297.9-.11.

Cross Reference: 704 Revenue

Approved 10.17.2011 Reviewed 9.19.11, 11.19.18, 4.8.19, 4.26.21, 10.23.23 Revised _____

COMMUNITY USE OF SCHOOL DISTRICT FACILITIES & EQUIPMENT APPLICATION FORM

The undersigned entity makes application for the use of the school district facility or equipment as designated below. The entity will provide police protection at its own expense, if necessary, to maintain order and to properly protect the building, site, or equipment. Police protection is required when admission is charged.

Please refer to Policy 905.1 to determine the proper use of school facilities and equipment. The entity is responsible for complying with the law, board policy and the administrative regulations.

The entity must provide an Indemnity and Liability Insurance Agreement, Policy 905.1E2, prior to the use of school district buildings, sites, or equipment

Building/Site/Equipment _____ Date _____

Purpose _____ Hours _____

Auditorium

Seating requirements on stage _____

Tables required on stage _____

Stage curtain and attendant _____

Spotlights _____

Microphones _____

Podium Stand _____

Table _____ Stand in audience _____

Other equipment _____

Gymnasium

Seating _____ Scoreboard _____

Public address system _____

Employee _____

Classroom

ICN _____

Computer lab _____

Other _____

Swimming Pool

Total Fee \$ _____

Name of entity making application: _____

Name of person making application: _____

Address: _____ Phone #: _____

(Signature of Applicant)

(Date)

COMMUNITY USE OF SCHOOL DISTRICT FACILITIES & EQUIPMENT
INDEMNITY AND LIABILITY INSURANCE AGREEMENT

The undersigned, hereafter referred to as "entity," states that it will hold the _____ School District, hereafter referred to as "school district," harmless from any and all damages and claims that may arise by reason of any negligence on the part of the entity in the use of any facilities or equipment owned by the school district. In case any action is brought therefore against the school district or any of its officers, employees or agents, the entity will assume full responsibility for the legal defense thereof, and upon its failure to do so on proper notice, the school district reserves the right to defend such action and to charge all costs, including attorneys' fees, to the entity.

The entity agrees to furnish and maintain during the usage of the facilities or equipment owned by the school district such bodily injury and property damage liability insurance as will protect the entity and the school district from claims or damages for personal injury, including accidental death, and from claims for property damages which may arise from the entity's use of the school district's facilities or equipment whether such operations be by the entity or by anyone directly or indirectly employed by the entity.

The entity will furnish the school district with a certificate of insurance acceptable to the school district's insurance carrier before the contract is issued.

Dated at _____, Iowa, this _____ day of _____, 20____.

(Entity) _____ School District

By _____

Title _____

Address _____

By _____
Superintendent

By _____
Secretary

COMMUNITY USE OF SCHOOL DISTRICT FACILITIES & EQUIPMENT REGULATION

1. Alcoholic beverages will not be brought to or consumed on school grounds.
2. Smoking is prohibited in school district facilities and on school district grounds, including in private vehicles.
3. A school district employee must be present while the school district facility or equipment is being used by an entity.
4. After a school district facility, site, or equipment has been used by an entity, cleaning, including restoring the facility, site or equipment to the condition it was in prior to its use, will be done by employees assisted by a committee from the entity. The fee charged to the entity for the use of the facility, site, or equipment will include these costs. However, if excessive costs are involved in cleaning or otherwise restoring the facility, site, or equipment to the condition it was in prior to its use, the board reserves the right to charge the entity for these excessive costs.
5. Entities are required to stay within the area of the school district facility or site and use only the school district equipment authorized by the school district for use by the entity. Other school district facilities, sites, or areas in the school district building or equipment are off limits to the entity.
6. A cancellation after the facility or equipment is made ready for the entity will be charged at the full rate. Cancellations made prior to that time will be charged a minimum cancellation fee or the costs incurred to the school district in anticipation of the entity's use, whichever is greater.

