BYLAW GUIDE

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0141 BOARD MEMBER NUMBER AND TERM

The Board of Education shall consist of 7 members.

The term of a Board member shall be 3 years, except vacancies in the membership of the Board shall be filled in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:12-15. Each Board member appointed to fill a vacancy shall serve until the organizational meeting following the next annual election unless the Board member is appointed to fill a vacancy occurring within the sixty days immediately preceding such election if the annual election is held in April, or occurring after the third Monday in July if the election is held in November, to fill a term extending beyond such election, in which case the Board member shall serve until the organizational meeting following the second annual election next succeeding the occurrence of the vacancy, and any vacancy for the remainder of the term shall be filled at the annual election or the second annual election next succeeding the occurrence of the vacancy, as the case may be.

N.J.S.A. 18A:12-6; 18A:12-9; 18A:12-11; 18A:12-15 N.J.S.A. 18A:13-8 et seq. N.J.S.A. 18A:54-16 et seq.

Adopted: December 15, 2014 Revised:



PROGRAM 2200/page 1 of 1 Curriculum Content M

2200 <u>CURRICULUM CONTENT</u>

The Board of Education will provide the instruction and services mandated by law and rules as necessary for the implementation of a thorough and efficient system of free public education and such other instruction and services as the Board deems appropriate for the thorough and efficient education of the students of this district. The Board shall annually approve a list of all programs and courses that comprise the district's curriculum and shall approve any subsequent changes in the curriculum in accordance with Policy 2220 – Adoption of Courses.

For the purposes of this Policy "curriculum" means planned learning opportunities designed to assist students toward the achievement of the intended outcomes of instruction.

The curriculum will be reviewed by the Superintendent and approved annually the Board shall, as a minimum, include the curricular mandates of N.J.S.A. 18A - Education, N.J.A.C. 6A - Education, and the New Jersey Student Learning Standards and the courses required by Policy 5460 – High School Graduation and N.J.A.C. 6A:8-5 for high school graduation.

The Superintendent is responsible for implementing the curriculum approved by the Board.

The curriculum shall be consistent with the educational goals and objectives of this district and the New Jersey Student Learning Standards and be responsive to identified student needs. The Superintendent shall, in consultation with staff members, assure the effective articulation of curriculum across all grade levels and among the schools of this district.

N.J.S.A. 18A:35-1 et seq. N.J.A.C. 6A:8-1.1 et seq.; 6A:14 et seq. New Jersey Student Learning Standards

Adopted: November 21, 2005 Revised: November 21, 2016 Revised: August 20, 2020 Revised: March 24, 2022 Revised:



PROGRAM 2423/page 1 of 4 Bilingual Education M

2423 BILINGUAL EDUCATION

The Board of Education will provide programs of bilingual education, English as a second language (ESL), and culturally and linguistically responsive, researchedbased, and effective language instruction educational programs (LIEP) to all multilingual learners (ML) as required by law and rules of the New Jersey State Board of Education. MLs are those students whose primary language is not English and who have varying degrees of English language proficiency in any one of the domains of speaking, reading, writing, or listening and is synonymous with limited English-speaking ability pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:35-15 through 18A:35-26.1 and N.J.A.C. 6A:15-1.1 et seq.

The school district shall use, at the time of enrollment, the multi-step process to identify MLs enrolled in the district in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:15-1.3. The district shall administer to each student enrolled in the district the Statewide home-language survey (HLS) to determine which students in preschool to twelfth-grade have a primary language(s) other than English and, therefore, may be a ML.

The district shall then determine the English language proficiency of all Kindergarten to twelfth-grade students who are found eligible through N.J.A.C. 6A:15-1.3(a)1 or (a)2 and whose primary language is other than English by administering an English language proficiency (ELP) assessment. Students who do not meet the New Jersey Department of Education (Department)-established cut score standard on the ELP assessment shall be considered MLs and shall be offered entry into the district's LIEP. Preschool students who are identified as having a primary language other than English shall be identified as MLs. Prior to the start of their Kindergarten year, the district shall administer an ELP assessment to preschool MLs as part of the screener process to determine the ML's English language proficiency level. The district shall also use age-appropriate methodologies to identify preschool MLs to determine their individual language development needs.

The district shall provide to all preschool to twelfth-grade MLs enrolled in the district pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-46 and N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-54 with equal educational opportunities and all educational activities and programs in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:15-1.4.



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The school district providing a LIEP shall submit a plan every three years to the Department in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:15-1.5.

Students enrolled in a LIEP shall have equal educational opportunities, including full access to educational opportunities and services available to other students in the school district pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:15-1.6.

As part of the district- and school-level plans for professional development requirements pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:9C-4.2, the Board shall describe professional learning for bilingual, ESL, and academic content teaching staff members whose classroom instruction is in English; administrators who supervise bilingual/ESL programs; and administrators and any personnel who observe and evaluate teaching staff members of MLs in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:15-1.7.

All teachers of bilingual programs shall hold a valid New Jersey instructional certificate with an endorsement for the appropriate grade level and/or academic content area and a standard certificate with a bilingual/bicultural education endorsement, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:6-38 et seq., N.J.S.A. 18A:35-15 to 26, and N.J.A.C. 6A:9B-11.5 in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:15-1.8.

Students identified as MLs shall be assessed annually using English Language Placement (ELP) assessments to measure the progress toward English language proficiency and to determine readiness for exiting the LIEP in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:15-1.9. Students who meet the criteria for Statewide alternate assessments, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:14-4.10(a)2., shall be assessed annually using an alternate ELP assessment. Every student participating in a bilingual, ESL, or English language services program established pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:35-15 et seq. shall be entitled to continue such participation for a period of three years pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:35-19.

MLs enrolled in the LIEP shall be placed in a classroom(s) where the primary language of instruction is English when the ML has demonstrated readiness to exit a LIEP first by achieving the Department-established cut score on an ELP or alternate ELP assessment. The student's readiness shall be further assessed by the use of a Department-established English language observation form that considers, at a minimum: classroom performance; the student's reading level in English; the observations of the teaching staff members responsible for the educational program of the student; and performance on achievement tests in English.



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In accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:35-22.1, a parent may remove a student who is enrolled in a bilingual education program at any time; except that during the first three years of a student's participation in a bilingual education program, a parent may only remove the student at the end of each school year.

If a parent wishes to remove the student prior to the end of each school year, the removal shall be approved by the Executive County Superintendent. If the Executive County Superintendent determines the student should remain in the bilingual education program until the end of the school year, the parent may appeal the Executive County Superintendent's decision to the Commissioner of Education or designee pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:35-19.2.

Newly exited students who are not academically progressing in classes where English is the primary language of instruction may be considered for reentry to a LIEP in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:15-1.9(g)1 through (g)5.

All MLs shall satisfy requirements for high school graduation pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:8-5.1(a) and Policy 5460 in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:15-1.10.

All Kindergarten through twelfth-grade LIEPs shall be conducted within classrooms within the school district pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:35-20 in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:15-1.11.

The parent of a ML shall be notified in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:15-1.12 that their child has been identified as eligible for placement in a LIEP. Notice shall be in writing and in the language in which the parent possesses a primary speaking ability, and in English. The notice must also include the provisions detailed at N.J.A.C. 6A:15-1.12(b). Progress reports shall be written in English and in the primary language spoken by the parent of students enrolled in the LIEP.

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:15-1.13, with approval of the Executive County Superintendent on a case-by-case basis, the Board may join with another district Board to provide a LIEP and an individualized learning opportunity, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:8-5.1(a)2, to a ML who chooses to utilize it to meet the 120-credit graduation requirement, in whole or in part.



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The Superintendent or designee shall provide for the maximum practicable engagement of the parent of MLs in the development and review of program objectives and dissemination of information to and from the Boards and communities served by the LIEP in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:15-1.14. With the exception of a Board implementing an English language services or ESL program, each Board implementing a LIEP shall establish a parent advisory committee on bilingual education of which the majority membership shall be the parents of MLs.

N.J.S.A. 18A:35-15 through 18A:35-26.1 N.J.A.C. 6A:14-4.10; 6A:15-1.1 et seq.

Adopted: March 21, 2011 Revised: November 21, 2016 Revised: March 16, 2023 Revised:



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R 2423 BILINGUAL EDUCATION

- A. Definitions N.J.A.C. 6A:15-1.2
 - 1. "Alternate English language proficiency assessment" (alternate ELP assessment) means a New Jersey Department of Education (Department)-approved assessment for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities that assesses a student's English language proficiency (ELP) on the four domains of listening, speaking, reading, and writing, and that is aligned with the English Language Development (ELD) standards and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).
 - 2. "Bilingual education program" means a full-time language instruction educational program (LIEP) in all courses or subjects provided in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:35-18. Students in a bilingual education program receive instruction in the primary language of multilingual learners (ML) enrolled in the program and in English, while also receiving English as a second language (ESL) instruction. Educators use the primary language of instruction to enhance literacy in the primary language and as a support in the development of listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills in English. Students also receive instruction in the history and culture of the country, territory, or geographic area that is the native land of the parents and families of MLs enrolled in the program, and in the history and culture of the United States.
 - 3. "Bilingual part-time program" means an instructional program alternative in which students receive their academic content area classes in English language arts (ELA) and mathematics instruction with a certified bilingual teacher who provides instruction in the primary language of the MLs in the program, as well as ESL instruction.
 - 4. "Bilingual resource program" means an instructional program alternative in which students receive instruction and resources that are individualized for each student, daily instruction from a certified bilingual teacher in academic content areas as identified by the school district, as well as ESL instruction.



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- 5. "Bilingual tutorial program" means an instructional program alternative in which students receive one period of instruction from a certified bilingual teacher in an academic content area required for graduation, a second period of tutoring in another required content area, as well as ESL instruction.
- 6. "Class period" means the time allocated for instruction in academic content areas as part of the regular school schedule for each day in session as set forth at N.J.A.C. 6A:32-8.3. In a block schedule, weekly instruction is equivalent to one class period for each day of school in a given week.
- 7. "Cut score" means the same as that term is defined pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:8-1.3.
- 8. "Dual language immersion program" means, for the purpose of meeting the LIEP requirements at N.J.S.A. 18A:35-18 and N.J.A.C. 6A:15, a full-time LIEP that provides students structured English language instruction and instruction in a second language in all academic content areas. MLs in the program receive instruction in their primary language, as well as ESL instruction. A dual language immersion program provides daily instruction in the primary language of enrolled MLs. A dual language immersion program that is designed to support MLs is sometimes referred to as a two-way bilingual education program.
- 9. "Early Language Development Standards" means the preschool English language development standards for preschool students developed by WIDA. The standards correspond to five domains of children's development and learning: approaches to learning, language and communication development, cognition and general knowledge, physical well-being and motor development, and social and emotional development. The standards incorporated herein by reference, are published by the Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System, on behalf of the WIDA Consortium and are available at https://wida.wisc.edu/teach/early.
- 10. "Educational activities and programs" mean the same as that term is defined pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:7-1.3.



