

POLICY

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Safety Plan for Healthcare Settings in School Buildings - COVID-19 (M)

1684.14 Safety Plan for Healthcare Settings in School Buildings - COVID-19 (M)

A. Purpose and Scope

The Board of Education is committed to providing a safe and healthy workplace for all employees and has adopted this Policy that shall be the school district's COVID-19 Plan (Plan) that includes procedures to minimize the risk of transmission of COVID-19, in accordance with Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 (OSHA) COVID-19 Emergency Temporary Standard (ETS) published on June 21, 2021. The ETS, 29 CFR §1910 - Subpart U, applies to all settings where any school district employee or contracted service provider provides healthcare services or health care support services. Public Employees' Occupational Safety and Health (PEOSH), the agency with jurisdiction over public employers in New Jersey, has adopted the ETS in full. However, its applicability for school districts is primarily restricted to the nurse's office and any adjoining clinical areas and not the entire school building.

The Board, administration, and the COVID-19 Safety Coordinator(s) will work collaboratively with all employees in the development, implementation, monitoring, and updating of this Plan.

1. Definitions

- a. "Employee" means any district employee or contracted service provider working in a healthcare setting where people with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 are reasonably expected to be present.
 - (1) Therefore, the provisions of the ETS and this Policy only apply to employees or contracted service providers working in a nurse's office or any adjoining clinical areas.
- b. "Healthcare setting" means all settings in the school district where any employee or contracted service provider provides healthcare services or healthcare support services.
 - (1) Where a healthcare setting is embedded within a non-healthcare setting (i.e. school nurse's office and any adjoining clinical areas in a school building), the ETS and this Policy only apply to the embedded healthcare setting



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and not to the remainder of a school building in accordance with 29 CFR §1910.502(a)(3)(i).

- c. For the purpose of this Policy, additional definitions shall be those definitions listed in 29 CFR §1910.502(b).
- 2. The school district has multiple healthcare settings that are substantially similar; therefore; has developed and adopted this single Plan for these substantially similar healthcare settings, with site-specific considerations included in this Plan. The healthcare settings in the school district are listed in Appendix 1.
 - a. Any school district health care settings that are not substantially similar, the school district shall develop and adopt separate COVID-19 Plans for each healthcare setting and list them in Appendix 1.

B. Roles and Responsibilities for School District Employees

- 1. The school district's goal in adopting this Policy is to prevent the transmission of COVID-19 in the school district's healthcare settings. All staff members are responsible for supporting, complying with, and providing recommendations to further improve this Plan.
- 2. The Superintendent will designate a COVID-19 Safety Coordinator(s) who shall implement and monitor this Plan. The COVID-19 Safety Coordinator(s) shall have the school district's full support in implementing and monitoring this Plan, and has authority to ensure compliance with all aspects of this Plan.

C. Hazard Assessment and Worker Protections

- 1. The Superintendent of Schools or designee will conduct a specific hazard assessment of its healthcare settings to determine potential hazards related to COVID-19.
 - a. A hazard assessment will be conducted initially and whenever changes in a healthcare setting in the school district create a new potential risk of employee exposure to COVID-19 (e.g., new work activities in the healthcare setting).



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2. The Superintendent has developed and the Board has adopted this Plan that includes the procedures the school district will use to determine an employee's vaccination status as outlined in Appendix 2.
 - a. In the event the Superintendent or designee cannot or does not determine or confirm the vaccination status of an employee, the employee shall be presumed to be unvaccinated.
3. All completed hazard assessment forms and results will be attached to this Plan in Appendix 3 and will be accessible to all employees at each school district facility.
4. The school district will address the hazards identified by the assessment, and have included in this Plan the procedures to minimize the risk of transmission of COVID-19 for each employee. These procedures are included in the following Appendices:
 - a. Patient Screening and Management
 - (1) In healthcare settings in the school district where direct patient care is provided, the school district will include protocols addressing patient screening and management in Appendix 4.
 - b. Standard and Transmission-Based Precautions
 - (1) The school district will develop and implement procedures to adhere to Standard and Transmission-Based Precautions in accordance with CDC's "Guidelines for Isolation Precautions" which are included in Appendix 5.
5. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
 - a. The school district will provide and ensure that employees wear approved facemasks or a higher level of respiratory protection.
 - b. The school district will include protocols to address PPE for healthcare settings in Appendix 6.
6. Physical Distancing



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- a. The school district will ensure that each employee is separated from all other people in the healthcare setting by at least six feet when indoors, unless it can be demonstrated that such physical distance is not feasible for a specific activity.
 - (1) Where maintaining six feet of physical distance is not feasible, the school district will ensure employees are as far apart from other people as possible.
 - b. Physical distancing will be implemented, along with the other provisions required by the ETS, as part of a multi-layered infection control approach for all healthcare settings.
 - c. The school district will include protocols to address physical distancing for healthcare settings in Appendix 7.
7. Physical Barriers
- a. The school district will install physical barriers at each fixed work location outside of direct patient care areas where each employee is not separated from all other people by at least six feet of distance and spacing cannot be increased, unless it can be demonstrated that it is not feasible to install such physical barriers.
 - b. Physical barriers will be implemented, along with the other provisions required by the ETS, as part of a multi-layered infection control approach for all healthcare settings.
 - c. The school district will include protocols to address physical barriers for healthcare settings in Appendix 8.
8. Cleaning and Disinfecting in the Healthcare Setting
- a. The school district will implement policies and procedures for cleaning, disinfecting, and hand hygiene, along with the other provisions required by the ETS, as part of a multi-layered infection control approach for all healthcare settings.
 - b. The school district will include protocols to address cleaning and disinfecting for healthcare settings in Appendix 9.



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9. Ventilation

- a. The school district will implement procedures for each facility's heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) system and include protocols addressing ventilation for healthcare settings in Appendix 10.
- b. Ventilation policies and procedures will be implemented, along with the other provisions required by the ETS, as part of a multi-layered infection control approach.
- c. The Superintendent or designee will identify the building manager, HVAC professional, or maintenance employee who can certify that the HVAC system(s) are operating in accordance with the ventilation provisions of the ETS and list the individual(s) in Appendix 10.

D. Health Screening and Medical Management

1. Health Screening

- a. "Screening" means, for the purpose of this Policy, asking questions to determine whether a person is COVID-19 positive or has symptoms of COVID-19.
- b. The school district will include protocols to address health screening for employees in Appendix 11.

2. Employee Notification to Employer of COVID-19 Illness or Symptoms

- a. The school district will include protocols to address employee notification to employer of COVID-19 illness or symptoms for employees in Appendix 11.

3. Employer Notification to Employees of COVID-19 Exposure in the Healthcare Setting

- a. The school district will include protocols to address employer notification of COVID-19 exposure to employees in Appendix 11.

4. Medical Removal from the Healthcare Setting



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- a. The school district will include protocols to address medical removal from the healthcare setting for employees in Appendix 11.
5. Return to Work Criteria
 - a. The school district will include protocols to address return to work criteria for employees in Appendix 11.
6. Medical Removal Protection Benefits
 - a. The school district will continue to pay employees who have been removed from the healthcare setting under the medical removal provisions of the ETS. When an employee has been removed from the healthcare setting and is not working remotely or in isolation, the school district shall pay and provide benefits in accordance with the Plan addressed in Appendix 12.
- E. Vaccinations
 1. The school district encourages employees to receive the COVID-19 vaccination as a part of a multi-layered infection control approach. The school district will support COVID-19 vaccination for each employee by providing reasonable time and paid leave to each employee for vaccination and any side effects experienced following vaccination.
 2. The school district will include protocols to address vaccination for employees in Appendix 13.
- F. Training
 1. The school district will implement policies and procedures for employee training, along with the other provisions required by the ETS, as part of a multi-layered infection control approach.
 2. The school district will include protocols to address training for employees in Appendix 14.
- G. Anti-Retaliation



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1. The school district will inform each employee that employees have a right to the protections required by the ETS, and that employers are prohibited from discharging or in any manner discriminating against any employee for exercising their right to protections required by the ETS, or for engaging in actions that are required by the ETS.
2. The school district will not discharge or in any manner discriminate against any employee for exercising their right to the protections required by the ETS, or for engaging in actions that are required by the ETS.

H. Requirements Implemented at No Cost to Employees

1. The school district will comply with the provisions of ETS at no cost to its employees, with the exception of any employee self-monitoring conducted under D. above.

I. Recordkeeping

1. The school district will retain all versions of this Policy to comply with the ETS while the ETS remains in effect.
2. The school district will establish and maintain a COVID-19 log to record each instance in which an employee is COVID-19 positive, regardless of whether the instance is connected to exposure to COVID-19 at work.
 - a. The COVID-19 log will contain, for each instance, the employee's name, one form of contact information, occupation, location where the employee worked, the date of the employee's last day in the healthcare setting, the date of the positive test for, or diagnosis of, COVID-19, and the date the employee first had one or more COVID-19 symptoms, if any were experienced.
3. The school district will record the information on the COVID-19 log within twenty-four hours of learning that the employee is COVID-19 positive.
 - a. The school district will maintain the COVID-19 log as a confidential medical record and will not disclose it except as required by the ETS or other Federal law.



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- b. The school district will maintain and preserve the COVID-19 log while the ETS remains in effect.
- 4. By the end of the next business day after a request, the school district will provide, for examination and copying:
 - a. All versions of this Policy which is the written Plan for all employees;
 - b. The individual COVID-19 log entry for a particular employee to that employee and to anyone having written authorized consent of that employee; and
 - c. A version of the COVID-19 log that removes the names of employees, contact information, and occupation, and only includes, for each employee in the COVID-19 log, the location where the employee worked, the last day that the employee was in the healthcare setting before removal, the date of that employee's positive test for, or diagnosis of, COVID-19, and the date the employee first had one or more COVID-19 symptoms, if any were experienced, to all employees.

J. Reporting

- 1. The school district will report to PEOSH:
 - a. Each work-related COVID-19 fatality within eight hours of the school district learning about the fatality;
 - b. Each work-related COVID-19 in-patient hospitalization within twenty-four hours of the school district learning about the in-patient hospitalization.

K. Monitoring Effectiveness

- 1. The school district and the COVID-19 Safety Coordinator(s) will work collaboratively with employees to monitor the effectiveness of this Plan so as to ensure ongoing progress and efficacy.
- 2. The school district will update this Policy as needed to address changes in specific COVID-19 hazards and exposures in the healthcare setting.



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This Policy and its Appendices will be made available upon request.

29 CFR §1910.502

Occupational Safety and Health Administration Fact Sheet Subpart U COVID-19 Healthcare Emergency Temporary Standard

Occupational Safety and Health Administration Model Plan

Adopted: 24 January 2022

Appendix 1 – Identifying the Healthcare Settings in the School District:

Location of healthcare setting in the school district buildings listed below:

Facility Location	Worksite-Specific COVID-19 Considerations
School Nurse's Office in the following locations: Cedar Creek Elementary School Forked River Elementary School Lanoka Harbor Elementary School Mill Pond Elementary School Lacey Township Middle School Lacey Township High	▪ All staff working in a healthcare setting will wear appropriate personal protective equipment, including a properly fitted mask and gloves, when treating patients. ▪ Entry to a healthcare setting will be limited only to patients and staff members who have a genuine need to enter the setting.



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Facility Location	Worksite-Specific COVID-19 Considerations
School	▪ Non-essential visitors will be prohibited from entering the healthcare setting. ▪ Appropriate signage will be used to prevent unauthorized visitors to the healthcare setting.

Appendix 2 – Vaccination Status Plan:

A confidential electronic form will be sent to all district employee's, which requires the disclosure of the employee's vaccination status. If fully vaccinated, staff members will be required to upload the proof of vaccination when submitting the form. A limited number of confidential human resources staff members will have access to the completed forms, which will be individually verified. Once verified, the completed form will be stored in the medical section of the employee's electronic personnel file.

Appendix 3 – Completed Hazard Forms and Results:

Please see the attached Hazard Assessment Forms and Results below:

Appendix 4 – Patient Screening and Management:

The parents of all students will complete an annual statement of assurance to properly screen their children for COVID-like illness daily and to adhere to all district health and safety protocols. Appropriate signage will be used at school healthcare facilities for limiting and monitoring points of entry to the setting. Additionally, the district will restrict facility access, such as visitors and non-essential staff, to reduce



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crowding. Parents who are picking up sick patients, will be asked to remain outside (if possible) until their child is escorted to them.

Appendix 5 – Standard and Transmission-Based Precautions:

Entry to the school healthcare setting will be limited only to patients and staff members who are wearing appropriate personal protective equipment, including a properly fitted mask, and whom have a genuine need to enter the setting. Each school healthcare setting will screen and assess patients for COVID-like symptoms and triage patients accordingly. Patients who are demonstrating COVID-like illness will be isolated from other patients and staff members, until the patient can be safely transported out of the school facility.

Appendix 6 – Personal Protective Equipment (PPE):

1. Employees are encouraged to use their own facemasks. However, if an employee does not have a facemask, then the employee will be provided a facemask and instruction about when and how they should be worn or used.
2. When donning PPE, the following procedures should be used:
 - Gown
 - Fully cover torso from neck to knees, arms to end of wrist, and wrap around the back
 - Fasten in back at neck and waist
 - Mask
 - Secure ties or elastic band at middle of head and neck
 - Fit flexible band to nose bridge
 - Fit snug to face and below chin
 - Fit-check mask
 - Goggles/Face Shield
 - Put on face and adjust to fit



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- Gloves

- Use non-sterile for isolation
- Select according to hand size
- Extend to cover wrist of isolation gown

When removing PPE, the following procedures should be used:

- Gloves

- Outside of gloves are contaminated!
- Grasp outside of glove with opposite gloved hand; peel off
- Hold removed glove in gloved hand
- Slide fingers of ungloved hand under remaining glove at wrist

- Goggles/Face Shield

- Outside of goggles or face shield are contaminated!
- To remove, handle by “clean” head band or ear pieces
- Place in designated receptacle for reprocessing or in waste container

- Gown

- Gown front and sleeves are contaminated!
- Unfasten neck, then waist ties
- Remove gown using a peeling motion; pull gown from each shoulder toward the same hand
- Gown will turn inside out
- Hold removed gown away from body, roll into a bundle and discard into waste or linen receptacle

- Mask

- Avoid touching the Front of mask if contaminated
- Grasp ONLY bottom then top ties/elastics and remove
- Discard in waste container

- Hand Hygiene

- Perform hand hygiene immediately after removing all PPE



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3. Employees will be provided appropriate PPE in accordance with their role.

Appendix 7 – Physical Distancing:

1. Signs and floor markings will be used to indicate where employees and others should be located, or their direction and path of travel will be adjusted to ensure physical distancing within the healthcare setting.
2. Physical healthcare setting changes, such as increased distance between workstations, electronic check-in and checkout stations, and desk shields, will be implemented to ensure physical distancing.
3. People in the healthcare setting will be prevented from gathering in groups in common areas and “bottlenecks,” including entrances and exits.
4. Aisles, tables, counters, check-in and checkout stations, etc. will be arranged and the flow will be directed to allow for physical distancing between people.