COMMUNITY USE OF SCHOOL DISTRICT BUILDINGS & SITES & EQUIPMENT FEES SCHEDULE

Rates for Use of Buildings and Sites

Area	Regular Use	Commercial Use
Elementary Gym	\$40.00	\$100.00
Elementary Kitchen	\$40.00	\$100.00
High School Gyms	\$40.00	\$100.00
High School Kitchen/Cafeteria	\$40.00	\$100.00
Paul Pete Center	\$40.00	\$100.00
Classroom	\$15.00	\$ 50.00
<u>Sports Fields</u>	<u>300V/200JV/150JH</u>	<u>300V/200JV/150JH</u>

In addition to paying the above fees, other than entities using the ICN classroom, each entity must make arrangements with the school district to have adequate custodial and supervisory services. Buildings will not be available unless a contract is signed by the entity and the school district well in advance of scheduled usage.

Rates for Use of Equipment

Equipment	Rate for use
Computer	\$50 a unit.
Chairs	\$1 a chair
Tables	\$10 a table
Video equipment	\$25 a unit
Projection Screen	\$15

ICN ROOM USE REGULATION

The ICN is a statewide telecommunications network designed primarily to enhance learning opportunities for students, employees and board members. The school district recognizes that it is not the only authorized user of the ICN and other users will frequently be using the school district's ICN facilities. Sponsored and authorized users of the ICN must comply with state and federal law in using the ICN.

(_____ title _____) is responsible for coordinating ICN classroom use. Requests for use of the ICN classroom by employees for the educational program are filed with (_____ title _____).

It is the responsibility of the entity using the ICN classroom to comply with the requirements of the law and school district policy and its supporting administrative regulations.

1. The ICN is a limited access network and sponsored or authorized users cannot use the system for profit making ventures.
2. The use must be consistent with the mission of the sponsored or authorized user.
3. Users cannot resell time on the ICN.
4. Sponsored and authorized users are responsible for compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Iowa Civil Rights Act. Sponsored and authorized users are responsible for making the necessary accommodations and are responsible for obtaining and paying for needed interpreters or interpretive equipment.
5. Sponsored and authorized users are required to stay within the ICN classroom and use the most direct route to the ICN classroom. Other school district facilities, sites, areas in the school district building or equipment are off limits to the authorized users.*
6. The charge for use of the ICN room is _____. **(The maximum hourly rate school districts can charge for use of the facilities is \$12.50 per hour. This is for use of the room, not the ICN. This cost reimburses the school district for its administrative, custodial, etc. costs for the room's usage.)**
7. The ICN will be available _____. **(The minimum hours the facility must be available is Monday through Friday, 7:00 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. and Saturday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.)**
8. The sponsored or authorized user is responsible for all site and site usage charges.
9. A school district employee will be present in the school district facility while the ICN is in use.*
10. Food and drink are not permitted in the ICN room.*
11. First time use of the ICN will require prior training and should be organized through the school district ICN scheduler at _____.*

ICN ROOM USE REGULATION

12. Use or transmission of copyrighted material, without prior approval of the copyright holder, is strictly prohibited. Appropriate use of the copyrighted material is the responsibility of the sponsored or authorized user, not the school district.*
13. The school district reserves the right to amend these rules as necessary to reflect the ICN's usage and changes at the state or federal level.*
14. The school district reserves the right to charge all costs, including attorneys' fees, that may arise to the authorized user for the sponsored or authorized user's failure to comply with the law, board policy and administrative regulations.*

*Items with an asterisk are not legal requirements but are items that should be considered when writing an ICN room usage regulation.

TOBACCO/NICOTINE-FREE ENVIRONMENT

Tobacco and nicotine use is prohibited on school district facilities and grounds, including school vehicles. This requirement extends to students, employees and visitors. This policy applies at all times, including school-sponsored and nonschool-sponsored events. Persons failing to abide by this request are required to extinguish their smoking material, dispose of the tobacco, nicotine or other product or leave the school district premises immediately. It is the responsibility of the administration to enforce this policy.

NOTE: According to Iowa law, all school grounds are smoke free. Boards have the authority to expand the policy to make the school facilities and grounds tobacco or nicotine free as well. For more detailed discussion of this issue, see IASB's Policy Primer, Vol. 22 #6-June 19, 2013 and Vol. 20 #5-July 28, 2008.

Legal Reference: 20 U.S.C. 608
Iowa Code §§ 142D; 279.8, .9; 297.