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- 11. "Educational equity" means the same as that term is defined pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:7-1.3.
- 12. "Educational needs" means the particular educational requirements of MLs; the fulfillment of which will provide them with equal educational opportunities.
- 13. "English as a second language (ESL) program" means a daily class period of second-language acquisition instruction within a LIEP and based on a student's English language proficiency that teaches the English language development standards and incorporates the cultural aspects of the students' experiences in their ESL instruction.
- "English language development standards" or "ELD standards" 14. means the 2020 Amplification of the English Language Development Standards, Kindergarten - Grade 12 incorporated herein by reference, as amended and supplemented, developed by WIDA. They are the standards and language competencies in listening, speaking, reading, and writing that MLs in preschool programs, and elementary and secondary schools, need to become fully proficient in English and to have unrestricted access to gradeappropriate instruction in challenging academic content areas. The standards are a version of ELA that have been crafted to address the specific developmental stages of students learning English. The standards are published by the Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System, on behalf of the WIDA (www.wida.us) Consortium and are available for review at https://wida.wisc.edu/sites/default/files/resource/WIDA-ELD-Standards-Framework-2020.pdf.
- 15. "English language proficiency assessment" or "ELP assessment" means a department-approved assessment that evaluates a student's English language proficiency on the four domains of listening, speaking, reading, and writing, and that is aligned with the ELD standards.
- 16. "English language services" means services designed to improve the English language skills of MLs. The services, provided in school districts with less than ten MLs in Kindergarten through twelfth-grade, are part of the regular school program and are designed to develop proficiency in the ELD standards.



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- 17. "Equal educational opportunity" means the same as that term is defined pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:7-1.3.
- 18. "Exit criteria" means the criteria that must be applied before a student may be exited from a LIEP.
- 19. "High-intensity ESL program" means an instructional program alternative in which students receive two or more class periods each day in session of ESL instruction. One period is the standard ESL class, and the other period is a tutorial or ESL reading class.
- 20. "Instructional program alternative" means a LIEP, other than bilingual education and/or dual language immersion, that may be established by the Board of Education in consultation with, and approval of, the New Jersey Department of Education through a waiver request pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:35-18. All students in an instructional program alternative receive an ESL class period each day in session.
- 21. "Language instruction educational program" or "LIEP" means the program of services in which a ML receives instruction and support to develop and attain English language proficiency while meeting or exceeding the New Jersey Student Learning Standards (NJSLS) in academic content areas. MLs in a LIEP develop proficiency in the English language while they develop skills and knowledge within the academic content areas. A LIEP includes the services that all MLs are entitled to receive, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:35-16 and N.J.A.C. 6A:15. LIEP includes "programs of bilingual education," pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:35-16, and "instructional alternative programs," pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:35-18.
- 22. "Multicultural curriculum" means the same as that term is defined pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:7.
- 23. "Multilingual learner" or "ML" means a student whose primary language is not English, who is identified through the process set forth in N.J.A.C. 6A:15, and who is developing proficiency in multiple languages (e.g., English and a primary language). The term is synonymous with "English learner" or "English language learner".



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- 24. "Newcomer" means any student born outside of the United States who has recently arrived in the United States. Newcomer is an umbrella term that includes a heterogenous group of immigrants; some newcomers may also be MLs or students with interrupted formal education (SIFE).
- 25. "NJSLS" means the New Jersey Student Learning Standards as defined at N.J.A.C. 6A:8-1.3.
- 26. "Parent(s)" means the natural or adoptive parent, legal guardian, surrogate parent appointed pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:14-2.2, or a person acting in the place of a parent (such as a grandparent or stepparent with whom the student lives or a person legally responsible for the student's welfare). Unless parental rights have been terminated by a court of appropriate jurisdiction, the parent retains all rights pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:32. In addition, a resource family parent may act as a parent pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:32 if the parent's authority to make education decisions on the student's behalf has been terminated by a court of appropriate jurisdiction.
- 27. "Primary language" means the language or mode of communication in which a ML is most fluent or speaks more regularly than any other language. In the case of a student, the primary language is the language normally used by the student's parent.
- 28. "Sheltered English instruction" means an instructional program alternative to make academic instruction in English understandable to MLs. Sheltered English classes are taught by classroom teachers who deliver instruction in English, may not hold a bilingual/ESL endorsement, but have received training on strategies for instructional adaptation, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:8-1.3, to make academic content areas comprehensible for MLs.
- 29. "State Seal of Biliteracy" means a recognition awarded pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:8-5.3.



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- 30. "Statewide home-language survey" or "Statewide HLS" means a standardized questionnaire developed by the Department for school districts to use to help identify which students are potential MLs and which students will require a record review and an ELP assessment to determine whether they are eligible for placement in a LIEP.
- 31. "Student with interrupted formal education" or "SIFE" means a ML in grades four to twelve who has experienced disruptions in their formal education that took place outside of the United States.
- B. Identification of Eligible Multilingual Learners N.J.A.C. 6A:15-1.3
 - 1. The school district shall use, at the time of enrollment, the multi-step process set forth at N.J.A.C. 6A:15-1.3(a)1 through (a)3 and B.1.a. through B.1.c. below to identify MLs enrolled in the school district.
 - a. The district shall administer to each student enrolled in the school district the Statewide HLS. The district shall use the Statewide HLS to determine which students in preschool to twelfth-grade have a primary language(s) other than English and, therefore, may be a ML. The Statewide HLS shall be completed, in writing, or by verbal interview by an individual with knowledge of the student, such as a parent(s), trained school district personnel, or a bilingual or ESL teacher;
 - b. Following the administration of the Statewide HLS, the district shall conduct a records review process to determine whether the student is a ML.
 - (1) The records review process may include, but is not limited to, reviewing available information about the student's overall academic performance from current or prior years; observations of teaching staff members who have worked with the student; interviews with the student or the student's parent or family in their primary language; and/or additional school records as needed in compliance with State and Federal student privacy laws; and



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- c. The district shall then determine the English language proficiency of all Kindergarten to twelfth-grade students who are found eligible through N.J.A.C. 6A:15-1.3(a)1 or (a)2 and B.1.a. or B.1.b. above and whose primary language is other than English by administering an ELP assessment. Students who do not meet the Department-established cut score on the ELP assessment shall be considered MLs and shall be offered entry into the district's LIEP.
 - (1) Preschool students who are identified, pursuant to the processes set forth at N.J.A.C. 6A:15-1.3(a)1 and (a)2 and B.1.a. and B.1.b. above, as having a primary language other than English shall be identified as MLs. Prior to the start of their Kindergarten year, the district shall administer an ELP assessment to preschool MLs as part of the screener process to determine the ML's English language proficiency level.
 - (2) The district shall also use age-appropriate methodologies to identify preschool MLs to determine their individual language development needs.
- 2. The district shall maintain a roster indicating all identified students whose primary language is other than English and who are MLs.
- C. Board Requirements, Including Language Instruction Educational Programs for Multilingual Learners – N.J.A.C. 6A:15-1.4
 - 1. The district shall provide all preschool to twelfth-grade MLs enrolled in the school district pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-46 and 18A:7F-54 with equal educational opportunities and all educational activities and programs, including required courses and support services defined at N.J.A.C. 6A:15-1.4(b) through (e) and C.2. through C.5. below to prepare MLs to meet or exceed the NJSLS for high school graduation. The instructional opportunities shall be designed to assist MLs to fully comprehend all subject matter and demonstrate their mastery of all NJSLS academic content areas.



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- a. Instructional opportunities may also include individualized and targeted supports, as needed by MLs.
- b. The district shall ensure that all educational services, activities, and programs incorporate a linguistically and culturally responsive, multicultural curriculum in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:35-4.35, 18A:35-4.36, and 18A:35-4.36a. to ensure educational equity aligned to the Board of Education's Comprehensive Equity Plan, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:7.
- 2. The Board shall provide all MLs with a LIEP.
 - a. The Board shall provide appropriate instructional programs to preschool MLs pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:15-1.4(c) and C.3. below.
 - b. Whenever there are twenty or more MLs in Kindergarten through twelfth-grade in any one language classification enrolled in the school district, a LIEP shall include bilingual education or dual language immersion programs pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:15-1.4(e) and C.5. below, unless waived pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:15-1.15 and N. below.
 - c. Whenever there are ten or more MLs in Kindergarten through twelfth-grade enrolled in the school district, an ESL program shall be provided.
 - d. Whenever there are at least one, but fewer than ten MLs in Kindergarten through twelfth-grade enrolled in the school district, the Board shall provide the MLs with English language services. English language services shall be provided as part of the regular school program.
 - e. Instructional program alternatives may be implemented pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:15-1.15 and N. below.
- 3. The Board shall provide appropriate instructional programs to eligible preschool MLs based on the New Jersey Preschool Program Implementation Guidelines and the New Jersey Preschool Teaching and Learning Standards of Quality, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:13A – Elements of High-Quality Preschool Programs.



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- a. A program that meets the New Jersey Preschool Teaching and Learning Standards of Quality and is approved, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:13A, will be considered a preschool LIEP.
- 4. The Board shall establish bilingual education or dual language immersion programs whenever there are twenty or more MLs in any one language classification enrolled in the school district in Kindergarten through twelfth-grade, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:35-18. Bilingual education or dual language immersion programs shall:
 - a. Be designed to prepare MLs to acquire sufficient English knowledge and skills to meet the NJSLS. All MLs participating in bilingual and dual language immersion programs shall also receive a class period of ESL instruction each day in session;
 - b. Include a curriculum that is aligned to the NJSLS and the ELD standards and includes primary language instruction delivered to further master literacy in the primary language and as a support in the development of English proficiency;
 - c. Include the full range of required courses and activities offered on the same basis and under the same rules that apply to all students within the school district; and
 - d. Utilize a curriculum for bilingual education programs that is adopted by the Board.
- 5. The Board shall provide at least one class period of ESL instruction each day in session based on a student's English language level to all MLs placed in a LIEP.
 - a. The Board shall develop and adopt an ESL curriculum that addresses the ELD standards to address the instructional needs of MLs.
 - b. The ESL curriculum shall be cross-referenced to the school district's bilingual education and academic content area curricula to ensure that ESL instruction is correlated to all academic content areas taught.