Appendix 8 – Physical Barriers:

Desk shields will be used to provide a barrier between the desks of healthcare workers and patients in the healthcare setting.

Appendix 9 – Cleaning and Disinfecting:

1. Follow standard procedures for routine cleaning and disinfecting with an EPA-registered product for use against SARS-CoV-2. This means at least daily cleaning and disinfecting surfaces and objects that are touched often, such as desks, countertops, doorknobs, computer keyboards, hands-on learning items, faucet handles, phones, and toys.
 - If a person exhibits COVID-19 compatible symptoms or tests positive for COVID-19 within 24 hours of being in the school building, school staff should clean and disinfect the spaces occupied by the person. Once the area has been appropriately disinfected, it can be re-opened for use.
 - Close off areas used by the person who is sick or positive and do not use those areas until after cleaning and disinfecting.



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- Wait as long as possible (at least several hours) after the person has exited a space before cleaning and disinfecting.
 - Open doors and windows and use fans or HVAC settings to increase air circulation in the area.
 - Use products from EPA List according to the instructions on the product label.
 - Wear a mask and gloves while cleaning and disinfecting. The effectiveness of alternative surface disinfection methods, such as ultrasonic waves, high intensity UV radiation, and LED blue light against the virus that causes COVID-19 has not been fully established. The use of such methods to clean and disinfect is discouraged at this time. CDC does not recommend the use of sanitizing tunnels (tunnel that sprays disinfectant when a person walks through it). Currently, there is no evidence that sanitizing tunnels are effective in reducing the spread of COVID-19. Chemicals used in sanitizing tunnels could cause skin, eye, or respiratory irritation or injury. In most cases, fogging, fumigation, and wide-area or electrostatic spraying is not recommended as a primary method of surface disinfection and has several safety risks to consider.
2. All healthcare facilities have access to hand washing and/or sanitizer facilities and employees will be allowed to perform hand hygiene to meet this requirement. Describe how hand washing and/or sanitizer facilities will be provided for use by other persons entering the healthcare setting.

Appendix 10 - Ventilation:

The following individual(s) is responsible for maintaining the HVAC system(s) and can certify that it is operating in accordance with the ventilation provisions of OSHA's COVID-19 ETS.	
<i>(e.g., Maintenance employee, HVAC service contractor(s))</i>	
<u>Name/Contact Information:</u> John Smith 609-971-2000 x1050	<u>Location:</u> Facilities Building



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The following individual(s) is responsible for maintaining the HVAC system(s) and can certify that it is operating in accordance with the ventilation provisions of OSHA's COVID-19 ETS.

(e.g., Maintenance employee, HVAC service contractor(s))

Name/Contact Information:

Mike Wessner
856-687-2115

Location:

JJD Electric
705 Mantua Ave.
Paulsboro, NJ 08066

The district will, to the extent possible, increase circulation of outdoor air, increase the delivery of clean air, and dilute potential contaminants.

The Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC) systems throughout the Lacey Township School District are designed to ASHRAE (American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air Conditioning Engineers) standards as required by the Department of Education. Additionally, any and all temporary spaces, including modular trailers and portables, must adhere to these same standards. These standards include, but are not limited to, the requirement for air exchange that provides fresh make up air at intervals determined by occupancy, humidity, temperature and other factors. The opening of windows, when HVAC systems are *operating properly, is counterproductive and further creates an unhealthy environment. The HVAC systems filter the make up being exchanged in our spaces through a MERV, (Minimum Efficiency Reporting Value) filter or a HEPA (High Efficiency Particulate Air) filter. These filters are changed three to four times per year depending on weather conditions and other factors. Documentation of filter changes is available for review upon request.

In the event of a system failure, every attempt shall be made to relocate the occupants until necessary repairs are completed and/or repair parts are procured. The opening of windows shall be considered a last resort and a short term solution only.

Appendix 11 – Health Screening and Medical Management for Employees:

1. Employees will complete an annual statement of assurance to comply with all health related protocols, including the assurance not to report to work if exhibiting symptoms that are consistent with COVID.



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2. Employees will communicate with the school district if they are sick or experiencing symptoms while at home or at work by immediately reporting it to the their direct supervisor and to human resources by using the district absence management system.
3. Eligible employees may use sick leave, Family Medical Leave Act, or other accrued personal time (e.g. banked personal days) if they are staying at home when they are sick, when household members are sick, or when required by a healthcare provider to isolate or quarantine themselves or a member of their household. Healthcare employees in this setting whose absence is directly related to an exposure that occurs as a direct result of the employee performing their job will be deemed an “other” paid absence and will not be charged to the employees accrued paid time off.
4. Employees, who are identified as a close contact of a known COVID positive staff member will be notified of COVID-19 exposure by a representative of human resources or by their direct supervisor.
5. Any employee, who has tested positive for COVID-19, or who is exhibiting COVID-like symptoms will be excluded from reporting to work in accordance with the New Jersey Department of Health COVID Exclusion criteria. Any unvaccinated employee, who is identified as a close contact of a known positive case of COVID-19, will be excluded from reporting to work in accordance with the New Jersey Department of Health COVID Exclusion criteria.
6. The school district will only allow employees who have been removed from the healthcare setting to return to work in accordance with guidance from a licensed healthcare provider or in accordance with New Jersey Department of Health guidelines for K-12 schools.

Appendix 12 – Medical Removal Protection Benefits:

Employees’ health benefits will be protected in accordance with all applicable State and Federal laws, in addition to any stipulations outlined in the local collective bargaining agreement.

Appendix 13 – Vaccinations:



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Employees' may use paid leave for vaccinations in accordance with all applicable State and Federal laws, in addition to any stipulations outlined in the local collective bargaining agreement.

Appendix 14 – Training:

The Lacey Township School District will implement policies and procedures for employee training as part of a multi-layered infection control approach.

At a minimum, the training will include the following:

1. The school district will ensure that each employee receives training, in a language and at a literacy level the employee understands, on the following topics:
 - a. COVID-19, including:
 - (1) How COVID-19 is transmitted (including pre-symptomatic and asymptomatic transmission);
 - (2) The importance of hand hygiene to reduce the risk of spreading COVID-19 infections;
 - (3) Ways to reduce the risk of spreading COVID-19 through proper covering of the nose and mouth;
 - (4) The signs and symptoms of COVID-19;
 - (5) Risk factors for severe illness; and
 - (6) When to seek medical attention.
 - b. The school district's procedures on patient screening and management;
 - c. Tasks and situations in the healthcare setting that could result in COVID-19 infection;
 - d. Healthcare setting-specific procedures to prevent the spread of COVID-19 that are applicable to the employee's duties (e.g., policies on Standard and Transmission-Based Precautions,



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physical distancing, physical barriers, ventilation, aerosol-generating procedures);

- e. Employer-specific multi-employer healthcare setting agreements related to infection control policies and procedures, the use of common areas, and the use of shared equipment that affect employees at the healthcare setting;
 - f. The school district's procedures for PPE worn to comply with the ETS, including:
 - (1) When PPE is required for protection against COVID-19;
 - (2) Limitations of PPE for protection against COVID-19;
 - (3) How to properly put on, wear, and take off PPE;
 - (4) How to properly care for, store, clean, maintain, and dispose of PPE; and
 - (5) Any modifications to donning, doffing, cleaning, storage, maintenance, and disposal procedures needed to address COVID-19 when PPE is worn to address healthcare setting hazards other than COVID-19.
 - g. Healthcare setting-specific procedures for cleaning and disinfection;
 - h. The school district's procedures on health screening and medical management;
 - i. Available sick leave policies, any COVID-19-related benefits to which the employee may be entitled under applicable Federal, State, or local laws, and other supportive policies and practices;
 - j. The identity of school district's Safety Coordinator(s) specified in this Plan; and
2. The school district will ensure that the training is overseen or conducted by a person knowledgeable in the covered subject matter as it relates to the employee's job duties, and that the training provides an opportunity for



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interactive questions and answers with a person knowledgeable in the covered subject matter as it relates to the employee's job duties.

3. The school district will provide additional training whenever changes occur that affect the employee's risk of contracting COVID-19 at work (e.g., new job tasks), policies or procedures are changed, or there is an indication that the employee has not retained the necessary understanding or skill.



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RECORDKEEPING FOR HEALTHCARE SETTINGS IN SCHOOL BUILDINGS - COVID-19 (M)

1648.15 RECORDKEEPING FOR HEALTHCARE SETTINGS IN SCHOOL BUILDINGS - COVID-19 (M)

The Board of Education is committed to providing a safe and healthy workplace for all employees. The school district shall maintain its records in accordance with Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 (OSHA) COVID-19 Emergency Temporary Standard (ETS) published on June 21, 2021 as adopted by the Public Employees Occupational Safety and Health (PEOSH), the agency with jurisdiction over public employers in New Jersey. The provisions of the ETS have expired and are no longer in effect for school districts except for the provisions addressing recordkeeping, outlined in 29 CFR §1910.502(q). The ETS and this Policy are only applicable for employees working in the school nurse’s office and any adjoining clinical areas in the school building.

For the purpose of this Policy, “employee” means any district employee or contracted service provider working in a healthcare setting where people with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 are reasonably expected to be present. Therefore, the provisions of the ETS and this Policy only apply to employees or contracted service providers working in a nurse’s office or any adjoining clinical areas.

For the purpose of this Policy, “healthcare setting” means all settings in the school district where any employee or contracted service provider provides healthcare services or healthcare support services. Where a healthcare setting is embedded within a non-healthcare setting (i.e. school nurse’s office and any adjoining clinical areas in a school building), the ETS and this Policy only apply to the embedded healthcare setting and not to the remainder of a school building.

The school district will retain all versions of Policy 1648.14 – Safety Plan for Healthcare Settings in School Buildings, to comply with the ETS while the ETS remains in effect, even after Policy 1648.14 has been abolished.

The school district will establish and maintain a COVID-19 log to record each instance in which an employee is COVID-19 positive, regardless of whether the instance is connected to exposure to COVID-19 at work. The COVID-19 log will contain, for each instance, the employee’s name, one form of contact information, occupation, location where the employee worked, the date of the employee’s last day in the healthcare setting, the date of the positive test for, or diagnosis of, COVID-19, and the date the employee first had one or more COVID-19 symptoms, if any were experienced.



RECORDKEEPING FOR HEALTHCARE SETTINGS IN SCHOOL BUILDINGS - COVID-19 (M)

The school district will record the information in the COVID-19 log within twenty-four hours of learning the employee is COVID-19 positive. The school district will maintain the COVID-19 log as a confidential medical record and will not disclose it except as required by the ETS or other Federal law. The school district will maintain and preserve the COVID-19 log while the ETS remains in effect.

By the end of the next business day after a request, the school district will provide for examination and copying: all versions of Policy 1648.14; the individual COVID-19 log entry for a particular employee to that employee and to anyone having written authorized consent of that employee; and a version of the COVID-19 log that removes the names of employees, contact information, and occupation, and only includes, for each employee in the COVID-19 log, the location where the employee worked, the last day that the employee was in the healthcare setting before removal, the date of that employee's positive test for, or diagnosis of, COVID-19, and the date the employee first had one or more COVID-19 symptoms, if any were experienced, to all employees.

29 CFR §1910.502(q)

Adopted:



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POSTNATAL ACCOMODATIONS FOR STUDENTS

2416.01 POSTNATAL ACCOMODATIONS FOR STUDENTS

The Board of Education recognizes students may be returning to school shortly after their child's birth and may need to breastfeed their child or to express breast milk during the school day. The school district will accommodate a student who wants to breastfeed or express breast milk while attending school in the district.

A student shall be permitted to breastfeed their child or to express breast milk while attending school in accordance with a schedule provided by the student to the school nurse, who shall consult with the Principal or designee. The district encourages the student develop a schedule that does not impact a student's instructional time and encourages a student to schedule such time to breastfeed or to express breast milk during study hall time, lunch time, or other non-instructional times of the school day. The student may bring to school a breast pump and any other equipment necessary to express breast milk on school grounds. The student shall not incur an academic penalty for using any reasonable accommodations offered to the student and shall be provided the opportunity to make up any work missed due to such use.

The Principal or designee, in consultation with the school nurse, will designate a lactation/breastfeeding room that is shielded from view and free from intrusion by other students, staff members, and the public. The location must be functional as a space for breastfeeding or expressing breast milk and shall include an electrical outlet, a chair, and nearby access to running water. Expressed breast milk may be stored in a refrigerator in the school building or in the student's personal cooler. If the space is not a dedicated lactation/breastfeeding room, it must be available when needed. A space temporarily converted into a lactation/breastfeeding room or made available when needed by the student is sufficient; however, a bathroom, even if private, is not a permissible location. A student opting to breastfeed their child in the lactation/breastfeeding room will be responsible to make arrangements for their child to be brought to the school in accordance with a time schedule agreed to by the Principal or designee.

All staff members will assist in providing a positive atmosphere of support for students who are returning to school after the birth of their child. Conduct by a staff member or student that reasonably interferes with a student's performance in school; creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive environment for a student that is complying with the provisions of this Policy; or that inhibits a student's ability to breastfeed their child or express breast milk while in school will not be tolerated.



POLICY

LACEY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

Program

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POSTNATAL ACCOMODATIONS FOR STUDENTS

The Principal shall ensure Policy 2416.01 is distributed to pregnant students and students who are returning to school after the birth of their child.

N.J.S.A. 26:4C-1; 26:4C-2; 26:4C-3

Adopted: .



POLICY

LACEY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

Program

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STUDENT INTERVENTION AND REFERRAL SERVICES (M)

2417 STUDENT INTERVENTION AND REFERRAL SERVICES (M)

The Board of Education directs the establishment and implementation in each school building in which general education students are served, a coordinated system for planning and delivering intervention and referral services designed to assist students who are experiencing learning, behavior, or health difficulties, and to assist staff who have difficulties in addressing students' learning, behavior, or health needs in accordance with the requirements of N.J.A.C. 6A:16-8.1 and 6A:16-8.2. The Board of Education shall choose the appropriate multidisciplinary team approach, such as the Response to Intervention (RTI) or a Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS) model for planning and delivering the services required under N.J.A.C. 6A:16-8.

Students who are experiencing learning, behavior, or health difficulties shall be referred to the school's Intervention and Referral Services (I&RS) Team.

The intervention and referral services shall be provided to support students in the general education program and may be provided for students who have been determined to need special education programs and services pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-8.1(a). The intervention and referral services provided for students who have been determined to need special education programs and services shall be coordinated with the student's Individualized Education Program Team, as appropriate. Child Study Team members and, to the extent appropriate, specialists in the area of disability may participate on intervention and referral services teams, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:14-3.1(d)6.

The functions of the system of intervention and referral services in each school building which general education students are served shall be pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-8.2(a) and as outlined in Regulation 2417.