Cross Reference: 903.4 Public Conduct on School Premises
905.1 Community Use of School District Buildings & Sites & Equipment

Approved 11.19.2018

Reviewed 11.19.18, 10.23.23

Revised _____

WEAPONS IN THE SCHOOL DISTRICT

The board believes weapons, other dangerous objects and look-a-likes in school district facilities and at school district-approved events cause material and substantial disruption to the school environment or present a threat to the health and safety of students, employees and visitors on the school district premises or property within the jurisdiction of the school district.

All weapons, dangerous objects and look-a-likes are prohibited to be carried, possessed, transported or otherwise stored on school district property and to school district-approved events. Exceptions to this policy include weapons carried by the following individuals in performance of their official duties:

- law enforcement;
- military personnel;
- corrections officers;
- individuals approved in writing by the Superintendent, and;
- students and individuals approved in writing by the Superintendent who are actively engaging in a school district approved firearms safety course, hunter education course or shooting sports activity.

Individuals found to be in violation of this district policy will be required to immediately remove the weapon, dangerous object or look-a-likes from the school district property or event. Students found to be in violation of this policy or any other board policies related to weapons will be subject to disciplinary proceedings.

Note: In 2021, the legislature made changes to decriminalize the carrying of firearms on campus by certain individuals if certain circumstances are met. However, much like creating tobacco-free campuses, schools maintain the authority to choose whether to place additional limitations on the carrying of firearms on district property as needed to protect the health and safety of students and staff.

Legal Reference: 18 U.S.C. § 921
Iowa Code §§ 279.8; 280.21B; 483A.27(11), 724
281 I.A.C. 12.3(6)

Cross Reference: 502 Student Rights and Responsibilities
503 Student Discipline
507 Student Health and Well-Being

Approved 10.23.2023

Reviewed 10.23.23

Revised _____

UNMANNED AIRCRAFTS – DRONES

The following policy applies to the extent not preempted by federal or state regulatory jurisdiction regarding unmanned aircrafts. For purposes of this policy, the term “unmanned aircraft” means an aircraft that is operated without the possibility of direct human intervention from within or on the aircraft.

The *Midland Community School District* believes in maintaining the safety, security, and privacy of students, employees, and visitors. In keeping with this belief, the use or possession of unmanned aircrafts is prohibited on district property or in the space above the property that reasonably can be considered part of the district property.

The superintendent may make an exception to this policy in specific cases where the circumstances warrant such exception. In such situations and prior to approval, unmanned aircraft operators shall:

- Supply proof of insurance meeting liability limits established by the district;
- Present appropriate registration and authorization issued by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA);
- Sign an agreement holding the district harmless from any claims of harm to individuals or damage to property; and
- Meet additional requirements as determined appropriate by the district.

If the unmanned aircrafts are operated as part of the district curriculum, prior to adoption into the curriculum, district employees shall work with district administration to ensure the appropriate insurance, registration, and authorizations are in place.

Unmanned aircrafts shall be operated in accordance with Iowa High School Athletic Association and Iowa Girls High School Athletic Union policy.

Failure to abide by this policy may result in local, state, and federal penalties if applicable.

NOTE: The use of unmanned aircrafts is an unsettled area of the law. There is overlap with federal and state regulations and as such, there is the potential for challenge associated with the enforcement of the policy. Districts should, as with the adoption of any new policy, work with the district’s legal counsel to determine whether, when, and to what extent a policy on unmanned aircraft should be adopted at the local level.

NOTE: Districts who wish to approve the use of drones on school property, as part of the curriculum or for other purposes, should consult with the district’s insurance carrier prior to approval and operation. Most general liability policies have an exclusion for aircraft liability and the district would likely need additional liability coverage for the operation of drones. If you are a member of the IASB Safety Group, effective July 1, 2016, your policy with EMC automatically includes liability coverage for bodily injury and property damage caused by drones. However, coverage is not currently available for claims related to violation of privacy.

NOTE: Districts should be aware of the FAA unmanned aircraft safety guidelines, which include guidelines such as flying below 400 feet and not flying within 5 miles of an airport unless the airport and control tower have been contacted prior to flying. For a complete list of the guidelines, please visit the “Model Aircraft Operations” section of the FAA website, located at http://www.faa.gov/uas/model_aircraft/.

Legal Reference: FAA Modernization and Reform Act of 2012, P.L. 112-95, Title III, Subtitle B.
Model Aircraft Operating Standards, FFA AC No. 91-57A (Sept. 2, 2015).
OFFICE OF CHIEF COUNSEL, FED. AVIATION ADMIN., State and Local
Regulation of Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) Fact Sheet (Dec. 17, 2015).
Iowa Code § 279.8
IHSAA Drone Policy

Cross Reference: 602.1 Curriculum Development

Approved 11.19.2018

Reviewed 11.19.18, 10.23.23

Revised _____

DISTRICT OPERATION DURING PUBLIC EMERGENCIES

The district believes that student learning is the heart of its core mission. While traditional in-person teaching continues to provide the greatest learning opportunity to all students, there may be rare and unusual circumstances that prevent the school community from convening in traditional in-person settings. At times of a public emergency declared by federal, state or local officials, the district will seek guidance and recommendations from federal, state and local agencies to assist in determining the safety of convening traditional in-person learning.

During a declared public emergency, the school board delegates to the Superintendent the authority to determine whether to close school buildings to traditional in-person learning if the Superintendent determines in-person learning would hinder the health and safety of the school community. The district will instead utilize remote or hybrid learning opportunities permitted by law.

Following guidance and recommendations from federal, state, and local agencies when reasonably possible, the administration will create regulations related to district operations during a public emergency, including, but not limited to, student, employee and visitor safety and security; the use and safeguarding of district property; public meetings and events, and when applicable, measures to prevent or slow the spread of infectious disease.

These measures will be enforced for the period of time of the public emergency, or until the *school board and superintendent*, in consultation with federal, state and local agencies determine it is appropriate for the safety measures to end.

NOTE: Districts should choose between the options listed in the italicized language, remove text that is not used then remove italics. The language requiring board approval of school closure to in-person learning due to a declared public emergency is a legal requirement from Senate File 2310. However, boards can choose to delegate this decision to the Superintendent, but that delegation should be specified in board policy.

NOTE: The optional language listed in this policy and accompanying regulation are just some examples of the local flexibility districts have to make decisions based upon the priorities of their individual school communities. Districts are strongly encouraged to consult with their legal counsel and adapt the optional language to best suit the needs of their individual communities.

Legal Reference: Senate File 2310
Iowa Code ch. 279.8

Cross Reference: 403.3 Communicable Diseases - Employees
506 Student Records
507 Student Health and Well-Being

Approved 7.28.2020

Reviewed 7.28.20, 11.19.18, 4.18.22, 10.23.23

Revised _____

DISTRICT OPERATIONS DURING A PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY REGULATION

During a public health emergency, the district will seek guidance and recommendations from federal, state and local agencies that monitor and respond to the emergency. The district will follow any mandatory closures or other mandatory measures imposed by such agencies.

The superintendent, in conjunction with relevant government agencies and/or athletic and activity associations, will determine under what circumstances the district will restrict or cancel in-person learning, student events or activities including sporting events, extracurricular clubs or meetings for students, and the use of district facilities by outside organizations.

The district will promote and follow other recommended measures and guidance from federal, state and local agencies to the extent reasonably practicable under the circumstances. These measures may include, but are not limited to the following:

On-line learning, hybrid models of learning, or modified in-person learning may occur dependent on the circumstances and in accordance with applicable law.

Hand washing and any other recommended hygiene practices will be taught to all students and employees.

Non-medical-grade face masks are encouraged to be worn by all individuals on school grounds, including students, employees and volunteers. Masks will be provided to individuals who request them. Reusable masks should be washed regularly by individuals wearing them.

Employees, volunteers and students are encouraged to monitor their temperatures each morning prior to traveling to any school building or event. Individuals with a temperature over 100.3 degrees may not enter school buildings or attend school events.

Due to the increased cost to the district of providing additional cleaning and disinfecting measures, and in order to preserve cleaning supplies for school use during the time of a public health emergency, the superintendent has discretion to restrict the use of school buildings and facilities for non-school groups in a neutral and non-discriminatory manner.

[or]

Due to the increased cost to the district of providing additional cleaning and disinfecting measures and in order to preserve cleaning supplies for school use during the time of a public health emergency, the superintendent has discretion to require, as a condition of using district facilities, non-school groups to provide the school district with EPA-approved cleaning and disinfecting supplies to properly clean and disinfect the space used after each event. The district may also require non-school groups to reimburse the district the actual cost of school personnel time needed to clean and disinfect school facilities after the event.