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- 6. The Board may establish dual language immersion programs to meet the requirement at N.J.A.C. 6A:15-1.4(b)2. and C.2.b. above and N.J.S.A. 18A:35-15 through 18A:35-26.
 - a. Dual language immersion programs shall be designed to help students achieve proficiency in English and in a second language while mastering academic content area skills.
 - b. Instruction shall be in all courses or subjects of study that allow students to meet all grade promotion and graduation standards.
 - c. Classes in dual language immersion programs shall be comprised of at least fifty percent MLs.
 - d. The program may be coordinated with the school district's world languages program.
 - e. Dual language immersion programs that are not established to provide the LIEP services required pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:35-15 through 18A:35-26 do not have to comply with the requirements of N.J.A.C. 6A:15, Policy 2423, and this Regulation.
- 7. The Board may establish a newcomer program for a limited duration in time to address the needs of recent immigrant students, particularly SIFEs, before the students transition to a general education classroom. A high-quality newcomer program shall:
 - a. Be age-appropriate;
 - b. Include content that relates to the NJSLS;
 - c. Include social-emotional learning; and
 - d. Include courses that are credit-bearing and count toward graduation pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:8, or promotion requirements to allow students to meet grade-level standards within a reasonable period of time.



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- 8. The Board shall offer sufficient courses and other relevant supplemental instructional opportunities in grades nine through twelve to enable MLs to meet or exceed the NJSLS for graduation. When sufficient numbers of students are not available to form a bilingual class in an academic content area, the Board shall develop, in consultation with and approved by the Department, plans to meet the needs of the students.
- 9. In addition to N.J.A.C. 6A:15-1.4(a) through (h) and C.1. through C.8. above, the Board shall design additional programs and services to meet the special needs of eligible MLs. The additional programs and services shall include, but not be limited to, individualized and targeted supports through Title I programs; special education; career and technical education programs; gifted and talented education services; supports to help MLs earn a State Seal of Biliteracy pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:8-5.3; and individualized learning opportunities pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:8-5.1.
- 10. The Board may establish a program in bilingual education or dual language immersion for any language classification with fewer than twenty students.
- 11. The Board shall establish a process for how MLs in high school may meet the world language or ELA course graduation requirements, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:8-5.1, by applying credits earned in an ESL course. The Board shall verify on a student's record that the applicable ESL credits meet or exceed the NJSLS at the high school level.
- D. Approval Procedures N.J.A.C. 6A:15-1.5
 - 1. The school district providing a LIEP shall submit a plan every three years to the Department for approval.
 - 2. The Board of Education's LIEP plan shall demonstrate that:
 - a. For Kindergarten through twelfth-grade, LIEP curricula include or are aligned with:



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- (1) The NJSLS;
- (2) The ELD standards; and
- (3) A multicultural curriculum, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:35-4.36a and N.J.A.C. 6A:7.
- b. For preschool, the ML instruction and support meets the language instruction requirements in the New Jersey Preschool Program Implementation Guidelines and the New Jersey Preschool Teaching and Learning Standards of Quality, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:13A and the curricula include or are aligned with:
 - (1) The NJSLS;
 - (2) The ELD standards for preschool; and
 - (3) A multicultural curriculum, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:35-4.36a and N.J.A.C. 6A:7.
- c. MLs have equitable access to educational activities and programs in a manner aligned to the Board's Comprehensive Equity Plan, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:7.
- d. School district staff engage in ongoing and continuous program evaluations that shall include regular reviews of student performance data (for example, graduation rates and assessment results) and other measures (for example, absenteeism, disciplinary records, and course enrollment) to evaluate whether MLs in the district have equitable access to educational opportunities, including, but not limited to, gifted and talented programs; advanced coursework and dual enrollment; work-based learning opportunities; extra-curricular activities; and career counseling.
- e. Preschool students participate in instructional activities pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:13A.



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- f. Bilingual and dual language immersion programs promote bilingualism, biliteracy, cross-cultural competency, high levels of academic achievement in both languages, and a path, if available, toward attaining the State Seal of Biliteracy.
- 3. The Board's LIEP plan submitted to the Department for approval shall include information on the following:
 - a. Identification of MLs in preschool through twelfth-grade;
 - b. LIEP description;
 - c. The number of staff hired for the LIEP by certificate type;
 - d. Bilingual and ESL curriculum;
 - e. Evaluation design;
 - f. Review process for a student's exit from ML status; and
 - g. A budget for all components of the LIEP.
- 4. The Department will review the plan to ensure the Board has a system of support for all MLs that is aligned to N.J.A.C. 6A:15, Policy 2423, and this Regulation. The Department may request modifications of the plan, as appropriate, and shall determine whether to approve the Board's plan.
- E. Supportive Services N.J.A.C. 6A:15-1.6
 - 1. Students enrolled in a LIEP shall have equal educational opportunities, including full access to educational opportunities and services available to other students in the district.



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- 2. The school district shall provide MLs with linguistically and culturally responsive supportive services, such as academic counseling; tutoring; career guidance; and mental health counseling. Bilingual personnel who are trained in social-emotional learning and are familiar with and knowledgeable about the unique assets and needs of the MLs, including newcomers and SIFEs, and their parents, shall provide the services.
- F. Professional Development N.J.A.C. 6A:15-1.7
 - 1. As part of the district- and school-level plans for professional development requirements at N.J.A.C. 6A:9C-4.2, the Board of Education shall describe professional learning for bilingual, ESL, and academic content teachers whose classroom instruction is in English; administrators who supervise bilingual/ESL programs; and administrators and any personnel who observe and evaluate teachers of MLs.
 - 2. The district- and school-level professional development plan shall:
 - a. Include instructional adaptational strategies, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:8-3.1, and training on appropriate assessments to help MLs meet the NJSLS and the ELD standards;
 - b. Address the needs of bilingual and ESL teachers, who shall receive training in the use of the ESL curriculum and the ELD standards; and
 - c. Ensure all teachers receive training on the ELD standards and how to provide linguistically and culturally accessible instruction and appropriate modifications and accommodations for MLs.
- G. Certification N.J.A.C. 6A:15-1.8
 - 1. All teachers of bilingual programs shall hold a valid New Jersey instructional certificate with an endorsement for the appropriate grade level and/or academic content area and a standard certificate with a bilingual/bicultural education endorsement, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:6-38 et seq., N.J.S.A. 18A:35-15 to 26, and N.J.A.C. 6A:9B-11.5.



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- 2. Dual language immersion programs, for the purpose of meeting the LIEP requirements at N.J.S.A. 18A:35-18; N.J.A.C. 6A:15; Policy 2423; and this Regulation may be taught by one or more teaching staff members. In these dual language immersion programs, the following endorsements to an instructional certificate shall be fulfilled by one or more teaching staff members:
 - a. An endorsement for the appropriate grade level and/or academic content area being taught; and
 - b. An endorsement in bilingual/bicultural education or world languages.
 - (1) A teaching staff member of a language other than English has demonstrated linguistic competence in the language of their instruction, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:9B-10.5 or 11.5(a)2.
- 3. All teaching staff members of ESL classes shall hold a valid New Jersey instructional certificate with an ESL endorsement, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:6-38 et seq. and N.J.A.C. 6A:9B-11.6.
- 4. All teaching staff members providing English language services shall hold a valid New Jersey instructional certificate.
- H. Language Instruction Educational Program Placement, Assessment, Exit, and Reentry N.J.A.C. 6A:15-1.9
 - 1. All MLs from Kindergarten through twelfth-grade shall be enrolled in a LIEP established by the Board of Education in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:15-1.4(b) through (f) and C.2. through C.6. above, N.J.A.C. 6A:15-1.15(a) and N.1. below, and N.J.S.A. 18A:35-18 and N.J.S.A. 18A:35-22.
 - 2. Students identified as MLs shall be assessed annually using ELP assessments to measure the progress toward English language proficiency and to determine readiness for exiting the LIEP. Students who meet the criteria for Statewide alternate assessments, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:14-4.10(a)2, shall be assessed annually using an alternate ELP assessment.



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- 3. A ML enrolled in the LIEP shall be placed in a classroom(s) where the primary language of instruction is English when the ML has demonstrated readiness to exit a LIEP first by achieving the Department-established cut score on an ELP or alternate ELP assessment. The student's readiness shall be further assessed by the use of a Department-established English language observation form that considers, at a minimum: classroom performance; the student's reading level in English; the observations of the teaching staff members responsible for the educational program of the student; and performance on achievement tests in English.
 - a. Pursuant to 34 CFR §200.6(h)(4)(ii), a ML with a disability whose disability makes it impossible for the student to be assessed in a particular domain because there are no appropriate accommodations for assessing the student in that domain may be exited from ML status based on the student meeting the Department-determined cut score on the remaining domains in which the student was assessed.
- 4. When the review process for exiting a student from a LIEP has been completed, the district shall notify, by written communication, the student's parent of the placement determination. If the parent or a teaching staff member disagrees with the student's placement, the parent or teaching staff member may appeal the placement to the Commissioner of Education, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:6-9 and N.J.A.C. 6A:3, after exhausting the school district's appeal process.
- 5. A parent may remove a student who is enrolled in a LIEP pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:35-22.1.
 - a. A student who is identified as a ML and whose parent refuses placement in a LIEP shall still access and meet the academic expectations of the NJSLS. Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:8, N.J.A.C. 6A:15-1.6, and E. above, the district shall ensure that students whose parents refuse placement are provided the appropriate instructional adaptations and appropriate assessment modifications and accommodations for Statewide assessments.