Records of all requests for assistance, all intervention and referral services action plans, and all related student information shall be maintained in accordance with Federal and State laws and regulations and New Jersey administrative code pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-8.2(a)9.

The I&RS Team in each school building shall review and assess the effectiveness of each intervention and referral services action plan in achieving the identified outcomes, and modify each action plan to achieve the outcomes, as appropriate.



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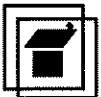
STUDENT INTERVENTION AND REFERRAL SERVICES (M)

At a minimum, the I&RS Team shall annually review the intervention and referral services action plans and the actions taken as a result of the building's system of intervention and referral services, and make recommendations to the Principal for improving school programs and services, as appropriate.

At the end of the school year, the Principal shall, in consultation with the I&RS Team, develop a report on the concerns and issues identified by the I&RS Team and the effectiveness of the services provided in achieving the outcomes identified in the intervention and referral services action plans. This report shall be provided to the Superintendent of Schools.

N.J.A.C. 6A:14; 6A:16-8.1; 6A:16-8.2

Adopted: December 15, 2014
Revised:



REGULATION

LACEY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

PROGRAM
R 2624/Page 1 of 11
GRADING SYSTEM

R 2624 GRADING SYSTEM

A. Purpose of Grading

1. The purpose of grading is to assist pupils in the process of learning; all grading systems will be subject to continual review and revision to that end.
2. Grades acknowledge a pupil's demonstrated proficiency in the New Jersey Student Learning Standards and locally established learning goals and objectives:
 - a. Active participation in and attention to daily lessons,
 - b. Frequent contribution to discussions,
 - c. Prompt, thorough, accurate, and neat preparation of assignments,
 - d. Thorough preparation and performance on tests and assessments,
 - e. Display of an eagerness to learn and an inquisitive approach to lessons,
 - f. Attention to the need for proper materials,
 - g. Cooperation with the teacher's efforts, and
 - h. Willingness to work to the best of his/her ability and to do more than the minimum expected.

B. Preparation for Grading

1. Each pupil must be informed of the behavior and achievements expected of him/her at the outset of each course of study or unit of study.
2. Each pupil must be kept informed of his/her progress during the course of a unit of study. Pupils who so request are entitled to see the grades resulting from their performance during the grading period.



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LACEY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

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GRADING SYSTEM

3. Each method of grading shall be appropriate to the course of study and the maturity and abilities of the pupils.
4. Pupils should be encouraged to evaluate their own achievements.
5. The process of review and revision will involve teaching staff members, parent(s) or legal guardian(s), and, as appropriate, pupils.

C. Grading Periods

1. Grades will be awarded at the end of four marking periods in each school year.
2. Pupils will be given notice of their mid-term grades at mid-point of each marking period.
3. Pupils will be given a final grade in each subject at the conclusion of the course.
4. Grades will be recorded on report cards for parent(s) or legal guardian(s) notification in accordance with Policy No. 5420 and Regulation No. 5420.

D. Basis for Grading

The teacher responsible for assigning a grade should take into consideration the pupil's:

1. Completion of written assignments prepared in the classroom or elsewhere;
2. Oral contributions in class, including discussion responses, observations, panel participation, presentations, initiation of topics;
3. Performance on oral and written tests and quizzes;
4. Research into standard references and other background materials;
5. Oral and written reports on materials read by the pupil;
6. Laboratory work;



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LACEY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

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GRADING SYSTEM

7. Term papers;
8. Special oral or written reports;
9. Other evidences of the pupil's constructive efforts and achievements in learning; and
10. For the final grade, the pupil's attendance record, in accordance with Policy Nos. 5200, 5410, and 5460.

E. Meaning of Grades

1. The following numeric grades will be given in each academic subject at the end of each marking period:
 - a. Grades ranging from 90-100 indicate superior performance. It may be given to a pupil whose achievement is significantly above grade level; whose work achieves a quality and quantity that consistently excels; and who demonstrates a high degree of initiative, application, and purpose.
 - b. Grades ranging from 80-89 indicate above average performance. It should be given to a pupil whose achievement is above grade level; whose work frequently excels; and who generally demonstrates strength in the subject.
 - c. Grades ranging from 70-79 indicate average performance. It should be given to a pupil whose achievement in most areas of the subject are average; whose work is acceptable; and who demonstrates a satisfactory degree of proficiency.
 - d. Grades ranging from 65-69 indicate below average performance. It should be given to a pupil whose achievement in the subject is barely passing; whose work is the minimum acceptable for credit; and who demonstrates only weak proficiencies in the subject.
 - e. A grade that fails below 65 indicates failing performance and that no credit can be given for the subject. It should be given to a pupil who has not met the minimum requirements of the course; who has



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GRADING SYSTEM

demonstrated an inability or unwillingness to master the basic elements of the course; or who has failed to meet the minimum attendance standards necessary to pass a course of study.

2. Grades K-6 Portfolios

The Lacey Township School District will maintain a portfolio for every child in grades Kindergarten through six. This portfolio will contain a variety of student work experiences and documents related to the outcomes being assessed. The portfolio will address and support progress toward achieving academic goals, documenting progress, and providing teachers with necessary data to support decisions that impact daily teaching and class placement. Individual portfolios will be maintained throughout the school year and forwarded to the next grade at the end of each school year.

3. The following grading scales and progress report indicators shall be used:

a. Grades K-2

I – Independent - Acquired and mastered strategies needed to perform
D – Development - Gaining confidence and requiring some support
E – Emerging - Just beginning to explore
N – Not Demonstrated
T – Too Early to Evaluate

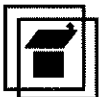
b. Grades 3-6

Code

O – Outstanding
S – Satisfactory
N - Needs Improvement

Grading System

A – 90-100 = Outstanding Achievement



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LACEY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

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B – 80-89 = Above Average Achievement
C – 70-79 = Average Achievement
D – 65-69 = Minimal Achievement
F – Below 65 = Unacceptable Achievement

c. Grades 7-8

Code

O – Outstanding
S – Satisfactory
N - Needs Improvement
U – Unsatisfactory

Grading System

A – 90-100 = Outstanding Achievement
B – 80-89 = Above Average Achievement
C – 70-79 = Average Achievement
D – 65-69 = Minimal Achievement
F – Below 65 = Unacceptable Achievement
M - Medical

In a full year course, no grade lower than a 55 will be issued during marking periods 1 and 2. Grades reflecting the true numeric value of work done by students will be issued during marking periods 3 and 4, as well as the midterm and final examinations. In a semester course, no grade lower than a 55 will be issued during marking periods 1 and 3. Grades reflecting the true numeric value of the work done by the student will be issued during marking periods 2 and 4, as well as the final examination. All health classes will reflect the true numeric value of the work done by the student.

d. Grades 9-12

Code

O - Outstanding
S – Satisfactory
N – Needs Improvement



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GRADING SYSTEM

U – Unsatisfactory

Grading System

90-100	=	Outstanding Achievement
80-89	=	Above Average Achievement
70-79	=	Average Achievement
65-69	=	Minimal Achievement
Below 65	=	Unacceptable
I	=	Incomplete
M	=	Medical Excuse
CW	=	Credit Withdrawal
WP	=	Withdrawal Passing
WF	=	Withdrawal Failing

F. High School Grading, Examination, and Related Matters

The Lacey Township Board of Education is mindful that the subject of pupil progress is intricately related to the instructional program. Pupil progress is an indication of subjective judgment of a certified staff member of his/her students' achievement reduced to an objective symbol. The Board of Education embraces the concept that the issuance of grades is only one means of communication of pupil progress and curricular proficiency. To the extent possible, other means of communication with students and parents is encouraged at all times. No student or parent should be surprised by a final objective grade. Continuous communication to the student through daily, weekly, and unit evaluations, as well as reports, themes, projects, and classroom participation should be utilized by teaching staff members. It shall be the responsibility of the Superintendent of Schools and his/her staff to develop appropriate rules and regulations for the implementation of the basic policy.

1. Grading Symbols

Report card grades shall be issued in numerical form. It shall represent the academic achievement of the student in that program or course:



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LACEY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

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GRADING SYSTEM

Grade	Numerical Grade	Description
A	90-100	Outstanding Achievement
B	80-89	Above Average Achievement
C	70-79	Average Achievement
D	65-69	Minimal Achievement
F	Below 65	Unacceptable Achievement
	I	Incomplete
	M	Medical Excuse
	CW	Withdrawal of Credit
	WP	Withdrawal Passing
	WF	Withdrawal Failing

The use of "M" (Medical Excuse) shall only be used when a student is excused from Physical Education by a member of the medical profession. The assignment of "M" in Physical Education as a final grade shall not bear credit for such course, and the credits for graduation shall be appropriately reduced.

The use of "CW" (Withdrawal of Credit) shall be restricted to an indication that the student is not in accordance with the Attendance policy.

The use of "WP" (Withdrawal Passing) shall be restricted to an indication that the student has been withdrawn from a course or program and was passing at the time of withdrawal. Administrative approval will be required.

The use of "WF" (Withdrawal Failing) shall be restricted to an indication that the student has been withdrawn from a course or program and was failing at the time of withdrawal. Administrative approval will be required.

In a full year course, no grade lower than a 55 will be issued during marking periods 1 and 2. Grades reflecting the true numeric value of work done by students will be issued during marking periods 3 and 4, as well as the midterm and final examinations. In a semester course, no grade lower than a 55 will be issued during marking periods 1 and 3. Grades reflecting the true numeric value of the



work done by the student will be issued during marking periods 2 and 4, as well as the final examination. All health and driver education classes will reflect the true numeric value of the work done by the student.

At the end of the first three marking periods for a full year course and first and third marking period for a semester course, a student may be issued an *incomplete* (I) when course requirements have not been completed. The student will have the opportunity to complete the work by the middle of the following marking period. If the work is not completed within the allotted time, the Incomplete may be changed to a failing grade. An incomplete for the fourth marking period and in place of a final grade may be issued only under the following conditions:

- a) The teacher has communicated the student's lack of progress to the student, parent, and counselor in a timely manner. The counselor will also notify the parent.
- b) Upon written approval from the principal.

As a general rule, late work will not be accepted. Students will receive a zero/incomplete for all work not turned in on time. Required assignments (ex. Assignments, Projects, Term papers, Science Fair, etc.) must be completed in order to receive credit in the course. Major course projects will not be scheduled during the same marking period.

2. Marking Periods

Students shall receive a progress report four times a year, with each marking period being of forty to fifty days of instruction, as determined by the Superintendent of Schools. Each marking period shall be given equal weight in determining a student's final grade.

3. Mid-term and Final Exams

For the semester block schedule, a midterm exam will be given at the end of MP1. Subsequently, a final exam will be given at the end of MP2. MP1 and MP2 will each count for 40% and the average of the midterm and final grade will count for 20%.

For the semester block schedule, a midterm exam will be given at the end of MP3. Subsequently, a final exam will be given at the end of MP4.



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MP3 and MP4 will each count for 40% and the average of the midterm and final grade which will count for 20%.

In a full year course, a midterm exam will be given at the end of MP2. Subsequently, a final exam will be given at the end of MP4. MP1, MP2, MP3 and MP4 will each count for 20% and the average of the midterm and final grade will count for 20%.

Seniors who have grades of 92 or higher in each marking period and a midterm grade of 84 or above may opt out of their final exam.

4. Final Grade

The final grade shall include the equal weight of each marking period, and the mid-term and final examination as stated above. The procedures for compilation of such final grade shall follow the format established by the Superintendent of Schools.

5. Interim Reporting Period

An interim marking period report is established, but not limited to, the approximate mid-point of the marking period or course under rules and regulations issued by the Superintendent of Schools. It may be utilized, but not limited to, to indicate outstanding and/unacceptable achievement and the appropriate reasons. It is desired that unacceptable achievement be indicated to the student and/or parent at this mid-point. The design of such interim reporting shall be the responsibility of the Superintendent of Schools.

6. Class Rank

a. Class rank is determined by the grade point average. Students are ranked within their own grade level only. Online coursework (LOLA) will carry the academic weight as defined by course level (up to 5 credits/yr.).

b. Grade point average is computed as follows:

$$\text{G.P.A.} = \frac{\text{Total Quality Points}}{\text{Total Credits Attempted}}$$



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LACEY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

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- a. Quality points for each course are determined by multiplying the grade weight by the number of course credits.

Range	<u>AP/Dual</u> <u>Enrollment</u> Weight	Range	<u>Honors</u> <u>Weight</u>	Range	<u>Regular</u> <u>Weight</u>
90-100	5	90-100	4.5	90-100	4
80-89	4	80-89	3.5	80-89	3
70-79	3	70-79	2.5	70-79	2
65-69	2	65-69	1.5	65-69	1
Below 65	0	Below 65	0	Below 65	0

Class rank will be calculated at the conclusion of each year. It will also be calculated at the midyear point for juniors and seniors. Rank calculated at the conclusion of the 2nd marking period of each school year will include the midterm assessment. Additionally, rank is calculated at the conclusion of the 4th marking period of every school year to include the final assessment. For the purposes of determining valedictorian and salutatorian, class rank will be calculated an additional time at the conclusion of the 3rd marking period during a student's senior year. **Unresolved Incomplete grades may turn into a zero if not made up within mandated time.*

7. Honor Roll

- Honor Roll - Average of 3.0 or better in all subjects with no grade lower than a 77
- High Honor Roll - Average of 4.0 or better in all subjects with no grade lower than an 84
- In calculating the average for honor roll, quality points/credits are not utilized.
- Incomplete (I) and Credit Withdrawal (CW) grades preclude a student from honor roll.

8. Transfer of Grades and Credits From Other Institutions

Students shall receive credit for courses and/or programs from other bona-fide institutions as determined in the rules and regulations of the Superintendent of Schools. No credit shall be given for Correspondence



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GRADING SYSTEM

Courses unless specifically approved by the Superintendent of Schools. Students may be granted credit for courses taken in a college or university if prior approval is granted by the Superintendent of Schools.

In all circumstances the rules and regulations issued by the Superintendent of Schools under this policy shall be consistent with other Board policies concerning graduation, attendance, exchange students, etc.

9. Appeal Procedure

An appeal procedure shall be established by the Superintendent of Schools using the normal chain of command of the school district. At each appeal level, the authority is inherent in the changing of any grade based upon the facts in each individual case. The appeal process shall terminate at the Board of Education level.

Adopted: November 21, 2005
Revised: August 19, 2021



POLICY

LACEY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

Teaching Staff Members
3161/Page 1 of 2
EXAMINATION FOR CAUSE

3161 EXAMINATION FOR CAUSE

The Board of Education may require the physical and/or psychiatric examination of any teaching staff member who shows evidence of deviation from normal physical or mental health in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:32-6.3(b).

The Superintendent shall require a physical and/or psychiatric examination on a teaching staff member whenever, in the judgment of the Superintendent, a teaching staff member shows evidence of deviation from normal physical or mental health, to determine the teaching staff member's physical and mental fitness to perform with reasonable accommodation the position the teaching staff member currently holds, or to detect any health risks to students and other employees.

A teaching staff member that is required to undergo a physical and/or psychiatric examination shall be provided a written statement of reasons for the required examination(s) and notice the teaching staff member has the right to request a hearing with the Board. The hearing shall be conducted in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:25-7 and will offer the teaching staff member the opportunity to appear before the Board to refute the reasons for the required examination(s), provided any such hearing is requested by the teaching staff member in writing within five working days of the teaching staff member's receipt of the written statement of reasons. A teaching staff member shall be ordered to submit to the appropriate examination(s) by the physician or institution designated by the Board if the teaching staff member failed to timely request a hearing before the Board or failed to persuade the Board at the hearing that the teaching staff member should not be required to submit to the appropriate examination(s). The Board's determination at the conclusion of such a hearing is appealable to the Commissioner of Education pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:6-9 and N.J.A.C. 6A:4 – Appeals pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:32-6.3(b)2.

The Board shall bear the cost of the examination if the examination is performed by a physician or institution designated by the Board. The examination may be performed by a physician or institution of the teaching staff member's own choosing, approved by the Board, and at the teaching staff member's own expense in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:16-3 and N.J.A.C. 6A:32-6.3.

If the teaching staff member submits names of physicians or institutions to the Board for consideration to complete the appropriate examination(s) the Board is not required to designate the physician or institution submitted for consideration by the teaching staff member, but shall not act unreasonably in withholding its



POLICY

LACEY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

Teaching Staff Members
3161/Page 2 of 2
EXAMINATION FOR CAUSE

approval of the physician or institution. The Board shall require the teaching staff member to authorize the release of the examination results to the Superintendent.

If the results of any such examination indicate mental abnormality or communicable disease, the teaching staff member shall be ineligible for further service until proof of recovery, satisfactory to the Board, is furnished, but if the teaching staff member is under contract or has tenure, they may be granted sick leave with compensation as provided by law and shall, upon satisfactory recovery, be permitted to complete the term of their contract, if they are under contract, or be reemployed with the same tenure as they possessed at the time their services were discontinued, if they have tenure, unless their absence shall exceed a period of two years in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:16-4.

In order to return to work, the teaching staff member must submit to an appropriate examination and submit the results of the examination to the Superintendent. The examination must be conducted by a physician or institution upon which the Board and teaching staff member confer and agree. If the physician or institution conducting the examination is conducted by the Board's choice, the cost shall be borne by the Board; if the physician or institution conducting the examination is conducted by the teaching staff member's choice, the cost shall be borne by the teaching staff member.

A teaching staff member who refuses to submit to the examination required by this Policy and has exhausted the hearing procedures established by law and this Policy shall be subject to discipline, which may include, but not limited to, termination or certification of tenure charges to the Commissioner of Education, as applicable.

42 U.S.C.A. 12101

N.J.S.A. 18A:6-10; 18A:16-2; 18A:16-3; 18A:16-4; 18A:25-7;
18A:28-5; 18A:30-1 et seq.

N.J.A.C. 6A:32-6.2; 6A:32-6.3

Adopted: November 21, 2005

Revised:



POLICY

LACEY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

Support Staff
4161/Page 1 of 2
EXAMINATION FOR CAUSE

4161 EXAMINATION FOR CAUSE

The Board of Education may require the physical and/or psychiatric examination of any support staff member who shows evidence of deviation from normal physical or mental health in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:32-6.3(b).

The Superintendent shall require a physical and/or psychiatric examination on a support staff member whenever, in the judgment of the Superintendent, a support staff member shows evidence of deviation from normal physical or mental health, to determine the support staff member's physical and mental fitness to perform with reasonable accommodation the position the support staff member currently holds, or to detect any health risks to students and other employees.

A support staff member that is required to undergo a physical and/or psychiatric examination shall be provided a written statement of reasons for the required examination(s) and notice the support staff member has the right to request a hearing with the Board. The hearing shall be conducted in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:25-7 and will offer the support staff member the opportunity to appear before the Board to refute the reasons for the required examination(s), provided any such hearing is requested by the support staff member in writing within five working days of the support staff member's receipt of the written statement of reasons. A support staff member shall be ordered to submit to the appropriate examination(s) by the physician or institution designated by the Board if the support staff member failed to timely request a hearing before the Board or failed to persuade the Board at the hearing that the support staff member should not be required to submit to the appropriate examination(s). The Board's determination at the conclusion of such a hearing is appealable to the Commissioner of Education pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:6-9 and N.J.A.C. 6A:4 – Appeals pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:32-6.3(b)2.

The Board shall bear the cost of the examination if the examination is performed by a physician or institution designated by the Board. The examination may be performed by a physician or institution of the support staff member's own choosing, approved by the Board, and at the support staff member's own expense in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:16-3 and N.J.A.C. 6A:32-6.3.

If the support staff member submits names of physicians or institutions to the Board for consideration to complete the appropriate examination(s) the Board is not required to designate the physician or institution submitted for consideration by the support staff member, but shall not act unreasonably in withholding its



POLICY

LACEY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

Support Staff
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EXAMINATION FOR CAUSE

approval of the physician or institution. The Board shall require the support staff member to authorize the release of the examination results to the Superintendent.

If the results of any such examination indicate mental abnormality or communicable disease, the support staff member shall be ineligible for further service until proof of recovery, satisfactory to the Board, is furnished, but if the support staff member is under contract or has tenure, they may be granted sick leave with compensation as provided by law and shall, upon satisfactory recovery, be permitted to complete the term of their contract, if they are under contract, or be reemployed with the same tenure as they possessed at the time their services were discontinued, if they have tenure, unless their absence shall exceed a period of two years in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:16-4.

In order to return to work, the support staff member must submit to an appropriate examination and submit the results of the examination to the Superintendent. The examination must be conducted by a physician or institution upon which the Board and support staff member confer and agree. If the physician or institution conducting the examination is conducted by the Board's choice, the cost shall be borne by the Board; if the physician or institution conducting the examination is conducted by the support staff member's choice, the cost shall be borne by the support staff member.

A support staff member who refuses to submit to the examination required by this Policy and has exhausted the hearing procedures established by law and this Policy shall be subject to discipline, which may include, but not limited to, termination or certification of tenure charges to the Commissioner of Education, as applicable.

42 U.S.C.A. 12101

N.J.S.A. 18A:6-10; 18A:16-2; 18A:16-3; 18A:16-4; 18A:25-7;
18A:28-5; 18A:30-1 et seq.

N.J.A.C. 6A:32-6.2 ; 6A:32-6.3

Adopted: 21 November 2005



POLICY

LACEY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

Students
5460/Page 1 of 15
HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION (M)

5460 HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION (M)

The Board of Education will recognize the successful completion of the secondary school instructional program by the award of a State-endorsed diploma certifying the student has met all State and local requirements for high school graduation in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:8-5.1 et seq. The Board will annually certify to the Executive County Superintendent each student who has been awarded a diploma and has met the requirements for graduation.

As defined in N.J.A.C. 6A:8-1.3, “credit” means the award for the equivalent of a class period of instruction, which meets for a minimum of forty minutes, one time per week during the school year or as approved through N.J.A.C. 6A:8-5.1(a)2 and A.1.b. below.

A. High School Graduation Requirements – N.J.A.C. 6A:8-5.1

1. For a State-endorsed diploma, the Board shall develop, adopt, and implement graduation requirements that prepare students for success in post-secondary degree programs, careers, and civic life in the 21st century, and that include the following:
 - a. A graduating student must have earned a minimum of 130 (four-year high school: no fewer than 120) credits in courses designed to meet all of the New Jersey Student Learning Standards (NJSLS), including, but not limited to, the following credits:
 - (1) 20 (At least twenty) credits in English language arts aligned to grade nine through twelve standards;
 - (2) 15 (At least fifteen) credits in mathematics, including Algebra I or the content equivalent; geometry or the content equivalent; and a third year of mathematics that builds on the concepts and skills of algebra and geometry and that prepares students for college and 21st century careers;



- (3) 15 (At least fifteen) credits in science, including at least five credits in laboratory biology/life science or the content equivalent; one additional laboratory/inquiry-based science course, which shall include chemistry, environmental science, or physics; and one additional laboratory/inquiry-based science course;
- (4) 15 (At least fifteen) credits in social studies, including satisfaction of N.J.S.A. 18A:35-1 and 18A:35-2; five credits in world history; and the integration of civics, economics, geography, and global content in all course offerings;
- (5) 2.5 (At least two and one-half) credits in financial, economic, business, and entrepreneurial literacy;
- (6) 5 (At least three and three-quarters) credits in health, safety, and physical education during each year of enrollment, distributed as one hundred fifty minutes per week, as required by N.J.S.A. 18A:35-5, 7, and 8;
- (7) 5 (At least five) credits in visual and performing arts;
- (8) 5 (At least five) credits in world languages or student demonstration of proficiency as set forth in N.J.A.C. 6A:8-5.1(a)2ii(2) and A.1.b.(2)(b) below;
- (9) Technological literacy, consistent with the NJSLs, integrated throughout the curriculum;
- (10) 5 (At least five) credits in 21st century life and careers, or career-technical education; and
- (11) Electives as determined by the high school program sufficient to total a minimum of 130 (must be at least 120) credits.



- b. The 120-credit requirement set forth in N.J.A.C. 6A:8-5.1(a)1. and in A.1.a. above may be met in whole or in part through program completion of a range of experiences that enable students to pursue a variety of individualized learning opportunities, as follows:
 - (1) The district shall establish a process to approve individualized student learning opportunities that meet or exceed the NJSLS.
 - (a) Individualized student learning opportunities in all NJSLS areas include, but are not limited to, the following:
 - (i) Independent study;
 - (ii) Online learning;
 - (iii) Study abroad programs;
 - (iv) Student exchange programs; and
 - (v) Structured learning experiences, including, but not limited to, work-based programs, internships, apprenticeships, and service learning experiences.
 - (b) Individualized student learning opportunities based upon specific instructional objectives aimed at meeting or exceeding the NJSLS shall:
 - (i) Be based on student interest and career goals as reflected in the Personalized Student Learning Plans;



- (ii) Include demonstration of student competency;
 - (iii) Be certified for completion based on the district process adopted according to N.J.A.C. 6A:8-5.1(a)2.ii. and A.1.b.(2) below; and
 - (iv) Be on file in the school district and subject to review by the Commissioner of Education or designee.
 - (c) Group programs based upon specific instructional objectives aimed at meeting or exceeding the NJSLs shall be permitted and shall be approved in the same manner as other approved courses.
- (2) The district shall establish a process for granting of credits through successful completion of assessments that verify student achievement in meeting or exceeding the NJSLs at the high school level, including standards achieved by means of the individualized student learning opportunities enumerated at N.J.A.C. 6A:8-5.1(a)2 and A.1.b. above. Such programs or assessments may occur all or in part prior to a student's high school enrollment; no such locally administered assessments shall preclude or exempt student participation in applicable Statewide assessments at grades three through twelve.
- (a) The district shall choose assessments that are aligned with or exceed the NJSLs and may include locally designed assessments.
 - (b) The district shall choose from among the following assessment options to determine if students have achieved the level of language proficiency designated as Novice-High as



defined by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) and recognized as fulfilling the world languages requirement of the NJSLS:

- (i) The Standards-based Measurement of Proficiency (STAMP) online assessment;
 - (ii) The ACTFL Oral Proficiency Interview (OPI) or the Modified Oral Proficiency Interview (MOPI); or
 - (iii) New Jersey Department of Education-approved locally designed competency-based assessments.
- (3) The district shall establish a process to approve post-secondary learning opportunities that may consist of Advanced Placement (AP) courses, College-Level Examination Program (CLEP), or concurrent/dual enrollment at accredited higher education institutions.
 - (a) The district shall award credit for successful completion of an approved, accredited college course that assures achievement of knowledge and skills that meets or exceeds the NJSLS.
- c. Local student attendance requirements;
- d. Any statutorily mandated requirements for earning a high school diploma;
- e. The requirement that all students demonstrate proficiency by achieving a passing score on the English Language Arts (ELA) and mathematics components of the State graduation proficiency test or through the alternative means at N.J.A.C. 6A:8-5.1(h) and A.7. below, if applicable, or for students who take the State graduation proficiency test

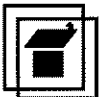


but do not achieve a passing score through the alternative means set forth at N.J.A.C. 6A:8-5.1(g) and (i) and A.6. and A.8. below:

- (1) Students in the graduating classes of 2019, 2020, 2021, and 2022 shall be required to demonstrate proficiency by achieving a passing score on the high school end-of-course PARCC assessments in ELA 10 and Algebra I or through alternative means set forth at N.J.A.C. 6A:8-5.1(f), (h), and (i) and A.5., A.7., and A.8. below.
 - f. For students who have not demonstrated proficiency on the ELA and/or mathematics components of the State graduation proficiency test, the opportunity for the following will be provided:
 - (1) Remediation, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:7C-3.; and
 - (2) One or more additional opportunities to demonstrate proficiency on the State graduation proficiency test, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:7C-6; and
 - g. Students graduating from an adult high school shall demonstrate proficiency in the ELA and mathematics components of the State graduation proficiency test, or through alternative means set forth at N.J.A.C. 6A:8-5.1(f) through (i) and A.5. through A.8. below.
2. In the development of Personalized Student Learning Plans according to N.J.A.C. 6A:8-3.2(a), the district shall actively encourage all students who have otherwise met the requirements for high school graduation according to N.J.A.C. 6A:8-5.1(a)1 through 3 and A.1.a. through A.1.c. above, to include in their programs of study the following additional credits:
 - a. Five credits in mathematics during each year of enrollment, aimed at preparation for entrance into post-secondary programs or 21st century careers;



- b. Five credits in a laboratory science during each year of enrollment, aimed at preparation for entrance into post-secondary programs or 21st century careers;
 - c. Five credits in social studies during each year of enrollment, aimed at preparation for entrance into post-secondary programs or 21st century careers; and
 - d. Five credits in world languages during each year of enrollment, aimed at preparation for entrance into post-secondary programs or 21st century careers.
- 3. The district shall provide to the Executive County Superintendent the district's graduation requirements each year they are evaluated through Quality Single Accountability Continuum (QSAC) and update the district's filed copy each time the graduation policy is revised.
- 4. The district shall provide each student entering high school and their parents with a copy of the district's requirements for a State-endorsed diploma and the programs available to assist students in attaining a State-endorsed diploma, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:7C-5.
- 5. To ensure adequate transition to the new Statewide assessment systems, the district shall provide students in the graduating classes of 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, and 2022 who have not demonstrated proficiency on the high school end-of-course PARCC assessments in ELA 10 and Algebra I with the opportunity to demonstrate competence through one of the alternative means set forth below:
 - a. For the graduating classes of 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, and 2022, students who did not take the ELA 10 and the Algebra I end-of-course PARCC assessment or who take but do not achieve a passing score on both assessments, as required by N.J.A.C. 6A:8-5.1(a)6 and A.1.f. above, may satisfy the State requirement to demonstrate proficiency in English language arts and/or mathematics in one of the following ways:



- (1) Achieve a passing score, as determined by the Commissioner of Education, on a corresponding substitute competency test in English language arts and/or mathematics, as applicable, or substitute a passing score on another end-of-course PARCC assessment, including ELA 9, ELA 11, Geometry, or Algebra II; or
 - (2) Meet the criteria of the portfolio appeals process.
6. For students in the graduating classes of 2023, 2024, and 2025, the alternative means referenced at N.J.A.C. 6A:8-5.1(a)6 and A.1.f. above shall be as follows:
 - a. Achieve a passing score, as determined by the Commissioner of Education and approved by the New Jersey State Board of Education, on a corresponding substitute competency test in English language arts and/or mathematics, as applicable; and/or
 - b. Demonstrate proficiency through the portfolio appeals process, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:7C-3.
7. All English language learners (ELLs) shall satisfy the requirements for high school graduation, except ELLs may demonstrate they have attained State minimum levels of proficiency through passage of the portfolio appeals process in their native language, when available, and passage of a New Jersey Department of Education-approved, English fluency assessment.
8. Students, including students with disabilities as defined in N.J.A.C. 6A:14-1.3 or eligible under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act who participate in the alternative assessment for students with disabilities, are not required to participate in repeated administrations of high school assessment components required at N.J.A.C. 6A:8-4.1(c).
9. For students in the graduating classes of 2019, 2020, 2021, and 2022, the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) shall consider high school end-of-course State assessments to be



equivalent to the corresponding high school end-of-course PARCC assessments.