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- 6. The district shall monitor, for a minimum of two years, the academic progress of students who are exited from a LIEP to ensure that the students are continually meeting or exceeding the NJSLS when the curriculum and instruction are delivered in English.
- 7. Newly exited students who are not academically progressing in classes where English is the primary language of instruction may be considered for reentry to a LIEP as follows:
 - a. After a minimum of one-half an academic year and within two years of exit, the teaching staff member delivering instruction in English may recommend retesting with the approval of the principal.
 - b. A waiver of the minimum time limitation may be approved by the Executive County Superintendent upon request of the Superintendent if the student is experiencing extreme difficulty in adjusting to classes where English is the primary language of instruction.
 - c. The recommendation for retesting shall be based on the teaching staff member's documented observation of a student's academic performance and data-based determination that the student is experiencing difficulties due to problems in using the English language to communicate effectively with peers and adults; understand directions given by the teaching staff member; and/or comprehend basic verbal and written materials.
 - d. The student shall be tested using a different form of the English language proficiency assessment than the one used to exit the student from the LIEP.
 - e. If the student scores below the Department-determined cut score on the English language proficiency assessment, the student shall be reenrolled into a LIEP.



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I. Graduation Requirements for Multilingual Learners – N.J.A.C. 6A:15-1.10

All MLs shall satisfy requirements for high school graduation pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:8-5.1(a).

- J. Location N.J.A.C. 6A:15-1.11
 - 1. All Kindergarten through twelfth-grade LIEPs shall be conducted within classrooms within the school district pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:35-20, except under the following circumstances:
 - a. A LIEP is conducted in another school district as part of a joint program, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:15-1.13 and L. below; or
 - b. A ML's individualized learning opportunity, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:8-5.1(a)2, occurs outside of the school district's classrooms.
- K. Notification N.J.A.C. 6A:15-1.12
 - 1. The district shall notify, by written communication, the parent of a ML of the fact that their child has been identified as eligible for placement in a LIEP.
 - a. The district shall issue the notification within thirty calendar days of the start of the school year.
 - b. For a student who enrolls after the beginning of the school year, the district shall issue the notification within fourteen calendar days of the student being placed in a LIEP.
 - 2. The notice shall be in writing and in the language in which the parent possesses a primary speaking ability, and in English, and shall include the following information:
 - a. Why the student was identified as a ML;



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- b. Why the school district determined the student needs to be placed in a LIEP that will help the student develop and attain English proficiency and meet the NJSLS;
- c. The student's level of English language proficiency, how the level of English language proficiency was assessed, and the student's performance in academic content areas;
- d. The method of instruction the school district will use to serve the student, including a description of other instruction methods available and how those methods differ in content, instructional goals, and the use of English and a primary language, if applicable;
- e. How the program will meet the student's specific needs in attaining English language proficiency and meeting or exceeding the NJSLS;
- f. The program's exit requirements, the expected amount of time that the ML will need to successfully achieve in classrooms where the language of instruction is English, and, in the case of high school students, the expected rate of graduation;
- g. How the LIEP will meet the objectives of the individualized education program of a student with a disability; and
- h. A statement that the parent may decline the child's enrollment in a LIEP, and that the parent shall be given an opportunity to do so or to select a different type of LIEP service available at the child's school.
- 3. The district shall send progress reports to the parents of students enrolled in a LIEP in the same manner and frequency as progress reports are sent to the parent of other students enrolled in the school district.
- 4. Progress reports shall be written in English and in the primary language spoken by the parent of students enrolled in the LIEP.



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- 5. The district shall notify the parent when the student meets the exit criteria and is placed in a monolingual English program. The notice shall be in English and in the language in which the parent possesses a primary speaking ability.
- L. Joint Programs N.J.A.C. 6A:15-1.13
 - 1. With approval of the Executive County Superintendent on a case-by-case basis, the Board of Education may join with another district Board to provide:
 - a. A LIEP; and
 - b. An individualized learning opportunity, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:8-5.1(a)2, to a ML who chooses to utilize it to meet the 120-credit graduation requirement, in whole or in part.
- M. Parental and Family Engagement N.J.A.C. 6A:15-1.14
 - 1. The Superintendent or designee shall provide for the maximum practicable engagement of the parent of MLs in the development and review of program objectives and dissemination of information to and from the Boards of Education and communities served by the LIEP.
 - a. This duty includes ensuring all information regarding a ML's educational experience is available in the language in which the parent possesses a primary speaking ability, and in English. This information includes, but it not limited to: district- and school-level policies; invitational letters regarding school or district programs; information regarding student discipline policies and procedures; registration and enrollment; report cards; requests for parent permission for student participation in district or school activities; parent-teacher conferences; parent handbooks; and gifted and talented programs.
 - 2. With the exception of a Board implementing an English language services or ESL program, each Board implementing a LIEP shall establish a parent advisory committee on bilingual education of which the majority membership shall be the parents of MLs.



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- N. Waiver Process Provided by Statute N.J.A.C. 6A:15-1.15
 - 1. A school district that has twenty or more students eligible for the bilingual education program in Kindergarten through twelfth-grade may request annual approval from the Department to waive the requirement at N.J.A.C. 6A:15-1.4(d) and C.4. above and, instead, to establish an instructional program alternative if the school district is able to demonstrate that it would be impractical to provide a full-time bilingual program due to the age range, grade span, and/or geographic location of eligible students.
 - a. Instructional program alternatives that shall be established include, but are not limited to: the bilingual part-time program; the bilingual resource program; the bilingual tutorial program; the sheltered English instruction program; and the high-intensity ESL program.
 - b. All instructional program alternatives shall be designed to assist MLs to develop English language proficiency while learning the knowledge and skills for academic content areas to meet or exceed the NJSLS.
 - c. Instructional program alternatives shall be developed in consultation with the Department based on student enrollment and achievement data.
 - d. A Board of Education implementing instructional program alternatives annually shall submit to the Department student enrollment and achievement data that demonstrate the continued need for the programs.
 - e. Instructional program alternatives shall be approved annually by the Department based on the Department's review of student enrollment and achievement data.

Adopted: March 21, 2011 Revised: November 21, 2016 Revised: March 16, 2023 Revised:



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2431.4 <u>PREVENTION AND TREATMENT OF SPORTS-RELATED</u> <u>CONCUSSIONS AND HEAD INJURIES</u>

A concussion is a traumatic brain injury caused by a blow or motion to the head or body that disrupts the normal functioning of the brain and can cause significant and sustained neuropsychological impairments including, but not limited to, problem solving, planning, memory, and behavioral problems. In order to ensure safety, it is imperative that student-athletes participating in a program of athletic competition, coaches, and parents are educated about the nature and treatment of sports-related concussions and other head injuries. Allowing a student-athlete to return to a program of athletic competition before recovering from a concussion increases the chance of a more serious brain injury.

This Policy and Regulation 2431.4 are consistent with the requirements of N.J.S.A. 18A:40-41.1 et seq., the New Jersey Department of Education Model Policy and Guidance for Districts on the Prevention and Treatment of Sports-Related Head Injuries and Concussions, and the recommendations developed by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

For the purpose this Policy and Regulation 2431.4, "program of athletic competition" shall include any competition or practice in high school interscholastic athletic programs, middle school interscholastic athletic programs where school teams or squads play teams or squads from other school districts, intramural athletic programs within a school or among schools in the district, and any cheerleading program or activity in the school district.

For the purpose of this Policy and Regulation 2431.4, "student-athlete" shall mean any student enrolled in a public or nonpublic school in New Jersey who is a participant in a program of athletic competition organized by the school district.

The staff member supervising the program of athletic competition shall take steps to prevent concussions and head injuries; ensure student-athletes have appropriate supervision and safety equipment; and ensure student-athletes avoid unsafe conditions.

School staff members supervising programs of athletic competition; licensed athletic trainers; nurses; and school/team physicians shall be trained on the possible signs or symptoms of a concussion. Any possible signs or symptoms of



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a concussion shall be reported by the student-athlete or an observer to the staff member supervising the program of athletic competition; athletic trainer; school/team physician; school nurse; and/or parent.

The district will adopt an Interscholastic Head Injury Training Program to be completed by the school/team physician, licensed athletic trainer, coaches, and other appropriate district personnel pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:40-41.2.

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:40-41.4, a student-athlete who participates in a program of athletic competition and who sustains or is suspected of having sustained a concussion or other head injury while engaged in a program of athletic competition shall be immediately removed from the program of athletic competition by the staff member supervising the program or athletic competition. A student-athlete who was removed from a program of athletic competition shall not participate in further programs of athletic competition until the student-athlete: is examined by a physician or other licensed healthcare provider trained in the evaluation and management of concussions; receives written medical clearance from a program of athletic competition; and progresses through the steps outlined in the CDC's Six-Step Return to Play Progression. The student-athlete's written medical clearance shall be reviewed and approved by the school physician.

School personnel shall contact the parent of a student-athlete to inform them of a suspected sports-related concussion or head injury as soon as possible after the incident. School personnel shall provide the parent with a checklist or copy of the return to play protocols outlined in this Policy and Regulation 2431.4.

The student-athlete may not begin the CDC's Six-Step Return to Play Progression until the student-athlete receives a medical examination, provides the required written medical clearance, and the medical clearance is approved by the school physician.

Some symptoms may require immediate medical treatment. Emergency medical responders (911) shall be called if the student-athlete is experiencing a deterioration of symptoms; loss of consciousness; direct neck pain associated with the injury; or any other symptom that may require immediate medical treatment.

The district will provide temporary supports to a student-athlete that has sustained a concussion or other head injury.



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The Commissioner of Education and Commissioner of Health educational fact sheet that provides information concerning the use and misuse of opioid drugs in the event a student-athlete is prescribed an opioid for a sports-related injury shall be provided to the parents of student-athletes. The district shall obtain a signed acknowledgement of receipt by the student-athlete and their parent in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:40-41.10.

The Board shall review this Policy and Regulation 2431.4 annually and update as necessary to ensure it reflects the most current information available on the prevention, risk, and treatment of sports-related concussions and head injuries pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:40-41.3.

The district shall provide a copy of this Policy and Regulation 2431.4 to all youth sports team organizations that operate on school grounds. In accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:40-41.5, the district shall not be liable for the injury or death of a person due to the action or inaction of persons employed by, or under contract with, a youth sports team organization that operates on school grounds, if the youth sports team organization provides the school district proof of an insurance policy of an amount of not less than \$50,000 per person, per occurrence insuring the youth sports team organization against liability for any bodily injury suffered by a person and a statement of compliance with this Policy and Regulation 2431.4.

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:40-41.5 and for the purpose of this Policy, a "youth sports team organization" means one or more sports teams organized pursuant to a nonprofit or similar charter or which are member teams in a league organized by or affiliated with a county or municipal recreation department.