B. High School Diplomas – N.J.A.C. 6A:8-5.2

1. The Board of Education shall award a State-endorsed high school diploma to prospective graduates who have met all of the requirements adopted in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:8-5.1(a), (c), or N.J.A.C. 6A:8-5.2(d) and A.1 above, C.1. below, or B.4. below.
2. The Board shall not issue a high school diploma to any student not meeting the criteria specified in the rule provisions referenced in B.1. above.
 - a. The district shall provide students exiting grade twelve without a diploma the opportunity for continued high school enrollment to age twenty or until the requirements for a State-endorsed diploma have been met, whichever comes first.
 - b. The district shall allow any out-of-school individual to age twenty who has otherwise met all State and local graduation requirements but has failed to pass the State proficiency test to demonstrate proficiency through alternative means as set forth at N.J.A.C. 6A:8-5.1(a)6 through N.J.A.C. 6A:8-5.1(i) and in A.1.f. through A.8. above, as applicable, pursuant to the standards applicable to the student's graduating class. Students in graduating classes prior to 2018 shall demonstrate proficiency as set forth for the classes of 2018 through 2022 at N.J.A.C. 6A:8-5.1(f)1 and A.5.a. above. Upon certification of passing the test applicable to the student's class in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:8 and this Policy, a State-endorsed diploma shall be granted by the high school of record.
3. Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:20-1.4, the Commissioner of Education shall award a State-issued high school diploma based on achieving the Statewide standard score on the General Education Development test (GED) or other adult education assessments to



individuals age sixteen or older who are no longer enrolled in school and have not achieved a high school credential.

4. The Commissioner of Education shall award a State-issued high school diploma to individuals age sixteen or older and no longer enrolled in high school based on official transcripts showing at least thirty general education credits leading to a degree at an accredited institution of higher education. Included in the thirty general education credits must be a minimum of fifteen credits with at least three credits in each of the five general education categories as follows: English; mathematics; science; social science; and the humanities.
5. The Board shall award a State-endorsed high school diploma to any currently enrolled student, regardless of grade level, who:
 - a. Has demonstrated proficiency in the State graduation proficiency test, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:8-5.1(a)6 and A.1.f. above, or as set forth at N.J.A.C. 6A:8-5.1(g) and A.6. above:
 - (1) The Board shall award a State-endorsed high school diploma to any currently enrolled student in the graduating classes of 2019, 2020, 2021, and 2022 who has demonstrated proficiency in the high school end-of-course PARCC assessments in ELA 10 and Algebra I, or as set forth in N.J.A.C. 6A:8-5.1(f) and in A.5. above;
 - b. Has presented official transcripts showing at least thirty general education credits leading to a degree at an accredited institution of higher education; and
 - c. Has formally requested such early award of a State endorsed high school diploma.
6. Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:7C-7 and 18A:7E-3, the Superintendent shall report annually to the Board at a public meeting not later than September 30, and to the Commissioner of Education:



- a. The total number of students graduated;
 - b. The number of students graduated under the substitute competency test process;
 - c. The number of students graduated under the portfolio appeals process;
 - d. The number of students receiving State-endorsed high school diplomas as a result of meeting any alternate requirements for graduation as specified in their individualized education programs (IEP);
 - e. The total number of students denied graduation from the twelfth grade class; and
 - f. The number of students denied graduation from the twelfth grade class solely because of failure to pass the high school end-of-course PARCC assessments, the State graduation proficiency test, substitute competency tests, or portfolio appeals process based on the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:8.
- C. Students with Disabilities – N.J.A.C. 6A:8-5.1(c) and N.J.A.C. 6A:14-4.11
- 1. Through the IEP process set forth at N.J.A.C. 6A:14-3.7 and pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:14-4.11, the Board may specify alternate requirements for a State-endorsed diploma for individual students with disabilities as defined at N.J.A.C. 6A:14-1.3.
 - a. The district shall specifically address any alternate requirements for graduation in a student's IEP, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:14-4.11.
 - b. The district shall develop and implement procedures for assessing whether a student has met the specified alternate requirements for graduation individually determined in an IEP.



2. The IEP of a student with a disability who enters a high school program shall specifically address the graduation requirements. The student shall meet the high school graduation requirements pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:8-5.1 and A. above, except as specified in the student's IEP. The IEP shall specify which requirements would qualify the student with a disability for the State-endorsed diploma issued by the Board responsible for the student's education.
3. Graduation with a State-endorsed diploma is a change of placement that requires written notice pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:14-2.3(f) and (g).
 - a. As part of the written notice, the parent shall be provided with a copy of the procedural safeguards statement published by the NJDOE.
 - b. As with any proposal to change the educational program or placement of a student with a disability, the parent may resolve a disagreement with the proposal to graduate the student by requesting mediation or a due process hearing prior to graduation.
 - c. In accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:14-3.8(d), a reevaluation shall not be required.
 - d. When a student graduates or exceeds the age of eligibility, the student shall be provided a written summary of their academic achievement and functional performance prior to the date of the student's graduation or the conclusion of the school year in which the student exceeds the age of eligibility. The summary shall include recommendations to assist the student in meeting their postsecondary goals.
4. If a student attends a school other than that of the school district of residence that is empowered to grant a diploma, the student shall have the choice of receiving the diploma of the school attended or the diploma of the school district of residence.
 - a. If the school the student is attending declines to issue a diploma to the student, the Board of the school district of



residence shall issue the student a diploma if the student has satisfied all State and local graduation requirements, as specified in the student's IEP.

5. If the Board grants an elementary school diploma, a student with a disability who fulfills the requirements of their IEP shall qualify for and receive a diploma.
6. Students with disabilities who meet the standards for graduation according to N.J.A.C. 6A:14-4.11 and C. of this Policy shall have the opportunity to participate in graduation exercises and related activities on a nondiscriminatory basis.

D. State Seal of Biliteracy – N.J.A.C. 6A:8-5.3

1. The Board may award a State Seal of Biliteracy to any student who has met all requirements in N.J.A.C. 6A:8-5.2 and B. above and demonstrates proficiency in the following:
 - a. One or more world languages via an approved assessment pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:8-5.3(f) and D.6. below during the student's next to last or final year of high school; and
 - (1) Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:7C-15, a foreign language other than English also shall include, but not be limited to, American Sign Language, Latin, and Native American languages.
 - b. English language arts as set forth in N.J.A.C. 6A:8-5.1(a)6 and A.1.f. above.
2. A Board that chooses to award the State Seal of Biliteracy shall incorporate the process into the developed, adopted, and implemented Policy 5460 – High School Graduation pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:8-5.1(a) and A.1. above, denoting participation in the voluntary program. A Board choosing to participate shall submit, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:8-5.1(d) and A.3. above, a copy of Policy 5460 – High School Graduation that reflects the option for students to participate in the State Seal of Biliteracy.



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3. The Board of Education X shall pay the costs ____ shall charge a fee to the student for related assessments and transcript insignias.
4. The Board of Education shall do the following:
 - a. Provide the NJDOE with information regarding students who qualify for the State Seal of Biliteracy pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:8-5.3(a) and D.1. above;
 - b. Present each student who qualifies pursuant to D.1. above with a New Jersey Department of Education-issued certificate;
 - c. Include the Commissioner of Education-developed insignia on the student's transcript; and
 - d. Maintain appropriate records to identify students who have earned the State Seal of Biliteracy.
5. The Board shall not award a State Seal of Biliteracy to any student who does not meet the criteria in N.J.A.C. 6A:8-5.3(a) and D.1. above and shall not include the Commissioner of Education-developed insignia on the student's transcript.
6. A list of New Jersey Department of Education-approved, nationally recognized assessments and the Statewide scores necessary for a student to satisfy requirements for the State Seal of Biliteracy shall be set by a resolution approved by the New Jersey State Board of Education.
 - a. If an approved assessment, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:8-5.3(f) and D.6. above, does not exist for a particular language, the Board may administer a NJDOE-approved, locally designed proficiency-based assessment.]

N.J.S.A. 18A:7C-3; 18A:7C-5; 18A:7C-6; 18A:7C-7; 18A:7C-15; 18A:7E-3
18A:35-1; 18A:35-2; 18A:35-5; 18A:35-7; 18A:35-8
N.J.A.C. 6A:8-1.3; 6A:8-5.1 et seq.; 6A:14-1.3; 6A:14-2.3; 6A:14-3.7
6A:14-3.8; 6A:14-4.11; 6A:20-1.4



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BOARD OF EDUCATION

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Adopted: June 20, 2016
Revised: December 19, 2016
Revised: May 20, 2021
Revised:



POLICY

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HARASSMENT, INTIMIDATION, AND BULLYING (M)

5512 HARASSMENT, INTIMIDATION, AND BULLYING (M)

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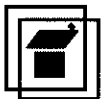
- A. Policy Statement

The Board of Education prohibits acts of harassment, intimidation, or bullying of a student. A safe and civil environment in school is necessary for students to learn and achieve high academic standards. Harassment, intimidation, or bullying, like other disruptive or violent behaviors, is conduct that disrupts both a student's ability to learn and a school's ability to educate its students in a safe and disciplined environment. Harassment, intimidation, or bullying is unwanted, aggressive behavior that may involve a real or perceived power imbalance. Since students learn by example, school administrators, faculty, staff and volunteers should be commended for demonstrating appropriate behavior, treating others with civility and respect, and refusing to tolerate harassment, intimidation, or bullying.

For the purposes of this Policy, the term "parent," pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-1.3, means the natural parent(s); adoptive parent(s); legal guardian(s); foster parent(s); or parent surrogate(s) of a student. When parents are separated or divorced, "parent" means the person or agency which has legal custody of the student, as well as the natural or adoptive parent(s) of the student, provided parental rights have not been terminated by a court of appropriate jurisdiction.

- B. Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying Definition

"Harassment, intimidation, or bullying" means any gesture, any written, verbal or physical act, or any electronic communication, as defined in N.J.S.A. 18A:37-14, whether it be a single incident or a series of incidents that:



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1. Is reasonably perceived as being motivated by either any actual or perceived characteristic, such as race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, or a mental, physical or sensory disability, or by any other distinguishing characteristic;
2. Takes place on school property, at any school-sponsored function, on a school bus, or off school grounds, as provided for in N.J.S.A. 18A:37-15.3;
3. Substantially disrupts or interferes with the orderly operation of the school or the rights of other students; and that
 - a. A reasonable person should know, under the circumstances, that the act(s) will have the effect of physically or emotionally harming a student or damaging the student's property, or placing a student in reasonable fear of physical or emotional harm to their person or damage to their property; or
 - b. Has the effect of insulting or demeaning any student or group of students; or
 - c. Creates a hostile educational environment for the student by interfering with a student's education or by severely or pervasively causing physical or emotional harm to the student.

Schools are required to address harassment, intimidation, and bullying occurring off school grounds, when there is a nexus between the harassment, intimidation, and bullying and the school (e.g., the harassment, intimidation, or bullying substantially disrupts or interferes with the orderly operation of the school or the rights of other students).

"Electronic communication" means a communication transmitted by means of an electronic device, including, but not limited to: a telephone, cellular phone, computer, or pager.



HARASSMENT, INTIMIDATION, AND BULLYING (M)

C. Student Expectations

The Board expects students to conduct themselves in keeping with their levels of development, maturity and demonstrated capabilities with proper regard for the rights and welfare of other students and school staff, the educational purpose underlying all school activities and the care of school facilities and equipment consistent with the Code of Student Conduct.

The Board believes that standards for student behavior must be set cooperatively through interaction among the students, parents, school employees, school administrators, school volunteers, and community representatives, producing an atmosphere that encourages students to grow in self-discipline. The development of this atmosphere requires respect for self and others, as well as for school district and community property on the part of students, staff, and community members.

Students are expected to behave in a way that creates a supportive learning environment. The Board believes the best discipline is self-imposed, and it is the responsibility of staff to use instances of violations of the Code of Student Conduct as opportunities to help students learn to assume and accept responsibility for their behavior and the consequences of their behavior. Staff members who interact with students shall apply best practices designed to prevent student conduct problems and foster students' abilities to grow in self-discipline.

The Board expects that students will act in accordance with the student behavioral expectations and standards regarding harassment, intimidation, and bullying, including:

1. Student responsibilities (e.g., requirements for students to conform to reasonable standards of socially accepted behavior; respect the person, property and rights of others; obey constituted authority; and respond to those who hold that authority);
2. Appropriate recognition for positive reinforcement for good conduct, self-discipline, and good citizenship;
3. Student rights; and
4. Sanctions and due process for violations of the Code of Student Conduct.



HARASSMENT, INTIMIDATION, AND BULLYING (M)

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:37-15(a) and N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.1(a)1, the district has involved a broad-base of school and community members, including parents, students, instructional staff, student support services staff, school administrators, and school volunteers, as well as community organizations, such as faith-based, health and human service, business and law enforcement, in the development of this Policy. Based on locally determined and accepted core ethical values adopted by the Board, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.1(a)2, the Board must develop guidelines for student conduct pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.1. These guidelines for student conduct will take into consideration the developmental ages of students, the severity of the offenses and students' histories of inappropriate behaviors, and the mission and physical facilities of the individual school(s) in the district. This Policy requires all students in the district to adhere to the rules established by the school district and to submit to the remedial and consequential measures that are appropriately assigned for infractions of these rules.