New Jersey Department of Education Model Policy and Guidance for Districts on the Prevention and Treatment of Sports-Related Head Injuries and Concussions – August 2023

N.J.S.A. 18A:40-41.1; 18A:40-41.2; 18A:40-41.2a; 18A:40-41.3; 18A:40-41.3a; 18A:40-41.4; 18A:40-41.5

Adopted: July 22, 2013 Revised:



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R 2431.4 <u>PREVENTION AND TREATMENT OF SPORTS-RELATED</u> <u>CONCUSSIONS AND HEAD INJURIES</u>

The following procedures shall be followed to implement N.J.S.A. 18A:40-41.1 et seq., the New Jersey Department of Education Model Policy and Guidance for Districts on the Prevention and Treatment of Sports-Related Head Injuries and Concussions, and Policy 2431.4.

A. Prevention

- 1. The following steps may be taken to prevent concussions and head injuries and ensure the safety of student-athletes:
 - a. Limit the number of stunts during cheerleading practice.
 - (1) When stunting is performed, spotters shall be used and the surface shall be soft and in good condition; and
 - (2) Safe stunting techniques shall be taught and student-athletes shall not be permitted to attempt new or difficult stunts without proper instruction and a coach on hand.
 - b. Ensure student-athletes have appropriate supervision during practices and a designated safe practice facility in good condition for the activity.
 - c. Ensure the use of appropriate fitted and maintained safety equipment.
 - d. Ensure student-athletes avoid unsafe actions such as:
 - (1) Hitting another student-athlete in the head;
 - (2) Using their head to contact another student-athlete;



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- (3) Making illegal contacts; and
- (4) Trying to injure or put another student-athlete at risk for injury.
- e. Limit the amount of contact during practices. This may include:
 - (1) Limiting the amount of practice time that includes scrimmages or full-speed drills.
- f. Teach student-athletes proper techniques and ways to avoid hits to the head.
- g. Keep a close eye on student-athletes in positions that are at increased risk for concussion to help spot a potential concussion.
- B. Possible Signs or Symptoms of Concussion
 - 1. Some mild traumatic brain injuries and concussion symptoms may appear right away, while others may not appear for hours or days after the injury. These symptoms may be observed by coaches, licensed athletic trainers, school/team physicians, school nurses, teachers, parents, or a teammate. Below are a few examples of possible signs and symptoms of a concussion:
 - a. The student-athlete grabs or holds head after a play or hit "Hands to Head";
 - b. The student-athlete appears to be "shaking it off";
 - c. The student-athlete appears dazed or "foggy";
 - d. The student-athlete forgets plays or demonstrates short term memory difficulty;
 - e. The student-athlete cannot recall injury or events just before or just after the injury;



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- f. The student-athlete answers questions slowly or inaccurately;
- g. The student-athlete has a headache;
- h. The student-athlete is nauseous or is vomiting;
- i. The student-athlete is experiencing balance problems or dizziness;
- j. The student-athlete is experiencing double vision or changes in vision;
- k. The student-athlete is experiencing sensitivity to light or sound/noise;
- 1. The student-athlete is feeling sluggish or foggy;
- m. The student-athlete is having difficulty with concentration and short-term memory;
- n. The student-athlete is experiencing sleep disturbance; and
- o. The student-athlete is experiencing irritability and/or mood changes.
- 2. Any possible signs or symptoms of a concussion shall be reported by the student-athlete participating in a program of athletic competition to the coach(es), athletic trainer, school or team physician, school nurse, and/or parent.
- C. Treatment
 - 1. Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:40-41.4, a student-athlete who participates in a program of athletic competition and who sustains or is suspected of having sustained a concussion or other head injury while engaged in a program of athletic competition shall be immediately removed from the program of athletic competition by the staff member supervising the program of athletic competition.



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- 2. The staff member supervising the student-athlete during the program of athletic competition shall immediately contact the school physician, athletic trainer, or school nurse to examine the student-athlete.
- 3. Emergency medical responders (911) shall be called if the student-athlete is experiencing a deterioration of symptoms, loss of consciousness, or direct neck pain associated with the injury pursuant to D. below.
- 4. A student-athlete who is removed from a program of athletic competition shall not participate in further programs of athletic competition until:
 - a. The student-athlete is evaluated by a physician or other licensed healthcare provider trained in the evaluation and management of concussions and receives written clearance from a physician trained in the evaluation and management of concussions to return to the program of athletic competition; and
 - (1) The student-athlete's written medical clearance from a physician must indicate a medical examination has determined:
 - (a) The student-athlete's injury was not a concussion or other head injury, the studentathlete is asymptomatic at rest, and the student-athlete may return to regular school activities and is no longer experiencing symptoms of the injury while conducting those activities; or
 - (b) The student-athlete's injury was a concussion or other head injury and the student-athlete's physician will monitor the student-athlete to determine when the student-athlete is asymptomatic at rest and when the student-athlete may return to regular school activities and is no longer experiencing symptoms of the injury while conducting those activities.



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- (2) The student-athletes written medical clearance shall be reviewed and approved by the school physician.
- (3) A student-athlete who has suffered a concussion or other head injury may not begin the CDC's Six-Step Return to Play Progression as outlined in E. below until the student-athlete receives a medical examination and provides the required written medical clearance to the Principal or designee.
- (4) A written medical clearance not in compliance with the provisions of C.4.a. above will not be accepted.
- b. A student-athlete who has suffered a concussion or other head injury returns to regular school activities without the need for additional support and is no longer experiencing symptoms of the injury when conducting those activities.
 - (1) If school is in session, a student-athlete who has suffered a concussion or other head injury must return to regular school activities without symptoms or need for additional support before returning to a program of athletic competition as part of the CDC's Six-Step Return to Play Progression.
 - (2) If school is not in session, a student-athlete who has suffered a concussion or other head injury must return to their normal daily activities without symptoms as part of the CDC's Six-Step Return to Play Progression.
- D. Symptoms Requiring Immediate Medical Assessment (911/Emergency Evaluation)
 - 1. The following symptoms requiring immediate medical assessment include, but are not limited to:
 - a. The student-athlete loses consciousness;



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- b. The student-athlete has a headache that gets worse and does not go away;
- c. The student-athlete is experiencing weakness, numbness, decreased coordination, convulsions, or seizure;
- d. The student-athlete is experiencing repeated vomiting and/or intractable retching;
- e. The student-athlete is slurring speech or exhibiting unusual behavior (disoriented);
- f. The student-athlete has one pupil (the black part in the middle of the eye) larger than the other; and
- g. The student-athlete cannot recognize people or places and/or gets confused, restless, or agitated.
- E. CDC's Six-Step Return to Play Progression for Students Who Have Suffered a Concussion or Other Head Injury
 - 1. The return of a student-athlete to a program of athletic competition shall be in accordance with the CDC's Six-Step Return to Play Progression recommendations and any subsequent changes or other updates to those recommendations as developed by the CDC. Recovery is individual.
 - a. As applicable, the student-athlete's treating healthcare provider may guide the student-athlete through the return to play protocol while experiencing mild symptoms as part of the treatment.
 - b. In addition, the student-athlete's treating healthcare provider may adjust the treatment plan prior to Step Six, full return to competition.
 - c. Clearance from a student-athlete's physician trained in the evaluation and management of concussions is required before returning to full competition.



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2. Six-Step Return to Play Progression

a. Step 1: Back to Regular Activities

The student-athlete is back to their regular activities (such as school).

b. Step 2: Light Aerobic Activity

The student-athlete shall begin with light aerobic exercise only to increase a student-athlete's heart rate. This means about five to ten minutes on an exercise bike, walking, or light jogging. No weightlifting at this point.

c. Step 3: Moderate Activity

The student-athlete shall continue with activities to increase a student-athlete's heart rate with body or head movement. This includes moderate jogging, brief running, moderateintensity stationary biking, or moderate-intensity weightlifting (less time and/or less weight from their typical routine).

d. Step 4: Heavy, Non-Contact Activity

The student-athlete shall add heavy, non-contact physical activity, such as sprinting/running, high-intensity stationary biking, regular weightlifting routine, or non-contact sport-specific drills (in three planes of movement).

e. Step 5: Practice & Full Contact

The student-athlete may return to practice and full contact (if appropriate for the sport) in controlled practice.

f. Step 6: Competition

The student-athlete may return to competition.



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- 3. It is important for a student-athlete's parent(s), coach(es), and teachers to watch for concussion symptoms after each day's Six-Step Return to Play Progression activity.
- 4. A student-athlete should only move to the next step if they do not exhibit any new symptoms at the current step.
- 5. If a student-athlete's symptoms return or if they develop new symptoms, this could be a sign the student-athlete is overexerting. The student-athlete shall stop these activities and the student-athlete's medical provider shall be contacted. After more rest and no concussion symptoms, the student-athlete can start at the previous step.
- F. Temporary Supports for Student-Athletes with Sports-Related Head Injuries or Concussions
 - 1. Initial rest followed by a gradual return to activity during healing is recommended. Accordingly, consideration of the cognitive effects in returning to the classroom is also an important part of the treatment of sports-related concussions and head injuries.
 - 2. Mental exertion increases the symptoms from concussions and affects recovery. To recover, cognitive rest is just as important as physical rest. Reading, studying, computer usage, texting, even watching movies if a student-athlete is sensitive to light/sound, can slow a student-athlete's recovery. Managing the symptoms through a balance of rest and activity is the key to recovery.
 - a. The district will provide support for student-athletes diagnosed with a concussion.
 - b. The student-athlete's health care provider will handle short-term medical accommodations.
 - 3. Collaboration between the student-athlete's health care provider and the school may be necessary. If accommodations are needed for an extended time, the district may want to consider implementing accommodations via a formalized 504 plan.



PROGRAM R 2431.4/page 9 of 12 Prevention and Treatment of Sports-Related Concussions and Head Injuries

- 4. The Principal or designee may address the student-athlete's cognitive needs in the following ways:
 - a. Limit the student-athlete's screen time;
 - b. Have the student-athlete take rest breaks as needed;
 - c. Have the student-athlete spend fewer hours at school;
 - d. Provide the student-athlete more time to take tests or complete assignments. (All courses should be considered);
 - e. Provide the student-athlete help with schoolwork;
 - f. Reduce the student-athlete's time spent on the computer, reading, and writing;
 - g. Provide or grant the student-athlete early passing time to avoid crowded hallways; and/or
 - h. Allow the student-athlete extra time to complete tests or coursework.
- 5. These supports and/or short-term medical accommodations may be addressed in an individualized healthcare plan for a student-athlete who has suffered a concussion or other head injury.
- 6. Concussions affect several aspects of brain function, including cognition, balance and coordination, visual tracking and processing, behavior, and others. The symptoms experienced, difficulties faced, and timeline for recovery will vary for each individual.
- 7. A brief period of relative rest followed by a gradual return to lighter activities is generally considered the best "medicine" for healing concussions or other head injuries. This may include relative rest from both physical and cognitive activities. Each injury, and therefore each treatment plan, is different. School personnel, in collaboration with the student-athlete, parents, and the student-athlete's health care provider, are in the best position to create flexible, temporary supports to meet the needs of each student-athlete.



PROGRAM R 2431.4/page 10 of 12 Prevention and Treatment of Sports-Related Concussions and Head Injuries

G. Education

- 1. The CDC offers tips for health professionals and educators on their website. Interscholastic Head Injury Training Programs are available via the CDC website or the National Federation of State High School Associations.
- 2. This training shall be completed by the school/team physician, licensed athletic trainer, school nurses, coaches, and other relevant school personnel.
- H. Other Considerations
 - 1. Educational information for student-athletes on the prevention of concussions shall be reviewed.
 - 2. The importance of early identification and treatment of concussions to improve recovery shall be reinforced.
 - 3. School personnel shall contact the student-athlete's parent and inform them of the suspected sports-related concussion or head injury before allowing the student-athlete to go home after a program of athletic competition.
 - 4. School personnel shall provide the parent of the student-athlete with a checklist or copy of the return to play protocols including the requirement of written clearance from a physician trained in the evaluation and management of concussions before the student-athlete is able to return to a program of athletic competition.
- I. Interscholastic Head Injury Training Program
 - 1. The district will adopt an Interscholastic Head Injury Training Program to be completed by the school/team physician, licensed athletic trainer, coaches, and other appropriate district personnel pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:40-41.2. The training program shall include:



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- a. The recognition of the signs of head and neck injuries, concussions, and second impact syndrome; and
 - (1) Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:40-41.1.d., if a student-athlete sustains a second concussion while still having symptoms of a previous concussion, it can lead to the severe impairment and even the death of the student-athlete, and is referred to as second-impact syndrome.
- b. The CDC's Six-Step Return to Play Progression or any subsequent changes or other updates developed by the CDC.
- J. "Return to Play Progressions" vs. "Therapeutic Progressions"
 - 1. In many cases, after the initial rest period, concussed individuals may be encouraged to resume limited activities, including light physical and cognitive activities, even in the presence of some continued symptoms. This may be referred to as "therapeutic progressions," and while some of the activities may overlap with the CDC's Six-Step Return to Play Progression, it is different in the goals and intent from "return to play."
 - a. "Return to play" progressions are intended to test the concussed individual's readiness to perform the activity correctly, and to do so with no symptoms.
 - b. "Therapeutic" progressions are intended to help the individual recover and to help them improve their performance and tolerance to those activities. This may take several days, or longer, at any given step.
 - c. "Therapeutic progressions" should be recommended and supervised by a health care provider familiar with the evaluation and management of concussions, and monitored by a team including the student-athlete, parents, health care provider, and school personnel. Adjustments to the program should be in response to the student-athlete's



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overall symptom load and progress. It should be remembered that student-athletes may progress at different rates for various aspects of their injury, such as tolerating light to moderate aerobic activity before tolerating being in the classroom, or tolerating schoolwork done at home before tolerating the classroom and school environment. Of note, progressions in one aspect of the treatment plan can have a positive effect on other areas as the brain is returning to a more typical overall level of function. A successful treatment plan is one that can adapt appropriately for each student-athlete.

- K. Educating the Community on the District Sports-Related Concussions and Head Injuries Policy
 - 1. The Board shall review Policy 2431.4 and this Regulation annually, and update as necessary to ensure Policy 2431.4 and this Regulation reflect the most current information available on the prevention, risk, and treatment of sports-related concussions and head injuries.
 - 2. The district may provide regular education and training for staff including administrators, teachers, paraprofessionals, and school counselors regarding concussions and other head injuries as head injuries can happen at any time during the school day or outside of school.
 - 3. The district is in a unique position to promote healthy behaviors. The district can embed education related to the prevention and treatment of concussions and head injuries through the New Jersey Student Learning Standards Comprehensive Health and Physical Education Standard 2.3 – Safety. In addition, N.J.S.A. 18A:6-2 requires education in accident and fire prevention and N.J.S.A. 18A:35-5 requires education in injury or illness emergencies.

Adopted: July 22, 2013 Revised:



LACEY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

PROGRAM R 2624/Page 1 of 13 GRADING SYSTEM

R 2624 <u>GRADING SYSTEM</u>

- A. Purpose of Grading
 - 1. The purpose of grading is to assist students in the process of learning; all grading systems will be subject to continual review and revision to that end.
 - 2. Grades acknowledge a student'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 student 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 student must be kept informed of his/her progress during the course of a unit of study. Students who so request are entitled to see the grades resulting from their performance during the grading period.
 - 3. Each method of grading shall be appropriate to the course of study and the maturity and abilities of the students.



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- 4. Students 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, students.
- C. Grading Periods
 - 1. Grades will be awarded at the end of four marking periods in each school year.
 - 2. Students will be given notice of their mid-term grades at mid-point of each marking period.
 - 3. Students 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 student'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 student;
- 6. Laboratory work;
- 7. Term papers;
- 8. Special oral or written reports;



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- 9. Other evidences of the student's constructive efforts and achievements in learning; and
- 10. For the final grade, the student'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 student 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 student 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 student 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 student 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 student who has not met the minimum requirements of the course; who has 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.



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2. Grades K-5 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. Standards Based Grading

Standards Based Grading is an educational system that focuses on the effectiveness of instruction and the mastery of skills or standards for a specific subject. Teachers can track the progress of each student and they can also help them in maximizing their potential as learners. Standards Based Grading allows students to understand which learning targets they have already mastered and which of the given standards still need to be improved. This is made possible because students are provided with a specific grade for a learning standard they should master at the end of the trimester. Throughout each trimester, teachers track the progress of students in each learning standard and provide appropriate feedback that aims to improve mastery of skills.

The following performance levels, level of support, and progress indicators shall be used:

a. Grades K-5

Performance Levels

ES - Exceeding the Standard: Demonstrates a thorough understanding of skills and concepts

MS - Meeting the Standard: Demonstrates a general understanding of skills and concepts

AS - Approaching the Standard: Demonstrates a partial



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understanding of skills and concepts

NS - Not Meeting the Standard: Demonstrates a limited understanding of skills and concepts

NA - Not assessed at this time

Levels of Support

- WI Works Independently
- SN Sometimes Needs Support
- FN Frequently Needs Support
- AN- Always Needs Support

Progress Indicators for Personal and Social Growth & Special Areas

- C -Consistently
- O-Occasionally
- I -Infrequently
- b. Grades 6-8

Code

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



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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.

c. Grades 9-12

Code

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



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Grading System						
90-100	=	Outstanding Achievement				
80-89	=	Above Average Achievement				
70-79	=	Average Achievement				
65-69	=	Minimal Achievement				
Below 65	=	Unacceptable				
Ι	=	Incomplete				
М	=	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 student progress is intricately related to the instructional program. Student 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 student 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.



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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:

Grade	Numerical Grade	Description		
А	90-100	Outstanding		
В	80-89	Above Average Achievement		
С	70-79	Average Achievement		
D	65-69	Minimal Achievement		
F	Below 65	Unacceptable Achievement		
Ι		Incomplete		
М		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.



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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 period 1. Grades reflecting the true numeric value of work done by students will be issued during marking periods 2, 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.

In order to earn the safety net grade of a 55, students and families will be required to meet with teachers, counselors, and administrators.

a. Students in need of their first marking period safety net(s) will be required to attend at least two after-school enrichment tutoring sessions in order to obtain the safety net.

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.



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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. 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 90 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.



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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:

G.P.A. = <u>Total Quality Points</u>

Total Credits Attempted

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

<u>AP/Dual</u>		Hor	<u>nors</u>	<u>Regular</u>	
Range	Weight	Range	Weight	Range	Weight
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	65-68	1
Below 65	0	Below 65	0	Below 65	0



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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
 - a. Honor Roll Average of 3.0 or better in all subjects with no grade lower than a 77
 - b. High Honor Roll Average of 4.0 or better in all subjects with no grade lower than an 84
 - c. In calculating the average for honor roll, quality points/credits are not utilized.
 - d. 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 bonafide institutions as determined in the rules and regulations of the Superintendent of Schools. No credit shall be given for Correspondence 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



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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 Revised: August 18, 2022



STUDENTS 5350/page 1 of 3 Student Suicide Prevention M

5350 STUDENT SUICIDE PREVENTION

The Board of Education recognizes that depression and self-destruction are problems of increasing severity among students. Students under severe stress cannot benefit fully from the educational program and may pose a threat to themselves or others.

The Board directs all school district staff members to be alert to a student who exhibits warning signs of self-destruction or who threatens or attempts suicide. Any such warning signs or the report of such warning signs from another student or staff member shall be taken with the utmost seriousness and reported immediately to the Principal or designee.

The Principal or designee shall immediately contact the parent(s) of the student exhibiting warning signs of suicide to inform the parent(s) the student will be referred to the Child Study Team or a Suicide Intervention Team, appointed by the Superintendent or designee, for a preliminary assessment. Upon completion of the preliminary assessment, the Principal or designee shall meet with the parent(s) to review the assessment. Based on the preliminary assessment, the parent(s) may be required to obtain medical or psychiatric services for the student. In the event the parent(s) objects to the recommendation or indicates an unwillingness to cooperate in the best interests of the student, the Principal or designee will contact the New Jersey Department of Children and Families, Division of Child Protection and Permanency to request intervention on the student's behalf.

In the event the student is required to obtain medical or psychiatric services, the parent(s) will be required to submit to the Superintendent a written medical clearance from a licensed medical professional, selected by the parent(s) and approved by the Superintendent, indicating the student has received medical services, does not present a risk to themselves or others, and is cleared to return to school. The written medical clearance may be reviewed by a Board of Education healthcare professional before the student is permitted to return to school. The parent(s) shall be required to authorize their healthcare professional(s) to release relevant medical information to the school district's healthcare professional, if requested.

In accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:14-1.1(d), special education and related services shall be provided to students with disabilities at public expense, with no charge to the parents. A clearance by a psychiatrist or other medical professional as a



STUDENTS 5350/page 2 of 3 Student Suicide Prevention

requirement to return to school is considered an assessment provided at public expense. The district shall not require the parents to incur the cost of psychiatric clearance.

In accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:6-111 and 18A:6-112, as part of the required professional development for teachers as outlined in N.J.A.C. 6A:9C-3 et seq., every teaching staff member must complete at least two hours of instruction in suicide prevention, to be provided by a licensed health care professional with training and experience in mental health issues, in each professional development period. The instruction in suicide prevention shall include information on the relationship between the risk of suicide and incidents of harassment, intimidation, and 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.

Not including teaching staff members subject to the requirements of N.J.S.A. 18A:6-112.a. and not including licensed mental health care professionals, a school employee or an employee of a contracted service provider who has regular and direct contact with students, as determined by the Board, shall complete a one-time training program in suicide prevention, awareness, and response identified by the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:6-112.c. A person subject to the requirements of N.J.S.A. 18A:6-112.b. shall complete the required training program not less than twelve months from the date of the identification by the NJDOE of training programs or twelve months from the person's date of hire, whichever occurs later.

Not less than twelve months following the date of the identification by the NJDOE of the training programs or not less than twelve months from the person's date of hire, and annually thereafter, the district shall provide to their employees who are subject to the requirements of N.J.S.A. 18A:6-112.a. or b., in a hard copy paper form or in an electronic form, guidelines on the district's reporting and suicide prevention, awareness, and response protocols including, but not limited to, contact information for each school's designated staff who should be notified whenever an employee believes a student may be at risk for suicide.

Each person who is required pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:6-112.a. or b. to complete a suicide prevention training program shall have a duty to warn and protect when the following conditions exist:



STUDENTS 5350/page 3 of 3 Student Suicide Prevention

- (1) A student has communicated to that person a clearly identifiable threat of imminent, serious physical violence against oneself and the circumstances are such that a reasonable person would believe the student intended to carry out the threat; or
- (2) The circumstances are such that a reasonable person would believe the student intended to carry out an act of imminent, serious physical violence against oneself.

A person acting in good faith and who takes reasonable steps to discharge a duty to warn and protect shall be immune from civil and criminal liability in regard to that disclosure.

Any school district staff member, volunteer, or intern with reasonable cause to suspect or believe that a student has attempted or completed suicide, shall immediately report the information to the Principal or designee or their immediate supervisor who will immediately report it to the Superintendent or designee. The Superintendent or designee shall promptly report it online to the New Jersey Department of Children and Families, or as otherwise required by the Department of Children and Families in accordance with N.J.S.A. 30:9A-24. In accordance with N.J.S.A. 30:9A-24.i., any person who reports an attempted or completed suicide shall have immunity from any civil or criminal liability on account of the report, unless the person has acted in bad faith or with malicious purpose.

The Superintendent shall prepare and disseminate guidelines to assist school district staff members in recognizing the warning signs of a student who may be contemplating suicide, to respond to a threat or attempted suicide, and to prevent contagion when a student commits suicide.

N.J.S.A. 18A:6-111; 18A:6-112 N.J.S.A. 30:9A-23; 30:9A-24 N.J.A.C. 6A:9C-3 et seq.; 6A:14-1.1

Adopted: November 21, 2005 Revised: October 17, 2016 Revised: July 16, 2018 Revised:



PROPERTY 7610/page 1 of 2 Vandalism

7610 VANDALISM

The Board of Education believes all school district property should be respected and all persons who use or have access to school district property should respect such property and take pride in the institutions of this community and the schools of this district.

Any person who purposely or knowingly damages school district property or damages school district property recklessly or negligently in the employment of fire, explosives, or another dangerous means listed in accordance with N.J.S.A. 2C:17-2 or purposely or recklessly tampers with the tangible property of the school district so as to endanger school district property shall be reported to the appropriate law enforcement agency. Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:37-3, the parent(s) of any minor who shall injure any public or nonpublic school property shall be liable for damages for the amount of injury to be collected by the Board or the owner of the premises in any Court of competent jurisdiction, together with costs of suit.

A person convicted of an offense of criminal mischief that involves an act of graffiti may, in addition to any other penalty imposed by the Court, be required to pay the school district monetary restitution in the amount of the pecuniary damage caused by the act of graffiti and to perform community service, which may include removing the graffiti from the property, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 2C:17-3.c. If community service is ordered by the Court, it shall be for either not less than twenty days or not less than the number of days necessary to remove the graffiti from the property.

A person who purposely defaces or damages district property with any symbol that exposes persons to violence, contempt, or hatred on the basis of any of the protected categories listed at N.J.A.C. 6A:7-1.1(a) may have committed a crime and shall be reported to the appropriate law enforcement agency in accordance with Policy and Regulation 8465, N.J.A.C. 6A:16-6.3, and the Memorandum of Agreement with Local Law Enforcement.

The Board may also report to the appropriate law enforcement agencies any person whose vandalism of school property is serious or chronic.



N.J.A.C. 6A:7-1.1; 6A:7-1.3; 6A:16-6.3

Adopted: November 21, 2005 Revised:



R 7610 VANDALISM

A. Definitions

- 1. "Vandalism" means the willful and malicious acts of any person that result in the destruction, defacement, or damage of any property, real or personal, belonging to or entrusted to the Board of Education. Vandalism includes arson and acts of graffiti.
- 2. "Arson" means the willful and malicious burning or setting on fire of any building or part of any building owned or operated by the Board, by any person.
- 3. "Act of graffiti" means the drawing, painting, or making of any mark or inscription on school district real or personal property without the permission of the school district.
- B. Reporting Vandalism
 - 1. Any school employee who has reason to believe an act of vandalism has occurred shall immediately report that belief or suspicion to the Principal of the affected building or, if the vandalism occurs at a facility other than a school, the supervisor in charge of the facility.
 - 2. The Principal or supervisor shall promptly institute an investigation of the report by taking these steps as appropriate to the extent and seriousness of the vandalism:
 - a. Requesting the reporting employee to file a report of the evidence giving rise to their belief or suspicion that vandalism has occurred;
 - b. Visiting the site of the vandalism and examining its extent, taking photographs as necessary;
 - c. Determining and recording the names of witnesses, if any;
 - d. Interviewing witnesses and requesting their written reports of events;



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- e. Assessing the costs of repair and replacement of any parts of the building, furnishings, and/or equipment; and
- f. Questioning the person(s), if any, identified as having caused the vandalism.
- 3. The Principal will complete and file with the Superintendent a detailed vandalism and property damage report.
- 4. The Principal will notify law enforcement when appropriate and in accordance with applicable laws.
- C. Penalties and Restitution
 - 1. A student who vandalizes school property is subject to discipline, which may include suspension or expulsion, in accordance with Board Policy, Board Regulation, and law.
 - 2. A student who vandalizes school property will be held liable for any damages caused by the act of vandalism.
 - 3. The parent(s) of any minor who shall injure any public or nonpublic school property be liable for damages for the amount of the injury to be collected by the Board or the owner of the premises in any Court of competent jurisdiction, together with costs of suit in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:37-3.
 - a. The Principal or designee shall obtain a professional estimate of the cost of repairs and/or replacements necessitated by the vandalism.
 - b. The Principal or designee shall present the student's parent(s) with an itemized bill based on the estimated costs.
 - c. If, within thirty calendar days, the student's parent(s) has not paid the bill or made arrangements with the Principal or designee for the payment of the bill in periodic installments, the Superintendent shall inform the Board and may recommend the Board Attorney commence civil action for the amount due together with costs.



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- d. No diploma, transcript, transfer card, or report card will be issued to the student until all obligations to the Board have been met.
- 4. Any person who purposely defaces or damages school property with any symbol that exposes persons to violence, contempt, or hatred on the basis of any of the protected categories listed at N.J.A.C. 6A:7-1.1(a) may have committed a crime and shall be reported to the appropriate law enforcement agency in accordance with Policy and Regulation 8465; N.J.A.C. 6A:16-6.3; and the Memorandum of Agreement with Local Law Enforcement.
- 5. Any person who purposely or knowingly damages school district property recklessly or negligently in the employment of fire, explosives, or another dangerous means listed in accordance with N.J.S.A. 2C:17-2, or purposely or recklessly tampers with the tangible property of the school district so as to endanger school district property, will be reported to the appropriate law enforcement agency.
- 6. A person convicted of an offense of criminal mischief that involves an act of graffiti may, in addition to any other penalty imposed by the Court, be required to pay the school district monetary restitution in the amount of the pecuniary damage caused by the act of graffiti to perform community service, which may include removing the graffiti from the property, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 2C:17-3.c. If community service is ordered by the Court, it shall be for either not less than twenty days or not less than the number of days necessary to remove the graffiti from the property.

Adopted: November 21, 2005 Revised:



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8420 EMERGENCY AND CRISIS SITUATIONS

The Board of Education recognizes its responsibility to provide for the safety and security in each school building in the district. The district shall develop and implement comprehensive plans, procedures, and mechanisms that provide for safety and security in the district's public elementary and secondary schools. Plans and procedures, which shall be in written form, and mechanisms shall provide for, at a minimum: the protection of the health, safety, security, and welfare of the school population; the prevention of, intervention in, response to, and recovery from emergency and crisis situations; the establishment and maintenance of a climate of civility; and support services for staff, students, and their families, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:16-5.1(a).

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:41-6, "school security drill" means an exercise, other than a fire drill, to practice procedures that respond to an emergency situation including, but not limited to, a bomb threat, non-fire evacuation, lockdown, or active shooter situation and that is similar in duration to a fire drill.

The Superintendent of Schools or designee shall consult with law enforcement agencies, health and social services provider agencies, emergency management planners, and school and other community resources, as appropriate, in the development of the district's plans, procedures, and mechanisms for school safety and security in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:16-5.1(b). The plans, procedures, and mechanisms shall be consistent with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:16-5.1 and the format and content established by the Domestic Security Preparedness Task Force, pursuant to N.J.S.A. App. A:9-64 et seq., and the Commissioner of Education. The plans, procedures, and mechanisms shall be reviewed annually, and updated as appropriate.