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.1, the Superintendent must annually provide to students and their parents the rules of the district regarding student conduct. Provisions shall be made for informing parents whose primary language is other than English.

The district prohibits active or passive support for acts of harassment, intimidation, or bullying. Students are encouraged to support other students who:

1. Walk away from acts of harassment, intimidation, and bullying when they see them;
2. Constructively attempt to stop acts of harassment, intimidation, or bullying;
3. Provide support to students who have been subjected to harassment, intimidation, or bullying; and
4. Report acts of harassment, intimidation, and bullying to the designated school staff member.

D. Consequences and Appropriate Remedial Actions



HARASSMENT, INTIMIDATION, AND BULLYING (M)

The Board of Education requires its school administrators to implement procedures that ensure both the appropriate consequences and remedial responses for students who commit one or more acts of harassment, intimidation, or bullying, consistent with the Code of Student Conduct. The following factors, at a minimum, shall be given full consideration by school administrators in the implementation of appropriate consequences and remedial measures for each act of harassment, intimidation, or bullying by students.

Consequences – Students

Consequences for a student who commits one or more acts of harassment, intimidation, or bullying may range from positive behavioral interventions up to and including suspension or expulsion of students, as set forth in the Board's approved Code of Student Conduct pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.1. Consequences for a student who commits an act of harassment, intimidation, or bullying are those that are varied and graded according to the nature of the behavior; the nature of the student's disability, if any, and to the extent relevant; the developmental age of the student; and the student's history of problem behaviors and performance consistent with the Board's approved Code of Student Conduct and N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7, Student Conduct. The use of negative consequences should occur in conjunction with remediation and not be relied upon as the sole intervention approach.

Factors for Determining Consequences – Student Considerations

1. Age, developmental and maturity levels of the parties involved and their relationship to the school district;
2. Degrees of harm;
3. Surrounding circumstances;
4. Nature and severity of the behavior(s);
5. Incidences of past or continuing patterns of behavior;
6. Relationships between the parties involved; and
7. Context in which the alleged incidents occurred.

Factors for Determining Consequences – School Considerations

1. School culture, climate, and general staff management of the learning environment;



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2. Social, emotional, and behavioral supports;
3. Student-staff relationships and staff behavior toward the student;
4. Family, community, and neighborhood situation; and
5. Alignment with Board policy and regulations/procedures.

Examples of Consequences

1. Admonishment;
2. Temporary removal from the classroom;
3. Deprivation of privileges;
4. Classroom or administrative detention;
5. Referral to disciplinarian;
6. In-school suspension;
7. Out-of-school suspension (short-term or long-term);
8. Reports to law enforcement or other legal action; or
9. Expulsion.

In accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:37-15.b.(4), the consequences for a student who commits an act of harassment, intimidation, or bullying may vary depending on whether it is the first act of harassment, intimidation, or bullying by a student, the second act, or third or subsequent acts. If it is the third or subsequent act of harassment, intimidation, or bullying by a student, the Principal, in consultation with appropriate school staff, shall develop an individual student intervention plan which shall be approved by the Superintendent or designee, and may require the student, accompanied by a parent, to complete in a satisfactory manner a class or training program to reduce harassment, intimidation, or bullying behavior.

Appropriate Remedial Actions – Students

Appropriate remedial action for a student who commits an act of harassment, intimidation, or bullying that takes into account the nature of the behavior; the nature of the student's disability, if any, and to the extent relevant; the developmental age of the student; and the student's history of problem behaviors and performance. The appropriate remedial action may also include a behavioral assessment or evaluation including, but not limited to, a referral to the Child Study Team as appropriate; and supportive interventions and referral services, including those at N.J.A.C. 6A:16-8.



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Factors for Determining Remedial Measures

Personal

1. Life skill deficiencies;
2. Social relationships;
3. Strengths;
4. Talents;
5. Interests;
6. Hobbies;
7. Extra-curricular activities;
8. Classroom participation;
9. Academic performance; and
10. Relationship to students and the school district.

Environmental

1. School culture;
2. School climate;
3. Student-staff relationships and staff behavior toward the student;
4. General staff management of classrooms or other educational environments;
5. Staff ability to prevent and manage difficult or inflammatory situations;
6. Social-emotional and behavioral supports;
7. Social relationships;
8. Community activities;
9. Neighborhood situation; and
10. Family situation.

Remedial measures shall be designed to correct the problem behavior, prevent another occurrence of the problem, protect and provide support for the victim of the act, and take corrective action for documented systemic problems related to harassment, intimidation, or bullying. The consequences and remedial measures may include, but are not limited to, the examples listed below:

Examples of Remedial Measures

Personal – Student Exhibiting Bullying Behavior



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1. Develop a behavioral contract with the student. Ensure the student has a voice in the outcome and can identify ways they can solve the problem and change behaviors;
2. Meet with parents to develop a family agreement to ensure the parent and the student understand school rules and expectations;
3. Explain the long-term negative consequences of harassment, intimidation, and bullying on all involved;
4. Ensure understanding of consequences, if harassment, intimidation, and bullying behavior continues;
5. Meet with school counselor, school social worker, or school psychologist to decipher mental health issues (e.g., what is happening and why?);
6. Develop a learning plan that includes consequences and skill building;
7. Consider wrap-around support services or after-school programs or services;
8. Provide social skill training, such as impulse control, anger management, developing empathy, and problem solving;
9. Arrange for an apology, preferably written;
10. Require a reflective essay to ensure the student understands the impact of their actions on others;
11. Have the student research and teach a lesson to the class about bullying, empathy, or a similar topic;
12. Arrange for restitution (i.e., compensation, reimbursement, amends, repayment), particularly when personal items were damaged or stolen;
13. Explore age-appropriate restorative (i.e., healing, curative, recuperative) practices; and
14. Schedule a follow-up conference with the student.

Personal – Target/Victim

1. Meet with a trusted staff member to explore the student's feelings about the incident;
2. Develop a plan to ensure the student's emotional and physical safety at school;
3. Have the student meet with the school counselor or school social worker to ensure they do not feel responsible for the bullying behavior;
4. Ask students to log behaviors in the future;



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5. Help the student develop skills and strategies for resisting bullying;
and
6. Schedule a follow-up conference with the student.

Parents, Family, and Community

1. Develop a family agreement;
2. Refer the family for family counseling; and
3. Offer parent education workshops related to bullying and social-emotional learning.

Examples of Remedial Measures – Environmental (Classroom, School Building, or School District)

1. Analysis of existing data to identify bullying issues and concerns;
2. Use of findings from school surveys (e.g., school climate surveys);
3. Focus groups;
4. Mailings – postal and email;
5. Cable access television;
6. School culture change;
7. School climate improvement;
8. Increased supervision in “hot spots” (e.g., locker rooms, hallways, playgrounds, cafeterias, school perimeters, buses);
9. Adoption of evidence-based systemic bullying prevention practices and programs;
10. Training for all certificated and non-certificated staff to teach effective prevention and intervention skills and strategies;
11. Professional development plans for involved staff;
12. Participation of parents and other community members and organizations (e.g., Parent Teacher Associations, Parent Teacher Organizations) in the educational program and in problem-solving bullying issues;
13. Formation of professional learning communities to address bullying problems;
14. Small or large group presentations for fully addressing the actions and the school’s response to the actions, in the context of the acceptable student and staff member behavior and the consequences of such actions;
15. School policy and procedure revisions;
16. Modifications of schedules;



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17. Adjustments in hallway traffic;
18. Examination and adoption of educational practices for actively engaging students in the learning process and in bonding students to pro-social institutions and people;
19. Modifications in student routes or patterns traveling to and from school;
20. Supervision of student victims before and after school, including school transportation;
21. Targeted use of monitors (e.g., hallway, cafeteria, locker room, playground, school perimeter, bus);
22. Targeted use of teacher aides;
23. Disciplinary action, including dismissal, for school staff who contributed to the problem;
24. Supportive institutional interventions, including participation in the Intervention and Referral Services Team, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-8;
25. Parent conferences;
26. Family counseling;
27. Development of a general harassment, intimidation, and bullying response plan;
31. Behavioral expectations communicated to students and parents;
29. Participation of the entire student body in problem-solving harassment, intimidation, and bullying issues;
30. Recommendations of a student behavior or ethics council;
31. Participation in peer support groups;
32. School transfers; and
33. Involvement of law enforcement officers, including school resource officers and juvenile officers or other appropriate legal action.

Consequences and Appropriate Remedial Actions – Adults

The district will also impose appropriate consequences and remedial actions to an adult who commits an act of harassment, intimidation, or bullying of a student. The consequences may include, but not be limited to: verbal or written reprimand, increment withholding, legal action, disciplinary action, termination, and/or bans from providing services, participating in school district-sponsored programs, or being in school buildings or on school grounds. Remedial measures may include, but not be limited to: in or out-of-school counseling, professional development programs, and work environment modifications.



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Target/Victim Support

Districts should identify a range of strategies and resources that will be available to individual victims of harassment, intimidation, and bullying, and respond in a manner that provides relief to victims and does not stigmatize victims or further their sense of persecution. The type, diversity, location, and degree of support are directly related to the student's perception of safety.

Sufficient safety measures should be undertaken to ensure the victim's² physical and social-emotional well-being and their ability to learn in a safe, supportive, and civil educational environment.

Examples of support for student victims of harassment, intimidation, and bullying include:

1. Teacher aides;
2. Hallway and playground monitors;
3. Partnering with a school leader;
4. Provision of an adult mentor;
5. Assignment of an adult "shadow" to help protect the student;
6. Seating changes;
7. Schedule changes;
8. School transfers;
9. Before- and after-school supervision;
10. School transportation supervision;
11. Counseling; and
12. Treatment or therapy.

E. Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying Reporting Procedure

The Board of Education requires the Principal at each school to be responsible for receiving complaints alleging violations of this Policy. All Board members, school employees, and volunteers and contracted service providers who have contact with students are required to verbally report alleged violations of this Policy to the Principal or the Principal's designee on the same day when the individual witnessed or received reliable information regarding any such incident. All Board members, school employees, and volunteers and contracted service providers who have contact with students, also shall submit a report in writing to the Principal



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within two school days of the verbal report. The written report shall be on a numbered form developed by the New Jersey Department of Education in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:37-15.b.(5). A copy of the form shall be submitted promptly by the Principal to the Superintendent.

The Principal or designee will inform the parents of all students involved in alleged incidents, and, as appropriate, may discuss the availability of counseling and other intervention services. The Principal or designee shall keep a written record of the date, time, and manner of notification to the parents. The Principal or designee shall take into account the circumstances of the incident when providing notification to parents of all students involved in the reported harassment, intimidation, or bullying incident and when conveying the nature of the incident, including the actual or perceived protected category motivating the alleged offense. The Principal, upon receiving a verbal or written report, may take interim measures to ensure the safety, health, and welfare of all parties pending the findings of the investigation.

Students, parents, and visitors are encouraged to report alleged violations of this Policy to the Principal on the same day when the individual witnessed or received reliable information regarding any such incident.

A person may report, verbally or in writing, an act of harassment, intimidation, or bullying committed by an adult or youth against a student anonymously. The Board will not take formal disciplinary action based solely on the anonymous report. The district shall provide a means for a parent to complete an online numbered form developed by the New Jersey Department of Education to confidentially report an incident of harassment, intimidation, or bullying.

A Board member or school employee who promptly reports an incident of harassment, intimidation, or bullying and who makes this report in compliance with the procedures set forth in this Policy, is immune from a cause of action for damages arising from any failure to remedy the reported incident.

In accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:37-18, the harassment, intimidation, and bullying law does not prevent a victim from seeking redress under any other available law, either civil or criminal, nor does it create or alter any tort liability.



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The district may consider every mechanism available to simplify reporting, including standard reporting forms and/or web-based reporting mechanisms. For anonymous reporting, the district may consider locked boxes located in areas of a school where reports can be submitted without fear of being observed.

A school administrator who receives a report of harassment, intimidation, and bullying from a district employee, and fails to initiate or conduct an investigation, or who should have known of an incident of harassment, intimidation, or bullying and fails to take sufficient action to minimize or eliminate the harassment, intimidation, or bullying, may be subject to disciplinary action.

F. Anti-Bullying Coordinator, Anti-Bullying Specialist, and School Safety/School Climate Team(s)

1. The Superintendent shall appoint a district Anti-Bullying Coordinator. The Superintendent shall make every effort to appoint an employee of the school district to this position.

The district Anti-Bullying Coordinator shall:

- a. Be responsible for coordinating and strengthening the school district's policies to prevent, identify, and address harassment, intimidation, or bullying of students;
- b. Collaborate with school Anti-Bullying Specialists in the district, the Board of Education, and the Superintendent to prevent, identify, and respond to harassment, intimidation, or bullying of students in the district;
- c. Provide data, in collaboration with the Superintendent, to the Department of Education regarding harassment, intimidation, or bullying of students;
- d. Execute such other duties related to school harassment, intimidation, or bullying as requested by the Superintendent; and
- e. Meet at least twice a school year with the school Anti-Bullying Specialist(s) to discuss and strengthen procedures



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and policies to prevent, identify, and address harassment, intimidation, and bullying in the district.

2. The Principal in each school shall appoint a school Anti-Bullying Specialist. The Anti-Bullying Specialist shall be a guidance counselor, school psychologist, or other certified staff member trained to be the Anti-Bullying Specialist from among the currently employed staff in the school.

The school Anti-Bullying Specialist shall:

- a. Chair the School Safety/School Climate Team as provided in N.J.S.A. 18A:37-21;
 - b. Lead the investigation of incidents of harassment, intimidation, or bullying in the school; and
 - c. Act as the primary school official responsible for preventing, identifying, and addressing incidents of harassment, intimidation, or bullying in the school.
3. A School Safety/School Climate Team shall be formed in each school in the district to develop, foster, and maintain a positive school climate by focusing on the on-going systemic operational procedures and educational practices in the school, and to address issues such as harassment, intimidation, or bullying that affect school climate and culture. Each School Safety/School Climate Team shall meet, at a minimum, two times per school year. The School Safety/School Climate Team shall consist of the Principal or the Principal's designee who, if possible, shall be a senior administrator in the school and the following appointees of the Principal: a teacher in the school; a school Anti-Bullying Specialist; a parent of a student in the school; and other members to be determined by the Principal. The school Anti-Bullying Specialist shall serve as the chair of the School Safety/School Climate Team.

The School Safety/School Climate Team shall:

- a. Receive records of all complaints of harassment, intimidation, or bullying of students that have been reported to the Principal;



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- b. Receive copies of all reports prepared after an investigation of an incident of harassment, intimidation, or bullying;
- c. Identify and address patterns of harassment, intimidation, or bullying of students in the school;
- d. Review and strengthen school climate and the policies of the school in order to prevent and address harassment, intimidation, or bullying of students;
- e. Educate the community, including students, teachers, administrative staff, and parents, to prevent and address harassment, intimidation, or bullying of students;
- f. Participate in the training required pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:37-13 et seq. and other training which the Principal or the district Anti-Bullying Coordinator may request. The School Safety/School Climate Team shall be provided professional development opportunities that may address effective practices of successful school climate programs or approaches; and
- g. Execute such other duties related to harassment, intimidation, or bullying as requested by the Principal or district Anti-Bullying Coordinator.

Notwithstanding any provision of N.J.S.A. 18A:37-21 to the contrary, a parent who is a member of the School Safety/School Climate Team shall not participate in the activities of the team set forth in 3. a., b., or c. above or any other activities of the team which may compromise the confidentiality of a student, consistent with, at a minimum, the requirements of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (20 U.S.C. Section 1232 and 34 CFR Part 99), N.J.A.C. 6A:32-7, Student Records and N.J.A.C. 6A:14-2.9, Student Records.

G. Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying Investigation

The Board requires a thorough and complete investigation to be conducted for each report of violations and complaints which either identify



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harassment, intimidation, or bullying or describe behaviors that indicate harassment, intimidation, or bullying.

Principal's Preliminary Determination

However, prior to initiating the investigation, the Principal or designee, in consultation with the Anti-Bullying Specialist, may make a preliminary determination as to whether the reported incident or complaint, assuming all facts presented are true, is a report within the scope of the definition of harassment, intimidation, and bullying under the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act, N.J.S.A. 18A:37-14.

The Principal shall report to the Superintendent if a preliminary determination is made that the reported incident or complaint is a report outside the scope of the definition of harassment, intimidation, or bullying. The Superintendent may require the Principal to conduct an investigation of the incident if the Superintendent determines that an investigation is necessary because the incident is within the scope of the definition of harassment, intimidation, and bullying. The Superintendent shall notify the Principal of this determination in writing. An investigation required by the Superintendent must be completed as soon as possible, but not later than ten school days, from the date of the written notification from the Superintendent to the Principal.

The Principal shall complete the written report form developed by the New Jersey Department of Education, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:37-15.b.(5), even if a preliminary determination is made that the reported incident or complaint is a report outside the scope of the definition of harassment, intimidation, or bullying pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:37-14. This written report form shall be kept on file at the school, but shall not be included in any student record unless the incident results in disciplinary action or is otherwise required to be contained in a student's record under State or Federal law.

The Principal or designee, upon making a preliminary determination the incident or complaint is not within the scope of the definition of harassment, intimidation, and bullying, shall inform the parents of the parties involved, who may appeal the preliminary determination to the Board of Education and thereafter to the Commissioner of Education in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:3.



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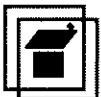
A Board hearing shall be held within ten business days of receipt of the request for a Board hearing. If the preliminary determination, upon review of the facts presented in the reported incident or complaint, is to continue with the harassment, intimidation, and bullying investigation, the investigation shall be completed in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:37-15.b.(6) and this Policy.

The Superintendent shall provide annually to the Board of Education information on the number of times a preliminary determination was made that an incident or complaint was outside the scope of the definition of harassment, intimidation, or bullying for the purposes of the State's monitoring of the school district pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:17-46.]

The investigation shall be initiated by the Principal or the Principal's designee within one school day of the verbal report of the incident. The investigation shall be conducted by the school Anti-Bullying Specialist in coordination with the Principal. The Principal may appoint additional personnel who are not school Anti-Bullying Specialists to assist with the investigation. Investigations or complaints concerning adult conduct shall not be investigated by a member of the same bargaining unit as the individual who is the subject of the investigation. The Superintendent or designee will appoint a staff member to complete investigations involving allegations against a staff member serving in a supervisory or administrative position.

The investigation shall be completed and the written findings submitted to the Principal as soon as possible, but not later than ten school days from the date of the written report of the incident. Should information regarding the reported incident and the investigation be received after the end of the ten-day period, the school Anti-Bullying Specialist shall amend the original report of the results of the investigation to ensure there is an accurate and current record of the facts and activities concerning the reported incident.

The Principal shall proceed in accordance with the Code of Student Conduct, as appropriate, based on the investigation findings. The Principal shall submit the report to the Superintendent within two school days of the completion of the investigation and in accordance with the Administrative Procedures Act (N.J.S.A. 52:14B-1 et seq.). As appropriate to the findings from the investigation, the Superintendent shall ensure the Code of Student Conduct has been implemented and may



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decide to provide intervention services, order counseling as a result of the finding of the investigation, establish training programs to reduce harassment, intimidation, or bullying and enhance school climate, impose discipline, or take or recommend other appropriate action including seeking further information, as necessary.

The Superintendent shall report the results of each investigation to the Board of Education no later than the date of the regularly scheduled Board of Education meeting following the completion of the investigation. The Superintendent's report shall include information on any consequences imposed under the Code of Student Conduct, any services provided, training established, or other action taken or recommended by the Superintendent.

Parents of involved student offenders and targets/victims shall be provided with information about the investigation, in accordance with Federal and State law and regulation. The information to be provided to parents shall include the nature of the investigation, whether the district found evidence of harassment, intimidation, or bullying, and whether consequences were imposed or services provided to address the incident of harassment, intimidation, or bullying. This information shall be provided in writing within five school days after the results of the investigation are reported to the Board of Education.

A parent may request a hearing before the Board of Education after receiving the written information about the investigation. Any request for such a hearing shall be filed with the Board Secretary no later than sixty calendar days after the written information is provided to the parents. The hearing shall be held within ten business days of the request. The Board of Education shall conduct the hearing in executive session, pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act (N.J.S.A. 10:4-1 et seq.), to protect the confidentiality of the students. At the hearing, the Board may hear testimony from and consider information provided by the school Anti-Bullying Specialist and others, as appropriate, regarding the incident, the findings from the investigation of the incident, recommendations for consequences or services, and any programs instituted to reduce such incidents, prior to rendering a determination. A redacted copy of the completed written report form developed by the New Jersey Department of Education that removes all student identification information shall be confidentially shared with the Board of Education after the conclusion of



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the investigation if a hearing with the Board of Education is requested by the parents pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:37-15.b.(6)(d).

At the regularly scheduled Board of Education meeting following its receipt of the Superintendent's report on the results of the investigations to the Board or following a hearing in executive session, the Board shall issue a decision, in writing, to affirm, reject, or modify the Superintendent's decision. The Board's decision may be appealed to the Commissioner of Education, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:3, Controversies and Disputes, no later than ninety days after issuance of the Board of Education's decision.

A parent, student, or organization may file a complaint with the Division on Civil Rights within one hundred eighty days of the occurrence of any incident of harassment, intimidation, or bullying based on membership in a protected group as enumerated in the "Law Against Discrimination," P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-1 et seq.).

H. Range of Responses to an Incident of Harassment, Intimidation, or Bullying

The Board shall establish a range of responses to harassment, intimidation, and bullying incidents and the Principal and the Anti-Bullying Specialist shall appropriately apply these responses once an incident of harassment, intimidation, or bullying is confirmed. The Superintendent shall respond to confirmed harassment, intimidation, and bullying, according to the parameters described in this Policy. The range of ways in which school staff will respond shall include an appropriate combination of counseling, support services, intervention services, and other programs. The Board recognizes that some acts of harassment, intimidation, or bullying may be isolated incidents requiring the school officials respond appropriately to the individual(s) committing the acts. Other acts may be so serious or parts of a larger pattern of harassment, intimidation, or bullying that they require a response either at the classroom, school building, or school district level or by law enforcement officials.

For every incident of harassment, intimidation, or bullying, the school officials must respond appropriately to the individual who committed the act. The range of responses to confirmed harassment, intimidation, or bullying acts should include individual, classroom, school, or district



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responses, as appropriate to the findings from each incident. Examples of responses that apply to each of these categories are provided below:

1. Individual responses can include consistent and appropriate positive behavioral interventions (e.g., peer mentoring, short-term counseling, life skills groups) intended to remediate the problem behaviors.
2. Classroom responses can include class discussions about an incident of harassment, intimidation, or bullying, role plays (when implemented with sensitivity to a student's situation or involvement with harassment, intimidation, and bullying), research projects, observing and discussing audio-visual materials on these subjects, and skill-building lessons in courtesy, tolerance, assertiveness, and conflict management.
3. School responses can include theme days, learning station programs, "acts of kindness" programs or awards, use of student survey data to plan prevention and intervention programs and activities, social norms campaigns, posters, public service announcements, "natural helper" or peer leadership programs, "upstander" programs, parent programs, the dissemination of information to students and parents explaining acceptable uses of electronic and wireless communication devices, and harassment, intimidation, and bullying prevention curricula or campaigns.
4. District-wide responses can comprise of adoption of school-wide programs, including enhancing the school climate, involving the community in policy review and development, providing professional development coordinating with community-based organizations (e.g., mental health, health services, health facilities, law enforcement, faith-based organizations), launching harassment, intimidation, and bullying prevention campaigns.

I. Reprisal or Retaliation Prohibited

The Board prohibits a Board member, school employee, contracted service provider who has contact with students, school volunteer, or student from engaging in reprisal, retaliation, or false accusation against a victim, witness, or one with reliable information, or any other person who has



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reliable information about an act of harassment, intimidation, or bullying or who reports an act of harassment, intimidation, or bullying. The consequence and appropriate remedial action for a person who engages in reprisal or retaliation shall be determined by the administrator after consideration of the nature, severity, and circumstances of the act, in accordance with case law, Federal and State statutes and regulations, and district policies and procedures. All suspected acts of reprisal or retaliation will be taken seriously and appropriate responses will be made in accordance with the totality of the circumstances.

Examples of consequences and remedial measures for students who engage in reprisal or retaliation are listed and described in the Consequences and Appropriate Remedial Actions section of this Policy.

Examples of consequences for a school employee or a contracted service provider who has contact with students who engage in reprisal or retaliation may include, but not be limited to: verbal or written reprimand, increment withholding, legal action, disciplinary action, termination, and/or bans from providing services, participating in school district-sponsored programs, or being in school buildings or on school grounds.

Remedial measures may include, but not be limited to: in or out-of-school counseling, professional development programs, and work environment modifications.

Examples of consequences for a Board member who engages in reprisal or retaliation may include, but not be limited to: reprimand, legal action, and other action authorized by statute or administrative code. Remedial measures may include, but not be limited to: counseling and professional development.

J. Consequences and Appropriate Remedial Action for False Accusation

The Board prohibits any person from falsely accusing another as a means of retaliation or as a means of harassment, intimidation, or bullying.

1. Students - Consequences and appropriate remedial action for a student found to have falsely accused another as a means of harassment, intimidation, or bullying or as a means of retaliation may range from positive behavioral interventions up to and including suspension or expulsion, as permitted under



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N.J.S.A. 18A:37-1 et seq., Discipline of Students and as set forth in N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.2, Short-term Suspensions, N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.3, Long-term Suspensions and N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.4, Expulsions and those listed and described in the Consequences and Appropriate Remedial Actions section of this Policy.

2. School Employees - Consequences and appropriate remedial action for a school employee or contracted service provider who has contact with students found to have falsely accused another as a means of harassment, intimidation, or bullying or as a means of retaliation could entail discipline in accordance with district policies, procedures, and agreements which may include, but not be limited to: reprimand, suspension, increment withholding, termination, and/or bans from providing services, participating in school district-sponsored programs, or being in school buildings or on school grounds. Remedial measures may include, but not be limited to: in or out-of-school counseling, professional development programs, and work environment modifications.
3. Visitors or Volunteers - Consequences and appropriate remedial action for a visitor or volunteer found to have falsely accused another as a means of harassment, intimidation, or bullying or as a means of retaliation could be determined by the school administrator after consideration of the nature, severity, and circumstances of the act, including law enforcement reports or other legal actions, removal of buildings or grounds privileges, or prohibiting contact with students or the provision of student services. Remedial measures may include, but not be limited to: in or out-of-school counseling, professional development programs, and work environment modifications.

K. Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying Policy Publication and Dissemination

This Policy will be disseminated annually by the Superintendent to all school employees, contracted service providers who have contact with students, school volunteers, students, and parents who have children enrolled in a school in the district, along with a statement explaining the Policy applies to all acts of harassment, intimidation, or bullying, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:37-14 that occur on school property, at school-sponsored



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functions, or on a school bus and, as appropriate, acts that occur off school grounds.

The Superintendent shall ensure that notice of this Policy appears in the student handbook and all other publications of the school district that set forth the comprehensive rules, procedures, and standards for schools within the school district.

The Superintendent or designee shall post a link to the district's Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying Policy that is prominently displayed on the homepage of the school district's website. The district will notify students and parents this Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying Policy is available on the school district's website.

The Superintendent shall post the name, school phone number, school address, and school email address of the district Anti-Bullying Coordinator on the home page of the school district's website. Each Principal shall post the name, school phone number, address, and school email address of both the Anti-Bullying Specialist and the district Anti-Bullying Coordinator on the home page of each school's website. The Superintendent or designee shall post the contact information for the New Jersey School Climate State Coordinator on the school district's and on each school's website in the same location as this Policy is posted.

The Superintendent or designee shall post on the school district's and each school's website the current version of "Guidance for Parents on the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act" developed by the New Jersey Department of Education.

L. Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying Training and Prevention Programs

The Superintendent and Principal(s) shall provide training on the school district's Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying Policy to current and new school employees; including administrators, instructors, student support services, administrative/office support, transportation, food service, facilities/maintenance; contracted service providers; and volunteers who have significant contact with students; and persons contracted by the district to provide services to students. The training shall include instruction on preventing bullying on the basis of the protected categories enumerated in N.J.S.A. 18A:37-14 and other



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distinguishing characteristics that may incite incidents of discrimination, harassment, intimidation, or bullying.

Each public school teacher and educational services professional shall be required to complete at least two hours of instruction in harassment, intimidation, and bullying prevention within each five year professional development period as part of the professional development requirement pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18:37-22.d. The required two hours of suicide prevention instruction shall include information on the risk of suicide and incidents of harassment, intimidation, or bullying and information on reducing the risk of suicide in students who are members of communities identified as having members at high risk of suicide.

Each newly elected or appointed Board member must complete, during the first year of the member's first term, a training program on harassment, intimidation, and bullying in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:12-33.

The school district shall provide time during the usual school schedule for the Anti-Bullying Coordinator and each school Anti-Bullying Specialist to participate in harassment, intimidation, and bullying training programs.

A school leader shall complete school leader training that shall include information on the prevention of harassment, intimidation, and bullying as required in N.J.S.A. 18A:26-8.2.

The school district shall annually observe a "Week of Respect" beginning with the first Monday in October. In order to recognize the importance of character education, the school district will observe the week by providing age-appropriate instruction focusing on the prevention of harassment, intimidation, and bullying as defined in N.J.S.A. 18A:37-14. Throughout the school year the district will provide ongoing age-appropriate instruction on preventing harassment, intimidation, or bullying, in accordance with the Core Curriculum Content Standards, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:37-29.

The school district and each school in the district will annually establish, implement, document, and assess harassment, intimidation, and bullying prevention programs or approaches, and other initiatives in consultation with school staff, students, administrators, volunteers, parents, law enforcement, and community members. The programs or approaches and



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other initiatives shall be designed to create school-wide conditions to prevent and address harassment, intimidation, and bullying in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:37-17.

M. Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying Policy Reevaluation, Reassessment, and Review

The Superintendent shall develop and implement a process for annually discussing the school district's Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying Policy with students.

The Superintendent, Principal(s), and the Anti-Bullying Coordinator, with input from the schools' Anti-Bullying Specialists, shall annually conduct a reevaluation, reassessment, and review of the Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying Policy, and any report(s) and/or finding(s) of the School Safety/School Climate Team(s). The Superintendent shall recommend to the Board necessary revisions and additions to the Policy consistent with N.J.S.A. 18A:37-15.c., as well as to harassment, intimidation, and bullying prevention programs and approaches based on the findings from the evaluation, reassessment, and review.

N. Reports to Board of Education and New Jersey Department of Education

The Superintendent shall report two times each school year, between September 1 and January 1 and between January 1 and June 30 at a public hearing all acts of violence, vandalism, and harassment, intimidation, and bullying which occurred during the previous reporting period in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:17-46. The information shall also be reported to the New Jersey Department of Education in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:17-46.

O. School and District Grading Requirements

Each school and each district shall receive a grade for the purpose of assessing their efforts to implement policies and programs consistent with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18:37-13 et seq. The grade received by a school and the district shall be posted on the homepage of the school's website and the district's website in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:17-46. A link to the report that was submitted by the Superintendent to the Department of Education shall also be available on the school



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district's website. This information shall be posted on the websites within ten days of receipt of the grade for each school and the district.

P. Reports to Law Enforcement

The Superintendent or designee and the Principal shall consult law enforcement, as appropriate, pursuant to the provisions of the Uniform State Memorandum of Agreement Between Education and Law Enforcement Officials, if the student's behavior may constitute a possible violation of the New Jersey Code of Criminal Justice.

Some acts of harassment, intimidation, and bullying may be bias-related acts and school officials must report to law enforcement officials any bias related acts, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:16-6.3.(e) and pursuant to the provisions of the Memorandum of Agreement Between Education and Law Enforcement Officials.

Q. Collective Bargaining Agreements and Individual Contracts

Nothing in N.J.S.A. 18A:37-13.1 et seq. may be construed as affecting the provisions of any collective bargaining agreement or individual contract of employment in effect on the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act's effective date (January 5, 2011). N.J.S.A. 18A:37-30.

The Board of Education prohibits the employment of or contracting for school staff positions with individuals whose criminal history record check reveals a record of conviction for a crime of bias intimidation or conspiracy to commit or attempt to commit a crime of bias intimidation.

R. Students with Disabilities

Nothing contained in N.J.S.A. 18A:37-13.1 et seq. may alter or reduce the rights of a student with a disability with regard to disciplinary actions or to general or special education services and supports. N.J.S.A. 18A:37-32.

S. Approved Private Schools for Students with Disabilities (APSSD)

In accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.7(a).2.ix.(2), the Board of Education shall investigate a complaint or report of harassment, intimidation, or bullying, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.7(a).2.ix. and Section G. of this Policy, occurring on Board of Education school buses,



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at Board of Education school-sponsored functions, and off school grounds involving a student who attends an APSSD. The investigation shall be conducted by a Board of Education Anti-Bullying Specialist, in consultation with the APSSD.

The school district shall submit all subsequent amended Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying Policies to the Executive County Superintendent of Schools within thirty days of Board adoption.

N.J.S.A. 18A:37-13 through 18A:37-37

N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.1 et seq.

Model Policy and Guidance for Prohibiting Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying on School Property, at School-Sponsored Functions and on School Buses – April 2011 – New Jersey Department of Education

Memorandum – New Jersey Commissioner of Education – Guidance for Schools on Implementing the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act – December 16, 2011

Adoption: July 21, 2014

Revised: October 15, 2018

Revised:



POLICY

LACEY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

Students
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ANTI-HAZING (M)

5541 ANTI-HAZING (M)

A safe and civil environment in school is necessary for students to learn and achieve high academic standards. Hazing is conduct that disrupts both a student's ability to learn and a school's ability to educate its students in a safe and disciplined environment. The Board of Education prohibits acts of hazing and adopts this Policy against hazing in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:37-32.2. The provisions of this Policy apply to high school(s); middle school(s); and/or elementary school(s) in the school district.

"Hazing" in a school setting includes, but is not limited to, conduct by an individual(s) who is a member and/or representative of a school-sponsored student organization, club, or athletic team where such individual(s) conditions a student's acceptance as a member into such group on whether the student engages in activities that are humiliating, demeaning, intimidating, and exhausting to the student.

N.J.S.A. 2C:40-3.a. indicates hazing may also include, but is not limited to, the conduct outlined below:

1. An individual(s) causes, coerces, or otherwise induces a student to commit an act that violates Federal or State criminal law;
2. An individual(s) causes, coerces, or otherwise induces a student to consume any food, liquid, alcoholic liquid, drug or other substance which subjects the student to a risk of emotional or physical harm or is otherwise deleterious to the student's health;
3. An individual(s) subjects a student to abuse, mistreatment, harassment, or degradation of a physical nature, including, but not limited to, whipping, beating, branding, excessive calisthenics, or exposure to the elements;
4. An individual(s) subjects a student to abuse, mistreatment, harassment, or degradation of a mental or emotional nature, including, but not limited to, activity adversely affecting the mental or emotional health or dignity of the individual, sleep deprivation, exclusion from social contact, or conduct that could result in extreme embarrassment;



5. An individual(s) subjects a student to abuse, mistreatment, harassment, or degradation of a sexual nature; or
6. An individual(s) subjects a student to any other activity that creates a reasonable likelihood of bodily injury to the student.

Board of Education members, school employees, and contracted service providers are required to report an alleged incident of hazing that may take place or has taken place on or off school grounds to the Principal or designee on the same day when the individual witnessed or received reliable information regarding such an incident. Students, parents, volunteers, or visitors are encouraged to report an alleged incident of hazing that may take place or has taken place on or off school grounds to the Principal or designee on the same day when the individual witnessed or received reliable information regarding any such incident.

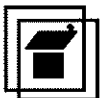
Any report of an alleged incident of hazing shall be immediately investigated by the Principal or designee in accordance with procedures used to investigate alleged violations of the Student Discipline/Code of Conduct and Policy and Regulation 5600. A Principal or designee who receives a report of an alleged incident of hazing and fails to initiate or conduct an investigation and fails to minimize or eliminate the hazing may be subject to disciplinary action.

The Principal or designee may identify behavior when investigating an alleged incident of hazing indicating harassment, intimidation, or bullying (HIB) pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:37-14 et seq. – the New Jersey Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act (ABR). If the Principal or designee identifies behavior indicating HIB, the Principal or designee shall ensure a separate investigation is conducted in accordance with the ABR and Policy 5512.

The Superintendent or designee shall report to local law enforcement any hazing incident that rises to the level of mandatory reporting under the “Uniform Memorandum of Agreement Between Education Officials and Law Enforcement Officials” or any other agreement between local law enforcement and the school district pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-5.1(b).

Hazing that involves the participation of a coach, teacher, or other adult may constitute child abuse and shall be addressed in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:36-25 and Policy and Regulation 8462.

The Board shall enforce any penalty for violation of this Policy in accordance with the student code of conduct and Policy and Regulation 5600, or any other applicable Board Policy or Regulation. In accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:37-32.3



appropriate penalties for a violation of this Policy may include, but are not limited to:

1. Withholding of diplomas or transcripts pending compliance with the rules;
2. Rescission of permission for the organization or group whose student member(s) are being penalized under this Policy, to operate on school property or to otherwise operate under the sanction or recognition of the school district; and
3. The imposition of probation, suspension, dismissal, or expulsion of a student member(s).

Any discipline instituted in response to a violation of this Policy may be in addition to discipline for a violation of Policy 5512, Policy and Regulation 5600, and any other applicable Board Policy and Regulation.

The school district shall ensure that students are informed of this Policy, including the rules, penalties, and program of enforcement under this Policy. This Policy shall be posted on the school district's publicly accessible Internet website.

N.J.S.A. 18A:36-25; 18A:37-13.2; 18A:37-14 et seq.; 18A:37-32.2;
18A:37-32.3
N.J.A.C. 6A:16-5.1

Adopted:



POLICY

LACEY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

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BIAS CRIMES AND BIAS-RELATED ACTS (M)

8465 BIAS CRIMES AND BIAS-RELATED ACTS (M)

The Board of Education is committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for all children in the school district. Bias crimes and bias-related acts involving students can lead to further violence and retaliation. Bias crimes and bias-related acts, by their nature are confrontational, inflame tensions, and promote social hostility and will not be tolerated by the school district. School district employees will work closely with local law enforcement and the county prosecutor's office to report or eliminate the commission of bias crimes and bias-related acts.

Definitions

A "bias crime" means any criminal offense where the person or persons committing the offense acted with a purpose to intimidate an individual or group of individuals because of race; color; religion; gender; disability; sexual orientation; gender identity or expression; national origin; or ethnicity.

A "bias-related act" means an act directed at a person, group of persons, private property, or public property that is motivated in whole or in part by racial; gender; disability; religion; sexual orientation; gender identity or expression; national origin; or ethnic prejudice. A bias-related act need not involve conduct that constitutes a criminal offense.

All bias crimes are also bias-related acts, but not all bias-related acts will constitute a bias crime.

Required Actions

School employees shall immediately notify the Principal and the Superintendent or designee when in the course of their employment they develop reason to believe a bias crime or bias-related act has been committed or is about to be committed in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:16-6.3(e).

The Superintendent or designee shall promptly notify the Lacey Township Police Department and the bias investigation officer for the county prosecutor's office when a bias crime or bias-related act has been committed or is about to be committed in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:16-6.3(e)1.

Superintendent or designee shall immediately notify the Lacey Township Police Department and the bias investigation officer for the county prosecutor's office where there is reason to believe that a bias crime or bias-related act that involves



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BIAS CRIMES AND BIAS-RELATED ACTS (M)

an act of violence has been or is about to be physically committed against a student, or there is otherwise reason to believe that a life has been or will be threatened in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:16-6.3(e)2.

It is understood a referral to the Lacey Township Police Department or county prosecutor's office pursuant to the Memorandum of Agreement between Education and Law Enforcement Officials is only a transmittal of information that might be pertinent to a law enforcement investigation and is not an accusation or formal charge.

Unless the Lacey Township Police Department or the county prosecutor's office request otherwise, the school district may continue to investigate a suspected bias crime or bias-related act occurring on school grounds and may take such actions as necessary and appropriate to redress and remediate any such acts.

School officials will secure and preserve any such graffiti or other evidence of a suspected bias crime or bias-related act pending the arrival of the Lacey Township Police or the county prosecutor's office. The school officials, where feasible, will cover or conceal such evidence until the arrival of the Lacey Township Police Department or county prosecutor's office.

N.J.S.A. 2C:16-1

N.J.A.C. 6A:16-6.1 6A:16-6.2; 6A:16-6.3

State Memorandum of Agreement approved by the Department
of Law & Public Safety and the Department of Education

Adopted: 21 November 2005



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BIAS CRIMES AND BIAS-RELATED ACTS (M)

R 8465 BIAS CRIMES AND BIAS-RELATED ACTS (M)

A. Definitions

1. A bias crime means any criminal offense where the person or persons committing the offense acted with a purpose to intimidate an individual or group of individuals because of race; color; religion; gender; disability; sexual orientation; gender identity or expression; national origin; or ethnicity.
2. A bias-related act means an act directed at a person, group of persons, private property, or public property that is motivated in whole or in part by racial; gender; disability; religion; sexual orientation; gender identity or expression; national origin; or ethnic prejudice. A bias-related act need not involve conduct that constitutes a criminal offense.
3. All bias crimes are also bias-related acts, but not all bias-related acts will constitute a bias crime.

B. Procedure For Reporting Bias Crimes and Bias-Related Acts

1. A school employee shall immediately notify the Principal and the Superintendent or designee when in the course of their employment, they develop reason to believe that:
 - a. A bias crime or a bias-related act has been committed or is about to be committed on school grounds;
 - b. A bias crime or a bias-related act has been or is about to be committed by student, on or off school grounds, and whether such offense was or is to be committed during operating school hours; or
 - c. A student enrolled in the school has been or is about to become the victim of a bias crime or bias-related act on or off school grounds, or during operating school hours.
2. The Superintendent or designee shall promptly notify the Lacey Township Police Department and the bias investigation officer for the county prosecutor's office when a bias crime or bias-related act has been committed or is about to be committed on school



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BIAS CRIMES AND BIAS-RELATED ACTS (M)

grounds, or has been or is about to be committed by a student on or off school grounds, and whether such offense was or is to be committed during operating school hours, or a student enrolled in the school has been or is about to become the victim of a bias crime or bias-related act on or off school grounds, or during operating school hours.

3. The Superintendent or designee shall immediately notify the Lacey Township Police Department and the bias investigation officer for the county prosecutor's office where there is reason to believe a bias crime or bias-related act that involves an act of violence has been or is about to be physically committed against a student, or there is otherwise reason to believe a life has been or will be threatened.

C. Nature of Referral

1. The mandatory referral for suspected or committed bias crimes bias-related acts as described in N.J.A.C. 6A:16-6.3(e) and this Regulation is only a request to the law enforcement agencies to conduct an investigation and is nothing more than the transmittal of information which may be pertinent to any such law enforcement investigation.

D. Concurrent Jurisdiction

1. Unless the Lacey Township Police Department or the county prosecutor's office request otherwise, school officials may continue to investigate a suspected bias crime or bias-related act occurring on school grounds and may take such actions as necessary and appropriate to redress and remediate any such acts.
2. School officials will immediately discontinue any ongoing school investigation if the Lacey Township Police Department or the county prosecutor's office believe the school investigation could jeopardize an ongoing law enforcement investigation or otherwise endanger the public safety.
 - a. Upon notice provided in D.2. above, school officials will take no further action without providing notice to and



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BIAS CRIMES AND BIAS-RELATED ACTS (M)

receiving the assent of the local police department or the county prosecutor's office.

E. Preservation of Evidence

1. School officials will secure and preserve any such graffiti or other evidence of a suspected bias crime or bias-related act pending the arrival of the Lacey Township Police Department the county prosecutor's office.
2. The school officials, when feasible, will cover or conceal such evidence until the arrival of the Lacey Township Police Department or county prosecutor's office in a manner designed to minimize the harm and continued exposure to students by such evidence.

Issued: 21 November 2005