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:41-15, in developing its districtwide school safety and security plan, the district shall: demonstrate that it has considered the individual needs of each student with a disability, as enumerated in the students' individualized education programs (IEP), individualized health care plans, 504 plans, or, in the case of students with disabilities enrolled in nonpublic schools, service plans pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:46-2.15; and incorporate protocols into the districtwide school safety and security plan for communicating the individual needs of each student with a disability, when appropriate and in compliance with the "Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974," (20 USC §1232g), to third parties including, but not limited to, first responders and emergency management agencies.



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A copy of the school safety and security plan shall be disseminated to all employees pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-5.1(c). New employees shall receive a copy of the school safety and security plan, as appropriate, within sixty days of the effective date of their employment. All employees shall be notified in writing, as appropriate, regarding updates and changes to the school safety and security plan.

The district shall develop and provide an in-service training program for all employees to enable them to recognize and appropriately respond to safety and security concerns, including emergencies and crises, consistent with the district's plans, procedures, and mechanisms for school safety and security and the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:16-5.1. New employees shall receive the in-service training within sixty days of the effective date of their employment. The inservice training program for all employees shall be reviewed annually and updated as appropriate.

The Board shall ensure individuals employed in the district in a substitute capacity are provided with information and training on the district's practices and procedures on school safety and security including instruction on school security drills, evacuation procedures, and emergency response protocols in the district and the school building where the individuals are employed in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:41-7.b. In the event an individual is employed in a substitute capacity in the district at the time the school safety and security training is being provided to full-time employees pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:41-7.a., the district shall include the individual in the training.

Any information or training provided pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:41-7 shall address the unique needs of students with disabilities in the event of a fire drill, school security drill, or actual emergency situation. All full-time employees and individuals employed in the district in a substitute capacity shall be made aware of any anticipated mobility, sensory, medical, social, communication, emotional, regulatory, and decision-making support needs of students in the care of the employee and any supports, modifications, accommodations, and services to be provided to students, as enumerated in their IEPs, individualized health care plans, 504 plans, or service plans pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:46-2.15.

The district shall ensure a student's unique mobility, sensory, medical, social, communication, emotional, regulatory, and decision-making needs in the event of a fire drill, school security drill, or an actual emergency situation that may occur on school grounds is maintained in the student record. The documentation maintained in the student record shall indicate whether or not the student is able to



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safely and fully participate in fire drills or school security drills without the use of supplementary supports, modifications, accommodations, or services, or if any accommodations are needed, including determining areas of refuge during an emergency, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:46-2.15.a.

If it is determined a student requires supplementary supports, modifications, accommodations, or services in order to safely and fully participate in a fire drill or school security drill, a written plan shall be maintained in the student record, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:46-2.15.b. The written plan shall: describe the anticipated mobility, sensory, medical, social, communication, emotional, regulatory, and decision-making support needs of the student during a fire drill or school security drill and during an actual emergency situation; describe the supports, modifications, accommodations, and services to be provided to the student during a fire drill or school security drill and during an actual emergency situation; and describe the role of school employees in supporting the student during a fire drill or school security drill and during an actual emergency situation, including the need for any specific training of school employees. The district shall on a regular basis, but not less than once annually, perform a review of any determinations made pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:46-2.15 to evaluate the school security needs of a student.

Every Principal of a school of two or more rooms, or of a school of one room when located above the first story of a building, shall have at least one fire drill and one school security drill each month within the school hours, including any summer months during which the school is open for instructional programs. Employees of the district, whether occupying buildings of one or more stories, shall keep all exterior doors and exits Θ locked at all times except when necessary to comply with the requirements set forth in the Uniform Fire Code, including applicable requirements during an emergency lockdown or an emergency lockdown drill. All students and staff shall fully participate in each drill conducted to the greatest extent practicable and, when appropriate, utilize procedures for assisting in the rescue of persons unable to use the general means of egress to ensure that participation does not pose a safety risk. Where school buildings have been provided with fire escapes, they shall be used by a part or all of the students performing every fire drill. An actual school security emergency that occurs at a school during the month that includes activities which are the equivalent of a drill shall be considered a school security drill for the purposes of meeting the requirements of N.J.S.A. 18A:41-1.



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Every school in the district shall conduct a school security drill within the first fifteen days of the beginning of the school year. In accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:41-7a., notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the district shall ensure that a school security drill that occurs when students are present:

- 1. Includes clear, developmentally and age-appropriate messaging to students and staff at the conclusion of the drill that the event is a drill and that no current danger exists;
- 2. Does not expose students to content or imaging that is not developmentally or age-appropriate;
- 3. Is paired with trauma-informed approaches to address any student inquiries or concerns which may arise as a result of a school security drill;
- 4. Does not include the use of fake blood, real or prop firearms, or the simulations of gun shots, explosions, or other sounds or visuals that may induce panic or a traumatic response from a student or school district employee;
- 5. Does not require a student to role play as a victim, but may include first aid training in which students participate; and
- 6. Is accessible to students with disabilities and mental health conditions, and provides all necessary accommodations for these students.

The Principal or designee shall provide written notification to the parent of a student enrolled in the school following completion of a school security drill, which notice shall be provided to the parent by no later than the end of the school day on which the school security drill is conducted.

The Principal or designee will provide local law enforcement or other emergency responders, as appropriate, with a friendly notification at least forty-eight hours prior to holding a school security drill. A law enforcement officer shall be present at a minimum of one school security drill in each school year in order to make recommendations on any improvements or changes to school security drill procedures that the officer may deem advisable in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:41-1. The district may permit emergency personnel access to the buildings



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and grounds of its schools for school security drills that are scheduled outside of school hours and during such times as students are not present, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:41-7a.c.

The district shall review and update its school security drill procedures using a process that coincides with the review of the school safety and security plan developed pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-5.1 and collects input from emergency personnel; parents of students enrolled in the district; teachers and staff employed in the district; mental health professionals; and student government representatives from multiple grade levels, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:41-7a.d.

The district shall annually track data on such measures and information as required by the Commissioner of Education, and shall report the data to the Commissioner, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:41-7a.e.

Such drills and in-service training programs shall be conducted in accordance with a building security drill guide and training materials that educate school employees on proper evacuation and lockdown procedures in a variety of emergency situations on school grounds in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:16-5.1.

The district will be required to annually submit a security drill statement of assurance attesting to the completion of monthly school security drills to the New Jersey Department of Education/County Office of Education by June 30 of each school year, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:30 App.A. Each school in the district will be required to complete and retain a security drill record form as required by the New Jersey Department of Education.

N.J.S.A. 2C:33-3 N.J.S.A. App.A.:9-86 N.J.S.A. 18A:41-1; 18A:41-2; 18A:41-6; 18A:41-7; 18A:41-7a.; 18A:41-15; 18A:46-2.15 N.J.A.C. 6A:16-5.1; 6A:30 App.A.

Adopted: March 21, 2011 Revised: February 18, 2021 Revised: December 16, 2021 Revised: December 12, 2022 Revised:



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9323 NOTIFICATION OF JUVENILE OFFENDER CASE DISPOSITION

Principals have a need to receive and have access to juvenile justice proceedings involving juveniles who are registered students in the school building. The Principal or designee shall have access to information relating to juvenile justice proceedings in accordance with N.J.S.A. 2A:4A-60.

The Principal or designee, on a confidential basis, may request from law enforcement agencies at the time of charge, adjudication, or disposition, information as to the identity of a juvenile student charged, the offense charged, the adjudication, and the disposition. The Principal or designee may inform school staff members of this information if the Principal or designee deems it appropriate for maintaining order, safety, or discipline in the school or for planning programs relevant to the juvenile's educational and social development. This information will not become part of the juvenile student's permanent school record and shall not be maintained except as authorized by regulation of the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE).

A law enforcement or prosecuting agency shall, at the time of a charge, adjudication, or disposition, send written notice to the Principal or designee of the school where the juvenile is enrolled, of the identity of the juvenile charged, the offense charged, the adjudication, and the disposition if:

- 1. The offense occurred on school property or a school bus, occurred at a school-sponsored function, or was committed against an employee or official of the school;
- 2. The juvenile was taken into custody as a result of information or evidence provided by school officials; or
- 3. The offense, if committed by an adult, would constitute a crime, and the offense:
 - a. Resulted in death or serious bodily injury or involved an attempt or conspiracy to cause death or serious bodily injury;



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- b. Involved the unlawful use or possession of a firearm or other weapon;
- c. Involved the unlawful manufacture, distribution, or possession with intent to distribute a controlled dangerous substance or controlled substance analog;
- d. Was committed by a juvenile who acted with a purpose to intimidate an individual or group of individuals because of race, color, religion; or
- e. Would be a crime of the first, second, or third degree.

Information provided to the Principal or designee pursuant to N.J.S.A. 2A:4A-60.d. shall be treated as confidential but may be made available to such members of the staff and faculty of the school the Principal or designee deems appropriate for maintaining order, safety, or discipline in the school or for planning programs relevant to a juvenile's educational and social development. This information will not become part of the juvenile student's permanent school record and shall not be maintained except as authorized by regulation of the NJDOE.

Law enforcement or the prosecuting agency may provide the Principal or designee with information identifying one or more juvenile students who are under investigation or have been taken into custody for the commission of any act that would constitute an offense if committed by an adult when the law enforcement or prosecuting agency determines that the information may be useful to the Principal or designee in maintaining order, safety, or discipline in the school or in planning programs relevant to the juvenile's educational and social development. Information provided in accordance with N.J.S.A. 2A:4A-60.e. shall be treated as confidential, but the Principal or designee may inform school staff members of this information if the Principal or designee deems it appropriate for maintaining order, safety, or discipline in the school or for planning programs relevant to the juvenile's educational and social development. No information provided pursuant to N.J.S.A. 2A:4A-60 be maintained.

The Principal or designee who requests and/or receives information as specified in this Policy shall notify the Superintendent or designee within twenty-four hours of the request being made. In accordance with N.J.S.A. 53:1-20.6, the Principal or designee shall notify the Superintendent or designee of any applicable fees associated with the request.

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The school district shall comply with the NJDOE rules and regulations concerning the creation, maintenance, and disclosure of student records regarding Principal or designee notification of juvenile offender case disposition and this Policy.

N.J.S.A. 2A:4A-60 N.J.S.A. 53:1-15; 53:1-20.6 N.J.A.C. 6A:7-1.1; 6A:7-1.3

Adopted: November 21, 2005 Revised:

