

CLOSTER BOARD OF EDUCATION

Closter, New Jersey

MINUTES

WORK SESSION MEETING

Tenakill Middle School

September 9, 2021 - 7:30 PM

The Board meeting was called to order by Ms. Finkelstein at 7:39 PM

The following Board members were present:

Ms. Bhagat, Ms. Kothari (virtual), Ms. Lee, Mr. Linn, Ms. Micera, Dr. Puttannah, Ms. Cross,
Ms. Finkelstein

The following Board members were absent:

Ms. Kwon

Also present:

Mr. McHale and Mr. Villanueva

NEW JERSEY OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT STATEMENT - Read by the President:

The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act was enacted to ensure the right of the public to have advance notice of and to attend the meeting of public bodies at which any business affecting their interests is discussed or acted upon. In accordance with the provisions of this Act, the Secretary to the Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting by having the date, time, remote access information, and place thereof, posted at each school building within the district, district website, the Board of Education office, the Office of the Borough Clerk, and transmitted to *The Record* and *Northern Valley Suburbanite* newspapers.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

BOARD OF EDUCATION ETHICS TRAINING (SESSION 2)

Mr. Matt Lee, Field Service Representative - NJ School Boards Association, Bergen County

- *Mr. Lee presented to the Board and the community the second part of the Board Ethics Training.*

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Vincent McHale, Superintendent of Schools shared with the Board and the community his report:

- With the added excitement of a tropical storm, our schools opened on September 2, 2021! Mr. McHale wants to thank everyone for their understanding that we needed to have a delayed opening. A HUGE thank you to our custodians and maintenance staff who worked all night long to remediate the groundwater that flooded Hillside School and to clean the classrooms. Their dedication and hard work overnight on Wednesday, September 1, 2021, is what allowed us to open with the delay on Thursday, September 2, 2021. They are truly heroes!
- Our teachers did an outstanding job in preparing their classrooms and lessons for our students' arrival on September 2 and 3, 2021. He applauds their great efforts. The students with whom he has spoken over these first four days have all shared that they are happy to be back in

school! It is wonderful to have all of our instructional spaces abuzz with excitement as teachers, students and administrators are all back together in our two schools.

- Mr. McHale acknowledges that we have had a few challenges in the past few days, but assure our community that we are working to correct them.
 - One challenge was scanning all of the students into school in a timely manner. As announced yesterday, we will no longer have parents complete a daily health questionnaire and students will no longer be scanned into school. Our new procedure is that parents will complete an attestation form in the Realtime Parent Portal to promise that they will monitor students' health each day and will not send students to school if they are ill or have COVID-19 symptoms. This started today and did hasten entry into the schools.
 - Another challenge is that both schools have a start and end time that is only five minutes apart. We are aware of the challenge this creates for families with students in both schools. Please know that we are working to remedy this in the future, but for now, please know that students will not be marked tardy at either school until 8:45 a.m. so this allows 25 minutes between dropping students at one school and then driving to the next school.
 - Some parents have been inquiring as to why we aren't allowing students to enter the school buildings earlier than the announced time. In years past, students were able to arrive early and line up in the hallways. This is not possible this year due to Covid-19 social distancing guidelines and we don't have enough hallway space for students to wait outside classrooms while still keeping three feet of social distance. Further, teachers contractually begin their supervision of students at 8:30 a.m. We ask for your understanding in our efforts to keep schools open and not spreading COVID-19, especially among our unvaccinated students.
 - Lastly, some parents were upset about the subscription bus service. The district is not required to arrange this service, but we did arrange it with Rinaldi Transportation to support our families that wanted bus service. The issue was that Rinaldi Transportation needed at least 40 students to provide the service. There weren't enough families who registered and paid the fee. However, thank you to Mr. Villanueva, who worked with Rinaldi to get the subscription bus to start on Monday, September 13, 2021.
- Back to School Nights will be held this month. We were hoping that they could take place in person, but with the goal of doing whatever is necessary to keep our schools open, we have decided that it is safer to have virtual Back-to-School Nights, as we did last year. It just isn't prudent to have potentially 20 – 40 parents in one classroom at a time. Teachers will lead the Back-to-School Night sessions via Zoom from their classrooms so they can provide a view of the classroom for parents. Principals will communicate the information about the Back-to-School Nights and will provide Zoom links for parents to attend. The schedule is as follows:
 - PreK: Tuesday, September 14, 2021, at 6:30 p.m.
 - Grades K – 2 and Ms. Cohen's 4th Grade only: Tuesday, September 14, 2021, beginning at 7:00 p.m.
 - Grades 3 – 4 (not Ms. Cohen's 4th grade): Wednesday, September 29, 2021, beginning at 7:00 p.m.
 - Grades 5 -6: Tuesday, September 21, 2021
 - Grades 7 – 8: Tuesday, September 28, 2021
- Our district will be observing Hispanic Heritage Month from September 15 – October 15, 2021, to recognize the contributions and influence of Hispanic Americans to the history, culture, and

achievements of the United States. Students will be reading books by Hispanic and Latino authors and will be learning about Hispanic scientists and engineers, conducting research on Spanish-speaking countries, learning about Hispanic festivals and Latin music and art. This is one part of our District Diversity Council Action plan to highlight cultural awareness month celebrations throughout the school year. One of our district's core beliefs is that "we value diversity and pledge to create a positive culture that safeguards equity, inclusion, dignity, and respect for all." When we understand and respect the cultures of our community members, we are a stronger community!

- Again, thank you to everyone – administrators, teachers, nurses, counselors, child study team members, secretaries, custodians, business office staff, maintenance staff, technology staff, the PTO and the KPG, parents, and students – for everything we did to reopen our schools this year after a tropical storm and in a pandemic!

Mr. Linn asked what will happen if the parent does not provide the attestation. Mr. McHale responded that at Tenakill Middle School, all forms were submitted; however at this time he did not have the information for Hillside. If the form is not submitted the child will not be permitted into school. The parent would be notified by the school nurse or office to complete the form online, come to the school to complete the form, or take the child home.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION ON AGENDA ITEMS

Moved by Ms. Micera, seconded by Ms. Bhagat to open the meeting to the public.

Statements made by individual participants are limited to a duration of three (3) minutes unless otherwise announced at the beginning of the discussion. A maximum of 15 minutes for public input is scheduled as per Bylaw 0167. The Board urges large groups to select one person to represent them. The Board reminds those individuals who take the opportunity to speak to please step up, identify themselves by name and address, and to limit their comments to items listed on the agenda.

No Public Comments

Moved by Ms. Micera, seconded by Ms. Bhagat to resume the regular order of business.

BOARD OPERATIONS

Moved by Dr. Puttannah, seconded by Ms. Micera to approve Motion A.

Motion was approved by a roll call vote of the Board as follows:

YEAS: Ms. Bhagat, Ms. Kothari (virtual), Ms. Lee, Mr. Linn, Ms. Micera, Dr. Puttannah, Ms. Cross, Ms. Finkelstein

NAYS: None

A. APPROVAL - Minutes

Motion to approve August 26, 2021, minutes.

CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

Chairperson Ms. Lee, Ms. Cross, Dr. Puttannah

Moved by Ms. Lee, seconded by Ms. Micera to approve Motion A - B.

Motions were approved by a roll call vote of the Board as follows:

YEAS: Ms. Bhagat, Ms. Kothari (virtual), Ms.Lee, Mr. Linn, Ms. Micera, Dr. Puttannah, Ms. Cross,
Ms. Finkelstein

NAYS: None

A. APPROVAL - Staff Coursework

Motion to approve the following courses for 2021-2022 as recommended to the Superintendent by the Principals:

Staff Member: Julia Leibowitz
Course No./Title: 6250 Adolescent & Adult Literacy and Curriculum Design
Institution: William Paterson University
Credits: 3

B. APPROVAL - Staff Conferences

Motion to approve the following staff conferences:

Staff Member(s): Alexandra Earle, Kevin Hernandez, Amy Kenny-Whritenour,
Julia Leibowitz, Elly Manoochehri, Brittany Steele
Conference: Character Strong Team Training & Meeting
Location: TMS Virtual Training
Date: 9/23/21
Cost to Board: \$157.50 (\$52.50 each for Kevin, Julia & Brittany only)

Staff Member(s): Cynthia Barry, Soojung Kwak
Conference: Phonics First
Location: Online (Self-Paced)
Date: 10/1/21
Cost to Board: \$1,398.00 (\$1,239 for Soojung; \$159 for refresher for Cynthia)

FINANCE AND PHYSICAL PLANT COMMITTEE

Chairperson Ms. Kwon, Ms. Finkelstein, Ms. Kothari

Moved by Ms. Kothari, seconded by Ms. Micera to approve Motion A - B.

Motions were approved by a roll call vote of the Board as follows:

YEAS: Ms. Bhagat, Ms. Kothari (virtual), Ms.Lee, Mr. Linn, Ms. Micera, Dr. Puttannah, Ms. Cross,
Ms. Finkelstein

NAYS: None

A. **APPROVAL - Monthly Bills**

Motion to approve payment of bills from August 27, 2021, to August 30, 2021, in the amount of:

General Fund (Fund 10)	\$104,714.10
Special Revenue (Fund 20)	\$ 6,250.00
Total	\$110,964.10

B. **APPROVAL - Monthly Bills**

Motion to approve payment of bills from September 1, 2021, to September 7, 2021, in the amount of:

General Fund (Fund 10)	\$511,308.67
Special Revenue (Fund 20)	\$ 2,708.92
Debt Service (Fund 40)	\$ 9,517.50
Total	\$523,535.09

PERSONNEL AND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Chairperson Ms. Bhagat, Ms. Finkelstein, Mr. Linn

Moved by Ms. Bhagat, seconded by Ms. Micera to approve Motions A - E.

Mr. McHale thanked paraprofessional, Ms. Prano for her service to our students and wished her well on her future endeavors

Motions were approved by a roll call vote of the Board as follows:

YEAS: Ms. Bhagat, Ms. Kothari (virtual), Ms. Lee, Mr. Linn, Ms. Micera, Dr. Puttannah, Ms. Cross, Ms. Finkelstein

NAYS: None

A. **APPROVAL - Resignation of Margaret Prano as Paraprofessional**

Motion to approve, with regrets, the resignation of Margaret Prano as paraprofessional as of 6/30/21.

B. **APPROVAL - Paraprofessionals**

Motion to approve the following paraprofessionals for the 2021-2022 school year at a salary of \$19.23 per hour, pending a criminal history background check:

- Emily Fermin (TMS - 5.90 hours per day)
- Ronit Shem-Tov (TMS - 5.90 hours per day)

- Crystal Tober (HES - 5.75 hours per day)
- Kajal Vekariya (HES - 5.75 hours per day)

C. **APPROVAL - Substitute Custodian**

Motion to approve the following substitute custodians for the 2021-2022 school Year:

- Mayuli Copeland
- James Emmet

D. **APPROVAL - Movement on the Salary Guide for September 1, 2021**

Motion to approve movement on the salary guide as of September 1, 2021, for the following staff member:

Name	Current Placement	New Placement	Step	Salary
Jaime Caruso	BA	BA +15	9	\$71,712

E. **APPROVAL - Bass ABA Therapists for Student ID #350001 and #361001**

Motion to approve Bass ABA Therapists (parent paid) for Students ID #350001 and #361001 for the 2021-2022 school year:

- Emily Batch
- Alec Birenbaum (pending criminal history background check)
- Jennifer Fitzgibbons
- Emily Gordon
- Jessica Hill

POLICY COMMITTEE

Chairperson Ms. Micera, Ms. Kothari

Moved by Ms. Micera, seconded by Mr. Linnto approve Motions A - B.

Mr. McHale thanked Ms. Micera and Ms. Kothari for reading and reviewing all the Policies and Regulation updates. With regards to item B, these are abolishments of policies. The abolished policies have explanations because the policies are incorporated into another policy that is mandated by legislation or the Department of Education.

Ms. Finkelstein inquired If there are any questions regarding the policies, would it be done during the first and second reading? Mr. McHale explained that if there are any questions regarding the policies to email Mr. McHale or the committee members.

Motions were approved by a roll call vote of the Board as follows:

YEAS: Ms. Bhagat, Ms. Kothari (virtual), Ms.Lee, Mr. Linn, Ms. Micera, Dr. Puttannah, Ms. Cross, Ms. Finkelstein

NAYS: None

A. **APPROVAL - Policies and Regulations**

Motion to approve the first reading of the following policies & regulations (listed in the order that they appear in the Appendices attached hereto):

- P 0131 Bylaws, Policies and Regulations
- P 2421 Career and Technical Education
- P 3134 Assignment of Extra Duties
- P 3142 Nonrenewal of Nontenured Teaching Staff Member
- P 3221 Evaluation of Teachers
- P 3222 Evaluation of Teaching Staff Members, Excluding Teachers and Administrators
- P 3223 Evaluation of Administrators, Excluding Principals, Vice Principals and Assistant Principals
- P 3224 Evaluation of Principals, Vice Principals and Assistant Principals
- P 4146 Nonrenewal of Nontenured Support Staff Member
- P 6471 School District Travel
- R 7432 Eye Protection
- R 8420.1 Fire and Fire Drills
- R 3142 Nonrenewal of Nontenured Teaching Staff Member
- R 3221 Evaluation of Teachers
- R 3222 Evaluation of Teaching Staff Members, Excluding Teachers and Administrators
- R 3223 Evaluation of Administrators, Excluding Principals, Vice Principals and Assistant Principals
- R 3224 Evaluation of Principals, Vice Principals and Assistant Principals
- R 4146 Nonrenewal of Nontenured Support Staff Member
- R 6471 School District Travel
- P 2422 Comprehensive Health & Physical Education
- P 2467 Surrogate Parents and Resource Family Parents
- P 5111 Eligibility of Resident/Nonresident Students
- P 5116 Education of Homeless Children
- P 6115.01 Federal Awards/Funds Internal Controls - Allowability of Costs
- P 6115.02 Federal Awards/Funds Internal Controls - Mandatory Disclosures
- P 6115.03 Federal Awards/Funds Internal Controls - Conflict of Interest
- P 6311 Contracts for Goods or Services Funded by Federal Grants
- P 7432 Eye Protection
- P 8420 Emergency and Crisis Situations
- P 8540 School Nutrition Programs
- P 8550 Meal Charges/Outstanding Food Service Bill
- P 8600 Student Transportation
- P 1648.11 The Road Forward Covid-19 - Health and Safety

B. **APPROVAL - Abolishment of Policies**

Motion to abolish the following policies that are no longer necessary:

Policy 5114 Children Displaced by Domestic Violence:

WHEREAS, Policy 5114 was required to address the educational needs of children displaced by domestic violence;

WHEREAS, Policy 5111 has been amended and now thoroughly addresses the educational needs of students displaced by domestic violence;

WHEREAS, Policy 5114 is no longer necessary and should be abolished.

BE IT RESOLVED that Policy 5114 is abolished because Policy 5111 thoroughly addresses the circumstances of students displaced by domestic violence.

Policy 8810 Religious Holidays:

WHEREAS, Policy 8810 addressed the legal requirements for a Board of Education to recognize religious holidays;

WHEREAS, Policy 2270 - Religion in Schools - has been revised to address the updated United States Department of Education Guidance on Constitutionally Protected Prayer and Religious Expression in Public Elementary and Secondary Schools,

WHEREAS, Policy 8810 is no longer necessary and should be abolished.

BE IT RESOLVED that Policy 8810 is abolished as the revised Policy 2270 adequately addresses the legal requirements regarding the recognition of religious holidays.

Policy 1648 Restart and Recovery Plan:

WHEREAS, the State Department of Education issued "The Road Back: Restart and Recovery Plan for Education" Guidance for returning students to school during the COVID19 pandemic;

WHEREAS, Policy 1648 was developed to address the minimum requirements set forth in "The Road Back";

WHEREAS, the Department of Education subsequently issued new guidance "The Road Forward," which was intended to supplant "The Road Back" and prior Executive Orders;

WHEREAS, the minimum requirements set forth in "The Road Back" are not mandatory under "The Road Forward";

WHEREAS, Policy 1648.11 has been developed to address the recommendations set forth in "The Road Forward";

WHEREAS, Policy 1648 is no longer necessary and should be abolished.

BE IT RESOLVED that Policy 1648 be abolished as it does not reflect the standards set forth in "The Road Forward" and has been replaced by Policy 1648.11.

Policy 1648.02 Remote Learning Options for Families:

WHEREAS, Governor Phil Murphy signed Executive Order 175, which required New Jersey schools to offer remote learning to all students;

WHEREAS, Policy 1648.02 was developed and adopted to reflect the requirement to offer remote learning to all students;

WHEREAS, on May 17, 2021, Governor Murphy announced that Executive Order 175 would be partially rescinded such that remote learning would no longer be offered after the 2020-2021 school year;

WHEREAS, "The Road Forward" Guidance issued by the New Jersey Department of Education indicates that all schools must be prepared to offer full-day, in-person instruction during the 2021-2022 school year;

WHEREAS, Policy 1648.02 is no longer applicable under the current New Jersey state-issued Guidance and Executive Orders and should be abolished.

BE IT RESOLVED that Policy 1648.02 be abolished as it is no longer applicable under the current law.

Policy 1648.03 Restart and Recovery Plan - Full-Time Remote Instruction

WHEREAS, Governor Phil Murphy signed Executive Order 175, which required New Jersey schools to offer full-time in-person instruction to all students;

WHEREAS, in June 2021, the New Jersey Department of Education released "The Road Forward" which is intended to supplant the health and safety protocols outlined in Executive Order 175 and "The Road Back,";

WHEREAS, "The Road Forward" Guidance issued by the New Jersey Department of Education indicates that all schools must be offer full-day, in-person instruction during the 2021-2022 school year;

WHEREAS, Policy 1648.03 is no longer applicable under the current New Jersey state-issued Guidance and Executive Orders and should be abolished.

BE IT RESOLVED that Policy 1648.02 be abolished as it is no longer applicable under the current law.

BOARD COMMITTEES

Mr. McHale informed everyone that the Policy Committee met to discuss all the revisions. No other committees have met.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

Mr. McHale has presented the suggested goals for the Board. He read to the public a few of the suggested goals.

- *By May 2022 that we implemented the district diversity action plan.*

- *By May 2022 increased communication with the Closter Community by sending out a town-wide newsletter highlighting the school's accomplishments.*
- *By May 2022 School-based teams will create summer reading lists and math practice materials which students will complete during summer 2022.*
- *Create a research team to find what Closter students will need in the future and to recommend to the board those needs by March 2022 to be included in the 2022/2023 budget.*
- *By March 2022 A middle school team will review the eighth (8) grade school to high school transition and create a transition plan.*
- *The district evaluation advisory committee will develop procedures for highly effective teachers to be evaluated in a differentiated evaluation process.*

Mr. McHale and the Board discussed the goals.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION

Moved by Ms. Micera, seconded by Dr. Puttannah to open the meeting to public discussion.

K.Adler, 68 Wilson Place - Ms. Adler wanted to discuss the morning drop-off for all schools. She suggested the times should be adjusted as they were in the past. Also, the children should not be left outside to wait in inclement weather as they were today. Mr. McHale explained in his Superintendent Report that the administration is looking into addressing the problem. With regards to allowing students into the building by 8:30 a.m. there is no one to supervise the students prior to 8:30. Parents will need to drop off students closer to 8:30 a.m..

A.Dekel, 28 Wilson Place - Ms. Dekel is new to the area. She addressed the same concerns that Ms. Adler had, but also added the problem of arriving at Hillside Elementary in the morning and the afternoon -- there is no place to park. She understands the district is looking into this, but a solution needs to be implemented by next week. Driving between schools because of the traffic is 40 minutes. Mr. McHale said they will continue to look into a solution.

Ms. Bhagat asked if the library was allowing students to enter. Mr. McHale informed the Board that the library contacted the school and stated students were not allowed to enter the library without an adult present. Mr. McHale asked the students to wait on school grounds until their parents arrive.

F.Topalian, 93 Venus Drive - Ms. Topalian thanked Mr. McHale for their conversation the previous day. She concurred with the previous parents with the pick-up and drop-off concerns. She was appalled with arrival and dismissal today in the rain to see everyone online waiting to have students enter the building at 8:45. The anxiety she is experiencing at this time is upsetting. She also finds it heartless that the students need to wait outside in the rain and what will happen when the winter comes.

D.Avizov, 17 Buzzoni Drive - Ms. Avizov is new to the district and would like to know if her child is not given permission to leave school grounds what the policy would be. Mr. McHale explained that students would be dismissed and after 10-15 minutes if the students are not picked up, they will be brought inside and the parent would need to come in and pick up their child from school.

N.Blecher, 110 Venus Drive - Ms. Blecher inquired if the aftercare program is taking all students. Mr. McHale responded that the aftercare program is looking into hiring more employees for the program. He asked if the public knew of anyone looking into working to please reach out to him and he will forward the information to the program. Ms. Blecher stated there is a waiting list and the solution of offering aftercare is not a suitable option at this time.

A.Angrisani, 60 Haring Street - Ms. Angrisani reiterated the previous parent's comments regarding the arrival and dismissal of students. She asked if Covid Funds could support morning and afternoon care, but maybe creative ways to use funds for supervision. Mr. McHale responded that the district is using the ESSER funds for afterschool programs, but those programs would not begin until October through Spring.

Moved by Ms. Micera, seconded by Ms. Bhagat to close the meeting to public discussion.

CLOSED SESSION MOTION (If required)

Moved by Mr. Linn, seconded by Ms. Micera to approve the following Closed Session Motion.

Motion was approved by a voice vote of the Board:

YEAS: Ms. Bhagat, Ms. Kothari (virtual), Ms. Lee, Mr. Linn, Ms. Micera, Dr. Puttannah, Ms. Cross,
Ms. Finkelstein

NAYS: None

BE IT RESOLVED that the Closter Board of Education will adjourn to a Closed Session to discuss the following:

Legal Matters

The matters so discussed will be disclosed to the public as soon as and to the extent that such disclosure can be made without adversely affecting the public.

The Board went into Closed Session at 9:32 PM.

The Board reconvened from Closed Session at 9:51 PM.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Ms. Lee, seconded by Ms. Bhagat to adjourn the meeting at 9:52 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Florio M. Villanueva, Jr.

Business Administrator/Board Secretary

POLICY GUIDE

BYLAWS
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Bylaws, ~~and Policies,~~ **and Regulations**

0131 BYLAWS, AND POLICIES, AND REGULATIONS

The Board of Education shall exercise its rule-making power by adopting, **revising, and abolishing** bylaws, ~~and policies,~~ **and regulations** for the organization and operation of the school district.

“Regulations” for the purpose of this Bylaw are only those regulations that are required to be adopted by the Board.

Adoption, Amendment, and **Abolishment** ~~Repeal~~

Bylaws, ~~and policies,~~ **and regulations** may be adopted; ~~and revised amended, and repealed~~ at any meeting of the Board, provided the proposed adoption; **or revision amendment, or repeal** has been ~~proposed and approved~~ **by the Board** at a previous meeting of the Board.

Bylaws, policies, or regulations may be abolished at any meeting of the Board

[Option – Select one Option Below

- provided the proposed abolishing of the proposed bylaw, policy, or regulation has been approved by the Board at a previous meeting of the Board.**
- without the proposed abolishing of the proposed bylaw, policy, or regulation being approved by the Board at a previous meeting of the Board.]**

~~Optional~~

{The Board ~~shall may~~ at its organization meeting **or annually at a meeting of the Board** and by a majority vote of those present and voting, readopt existing bylaws, ~~and policies,~~ **and regulations** without prior notice.}



POLICY GUIDE

BYLAWS

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Bylaws, and Policies, and Regulations

The Board may, under emergency circumstances, suspend the operation of a bylaw, ~~or~~ policy, **or regulation** and adopt, ~~revise~~ amend, or ~~abolish~~ repeal a bylaw, ~~or~~ policy, **or regulation** without prior notice. The emergency adoption, ~~revision amendment~~, or ~~abolishment~~ repeal of a bylaw, ~~or~~ policy, **or regulation** shall terminate at the next meeting of the Board or at such earlier date as may be specified by the Board unless further acted upon by the Board **in accordance with this Bylaw.**

The adoption, ~~revision amendment~~, ~~abolishment~~ repeal, or suspension of a bylaw, ~~or~~ policy, **or regulation** shall be recorded in the minutes of the Board. Any ~~bylaw~~, policy, **or regulation** or part of a ~~bylaw~~, policy, **or regulation** that is superseded by a term in a negotiated agreement or by a subsequently adopted ~~bylaw~~, policy, **or regulation** shall no longer be in force and effect as a ~~bylaw~~, policy, **or regulation** and shall be **abolished by the Board in accordance with this Bylaw.**

Promulgation and Distribution

A ~~The~~ manual of bylaws, ~~and~~ policies, **and regulations** shall be maintained. A copy of the manual of bylaws, ~~and~~ policies, **and regulations** shall be **available and accessible** given to each Board member, the Superintendent, the **School Business Administrator**/Board Secretary, the Board Attorney, each Building Principal, and other individuals designated by the Superintendent.

The **Superintendent** _____ shall institute a plan for the orderly promulgation of policies to staff members who are affected by them and shall provide staff members with access to an up-to-date manual of Board bylaws, ~~and~~ policies, **and regulations.**

~~Each copy of the manual of bylaws and policies shall be numbered; a record of the placement of each manual shall be maintained by the _____. Copies of revised pages will be furnished to the holders of manuals as changes are made to bylaws and policies. The holder of a policy manual shall return the manual to the Board Secretary upon the termination of his/her service to the district.~~

The manual of bylaws, ~~and~~ policies, **and regulations** shall be considered a public record open to inspection in the office of the **Superintendent.** The manual retained by the **Superintendent** shall be considered the master copy of the ~~policy~~ manual and shall not be modified by any person other than the _____ or his/her designee.



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BYLAWS

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Bylaws, and Policies, and Regulations

Consideration Development of Bylaws, and Policies, and Regulations

Bylaws, and policies, and regulations will be developed and considered for adoption by the Board in accordance with the following procedure:

1. A **recommendation for a new or revised bylaw, or policy, or regulation shall** may be **recommended** suggested to the Board **and/or Superintendent** by any Board member, the Superintendent, any staff member, or a member of the public;
2. A **recommendation** suggestion for a new or revised bylaw, or policy, **or regulation** may be referred, at the discretion of the **Board President** and as appropriate to the subject, to the Superintendent, a Board committee, or a public advisory committee for study and formulation of a recommendation to the Board. Any study of a **new or revised recommended bylaw, policy, or regulation** suggestion **will** should consider whether the matter is adequately addressed in existing Board **bylaw, policy, or regulation** and whether the matter is more appropriately addressed by administrative regulation;
3. If a recommendation for a new or revised bylaw, or policy, **or regulation** results from referral for study, a proposed draft will be **referred to the Superintendent and at the discretion of the Board President and as appropriate to the subject, to a Board committee** submitted to the Board for discussion and approval on first reading. Copies of the proposed draft will be made available to staff members and the public, and comment will be invited. Changes in the draft may be made, by a simple majority vote, when the draft is presented for approval on first reading;
4. All proposed new and revised bylaws, policies, and regulations shall be submitted to the Superintendent. The Superintendent or designee will review all new and revised draft bylaws, policies, and regulations prior to the Board receiving a draft of new or revised bylaws, policies, or regulations for Board consideration;



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BYLAWS

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Bylaws, and Policies, and Regulations

54. The proposed draft, **bylaw, policy, or regulation** approved by the **Board** on first reading, will be submitted for adoption at ~~a the next succeeding regular~~ meeting of the Board. ~~Revisions~~ Changes in the draft may be made **at any meeting prior to adoption** by a simple majority vote **of the Board**. A **revision at any succeeding meeting** ~~change~~ that alters the substantive meaning of the draft will constitute a new first reading, and the draft must be presented for adoption at ~~a the next~~ succeeding Board meeting. A change that is merely editorial may be followed by a vote to adopt the new or revised bylaw, ~~or~~ policy, **or regulation** on second reading.

N.J.S.A. 18A:11-1

Adopted:



POLICY GUIDE

PROGRAM
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Career and Vocational-Technical Education

2421 CAREER AND VOCATIONAL-TECHNICAL EDUCATION

The Board of Education ~~believes provides~~ a program(s) of **career and vocational-technical education is important to the educational development of its students.** The New Jersey system ~~purpose~~ of **career and technical education has as its purpose to:**

1. **Support developmental career education designed to provide students opportunities to enhance career awareness, exploration, preparation, and decision-making skills necessary for success in the workplace; ~~the vocational-technical education program is to develop the academic, vocational, and technical skills of students who elect to enroll in vocational-technical education programs preparing the students for career preparation, gainful employment, lifelong learning, training supplemental to daily employment, and productive citizenship.~~**
2. **Provide secondary and postsecondary students with career and technical education programs and programs of study in Department-recognized Career Clusters in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:19-1.1(a)2.;**
3. **Support a comprehensive K-12 career education and counseling system; and**
4. **Support the workforce development system by helping to ensure quality postsecondary educational opportunities for adult students.**

The Board provides a program of **career and vocational-technical education**



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PROGRAM

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Career and Vocational-Technical Education

[For School Districts That Offer The County Vocational School Option And Local Career and Vocational-Technical Education Programs Established In Accordance With N.J.A.C. 6A:19-3.51.1 et seq.]

X with students guaranteed the right to apply and, if accepted, to attend a county vocational school **district**. The district ~~shall~~ will provide a county vocational school **district and its designated** representative(s) a **with** reasonable opportunity, during school hours, to present information about the county vocational school **district's** programs to **all** students, ~~in~~ grades six **Kindergarten** through twelve **in the schools of the district in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:19-2.3(d)**. **The Board of Education may not in any manner inhibit student access to such information.**

In addition, the district has established local **career and secondary vocational-technical education programs and programs of study approved pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:19-3.1 as part of a separate career and technical high school or as part of a comprehensive high school curriculum** in accordance with **the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:19-3.5 2.1(e)**. These programs ~~shall be have been~~ approved by the Commissioner of Education ~~pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:8-2.2(b)5~~.

Admission to the district's **career and vocational-technical education** programs will be open to regularly enrolled students in grades ____ through ____ on the basis of their potential for achieving the occupational or other objective of such instruction.]



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Career and Vocational-Technical Education

All students participating in **career and vocational-technical** education programs within this district or in shared-time **career and vocational-technical** programs are considered to be regularly enrolled in the schools of this district and are subject to the policies and rules of this Board. **The district shall establish admission requirements that include equity and access for all populations, including special populations and special education students.** No student shall be denied admission or participation in any **career and vocational-technical** education programs due to race, color, creed, religion, national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, **affectional or** sexual orientation, gender, **socioeconomic social or economic** status, or disability.

~~{Optional — For Districts That Offer Vocational-Technical Education Programs In Other School Districts~~

~~{Students may be permitted to enroll in programs of vocational instruction offered by a county vocational school district outside the county only as required in the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:19-2.3(a)2. other local school districts if the Board approves the payment of the tuition and transportation costs and does not offer an identical type of program in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:19-3.1(b).}~~

The district will comply with the general program requirements for **career and vocational-technical** education as defined in N.J.A.C. 6A:19-5.23.1 et seq. Students participating in part-time school and part-time employment **career and vocational-technical** programs will not be exploited, illegally employed, or employed under conditions that fail to safeguard the student's health and interest. These students shall receive wages commensurate with wages paid to other employees for similar work and shall be protected by provisions of the Worker's Compensation Act and any other acts of the State pertaining to such training and employment. **The school district will comply with all safety and health standards contained in N.J.A.C. 6A:19-6.1 for career and technical education programs, programs of study, and structured learning experiences.**

Career and technical education programs offered by the school district shall comply with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:54 and N.J.A.C. 6A:19.



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Career and Vocational-Technical Education

~~The Superintendent shall develop regulations that ensure vocational-technical education programs established in the district are conducted within the framework of the State's Plan for Vocational and Technical Education approved by the New Jersey State Board of Education and accepted by the United States Department of Education.~~

The Superintendent shall seek and utilize all available Federal, State, and private sources of revenue for the financial support of **career and vocational-technical** education programs in the district.

N.J.S.A. 18A:35-4.2; 18A:38-15; 18A:54-1.1 et seq.

N.J.A.C. 6A:19-1.1 et seq.

Adopted:



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Assignment of **Extra Additional Duties**
May 21

3134 ASSIGNMENT OF EXTRA ADDITIONAL DUTIES

The professional responsibilities of teaching staff members include such extra duties as may be assigned by the **Superintendent or designee** Board of Education. The **Superintendent or designee will, in accordance with the Board of Education's managerial prerogative,** Board will ~~appoint~~ **assign** teaching staff members to extra ~~duties~~ **duty positions that are in accordance with applicable law and any collective bargaining agreement** including, but not necessarily limited to, the positions of department chairperson, account treasurer, co-curricular activity advisor, athletic coach, monitor, and chaperone.

All aspects of assignment to, retention in, dismissal from, and any terms and conditions of employment concerning extra-curricular activities shall be deemed mandatory subjects for collective negotiations in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 34:13A-23.

~~A teaching staff member who requests appointment to an extra duty position may be given preference over other candidates for the position. Wherever possible, the Board will fill athletic coaching positions with physical education teachers.~~

~~Any teaching staff member appointed to an extra duty position is expected to serve unless excused for extenuating circumstances. A member's refusal to serve or resignation from extra duty service without permission may constitute an act of insubordination subject to discipline.~~

~~A teaching staff member can accrue no tenure or seniority rights in an extra duty position and is not entitled to reappointment to an extra duty position.~~

Performance in **any** an extra ~~duties~~ **duty position may** will be considered in a teaching staff member's evaluation, ~~in determining whether to renew a nontenured member, and in determining which of two or more tenured members with identical seniority entitlements will be retained in a reduction in force.~~



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Assignment of **Extra Additional Duties**

~~The Superintendent will inform the Board of extra duty positions required for the implementation of the district's program, post notice of vacancies in those positions, and recommend appointments to those positions.~~

N.J.S.A. 18A:27-4
N.J.S.A. 34:13A-23

Cross reference: Policy Guide No. 3270

Adopted:



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TEACHING STAFF MEMBERS

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Nonrenewal of Nontenured Teaching Staff Member

3142 NONRENEWAL OF NONTENURED TEACHING STAFF MEMBER

The Board of Education recognizes its obligation to employ only those staff members best trained and equipped to meet the educational needs of the students of this district. The Board shall discharge that obligation by retaining in service only those nontenured teaching staff members who meet those standards. The Board will renew the employment contract of a **nontenured** teaching staff member only upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and by a recorded roll call majority vote of the full membership of the Board. The Board shall not withhold its approval for arbitrary and capricious reasons. A nontenured teaching staff member who is not recommended for renewal by the Superintendent is deemed nonrenewed.

When the nontenured teaching staff member's performance does not meet the standards of the **school** district, the Superintendent shall recommend not to renew the teaching staff member's contract. Prior to notifying the nontenured teaching staff member of the nonrenewal, the Superintendent will notify the Board of the recommendation not to renew the nontenured teaching staff member's contract and the reasons for the recommendation. The Superintendent may notify the Board in a written notice or in executive session at a full Board Meeting. In the event the Board is notified in executive session, the Superintendent will comply with the requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act and provide reasonable notice to the nontenured teaching staff member their employment will be discussed in executive session in order for the nontenured teaching staff member to exercise their statutory right to request a public discussion.

On or before May 15 of each year, each nontenured teaching staff member continuously employed by a Board of Education since the preceding September 30 shall receive a written notice from the Superintendent that such employment will not be offered if the Superintendent recommends the nontenured teaching staff member not be renewed. The Superintendent shall notify each nontenured teaching staff member to whom reemployment will not be offered of such nonrenewal in writing on or before May 15. Any nontenured teaching staff member receiving who received written notice that a teaching contract for the succeeding school year will not be offered may, within fifteen calendar days of receiving such notification thereafter, request in writing



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Nonrenewal of Nontenured Teaching Staff Member

a statement of the reasons for ~~nonrenewal~~ **such non-employment which shall be given to the nontenured staff member in writing within thirty calendar days after the receipt of such request** ~~The Superintendent will provide a written statement of reasons within thirty days after the receipt of any such request.~~

Whenever the nontenured teaching staff member has requested in writing and received a written statement of reasons for non-reemployment **pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:27-3.2**, the nontenured teaching staff member **may request in writing** ~~shall have the right to~~ an informal appearance before the Board. **The written request shall be submitted to the Board within ten calendar days of the nontenured teaching staff member's receipt of the Board's statement of reasons. The informal appearance shall be scheduled within thirty calendar days from the nontenured teaching staff member's receipt of the Board's statement of reasons** ~~to permit the staff member an opportunity to convince the members of the Board to offer reemployment. The staff member must request the appearance before the Board within ten calendar days of the nontenured teaching staff member's receipt of the statement of reasons. The informal appearance before the Board shall be held in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:10-8.1.~~

The Board is not required to offer reemployment or vote on reemployment after an informal appearance with a nontenured teaching staff member who was not recommended for reemployment by the Superintendent. The Board may, with a majority vote of its full membership in public session and without the recommendation of the Superintendent, offer the nontenured teaching staff member reemployment after the informal appearance before the Board. **Within three working days following the informal appearance, the Board shall notify the affected nontenured teaching staff member, in writing, of its final determination** ~~The nontenured teaching staff member will be notified of the Board's final determination within three days following the informal appearance before the Board.~~

N.J.S.A. 18A:27-3.1; 18A:27-3.2; 18A:27-4.1; 18A:27-10 et seq.
N.J.A.C. 6A:10-98.1

Adopted:



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Evaluation of Teachers
Mandated

3221 EVALUATION OF TEACHERS

The Board of Education recognizes the importance of teacher effectiveness to further the development of a professional corps of educators and to increase student achievement. The Board of Education adopts Policy and Regulation 3221 for the evaluation of teachers consistent with the Teacher Effectiveness and Accountability for the Children of New Jersey Act (TEACHNJ) and the AchieveNJ administrative codes. This Policy and Regulation provides the provisions and requirements for teacher evaluations consistent with TEACHNJ and AchieveNJ.

For the purposes of Policy and Regulation 3221, “teacher” means a teaching staff member who holds the appropriate standard, provisional, or emergency instructional certificate issued by the Board of Examiners and is assigned a class roster of students for at least one particular course.

~~The rules in N.J.A.C. 6A:10 — Educator Effectiveness shall not override any conflicting provision(s) of collective bargaining agreements or other employment contracts in effect on July 1, 2013 and n~~No collective bargaining agreement entered into after July 1, 2013, shall conflict with the educator evaluation system established pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:10-1.1 et seq. or any other specific statute or regulation, nor shall topics subject to bargaining involve matters of educational policy or managerial prerogatives. All information contained in annual performance reports and all information collected, compiled, and/or maintained by employees for the **purpose of conducting the educator** evaluation process pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:10-1.1 et seq., **including, but not limited to, digital records**, shall be confidential and shall not be subject to public inspection or copying pursuant to the Open Public Records Act, N.J.S.A. 47:1A-1 et seq.

The Board shall annually adopt evaluation rubrics for **all** teachers which shall be submitted to the Commissioner of **Education** by **August June** 1 for approval by August **15** + of each year. The evaluation rubrics shall have four defined annual ratings: ineffective, partially effective, effective, and highly effective. The Board shall meet the requirements as outlined in N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2.2(a) for the annual evaluation of teachers and shall ensure the training procedures as outlined in N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2.2(b) are followed when implementing the evaluation rubrics for all teachers. A District Evaluation Advisory Committee **may shall** be established in accordance with the requirements of N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2.3.



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Evaluation of Teachers

The minimum requirements for the evaluation procedures for teachers as outlined in N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2.4 shall be followed. For each teacher rated ineffective or partially effective on the annual summative evaluation rating, as measured by the evaluation rubrics, a corrective action plan shall be developed in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2.5. A School Improvement Panel shall be established in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:10-3.1 and with the responsibilities outlined in N.J.A.C. 6A:10-3.2.

The components of the teacher evaluation rubric as described in N.J.A.C. 6A:10-4.1 shall apply to teachers. Measures of student achievement, as outlined in N.J.A.C. 6A:10-4.2, shall be used to determine impact on student learning. Teacher observations shall be conducted in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:10-4.4 and **N.J.S.A. 18A:27-3.1**. Observers shall conduct the observations pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:6-123.b.(8) and N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2.5 and 3.2, and they shall be trained pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2.2(b).

The teacher practice instrument approved by the Department of Education shall meet the criteria as outlined in N.J.A.C. 6A:10-7.2.

The Superintendent shall annually notify all teachers of the adopted evaluation policies and procedures/regulations no later than October 1. If a teacher is hired after October 1, the Superintendent shall notify the teacher of the policies and procedures/regulations at the beginning of his or her employment. All teachers shall be notified of amendments to the policy and procedures/regulations within ten teacher working days of adoption.

N.J.S.A. 18A:6-117 et seq.; **N.J.S.A. 18A:27-3.1**
N.J.A.C. 6A:10-1.1 through 1.4; 6A:10-2.1 through 2.5
N.J.A.C. 6A:10-3.1 and 3.2; N.J.A.C. 6A:10-4.1 through 4.4
N.J.A.C. 6A:10-7.1 and 7.2

Adopted:



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TEACHING STAFF MEMBERS

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Evaluation of Teaching Staff Members, Excluding
Teachers and Administrators

Mandated

3222 EVALUATION OF TEACHING STAFF MEMBERS, EXCLUDING TEACHERS AND ADMINISTRATORS

The Board of Education recognizes the importance of teaching staff member effectiveness to further the development of a professional corps of educators and to increase student achievement. The Board of Education adopts Policy and Regulation 3222 for the evaluation of teaching staff members consistent with the Teacher Effectiveness and Accountability for the Children of New Jersey Act (TEACHNJ) and the AchieveNJ administrative codes. This Policy and Regulation provides the provisions and requirements for teaching staff member evaluations consistent with TEACHNJ and AchieveNJ.

For the purposes of Policy and Regulation 3222, “teaching staff member” includes, but is not limited to, educational services staff members, guidance counselors, school nurses, library/media specialists, occupational therapists, and other teaching staff members working under an educational services certificate. For the purposes of Policy and Regulation 3222, “teaching staff member” does not include teachers, Principals, Vice Principals, Assistant Principals, and administrators, including, but not limited to, directors and/or supervisors.

~~The rules in N.J.A.C. 6A:10 — Educator Effectiveness shall not override any conflicting provision(s) of collective bargaining agreements or other employment contracts in effect on July 1, 2013 and n~~No collective bargaining agreement entered into after July 1, 2013, shall conflict with the educator evaluation system established pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:10-1.1 et seq. or any other specific statute or regulation, nor shall topics subject to bargaining involve matters of educational policy or managerial prerogatives. All information contained in annual performance reports and all information collected, compiled, and/or maintained by employees for the **purpose of conducting the educator** evaluation process pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:10-1.1 et seq., **including, but not limited to, digital records**, shall be confidential and shall not be subject to public inspection or copying pursuant to the Open Public Records Act, N.J.S.A. 47:1A-1 et seq.

The Board shall annually adopt evaluation rubrics for **all** teaching staff members which shall be submitted to the Commissioner of Education by **August June 1** for approval by August **15 ±** of each year. The evaluation rubrics shall have four



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Evaluation of Teaching Staff Members, Excluding Teachers and Administrators

defined annual ratings: ineffective, partially effective, effective, and highly effective. The Board shall meet the requirements as outlined in N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2.2(a) for the annual evaluation of teaching staff members and shall ensure the training procedures as outlined in N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2.2(b) are followed when implementing the evaluation rubrics for all teaching staff members. A District Evaluation Advisory Committee **may** shall be established in accordance with the requirements of N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2.3.

The minimum requirements for the evaluation procedures for teaching staff members as outlined in N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2.4 shall be followed. For each teaching staff member rated ineffective or partially effective on the annual summative evaluation rating, as measured by the evaluation rubrics, a corrective action plan shall be developed in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2.5.

Observations and evaluations for nontenured teaching staff members shall be in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:27-3.1 **and N.J.A.C. 6A:10-6.2**. Evaluations for nontenured teaching staff members shall take place before April 30 each year prior to the May 15 notice requirement date for continued employment. Evaluations for tenured teaching staff members shall be completed prior to June 30.

The Superintendent shall annually notify all teaching staff members of the adopted evaluation policies and procedures/regulations no later than October 1. If a teaching staff member is hired after October 1, the Superintendent shall notify the teaching staff member of the policies and procedures/regulations at the beginning of his or her employment. All teaching staff members shall be notified of amendments to the policy and procedures/regulations within ten teaching staff member working days of adoption.

N.J.S.A. 18A:6-117 et seq.; N.J.S.A. 18A:27-3.1
N.J.A.C. 6A:10-1.1 through 1.4; 6A:10-2.1 through 2.5; 6A:10-6.2

Adopted:



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TEACHING STAFF MEMBERS

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Evaluation of Administrators, Excluding Principals,
Vice Principals, and Assistant Principals

Mandated

3223 EVALUATION OF ADMINISTRATORS, EXCLUDING PRINCIPALS, VICE PRINCIPALS, AND ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS

The Board of Education recognizes the importance of administrator effectiveness to further the development of a professional corps of educators and to increase student achievement. The Board of Education adopts Policy and Regulation 3223 for the evaluation of administrators consistent with the Teacher Effectiveness and Accountability for the Children of New Jersey Act (TEACHNJ) and the AchieveNJ administrative codes. This Policy and Regulation provides the provisions and requirements for administrator evaluations consistent with TEACHNJ and AchieveNJ.

For the purposes of Policy and Regulation 3223, “administrator” means an appropriately certified staff member, as defined in N.J.S.A. 18A-1.1, employed in the school district in an administrative and/or supervisory role and capacity, and holding a valid and effective standard, provisional, or emergency administrative certificate. An “administrator” may be a director, supervisor, or any other administrative or supervisory position in the district. For the purposes of Policy and Regulation 3223 and N.J.A.C. 6A:10-1.1 et seq., “administrator” is not a Principal, Vice Principal, or Assistant Principal.

~~The rules in N.J.A.C. 6A:10 — Educator Effectiveness shall not override any conflicting provision(s) of collective bargaining agreements or other employment contracts in effect on July 1, 2013 and n~~No collective bargaining agreement entered into after July 1, 2013, shall conflict with the educator evaluation system established pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:10-1.1 et seq. or any other specific statute or regulation, nor shall topics subject to bargaining involve matters of educational policy or managerial prerogatives. All information contained in annual performance reports and all information collected, compiled, and/or maintained by employees for the **purpose of conducting the educator** evaluation process pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:10-1.1 et seq., **including, but not limited to, digital records**, shall be confidential and shall not be subject to public inspection or copying pursuant to the Open Public Records Act, N.J.S.A. 47:1A-1 et seq.



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Evaluation of Administrators, Excluding Principals,
Vice Principals, and Assistant Principals

The Board shall annually adopt evaluation rubrics for **all** administrators which shall be submitted to the Commissioner of Education by ~~August June~~ 1 for approval by August 15 † of each year. The evaluation rubrics shall have four defined annual ratings: ineffective, partially effective, effective, and highly effective. The Board shall meet the requirements as outlined in N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2.2(a) for the annual evaluation of administrators and shall ensure the training procedures as outlined in N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2.2(b) are followed when implementing the evaluation rubrics for all administrators. A District Evaluation Advisory Committee ~~may shall~~ be established in accordance with the requirements of N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2.3.

The minimum requirements for the evaluation procedures for administrators as outlined in N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2.4 shall be followed. For each administrator rated ineffective or partially effective on the annual summative evaluation rating, as measured by the evaluation rubrics, a corrective action plan shall be developed in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2.5.

Observations and evaluations for nontenured administrators shall be in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:27-3.1. Evaluations for nontenured administrators shall take place before April 30 each year prior to the May 15 notice requirement date for continued employment. Evaluations for tenured administrators shall be completed prior to June 30.

The Superintendent annually shall notify all administrators of the adopted evaluation policies and procedures/regulations no later than October 1. If an administrator is hired after October 1, the Superintendent shall notify the administrator of the policies and procedures/regulations at the beginning of his or her employment. All administrators shall be notified of amendments to the policy and procedures/regulations within ten administrator working days of adoption.

N.J.S.A. 18A:6-117 et seq.; N.J.S.A. 18A:27-3.1
N.J.A.C. 6A:10-1.1 through 1.4; 6A:10-2.1 through 2.5

Adopted:



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Evaluation of Principals, Vice Principals,
and Assistant Principals

Mandated

3224 EVALUATION OF PRINCIPALS, VICE PRINCIPALS, AND ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS

The Board of Education recognizes the importance of Principal, Vice Principal, and Assistant Principal effectiveness to further the development of a professional corps of educators and to increase student achievement. The Board of Education adopts Policy and Regulation 3224 for the evaluation of Principals, Vice Principals, and Assistant Principals consistent with the Teacher Effectiveness and Accountability for the Children of New Jersey Act (TEACHNJ) and the AchieveNJ administrative codes. This Policy and Regulation provides the provisions and requirements for Principal, Vice Principal, and Assistant Principal evaluations consistent with TEACHNJ and AchieveNJ.

~~The rules in N.J.A.C. 6A:10 — Educator Effectiveness shall not override any conflicting provision(s) of collective bargaining agreements or other employment contracts in effect on July 1, 2013 and n~~No collective bargaining agreement entered into after July 1, 2013, shall conflict with the educator evaluation system established pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:10-1.1 et seq. or any other specific statute or regulation, nor shall topics subject to bargaining involve matters of educational policy or managerial prerogatives. All information contained in annual performance reports and all information collected, compiled, and/or maintained by employees for the **purpose of conducting the educator** evaluation process pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:10-1.1 et seq., **including, but not limited to, digital records**, shall be confidential and shall not be subject to public inspection or copying pursuant to the Open Public Records Act, N.J.S.A. 47:1A-1 et seq.

The Board shall annually adopt evaluation rubrics for **all** Principals, Vice Principals, and Assistant Principals which shall be submitted to the Commissioner **of Education** by ~~August June~~ 1 for approval by August **15** ~~1~~ of each year. The evaluation rubrics shall have four defined annual ratings: ineffective, partially effective, effective, and highly effective. The Board shall meet the requirements as outlined in N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2.2(a) for the annual evaluation of Principals, Vice Principals, and Assistant Principals and shall ensure the training procedures as outlined in N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2.2(b) are followed when implementing the evaluation rubrics for all Principals, Vice Principals, or Assistant Principals. A District Evaluation Advisory Committee **may** ~~shall~~ be established in accordance with the requirements of N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2.3.



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Evaluation of Principals, Vice Principals, and Assistant Principals

The minimum requirements for the evaluation procedures for Principals, Vice Principals, and Assistant Principals as outlined in N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2.4 shall be followed. For each Principal, Vice Principal, or Assistant Principal rated ineffective or partially effective on the annual summative evaluation rating, as measured by the evaluation rubrics, a corrective action plan shall be developed in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2.5.

The components of the principal evaluation rubrics as described in N.J.A.C. 6A:10-5.1 shall apply to Principals, Vice Principals, and Assistant Principals. Measures of student achievement, as outlined in N.J.A.C. 6A:10-5.2, shall be used to determine impact on student learning. Principal, Vice Principal, and Assistant Principal observations shall be conducted in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:10-5.4. The Superintendent or designated supervisor shall conduct observations for the evaluation of Principals pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:6-121 and he or she shall be trained pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2.2(b). A Principal, or the Superintendent or designated supervisor, shall conduct observations for the evaluation of Vice Principals and Assistant Principals pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:6-121.

The principal practice instrument approved by the Department of Education shall meet the criteria as outlined in N.J.A.C. 6A:10-7.3.

The Superintendent annually shall notify all Principals, Vice Principals, or Assistant Principals of the adopted evaluation policies and procedures/regulations no later than October 1. If a Principal, Vice Principal, or Assistant Principal is hired after October 1, the Superintendent shall notify the Principal, Vice Principal, or Assistant Principal of the policies and procedures/regulations at the beginning of his or her employment. All Principals, Vice Principals, and Assistant Principals shall be notified of amendments to the policy and procedures/regulations within ten Principal, Vice Principal, or Assistant Principal working days of adoption.

N.J.S.A. 18A:6-117 et seq.

N.J.A.C. 6A:10-1.1 through 1.4; 6A:10-2.1 through 2.5

N.J.A.C. 6A:10-5.1 through 5.4

N.J.A.C. 6A:10-7.1 and 7.3

Adopted:



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SUPPORT STAFF MEMBERS

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Nonrenewal of Nontenured Support Staff Member

4146 NONRENEWAL OF NONTENURED SUPPORT STAFF MEMBER

The Board will renew the employment contract of a nontenured support staff member only upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and by a recorded roll call majority vote of the full membership of the Board. The Board will not withhold its approval for arbitrary and capricious reasons. A nontenured support staff member who is not recommended for renewal by the Superintendent is deemed nonrenewed.

When the nontenured support staff member's performance does not meet the standards of the **school** district, the Superintendent shall recommend not to renew the **nontenured** support staff member's contract. Prior to notifying the nontenured support staff member of the nonrenewal, the Superintendent will notify the Board of the recommendation not to renew the **nontenured** support staff member's contract and the reasons for the recommendation. The Superintendent may notify the Board in a written notice or in executive session at a full Board meeting. In the event the Board is notified in executive session, the Superintendent will comply with the requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act and provide reasonable notice to the nontenured support staff member their employment will be discussed in executive session in order for the **nontenured** support staff member to exercise their statutory right to request a public discussion.

The Superintendent shall **provide written notification to** notify each nontenured support staff member to whom reemployment will not be offered ~~in writing~~ in accordance with the terms of any applicable collective bargaining agreement, individual contract, or any other agreement between the parties. Paraprofessionals continuously employed since the preceding September 30 as a school aide or classroom aide in a school district that receives funding under Title I of the Federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 shall be notified of renewal or nonrenewal on or before May 15 in each year in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:27-10.2.



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SUPPORT STAFF MEMBERS

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Nonrenewal of Nontenured Support Staff Member

Any nontenured support staff member **receiving notice that a contract for the succeeding year will not be offered, may within fifteen calendar days, request in writing a statement of the reasons for such nonemployment which shall be** ~~whose contract is not renewed shall have the right to a written statement of the reasons for nonrenewal, provided the request for the statement of reasons is made within fifteen days of the Superintendent's written notification of nonrenewal to the support staff member. The statement of reasons shall be provided~~ **given to the** a nontenured support staff member **in writing** within thirty **calendar** days after the receipt of **such** the request.

Whenever a nontenured support staff member has requested in writing and received a written statement of reasons for non-reemployment **pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:27-3.2,** the nontenured support staff member **may request in writing shall** ~~have the right to~~ an informal appearance before the Board. **The written request shall be submitted to the Board within ten calendar days of the nontenured support staff member's receipt of the Board's statement of reasons. The informal appearance shall be scheduled within thirty calendar days from the nontenured support staff member's receipt of the Board's statement of reasons** ~~to permit the support staff member an opportunity to convince the members of the Board to offer reemployment, provided that a request for such an appearance is received within ten days after the support staff member receives the statement of reasons provided by the Superintendent. The informal appearance before the Board shall be held in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:10-8.1.~~

The Board is not required to offer reemployment or vote on reemployment after an informal appearance with a nontenured support staff member who was not recommended for reemployment by the Superintendent. The Board may, with a majority vote of its full membership in public session and without the recommendation of the Superintendent, offer the nontenured support staff member reemployment after the informal appearance before the Board. **Within three working days following the informal appearance, the Board shall notify the affected nontenured support staff member, in writing, of its final determination.** ~~The support staff member will be notified of the Board's final determination within three days following the informal appearance before the Board.~~



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SUPPORT STAFF MEMBERS

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Nonrenewal of Nontenured Support Staff Member

The provisions as outlined in Policy and Regulation 4146 may be revised or adjusted by the Superintendent of Schools to be in accordance with the terms and timelines of any applicable collective bargaining agreement, individual contract, or any other agreement between the parties provided the terms are not contrary to any statute, administrative code, or any management rights of the Board.

This Policy does not apply to the contract renewal of the Treasurer of School Moneys, Board Auditor, Board Attorney or Board Secretary, except a Board Secretary who performs business administration functions.

N.J.S.A. 18A:27-3.2; 18A:27-4.1;

N.J.A.C. 6A:10-9.1

Adopted:



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School District Travel
Mandated

6471 SCHOOL DISTRICT TRAVEL

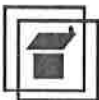
The Board of Education shall implement a Policy and Regulation pertaining to travel expenditures for its employees and Board of Education members that is in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:11-12, N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7, and other rules and procedures the Board of Education deems appropriate pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.2(a). The Policy and Regulation pertaining to school district travel expenditures incorporates either expressly, in whole or in part, and/or by reference, the laws and regulations contained in N.J.S.A. 18A:11-12 and N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.

The Board of Education ensures the effective and efficient use of funds by adopting and implementing policies and procedures that are in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:11-12 and New Jersey Department of the Treasury, Office of Management and Budget (OMB) current circulars and any superseding circulars pertaining to travel, meals, events and entertainment, and the additional requirements set forth in N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7. If any superseding circulars of the OMB conflict with the provisions of these rules, the provisions of the superseding circulars shall govern.

Any sections of State travel regulations as established by the OMB presented as OMB Travel, Entertainment, Meals, and Refreshments Circulars, that conflict with N.J.S.A. 18A:1-1 et seq. shall not be included in Policy and Regulation 6471 nor authorized under N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7. This includes, but is not limited to, the authority to issue travel charge cards as allowed under the OMB Circulars, but which is not authorized for school districts under New Jersey school law.

The Board of Education shall ensure, through Policy and Regulation 6471, that all travel by its employees and Board of Education members is educationally necessary and fiscally prudent. Policy and Regulation 6471 shall include the requirement that all school district travel expenditures are:

1. Directly related to and within the scope of the employee's or district Board member's current responsibilities and, for school district employees, the school district's professional development plan, the school professional development plan, and employee's individual professional development plan;



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School District Travel

2. For travel that is critical to the instructional needs of the school district or furthers the efficient operation of the school district; and
3. In compliance with State travel payment guidelines as established by the OMB and with guidelines established by the Federal Office of Management and Budget; except any State or Federal regulations and guidelines that conflict with the provisions of Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes shall not be applicable, including, but not limited to, the authority to issue travel charge cards. The Board of Education shall specify in its travel policy the applicable restrictions and requirements set forth in the State and Federal guidelines, including, but not limited to, types of travel, methods of transportation, mileage allowance, subsistence allowance, and submission of supporting documentation including receipts, checks, or vouchers.

School district travel expenditures shall include, but shall not be limited to, all costs for transportation, meals, lodging, and registration or conference fees directly related to participation in the event.

School district travel expenditures subject to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7 shall include costs for all required training and all travel authorized in school district employee contracts and Policy and Regulation 6471. This includes, but is not limited to, required professional development, other employee training and required training for Board members, and attendance at specific conferences authorized in existing employee contracts, provided the travel meets the requirements of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7. All such expenditures are subject to the rules in N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7, including, but not limited to, inclusion in the annual travel limit, prior Board of Education approval, separate tracking as described at N.J.S.A. 18A:11-12.q., and per diem reimbursements.

Travel reimbursements will only be paid upon compliance with all provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7 and Policy and Regulation 6471. The Board of Education will not ratify or approve payments or reimbursements for travel after completion of the travel event, except as provided at N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.4(d).

The Board of Education shall establish a maximum travel budget in accordance with the requirements outlined in N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.3.



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[Option

_____ The Board of Education authorizes an annual maximum amount per employee for regular business travel only for which Board of Education approval is not required. The annual maximum shall not exceed \$_____ (No more than \$ 1,500.00) and shall be subject to the approval requirements in N.J.S.A. 18A:19-1.]

Note from V. McHale: I don't recommend this...let's keep all business travel as requiring Board approval.)

All travel requests must be submitted and approved in writing by the Superintendent of Schools and the majority of the Board of Education's full voting membership of the Board, except if the Board of Education has excluded regular business travel from prior approval pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.3(b), prior to obligating the school district to pay related expenses and prior to attendance at the travel event.

All travel requests for Board members shall require prior approval by a majority of the Board of Education's full voting membership, except where the Board of Education has excluded regular business travel from prior approval pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.3(b), and the travel shall be in compliance with N.J.S.A. 18A:12-24 and 24.1.

A Board member must recuse himself or herself from voting on travel if the Board member, a member of his or her immediate family, or a business organization in which he or she has an interest has a direct or indirect financial involvement that may reasonably be expected to impair his or her objectivity or independence of judgment. Policy and Regulation 6471 prohibit a Board member from acting in his or her official capacity in any matter in which he or she or a member of his or her immediate family has a personal involvement that is or creates some benefit to the school district Board member or member of his or her immediate family; or undertaking any employment or service, whether compensated or not, that may reasonably be expected to prejudice his or her independence of judgment in the execution of his or her official duties.



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[Option

- The Board of Education excludes from the requirements of prior Board of Education approval any travel caused by or subject to existing contractual provisions, including grants and donations, and other statutory requirements, or Federal regulatory requirements in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.4(d).]

Note from V. McHale: This I recommend because sometimes the NJDOE requires attendance at a meeting before Board approval can be granted.

The Board of Education requires documentation required in N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.5(b) that justifies the number of employees attending an event and the benefits derived from their attendance. Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.5(c), the school district shall maintain documentation on file that demonstrates compliance with the Board of Education's travel policy, including travel approvals, reports, and receipts for all school district funded expenditures, as appropriate.

The School Business Administrator/Board Secretary shall be responsible for the accounting requirements for travel in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.6.

[Select One Option

- The Superintendent of Schools is the final approval authority for travel.
- The School Business Administrator/Board Secretary is the final approval authority for travel.
- The Superintendent of Schools and the School Business Administrator are the final approval authorities for travel.]

Sanctions for a violation of the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7 or this Policy are outlined in N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.7 and Regulation 6471.

The Board of Education prohibits the types of travel expenditures not eligible for reimbursement as listed in N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.8. and Regulation 6471.



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Travel methods shall be in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.9 and Regulation 6471 and the routing of travel shall be in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.10 and Regulation 6471.

Any subsistence allowance shall be in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.11 and Regulation 6471. Meal allowances and incidental expenditures shall be in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.12 and Regulation 6471.

Reimbursement for out-of-State and high-cost travel shall be made pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:11-12, N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.9, and Policy and Regulation 6471.

Records and supporting documentation must be completed and maintained as required in N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.13 and outlined in Regulation 6471.

The Board of Education shall approve the mileage reimbursement amount to be paid to an employee who has been approved by the Superintendent or designee to use their personal vehicle for school-related business.

N.J.S.A. 18A:11-12
N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.9; 6A:23A-7

Adopted:



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Eye Protection Practices
Aug 21
Mandated

R 7432 EYE PROTECTION PRACTICES

A. Eye Protection Devices - N.J.A.C. 6A:26-12.5(a)

The Board of Education requires each student, staff member, and school visitor, including individuals present for evening adult-school programs, to wear appropriate eye protective devices while participating in educational activities and programs as defined in N.J.A.C. 6A:7-1.3 in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:40-12.1 and N.J.A.C. 6A:26-12.5.

B. Eye Protection Devices - N.J.A.C. 6A:26-12.5(e)

†. ~~The following types of eye protective devices shall be used to fit the designated activities or processes. The following types of eye protective devices must be worn by all students, staff members, and visitors (including persons attending evening adult school programs) participating in the activity or process designated wherever it may occur on school premises:~~

Potential Eye Hazard	Protective Devices
Caustic or explosive	Goggle, flexible fitting materials, hooded ventilation; add plastic window face shield for severe exposure
Dust producing operations	Goggle, flexible fitting, hooded ventilation
Electric arc welding	Welding helmet in combination with spectacles with eye cup or semi- or flat-fold side shields
Oxy-acetylene welding	Welding goggle, eye cup type with tinted lenses; welding goggle, coverspec type with tinted lenses or tinted plate lens



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Eye Protection Practices

Potential Eye Hazard	Protective Devices
Hot liquids and gases	Goggle, flexible fitting, hood ventilation; add plastic window face shield for severe exposure
Hot solids	Clear or tinted goggles or spectacles with side shields
Molten materials	Clear or tinted goggles and plastic or mesh window face shield
Heat treatment or tempering	Clear or tinted goggles or clear or tinted spectacles with side shields
Glare operations	Tinted goggles; tinted spectacles with side shields or welding goggles, eye cup or coverspec coverage type with tinted lenses or tinted plate lens
Shaping solid materials	Clear goggles, flexible or rigid body; clear spectacles with side shields; add plastic window face shield for severe exposure
Laser device operation or experimentation	Appropriate for specific hazard
Vehicle repair or servicing Repair or servicing of vehicles	Clear goggles, flexible or rigid body; clear spectacles with side shields
Other potentially hazardous processes or activities	Appropriate for specific hazard



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Eye Protection Practices

- C. Eye Protective Policy and Program – N.J.A.C. 6A:26-12.5(f)**
- 1. The Board of Education establishes and implements Policy and Regulation 7432 to assure:**
 - a. No staff member, student, or visitor shall be subjected to any hazardous environmental condition without appropriate eye protection;**
 - b. The detection of eye hazardous conditions shall be continuous;**
 - c. Eye protection devices shall be inspected regularly and adequately maintained;**
 - d. Shared eye protective devices shall be disinfected between uses by a method prescribed by the local school medical inspector;**
 - e. All eye protective devices shall meet or exceed the appropriate specifications for the various types of devices and suppliers of eye protective devices shall certify, in writing, that the devices meet or exceed said specifications;**
 - f. Specific policy and procedures shall be established to deal with individuals who refuse to abide by established eye-safety practices and procedures;**
 - (1) A student who refuses or persistently neglects to wear an eye protective device when required to do so or fails to observe established eye safety practices shall be dismissed from the day's class by his/her teacher. Any such dismissal from class will be considered to be an absence, in accordance with Board policy on student attendance, and an accumulation of such absences may result in loss of course credit;**



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Eye Protection Practices

- (2) A staff member who refuses or persistently neglects to wear an eye protective device when required to do so or fails to observe established eye safety practices may be disciplined for insubordination for failing to obey the rules established by this Board. The proper implementation of eye protection practices shall be a criterion in the evaluation of every staff member required to observe such practices; and
 - (3) A visitor to the schools who refuses or persistently neglects to wear an eye protective device when required to do so or fails to observe established eye safety practices may be requested to leave the school premises;]
- g. The use of contact lenses shall be restricted in learning environments that entail exposure to chemical fumes, vapors, or splashes, intense heat, molten metals, or highly particulate atmospheres. When permitted, contact lenses shall be worn only in conjunction with appropriate eye protective devices, and the lens wearer shall be identified for appropriate emergency care in eye hazardous learning environments;
- (1) Staff members in these learning environments shall identify the students in his/her class who wear contact lenses. A list of such students shall be kept by the staff member in order that appropriate emergency eye care may be given; the list shall be destroyed at the end of the course of study;]
- h. All spectacle-type eye protective devices shall have side shields of the eye-cup, semi- or flat-fold type; and



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Eye Protection Practices

- i. Students, staff members, or visitors wearing personal corrective eyewear shall be required to wear cover goggles or similar devices unless a competent authority can certify the personal eyewear meets or exceeds standards identified in N.J.A.C. 6A:26-12.5(b).**
- ~~2. The supplier of any eye protective device to this district shall certify in writing that the device meets or exceeds ANSI standards. All spectacle type eye protective devices shall have side shields of the eye cup, semi-, or flat-fold type.~~
- ~~3. Staff members shall regularly and frequently inspect the eye protective devices used in their classes and shall report to the Principal devices that are defective or poorly fitting. All eye protective devices shall be identified with the name(s) of the user(s) and shall be properly stored when not in use.~~
- ~~4. An eye protective device that is shared shall be disinfected between uses by a method prescribed by the local school medical inspector.~~
- ~~5. The use of contact lenses shall be restricted in learning environments which entail exposure to chemical fumes, vapors or splashes, intense heat, molten metals, or highly particulate atmospheres. Staff members in these learning environments shall identify the students in his/her class who wear contact lenses. A list of such students shall be kept by the staff member in order that appropriate emergency eye care may be given; the list shall be destroyed at the end of the course of study.~~

~~When permitted, contact lenses may be worn only in conjunction with appropriate eye protective devices. The contact lens wearer shall be identified for appropriate emergency eye care in hazardous learning environments.~~



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6. — ~~A student who wears prescription glasses shall be provided with an appropriate eye protective device that fits over his/her glasses. A student or staff member may wear his/her personal corrective eye wear in the course of an activity hazardous to the eyes provided that the eye wear has been certified in writing by a licensed optician to meet or exceed ANSI standards as defined in N.J.A.C. 6:29-1.7(b)1 and 2 for the appropriate eye protective device required.~~
7. — ~~The responsible staff member will provide each visitor to an area in which an activity hazardous to eyes is conducted with an appropriate eye protective device.~~

DB. Eye Wash Fountains - N.J.A.C. 6A:26-12.5(d)

1. **Emergency eye wash fountains, or similar devices capable of a minimum fifteen minutes continuous flow of eye-wash solution, shall be provided in classrooms, shops, laboratories, or other areas where students or instructors are exposed to caustic materials that can cause damage to the eyes in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:26-12.5(d).** ~~Eye wash fountains or similar devices, capable of a minimum of fifteen minutes of continuous flow of eye wash solution shall be provided in accordance with Policy No. 7432 and the standards of the State Department of Education and N.J.A.C. 6:29-1.7(d).~~
2. Eye wash fountains shall be routinely checked by the responsible staff member and any fountain that does not operate properly shall be promptly reported to the Principal.

EC. Inspection Enforcement

1. — ~~Staff members shall not permit students to engage in an activity potentially hazardous to the eyes without appropriate eye protection and shall dismiss from the class period a student who refuses or persistently neglects to wear eye protection or to observe established eye protection practices. Any such dismissed student shall be reported absent for the class.~~



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Eye Protection Practices

- ~~2. — Staff members shall report to the Building Principal a visitor who refuses or persistently neglects to wear eye protection or observe established eye protection practices.~~
3. The Principal **or designee** shall annually inspect the school premises for the existence of conditions potentially hazardous to the eyes, for the placement of signs requiring appropriate eye protective devices, and for an adequate supply of appropriate eye protective devices in satisfactory condition. Conditions potentially hazardous to the eyes include, in addition to the activities listed in paragraph A.1. above, the likelihood of flying objects and spilled liquids and the presence of protruding and sharp objects.

FD. Training and Supplies - N.J.A.C. 6A:26-12.5(g)

The school district shall provide annual training and appropriate supplies and equipment to all school personnel responsible for implementing the eye safety policies and program. The training shall include all aspects of eye protection as defined in **this Policy and Regulation 7432 and in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:26-12.5(g) regulation.**

Adopted Issued:



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Fire and Fire Drills
Aug 21
Mandated

R 8420.1 FIRE AND FIRE DRILLS

A. Fire Drills

1. The Principal of each school building will conduct at least one fire drill each month within school hours, including any summer months during which the school is open for instructional programs. **The Principal shall require all teachers to keep all doors and exits of their respective rooms and buildings unlocked during school hours. 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** ~~Attempts should be made to conduct drills in various weather conditions and at various times of the school day. Fire drills should always be unannounced to school staff and students. The Principal shall inform local fire fighting officials whenever a fire alarm is for drill purposes.~~

Attempts should be made to conduct drills in various weather conditions and at various times of the school day. Fire drills should be unannounced to school staff and students. The Principal shall inform local firefighting officials whenever a fire alarm is for drill purposes.

An actual fire that occurs at a school building during the month and includes activities which are the equivalent of a drill shall be considered a drill for the purposes of meeting the requirements of this Regulation and N.J.S.A. 18A:41-1.

2. ~~The f~~**Fire alarm shall be by a building-wide audible designated signal. Alarm signals should be tested regularly, before or after the school session.**



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Fire and Fire Drills

3. When the fire alarm rings, each **staff member supervising students** ~~teacher~~ will:
 - a. Direct students to form into a single file line and proceed along the evacuation route to the nearest exit designated for evacuation;
 - b. Close the windows of the room and turn off all lights and audio-visual equipment;
 - c. Take the class register or roll book;
 - d. Ascertain that all students have left the room and that any student who may have left the classroom prior to the fire drill is located and escorted from the building;
 - e. Close all doors to the room when the room is empty and keep all doors and exits of their respective rooms and buildings unlocked ~~during the school hours, except during an emergency lockdown or an emergency lockdown drill;~~
 - f. Ensure their **assigned** students ~~assigned to him/her~~ have left the school along the route prescribed in the school evacuation plan. In the event a school building has been provided with fire escapes, they shall be used by a part or all of the students performing every fire drill;
 - g. Direct ~~his/her~~ students to a location not less than a distance twice the height of the building walls and keep the students in a single file line facing the building;
 - h. Take attendance to determine all students who reported to ~~his/her~~ class have been evacuated from the building and report immediately to the Principal any student who is unaccounted for; and
 - i. When the recall signal is given, conduct ~~his/her~~ students back to the classroom.



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Fire and Fire Drills

4. Evacuation of the school in a fire drill must be conducted quickly and quietly and in an orderly fashion. Students must be silent, refrain from talking and running, and remain in closed, single file lines. Any student or staff member whose behavior disrupts the conduct of the fire drill shall be reported to the Principal and will be subject to discipline.
5. All persons in the school must leave the building during a fire drill, including all aides, visitors, volunteer workers, and all office, cafeteria, custodial, and maintenance employees, except those employees who have been assigned specific duties to be performed in the school building during a fire drill.
6. Physical education classes in progress outside the building should stop the game activity and line up in place or in their regularly assigned drill position.
7. Students will be instructed not to gather belongings to take outside on the fire drill. In inclement or cold weather, students may pick up their coats and put them on as they exit the building, provided no time is lost in that activity.
8. The office employee responsible for keeping the central attendance register, or a designated substitute, must carry the register out of the building during the drill.
9. Each Principal shall report monthly to the Superintendent on the conduct of fire drills. ~~His/Her~~ **Their** report will include the date, weather conditions, and time to evacuate for each drill conducted, as well as any comments that could assist in improving the conduct of future drills.
10. Every fire drill will be conducted with seriousness and with the assumption that prompt evacuation is actually required for the safety and survival of persons in the school.



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Fire and Fire Drills

11. Principals are encouraged to change the circumstances of fire drills so that staff members and students are subjected to various conditions and learn to respond to them quickly, constructively, and safely. Any such variations should take into account the ages and abilities of children.
 - a. One or more exits may be designated as “blocked” so that students are required to use alternative evacuation routes.
 - b. A fire drill may be designated as a “smoke drill” so that students learn to avoid the hazards of smoke by walking in a low or crouching position (not a crawling position).

B. Fire

1. A school staff member or any building occupant who detects a fire in a school building or on school grounds shall immediately report the fire by calling 911 and/or by activating a fire alarm pull station in accordance with law.
2. The school staff member or building occupant shall also report the fire to the school Principal, if possible.
3. In the event of a fire in a school building, the school Principal shall immediately sound the fire alarm, in the event the fire alarm had not been previously activated, for the evacuation of all students, staff members, visitors, and volunteers.
4. Evacuation shall be conducted in accordance with the fire drill procedures established in ~~paragraph~~ **paragraph A. above**, except that no employee may remain in the building to perform specific duties.
5. As a precaution, the Principal or designee will maintain a record of disabled students who may require special attention in the event of fire or other evacuation. Fire fighters will be promptly informed of the location and special circumstances of each such student.
6. As soon as practicable after the incident, the Principal shall submit a report to the Superintendent on the appropriate form.



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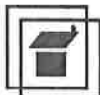
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Fire and Fire Drills

7. The school district shall immediately notify the appropriate local fire department of any fire which occurs in a school building or on school property in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:41-5.

C. Fire and Smoke Doors

Every Principal and custodian/janitor in each school building in the district which has a furnace room, hallway, or stair-tower fire or smoke doors shall keep them closed during the time the school building is occupied by teachers and students pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:41-2.

Adopted:



REGULATION GUIDE

TEACHING STAFF MEMBERS

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Nonrenewal of Nontenured Teaching Staff Member

R 3142 NONRENEWAL OF NONTENURED TEACHING STAFF MEMBER

A. Evaluations

1. Each nontenured teaching staff member shall be evaluated in strict compliance with ~~statute~~, N.J.S.A. 18A:27-3.1, ~~rules of the State Board of Education~~, N.J.A.C. 6A:10-1.1 et seq., and the policies and procedures of this district.

B. Nonrenewal Recommendation

1. When a nontenured teaching staff member's performance does not meet the standards of the **school** district, **employment will not be offered to the nontenured teaching staff member for the succeeding** ~~Principal or the nontenured teacher's immediate supervisor shall recommend to the Superintendent that the teaching staff member should not be reemployed in the following school year.~~
2. **On or before May 15 of each year, each nontenured teaching staff member continuously employed by a Board of Education since the preceding September 30 shall receive a written notice from the Superintendent that such employment will not be offered if the Superintendent recommends the nontenured teaching staff member not be renewed** ~~The nontenured teaching staff member shall be informed by the Superintendent of Schools, in writing, that employment for the next succeeding school year will not be offered. This written notice shall be provided to the nontenured teaching staff member on or before May 15.~~
3. A recommendation by the Superintendent **to not renew for nonrenewal a nontenured teaching staff member's contract for the succeeding school year** may be based upon the nontenured teaching staff member's **observations**, evaluations, job performance, or any factor affecting his/her employment in **the this school** district.



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TEACHING STAFF MEMBERS

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Nonrenewal of Nontenured Teaching Staff Member

4. A nNontenured teaching staff members' **employment** contracts can ~~only~~ be renewed **only** upon the Superintendent's recommendation and a **recorded roll call** majority vote of the full **membership of the** Board. The Board **shall** ~~may~~ not withhold its approval for arbitrary and capricious reasons.

C. Nonrenewal Action

1. **Prior to notifying the nontenured teaching staff member of the nonrenewal, the Superintendent shall notify the Board of the recommendation not to renew the nontenured teaching staff member's contract and the reasons for the recommendation.** ~~The Superintendent will notify Board members of the recommendation not to renew a nontenured teaching staff member's contract before notifying the nontenured teaching staff member of the recommendation to not renew.~~ The Superintendent may notify the Board members of the recommendation not to renew the nontenured teaching staff member's contract and the reasons for the recommendation in a written notice to the Board prior to May 15. ~~In or in the alternative, the Superintendent may notify the Board members of the recommendation not to renew a nontenured teaching staff member in an executive session. Using this option~~ **If notification is provided to the Board in executive session,** the Superintendent and the Board will meet in executive session prior to May 15 to review the Superintendent's recommendation(s) ~~for nonrenewal of nontenured teaching staff members.~~
 - a. Notice of the executive session shall be given in accordance with N.J.S.A. 10:4-13 and individual notice shall be given, not less than forty-eight hours in advance of the meeting, to those nontenured teaching staff members whose possible nonrenewal will be discussed at the meeting. If any such **nontenured teaching staff member employee** requests the discussion take place in public, the recommendation for his/her nonrenewal will be severed from any other nonrenewal recommendation(s) and will be scheduled for discussion at a public meeting prior to May 15.



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Nonrenewal of Nontenured Teaching Staff Member

2. Anontenuredteachingstaffmembernot recommended for renewal by the Superintendent is deemednotrenewed. A Board²s of Education vote is not required on the Superintendent's recommendation(s) to not renew a nontenured teaching staff member's contract.

D. Notice of Nonrenewal

1. ~~Notice of the Superintendent's decision not to renew shall be given to each nontenured teaching staff member not recommended for renewal on or before May 15 in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:27-10. The Board may delegate the Superintendent or the Board Secretary to give the written notice of nonrenewal.~~

12. The nonrenewal notice shall be ~~in writing~~ and provided to the nontenured teaching staff member not recommended for renewal **by the Superintendent** on or before May 15. If hand delivered, a record shall be made of the date on which delivery was made. If sent by mail, the notice shall be sent registered mail, return receipt requested, to the nontenured teaching staff member's address of record.

E. Request for Statement of Reasons

1. **Any nontenured teaching staff member receiving notice that a teaching contract for the succeeding school year will not be offered may, within fifteen calendar days thereafter, request in writing, a statement of the reasons for such non-employment which shall be given to the nontenured teaching staff member in writing within thirty calendar days after the receipt of such request.** ~~A nonrenewed teaching staff member will be given a written statement of the reasons for which he/she was not renewed provided the teaching staff member's request for a statement of reasons has been received by the Superintendent within fifteen calendar days after the teaching staff member received written notice of his/her nonrenewal. N.J.S.A. 18A:27-3.2.~~



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2. The statement of reasons for a nonrenewal will set forth, with as much particularity as possible, the precise reasons for the nonrenewal. Where the nonrenewal is based on performance deficiencies recorded in the **nontenured employee's teaching staff member's observations and evaluations** and the **nontenured teaching staff member employee** has been given a copy of those **observations and evaluations**, the statement of reasons may incorporate the **observations and evaluations** by reference.
3. The **written** statement of reasons will be prepared by the Superintendent ~~and shall be delivered to the employee who requested it within thirty calendar days after the receipt of the employee's request.~~

F. Nonrenewal Appearance

1. **Whenever the nontenured teaching staff member has requested in writing and received a written statement of reasons for non-reemployment pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:27-3.2, the nontenured teaching staff member may request in writing an informal appearance before the Board. The written request shall be submitted to the Board within ten calendar days of the nontenured teaching staff member's receipt of the Board's statement of reasons. A teaching staff member who has requested a statement of reasons for non-reemployment pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:27-3.2, will be granted an informal appearance before the Board to discuss those reasons, provided that he/she had submitted to the Superintendent a written request for such an appearance no later than ten calendar days after the nontenured teaching staff member's receipt of the written statement of reasons. N.J.A.C. 6A:10-8.1(a).**
2. **The A-date for the informal appearance shall be scheduled within thirty calendar days from the nontenured teaching staff member's receipt of the Board's statement of reasons. The appearance shall be conducted at an executive session for which notice has been given in accordance with N.J.S.A. 10:4-13.**



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Nonrenewal of Nontenured Teaching Staff Member

3. The Board will **exercise discretion in determining** ~~determine~~ a reasonable length of time **for the proceeding** ~~to be devoted to the appearance~~, depending upon each instance's specific circumstances.
4. The proceeding of an informal appearance before the Board may be conducted **in executive session** pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-12(b)(8). **If conducted in executive session, notice must be given in accordance with N.J.S.A. 10:4-13.**
53. **The Board shall provide the nontenured teaching staff member adequate written notice regarding the date and time of the informal appearance.** ~~The teaching staff member requesting the appearance shall be given written notice, no later than forty-eight hours in advance of the meeting at which it is scheduled, of the date, time, place, and duration of the appearance.~~
64. **The nontenured teaching staff member's appearance before the Board shall not be an adversary proceeding. The purpose of the appearance shall be to provide the nontenured teaching staff member the opportunity to convince Board of Education members to offer reemployment.** ~~The purpose of the appearance shall be to permit the nonrenewed teaching staff member to convince the members of the Board to offer reemployment. To those ends, the appearance shall be informally conducted. This appearance provides a mechanism by which the nontenured teaching staff member, whose renewal has not been recommended by the Superintendent, can appeal to the Board, on which the Superintendent sits as a non-voting member pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:17-20.~~
7. The proceeding of an informal appearance before the Board shall be conducted with the President of the Board presiding ~~and the appearance shall not be an adversary proceeding.~~
85. The **nontenured** teaching staff member may be represented by an attorney or by one individual of his/her choosing. ~~He/She~~ **The nontenured teaching staff member** may present, **on his or her behalf**, witnesses ~~to testify on his/her behalf.~~ **Witnesses who do**



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Nonrenewal of Nontenured Teaching Staff Member

not need to present testimony under oath and ~~their statements may be recorded. The~~ **shall not be cross-examined by the Board** will ~~hear witnesses and shall not cross-examine them.~~ Witnesses **shall** be called **one at a time** into the meeting to address the Board ~~one at a time~~ and shall be excused from the meeting after making their statements.

G. Final Determination

1. ~~A nontenured teaching staff member not recommended for renewal by the Superintendent is deemed not renewed. A Board vote is not required on the Superintendent's recommendation(s) to not renew a nontenured teaching staff member. However, after an informal appearance before the Board, the Superintendent may make a recommendation for reemployment of the nontenured teaching staff member to the voting members of the Board. The voting members of the Board, by a majority vote of the full Board in public session, must approve the reemployment based on the Superintendent's recommendation. If the Superintendent recommends the nontenured teaching staff member for reemployment, the voting members of the Board must, by a majority vote of the full Board at a public session, approve or not approve the Superintendent's recommendation for reemployment.~~
2. The Board may, with a majority vote of its full membership in public session and without the recommendation of the Superintendent, offer the **nontenured** teaching staff member reemployment after the informal appearance before the Board.
3. **Within three working days following the informal appearance, the Board shall notify the affected nontenured teaching staff member, in writing, of its final determination. The Board may delegate notification of its final determination to the Superintendent or Board Secretary. The final determination will be delivered to the teaching staff member, in writing, no later than three days following the informal appearance. The Board may delegate the Superintendent or the Board Secretary to deliver the final determination.**

Issued:



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Evaluation of Teachers

Mandated

R 3221 EVALUATION OF TEACHERS

A. Definitions – N.J.A.C. 6A:10-1.2

The following words and terms shall have the following meanings when used in Policy and Regulation 3221 unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

“Announced observation” means an observation in which the person conducting an observation for the purpose of evaluation will notify the teacher of the date and the class period the observation will be conducted.

“Annual performance report” means a written appraisal of the teacher’s performance prepared by the teacher’s designated supervisor based on the evaluation rubric for his or her position.

“Annual summative evaluation rating” means an annual evaluation rating that is based on appraisals of educator practice and student performance, and includes all measures captured in a teacher’s evaluation rubric. The four summative performance categories are ineffective, partially effective, effective, and highly effective.

“Calibration” in the context of educator evaluation means a process to monitor the competency of a trained evaluator to ensure the evaluator continues to apply an educator practice instrument accurately and consistently according to the standards and definitions of the specific instrument.

“Chief School Administrator” means the Superintendent of Schools or the Administrative Principal if there is no Superintendent.

“Commissioner” means Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Education.

“Co-observation” means two or more supervisors who are trained on the practice instrument who observe simultaneously, or at alternate times, the same lesson or portion of a lesson for the purpose of training.



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“Corrective Action Plan” means a written plan developed by the designated supervisor in collaboration with the teacher to address deficiencies as outlined in an evaluation. The corrective action plan shall include timelines for corrective action, responsibilities of the individual teacher and the school district for implementing the plan, and specific support that the district shall provide as defined in N.J.S.A. 18A:6-119.

“Department” means the New Jersey Department of Education.

“Designated supervisor” means the supervisor designated by the Superintendent of Schools or designee as the teacher’s supervisor.

“District Evaluation Advisory Committee” means a group created to oversee and guide the planning and implementation of the Board of Education’s evaluation policies and procedures as set forth in N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2.3.

“Educator practice instrument” means an assessment tool that provides: scales or dimensions that capture competencies of professional performance; and differentiation of a range of professional performance as described by the scales, which must be shown in practice and/or research studies. **The scores from the teacher practice instrument are components of the teacher’s evaluation rubric and the scores are included in the summative evaluation rating for the individual. The scores from educator practice instruments may be applied to the teacher’s summative evaluation rating in a manner determined by the school district.**

“Evaluation” means an appraisal of an individual’s professional performance in relation to his or her job description and professional standards and based on, when applicable, the individual’s evaluation rubric.

“Evaluation rubric” means a set of criteria, measures, and processes used to evaluate all teachers in a specific school district or local education agency. Evaluation rubrics consist of measures of professional practice, based on educator practice instrument, and student outcomes. Each Board



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of Education will have an evaluation rubric specifically for teachers, another specifically for Principals, Vice Principals, and Assistant Principals, and evaluation rubrics for other categories of teaching staff members.

“Indicators of student progress and growth” means the results of assessment(s) of students as defined in N.J.A.C. 6A:8, Standards and Assessment.

“Individual professional development plan” is as defined in N.J.S.A. 18A:6-119.

“Job description” means a written specification of the function of a position, duties and responsibilities, the extent and limits of authority, and work relationships within and outside the school and school district.

“Observation” means a method of collecting data on the performance of a teacher's assigned duties and responsibilities. An observation for the purpose of evaluation will be included in the determination of the annual summative evaluation rating and shall be conducted by an individual employed in the school district in a supervisory role and capacity and possessing a school administrator, Principal, or supervisor endorsement as defined in N.J.A.C. 6A:9-2.1.

“Post-observation conference” means a meeting, either in-person or remotely, between the supervisor who conducted the observation and the teacher for the purpose of evaluation to discuss the data collected in the observation.

“Scoring guide” means a set of rules or criteria used to evaluate a performance, product, or project. The purpose of a scoring guide is to provide a transparent and reliable evaluation process. **Teacher Educator** practice instruments include a scoring guide that an evaluator uses to structure his or her assessments and ratings of professional practice.

“Semester” means half of the school year.



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“Signed” means the name of one physically written by oneself or an electronic code, sound, symbol, or process attached to or logically associated with a record and executed or adopted by a person with the intent to sign the record.

“Student growth objective” means an academic goal that teachers and designated supervisors set for groups of students.

“Student growth percentile” means a specific metric for measuring individual student progress on Statewide assessments by tracking how much a student’s test scores have changed relative to other students Statewide with similar scores in previous years.

“Superintendent” means Superintendent of Schools or Chief School Administrator.

“Supervisor” means an appropriately certified teaching staff member, as defined in N.J.S.A. 18A:1-1, or Superintendent employed in the school district in a supervisory role and capacity, and possessing a school administrator, Principal, or supervisor endorsement as defined in N.J.A.C. 6A:9B-12.

“Teacher” means a teaching staff member who holds the appropriate standard, provisional, or emergency instructional certificate issued by the Board of Examiners and is assigned a class roster of students for at least one particular course.

~~“Teacher practice instrument” means an assessment tool that provides scales or dimensions that capture competencies of professional performance; and differentiation of a range of professional performance as described by the scales, which must be shown in practice and/or research studies. The scores from the teacher practice instrument are components of the teacher’s evaluation rubrics and the scores are included in the summative evaluation rating for the individual.~~

“Unannounced observation” means an observation in which the person conducting an observation for the purpose of evaluation will not notify the teacher of the date or time the observation will be conducted.



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B. Applicability of Rules on Collective Bargaining Agreements – N.J.A.C. 6A:10-1.3

~~The rules in N.J.A.C. 6A:10-1.1 et seq. shall not override any conflicting provision(s) of collective bargaining agreements or other employment contracts entered into by a school district in effect on July 1, 2013.~~ No collective bargaining agreement entered into after July 1, 2013, shall conflict with the educator evaluation system established pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:10-1.1 et seq. or any other specific statute or regulation, nor shall topics subject to bargaining involve matters of educational policy or managerial prerogatives.

C. Educator Evaluation Data, Information, and Annual Performance Reports – N.J.A.C. 6A:10-1.4

All information contained in annual performance reports and all information collected, compiled, and/or maintained by employees of the Board of Education for the purposes of conducting the educator evaluation process pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:10-1.1 et seq., including, but not limited to, digital records, shall be confidential. Such information shall not be subject to public inspection or copying pursuant to the Open Public Records Act, N.J.S.A. 47:1A-1 et seq. Nothing contained in N.J.A.C. 6A:10-1.1 et seq. shall be construed to prohibit the Department or a school district from, at its discretion, collecting evaluation data pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:6-123.e. or distributing aggregate statistics regarding evaluation data.

D. Evaluation of Teachers – N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2.1

1. The Board of Education **shall** annually ~~shall~~ adopt evaluation rubrics for teachers. The evaluation rubrics shall have four defined annual ratings: ineffective, partially effective, effective, and highly effective.
2. The evaluation rubrics for teachers shall include all other relevant minimum standards set forth in N.J.S.A. 18A:6-123 (P.L. 2012, c. 26, § 17c).
3. Evaluation rubrics shall be submitted to the Commissioner by **August June-1** for approval by **August 15** ~~1~~ of each year.



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E. Duties of the Board of Education – N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2.2

1. The Board of Education shall meet the following requirements for the annual evaluation of teachers, unless otherwise specified:
 - a. Establish a District Evaluation Advisory Committee to oversee and guide the planning and implementation of the Board of Education's evaluation policies and procedures as set forth in N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2 et seq.;
 - b. Annually adopt policies and procedures developed by the Superintendent pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2.4, including the evaluation rubrics approved by the Commissioner pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2.1(c):
 - (1) The Superintendent shall develop policies and procedures that, at a minimum, ensure student performance data on the Statewide assessment is, upon receipt, promptly distributed or otherwise made available to teachers ~~ing staff members~~ who were primarily responsible for instructing the applicable students in the school year in which the assessment was taken, as well as to teachers ~~ing staff members~~ who are or will be primarily responsible for instructing the applicable students in the subsequent school year.
 - c. Ensure the Superintendent annually notifies all teachers of the adopted evaluation policies and procedures no later than October 1. If a teacher is hired after October 1, the Board/Superintendent shall notify the teacher of the policies and procedures at the beginning of his or her employment. All teachers shall be notified of amendments to the policy and procedures within ten **teacher** working days of adoption;



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- d. Annually adopt by June 1, any Commissioner-approved **educator teacher** practice instruments and, as part of the process described at N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2.1(c), notify the Department which instruments will be used as part of the school district's evaluation rubrics;
 - e. Ensure the Principal of each school within the school district has established a School Improvement Panel pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:10-3.1. The panel shall be established annually by August 31 and shall carry out the duties and functions described in N.J.A.C. 6A:10-3.2;
 - f. Ensure data elements are collected and stored in an accessible and usable format. Data elements shall include, but not be limited to, scores or evidence from observations for the purpose of evaluation and student growth objective data; and
 - g. Ensure the Superintendent or designee certifies to the Department that any observer who conducts an observation of a teacher for the purpose of evaluation as described in N.J.A.C. 6A:10-4.4; N.J.A.C. 6A:10-5.4; and N.J.A.C. 6A:10-6.2, shall meet the statutory observation requirements of N.J.S.A. 18A:6-119; 18A:6-123.b(8); and N.J.S.A. 18A:27-3.1 and the teacher member of the School Improvement Panel requirements of N.J.A.C. 6A:10-3.2.
2. The Board of Education shall ensure the following training procedures are followed when implementing the evaluation rubric for all teachers and, when applicable, applying the Commissioner-approved educator practice instrument:
 - a. Annually provide training on and descriptions of each component of the evaluation rubric for all teachers who are being evaluated in the school district and provide more thorough training for any teacher who is being evaluated for the first time. Training shall include detailed



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descriptions of all evaluation rubric components including, when applicable, detailed descriptions of student achievement measures and all aspects of the educator practice instrument;

- b. Annually provide updates and refresher training for supervisors who are conducting evaluations in the school district and more thorough training for any supervisor who will evaluate teachers for the first time. Training shall be provided on each component of the evaluated teacher's evaluation rubric before the evaluation of a teacher;
- c. Annually require each supervisor who will conduct observations for the purpose of evaluation of a teacher to complete at least two co-observations during the school year.
 - (1) Co-observers shall use the co-observation to promote accuracy and consistency in scoring.
 - (2) A co-observation may count as one required observation for the purpose of evaluation pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:10-4.4, as long as the observer meets the requirements set forth in N.J.A.C. 6A:10-4.3 and 4.4, but the co-observation shall not count as two or more required observations. If a co-observation counts as one required observation, the score shall be determined by the teacher's designated supervisor.
- d. The Superintendent shall annually certify to the Department that all supervisors of teachers in the school district who are utilizing evaluation rubrics have completed training on and demonstrated competency in applying the evaluation rubrics.



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F. District Evaluation Advisory Committee – N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2.3

1. Members of the District Evaluation Advisory Committee shall include representation from the following groups: teachers from each school level represented in the school district; central office administrators overseeing the teacher evaluation process; supervisors involved in teacher evaluation, when available or appropriate; and administrators conducting evaluations, including a minimum of one administrator conducting evaluations who participates on a School Improvement Panel. Members also shall include the Superintendent, a special education administrator, a parent, and a member of the Board of Education.
2. The Superintendent may extend membership on the District Evaluation Advisory Committee to representatives of other groups and to individuals.
3. ~~A Beginning in 2018-2019, the District Evaluation Advisory Committees is not shall no longer be~~ required and the Board of Education shall have the discretion to **establish a continue the** District Evaluation Advisory Committee.

G. Evaluation Procedures for Teachers – N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2.4

1. The provisions outlined in Policy and Regulation 3221 and N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2.4 shall be the minimum requirements for the evaluation of teachers.
2. Evaluation policies and procedures requiring the annual evaluation of all teachers shall be developed under the direction of the Superintendent, who may consult with the District Evaluation Advisory Committee or representatives from School Improvement Panels, and shall include, but not be limited to, a description of:
 - a. Roles and responsibilities for implementation of evaluation policies and procedures;



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- b. Job descriptions, evaluation rubrics for teachers, the process for calculating the summative ratings and each component, and the evaluation regulations set forth in N.J.A.C. 6A:10 et seq.;
 - c. Methods of data collection and reporting appropriate to each job description, including, but not limited to, the process for student attribution to teachers, Principals, Assistant Principals, and Vice Principals for calculating the median and school-wide student growth percentile;
 - d. Processes for observations for the purpose of evaluation and post-observation conference(s) by a supervisor;
 - e. Process for developing and scoring student growth objectives;
 - f. The process for preparation of individual professional development plans; and
 - g. The process for preparation of an annual performance report by the teacher's designated supervisor and an annual summary conference between the teacher and his or her designated supervisor.
3. The annual summary conference between designated supervisors and teachers shall be held before the annual performance report is filed. The conference shall occur on or before June 30 of each school year and shall include, but not be limited to, a review of the following:
- a. The performance of the teacher based upon the job description and the scores or evidence compiled using the teacher's evaluation rubric, including, when applicable:
 - (1) The ~~educator's~~ ~~teacher's~~ practice instrument; and
 - (2) Available indicators or student achievement measures such as student growth objective scores and student growth percentile scores.



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- b. The progress of the teacher toward meeting the goals of the individual professional development plan or, when applicable, the corrective action plan; and
 - c. The preliminary annual performance report.
 4. If any scores for the teacher's evaluation rubric are not available at the time of the annual summary conference due to pending assessment results, the annual summative evaluation rating shall be calculated once all component ratings are available.
 5. The annual performance report shall be prepared by the teacher's designated supervisor and shall include, but not be limited to:
 - a. A summative rating based on the evaluation rubric, including, when applicable, a total score for each component as described in N.J.A.C. 6A:10-4;
 - b. Performance area(s) of strength and area(s) needing improvement based upon the job description and components of the teacher's evaluation rubric; and
 - c. The teacher's individual professional development plan or corrective action plan from the evaluation year being reviewed in the report.
 6. The teacher and the designated supervisor shall sign the report within five **teacher** working days of the review.
 7. The Board of Education shall include all performance reports and supporting data, including, but not limited to, written observation reports and additional components of the summative evaluation rating as part of the teacher's personnel file, or in an alternative, confidential location. If reports and data are stored in an alternative location, the personnel file shall clearly indicate the report's location and how it can be easily accessed. The records shall be confidential and shall not be subject to public inspection or copying pursuant to the Open Public Records Act, N.J.S.A. 47:1A-1 et seq.



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H. Corrective Action Plans for Teachers – N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2.5

1. For each teacher rated ineffective or partially effective on the annual summative evaluation, as measured by the evaluation rubrics, a corrective action plan shall be developed by the teacher and the teacher's designated supervisor. If the teacher does not agree with the corrective action plan's content, the designated supervisor shall make a final determination.
2. The corrective action plan shall be developed and the teacher and his or her designated supervisor shall meet to discuss the corrective action plan by October 31 of the school year following the year of evaluation except:
 - a. If the ineffective or partially effective summative evaluation rating is received after October 1 of the school year following the year of evaluation, a corrective action plan shall be developed, and the teacher and his or her designated supervisor shall meet to discuss the corrective action plan within twenty-five teacher working days following the school district's receipt of the teacher's summative rating.
3. The content of the corrective action plan shall replace the content of the individual professional development plan required pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:9C-4.3(a) and 4.4(a) and shall:
 - a. Address areas in need of improvement identified in the teacher evaluation rubric;
 - b. Include specific, demonstrable goals for improvement;
 - c. Include responsibilities of the evaluated employee and the school district for the plan's implementation; and
 - d. Include timelines for meeting the goal(s).



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4. The teacher's designated supervisor and the teacher on a corrective action plan shall discuss the teacher's progress toward the goals outlined in the corrective action plan during each required post-observation conference, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:27-3.1 or N.J.A.C. 6A:10-4.4. The teacher and his or her designated supervisor may update the goals outlined in the corrective action plan to reflect any change(s) in the teacher's progress, position, or role.
5. Progress toward the teacher's goals outlined in the corrective action plan:
 - a. Shall be documented in the teacher's personnel file and reviewed at the annual summary conference and the mid-year evaluation. Both the teacher on a corrective action plan and his or her designated supervisor may collect data and evidence to demonstrate the teacher's progress toward his or her corrective action plan goals; and
 - b. May be used as evidence in the teacher's next annual summative evaluation; however, such progress shall not guarantee an effective rating on the next summative evaluation.
6. Responsibilities of the evaluated teacher on a corrective action plan shall not be exclusionary of other plans for improvement determined to be necessary by the teacher's designated supervisor.
7. The School Improvement Panel shall ensure teachers with a corrective action plan receive a mid-year evaluation as required by N.J.S.A. 18A:6-120.c. The mid-year evaluation shall occur approximately midway between the development of the corrective action plan and the expected receipt of the next annual summative rating. The mid-year evaluation shall include, at a minimum, a conference to discuss progress toward the teacher's goals outlined in the corrective action plan. The mid-year evaluation conference may be combined with a post-observation conference.



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8. The School Improvement Panel shall ensure teachers with a corrective action plan receive one observation, including a post-observation conference, in addition to the observations required in N.J.A.C. 6A:10-4.4 for the purpose of evaluation as described in N.J.A.C. 6A:10-1.2 and 4.4(a).
 9. Except where a school district employs only one administrator whose position requires a supervisor, principal, or school administrator endorsement, tenured teachers with a corrective action plan shall be observed by multiple observers for the purpose of evaluation as described in N.J.A.C. 6A:10-4.4(c)4.
 10. The corrective action plan shall remain in effect until the teacher receives his or her next summative evaluation rating.
 11. There shall be no minimum number of teacher working days a teacher's corrective action plan can be in place.
- I. School Improvement Panel – N.J.A.C. 6A:10-3 et seq.
1. School Improvement Panel Membership – N.J.A.C. 6A:10-3.1
 - a. The School Improvement Panel shall include the Principal, a Vice Principal, and a teacher who is chosen in accordance with b. below by the Principal in consultation with the majority representative. If an Assistant Principal or Vice Principal is not available to serve on the panel, the Principal shall appoint an additional member who is employed in the district in a supervisory role and capacity, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:6-120.a. The Principal may appoint additional members to the School Improvement Panel as long as all members meet the criteria outlined in this section and N.J.S.A. 18A:6-120.a. and the teacher(s) on the panel represents at least one-third of its total membership.
 - b. The Principal annually shall choose the teacher(s) on the School Improvement Panel through the following process:



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- (1) The teacher member shall be a person with a demonstrated record of success in the classroom. A demonstrated record of success in the classroom means the teacher member shall have been rated effective or highly effective in the most recent available annual summative rating.
 - (2) The majority representative, in accordance with a. above, may submit to the Principal, teacher member nominees for consideration.
 - (3) The Principal shall have final decision-making authority and is not bound by the majority representative's list of nominees.
- c. The teacher member shall serve a full school year, except in case of illness or authorized leave, but may not be appointed more than three consecutive school years.
- d. All members of the School Improvement Panel shall be chosen by August 31 of each year.
2. School Improvement Panel Responsibilities – N.J.A.C. 6A:10-3.2
- a. The School Improvement Panel shall:
- (1) Oversee the mentoring of teachers according to N.J.A.C. 6A:9C-5.3(a)2. and support the implementation of the school district mentoring plan;
 - (2) Conduct evaluations of teachers pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2.4 and 4.4;
 - (3) Ensure corrective action plans for teachers are created in accordance to N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2.5; and ensure mid-year evaluations are conducted for teachers who are on a corrective action plan; and



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- (4) Identify professional development opportunities for all teachers based on the review of aggregate school-level data, including, but not limited to, teacher evaluation and student performance data to support school-level professional development plans described in N.J.A.C. 6A:9C-4.2.
 - b. To conduct observations for the purpose of evaluation, the teacher member shall have:
 - (1) Agreement of the majority representative;
 - (2) An appropriate supervisory certificate; and
 - (3) Approval of the Principal who supervises the teacher being observed.
 - c. The teacher member who participates in the evaluation process shall not serve concurrently as a mentor under N.J.A.C. 6A:9C-5.2(a)3.
- J. Components of Teacher Evaluation Rubric – N.J.A.C. 6A:10-4.1
 1. The components of the teacher evaluation rubric described in N.J.A.C. 6A:10-4.1 et seq. shall apply to teachers holding the position of teacher and holding a valid and effective standard, provisional, or emergency instructional certificate.
 2. Evaluation rubrics for all teachers shall include the requirements described in N.J.S.A. 18A:6-123, including, but not limited to:
 - a. Measures of student achievement pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:10-4.2; and
 - b. Measures of teacher practice pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:10-4.3 and 4.4.



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3. To earn a summative rating, a teacher shall have a student achievement score, including median student growth percentile and/or student growth objectives(s) scores, and a teacher practice score pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:10-4.4.
4. Each score shall be converted to a percentage weight so all components make up 100 percent of the evaluation rubric. By August 31 prior to the school year in which the evaluation rubric applies, the Department shall provide on its website the required percentage weight of each component and the required summative rating scale. All components shall be worth the following percentage weights or fall within the following ranges:
 - a. If, according to N.J.A.C. 6A:10-4.2(b), a teacher receives a median student growth percentile, the student achievement component shall be at least thirty percent and no more than fifty percent of a teacher's evaluation rubric rating as determined by the Department.
 - b. If, according to N.J.A.C. 6A:10-4.2(b), a teacher does not receive a median student growth percentile, the student achievement component shall be at least fifteen percent and no more than fifty percent of a teacher's evaluation rubric rating as determined by the Department.
 - c. Measures of teacher practice described in N.J.A.C. 6A:10-4.3 and 4.4 shall be at least fifty percent and no more than eighty-five percent of a teacher's evaluation rubric rating as determined by the Department.
5. Standardized tests, used as a measure of student progress, shall not be the predominant factor in determining a teacher's annual summative rating.

K. Student Achievement Components – N.J.A.C. 6A:10-4.2

1. Measures of student achievement shall be used to determine impact on student learning. The student achievement measure shall include the following components:



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- a. If the teacher meets the requirements of 2. below, the median student growth percentile of all students assigned to a teacher, which shall be calculated as set forth in 4. below; and
 - b. Student growth objective(s), which shall be specific and measurable, based on available student learning data, aligned to the New Jersey Student Learning Standards (NJSLS), and based on growth and/or achievement.
 - (1) For teachers who teach subjects or grades not covered by the NJSLS, student growth objective(s) shall align to standards adopted or endorsed, as applicable, by the State Board.
2. The median student growth percentile shall be included in the annual summative rating of a teacher who:
- a. Teaches at least one course or group within a course that falls within a standardized-tested grade or subject. The Department shall maintain on its website a course listing of all standardized-tested grades and subjects for which student growth percentile can be calculated pursuant to 4. below;
 - b. Teaches the course or group within the course for at least sixty percent of the time from the beginning of the course to the day of the standardized assessment; and
 - c. Has at least twenty individual student growth percentile scores attributed to his or her name during the school year of the evaluation. If a teacher does not have at least twenty individual student growth percentile scores in a given school year, the student growth percentile scores attributed to a teacher during the two school years prior to the evaluation year may be used in addition to the student growth percentile scores attributed to the teacher during the



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school year of the evaluation. Only student growth percentile scores from school year 2013-2014 or any school year after shall be used to determine median student growth percentiles.

3. The Department shall periodically collect data for all teachers that include, but are not limited to, student achievement and teacher practice scores.
4. The Department shall calculate the median student growth percentile for teachers using students assigned to the teacher by the school district. For teachers who have a student growth percentile score:
 - a. The Board of Education shall submit to the Department final ratings for all components, other than the student growth percentile, for the annual summative rating; and
 - b. The Department then shall report to the employing district Board of Education the annual summative rating, including the median student growth percentile for each teacher who receives a median student growth percentile.
5. Student growth objectives for teachers shall be developed and measured according to the following procedures:
 - a. The Superintendent shall determine the number of required student growth objectives for teachers, including teachers with a student growth percentile. A teacher with a student growth percentile shall have at least one and not more than four student growth objectives. A teacher without a student growth percentile shall have at least two and a maximum of four student growth objectives. By August 31 prior to the school year the evaluation rubric applies, the Department shall provide on its website the minimum and maximum number of required student growth objectives within this range.



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- b. A teacher with a student growth percentile shall not use the standardized assessment used in determining the student growth percentile to measure progress toward a student growth objective.
- c. Each teacher shall develop, in consultation with his or her supervisor or a Principal's designee, each student growth objective. If the teacher does not agree with the student growth objectives, the Principal shall make the final determination.
- d. Student growth objectives and the criteria for assessing teacher performance based on the objectives shall be determined, recorded, and retained by the teacher and his or her supervisor by October 31 of each school year, or within twenty-five **teacher** working days of the teacher's start date if the teacher begins work after October 1.
- e. Adjustments to student growth objectives may be made by the teacher in consultation with his or her supervisor only when approved by the Superintendent or designee. Adjustments shall be recorded in the teacher's personnel file on or before February 15.
 - (1) If the Student Growth Objective (SGO) covers only the second semester of the school year, or if the teacher begins work after October 1, adjustments shall be recorded before the mid-point of the second semester.
- f. The teacher's designated supervisor shall approve each teacher's student growth objective score. The teacher's student growth objective score, if available, shall be discussed at the teacher's annual summary conference and recorded in the teacher's personnel file.



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- L. Teacher Practice Components – N.J.A.C. 6A:10-4.3
1. The teacher practice component rating shall be based on the measurement of the teacher's performance according to the school district's Commissioner-approved teacher practice instrument. Observations pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:10-4.4 shall be used as one form of evidence for the measurement.
- M. Teacher Observations – N.J.A.C. 6A:10-4.4
1. For the purpose of teacher evaluation, observers shall conduct the observations pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:6-123.b.(8) and N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2.5 and 3.2, and they shall be trained pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2.2(b).
 2. Observation conferences shall include the following procedures:
 - a. A supervisor who is present at the observation shall conduct a post-observation conference with the teacher being observed. A post-observation conference shall occur no more than fifteen teacher working days following each observation.
 - b. The post-observation conference shall be for the purpose of reviewing the data collected at the observation, connecting the data to the teacher practice instrument and the teacher's individual professional development plan, collecting additional information needed for the evaluation of the teacher, and offering areas to improve effectiveness. Within a school year, the post observation conference shall be held prior to the occurrence of further observations for the purpose of evaluation.
 - c. If agreed to by the teacher, one required post-observation conference and any **pre-observation** conference(s) for observations of tenured teachers who are not on a corrective action plan may be conducted **by** ~~via~~ written communication, including electronic.



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- d. One post-observation conference may be combined with a teacher's annual summary conference, as long as it occurs within the required fifteen teacher working days following the observation for the purpose of evaluation.
 - e. A **pre-observation** conference, when required, shall occur at least one but not more than seven teacher working days prior to the observation.
3. Each teacher shall be observed as described in N.J.A.C. 6A:10-4.4. For all teachers, at least one of the required observations shall be announced and preceded by a **pre-observation** conference, and at least one of the required observations shall be unannounced. The Superintendent shall decide whether additional required observations are announced or unannounced, if applicable. The following additional requirements shall apply:
- a. Each observation required for the purpose of evaluation shall be conducted for at least twenty minutes.
 - b. Nontenured teachers shall be observed at least three times each school year, but not less than once each semester. The observations shall be conducted in accordance with the timeframe set forth in N.J.S.A. 18A:27-3.1.
 - (1) Except where a school district employs only one administrator whose position requires a supervisor, principal, or school administrator endorsement, nontenured teachers shall be observed during the course of the year by more than one appropriately certified supervisor.
 - c. Tenured teachers shall be observed at least two times during each school year. Observations for all tenured teachers shall occur prior to the annual summary conference, which shall occur prior to the end of the academic school year.



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- (1) If a tenured teacher was rated highly effective on his or her most recent summative evaluation and if both the teacher and the teacher's designated supervisor agree to use this option, one of the two required observations may be an observation of a Commissioner-approved activity other than a classroom lesson. The Department of Education shall post annually to its website a list of Commissioner-approved activities that may be observed in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:10-4.4.
 - d. Teachers on a corrective action plan shall receive, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2.5(h), one additional observation, including a post-observation conference.
 - e. Upon receiving a final summative evaluation that necessitates a corrective action plan, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2.5(a), any remaining required observation(s) shall not be conducted until the corrective action plan has been finalized.
 - f. A written or electronic observation report shall be signed by the supervisor who conducted the observation and post-observation and the teacher who was observed.
 - g. The teacher shall submit his or her written objection(s) of the evaluation within ten teacher working days following the conference. The objection(s) shall be attached to each party's copy of the annual performance report.
4. To earn a teacher practice score, a nontenured teacher shall receive at least three observations.
 - a. If a nontenured teacher is present for less than forty percent of the total student school days in a school year, he or she shall receive at least two observations to earn a teacher practice score.



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- N. Teacher Practice Instrument – N.J.A.C. 6A:10-7.2
1. The teacher practice instrument approved by the Department shall meet the following criteria:
 - a. Include domains of professional practice that align to the New Jersey Professional Standards for Teachers pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:9-3;
 - b. Include scoring guides for assessing teacher practice that differentiate among a minimum of four levels of performance, and the differentiation has been shown in practice and/or research studies. Each scoring guide shall:
 - (1) Clearly define the expectations for each rating category;
 - (2) Provide a conversion to four rating categories;
 - (3) Be applicable to all grades and subjects; or to specific grades and/or subjects if designed explicitly for the grades and/or subjects; and
 - (4) Use clear and precise language that facilitates common understanding among teachers and administrators.
 - c. Rely on, to the extent possible, specific, discrete, observable, and/or measurable behaviors of students and teachers in the classroom with direct evidence of student engagement and learning; and
 - d. Include descriptions of specific training and implementation details required for the instrument to be effective.

Adopted:



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Evaluation of Teaching Staff Members, Excluding
Teachers and Administrators

Mandated

R 3222 EVALUATION OF TEACHING STAFF MEMBERS, EXCLUDING TEACHERS AND ADMINISTRATORS

A. Definitions – N.J.A.C. 6A:10-1.2

The following words and terms shall have the following meanings when used in Policy and Regulation 3222 unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

“Annual performance report” means a written appraisal of the teaching staff member's performance prepared by the teaching staff member’s designated supervisor based on the evaluation rubric for his or her position.

“Annual summative evaluation rating” means an annual evaluation rating that is based on appraisals of educator practice and student performance, if applicable, and includes all measures captured in a teaching staff member’s evaluation rubric. The four summative performance categories are ineffective, partially effective, effective, and highly effective.

“Chief School Administrator” means the Superintendent of Schools or the Administrative Principal if there is no Superintendent.

“Commissioner” means Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Education.

“Corrective Action Plan” means a written plan developed by the designated supervisor in collaboration with the teaching staff member to address deficiencies as outlined in an evaluation. The corrective action plan shall include timelines for corrective action, responsibilities of the individual teaching staff member and the school district for implementing the plan, and specific support that the district shall provide as defined in N.J.S.A. 18A:6-119.

“Department” means the New Jersey Department of Education.



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“Designated supervisor” means the supervisor designated by the Superintendent of Schools or designee as the teaching staff member’s supervisor.

“District Evaluation Advisory Committee” means a group created to oversee and guide the planning and implementation of the Board of Education’s evaluation policies and procedures as set forth in N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2.3.

“Educator practice instrument” means an assessment tool that provides: scales or dimensions that capture competencies of professional performance; and differentiation of a range of professional performance as described by the scales, which must be shown in practice and/or research studies. The scores from educator practice instruments for teaching staff members other than teachers, Principals, Vice Principals, and Assistant Principals may be applied to the teaching staff member’s summative evaluation rating in a manner determined by the school district.

“Evaluation” means an appraisal of an individual’s professional performance in relation to his or her job description and professional standards and based on, when applicable, the individual’s evaluation rubric.

“Evaluation rubric” means a set of criteria, measures, and processes used to evaluate all teaching staff members in a specific school district or local education agency. Evaluation rubrics consist of measures of professional practice, based on educator practice instruments and student outcomes. Each Board of Education will have an evaluation rubric specifically for teachers, another specifically for Principals, Vice Principals, and Assistant Principals, and evaluation rubrics for other categories of teaching staff members.

“Indicators of student progress and growth” means the results of assessment(s) of students as defined in N.J.A.C. 6A:8, Standards and Assessment.

“Individual professional development plan” is as defined in N.J.S.A. 18A:6-119.



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“Job description” means a written specification of the function of a position, duties and responsibilities, the extent and limits of authority, and work relationships within and outside the school and school district.

“Observation” means a method of collecting data on the performance of a teaching staff member's assigned duties and responsibilities. An observation for the purpose of evaluation will be included in the determination of the annual summative evaluation rating and shall be conducted by an individual employed in the school district in a supervisory role and capacity and possessing a school administrator, Principal, or supervisor endorsement as defined in N.J.A.C. 6A:9-2.1.

“Post-observation conference” means a meeting, either in-person or remotely, between the supervisor who conducted the observation and the teaching staff member for the purpose of evaluation to discuss the data collected in the observation.

“Scoring guide” means a set of rules or criteria used to evaluate a performance, product, or project. The purpose of a scoring guide is to provide a transparent and reliable evaluation process. Educator practice instruments include a scoring guide that an evaluator uses to structure his or her assessments and ratings of professional practice.

“Semester” means half of the school year.

“Signed” means the name of one physically written by oneself or an electronic code, sound, symbol, or process attached to or logically associated with a record and executed or adopted by a person with the intent to sign the record.

“Student growth objective” means an academic goal that teaching staff members and designated supervisors set for groups of students.

“Superintendent” means Superintendent of Schools or Chief School Administrator.



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“Supervisor” means an appropriately certified teaching staff member, as defined in N.J.S.A. 18A:1-1, or Superintendent employed in the school district in a supervisory role and capacity, and possessing a school administrator, Principal, or supervisor endorsement as defined in N.J.A.C. 6A:9B-12.

“Teaching staff member” for the purposes of Policy 3222 and this Regulation, includes, but is not limited to, educational services staff members, guidance counselors, school nurses, library/media specialists, occupational therapists, and other teaching staff members working under an educational services certificate and does not include teachers, Principals, Vice Principals, Assistant Principals, and administrators, including, but not limited to, Directors and/or Supervisors.

B. Applicability of Rules on Collective Bargaining Agreements – N.J.A.C. 6A:10-1.3

~~The rules in N.J.A.C. 6A:10-1.1 et seq. shall not override any conflicting provision(s) of collective bargaining agreements or other employment contracts entered into by a school district in effect on July 1, 2013.~~ No collective bargaining agreement entered into after July 1, 2013, shall conflict with the educator evaluation system established pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:10-1.1 et seq. or any other specific statute or regulation, nor shall topics subject to bargaining involve matters of educational policy or managerial prerogatives.

C. Educator Evaluation Data, Information, and Annual Performance Reports – N.J.A.C. 6A:10-1.4

All information contained in annual performance reports and all information collected, compiled, and/or maintained by employees of the Board of Education for the purposes of conducting the educator evaluation process pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:10-1.1 et seq., including, but not limited to, digital records, shall be confidential. Such information shall not be subject to public inspection or copying pursuant to the Open Public Records Act, N.J.S.A. 47:1A-1 et seq. Nothing contained in N.J.A.C.



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6A:10-1.1 et seq. shall be construed to prohibit the Department or a school district from, at its discretion, collecting evaluation data pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:6-123.e. or distributing aggregate statistics regarding evaluation data.

D. Evaluation of Teaching Staff Members – N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2.1

1. The Board of Education **shall** annually ~~shall~~ adopt evaluation rubrics for all teaching staff members. The evaluation rubrics shall have four defined annual ratings: ineffective, partially effective, effective, and highly effective.
2. Evaluation rubrics shall be submitted to the Commissioner by **August June-1** for approval by August **15 +** of each year.

E. Duties of the Board of Education – N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2.2

1. The Board of Education shall meet the following requirements for the annual evaluation of teaching staff members, unless otherwise specified:
 - a. Establish a District Evaluation Advisory Committee to oversee and guide the planning and implementation of the Board of Education's evaluation policies and procedures as set forth in N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2 et seq.;
 - b. Annually adopt policies and procedures developed by the Superintendent pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2.4, including the evaluation rubrics approved by the Commissioner pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2.1(c):
 - (1) The Superintendent shall develop policies and procedures that, at a minimum, ensure student performance data on the Statewide assessment is, upon receipt, promptly distributed or otherwise made available to staff members who were primarily responsible for instructing the applicable



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students in the school year in which the assessment was taken, as well as to staff members who are or will be primarily responsible for instructing the applicable students in the subsequent school year.

- c. Ensure the Superintendent annually notifies all teaching staff members of the adopted evaluation policies and procedures no later than October 1. If a teaching staff member is hired after October 1, the Board/Superintendent shall notify the teaching staff member of the policies and procedures at the beginning of his or her employment. All teaching staff members shall be notified of amendments to the policy and procedures within ten **teaching staff member** working days of adoption;
- d. Annually adopt by June 1, any Commissioner-approved educator practice instruments and, as part of the process described at N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2.1(c), notify the Department which instruments will be used as part of the school district's evaluation rubrics;
- e. Ensure the Principal of each school within the school district has established a School Improvement Panel pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:10-3.1. The panel shall be established annually by August 31 and shall carry out the duties and functions described in N.J.A.C. 6A:10-3.2;
- f. Ensure data elements are collected and stored in an accessible and usable format. Data elements shall include, but not be limited to, scores or evidence from observations for the purpose of evaluation and student growth objective data; and
- g. Ensure the Superintendent or designee certifies to the Department that any observer who conducts an observation of a teaching staff member for the purpose of evaluation as described in N.J.A.C. 6A:10-4.4; N.J.A.C. 6A:10-5.4, and



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N.J.A.C. 6A:10-6.2, shall meet the statutory observation requirements of N.J.S.A. 18A:6-119; 18A:6-123.b.(8); and N.J.S.A. 18A:27-3.1 and the teacher member of the School Improvement Panel requirements of N.J.A.C. 6A:10-3.2.

2. The Board of Education shall ensure the following training procedures are followed when implementing the evaluation rubric for all teaching staff members and, when applicable, applying the Commissioner-approved educator practice instruments:
 - a. Annually provide training on and descriptions of each component of the evaluation rubric for all teaching staff members who are being evaluated in the school district and provide more thorough training for any teaching staff member who is being evaluated for the first time. Training shall include detailed descriptions of all evaluation rubric components including, when applicable, detailed descriptions of student achievement measures and all aspects of the educator practice instruments;
 - b. Annually provide updates and refresher training for supervisors who are conducting evaluations in the school district and more thorough training for any supervisor who will evaluate teaching staff members for the first time. Training shall be provided on each component of the evaluated teaching staff member's evaluation rubric before the evaluation of a teaching staff member; and
 - c. The Superintendent shall annually certify to the Department that all supervisors of teaching staff members in the school district who are utilizing evaluation rubrics have completed training on and demonstrated competency in applying the evaluation rubrics.



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F. District Evaluation Advisory Committee – N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2.3

1. Members of the District Evaluation Advisory Committee shall include representation from the following groups: teachers from each school level represented in the school district; central office administrators overseeing the teacher evaluation process; supervisors involved in teacher evaluation, when available or appropriate; and administrators conducting evaluations, including a minimum of one administrator conducting evaluations who participates on a School Improvement Panel. Members also shall include the Superintendent, a special education administrator, a parent, and a member of the Board of Education.
2. The Superintendent may extend membership on the District Evaluation Advisory Committee to representatives of other groups and to individuals.
3. ~~A Beginning in 2018-2019, the District Evaluation Advisory Committees is not shall no longer be~~ required and the Board of Education shall have the discretion to **establish a** ~~continue the~~ District Evaluation Advisory Committee.

G. Evaluation Procedures for Teaching Staff Members – N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2.4

1. The provisions outlined in Policy and Regulation 3222 and N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2.4 shall be the minimum requirements for the evaluation of teaching staff members.
2. Evaluation policies and procedures requiring the annual evaluation of all teaching staff members shall be developed under the direction of the Superintendent, who may consult with the District Evaluation Advisory Committee or representatives from School Improvement Panels, and shall include, but not be limited to, a description of:
 - a. Roles and responsibilities for implementation of evaluation policies and procedures;



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- b. Job descriptions, evaluation rubrics for all teaching staff members, the process for calculating the summative ratings and each component, and the evaluation regulations set forth in N.J.A.C. 6A:10 et seq.;
 - c. Methods of data collection and reporting appropriate to each job description, including, but not limited to, the process for student attribution to teachers, Principals, Assistant Principals, and Vice Principals for calculating the median and school-wide student growth percentile;
 - d. Processes for observations for the purpose of evaluation and post-observation conference(s) by a supervisor;
 - e. Process for developing and scoring student growth objectives;
 - f. The process for preparation of individual professional development plans; and
 - g. The process for preparation of an annual performance report by the teaching staff member's designated supervisor, and an annual summary conference between the teaching staff member and his or her designated supervisor.
3. The annual summary conference between the designated supervisor and the teaching staff member shall be held before the annual performance report is filed. The conference shall occur on or before June 30 of each school year and shall include, but not be limited to, a review of the following:
- a. The performance of the teaching staff member based upon the job description and the scores or evidence compiled using the teaching staff member's evaluation rubric, including, when applicable:
 - (1) The **educator's** ~~teaching staff member's~~ practice instrument; and



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- (2) Available indicators or student achievement measures such as student growth objective scores and student growth percentile scores.
 - b. The progress of the teaching staff member toward meeting the goals of the individual professional development plan or, when applicable, the corrective action plan; and
 - c. The preliminary annual performance report.
4. If any scores for the teaching staff member's evaluation rubric are not available at the time of the annual summary conference due to pending assessment results, the annual summative evaluation rating shall be calculated once all component ratings are available.
5. The annual performance report shall be prepared by the teaching staff member's designated supervisor and shall include, but not be limited to:
 - a. A summative rating based on the evaluation rubric;
 - b. Performance area(s) of strength and area(s) needing improvement based upon the job description and components of the teaching staff member's evaluation rubric; and
 - c. The teaching staff member's individual professional development plan or corrective action plan from the evaluation year being reviewed in the report.
6. The teaching staff member and the designated supervisor shall sign the report within five **teaching staff member** working days of the review.
7. The Board of Education shall include all performance reports and supporting data, including, but not limited to, written observation reports and additional components of the summative evaluation rating as part of the teaching staff member's personnel file or in an



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alternative, confidential location. If reports and data are stored in an alternative location, the personnel file shall clearly indicate the report's location and how it can be easily accessed. The records shall be confidential and shall not be subject to public inspection or copying pursuant to the Open Public Records Act, N.J.S.A. 47:1A-1 et seq.

- H. Corrective Action Plans for Teaching Staff Members – N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2.5
1. For each teaching staff member rated ineffective or partially effective on the annual summative evaluation, as measured by the evaluation rubrics, a corrective action plan shall be developed by the teaching staff member and the teaching staff member's designated supervisor. If the teaching staff member does not agree with the corrective action plan's content, the designated supervisor shall make a final determination.
 2. The corrective action plan shall be developed and the teaching staff member and his or her designated supervisor shall meet to discuss the corrective action plan by October 31 of the school year following the year of evaluation, except:
 - a. If the ineffective or partially effective summative evaluation rating is received after October 1 of the school year following the year of evaluation, a corrective action plan shall be developed, and the teaching staff member and his or her designated supervisor shall meet to discuss the corrective action plan within twenty-five teaching staff member working days following the school district's receipt of the teaching staff member's summative rating.
 3. The content of the corrective action plan shall replace the content of the individual professional development plan required pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:9C-4.3(a) and 4.4(a) and shall:
 - a. Address areas in need of improvement identified in the teaching staff member evaluation rubric;



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- b. Include specific, demonstrable goals for improvement;
 - c. Include responsibilities of the evaluated employee and the school district for the plan's implementation; and
 - d. Include timelines for meeting the goal(s).
 4. The teaching staff member's designated supervisor and the teaching staff member on a corrective action plan shall discuss the teaching staff member's progress toward the goals outlined in the corrective action plan during each required post-observation conference. The teaching staff member and his or her designated supervisor may update the goals outlined in the corrective action plan to reflect any change(s) in the teaching staff member's progress, position, or role.
 5. Progress toward the teaching staff member's goals outlined in the corrective action plan:
 - a. Shall be documented in the teaching staff member's personnel file and reviewed at the annual summary conference and the mid-year evaluation. Both the teaching staff member on a corrective action plan and his or her designated supervisor may collect data and evidence to demonstrate the teaching staff member's progress toward his or her corrective action plan goals; and
 - b. May be used as evidence in the teaching staff member's next annual summative evaluation; however, such progress shall not guarantee an effective rating on the next summative evaluation.
 6. Responsibilities of the evaluated teaching staff member on a corrective action plan shall not be exclusionary of other plans for improvement determined to be necessary by the teaching staff member's designated supervisor.
 7. The corrective action plan shall remain in effect until the teaching staff member receives his or her next summative evaluation rating.



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8. There shall be no minimum number of teaching staff member working days a teacher's corrective action plan can be in place.

I. **Required Observations for Teaching Staff Members** ~~Observations and Evaluations~~ – N.J.A.C. 6A:10-6.2

1. The Superintendent shall determine the duration of observations required pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:27-3.1 for nontenured teaching staff members, except teachers, Principals, Vice Principals, and Assistant Principals. Observations include, but are not limited to, observations of meetings, student instruction, parent conferences, and case-study analysis of a significant student issue. The observation shall:
 - a. Be at least twenty minutes in length;
 - b. Be followed within fifteen teaching staff member working days by a conference between the supervisor who made the observation and the nontenured teaching staff member;
 - c. Be followed by both parties to such a conference signing the written or electronic observation report and each retaining a copy of his or her records; and
 - d. Allow the nontenured teaching staff member to submit his or her written objection(s) of the evaluation within ten teaching staff member working days following the conference. The objection(s) shall be attached to each party's copy of the annual performance report.
2. All tenured teaching staff members shall receive at least one observation per school year.
3. All nontenured teaching staff members shall receive at least three observations, as required pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:27-3.1.



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- a. The required observations and evaluations for nontenured teaching staff members shall take place before April 30 each year. These observations and evaluations may cover that period between April 30 of one year and April 30 of the succeeding year except in the case of the first year of employment where the three observations and evaluations must have been completed prior to April 30.
 - b. The number of required observations and evaluations for nontenured teaching staff members may be reduced proportionately when an individual teaching staff member's term of service is less than one academic year.
4. Evaluations for tenured teaching staff shall be completed prior to June 30.

Adopted:



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Mandated

R 3223 EVALUATION OF ADMINISTRATORS, EXCLUDING PRINCIPALS, VICE PRINCIPALS, AND ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS

A. Definitions – N.J.A.C. 6A:10-1.2

The following words and terms shall have the following meanings when used in Policy and Regulation 3223 unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

“Administrator” means an appropriately certified staff member, as defined in N.J.S.A. 18A-1.1, employed in the school district in an administrative and/or supervisory role and capacity, and holding a valid and effective standard, provisional, or emergency administrative certificate. An “administrator” may be a director, supervisor or any other administrative or supervisory position in the district. For the purposes of Policy and Regulation 3223 and N.J.A.C. 6A:10-1.1 et seq., “administrator” is not a Principal, Vice Principal, or Assistant Principal.

“Annual performance report” means a written appraisal of the administrator’s performance prepared by the administrator’s designated supervisor based on the evaluation rubric for his or her position.

“Annual summative evaluation rating” means an annual evaluation rating that is based on appraisals of educator practice and student performance, and includes all measures captured in an administrator’s evaluation rubric. The four summative performance categories are ineffective, partially effective, effective, and highly effective.

“Chief School Administrator” means the Superintendent of Schools or the Administrative Principal if there is no Superintendent.

“Commissioner” means Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Education.



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“Corrective Action Plan” means a written plan developed by the administrator’s designated supervisor in collaboration with the administrator to address deficiencies as outlined in an evaluation. The corrective action plan shall include timelines for corrective action, responsibilities of the individual administrator and the school district for implementing the plan, and specific support that the district shall provide as defined in N.J.S.A. 18A:6-119.

“Department” means the New Jersey Department of Education.

“Designated supervisor” means the supervisor designated by the Superintendent of Schools or designee as the administrator’s supervisor.

“District Evaluation Advisory Committee” means a group created to oversee and guide the planning and implementation of the Board of Education's evaluation policies and procedures as set forth in N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2.3.

“Educator practice instrument” means an assessment tool that provides: scales or dimensions that capture competencies of professional performance; and differentiation of a range of professional performance as described by the scales, which must be shown in practice and/or research studies. The scores from educator practice instruments for **administrators** ~~teaching staff members~~ other than teachers, Principals, Vice Principals, and Assistant Principals may be applied to the administrator’s summative evaluation rating in a manner determined by the school district.

“Evaluation” means an appraisal of an individual’s professional performance in relation to his or her job description and professional standards and based on, when applicable, the individual’s evaluation rubric.

“Evaluation rubric” means a set of criteria, measures, and processes used to evaluate all administrators in a specific school district or local education agency. Evaluation rubrics consist of measures of professional practice, based on educator practice instruments and student outcomes. Each Board



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of Education will have an evaluation rubric specifically for teachers, another specifically for Principals, Vice Principals, and Assistant Principals, and evaluation rubrics for other categories of staff members.

“Indicators of student progress and growth” means the results of assessment(s) of students as defined in N.J.A.C. 6A:8, Standards and Assessment.

“Individual professional development plan” is as defined in N.J.S.A. 18A:6-119.

“Job description” means a written specification of the function of a position, duties and responsibilities, the extent and limits of authority, and work relationships within and outside the school and school district.

“Observation” means a method of collecting data on the performance of an administrator's assigned duties and responsibilities. An observation for the purpose of evaluation will be included in the determination of the annual summative evaluation rating and shall be conducted by an individual employed in the school district in a supervisory role and capacity and possessing a school administrator, principal, or supervisor endorsement as defined in N.J.A.C. 6A:9-2.1 and as designated by the Superintendent.

“Post-observation conference” means a meeting, either in-person or remotely, between the supervisor who conducted the observation and the administrator for the purpose of evaluation to discuss the data collected in the observation.

“Scoring guide” means a set of rules or criteria used to evaluate a performance, product, or project. The purpose of a scoring guide is to provide a transparent and reliable evaluation process. Educator practice instruments include a scoring guide that an evaluator uses to structure his or her assessments and ratings of professional practice.

“Semester” means half of the school year.



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“Signed” means the name of one physically written by oneself or an electronic code, sound, symbol, or process attached to or logically associated with a record and executed or adopted by a person with the intent to sign the record.

“Student growth objective” means an academic goal that teachers and designated supervisors set for groups of students.

“Superintendent” means Superintendent of Schools or Chief School Administrator.

“Supervisor” means an appropriately certified staff member, as defined in N.J.S.A. 18A:1-1, or Superintendent employed in the school district in a supervisory role and capacity, and possessing a school administrator, Principal, or supervisor endorsement, as defined in N.J.A.C. 6A:9B-12.

B. Applicability of Rules on Collective Bargaining Agreements – N.J.A.C. 6A:10-1.3

~~The rules in N.J.A.C. 6A:10-1.1 et seq. shall not override any conflicting provision(s) of collective bargaining agreements or other employment contracts entered into by a school district in effect on July 1, 2013. No collective bargaining agreement entered into after July 1, 2013, shall conflict with the educator evaluation system established pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:10-1.1 et seq. or any other specific statute or regulation, nor shall topics subject to bargaining involve matters of educational policy or managerial prerogatives.~~

C. Educator Evaluation Data, Information, and Annual Performance Reports – N.J.A.C. 6A:10-1.4

All information contained in annual performance reports and all information collected, compiled, and/or maintained by employees of the Board of Education for the purposes of conducting the educator evaluation process pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:10-1.1 et seq., including, but not limited to, digital records, shall be confidential. Such information shall not be



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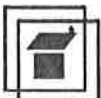
subject to public inspection or copying pursuant to the Open Public Records Act, N.J.S.A. 47:1A-1 et seq. Nothing contained in N.J.A.C. 6A:10-1.1 et seq. shall be construed to prohibit the Department or a school district from, at its discretion, collecting evaluation data pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:6-123.e. or distributing aggregate statistics regarding evaluation data.

D. Evaluation of Administrators – N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2.1

1. The Board of Education shall annually adopt evaluation rubrics for all administrators. The evaluation rubrics shall have four defined annual ratings: ineffective, partially effective, effective, and highly effective.
2. Evaluation rubrics shall be submitted to the Commissioner by ~~August June~~ 1 for approval by August 15 + of each year.

E. Duties of the Board of Education – N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2.2

1. The Board of Education shall meet the following requirements for the annual evaluation of administrators, unless otherwise specified:
 - a. Establish a District Evaluation Advisory Committee to oversee and guide the planning and implementation of the Board of Education's evaluation policies and procedures as set forth in N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2 et seq.;
 - b. Annually adopt policies and procedures developed by the Superintendent pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2.4, including the evaluation rubrics approved by the Commissioner pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2.1(c):
 - (1) The Superintendent shall develop policies and procedures that, at a minimum, ensure student performance data on the Statewide assessment is, upon receipt, promptly distributed or otherwise



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made available to staff members who were primarily responsible for instructing the applicable students in the school year in which the assessment was taken, as well as to staff members who are or will be primarily responsible for instructing the applicable students in the subsequent school year.

- c. Ensure the Superintendent annually notifies all administrators of the adopted evaluation policies and procedures no later than October 1. If an administrator is hired after October 1, the Board/Superintendent shall notify the administrator of the policies and procedures at the beginning of his or her employment. All administrators shall be notified of amendments to the policy and procedures within ten **administrator** working days of adoption;
- d. Annually adopt by June 1, any Commissioner-approved educator practice instruments and, as part of the process described at N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2.1(c), notify the Department which instruments will be used as part of the school district's evaluation rubrics;
- e. Ensure the Principal of each school within the school district has established a School Improvement Panel pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:10-3.1. The panel shall be established annually by August 31 and shall carry out the duties and functions described in N.J.A.C. 6A:10-3.2;
- f. Ensure data elements are collected and stored in an accessible and usable format. Data elements shall include, but not be limited to, scores or evidence from observations for the purpose of evaluation and student growth objective data; and



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- g. Ensure the Superintendent or designee certifies to the Department that any observer who conducts an observation of an administrator for the purpose of evaluation as described in N.J.A.C. 6A:10-4.4; N.J.A.C. 6A:10-5.4; and N.J.A.C. 6A:10-6.2 shall meet the statutory observation requirements of N.J.S.A. 18A:6-119; 18A:6-123.b.(8); and N.J.S.A. 18A:27-3.1 and the teacher member of the School Improvement Panel requirements of N.J.A.C. 6A:10-3.2.
2. The Board of Education shall ensure the following training procedures are followed when implementing the evaluation rubric for all administrators and, when applicable, applying the Commissioner-approved educator practice instruments:
- a. Annually provide training on and descriptions of each component of the evaluation rubric for all administrators who are being evaluated in the school district and provide more thorough training for any administrator who is being evaluated for the first time. Training shall include detailed descriptions of all evaluation rubric components including, when applicable, detailed descriptions of student achievement measures and all aspects of the educator practice instruments;
 - b. Annually provide updates and refresher training for supervisors who are conducting evaluations in the school district and more thorough training for any supervisor who will evaluate administrators for the first time. Training shall be provided on each component of the evaluated administrator's evaluation rubric before the evaluation of an administrator;
 - c. The Superintendent shall annually certify to the Department that all supervisors of administrators in the school district who are utilizing evaluation rubrics have completed training on and demonstrated competency in applying the evaluation rubrics.



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- F. District Evaluation Advisory Committee – N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2.3
1. Members of the District Evaluation Advisory Committee shall include representation from the following groups: teachers from each school level represented in the school district; central office administrators overseeing the teacher evaluation process; supervisors involved in teacher evaluation, when available or appropriate; and administrators conducting evaluations, including a minimum of one administrator conducting evaluations who participates on a School Improvement Panel. Members also shall include the Superintendent, a special education administrator, a parent, and a member of the Board of Education.
 2. The Superintendent may extend membership on the District Evaluation Advisory Committee to representatives of other groups and to individuals.
 3. ~~A Beginning in 2018-2019, the District Evaluation Advisory Committees is not shall no longer be~~ required and the Board of Education shall have the discretion to **establish a continue the** District Evaluation Advisory Committee.
- G. Evaluation Procedures for Administrators – N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2.4
1. The provisions outlined in Policy and Regulation 3223 and N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2.4 shall be the minimum requirements for the evaluation of administrators.
 2. Evaluation policies and procedures requiring the annual evaluation of all administrators shall be developed under the direction of the Superintendent, who may consult with the District Evaluation Advisory Committee or representatives from School Improvement Panels, and shall include, but not be limited to, a description of:
 - a. Roles and responsibilities for implementation of evaluation policies and procedures;



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- b. Job descriptions, evaluation rubrics for administrators, the process for calculating the summative ratings and each component, and the evaluation regulations set forth in N.J.A.C. 6A:10 et seq.;
 - c. Methods of data collection and reporting appropriate to each job description, including, but not limited to, the process for student attribution to teachers, Principals, Vice Principals, and Assistant Principals for calculating the median and school-wide student growth percentile;
 - d. Processes for observations for the purpose of evaluation and post-observation conference(s) by a supervisor;
 - e. Process for developing and scoring student growth objectives;
 - f. The process for preparation of individual professional development plans; and
 - g. The process for preparation of an annual performance report by the Superintendent or designated supervisor and an annual summary conference between the administrator and his or her designated supervisor.
3. The annual summary conference between designated supervisors and the administrator shall be held before the annual performance report is filed. The conference shall occur on or before June 30 of each school year and shall include, but not be limited to, a review of the following:
- a. The performance of the administrator based upon the job description and the scores or evidence compiled using the administrator's evaluation rubric, including, when applicable:
 - (1) The ~~educator's~~ administrator's practice instrument; and



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- (2) Available indicators or student achievement measures such as student growth objective scores and student growth percentile scores.
- b. The progress of the administrator toward meeting the goals of the individual professional development plan or, when applicable, the corrective action plan; and
- c. The preliminary annual performance report.
4. If any scores for the administrator's evaluation rubric are not available at the time of the annual summary conference due to pending assessment results, the annual summative evaluation rating shall be calculated once all component ratings are available.
5. The annual performance report for the administrator shall be prepared by the designated supervisor and shall include, but not be limited to:
 - a. A summative rating based on the evaluation rubric;
 - b. Performance area(s) of strength and area(s) needing improvement based upon the job description and components of the administrator's evaluation rubric; and
 - c. The administrator's individual professional development plan or corrective action plan from the evaluation year being reviewed in the report.
6. The administrator and the designated supervisor shall sign the report within five **administrator** working days of the review.
7. The Board of Education shall include all performance reports and supporting data, including, but not limited to, written observation reports and additional components of the summative evaluation rating as part of his or her personnel file, or in an alternative,



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confidential location. If reports and data are stored in an alternative, confidential location, the personnel file shall clearly indicate the report's location and how it can easily be accessed. The records shall be confidential and shall not be subject to public inspection or copying pursuant to the Open Public Records Act, N.J.S.A. 47:1A-1 et seq.

H. Corrective Action Plans for Administrators – N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2.5

1. For each administrator rated ineffective or partially effective on the annual summative evaluation, as measured by the evaluation rubrics, a corrective action plan shall be developed by administrator and the Superintendent or the designated supervisor. If the administrator does not agree with the corrective action plan's content, the designated supervisor shall make a final determination.
2. The corrective action plan shall be developed and the administrator and his or her designated supervisor shall meet to discuss the corrective action plan by October 31 of the school year following the year of evaluation except:
 - a. If the ineffective or partially effective summative evaluation rating is received after October 1 of the school year following the year of evaluation, a corrective action plan shall be developed, and the administrator and his or her designated supervisor shall meet to discuss the corrective action plan within twenty-five administrator working days following the school district's receipt of the administrator's summative rating.
3. The content of the corrective action plan shall replace the content of the individual professional development plan required pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:9C-4.3(a) and 4.4(a) and shall:
 - a. Address areas in need of improvement identified in the administrator evaluation rubric;
 - b. Include specific, demonstrable goals for improvement;



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- c. Include responsibilities of the evaluated employee and the school district for the plan's implementation; and
 - d. Include timelines for meeting the goal(s).
4. The administrator's designated supervisor and the administrator on a corrective action plan shall discuss the administrator's progress toward the goals outlined in the corrective action plan during each required post-observation conference. The administrator and his or her designated supervisor may update the goals outlined in the corrective action plan to reflect any change(s) in the administrator's progress, position, or role.
5. Progress toward the administrator's goals outlined in the corrective action plan:
 - a. Shall be documented in the administrator's personnel file and reviewed at the annual summary conference and the mid-year evaluation. Both the administrator on a corrective action plan and his or her designated supervisor may collect data and evidence to demonstrate the administrator's progress toward his or her corrective action plan goals; and
 - b. May be used as evidence in the administrator's next annual summative evaluation; however, such progress shall not guarantee an effective rating on the next summative evaluation.
6. Responsibilities of the evaluated administrator on a corrective action plan shall not be exclusionary of other plans for improvement determined to be necessary by the administrator's designated supervisor.
7. The corrective action plan shall remain in effect until the administrator receives his or her next summative evaluation rating.
8. There shall be no minimum number of administrator working days an administrator's corrective action plan can be in place.



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- I. Administrator Observations and Evaluations – N.J.A.C. 6A:10-6.2
 1. The Superintendent shall determine the duration of observations required pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:27-3.1 for nontenured administrators. Observations include, but are not limited to, observations of meetings, student instruction, parent conferences, and case-study analysis of a significant student issue. The observation shall:
 - a. Be at least twenty minutes in length;
 - b. Be followed within fifteen administrator working days by a conference between the supervisor who made the observation and the nontenured administrator;
 - c. Be followed by both parties to such a conference signing the written or electronic observation report and each retaining a copy of his or her records; and
 - d. Allow the nontenured administrator to submit his or her written objection(s) of the evaluation within ten administrator working days following the conference. The objection(s) shall be attached to each party's copy of the annual performance report.
 2. All tenured administrators shall receive at least one observation per school year.
 3. All nontenured administrators shall receive at least three observations, as required pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:27-3.1.
 - a. The required observations and evaluations for nontenured administrators shall take place before April 30 each year. These observations and evaluations may cover that period between April 30 of one year and April 30 of the succeeding year except in the case of the first year of employment where the three evaluations and observations must have been completed prior to April 30.



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- b. The number of required observations and evaluations for nontenured administrators may be reduced proportionately when an individual administrator's term of service is less than one academic year.
4. Evaluations for tenured administrators shall be completed prior to June 30.

Adopted:



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Mandated

R 3224 EVALUATION OF PRINCIPALS, VICE PRINCIPALS, AND ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS

A. Definitions – N.J.A.C. 6A:10-1.2

The following words and terms shall have the following meanings when used in Policy and Regulation 3224 unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

“Annual performance report” means a written appraisal of the Principal’s, Vice Principal’s, or Assistant Principal’s performance prepared by the designated supervisor based on the evaluation rubric for his or her position.

“Annual summative evaluation rating” means an annual evaluation rating that is based on appraisals of educator practice and student performance, and includes all measures captured in a Principal, Vice Principal, or Assistant Principal evaluation rubric. The four summative performance categories are ineffective, partially effective, effective, and highly effective.

“Calibration” in the context of educator evaluation means a process to monitor the competency of a trained evaluator to ensure the evaluator continues to apply an educator practice instrument accurately and consistently according to the standards and definitions of the specific instrument.

“Chief School Administrator” means the Superintendent of Schools or the Administrative Principal if there is no Superintendent.

“Commissioner” means Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Education.



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“Corrective Action Plan” means a written plan developed by the Superintendent or a designated supervisor in collaboration with the Principal, Vice Principal, and Assistant Principal to address deficiencies as outlined in an evaluation. The corrective action plan shall include timelines for corrective action, responsibilities of the individual Principal, Vice Principal, and Assistant Principal and the school district for implementing the plan, and specific support that the district shall provide as defined in N.J.S.A. 18A:6-119.

“Department” means the New Jersey Department of Education.

“Designated supervisor” means the supervisor designated by the Superintendent of Schools or designee as the administrator’s supervisor.

“District Evaluation Advisory Committee” means a group created to oversee and guide the planning and implementation of the Board of Education’s evaluation policies and procedures as set forth in N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2.3.

“Educator practice instrument” means an assessment tool that provides: scales or dimensions that capture competencies of professional performance; and differentiation of a range of professional performance as described by the scales, which must be shown in practice and/or research studies.

“Evaluation” means an appraisal of an individual’s professional performance in relation to his or her job description and professional standards and based on, when applicable, the individual’s evaluation rubric.

“Evaluation rubric” means a set of criteria, measures, and processes used to evaluate all Principals, Vice Principals, and Assistant Principals in a specific school district or local education agency. Evaluation rubrics consist of measures of professional practice, based on educator practice instruments and student outcomes. Each Board of Education will have an evaluation rubric specifically for teachers, another specifically for Principals, Vice Principals, and Assistant Principals, and evaluation rubrics for other categories of teaching staff members.



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“Indicators of student progress and growth” means the results of assessment(s) of students as defined in N.J.A.C. 6A:8, Standards and Assessment.

“Individual professional development plan” is as defined in N.J.S.A. 18A:6-119.

“Job description” means a written specification of the function of a position, duties and responsibilities, the extent and limits of authority, and work relationships within and outside the school and school district.

“Observation” means a method of collecting data on the performance of a Principal’s, Vice Principal’s, and Assistant Principal’s assigned duties and responsibilities. An observation for the purpose of evaluation will be included in the determination of the annual summative evaluation rating and shall be conducted by the Superintendent or designee.

“Post-observation conference” means a meeting, either in-person or remotely, between the supervisor who conducted the observation and the Principal, Vice Principal, and Assistant Principal for the purpose of evaluation to discuss the data collected in the observation.

“Principal practice instrument” means an assessment tool that provides scales or dimensions that capture competencies of professional performance; and differentiation of a range of professional performance as described by the scales, which must be shown in practice and/or research studies. The scores from the principal practice instrument are components of the evaluation rubrics and the scores are included in the summative evaluation rating for the individual.

“Scoring guide” means a set of rules or criteria used to evaluate a performance, product, or project. The purpose of a scoring guide is to provide a transparent and reliable evaluation process. Educator practice instruments include a scoring guide that an evaluator uses to structure his or her assessments and ratings of professional practice.



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“Semester” means half of the school year.

“Signed” means the name of one physically written by oneself or an electronic code, sound, symbol, or process attached to or logically associated with a record and executed or adopted by a person with the intent to sign the record.

“Student growth objective” means an academic goal that teachers and designated supervisors set for groups of students.

“Student growth percentile” means a specific metric for measuring individual student progress on Statewide assessments by tracking how much a student’s test scores have changed relative to other students Statewide with similar scores in previous years.

“Superintendent” means Superintendent of Schools or Chief School Administrator.

“Supervisor” means an appropriately certified teaching staff member as defined in N.J.S.A. 18A:1-1, or Superintendent employed in the district in a supervisory role and capacity, and possessing a school administrator, Principal, or supervisor endorsement as defined in N.J.A.C. 6A:9B-12 and certified to evaluate a Principal, Vice Principal, or Assistant Principal.

B. Applicability of Rules on Collective Bargaining Agreements – N.J.A.C. 6A:10-1.3

~~The rules in N.J.A.C. 6A:10-1.1 et seq. shall not override any conflicting provision(s) of collective bargaining agreements or other employment contracts entered into by a school district in effect on July 1, 2013. No~~ collective bargaining agreement entered into after July 1, 2013, shall conflict with the educator evaluation system established pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:10-1.1 et seq. or any other specific statute or regulation, nor shall topics subject to bargaining involve matters of educational policy or managerial prerogatives.



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C. Educator Evaluation Data, Information, and Annual Performance Reports –
N.J.A.C. 6A:10-1.4

All information contained in annual performance reports and all information collected, compiled, and/or maintained by employees of the Board of Education for the purposes of conducting the educator evaluation process pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:10-1.1 et seq., including, but not limited to, digital records, shall be confidential. Such information shall not be subject to public inspection or copying pursuant to the Open Public Records Act, N.J.S.A. 47:1A-1 et seq. Nothing contained in N.J.A.C. 6A:10-1.1 et seq. shall be construed to prohibit the Department or a school district from, at its discretion, collecting evaluation data pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:6-123.e. or distributing aggregate statistics regarding evaluation data.

D. Evaluation of Principals, Vice Principals, and Assistant Principals –
N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2.1

1. The Board of Education shall annually adopt evaluation rubrics for all Principals, Vice Principals, and Assistant Principals. The evaluation rubrics shall have four defined annual ratings: ineffective, partially effective, effective, and highly effective.
2. The evaluation rubrics for Principals, Vice Principals, and Assistant Principals shall include all other relevant minimum standards set forth in N.J.S.A. 18A:6-123 (P.L. 2012, c. 26, § 17c).
3. Evaluation rubrics shall be submitted to the Commissioner by **August June 1** for approval by **August 15 1** of each year.

E. Duties of the Board of Education – N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2.2

1. The Board of Education shall meet the following requirements for the annual evaluation of Principals, Vice Principals, and Assistant Principals, unless otherwise specified:



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- a. Establish a District Evaluation Advisory Committee to oversee and guide the planning and implementation of the Board of Education's evaluation policies and procedures as set forth in N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2 et seq.;
- b. Annually adopt policies and procedures developed by the Superintendent pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2.4, including the evaluation rubrics approved by the Commissioner pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2.1(c):
 - (1) The Superintendent shall develop policies and procedures that, at a minimum, ensure student performance data on the Statewide assessment is, upon receipt, promptly distributed or otherwise made available to staff members who were primarily responsible for instructing the applicable students in the school year in which the assessment was taken, as well as to staff members who are or will be primarily responsible for instructing the applicable students in the subsequent school year.
- c. Ensure the Superintendent annually notifies all Principals, Vice Principals, and Assistant Principals of the adopted evaluation policies and procedures no later than October 1. If a Principal, Vice Principal, or Assistant Principal is hired after October 1, the Board/Superintendent shall notify all Principals, Vice Principals, and Assistant Principals of the policies and procedures at the beginning of his or her employment. All Principals, Vice Principals, and Assistant Principals shall be notified of amendments to the policy and procedures within ten **Principal, Vice Principal, and Assistant Principal** working days of adoption;
- d. Annually adopt by June 1, any Commissioner-approved educator practice instruments and, as part of the process described at N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2.1(c), notify the Department which instruments will be used as part of the school district's evaluation rubrics;



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- e. Ensure the Principal of each school within the school district has established a School Improvement Panel pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:10-3.1. The panel shall be established annually by August 31 and shall carry out the duties and functions described in N.J.A.C. 6A:10-3.2;
 - f. Ensure data elements are collected and stored in an accessible and usable format. Data elements shall include, but not be limited to, scores or evidence from observations for the purpose of evaluation and student growth objective data; and
 - g. Ensure the Superintendent or designee certifies to the Department that any observer who conducts an observation of a Principal, Vice Principal, or Assistant Principal for the purpose of evaluation as described in N.J.A.C. 6A:10-4.4; N.J.A.C. 6A:10-5.4; and 6A:10-6.2 shall meet the statutory observation requirements of N.J.S.A. 18A:6-119; 18A:6-123.b.(8); and N.J.S.A. 18A:27-3.1 and the teacher member of the School Improvement Panel requirements of N.J.A.C. 6A:10-3.2.
2. The Board of Education shall ensure the following training procedures are followed when implementing the evaluation rubric for all Principals, Vice Principals, and Assistant Principals and, when applicable, applying the Commissioner-approved principal practice instruments:
- a. Annually provide training on and descriptions of each component of the evaluation rubric for all Principals, Vice Principals, and Assistant Principals who are being evaluated in the school district and provide more thorough training for any Principals, Vice Principals, and Assistant Principals who are being evaluated for the first time. Training shall include detailed descriptions of all evaluation rubric components including, when applicable, detailed descriptions of student achievement measures and all aspects of the principal practice instrument;



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- b. Annually provide updates and refresher training for supervisors who are conducting evaluations in the school district and more thorough training for any supervisor who will evaluate Principals, Vice Principals, or Assistant Principals for the first time. Training shall be provided on each component of the evaluated Principal's, Vice Principal's, or Assistant Principal's evaluation rubric before the evaluation of the Principal, Vice Principal, or Assistant Principal;
- c. The Superintendent shall annually certify to the Department that all supervisors of Principals, Vice Principals, and Assistant Principals in the school district who are utilizing evaluation rubrics have completed training on and demonstrated competency in applying the evaluation rubrics.

F. District Evaluation Advisory Committee – N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2.3

1. Members of the District Evaluation Advisory Committee shall include representation from the following groups: teachers from each school level represented in the school district; central office administrators overseeing the teacher evaluation process; supervisors involved in teacher evaluation, when available or appropriate; and administrators conducting evaluations, including a minimum of one administrator conducting evaluations who participates on a School Improvement Panel. Members also shall include the Superintendent, a special education administrator, a parent, and a member of the Board of Education.
2. The Superintendent may extend membership on the District Evaluation Advisory Committee to representatives of other groups and to individuals.
3. ~~A Beginning in 2018-2019, the District Evaluation Advisory Committees is not shall no longer be required~~ and the Board of Education shall have the discretion to **establish a continue the** District Evaluation Advisory Committee.



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- G. Evaluation Procedures for Principals, Vice Principals, and Assistant Principals - N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2.4
1. The provisions outlined in Policy and Regulation 3224 and N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2.4 shall be the minimum requirements for the evaluation of Principals, Vice Principals, and Assistant Principals.
 2. Evaluation policies and procedures requiring the annual evaluation of Principals, Vice Principals, and Assistant Principals shall be developed under the direction of the Superintendent, who may consult with the District Evaluation Advisory Committee or representatives from School Improvement Panels, and shall include, but not be limited to, a description of:
 - a. Roles and responsibilities for implementation of evaluation policies and procedures;
 - b. Job descriptions, evaluation rubrics for Principals, Vice Principals, and Assistant Principals, the process for calculating the summative ratings and each component and the evaluation regulations set forth in N.J.A.C. 6A:10-1 et seq.;
 - c. Methods of data collection and reporting appropriate to each job description, including, but not limited to, the process for student attribution to teachers, Principals, Vice Principals, Assistant Principals for calculating the median and school-wide student growth percentile;
 - d. Processes for observations for the purpose of evaluation and post-observation conference(s) by a supervisor;
 - e. Process for developing and scoring student growth objectives;
 - f. The process for preparation of individual professional development plans; and



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- g. The process for preparation of an annual performance report by the Superintendent or designated supervisor, and an annual summary conference between the Principal, Vice Principal, or Assistant Principal and the Superintendent or designated supervisor.
- 3. The annual summary conference between the designated supervisor and the Principal, Vice Principal, or Assistant Principal shall be held before the annual performance report is filed. The conference shall occur on or before June 30 of each school year and shall include, but not be limited to, a review of the following:
 - a. The performance of the Principal, Vice Principal, or Assistant Principal based upon the job description and the scores or evidence compiled using the evaluation rubric, including, when applicable:
 - (1) The **educator's** ~~principal's~~ practice instrument; and
 - (2) Available indicators or student achievement measures such as student growth objective scores and student growth percentile scores.
 - b. The progress of the Principal, Vice Principal, or Assistant Principal toward meeting the goals of the individual professional development plan or, when applicable, the corrective action plan; and
 - c. The preliminary annual performance report.
- 4. If any scores for the Principal's, Vice Principal's, or Assistant Principal's evaluation rubric are not available at the time of the annual summary conference due to pending assessment results, the annual summative evaluation rating shall be calculated once all component ratings are available.
- 5. The annual performance report for the Principal, Vice Principal, or Assistant Principal shall be prepared by the designated supervisor and shall include, but not be limited to:



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- a. A summative rating based on the evaluation rubric, including, when applicable, a total score for each component as described in N.J.A.C. 6A:10-5;
 - b. Performance area(s) of strength and area(s) needing improvement based upon the job description and components of the Principal's, Vice Principal's, or Assistant Principal's evaluation rubric; and
 - c. The Principal's, Vice Principal's, or Assistant Principal's individual professional development plan or a corrective action plan from the evaluation year being reviewed in the report.
6. The Principal, Vice Principal, or Assistant Principal and the designated supervisor shall sign the report within five **Principal, Vice Principal, and Assistant Principal** working days of the review.
 7. The Board of Education shall include all performance reports and supporting data, including, but not limited to, written observation reports and additional components of the summative evaluation rating as part of the Principal's, Vice Principal's, or Assistant Principal's personnel file, or in an alternative, confidential location. If reports and data are stored in an alternate location, the personnel file shall clearly indicate the report's location and how it can be easily accessed. The records shall be confidential and shall not be subject to public inspection or copying pursuant to the Open Public Records Act, N.J.S.A. 47:1A-1 et seq.
- H. Corrective Action Plans for Principals, Vice Principals, and Assistant Principals – N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2.5
- I. For each Principal, Vice Principal, and Assistant Principal rated ineffective or partially effective on the annual summative evaluation, as measured by the evaluation rubrics, a corrective action plan shall be developed by the Principal, Vice Principal, or



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Assistant Principal and the designated supervisor. If the Principal, Vice Principal, or Assistant Principal does not agree with the corrective action plan's content, the designated supervisor shall make the final determination.

2. The corrective action plan shall be developed and the Principal, Vice Principal, or Assistant Principal and his or her designated supervisor shall meet to discuss the corrective action plan by October 31 of the school year following the year of evaluation except:
 - a. If the ineffective or partially effective summative evaluation rating is received after October 1 of the school year following the year of evaluation, a corrective action plan shall be developed, and the Principal, Vice Principal, or Assistant Principal and his or her designated supervisor shall meet to discuss the corrective action plan within twenty-five Principal, Vice Principal, or Assistant Principal working days following the school district's receipt of the Principal's, Vice Principal's, or Assistant Principal's summative rating.
3. The content of the corrective action plan shall replace the content of the individual professional development plan required pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:9C-4.3(a) and 4.4(a) and shall:
 - a. Address areas in need of improvement identified in the principal evaluation rubric;
 - b. Include specific, demonstrable goals for improvement;
 - c. Include responsibilities of the evaluated employee and the school district for the plan's implementation; and
 - d. Include timelines for meeting the goal(s).



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4. The designated supervisor and the Principal, Vice Principal, or Assistant Principal on a corrective action plan shall discuss the Principal's, Vice Principal's, or Assistant Principal's progress toward the goals outlined in the corrective action plan during each post-observation conference, when required by N.J.S.A. 18A:27-3.1 or N.J.A.C. 6A:10-5.4.
5. Progress toward the Principal's, Vice Principal's, or Assistant Principal's goals outlined in the corrective action plan:
 - a. Shall be documented in the Principal's, Vice Principal's, or Assistant Principal's personnel file and reviewed at the annual summary conference and the mid-year evaluation. Both the Principal, Vice Principal, or Assistant Principal on a corrective action plan and his or her designated supervisor may collect data and evidence to demonstrate the Principal's, Vice Principal's, or Assistant Principal's progress toward his or her corrective action plan goals; and
 - b. May be used as evidence in the Principal's, Vice Principal's, or Assistant Principal's next annual summative evaluation; however, such progress shall not guarantee an effective rating on the next summative evaluation.
6. Responsibilities of the evaluated Principal, Vice Principal, or Assistant Principal on a corrective action plan shall not be exclusionary of other plans for improvement determined to be necessary by the designated supervisor.
7. The Superintendent or his or her designee, and the Principal, as appropriate, shall conduct a mid-year evaluation of any Principal, Vice Principal, or Assistant Principal pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:6-121.c. The mid-year evaluation shall occur approximately midway between the development of the corrective action plan and the expected receipt of the next annual summative rating. The mid-year evaluation shall include, at a minimum a conference to



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discuss progress toward the Principal's, Vice Principal's, or Assistant Principal's goals outlined in the corrective action plan. The mid-year evaluation conference may be combined with a post-observation conference.

8. The Superintendent shall ensure Principals, Vice Principals, and Assistant Principals with a corrective action plan receive one observation and a post-observation conference in addition to the observations required in N.J.A.C. 6A:10-5.4 for the purpose of evaluation as described in N.J.A.C. 6A:10-1.2 and 5.4.
 9. The corrective action plan shall remain in effect until the Principal, Vice Principal, or Assistant Principal receives his or her next summative evaluation rating.
 10. There shall be no minimum number of Principal, Vice Principal, or Assistant Principal working days a Principal's, Vice Principal's, or Assistant Principal's corrective action plan can be in place.
- I. Components of Principal Evaluation Rubrics – N.J.A.C. 6A:10-5.1
1. Unless otherwise noted, the components of the principal evaluation rubrics shall apply to teaching staff members holding the position of Principal, Vice Principal, or Assistant Principal and holding a valid and effective standard, provisional, or emergency administrative certificate.
 2. The principal evaluation rubric shall meet the standards provided in N.J.S.A. 18A:6-123, including, but not limited to:
 - a. Measures of student achievement pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:10-5.2; and
 - b. Measures of principal practice pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:10-5.3 and 5.4.



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3. To earn a summative rating, the Principal, Vice Principal, or Assistant Principal shall have a student achievement score, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:10-5.2 and a principal practice score pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:10-5.3 and 5.4.
4. Each score shall be converted to a percentage weight so all measures make up 100 percent of the evaluation rubric. By August 31 prior to the school year in which the evaluation rubric applies, the Department shall provide on its website the required percentage weight of each component and the required summative rating scale. All components shall be worth the following percentage weights or fall within the following ranges:
 - a. If, according to N.J.A.C. 6A:10-5.2(b), the Principal, Vice Principal, or Assistant Principal receives a school-wide student growth percentile score as described in N.J.A.C. 6A:10-5.2(c), the score shall be at least ten percent and no greater than forty percent of evaluation rubric rating as determined by the Department.
 - b. Measure of average student growth objective for all teachers, as described in N.J.A.C. 6A:10-5.2(d), shall be at least ten percent and no greater than twenty percent of evaluation rubric rating as determined by the Department.
 - c. Measure of administrator goal, as described in N.J.A.C. 6A:10-5.2(e), shall be no less than ten percent and no greater than forty percent of evaluation rubric rating as determined by the Department.
 - d. Measure of principal practice, as described in N.J.A.C. 6A:10-5.3(b), shall be no less than fifty percent of evaluation rubric rating.
5. Standardized assessments, used as a measure of student progress, shall not be the predominant factor in determining a Principal's annual summative rating.



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6. The Department shall periodically collect principal evaluation rubric data that shall include, but are not limited to, component-level scores and annual summative ratings.
- J. Student Achievement Components of Principal Evaluation Rubrics – N.J.A.C. 6A:10-5.2
1. Measures of student achievement shall be used to determine impact on student learning and shall include the following components:
 - a. The school-wide student growth percentile of all students assigned to the Principal;
 - b. Average student growth objective scores of every teacher, as described in N.J.A.C. 6A:10-4.2(e), assigned to the Principal; and
 - c. Administrator goals set by Principals, Vice Principals, or Assistant Principals in consultation with their supervisor pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:10-5.2(e), which shall be specific and measurable, based on student growth and/or achievement data.
 2. The school-wide student growth percentile score shall be included in the annual summative rating of Principals, Vice Principals, and Assistant Principals who are assigned to a school as of October 15 and who are employed in schools where student growth percentiles are available for students in one or more grades. If the Principal, Vice Principal, or Assistant Principal is employed in more than one school, the Superintendent shall assign to the Principal, Vice Principal, or Assistant Principal, as appropriate, the school-wide student growth percentile from one school and shall notify the Principal, Vice Principal, or Assistant Principal at the beginning of the school year of the student growth percentile assignment.
 3. The Department shall calculate the school-wide student growth percentile for Principals, Vice Principals, and Assistant Principals.



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4. The average student growth objective scores of all teachers, as described in N.J.A.C. 6A:10-4.2(e), shall be a component of the Principal's annual summative rating. The average student growth objective scores for Vice Principals or Assistant Principals shall be determined according to the following procedures:
 - a. The Principal, in consultation with the Vice Principal or Assistant Principal, shall determine prior to the start of the school year, which teachers, if not all teachers in the school, shall be linked to the Vice Principal's and Assistant Principal's average student growth objective score.
 - b. If the Vice Principal or Assistant Principal does not agree with the list of teachers linked to his or her name for the purposes of this measurement, the Principal shall make the final determination.

5. Administrator goals for Principals, Vice Principals, or Assistant Principals shall be developed and measured according to the following procedures:
 - a. The designated supervisor shall determine for all Principals, Vice Principals, or Assistant Principals, the number of required administrator goals which shall reflect the achievement of a significant number of students within the school. By August 31 prior to the school year in which the evaluation rubric applies, the Department shall provide on the Department's website the minimum and maximum number of required goals, which will be at least one goal and no more than four goals.
 - b. Principals, Vice Principals, or Assistant Principals shall develop, in consultation with their designated supervisor, each administrator goal. Each Vice Principal and Assistant Principal shall set goals specific to his or her job description or adopt the same goals as his or her Principal. If the Principal, Vice Principal, or Assistant Principal and



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his or her designated supervisor do not agree upon the administrator goal the Principal's, Vice Principal's, or Assistant Principal's designated supervisor shall make the final determination.

- c. Administrator goals and the criteria for assessing performance based on those objectives shall be determined, recorded, and retained by the Principal, Vice Principal, or Assistant Principal and his or her designated supervisor by October 31 of each school year, or within twenty-five **Principal, Vice Principal, and Assistant Principal** working days of the Principal's, Vice Principal's, or Assistant Principal's start date if he or she begins work after October 1.
- d. The administrator goal score shall be approved by the designated supervisor of the Principal, Vice Principal, or Assistant Principal. The Principal's, Vice Principal's, or Assistant Principal's administrator goal score, if available, shall be discussed at his or her annual summary conference and recorded in his or her personnel file.

K. Principal Practice Component of Evaluation Rubric – N.J.A.C. 6A:10-5.3

1. Measures of principal practice shall include a measure determined through a Commissioner-approved principal practice instrument and may include a leadership measure determined through the Department-created leadership rubric.
2. Principal practice component rating shall be based on the measurement of the Principal's, Vice Principal's, or Assistant Principal's performance according to the school district's Commissioner-approved principal practice instrument. Observations pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:10-5.4 shall be used as one form of evidence for this measurement.



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3. Leadership practice shall be determined by a score on a leadership rubric, which will assess the Principal's, Vice Principal's, or Assistant Principal's ability to improve student achievement and teaching staff member effectiveness through identified leader behaviors. The rubric will be posted on the Department's website and annually maintained.
- L. Principal, Vice Principal, and Assistant Principal Observations – N.J.A.C. 6A:10-5.4
1. The Superintendent or his or her designee, shall conduct observations for the evaluation of Principals pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:6-121 and he or she shall be trained pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2.2(b).
 2. A Principal, or the Superintendent or his or her designee, shall conduct observations for the evaluation of Vice Principals and Assistant Principals pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:6-121.
 3. For the purpose of collecting data for the evaluation of a Principal, Vice Principal, or Assistant Principal, an observation, as described in N.J.S.A. 18A:6-119 and N.J.A.C. 6A:10-1.2, may include, but is not limited to: building walk-through, staff meeting observation, parent conference observation, or case study analysis of a significant student issue.
 4. Post-observation conferences shall include the following procedures:
 - a. A supervisor who is present at the observation shall conduct a post-observation conference with the Principal, Vice Principal, or Assistant Principal being observed. A post-observation conference shall occur no more than fifteen Principal, Vice Principal, or Assistant Principal working days following each observation.



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- b. The post-observation conference shall be for the purpose of reviewing the data collected at the observation, connecting the data to the principal practice instrument and the Principal's, Vice Principal's, or Assistant Principal's individual professional development plan, collecting additional information needed for the evaluation, and offering areas to improve effectiveness.
 - c. With the consent of the observed Principal, Vice Principal, or Assistant Principal, post-observation conferences for individuals who are not on a corrective action plan may be conducted via written communication, including electronic communication.
 - d. One post-observation conference may be combined with the Principal's, Vice Principal's, or Assistant Principal's annual summary conference as long as it occurs within the required fifteen Principal, Vice Principal, or Assistant Principal working days following the observation.
 - e. A written or electronic observation report shall be signed by the supervisor who conducted the observation and post-observation and the Principal, Vice Principal, or Assistant Principal who was observed.
 - f. The Principal, Vice Principal, or Assistant Principal shall submit his or her written objection(s) of the evaluation within ten **Principal, Vice Principal, and Assistant Principal** working days following the conference. The objection(s) shall be attached to each party's copy of the annual performance report.
5. Each tenured Principal, Vice Principal, and Assistant Principal shall be observed as described in N.J.A.C. 6A:10-5.4, at least two times during each school year. Each nontenured Principal, Vice Principal, and Assistant Principal shall be observed as described in N.J.A.C. 6A:10-5.4 at least three times during each school year, as



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required by N.J.S.A. 18A:27-3.1. An additional observation shall be conducted pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:10-2.5(h) for Principals, Vice Principals, and Assistant Principals who are on a corrective action plan.

M. Principal Practice Instrument – N.J.A.C. 6A:10-7.3

1. The principal practice instrument approved by the Department shall meet the following criteria:
 - a. Incorporate domains of practice and/or performance criteria that align to the **2015 2008 ISLLC Professional Standards for Educational School Leaders** developed by the **National Policy Board for Educational Administration (NPBEA) Interstate School Leadership Licensure Consortium** incorporated herein by reference, available at:

http://www.cesso.org/documents/2008/educational_leadership_policy_standards_2008.pdf;
 - b. Include scoring guides for assessing principal practice that differentiate among a minimum of four levels of performance, and the differentiation has been shown in practice and/or research studies. Each scoring guide shall clearly define the expectations for each category and provide a conversion to four rating categories;
 - c. Rely on, to the extent possible, multiple sources of evidence collected throughout the school year, including, but not limited to, evaluation of a Principal's leadership related to:
 - (1) Implementing high-quality and standards-aligned curriculum, assessments, and instruction; and
 - (2) Evaluating the effectiveness of teaching staff members and supporting their professional growth.

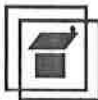


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- d. Include descriptions of specific training and implementation details required for the instrument to be effective.

Adopted:



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Nonrenewal of Nontenured Support Staff Member

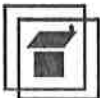
R 4146 NONRENEWAL OF NONTENURED SUPPORT STAFF MEMBER

A. Evaluations

1. Each nontenured support staff member shall be evaluated at least one time each school year.
2. Evaluations shall set forth both the strengths and weaknesses of the nontenured support staff member in order to provide an accurate assessment of his/her performance and to encourage the improvement of that performance.
3. Supervisors shall constructively point out performance deficiencies and offer assistance to nontenured support staff members in the improvement of professional skills.

B. Nonrenewal Recommendation

1. When a nontenured support staff member's performance does not meet the standards of the **school** district, **employment will not be offered to the nontenured support staff member's immediate supervisor for the next succeeding** ~~shall recommend to the Superintendent, no later than April 1, that the support staff member should not be reemployed in the following school year.~~
2. The nontenured support staff member shall be informed by the Superintendent of Schools, in writing, that employment for the next succeeding school year will not be offered. This written notice shall be provided to the nontenured support staff member in accordance with the **timelines and** terms of any applicable collective bargaining agreement, individual contract, or any other agreement between the parties.
3. A recommendation by the Superintendent **to not renew the nontenured support staff member** ~~for nonrenewal~~ may be based upon the nontenured support staff member's evaluations, job performance, or any factor affecting his/her employment in **the school** ~~this~~ district.



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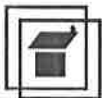
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Nonrenewal of Nontenured Support Staff Member

4. A nontenured support staff member contract can ~~only~~ be renewed **only** upon the Superintendent's recommendation and a majority vote of the full **membership of the Board**. The Board **shall** ~~may~~ not withhold its approval for arbitrary and capricious reasons.

C. Nonrenewal Action

1. **Prior to notifying the nontenured support staff member of the nonrenewal, the Superintendent shall notify the Board of the recommendation not to renew the nontenured support staff member's contract and the reasons for the recommendation.** ~~The Superintendent will notify Board members of the recommendation not to renew a nontenured teaching staff member's contract before notifying the nontenured teaching staff member of the recommendation not to renew.~~ The Superintendent may notify the Board members of the recommendation not to renew the nontenured **support** teaching staff member's contract and the reasons for the recommendation in a written notice to the Board prior to May 15. ~~In or in~~ the alternative, the Superintendent may notify the Board members of the recommendation not to renew a nontenured teaching staff member in an executive session. ~~Using this option~~ **If notification is provided to the Board in executive session**, the Superintendent and the Board will meet in executive session **in accordance with the timelines and terms of any applicable collective bargaining agreement, individual contract, or any other agreement between parties** prior to May 15 to review the Superintendent's recommendation(s) for nonrenewal of nontenured teaching staff members.
 - a. Notice of the executive session shall be given in accordance with N.J.S.A. 10:4-13 and individual notice shall be given, not less than forty-eight hours in advance of the meeting, to those nontenured support staff members whose possible nonrenewal will be discussed at the meeting. If any such **nontenured support staff member** ~~employee~~ requests the discussion take place in public, the recommendation for his/her nonrenewal will be severed from any other nonrenewal recommendation and will be scheduled for discussion at a public meeting.



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2. **The Superintendent will ensure the timelines for nonrenewal action are in accordance with the timelines and terms of any applicable collective bargaining agreement, individual contract, or any other agreement between the parties.**

32. A nontenured support staff member not recommended for renewal by the Superintendent is deemed not renewed. A Board of Education vote is not required on the Superintendent's recommendation(s) to not renew a nontenured support staff member's contract.

D. Notice of Nonrenewal

~~1. Notice of the Superintendent's decision not to renew shall be given to each nontenured support staff member not recommended for renewal in accordance with the terms of any applicable collective bargaining agreement, individual contract, or any other agreement between the parties. The Board may delegate the Superintendent or the Board Secretary to give the written notice of nonrenewal.~~

12. The nonrenewal notice shall be ~~in writing and~~ provided to the nontenured support staff member not recommended for renewal **by the Superintendent** in accordance with the terms of any applicable collective bargaining agreement, individual contract, or any other agreement between the parties. If hand delivered, a record shall be made of the date on which delivery was made. If sent by mail, the notice shall be sent registered mail, return receipt requested, to the nontenured support staff member's address of record.

E. Request for Statement of Reasons

1. **Any nontenured support staff member receiving notice that a contract for the succeeding school year will not be offered may, within fifteen calendar days thereafter, request in writing a statement of the reasons for such nonemployment which shall be given to the nontenured support staff member in writing thirty calendar days after the receipt of such request. A nonrenewed support staff member will be given a written statement of the reasons for which he/she was not renewed**



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~~provided the support staff member's request for a statement of reasons has been received by the Superintendent within fifteen calendar days after the support staff member has received written notice of his/her nonrenewal.~~

2. The statement of reasons for a nonrenewal will set forth, with as much particularity as possible, the precise reasons for the nonrenewal. Where the nonrenewal is based on performance deficiencies recorded in the **nontenured support staff member's** ~~employee's~~ evaluations and the **nontenured support staff member** ~~employee~~ has been given a copy of those evaluations, the statement of reasons may incorporate the evaluations by reference.
3. The statement of reasons may be prepared by the Superintendent or the Board Secretary and shall be delivered to the **nontenured support staff member** ~~employee~~ who requested **the statement of reasons** ~~it~~ within thirty calendar days after the receipt of the **nontenured support staff member's** ~~employee's~~ request **for the statement of reasons.**

F. Nonrenewal Appearance

1. **Whenever the nontenured support staff member has requested in writing and received a written statement of reasons for non-reemployment pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:27-3.2, the nontenured support staff member may request in writing an informal appearance before the Board. The written request shall be submitted to the Board within ten calendar days of the nontenured support staff member's receipt of the Board's statement of reasons** ~~A support staff member who has requested a statement of reasons for his/her nonrenewal will be granted an informal appearance before the Board to discuss those reasons, provided that he/she had submitted to the Superintendent a written request for such an appearance no later than ten calendar days after the support staff member's receipt of the written statement of reasons.~~
2. ~~A date for the~~ **The** informal appearance shall be scheduled within thirty calendar days from the **nontenured** support staff member's receipt of the Board's statement of reasons. ~~The appearance shall~~



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- ~~be conducted at an executive session for which notice has been given in accordance with N.J.S.A. 10:4-13.~~
3. The Board will **exercise discretion in determining** ~~determine~~ a reasonable length of time **for the proceeding** ~~to be devoted to the appearance,~~ depending upon each instance's specific circumstances.
 4. The proceeding of an informal appearance before the Board may be conducted **in executive session** pursuant to N.J.A.C. 10:4-12(b)(8). **If conducted in executive session notice must be given in accordance with N.J.S.A. 10:4-13.**
 53. **The Board shall provide the nontenured support staff member adequate written notice regarding the date and time of the informal appearance.** ~~The support staff member requesting the appearance shall be given written notice, no later than forty-eight hours in advance of the meeting at which it is scheduled, of the date, time, place, and duration of the appearance.~~
 64. **The nontenured support staff member's appearance before the Board shall not be an adversary proceeding. The purpose of the appearance shall be to provide the nontenured support staff member the opportunity to convince Board of Education members to offer reemployment.** ~~The purpose of the appearance shall be to permit the nonrenewed support staff member to convince the members of the Board to offer reemployment. To those ends, the appearance shall be informally conducted. This appearance provides a mechanism by which the nontenured support staff member, whose renewal has not been recommended by the Superintendent, can appeal to the Board, on which the Superintendent sits as a non-voting member pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:17-20.~~
 7. The proceeding of an informal appearance before the Board shall be conducted with the President of the Board presiding ~~and the appearance shall not be an adversary proceeding.~~
 85. **The nontenured support staff member may be represented by an attorney or by one individual of his/her choosing. He/She The nontenured support staff member may present, on his or her behalf, witnesses to testify on his/her behalf.** ~~Witnesses who do~~



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not need to present testimony under oath; and ~~their statements may be recorded. The~~ **shall not be cross-examined by the Board** will hear witnesses and ~~shall not cross-examine them.~~ Witnesses **shall** ~~will~~ be called **one at a time** into the meeting to address the Board ~~one at a time~~ and shall be excused from the meeting after making their statements.

G. Final Determination

1. ~~A nontenured support staff member not recommended for renewal by the Superintendent is deemed not renewed.~~ A Board vote is not required on the Superintendent's recommendation(s) to not renew a nontenured support staff member. However, after an informal appearance before the Board, the Superintendent may make a recommendation for reemployment **of the nontenured support staff member** to the voting members of the Board. ~~The voting members of the Board, by a majority vote of the full Board in public session, must approve the reemployment based on the Superintendent's recommendation.~~ **If the Superintendent recommends the nontenured teaching staff member for reemployment, the voting members of the Board must, by a majority vote of the full Board at a public session, approve or not approve the reemployment.**
2. The Board may, with a majority vote of its full membership in public session and without the recommendation of the Superintendent, offer the nontenured support staff member reemployment after the informal appearance before the Board.
- 3~~1~~. **Within three working days following the informal appearance, the Board shall notify the affected nontenured support staff member, in writing, of its final determination. The Board may delegate notification of its final determination to the Superintendent or Board Secretary. The final determination will be delivered to the nontenured support staff member, in writing, no later than three days following the informal appearance. The Board may delegate the Superintendent or the Board Secretary to deliver the final determination.**

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Mandated

R 6471 SCHOOL DISTRICT TRAVEL PROCEDURES

A. Definitions (N.J.S.A. 6A:23A-1.2)

1. For the purpose of this Policy, “travel expenditures” means those costs paid by the school district using local, State, or Federal funds, whether directly by the school district or by employee reimbursement, for travel by school district employees and district Board of Education members, to the following five types of travel events:
 - a. Training and seminars – means all regularly scheduled, formal residential or non-residential training functions conducted at a hotel, motel, convention center, residential facility, or at any educational institution or facility;
 - b. Conventions and conferences – means general programs, sponsored by professional associations on a regular basis, which address subjects of particular interest to a school district or are convened to conduct association business. The primary purpose of employee attendance at conferences and conventions is the development of new skills and knowledge or the reinforcement of those skills and knowledge in a particular field related to school district operations. These are distinct from formal staff training and seminars, although some training may take place at such events;
 - c. School district sponsored events – means conferences, conventions, receptions, or special meetings, where the school plans, develops, implements, and coordinates the event and is the event’s primary financial backer. School district employees are actively involved in working the event and other employees may attend as participants;



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- d. Regular school district business travel – means all regular official business travel, including attendance at meetings, conferences, and any other gatherings which are not covered by the definitions included in a., b., and c. above. Regular school district business travel also includes attendance at regularly scheduled in-State county meetings and Department-sponsored or association-sponsored events provided free of charge and regularly scheduled in-State professional development activities with a registration fee that does not exceed \$150 per employee or district Board member. The \$150 limit per employee or district Board member may be adjusted by inflation; and
- e. Retreats – means meetings with school district employees and school Board members, held away from the normal work environment at which organizational goals and objectives are discussed. If available, school district facilities shall be utilized for this type of event.

B. Maximum Travel Budget (N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.3)

- 1. Annually in the prebudget year, the Board of Education shall establish by resolution a maximum travel expenditure amount for the budget year, which the school district shall not exceed. The resolution shall also include the maximum amount established for the prebudget year and the amount spent to date.
 - a. The maximum school district travel expenditure amount shall include all travel supported by local and State funds.
 - b. The Board may exclude travel expenditures supported by Federal funds from the maximum travel expenditure amount.
 - (1) If Federal funds are excluded from the established maximum amount, the Board shall include in the resolution the total amount of travel supported by Federal funds from the prior year, prebudget year, and projected for the budget year.



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- c. Exclusion of Federal funds from the annual maximum travel budget shall not exempt such travel from the requirements applicable to State and local funds.
 2. The Board of Education may authorize an annual maximum amount per employee for regular business travel only for which Board of Education approval is not required.
 - a. The annual maximum shall not exceed \$1,500 and shall be subject to the approval requirements in N.J.S.A. 18A:19-1.
 - b. Regular school district business travel as defined in N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-1.2 and in this Regulation shall include attendance at regularly scheduled in-State county meetings and Department-sponsored or association-sponsored events provided free of charge. It also shall include regularly scheduled in-State professional development activities for which the registration fee does not exceed \$150 per employee or Board member.
 - c. Regular school district business travel shall require approval of the Superintendent prior to obligating the school district to pay related expenses and prior to attendance at the travel event.
 - (1) The Superintendent shall designate an alternate approval authority to approve travel requests in his or her absence when necessary to obtain timely district Board of Education approval.
 - (2) The Superintendent shall establish, in writing, the internal levels of approval required prior to his or her approval of the travel event, as applicable.
- C. Travel Approval Procedures (N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.4)
 1. All travel requests for employees of the school district shall be submitted to the Superintendent or designee and approved in writing by the Superintendent and approved by a majority of the Board of Education's full voting membership, except if the Board of Education has excluded regular business travel from prior approval in Policy 6471 pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.3(b), prior to obligating the school district to pay related expenses and prior to attendance at the travel event.



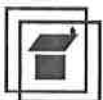
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- a. The Superintendent shall designate an alternate approval authority to approve travel requests in his or her absence when necessary to obtain timely Board approval.
 - b. The Superintendent shall establish, in writing, the internal levels of preliminary approval required prior to the Superintendent's approval of the travel event, as applicable.
 - (1) The School Business Administrator/Board Secretary or designee shall review all travel requests either before or after the Superintendent's approval and prior to submission of the Board for approval to determine if the expenses as outlined in the request are in compliance with the requirements of N.J.S.A. 18A:11-12, N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7, the current State travel payment guidelines established by the Department of the Treasury, and the current guidelines established by the Federal Office of Management and Budget.
 - (a) If any travel expenses requested are not in compliance with the guidelines outlined above, the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary or designee will return the request to be revised in accordance with the guidelines outlined above.
 - (b) The Superintendent may deny the request, approve the request conditioned upon the staff member assuming the financial responsibility for those travel expenses that are not in compliance with the guidelines, or may return the request to the school staff member to be revised in accordance with the guidelines outlined above.
2. All travel requests for Board members shall require prior approval by a majority of the Board's full voting membership, except where the Board has excluded regular business travel from prior approval pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.3(b), and the travel shall be in compliance with N.J.S.A. 18A:12-24 and 24.1.



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3. The Board of Education may approve, at any time prior to the event, travel for multiple months as long as the approval detailed in Board of Education minutes itemizes the approval by event, total cost, and number of employees and/or Board members attending the event. General or blanket pre-approval shall not be authorized.
4. All travel requests shall receive prior approval of the Board of Education except if the Board has excluded from the requirements prior Board approval of any travel caused by or subject to existing contractual provisions, including grants and donations, and other statutory requirements, or Federal regulatory requirements in Policy 6471 pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.4(d). For the exclusion of prior Board approval to apply, the required travel event shall be detailed, with number of employee(s), Board member(s), and total cost in the applicable contract, grant, donation, statute, or Federal regulation.
 - a. This shall not include general grant guidelines or regulations that are permissive, but do not require the travel event, unless the specific travel event, number of employee(s), Board member(s), and total cost is detailed in the approved grant, donation, or other fund acceptance agreement.
 - b. This shall not include general contractual provisions in employment contracts for continuing education or professional development, except if the Board has included in its policy a maximum amount per employee for regular business travel that does not require prior Board of Education approval pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.3.
5. If occasional unforeseen situations arise wherein a travel request cannot obtain prior approval of the Board of Education, justification shall be included in the text of the travel request.



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- a. Such requests shall require prior written approval of the Superintendent or designee, and the Executive County Superintendent or designee.
 - b. The Board shall ratify the request at its next regularly scheduled meeting.
 - c. Travel to conferences, conventions, and symposiums shall not be considered emergencies and shall not be approved after the fact.
6. Subsequent to pre-approval by a majority of the full voting membership of the Board of Education, reimbursement of prospective employee travel expense shall be pre-approved by the Executive County Superintendent.
- D. Required Documentation for Travel (N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.5)
1. The Board of Education requires the documentation listed in D.2. below to justify the number of employees attending an event and the benefits to be derived from their attendance;
 2. Neither the Superintendent or designee, nor the Board of Education shall approve a travel request unless it includes, at a minimum, the following information:
 - a. The name and date(s) of the event;
 - b. A list of Board members and/or employees to attend, either by name and title;
 - c. The estimated cost associated with travel;
 - d. A justification and brief statement that includes the primary purpose for the travel, the key issues that will be addressed at the event, and their relevance to improving instruction or the operation of the school district.
 - (1) For training events, the statement must include whether the training is for a certification required for



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continued employment, continuing education requirements, requirements of Federal or State law, or other purpose related to the programs and services currently being delivered or soon to be implemented in the school district; or related to school district operations;

- e. The account number and funding source - Federal, State, private, or local; and
 - f. For annual events, the total attendance and cost for the previous year.
3. The school district shall maintain documentation on file that demonstrates compliance with the Board of Education's travel policy, including travel approvals, reports, and receipts for all school district funded expenditures, as appropriate.
- E. School Business Administrator/Board Secretary Responsibilities Regarding Accounting for Travel (N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.6)
- 1. The School Business Administrator/Board Secretary or designee shall prepare itemized travel budgets by function and object of expense for each cost center, department, or location maintained in the school district's accounting system, as applicable, as part of the preparation of and documentation for the annual school district budget.
 - a. The aggregate amount of all travel budgets shall not exceed the Board of Education approved maximum travel expenditure amount for the budget year as required by N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.3.
 - 2. The School Business Administrator/Board Secretary shall maintain separate accounting for school district travel expenditures, as necessary, to ensure compliance with the school district's maximum travel expenditure amount. The separate accounting tracking system may include, but need not be limited to, a separate or offline accounting of such expenditures or expanding the school district's accounting system. The tracking system shall be sufficient to demonstrate compliance with Policy and Regulation 6471 and



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N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7, and shall be in a detailed format suitable for audit.

3. The School Business Administrator/Board Secretary or designee shall review and approve the cost and supporting documentation required by N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7 and submitted by the person(s) having incurred travel expense. The School Business Administrator shall not approve or issue payment of travel expenditures or reimbursement requests until all required documentation and information to support the payment has been submitted, and shall not approve any travel expenditure that, when added to already approved travel expenditures, would exceed the Board of Education approved maximum travel expenditure amount for the budget year.
4. The School Business Administrator/Board Secretary shall be responsible for the adequacy of documentation of transactions processed by his or her staff and the retention of the documentation to permit audits of the records.
5. A Board of Education employee, a Board member, or an organization shall not receive partial or full payment for travel and travel-related expenses in advance of the travel, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:19-1 et seq. The payment of travel and travel-related expenses, including travel-related purchases for which a purchase order is not applicable, shall be made personally by a school district employee or Board member and reimbursed at the conclusion of the travel event. N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.6, Policy 6471, and this Regulation do not preclude the school district from paying the vendor directly with the proper use of a purchase order (for example, for registration, airline tickets, hotel).

F. Sanctions for Violations of Travel Requirements (N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.7)

1. A Board of Education that violates its established maximum travel expenditure, as set forth in N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.3, or that otherwise is not in compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7 travel limitations, may be subject to sanctions by the Commissioner as authorized pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:4-23 and 24, including reduction of State aid in an amount equal to any excess expenditure pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:11-12 and 18A:7F-60.



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2. The staff member designated as the final approval authority for travel who approves any travel request or reimbursement in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7 and Policy and Regulation 6471 shall reimburse the school district in an amount equal to three times the cost associated with attending the event, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:11-12.
3. An employee or Board member who violates the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7 and Policy and Regulation 6471 shall be required to reimburse the school district in an amount equal to three times the cost associated with attending the event, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:11-12.
4. In accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.7(d), there must be procedures to monitor compliance and application of the penalty, as outlined in N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.7, upon determination a violation has occurred after Board of Education payment of the event.
 - a. In addition to the annual audit test procedures to ensure compliance as required in N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.7(e) and F.5. below, the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary will designate a staff member to review travel payments that are being recommended to the Board for payment prior to Board approval and travel payments previously approved by the Board for payment and paid for any violations.
 - (1) In the event the annual audit test procedures or the review by the staff member designated by the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary determines a travel payment recommended to the Board for payment or a travel payment previously approved by the Board and was paid in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7 and Policy and Regulation 6471, the school district auditor or the staff member designated by the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary shall inform the Superintendent of Schools of the violation in writing.



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- (2) The Superintendent shall determine if a violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7 requires a penalty in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.7.
 - (3) If a violation is determined prior to payment or reimbursement of the travel event, the Superintendent may exclude application of any additional penalties.
 5. The annual audit conducted pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:23-1 shall include test procedures to ensure compliance with the Board of Education's policy and travel limitations set forth in this section and N.J.S.A. 18A:11-12.
- G. Prohibitive Travel Reimbursements (N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.8)
 1. The following types of expenditures are not eligible for reimbursement:
 - a. Subsistence reimbursement for one-day trips, except for meals expressly authorized by and in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.12;
 - b. Subsistence reimbursement for overnight travel within the State, except where authorized by the Commissioner in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.11;
 - c. Travel by Board members or employees whose duties are unrelated to the purpose of the travel event or who are not required to attend to meet continuing education requirements or to comply with law or regulation;
 - d. Travel by spouses, civil union partners, domestic partners, immediate family members, and other relatives;
 - e. Costs for employee attendance for coordinating other attendees' accommodations at the travel event;



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- f. Lunch or refreshments for training sessions and retreats held within the school district, including in-service days and for employee participants traveling from other locations within the school district;
- g. Training to maintain a certification that is not required as a condition of employment (For example: CPE credits to maintain a CPA license if the employee is not required to be a CPA for continued school district employment);
- h. Charges for laundry, valet service, and entertainment;
- i. Limousine services and chauffeuring costs to, or during, the event;
- j. Car rentals, either utilized for airport transportation or transportation at a conference, convention, etc., unless absolutely necessary for the conduct of school district business. Justification shall accompany any request for car rentals. If approved, the most economical car rental is to be used, including the use of subcompacts and discounted and special rates. An example of the justified use of a car rental is when an employee is out of State, making inspections at various locations, and the use of public transportation is impracticable. When car rental is authorized, the employee shall not be issued an advance payment for the anticipated expense associated with the rental;
- k. Alcoholic beverages;
- l. Entertainment costs, including amusement, diversion, social activities, and any costs directly associated with such costs (such as tickets to shows or sports events, meals, lodging, rentals, transportation, and gratuities);
- m. Gratuities or tips in excess of those permitted by Federal per diem rates;
- n. Reverse telephone charges or third party calls;



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- o. Hospitality rooms;
 - p. Souvenirs, memorabilia, promotional items, or gifts;
 - q. Air fare without documentation of quotes from at least three airlines and/or on-line services; and
 - r. Other travel expenditures that are unnecessary and/or excessive.
- H. Travel Methods (N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.9)
- 1. For the purpose of section H. of this Regulation and N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.9, "transportation" means necessary official travel on railroads, airlines, shuttles, buses, taxicabs, rideshares, school district-owned or leased vehicles, and personal vehicles.
 - 2. The purchase or payment of related transportation expenses shall be made by purchase order or personally by a school district employee or Board member and reimbursed at the conclusion of the travel event. An actual invoice or receipt for each purchase or expense shall be submitted with a claim for reimbursement.
 - 3. Pursuant to Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Travel Circulars and N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.1 et seq., the following travel methods requirements shall apply:
 - a. Air and rail tickets shall be purchased via the Internet, if possible, using airline or online travel services such as Travelocity, Expedia, or Hotwire.
 - b. Air travel shall be authorized only when determined that it is necessary and advantageous to conduct school district business.
 - (1) The most economical air travel should be used, including the use of discounted and special rates.



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- (2) The following options should be considered when booking tickets:
 - (a) Connecting versus nonstop flights;
 - (b) Departing earlier or later compared to the preferred departure time;
 - (c) Utilizing alternative airports within a city, for example, Chicago, Illinois-Midway Airport versus O'Hare Airport;
 - (d) Utilizing alternative cities, for example, Newark versus Philadelphia;
 - (e) Utilizing "low cost" airlines; and
 - (f) Exploring alternate arrival and/or departure days.
- (3) No employee or Board member can earn benefits as a result of school district funded travel. Employees and Board members shall be prohibited from receiving "frequent flyer" or other benefits accruing from school district funded travel.
- (4) Airfare other than economy (that is, business or first class) shall not be fully reimbursed by the school district except when travel in such classes:
 - (a) Is less expensive than economy;
 - (b) Avoids circuitous routings or excessive flight duration; or
 - (c) Would result in overall transportation cost savings.



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- (5) All airfare other than economy and not covered by the above exceptions purchased by an employee or Board member shall be reimbursed only at the economy rate for the approved destination.
 - (6) Cost estimates on travel requests and associated authorizations shall be consistent with current airline tariffs, with consideration of available special fares or discounts, for the requested destination.
 - (7) Airline tickets shall not be booked until all necessary approvals have been obtained.
 - (8) Additional expenses over and above the authorized travel request shall be considered only for factors outside the purchaser's control. The burden of proof shall be placed upon the purchaser and any additional expenses incurred without sufficient justification and documentation, as determined by the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, shall not be reimbursed.
 - (9) Justification shall accompany requests for airline ticket reimbursement when purchased by employees or Board members contrary to H.3.b.(1) through (8) above. Sufficient justification shall be considered only for factors outside the purchaser's control. Noncompliant purchases without sufficient justification shall not be reimbursed.
- c. Rail travel shall be authorized only when determined that it is necessary and advantageous to conduct school district business.
- (1) The most economical scheduling of rail travel shall be utilized, including excursion and government discounts, whenever applicable.



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- (2) The use of high-speed rail services, such as Acela, shall not be authorized.
 - (3) All rail travel shall be processed in the same manner as prescribed for air travel in H.3.b. above.
- d. Use of a school district-owned or -leased vehicle shall be the first means of ground transportation. Use of a personally owned vehicle on a mileage basis shall not be permitted for official business where a school district-owned or -leased vehicle is available.
- (1) Mileage allowance in lieu of actual expenses of transportation shall be approved by the Board and allowed at the rate authorized by the annual State Appropriations Act, or a lesser rate at the Board's discretion for an employee or Board member traveling by his or her personally owned vehicle on official business.
 - (a) If any condition in an existing negotiated contract is in conflict with the OMB Travel Circulars, such as the mileage reimbursement rates, the provisions of the existing contract shall prevail.
 - (2) Parking and toll charges shall be allowed in addition to mileage allowance.
 - (3) Reimbursement for travel to points outside the State by automobile shall be permitted when such arrangements prove to be more efficient and economical than other means of public transportation.
 - (4) In determining the relative costs of private and public transportation, all associated costs (that is, tolls, taxicabs, airport or station transfers, etc.) shall be considered.



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- (5) All employees and Board members using privately owned cars in the performance of their duties for the school district shall present a New Jersey Insurance Identification Card indicating that insurance coverage is in full force and effect with companies approved by the State Department of Banking and Insurance. The card shall be made available to the Superintendent or designee before authorization to use privately owned cars.
 - (6) Employees and district Board members who are out-of-State residents shall provide appropriate insurance identification in lieu of the New Jersey Insurance Identification Card.
 - e. School district-owned or -leased vehicles shall be utilized in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-6.12.
 - f. Necessary taxicab or rideshare charges shall be permitted. However, travel to and from airports, downtown areas, and between hotel and event site shall be confined to regularly scheduled shuttle service, whenever such service is complimentary or is less costly. If shuttle service is not available, taxicabs or rideshares may be used.
 - g. Cruises shall not be permitted for travel events or transportation.
- I. Routing of Travel (N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.10)
- 1. Pursuant to State travel guidelines as established by the New Jersey Department of the Treasury, Office of Management and Budget, and presented in the OMB Travel Circulars:
 - a. All travel shall follow the most direct, economical, and usually traveled route. Travel by other routes as a result of official necessity shall be eligible for payment or reimbursement only if satisfactorily established in advance of such travel.



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- b. If a person travels by indirect route for personal convenience, the extra expense shall be borne by the individual.
 - c. Reimbursement for expenses shall be based only on charges that do not exceed what would have been incurred by using the most direct, economical, and usually traveled route.
- J. Subsistence Allowance – Overnight Travel (N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.11)
- 1. Pursuant to the State travel guidelines as established by the New Jersey Department of the Treasury, Office of Management and Budget, and presented in the OMB Travel Circulars, one-day trips that do not involve overnight lodging shall not be eligible for subsistence reimbursement, except for meals expressly authorized by and in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.12.
 - 2. Pursuant to the OMB Travel Circulars, generally, overnight travel shall not be eligible for subsistence reimbursement if travel is within the State. Overnight travel is permitted if it is authorized pursuant to 3. below, or is a required component by the entity issuing a grant, donation, or other funding agreement with the school district. The specific required overnight in-State travel event shall be detailed in the final grant, donation, or other fund acceptance agreement along with the number of authorized travelers and total cost. All reimbursements shall be subject to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7 unless the funding acceptance agreement specifies otherwise.
 - 3. Pursuant to the State travel regulations as established by the New Jersey Department of the Treasury, Office of Management and Budget, and presented in the OMB Travel Circulars, the Commissioner shall be authorized to grant waivers for overnight travel for Board members and school district employees to attend in-State conferences.



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- a. Such waivers will be granted in only extremely limited circumstances when the sponsoring organization can demonstrate the conference is broad and multi-disciplinary in scope, incorporates content offerings from numerous specialty areas, and includes important professional development opportunities and/or required training.
- b. The sponsoring organization shall demonstrate the conference's content, structure, scheduling, and anticipated attendance necessitate that it be held on multiple consecutive days with overnight lodging. When such waivers are granted, individual school districts or individuals shall not be required to submit waiver requests for attendance at these conferences.
- c. Sponsors of in-State conferences may submit to the Commissioner a request for a waiver of this prohibition by providing information regarding the conference as follows:
 - (1) The name and dates of the event;
 - (2) Justification for the length of the conference and the necessity to hold events for each day beyond the first day of the conference;
 - (3) Identification of all other conferences sponsored or co-sponsored by the organization (whether single or multi-day) in the previous year;
 - (4) A description of the target audience by position title and/or educational certificate and endorsement;
 - (5) Justification of the importance of the target audience attending the event;
 - (6) The cost of registration;



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- (7) A detailed list and description of any activities to be charged to the participants by the sponsor separate from the registration fee, such as luncheons, workshops, entertainment, etc., including:
 - (a) The cost of the activity;
 - (b) Whether participation is mandatory or voluntary; and
 - (c) The purpose such as social, guest speaker, working session, etc.
 - (8) A copy of agenda or program for the event;
 - (9) A brief statement that includes the primary purpose of the event, the key issues that will be addressed at the event, and their relevance to improving instruction or the operation of a school or school district;
 - (10) For training events, whether the training is needed for a certification required for continued employment, continuing education requirements, or requirements of Federal or State law; and
 - (11) For annual events, total attendance, and registration cost for the previous year.
4. If a waiver of the prohibition on overnight travel is granted pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.11, it shall permit reimbursement for travel expenses only for individuals whose home-to-convention commute exceeds fifty miles.
 5. Overnight travel within the State shall not be eligible for subsistence reimbursement if travel is on the day prior to the start of the conference. Reimbursement shall be prohibited for lodging prior to check-in time for the first day of the event or after check-out time on the last day of the event.



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6. The United States General Services Administration publishes a schedule of Federal per diem rates in the Federal Register for approved overnight travel by the event location. The latest Federal per diem rates schedule for lodging, meals, and incidental expenses by location can be found at www.gsa.gov. The following restrictions apply to allowable per diem reimbursements:
 - a. Allowable per diem reimbursement for lodging, meals, and incidentals shall be actual reasonable costs, not to exceed the Federal per diem rates for the event location. Registration and conference fees are not subject to the Federal per diem rate caps. If the event location is not listed, the maximum per diem allowance shall be equal to the standard Continental United States (CONUS) per diem rates published by the General Services Administration for meals, incidental expenses, and lodging.
 - b. Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:11-12.o., reimbursement for lodging expenses for overnight travel, out-of-State or in-State as authorized by the Commissioner, may exceed the Federal per diem rates if the hotel is the site of the convention, conference, seminar, or meeting and the going rate of the hotel is in excess of Federal per diem rates.
 - (1) If the hotel at the site of the current travel event is not available, lodging may be paid for similar accommodations at a rate not to exceed the hotel rate at the site of the current event.
 - (2) If there is no hotel at the site of the current travel event (for example, Atlantic City Convention Center), then reimbursement for lodging shall not exceed the Federal per diem rate.
 - b. If the meal is not part of a one-sum fee for a travel event, reimbursement may be approved for the full cost of an official convention meal that the employee or Board member attends, when such meal is scheduled as an integral part of the convention or conference proceedings. Receipts shall be submitted to obtain reimbursement in such situations. The amount of the Federal per diem rate for the corresponding meal shall be deducted from that day's subsistence allowance.



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- d. The allowance for a meal(s) or incidentals shall not be eligible for reimbursement when included and paid in the registration fee, the cost of lodging, or transportation charge.
 - e. Receipts shall be required for all hotel and incidental expenses. Meal expenses under the Federal per diem allowance limits shall not require receipts pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:11-12.o.(3), unless required by the Board of Education.
 - f. If the total per diem reimbursement is greater than the Federal per diem rates, the costs shall be considered excessive in the absence of substantial justification accompanying the travel voucher submitted by the employee or district Board member. In such cases, receipts shall be submitted for all costs, including meals.
 - g. Employees and Board members shall patronize hotels and motels that offer special rates to government employees unless alternative lodging offers greater cost benefits or is more advantageous to the conduct of school district business.
 - h. Actual subsistence expenses shall not be reimbursable if paid by the traveler to a member of his or her family, to another school district employee, or to a family member of another school district employee.
- K. Meal Allowance – Special Conditions – and Allowable Incidental Travel Expenditures (N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.12)
- 1. Meals for in-State travel shall not be eligible for reimbursement except as expressly authorized within N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.
 - 2. A meal allowance may be provided to employees or Board members in relation to one-day, out-of-State trips required for school business purposes that do not require an overnight stay. The reimbursement for breakfast, lunch, and/or dinner

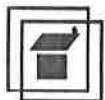


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shall not exceed the amounts authorized in State travel regulations as published by the New Jersey Department of the Treasury, Office of Management and Budget, and presented in the OMB Travel Circulars.

3. Lunch for off-site training sessions may be authorized for an amount up to \$7 per person only when it is necessary that employees or Board members remain at a site other than their school district and there are no viable options for lunch at the off-site location.
 - a. Per N.J.S.A. 18A:11-12.a.(1)(d), employee and Board member retreats shall be held onsite unless there is no school district site available.
 - b. If lunch is included in a lump-sum registration fee for an off-site training session, the full amount is eligible for reimbursement, if reasonable. Providing lunch for on-site staff meetings and in-service days or for employees who come from other parts of the school district shall not be permitted. (See K.4. below.)
 - c. Refreshments for breaks may also be provided at training sessions held at a site other than the school district.
4. Subsistence expenses for an employee or Board member shall not be allowed within the school district or within a radius of ten miles thereof, except for meals expressly authorized by and in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.12. Non-allowed expenses include, but are not limited to, meals and refreshments for on-site staff meetings and in-service days.
5. Reimbursement may be approved for the cost of an official luncheon or dinner, up to \$10 and \$15, respectively, that an employee or Board member is authorized to attend, if the meal is scheduled as an integral part of an official proceeding or program related to school district business and the employee's or Board member's responsibilities.



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- a. School district business above refers to the management operations of the school district and does not refer to activities that benefit students and are part of the instructional program. Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.8(b)4, all reasonable expenditures related to school district employees that are essential to the conduct of a student activity are permitted.
6. Regular meetings, special meetings, and work sessions of the Board of Education shall be limited to light meals and refreshments for all Board members.
 - a. The meals may be served to employees who are required to attend the event and if it is impractical for the employee to commute to and from his or her residence between the end of the work day and the beginning of the event, or if the employee is required to remain at the school district to prepare for the event.
 - b. The school district shall acquire the light meals and refreshments by the solicitation of quotes, if required pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-1 et seq.
 - c. If the school district's food service program can prepare comparable meals at a lower cost, the food service program shall be used.
 - d. The average cost per meal shall not exceed \$10.
 - e. The school district shall purchase or prepare food that is sufficient to provide each district Board member, dignitary, non-employee speaker, or allowable staff member one meal. Meals should be carefully ordered to avoid excess. Unintended left over food should be donated to a charitable shelter or similar facility, if at all possible.
 7. Reimbursement may be approved for allowable telephone and incidental travel expenses that are essential to transacting official business.



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- a. Charges for telephone calls on official business may be allowed. The voucher shall show the dates on which such calls were made, the points between which each call was made, and the cost per call.
 - b. Employees and Board members using their personally owned telephone for business may request reimbursement, less Federal Communications Tax. Calls for business are tax exempt and the telephone company will make allowances for the tax if the employee or Board member certifies to the telephone company when paying bills for personally owned phones that said calls were business calls.
 - c. Incidental expenses, defined as "non-meal tips" by the State travel regulations, when necessarily incurred by the traveler in connection with the transaction of official business, may be submitted for reimbursement only when the necessity and nature of the expense are clearly and fully explained on the travel voucher and the voucher is approved. Travel vouchers shall be supported by receipts showing the quantity and unit price.
- L. Records and Supporting Documents (N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.13)
1. All persons authorized to travel on business shall keep a memorandum of expenditures chargeable to the school district, noting each item at the time and date the expense is incurred.
 2. The travel voucher shall be completed by the employee or Board member to document the details of the travel event. The travel voucher shall be signed by the employee or Board member to certify the validity of the charges for which reimbursement is sought. The form also shall bear the signatures of approval officials for processing.
 3. Sufficient documentation shall be maintained centrally by the school district to support payment and approval of the travel voucher.



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4. In addition to the documentation required for reimbursement, each person authorized to travel shall submit a brief report that includes the primary purpose for the travel, the key issues addressed at the event, and their relevance to improving instruction or the operations of the school district. This report shall be submitted prior to receiving reimbursement.
5. Documentation for requests for travel reimbursement shall show:
 - a. The date(s) and individual points of travel, number of miles traveled between such points, and kind of conveyance used;
 - b. If the distance traveled between individual points is greater than the usual route between the points, the reason for the greater distance shall be stated;
 - c. The hours of the normal work day and actual hours worked shall be shown when requesting meal reimbursement for non-overnight travel;
 - d. Original receipts shall be required for all reimbursable expenses, except for meals that qualify for per diem allowances and for parking meters;
 - e. Actual vendor receipts for personal credit card charges shall be attached to reimbursement requests. Credit card statements shall not be accepted as documentation of expenses;
 - f. Personal charges on a hotel bill shall be deducted and shown on the bill;
 - g. When lodging is shared jointly, the fact shall be stated on the travel voucher;
 - h. Where travel is not by the most economical, usually traveled route, the employee or Board member reimbursement request shall set forth the details of the route, the expenses actually incurred, the hour of departure, the hour of arrival, and an explanation for the use of costlier travel arrangements;



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- i. When travel is authorized for the employee's or Board member's own automobile on a mileage basis, the points between which travel was made, and the distance traveled between each place shall be shown. A statement as to ownership of the auto or other conveyance used, as well as a certification that liability insurance is in effect, shall be documented;
 - j. Reimbursement requests shall be supported by other receipts as required;
 - k. The voucher shall be itemized; and
 - l. Reimbursement requests shall be rendered monthly when in excess of \$25. Travel for a single travel event shall be reported as soon as possible after the trip.
 6. All outstanding travel vouchers for the school year ending June 30 shall be submitted as soon as possible after June 30 regardless of amount, notwithstanding 5.l. above.
 7. Travel mileage reimbursement requests of the just-completed school year that are not submitted by July 30 or the date approved by the school district for the closing of books, whichever is earlier, for the just-completed school year shall not be approved or paid.
- M. Out-of-State and High-Cost Travel Events (N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.9)
1. Reimbursement for all in-State and out-of-State travel shall be made pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:11-12.
 2. Out-of-State travel events shall be limited to the fewest number of Board members or affected employees needed to acquire and present the content offered to all Board members or staff, as applicable, at the conclusion of the event. Lodging may be provided only if the event occurs on two or more consecutive days and if home-to-event commute exceeds fifty miles.



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3. When a travel event has a total cost that exceeds \$5,000, regardless of the number of attendees, or when more than five individuals from the school district are to attend a travel event out-of-State, the school district shall obtain prior written approval of the Executive County Superintendent.
 - a. The Executive County Superintendent shall promptly review the request and render a written decision within ten business days.

4. For all employee and Board member travel events out of the country, regardless of cost or number of attendees, the school district shall obtain prior written approval of the Executive County Superintendent.
 - a. Such requests shall be supported by detailed justification.
 - b. The Executive County Superintendent shall promptly review the request and render a written decision within ten business days.
 - c. It is expected that approvals will be rare.

Adopted:



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Comprehensive Health and Physical Education
Aug 21
Mandated

2422 COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION

The Board of Education requires all students to participate in a comprehensive, sequential, health and physical education program aligned with the New Jersey Student Learning Standards (NJSLS) that emphasizes the natural interdisciplinary connection between wellness and health and physical education. The primary focus of the NJSLS is the development of knowledge and skills that influence healthy behaviors within the context of self, family, school, and the local and global community.

The curriculum requirements listed below address the need for students to gain knowledge and skill in caring for themselves, interacting effectively with others, and analyzing the impact of choices and consequences. The primary focus of the curriculum listed below is to help students develop concepts and skills that promote and influence healthy behaviors.

The NJSLS incorporate New Jersey statutes related to health and well-being of students in New Jersey schools. The following statutes incorporated into the NJSLS include, but are not limited to, the following requirements:

1. Accident and Fire Prevention (N.J.S.A. 18A:6-2) requires regular courses of instruction in accident and fire prevention.
2. Breast Self-Examination (N.J.S.A. 18A:35-5.4) requires offering instruction on breast self-examination for students in grades seven through twelve.
3. Bullying Prevention Programs (N.J.S.A. 18A:37-17) requires the establishment of bullying prevention programs.
4. Cancer Awareness (N.J.S.A. 18A:40-33) requires the development of a school program on cancer awareness by the Commissioner of Education.



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Comprehensive Health and Physical Education

5. Dating Violence Education (N.J.S.A. 18A:35-4.23a) requires instruction regarding dating violence in grades seven through twelve.
6. Domestic Violence Education (N.J.S.A. 18A:35-4.23) allows instruction on problems related to domestic violence and child abuse.
7. Gang Violence Prevention (N.J.S.A. 18A:35-4.26) requires instruction in gang violence prevention for elementary school students.
8. Health, Safety, and Physical Education (N.J.S.A. 18A:35-5) requires that all students in grades one through twelve participate in at least two and one-half hours of health, safety, and physical education each school week.
9. Drugs, Alcohol, Tobacco, Controlled Dangerous Substances, and Anabolic Steroids (N.J.S.A. 18A:40A-1) requires instructional programs on drugs, alcohol, anabolic steroids, tobacco, and controlled dangerous substances and the development of curriculum guidelines for each grade Kindergarten through twelve.
10. Lyme Disease Prevention (N.J.S.A. 18A:35-5.1 through 5.3) requires the development of Lyme Disease curriculum guidelines and training to all teaching staff members who instruct students with Lyme Disease.
11. Organ Donation (N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-4.3) requires information relative to organ donation to be given to students in grades nine through twelve.
12. Sexual Assault Prevention (N.J.S.A. 18A:35-4.3) requires the development of a sexual assault prevention education program by the Commissioner of Education for utilization by school districts.
13. Stress Abstinence (N.J.S.A. 18A:35-4.19 through N.J.S.A. 18A:35-4.22), also known as the "AIDS Prevention Act of 1999," requires sex education programs to stress abstinence.



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Comprehensive Health and Physical Education

14. Suicide Prevention (N.J.S.A. 18A:6-111 through 113) requires instruction in suicide prevention in public schools.
15. Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR)/Automated External Defibrillator (AED) (N.J.S.A. 18A:35-4.28 and 18A:35-4.29) requires public high schools and charter schools to provide instruction in cardiopulmonary resuscitation and the use of an automated external defibrillator to each student prior to graduation.
16. Sexually Explicit Images through Electronic Means (N.J.S.A. 18A:35-4.32 and 4.33) requires instruction, once during middle school, on the social, emotional, and legal consequences of distributing and soliciting sexually explicit images through electronic means.
17. History of Disabled and LGBT Persons (N.J.S.A. 18A:35-4.35 and 4.36) requires instruction on the political, economic, and social contributions of persons with disabilities and lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people for middle and high school students.
18. Financial Literacy (N.J.S.A. 18A:35-4.34) requires instruction with basic financial literacy necessary for sound financial decision-making in each of the grades six through eight.
19. **Sexual Abuse and Assault Awareness and Prevention Education (N.J.S.A. 18A:35-4.5a) requires age-appropriate sexual abuse and assault awareness and prevention education in grades preschool through twelve.**
20. **Curriculum to Include Instruction on Diversity and Inclusion (N.J.S.A. 18A:35-4.36a) requires instruction on diversity and inclusion in an appropriate place in the curriculum for students in grades Kindergarten through twelve.**



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Comprehensive Health and Physical Education

21. **Incorporation of Age-Appropriate Instruction Relative to Consent for Physical Contact and Sexual Activity (N.J.S.A. 18A:35-4.38) requires age-appropriate instruction in grades six through twelve on the law and meaning of consent for physical contact and sexual activity.**
 22. **Health Curriculum to Include Instruction on Mental Health (N.J.S.A. 18A:35-4.39) requires health education programs to include instruction on mental health and the relation of physical and mental health for students in grades Kindergarten through twelve.**
 23. **Information About “New Jersey Safe Haven Infant Protection Act” Included in Public School Curriculum (N.J.S.A. 18A:35-4.40) information on the provisions of the “New Jersey Safe Haven Infant Protection Act” shall be included in curriculum for public school students in grades nine through twelve.**
 24. **Infusion of African American Accomplishments into School Curricula (N.J.S.A. 18A:35-4.43) requires in the curriculum for all elementary and secondary students instruction that infuses into all courses on the United States the centuries of accomplishments by African Americans in the building and development of America.**
2519. Other Statutory or Administrative Codes. The Board will incorporate into its health and physical education curriculum any other requirements of the NJSLS in Comprehensive Health and Physical Education.

In accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:35-4.7, any student whose parent presents to the Principal a signed statement that any part of the instruction in health, family life education, or sex education is in conflict with his/her conscience or sincerely held moral or religious beliefs shall be excused from that portion of the course where such instruction is being given and no penalties as to credit or graduation shall result.



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Comprehensive Health and Physical Education

The Board of Education must provide two and one-half hours of health, safety, and physical education courses in each school week, or proportionately less when holidays fall within the week. Recess period(s) shall not be used to meet the requirements of N.J.S.A. 18A:35-5, 7, and 8.

In accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:35-4.31, the Board of Education shall provide a daily recess period of at least twenty minutes for students in grades Kindergarten through five. A recess period is not required on a school day in which the day is substantially shortened due to a delayed opening or early dismissal. The recess period shall be outdoors, if feasible. A student shall not be denied recess for any reason, except as a consequence of a violation of the school district's Code of Student Conduct, including a harassment, intimidation, or bullying (HIB) investigation pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:37-13 et seq. Students may not be denied recess more than twice per week for a violation of the Code of Student Conduct or HIB investigation and these students shall be provided restorative justice activities during the recess period.

Restorative justice activities are defined as activities designed to improve the socioemotional and behavioral responses of students through the use of more appropriate and less punitive interventions thereby establishing a more supportive and inclusive school culture. The student's recess period should be scheduled in a manner that does not interfere with the implementation of a student's Individualized Education Program (IEP). School staff may deny recess for a student on the advice of a medical professional, school nurse, or the provisions of a student's IEP and/or 504 Plan.

A copy of the NJSLS for Comprehensive Health and Physical Education and all related curriculum/course guides and instructional material shall be available for public inspection in each school.

N.J.S.A. 18A:35-4.31

Adopted:



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Surrogate Parents and **Resource**
Family Foster Parents
Aug 21
Mandated

2467 SURROGATE PARENTS AND RESOURCE FAMILY FOSTER PARENTS

Federal and State laws require the Board ensure the rights of a student are protected through the provision of an individual to act as surrogate for the parent and assume all parental rights under N.J.A.C. 6A:14-2.2 when:

1. The parent, ~~as defined according to N.J.A.C. 6A:14-1.3,~~ cannot be identified;
2. The parent cannot be located after reasonable efforts;
3. An agency of the State of New Jersey has guardianship of the student **or the student is determined a ward of the State and, if the student is placed with a resource family parent, the resource family parent declines to serve as the student's parent; and that agency has not taken steps to appoint a surrogate parent for the student; or**
4. ~~The student is a ward of the State and no State agency has taken steps to appoint a surrogate parent for the student;~~
5. ~~No parent can be identified for the student in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:14-1.3 except a foster parent, the foster parent does not agree to serve as the student's parent, and no State agency has taken steps to appoint a surrogate parent for the student; and~~
46. The student is an unaccompanied ~~homeless~~ youth **as that term is defined in section 725(6) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 USC §11434.(a)6) and N.J.A.C. 6A:17-1.2 and no State agency has taken steps to appoint a surrogate parent for the student.**



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Surrogate Parents and **Resource**
Family Foster Parents

Qualifications and Selection

The district ~~will~~ **shall** make reasonable efforts to appoint a surrogate parent within thirty days of ~~the~~ ~~it's~~ determination that a surrogate parent is ~~needed~~ ~~required~~ for a student. If the district fails to appoint a surrogate parent for a ward of the State, a judge may appoint a surrogate parent if the judge determines a surrogate parent is necessary for such student.

The district shall establish a method for selecting and training surrogate parents.

The person serving as a surrogate parent shall:

1. Have no interest that conflicts with **the interest** ~~those~~ of the student ~~they~~ ~~he/she~~ represents;
2. Possess knowledge and skills that ensure adequate representation of the student;
3. Not be replaced without cause;
4. Be at least eighteen years of age; **and**
5. **Complete** ~~Have~~ a criminal history review **pursuant to** ~~in~~ accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:6-7.1 **if the person completed prior to his or her serving as the surrogate parent, if the school district is compensated.** ~~compensates the surrogate parent for such services;~~ ~~and~~
6. ~~Not be an employee of the New Jersey Department of Education, this district, or a public or nonpublic agency that is involved in the education or care of the child.~~

The person(s) serving as a surrogate parent may not ~~Not~~ be an employee of the New Jersey Department of Education, this district, or a public or nonpublic agency that is involved in the education or care of the child.



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Surrogate Parents and **Resource Family** ~~Foster-Parents~~

The **Superintendent** shall serve as Surrogate Parent Coordinator and will: determine whether there is a need for a surrogate parent for a student; contact any State agency that is involved with the student to determine whether the State has a surrogate parent appointed for the student; and make reasonable efforts to appoint a surrogate parent for the student within thirty days of determining that there is a need for a surrogate parent for the student.

When a student (who is or may be a student with a disability) is in the care of a **resource family** ~~foster-parent~~, and the **resource family** ~~foster parent~~ is not the parent of the student ~~as defined in N.J.A.C. 6A:14-1.3~~, the district where the **resource family** ~~foster parent~~ resides shall contact the student's case manager at the Division of Child Protection and Permanency (DCP&P) in the Department of Children and Families to determine whether the parent retains the right to make educational decisions and determine the whereabouts of the parent.

If the parent retains the right to make educational decisions and the parent's whereabouts are known to the school district, the **Superintendent or designee** ~~Surrogate Parent Coordinator~~ shall obtain all required consent from, and provide written notices to, the parent.

If the district cannot ascertain the whereabouts of the parent, the **resource family** ~~foster parent, unless that person is unwilling to do so~~, shall serve as the parent **unless that person is unwilling to do so** pursuant to ~~N.J.A.C. 6A:14-1.3~~. If there is no **resource family** ~~foster parent~~, or if the **resource family** ~~foster parent~~ is unwilling to serve as the student's parent, the Surrogate Parent Coordinator shall consult with the student's case manager at DCP&P to assist in identifying an individual to serve as a surrogate parent, ~~and appointing~~ a surrogate parent, and ~~obtaining~~ all required consent from, and ~~providing~~ written notices to, the surrogate parent.

Training

N.J.A.C 6A:14-2.2(d) requires the district train surrogate parents so they have the knowledge and skills that ensure adequate representation of the student. The Surrogate Parent Coordinator shall coordinate the training for surrogate parents. The training ~~will~~ include, but not be limited to:

1. Providing the surrogate parent a copy of:
 - a. Parental Rights in Special Education booklet;



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Surrogate Parents and **Resource**
Family Foster-Parents

- b. N.J.A.C. 6A:14;
 - c. The Special Education Process;
 - d. **Administrative** Code Training Materials from the Department of Education website; and
 - e. Other relevant materials.
2. Providing the surrogate parent an opportunity to meet with the Surrogate Parent Coordinator to discuss the rights of the surrogate parent and the applicable statutes, administrative codes, and Federal laws. The Surrogate Parent Coordinator shall provide the surrogate parent the opportunity to review and to become familiar with the State and Federal requirements for assessment, individualized educational program development, and parental rights with respect to the referral and placement process, including their rights with respect to seeking a due process hearing if they disagree with the local procedure or decisions;
 3. Providing the surrogate parent adequate time to become familiar with the student and the nature of the student's disability through a review of the student's record;
 4. Providing the surrogate parent an opportunity to confer with the student's case manager to discuss the student; and
 5. Other information and resources to provide the surrogate parent the knowledge and skills to ensure adequate representation of the student.

Rights of the Surrogate Parent

A surrogate parent appointed in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:14-2.2 shall assume all parental rights under N.J.A.C. 6A:14.

N.J.A.C. 6A:14-2.2

Adopted:



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Eligibility of Resident/Nonresident Students

Aug 21

Mandated

5111 ELIGIBILITY OF RESIDENT/NONRESIDENT STUDENTS

The Board of Education shall admit to its schools, free of charge, persons over five and under twenty years of age, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1, or such younger or older student as is otherwise entitled by law to a free public education.

Eligibility to Attend School

The Board shall admit students eligible to attend school free of charge that are domiciled within the district as defined in N.J.A.C. 6A:22-3.1.

A child who is domiciled within the school district and resides with a parent or guardian who is a member of the New Jersey National Guard or a member of the reserve component of the armed forces of the United States who is ordered into active military service in a time of war or national emergency shall be permitted to remain enrolled in the school district in which the child is domiciled at the time of the parent or guardian being ordered into active military service, regardless of where the child resides during the period of active duty. Following the return of the child's parent or guardian from active military service, the child's eligibility to remain enrolled in the school district pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-3.1 shall cease at the end of the current school year unless the child is domiciled in the school district.

The Board shall also admit any student that is kept in the home of a person other than the student's parent or guardian, where the person is domiciled in the school district and is supporting the student without remuneration as if the student were his or her own child in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:22-3.2. A student is only eligible to attend school in the district pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:22-3.2 if the student's parent or guardian files, together with documentation to support its validity, a sworn statement that he or she is not capable of supporting or providing care for the student due to family or economic hardship and the student is not residing with the other person solely for the purpose of receiving a free public education. In addition, the person keeping the student must file, if so required by the Board of Education, a sworn statement that he or she: is domiciled within the school district; is supporting the child without remuneration and intends to do so for a time longer than the school term; will assume all personal obligations for the



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Eligibility of Resident/Nonresident Students

student relative to school requirements; and provides a copy of his or her lease if a tenant, a sworn landlord's statement if residing as a tenant without a written lease, or a mortgage or tax bill if an owner. Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1.c., any person who fraudulently allows a child of another person to use his or her residence and is not the primary financial supporter of that child and any person who fraudulently claims to have given up custody of his or her child to a person in another district commits a disorderly persons offense.

A student is eligible to attend school in this school district free of charge pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1.b. if the student is kept in the home of a person domiciled in the school district, who is not the parent or guardian and the parent or guardian is a member of the New Jersey National Guard or the reserve component of the United States armed forces and has been ordered into active military service in the United States armed forces in time of war or national emergency. Eligibility under this provision shall cease at the end of the current school year during which the parent or guardian returns from active military duty.

A student is eligible to attend school in this school district free of charge pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1.d. if the student's parent or guardian temporarily resides within the school district and elects to have the student attend the school district of temporary residence, notwithstanding the existence of a domicile elsewhere. When required by the Board of Education, the parent or guardian shall demonstrate the temporary residence is not solely for purposes of a student attending the school district of temporary residence. When one of a student's parents or guardians temporarily resides in the school district while the other is domiciled or temporarily resides elsewhere, eligibility to attend school shall be determined in accordance with the criteria of N.J.A.C. 6A:22-3.1(a)1.i.

A student is eligible to attend this school district free of charge:

1. If the student's parent or guardian moves to another school district as the result of being homeless, subject to the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:17-2 - Education of Homeless Children;
2. If the student is placed by court order or by a society, agency, or institution in the home of a school district resident pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-2;



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Eligibility of Resident/Nonresident Students

3. If the student previously resided in the school district and if the parent or guardian is a member of the New Jersey National Guard or the United States reserves and has been ordered to active service in time of war or national emergency, resulting in the relocation of the student out of the school district, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-3.b. The school district shall not be obligated for transportation costs; and
4. If the student resides on Federal property within the State pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-7.7 et seq.

Notwithstanding the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1 or any other law, rule, or regulation to the contrary, a student who moves out of the school district as a result of domestic violence, sexual abuse, or other family crises shall be permitted to remain enrolled in the school district for the remainder of the school year in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1.1 and in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:22-3.2(h). If the student remains enrolled in the school district for the remainder of the school year, the school district shall provide transportation services to the student, provided the student lives remote from school, and the State shall reimburse the school district for the cost of the transportation services. Nothing in N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1.1 shall be construed to affect the rights of homeless students pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:7B-12, N.J.S.A. 18A:7B-12.1, or any other applicable State or Federal law.

If the district of residence cannot be determined according to the criteria contained in N.J.S.A. 18A:7B-12; if the criteria contained in N.J.S.A. 18A:7B-12 identify a district of residence out of the State; or if the child has resided in a domestic violence shelter, homeless shelter, or transitional living facility located outside of the district of residence for more than one year, the State shall assume fiscal responsibility for the tuition of the child in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:7B-12.d.

A student's eligibility to attend this school shall not be affected by the physical condition of an applicant's housing or his or her compliance with local housing ordinances or terms of lease.

Except as set forth in N.J.A.C. 6A:22-3.3(b)1., immigration/visa status shall not affect eligibility to attend school and the school district shall not condition enrollment in the school district on immigration status. A student's immigration/visa status and their eligibility to attend school shall be in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:22-3.3(b) and Regulation 5111.



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Eligibility of Resident/Nonresident Students

Proof of Eligibility

The Board of Education shall accept a combination of forms of documentation from persons attempting to demonstrate a student's eligibility for enrollment in the school district in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:22-3.4. The Board of Education shall consider the totality of information and documentation offered by an applicant, and shall not deny enrollment based on failure to provide a particular form or subset of documents without regard to other evidence presented.

The Board of Education shall not condition enrollment on the receipt of information or documents protected from disclosure by law, or pertaining to criteria that are not a legitimate basis for determining eligibility to attend school as outlined in N.J.A.C. 6A:22-3.4(d). The Board of Education may consider, in a manner consistent with Federal law, documents or information referenced in N.J.A.C. 6A:22-3.4(d) or pertinent parts thereof if voluntarily disclosed by the applicant. The Board of Education may not, directly or indirectly, require or request such disclosure as an actual or implied condition of enrollment.

In the case of a dispute between the school district and the parent of a student in regard to the student's eligibility to enroll in the school district or to remain enrolled in the school district pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1, the school district may request from the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission (NJMVC) the parent or guardian's name and address for use in verifying a student's eligibility for enrollment in the school district in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1.3. The NJMVC shall disclose to a school district the information requested in accordance with procedures established by the NJMVC. However, the school district shall not condition enrollment in the district on immigration status or on the fact that the NJMVC does not have the name or address of the parent on file.

Registration Forms and Procedures for Initial Assessment

Registration and initial determinations of eligibility will be in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:22-4.1. The Board of Education shall use Commissioner-provided registration forms or locally developed forms that are consistent with the forms provided by the Commissioner. A district-level administrator designated by the Superintendent shall be clearly identified to applicants and available to assist persons who experience difficulties with the enrollment process.



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Eligibility of Resident/Nonresident Students

Initial eligibility determinations shall be made upon presentation of an enrollment application, and enrollment shall take place immediately except in cases of clear, uncontested denials. Enrollment shall take place immediately when an applicant has provided incomplete, unclear, or questionable information, but the applicant shall be notified that the student will be removed from the school district if defects in the application are not corrected, or an appeal is not filed, in accordance with subsequent notice to be provided pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:22-4.2.

When a student appears ineligible based on the information provided in the initial application, the school district shall issue a preliminary written notice of ineligibility, including an explanation of the right to appeal to the Commissioner of Education. Enrollment shall take place immediately if the applicant clearly indicates disagreement with the district's determination and an intent to appeal to the Commissioner of Education. An applicant whose student is enrolled pursuant to this provision shall be notified that the student will be removed, without a hearing before the Board, if no appeal is filed within the twenty-one day period established by N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1.

When enrollment is denied and no intent to appeal is indicated, applicants shall be advised they shall comply with compulsory education laws. When the student is between the ages of six and sixteen, applicants also shall be asked to complete a written statement indicating the student will be attending school in another school district or nonpublic school, or receiving instruction elsewhere than at a school pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-25. In the absence of this written statement, designated staff shall report to the school district of actual domicile or residence, or the Department of Children and Families, a potential instance of "neglect" for the purposes of ensuring compliance with compulsory education law, N.J.S.A. 9:6-1. Staff shall provide the school district or the Department of Children and Families with the student's name, the name(s) of the parent/guardian/resident, and the student's address to the extent known. Staff shall also indicate admission to the school district has been denied based on residency or domicile, and there is no evidence of intent to arrange for the child to attend school or receive instruction elsewhere.



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Eligibility of Resident/Nonresident Students

Enrollment or attendance at the school shall not be conditioned on advance payment of tuition when enrollment is denied and an intent to appeal is indicated, or when enrollment is provisional and subject to further review or information. The Board of Education shall ensure the registration process identifies information suggesting an applicant may be homeless so procedures may be implemented in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:17-2, Education of Homeless Children. Enrollment or attendance in the school district shall not be denied based upon the absence of the certified copy of the student's birth certificate or other proof of a student's identity as required within thirty days of initial enrollment, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:36-25.1.

Enrollment in the school district shall not be denied based upon absence of student medical information. However, actual attendance at school may be deferred until the student complies with student immunization rules set forth in N.J.A.C. 8:57-4.

When enrollment in the school district, attendance at school, or the receipt of educational services in the regular education program appears inappropriate, the student shall not be denied based upon the absence of a student's prior educational record. However, the applicant shall be advised the student's initial educational placement may be subject to revision upon the school district's receipt of records or further assessment of the student.

Notice of Ineligibility

When a student is found ineligible to attend the school district pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:22 or the student's initial application is found to be deficient upon subsequent review or investigation, the school district immediately shall provide to the applicant notice that is consistent with Commissioner-provided sample form(s) and meets requirements of N.J.A.C. 6A:22-4 et seq. Notices shall be in writing; in English and in the native language of the applicant; issued by the Superintendent; and directed to the address at which the applicant claims to reside. Notices of ineligibility shall include information as outlined in N.J.A.C. 6A:22-4.2.



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Eligibility of Resident/Nonresident Students

Removal of Currently Enrolled Students

Nothing in N.J.A.C. 6A:22 et seq. and this Policy shall preclude the Board of Education from identifying through further investigation or periodic requests for revalidation of eligibility, students enrolled in the school district who may be ineligible for continued attendance due to error in initial assessment, changed circumstances, or newly discovered information.

When a student who is enrolled and attending school based on an initial eligibility determination is later determined to be ineligible for continued attendance, the Superintendent may apply to the Board of Education for the student's removal in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:22-4.3. No student shall be removed from school unless the parent, guardian, adult student, or resident keeping an "affidavit student" (as defined in N.J.A.C. 6A:22-1.2) has been informed of his or her entitlement to a hearing before the Board of Education. Once the hearing is held, or if the parent, guardian, adult student or resident keeping an "affidavit student", does not respond within the designated time frame to the Superintendent's notice or appear for the hearing, the Board of Education shall make a prompt determination of the student's eligibility and shall immediately provide notice in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:22-4.2. Hearings required pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:22-4.3 may be conducted by the full Board or a

Board Committee, at the discretion of the full Board. If the hearing(s) is conducted by a Board Committee, the Committee shall make a recommendation to the full Board for action. No student may be removed except by vote of the Board taken at a meeting duly convened and conducted pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq., the Open Public Meetings Act.

Appeal to the Commissioner

An applicant may appeal to the Commissioner of Education the school district's determination that a student is ineligible to attend its schools. Appeals shall be initiated by petition which shall be filed in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1 and N.J.A.C. 6A:3-8.1 and shall proceed as a contested case pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:3. Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1.b(1), appeals of "affidavit student" eligibility determinations shall be filed by the resident keeping the student.



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Eligibility of Resident/Nonresident Students

Assessment and Calculation of Tuition

If no appeal to the Commissioner is filed following notice of an ineligibility determination, the Board of Education may assess tuition, for up to one year of a student's ineligible attendance, including the twenty-one day period provided by N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1 for appeal to the Commissioner. Tuition will be assessed and calculated in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:22-6.3 et seq. If the responsible party does not pay the tuition assessment, the Board of Education may petition the Commissioner pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:3 for an order assessing tuition, enforceable in accordance with N.J.S.A. 2A:58-10 through recording, upon request of the Board of Education pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:3-12, on the judgment docket of the Superior Court, Law Division.

If an appeal to the Commissioner is filed and the petitioner does not sustain the burden of demonstrating the student's right to attend the school district, or the petitioner withdraws the appeal, fails to prosecute, or abandons the appeal by any means other than settlement agreeing to waive or reduce tuition, the Commissioner may assess tuition in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:22-6.2(a). Upon the Commissioner's finding that an appeal has been abandoned, the Board of Education may remove the student from school and seek tuition in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:22-6.2.

Nonresident Students

The admission of a nonresident student to school free of charge must be approved by the Board. No student otherwise eligible shall be denied admission on the basis of the student's race, color, creed, religion, national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, affectational or sexual orientation or sex, social or economic status, or disability. The continued enrollment of any nonresident student shall be contingent upon the student's maintenance of good standards of citizenship and discipline.

Children Who Anticipate Moving to or from the District

A nonresident student otherwise eligible for attendance whose parent or guardian anticipates school district residency and has entered a contract to buy, build, or rent a residence in this school district may be enrolled without payment



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Eligibility of Resident/Nonresident Students

of tuition for a period of time not greater than sixty day prior to the anticipated date of residency. If any such student does not become a resident of the school district within sixty days after admission to school, tuition will be charged for attendance commencing the beginning of the sixty-first day and until such time as the student becomes a resident or withdraws from school.

Students whose parent or guardian have moved away from the school district on or after the last trimester will be permitted to finish the school year in this school district without payment of tuition.

Other Nonresident Students

Other nonresident students, other than those listed above and those attending through the Region III agreement, shall not be eligible to attend the school district. The Board shall not accept any tuition students. Nonresident students who were accepted as of August 2019, may remain in district with an annual tuition, based on per-pupil cost, until their promotion from eighth grade.

F-1 Visa Students

F-1 Visa students will not be admitted to this school district.

J-1 Visa Students

The school district is not required to, but may permit the attendance of J-1 Visa students into the school district. The host family must be domiciled in the school district and shall submit a request to the Superintendent of Schools with supporting documentation as determined by the Superintendent or designee. A student with a J-1 Visa must be approved by the Board for attendance in the school district and shall not pay tuition. The student's continued attendance in the school district shall be conditioned on a satisfactory attendance and disciplinary record.

N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1 ~~et seq.~~; **18A:38-1.1**; 18A:38-1.3; 18A:38-3;

18A:38-3.1; **18A:7B-12**

N.J.A.C. 6A:14-3.3; 6A:17-2.1 et seq.; 6A:22-1.1 ~~et seq.~~

8 CFR 214.3

Adopted:



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Education of Homeless Children
Aug 21

5116 EDUCATION OF HOMELESS CHILDREN

The Board of Education will admit and enroll homeless children in accordance with Federal and State laws and New Jersey Administrative Code. The Board of Education adopts this Policy to be in compliance with law and administrative code to ensure the enrollment of homeless children in school and to respond to appeals made by parents or other parties related to the enrollment of homeless children.

The Board of Education shall determine that a child is homeless when he or she resides in a publicly or privately operated shelter designed to provide temporary living accommodations, including: hotels or motels; congregate shelters, including domestic violence and runaway shelters; transitional housing; and homes for adolescent mothers. A child is also determined homeless when he or she resides in a public or private place not designated for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation, including: cars or other vehicles including mobile homes; tents or other temporary shelters; parks; abandoned buildings; bus or train stations; temporary shelters provided to migrant workers and their children on farm sites; and the residence of relatives or friends where the homeless child resides out of necessity because his or her family lacks a regular or permanent residence of its own. A child is also determined homeless when he or she resides in substandard housing.

The school district of residence for a homeless child is responsible for the education of the child and shall assume all responsibilities as required in N.J.A.C. 6A:17-2.3. The school district of residence for a homeless child means the school district in which the parent of a homeless child resided prior to becoming homeless.

The school district liaison designated by the Superintendent of Schools for the education of homeless children is the Superintendent. The liaison will facilitate communication and cooperation between the school district of residence and the school district where the homeless child resides and shall assume all responsibilities as outlined in N.J.A.C. 6A:17-2.4(a).



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Education of Homeless Children

When a homeless child resides in a school district, the school district liaison shall notify the liaison of the school district of residence within twenty-four hours of receiving notification from the parent, the Department of Human Services or the Department of Children and Families, a shelter director, an involved agency, or a case manager. Upon notification of the need for enrollment of a homeless child, the liaison in the school district of residence shall coordinate enrollment procedures immediately based upon the best interest of the child pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:17-2.5(b).

The Superintendent of the school district of residence or designee shall decide in which school district the homeless child shall be enrolled in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:17-2.5.

Unless parental rights have been terminated by a court of competent jurisdiction, the parent retains all rights under N.J.A.C. 6A:17-2.1 et seq.

When a dispute occurs regarding the determination of homelessness or the determination of the school district of enrollment made by the school district of residence, the Superintendent(s) or the designee(s) of the involved district(s) or the child's parent(s) shall immediately notify the Executive County Superintendent of Schools, who, in consultation with the Department of Education's McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Coordinator or designee, shall immediately decide the child's status. If a dispute remains between the parent and the involved school district(s) following the Executive County Superintendent's determination, the parent or the involved district Board(s) of Education may appeal to the Commissioner of Education for determination pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:3, Controversies and Disputes.

When a school district designated as the school district of residence disputes its designation as the school district of residence, or where no designation can be agreed upon by the involved school districts, the Superintendent(s) or designee(s) of the involved school districts shall immediately notify the Executive County Superintendent of Schools, who shall immediately make a determination, if possible, but no later than within forty-eight hours.

If the dispute regarding determination of district of residence does not involve the determination of homelessness and/or district enrollment, the school district disputing the Executive County Superintendent's determination may appeal to the Department of Education pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-19.2(d), (e), and (f) and



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Education of Homeless Children

request a determination from the Division of Administration and Finance. If an appeal of a determination of district of residence also includes an appeal of the determination of homelessness and/or school district of enrollment, the appeal shall be submitted to the Commissioner of Education pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:3, Controversies and Disputes.

Any dispute or appeal shall not delay the homeless child's immediate enrollment or continued enrollment in the school district. The homeless child shall be enrolled in the school district in which enrollment or continued enrollment is sought by the parent, pending resolution of the dispute or appeal. Disputes and appeals involving the services provided to a homeless child with a disability shall be made pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:14.

Financial responsibility, including the payment of tuition for the homeless child, will be in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:17-2.8. The school district of residence shall list the child on its annual Application for State School Aid (ASSA) pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-33 until the parent establishes a permanent residence or is deemed domiciled in another jurisdiction pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1.d. At that time, the school district of residence shall no longer list the student on its ASSA. The State shall assume fiscal responsibility for the tuition of the child pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:7B-12.1 and shall pay the tuition to the school district in which the child is currently enrolled until the parent establishes a permanent residence or is deemed domiciled in another jurisdiction pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1.d. under the circumstances outlined in N.J.A.C. 6A:17-2.8(c).

On or before December 31 of each year, the district shall report to the Office of Homelessness Prevention in the Department of Community Affairs an accounting of each instance in which the district is made aware that a student enrolled in the district because the student's parent moved to the district as a result of being homeless.

N.J.S.A. 18A:7B-12; 18A:7B-12.1; **18A:38-1**

N.J.A.C. 6A:17-2.1 et seq.

Adopted:



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Federal Awards/Funds Internal Controls –

Allowability of Costs

Aug 21

Mandated

6115.01 FEDERAL AWARDS/FUNDS INTERNAL CONTROLS – ALLOWABILITY OF COSTS

The Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (UGG), 2 CFR §200.302(b)(7) requires written procedures for determining the allowability of costs in accordance with 2 CFR §200 – Cost Principles. Determining the allowability of costs shall be in accordance with the requirements outlined in 2 CFR §200.403 – Factors Affecting Allowability of Costs. The School Business Administrator/Board Secretary or designee shall be responsible for determining the allowability of costs are in accordance with the provisions of 2 CFR §200.403.

The following procedures shall be used to determine the allowability of costs in accordance with 2 CFR §200.403:

Except where otherwise authorized by statute, the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary or designee will ensure costs meet the following general criteria in order to be allowable under Federal awards:

1. Be necessary and reasonable for the performance of the Federal award and be allocable thereto under these principles.
2. Conform to any limitations or exclusions set forth in these principles or in the Federal award as to types or amount of cost items.
3. Be consistent with policies and procedures that apply uniformly to both Federally-financed and other activities of the non-Federal entity.
4. Be accorded consistent treatment. A cost may not be assigned to a Federal award as a direct cost if any other cost incurred for the same purpose in like circumstances has been allocated to the Federal award as an indirect cost.



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Federal Awards/Funds Internal Controls – Allowability of Costs

5. Be determined in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP), except for State and local governments, which includes school districts, as otherwise provided for in 2 CFR §200.403.
6. Not be included as a cost or used to meet cost sharing or matching requirements of any other Federally-financed program in either the current or a prior period. (See also 2 CFR §200.306 – Cost Sharing or matching 2. above).
7. Be adequately documented. (See also 2 CFR §200.300 – Statutory and National Policy Requirements through 2 CFR §200.309 – Period of Performance).

In the event the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary or designee is not sure if a cost is allowable under 2 CFR Subpart E - §200.403, the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary or designee will contact the New Jersey Department of Education or the United States Department of Education for assistance.

2 CFR §200.302(b)(7)
2 CFR §200.403

Adopted:



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Federal Awards/Funds Internal Controls –
Mandatory Disclosures

Aug 21

Mandated

6115.02 FEDERAL AWARDS/FUNDS INTERNAL CONTROLS – MANDATORY DISCLOSURES

The Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (UGG), 2 CFR §200.113 – Mandatory disclosures requires a non-Federal entity or applicant (a New Jersey Board of Education) for a Federal award must disclose, in a timely manner, in writing to the Federal awarding agency or to the New Jersey Department of Education all violations of Federal criminal law involving fraud, bribery, or gratuity violations potentially affecting the Federal award.

If the Board of Education receives a Federal award including the terms and conditions outlined below as per 2 CFR §200 – Appendix XII – Award Term and Condition for Recipient Integrity and Performance Matters shall report certain civil, criminal, or administrative proceedings to the System for Award Management (SAM). Failure to make required disclosures can result in any of the remedies described in 2 CFR §200.338 - Remedies for noncompliance, including suspension or debarment. (See also 2 CFR §180, 31 USC 3321, and 41 USC 2313)

A. General Reporting Requirement

1. If the total value of all Board of Education currently active grants, cooperative agreements, and procurement contracts from all Federal awarding agencies exceeds \$10,000,000 for any period of time during the period of performance of this Federal award, then the Superintendent or designee, on behalf of the Board of Education as the recipient during that period of time, must maintain the currency of information reported to the SAM that is made available in the designated integrity and performance system about civil, criminal, or administrative proceedings described in B. below.
2. This is a statutory requirement under section 872 of Public Law 110-417, as amended (41 USC 2313).



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3. As required by section 3010 of Public Law 111-212, all information posted in designated integrity and performance system on or after April 15, 2011, except past performance reviews required for Federal procurement contracts, will be publicly available.

B. Proceedings About Which the Board of Education Must Report

1. The Superintendent or designee must disclose to the Federal awarding agency or to the New Jersey Department of Education information required about each proceeding that:
 - a. Is in connection with the award or performance of a grant, cooperative agreement, or procurement contract from the Federal Government;
 - b. Reached its final disposition during the most recent five-year period; and
 - c. Is one of the following:
 - (1) A criminal proceeding that resulted in a conviction, as defined in E. below;
 - (2) A civil proceeding that resulted in a finding of fault and liability and payment of a monetary fine, penalty, reimbursement, restitution, or damages of \$5,000 or more;
 - (3) An administrative proceeding, as defined in E. below, that resulted in a finding of fault and liability and the payment of either a monetary fine or penalty of \$5,000 or more or reimbursement, restitution, or damages in excess of \$100,000; or
 - (4) Any other criminal, civil, or administrative proceeding if:



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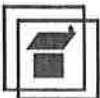
- (a) It could have led to an outcome described in B.1.c.(1), (2), or (3) above of this award term and condition;
- (b) It had a different disposition arrived at by consent or compromise with an acknowledgment of fault on the school district's part; and
- (c) The requirement in this award term and condition to disclose information about the proceeding does not conflict with applicable laws and regulations.

C. Reporting Procedures

- 1. The Superintendent or designee shall enter in the SAM Entity Management area the information that the SAM requires about each proceeding described in B. above.
- 2. The Superintendent or designee does not need to submit the information a second time under assistance awards the Board of Education received if the Superintendent or designee already provided the information through the SAM because the Board of Education was required to do so under Federal procurement contracts the Board of Education was awarded.

D. Reporting Frequency

- 1. During any period of time when the Board of Education is subject to the requirement in A. above, the Superintendent or designee must report proceedings information through the SAM for the most recent five year period, either to report new information about any proceeding(s) the Board of Education has not reported previously or affirm that there is no new information to report.
- 2. If the Board of Education has Federal contract, grant, and cooperative agreement awards with a cumulative total value greater than \$10,000,000, the Board of Education must disclose semiannually any information about the criminal, civil, and administrative proceedings.



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E. Definitions

1. For purposes of this Policy:

- a. “Administrative proceeding” for the purposes of 2 CFR §200 - Appendix XII and this Policy means a non-judicial process that is adjudicatory in nature in order to make a determination of fault or liability. This includes proceedings at the Federal and State level but only in connection with performance of a Federal contract or grant. It does not include audits, site visits, corrective plans, or inspection of deliverables.
- b. “Conviction” for the purposes of 2 CFR §200 - Appendix XII and this Policy, means a judgment or conviction of a criminal offense by any court of competent jurisdiction, whether entered upon a verdict or a plea, and includes a conviction entered upon a plea of nolo contendere.
- c. Total value of currently active grants, cooperative agreements, and procurement contracts includes:
 - (1) Only the Federal share of the funding under any Federal award with a Board of Education cost share or match; and
 - (2) The value of all expected funding increments under a Federal award and options, even if not yet exercised.

2 CFR §200.113

Adopted:



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Federal Awards/Funds Internal Controls –
Conflict of Interest

Aug 21

Mandated

6115.03 FEDERAL AWARDS/FUNDS INTERNAL CONTROLS – CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (UGG), 2 CFR §200.318 – General Procurement Standards addresses standards of conduct covering conflict of interest and governs the actions of school district employees, officers, and agents in the selection, award, and administration of contracts supported by a Federal award.

The Board of Education must use its own documented procurement procedures which reflect applicable State and local laws and regulations, provided that the procurements conform to the applicable Federal law and the standards identified in 2 CFR §200.

The Board of Education must maintain oversight to ensure that contractors perform in accordance with the terms, conditions, and specifications of their contracts or purchase orders.

The Board of Education must maintain written standards of conduct covering conflicts of interest and governing the actions of its employees engaged in the selection, award, and administration of contracts supported by a Federal award.

1. No employee, officer, or agent of the Board of Education may participate in the selection, award, or administration of a contract supported by a Federal award if he or she has a real or apparent conflict of interest.
 - a. Such a conflict of interest would arise when a Board of Education employee, officer, or agent, any member of his or her immediate family, his or her partner, or an organization which employs or is about to employ any of the parties indicated herein, has a financial or other interest in or a tangible personal benefit from a firm considered for a contract.



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2. The Board of Education officers, employees, and agents must neither solicit nor accept gratuities, favors, or anything of monetary value from contractors or parties to subcontracts.
3. However, a Board of Education may set standards for situations in which the financial interest is not substantial or the gift is an unsolicited item of nominal value.
4. The standards of conduct must provide for disciplinary actions to be applied for violations of such standards by officers, employees, or agents of the non-Federal entity.

The Board of Education's procedures must avoid acquisition of unnecessary or duplicative items. Consideration should be given to consolidating or breaking out procurements to obtain a more economical purchase. Where appropriate, an analysis will be made of lease versus purchase alternatives, and any other appropriate analysis to determine the most economical approach.

To foster greater economy and efficiency, and in accordance with efforts to promote cost-effective use of shared services across the Federal government, the Board of Education is encouraged to enter into State and local intergovernmental agreements or inter-entity agreements where appropriate for procurement of use of common or shared goods and services.

The Board of Education is encouraged to use Federal excess and surplus property in lieu of purchasing new equipment and property whenever such use is feasible and reduces project costs.

The Board of Education is encouraged to use value engineering clauses in contracts for construction projects of sufficient size to offer reasonable opportunities for cost reductions. Value engineering is a systematic and creative analysis of each contract item or task to ensure that its essential function is provided at the overall lower cost.

The Board of Education must award contracts only to responsible contractors possessing the ability to perform successfully under the terms and conditions of a proposed procurement. Consideration will be given to such matters as contractor integrity, compliance with public policy, record of past performance, and financial and technical resources. (See also 2 CFR §200.213 – Suspension and Debarment).



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The Board of Education must maintain records sufficient to detail the history of procurement. These records will include, but are not necessarily limited to the following: rationale for the method of procurement, selection of contract type, contractor selection or rejection, and the basis for the contract price.

The Board of Education may use a time and materials type contract only after a determination that no other contract is suitable and if the contract includes a ceiling price that the contractor exceeds at its own risk. Time and materials type contract means a contract whose cost to a Board of Education is the sum of:

1. The actual cost of materials; and
2. Direct labor hours charged at fixed hourly rates that reflect wages, general and administrative expenses, and profit.

Since the time and material formula generates an open-ended contract price, a time-and-materials contract provides no positive profit incentive to the contractor for cost control or labor efficiency. Therefore, each contract must set a ceiling price that the contractor exceeds at its own risk. Further, the Board of Education awarding such a contract must assert a high degree of oversight in order to obtain reasonable assurance that the contractor is using efficient methods and effective cost controls.

The Board of Education alone must be responsible, in accordance with good administrative practice and sound business judgement, for the settlement of all contractual and administrative issues arising out of procurements. These issues include, but are not limited to, source evaluation, protests, disputes, and claims. These standards do not relieve the Board of Education of any contractual responsibilities under its contracts. The Federal awarding agency will not substitute its judgement for that of the Board of Education unless the matter is primarily a Federal concern. Violations of law will be referred to the local, State, or Federal authority having proper jurisdiction.

The Board of Education and its employees shall be required to comply with all New Jersey statutes and administrative codes regarding school ethics and internal controls.

2 CFR §200.318

Adopted:



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Contracts for Goods or Services Funded by
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6311 CONTRACTS FOR GOODS OR SERVICES FUNDED BY FEDERAL GRANTS

Any vendor providing goods or services to the school district to be funded by a Federal grant must be cleared for contract in accordance with the provisions of the **Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (UGG), 2 CFR §200.213 – Suspension and Debarment** ~~Federal Acquisition Regulations (FAR) Subpart 9.4 – Debarment, Suspension, and Ineligibility.~~

The School Business Administrator/Board Secretary shall be responsible to check the web-based **System for Award Management (SAM) Excluded Parties Lists System (EPLS)** maintained by **the United States government** - the General Services Administration (GSA). The purpose of the **SAM EPLS** is to provide a single comprehensive list of individuals and firms excluded by Federal government agencies from receiving Federal contracts or Federally approved contracts or Federally approved subcontracts and from certain types of Federal financial and nonfinancial assistance and benefits.

The School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, upon opening of bids or upon receipt of proposals for goods or services to be funded by a Federal grant shall **access review** the **SAM EPLS** to determine if the vendor has been disbarred, suspended, or proposed for disbarment. The School Business Administrator/Board Secretary shall also **access review** the **SAM EPLS** list immediately prior to the award of a bid or contract to ensure that no award is made to a vendor on the list.

In the event a vendor under consideration to be awarded a bid or contract for goods or services to be funded by a Federal grant is on the **SAM EPLS** list or proposed for disbarment, the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary shall comply with the contracting restrictions as outlined in **2 CFR §200 FAR Subpart 9.405**.



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Contracts for Goods or Services Funded by
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Continuation of current contracts and restrictions on subcontracting with vendors who are on the **SAM EPLS** list or proposed for disbarment shall be in accordance with the limitations as outlined in **2 CFR §200 FAR Subparts 9.405.1 and 9.405.2.**

Any rejection of a bid or disqualification of a vendor who has been disbarred, suspended, or proposed for disbarment shall be consistent with the requirements as outlined in N.J.S.A. 18A:18A – Public School Contracts Law and all applicable State laws.

~~Federal Acquisition Regulations (FAR) Subpart 9.4~~ **2 CFR §200**

Adopted:



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7432 EYE PROTECTION

The Board of Education **requires each student, staff member, and school visitor, including individuals present for evening adult-school programs, to wear appropriate eye protective devices while participating in educational activities and programs as defined in N.J.A.C. 6A:7-1.3. Appropriate eye protective devices must be worn by anyone engaged in a process or activity where exposure to which might have a tendency to cause damage to the eyes pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:26-12.5(a) and N.J.S.A. 18A:40-12.1** ~~directs the rigorous implementation and enforcement of eye safety practices for students, staff members, and visitors exposed to conditions potentially hazardous to the eyes in the instructional program of this district.~~

The term “appropriate eye protective device” shall include plain or prescription lenses provided the lenses and other portions of the device meet or exceed the prescribed specifications for the device. Specifications for appropriate eye protection for various activities shall meet or exceed standards described in the American National Standard Practice for Occupational and Educational Eye and Face Protection, ANSI Z87.1-1989; American National Standard Practice for the Safe Use of Lasers, ANSI Z136.1-1986, and eye protective procedures recommended by the manufacturer of the laser device.

Optional

~~[including the adult evening school program.]~~

The Superintendent **or designee** shall be responsible for the continual monitoring of the school program, including, but not limited to, all vocational education, industrial arts education, science education, technology education and arts education, for conditions under which students, staff members, or visitors are exposed to a process or activity that might have a tendency to cause damage to the eyes.



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Eye Protection

~~Each student, staff member, and visitor, exposed to a condition identified as hazardous to the eyes must wear an eye protective device appropriate to the activity and certified to meet the standards established by the State Board of Education, the American National Standard Practice for Occupational and Educational Eye and Face Protection, ANSI Z87.1-1979, and American National Standard Practice for the Safe Use of Lasers, ANSI Z136.1-1986 and the New Jersey Administrative Code. The **appropriate** eye protective device shall be supplied by the Board, except that the student, staff member, or visitor, **including individuals present for evening adult-school programs**, may wear personal eye wear that is appropriate to the activity and certified, in writing, by a licensed optician or other qualified licensed eye professional to meet or exceed those standards. District-owned **appropriate** eye protective devices shall be inspected regularly by the appropriate staff member, and defective or poorly fitting devices shall be returned to the Principal for repair or discard. Any shared **appropriate** eye protective devices shall be disinfected between uses by the method prescribed by the school medical inspector.~~

Each classroom, shop, laboratory, and other area of the school in which students or staff members are exposed to caustic materials that can cause damage to the eyes shall be equipped with an emergency eye wash fountain in accordance with standards established by the **New Jersey** Department of Education.

The Building Principal **or designee** shall ensure that each area in the school identified as housing an activity hazardous to the eyes shall be posted with conspicuous signs that warn participants that an appropriate eye protective device must be worn during the activity. Staff members of such activities are responsible for instructing students in appropriate eye safety practices and for serving as exemplary models in the implementation of such practices.

The Board authorizes each staff member responsible for an activity or process hazardous to the eyes to compile and maintain, for the duration of the course of study, a list of students in the course who wear contact lenses.

~~A student who refuses or persistently neglects to wear an eye protective device when required to do so or fails to observe established eye safety practices shall be dismissed from the day's class by his/her teacher. Any such dismissal from class will be considered to be an absence, in accordance with Board policy on student attendance, and an accumulation of such absences may result in loss of course credit.~~



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Eye Protection

~~A staff member who refuses or persistently neglects to wear an eye protective device when required to do so or fails to observe established eye safety practices may be disciplined for insubordination for failing to obey the rules established by this Board. The proper implementation of eye protection practices shall be a criterion in the evaluation of every staff member required to observe such practices.~~

~~A visitor to the schools who refuses or persistently neglects to wear an eye protective device when required to do so or fails to observe established eye safety practices may be requested to leave the school premises.~~

The **school district** Superintendent shall promulgate regulations to implement this policy that conform to rules of the State Board of Education and shall provide **annual in-service training and appropriate supplies and equipment to all school personnel responsible for implementing the eye-safety policies and program. The training shall cover all aspects of eye protection in schools as described in N.J.A.C. 6A:26-12.5(a) through (f).** ~~staff members whose instructional duties include activities hazardous to the eyes. The Superintendent shall report annually to the Board on the implementation of the eye protection program and the eye injuries, if any, occurring in the course of the instructional program.~~

N.J.S.A. 18A:40-12.1; 18A:40-12.2

N.J.A.C. 6A:7-1.3

N.J.A.C. 6A:26-12.5

N.J.A.C. 6:53-5.1 [vocational districts]

Adopted:



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Aug 21

Mandated

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 will develop and implement **comprehensive** written plans, ~~and~~ procedures, **and mechanisms** to provide for the protection of 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 supportive services for staff, students, and their families.

“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 community resources, as appropriate, in the development of the school district’s plans, procedures, and mechanisms for school safety and security. 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 and shall be reviewed annually, and updated as appropriate.

A copy of the school district’s school safety and security plan shall be disseminated to all school district employees. New employees shall receive a copy of the school district’s safety and security plan, as appropriate, within sixty days of the effective date of their employment. All employees shall be **notified** briefed in writing, as appropriate, regarding updates and changes to the school safety and security plan.

The school district shall develop and provide an in-service training program for all school district employees to enable them to recognize and appropriately respond to safety and security concerns, including emergencies and crises, consistent with the school 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 this in-service training, as appropriate, within sixty days of the



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Emergency and Crisis Situations

effective date of their employment. This in-service training program 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.

~~In accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:41-1, at least one fire drill and one school security drill will be conducted each month within school hours, including any summer months, which the school is open for instructional programs. A 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 non-fire evacuation, lockdown, bomb threat, or active shooter situation that is similar in duration to a fire drill. Schools are required to hold a minimum of two active shooter, non-fire evacuation, bomb threat, and lockdown security drills annually. Fire alarm systems shall be initiated only during a fire drill evacuation. Responses made necessary by the unplanned activation of emergency procedures or by any other emergency shall not be substituted for a required school security drill.~~

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, and shall require all teachers of all schools, whether occupying buildings of one or more stories, to keep all doors and exits of their respective rooms and buildings unlocked during the school hours, except during an emergency lockdown or an emergency lockdown drill. 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 fire or school security emergency that occurs at a school during the month and that includes activities which are the equivalent of a drill shall be considered a drill for the purposes of meeting the requirements of N.J.S.A. 18A:41-1.

Every school in the district shall conduct a school security drill within the first fifteen days of the beginning of the school year.



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Emergency and Crisis Situations

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** ~~Although these outside agencies are not required to observe school security drills, the Principal is encouraged to invite representatives from local law enforcement and emergency responder agencies to attend and observe at least four different security drills annually.~~

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** ~~as provided by the New Jersey Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness.~~

The school district will be required to annually submit a security drill statement of assurance to the New Jersey Department of Education by June 30 of each school year. Each school in the district will be required to complete 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. 18A:41-1 et seq.; **18A:41-2; 18A:41-6; 18A:41-7**

N.J.A.C. 6A:16-5.1; 6A:27-11.2

Adopted:



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Mandated

8540 SCHOOL NUTRITION PROGRAMS

The Board of Education recognizes the importance of a child receiving a nutritious, well-balanced meal to promote sound eating habits, to foster good health and academic achievement, and to reinforce the nutrition education taught in the classroom. Therefore, the Board of Education may participate in the school nutrition programs of the New Jersey Department of Agriculture in accordance with the eligibility criteria of the program. These programs may include the National School Lunch Program, the School Breakfast Program, the After-School Snack Program, and the Special Milk Program.

If seventy percent or more of the students enrolled in a school in the district on or before the last school day before October 16 of the preceding school year are eligible for free or reduced price meals under the National School Lunch Program or the Federal School Breakfast Program, the district shall establish a “Breakfast After the Bell” program for that school in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:33-11.1 et seq. The district may request a waiver of the requirements of the “Breakfast After the Bell” program pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:33-12.

The Board of Education shall sign an Agreement with the Division of Food and Nutrition, School Nutrition Programs, New Jersey Department of Agriculture for every school nutrition program operated within the school district. Any child nutrition program operated within the school district shall be operated in accordance with the provisions of the Agreement and all the requirements of the program.

Students may be eligible for free or reduced pricing in accordance with the requirements of the program operating in the school district. Prices charged to paying children shall be established by the Board of Education, but must be within the maximum prices established by the Division of Food and Nutrition, School Nutrition Programs, New Jersey Department of Agriculture. Prices charged to adults shall be in accordance with the requirements of the program.



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School Nutrition Programs

The Superintendent or designee shall annually notify parents of all children in the school district of the availability, eligibility requirements, and application procedures for free or reduced price meals or free milk in accordance with the notification requirements and procedures of the Division of Food and Nutrition, School Nutrition Programs, New Jersey Department of Agriculture.

The Superintendent will designate in the annual notification to parents, the person who will determine, in accordance with standards issued by the Division of Food and Nutrition, School Nutrition Programs, New Jersey Department of Agriculture, a student's eligibility for free or reduced price meals or free milk depending on the programs operated in the school district.

A parent may request a household application and instructions from the Principal of their child's school. A household application must be completed before eligibility is determined. Where necessary, the Principal or designee shall assist the applicant in the preparation of the household application.

Applications shall be reviewed in a timely manner. An eligibility determination will be made, the family will be notified of its status, and the status will be implemented as soon as possible within ten operating days of the receipt of the completed application. Any student found eligible shall be offered free or reduced price meals or free milk immediately upon the establishment of his/her eligibility and shall continue to receive such meals during the pendency of any inquiry regarding his/her eligibility in accordance with the requirements of the Division of Food and Nutrition, School Nutrition Programs, New Jersey Department of Agriculture. Carry-over of previous year's eligibility for students shall be in accordance with the requirements of the Division of Food and Nutrition, School Nutrition Programs, New Jersey Department of Agriculture.

A denial of eligibility for free or reduced price meals or free milk shall be in writing and shall include the reasons for which eligibility was denied, notice of the parent's right to appeal the denial, the procedures for an appeal, and a statement reminding parents that they may reapply at any time during the school year. Appeal procedures shall include: a hearing, if requested by the parent, held with reasonable promptness and convenience of the parent before a hearing officer other than the school official who denied the application; the parent's opportunity to be represented by counsel; a decision rendered promptly and in writing; and an opportunity to appeal the decision of the hearing officer to the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary. The appeal hearing will be conducted in accordance with the provisions as outlined by the Division of Food and Nutrition, School Nutrition Programs, New Jersey Department of Agriculture.



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School Nutrition Programs

There shall be no overt identification of any child(ren) who may be eligible to receive free or reduced price school meals or free milk. The identity of students who receive free or reduced price meals will be protected. Eligible students shall not be required to work in consideration for receiving such meals or milk. Eligible children shall not be required to use a separate dining area, go through a separate serving line, enter the dining area through a separate entrance, or consume their meals or milk at a different time. A student's eligibility status will not be disclosed at any point in the process of providing free or reduced price meals or free milk in accordance with the requirements of the Division of Food and Nutrition, School Nutrition Programs, New Jersey Department of Agriculture.

The School Business Administrator/Board Secretary or designee will verify applications of those eligible for free or reduced price meals in accordance with the requirements of the, Division of Food and Nutrition, School Nutrition Programs, New Jersey Department of Agriculture.

The Board of Education will comply with all the requirements of the Division of Food and Nutrition, School Nutrition Programs, New Jersey Department of Agriculture Local Education Agency (LEA) Agreement and all requirements outlined in the School Nutrition Electronic Application Reimbursement System (SNEARS).

7 C.F.R. 210.1 et seq.
N.J.S.A. 18A:33-5; **18A:33-11.1 et seq.**; 18A:58-7.2
N.J.A.C. 2:36

Adopted:



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Unpaid Meal Charges/Outstanding

Food Service **Bill Charges**

Aug 21

Mandated

8550 UNPAID MEAL CHARGES/OUTSTANDING FOOD SERVICE **BILL CHARGES**

The Board of Education shall establish a meal charge program to permit students in the district to charge for breakfast or lunch. Collection of any payment for a meal charge program account that is in arrears shall be addressed in accordance with provisions of this Policy.

The Board of Education recognizes a student may forget to bring breakfast or lunch (meal), as applicable, or money to purchase a meal to school on a school day. In this circumstance, the food service program will provide the student a meal and will inform the Principal or designee. The Principal or designee will contact the student's parent to provide notice of an outstanding meal bill and will provide the parent with a period of ten school days to pay the amount due. If the student's parent has not made full payment by the end of the ten school days, the Principal or designee shall again contact the parent with a second notice informing the parent of any action to be taken by the school district in response to a student's school breakfast or school lunch bill being in arrears. Such action may include denying the student school breakfast or lunch. A school district shall report at least biannually to the New Jersey Department of Agriculture the number of students who are denied school breakfast or school lunch in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:33-21a. and this Policy.

The school district shall not:

1. Publicly identify or stigmatize a student who cannot pay for a meal or whose school meal bill is in arrears. (For example, by requiring the student to sit at a separate table or wear a wristband, hand stamp, or identifying mark or by serving the student an alternative meal);



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Unpaid Meal Charges/Outstanding
Food Service **Bill** Charges

2. Require a student who cannot pay for a school meal or whose school meal bill is in arrears to do chores or other work to pay for the school meal; or
3. Require a student to discard a school meal after it has been served because of the student's inability to pay for a school meal or because money is owed for previously provided meals.

If a student owes money for the equivalent of five or more school meals at any time during the school year, the Principal or designee shall:

1. Determine if the student is eligible for a free or reduced-price school meal;
2. Make at least two attempts, not including the application or instructions provided to the parent each school year pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:33-21b.; to contact the student's parent and have the parent fill out an application for the school lunch program and school breakfast program; and
3. Contact the student's parent to offer assistance with the application for the school lunch and school breakfast program; determine if there are other issues within the household that have caused the child to have insufficient funds to purchase a school breakfast or school lunch; and offer any other appropriate assistance.

The school district shall direct communications about a student's school meal bill being in arrears to the parent and not the student. The school district's contact with the parent may be via email or telephone call. Nothing in N.J.S.A. 18A:33-21 shall prohibit the school district from sending a student home with a letter addressed to a parent.

If the student's meal bill is in arrears, but the student has the money to purchase a meal on a subsequent school day, the student will be provided a meal with payment and the food service program will not use the student's payment to repay previously unpaid charges if the student intended to use the money to purchase that school day's meal.



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Unpaid Meal Charges/Outstanding
Food Service **Bill Charges**

A parent who has received a second notice their child's meal bill is in arrears and who has not made payment in full within one week from the date of the second notice will be requested to meet with the Principal or designee to discuss and resolve the matter.

A parent's refusal to meet with the Principal or designee or take other steps to resolve the matter may be indicative of more serious issues in the family or household. However, when a parent's routine failure to provide breakfast or lunch is reasonably suspected to be indicative of child abuse or neglect, the Principal or designee shall immediately report such suspicion to the Department of Children and Families, Division of Child Protection and Permanency as required in N.J.S.A. 9:6-8.10. Such reporting shall not be delayed to accommodate a parent's meeting with the Principal or designee.

Students receiving free meals will not be denied a meal even if they accrued a negative balance from other purchases in the cafeteria.

In accordance with N.J.S.A 18A:33-21b., at the beginning of each school year, and upon initial enrollment in the case of a student enrolling during the school year, the school district shall provide to the parent of each student:

1. Information on the National School Lunch Program and the Federal School Breakfast Program;
2. An application to apply for the school lunch and school breakfast programs and instructions for completing the application; and
3. Information on the rights of students and their families under N.J.S.A. 18A:22-21 et seq.

The school district may provide the application and information electronically through the means by which the school district communicates with parents electronically. The application and information shall be in a language the parent understands.

The school district's liaison for the education of homeless children shall coordinate with school district personnel to ensure that a homeless student receives free school meals and is monitored according to the school district policies pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:33-21c.



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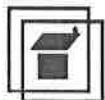
Unpaid Meal Charges/Outstanding

Food Service **Bill** Charges

The school district may post this Policy on the school district's website provided there is a method in place to ensure this Policy reaches all households without access to a computer or the Internet.

N.J.S.A. 18A:33-21; **18A:33-21a.**; **18A:33-21b.**; **18A:33-21c.**

Adopted:



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Student Transportation
Aug 21
Mandated

8600 STUDENT TRANSPORTATION

The Board of Education shall transport eligible students to and from school and school related activities in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:39-1 et seq., N.J.A.C. 6A:27-1 et seq., and Board policy. Transportation shall be provided only to eligible public and nonpublic school students, authorized school staff members, and adults serving as approved chaperones.

Nonpublic school transportation or aid in lieu of transportation shall be provided for resident students in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:39-1 et seq. and N.J.A.C. 6A:27-2.1 et seq.

Charter or renaissance school transportation or aid in lieu of transportation shall be provided for resident students in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:39-1 et seq. and N.J.A.C. 6A:27-3.1 et seq.



POLICY GUIDE

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Student Transportation

Students with special needs shall be provided transportation in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:39-1 et seq., and with their Individualized Education Program (IEP) pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:27-5.1.

The Board will approve all bus routes each school year. Bus routes for all non-remote students who must walk to and from school along hazardous routes will be designated and approved by the Board. The Board may consider, but shall not be limited to, the criteria outlined in N.J.S.A. 18A:39-1.5 in determining “Hazardous Routes.”

The Board will not be responsible for the transportation of nonresident students to or from school, except that transportation to and from school will be provided for homeless students; students residing in group homes; students residing in resource family homes; and students residing in shared custody homes pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:27-6.2, 6.3, 6.4, and 6.5.



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Student Transportation

When the schools of this district are closed for inclement weather or other conditions, no transportation will be provided for students enrolled in any public, nonpublic, charter school, and/or renaissance school.

The Board shall utilize cooperative/coordinated transportation services in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:39-11.1 et seq. and N.J.A.C. 6A:27-10.1 et seq. The Board shall utilize one of the agencies prior to determining to pay aid in lieu of transportation if in the prior year payments in lieu of transportation were provided. The Board will provide to the cooperative/coordinated transportation services any unique limitations or restrictions of the required transportation.

Vehicles used to transport students to and from school or school related activities shall meet standards, registration, and inspection requirements of the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE), the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission (NJMVC), and any applicable Federal regulations. The operation and fiscal management of the district's transportation system shall be conducted in strict accordance with rules of the New Jersey State Board of Education and the NJDOE.

In addition to the provisions of any State law, rule, or regulation containing more stringent requirements, provided that those requirements are compatible with Federal law, and notwithstanding the provisions of any State law, rule, or regulation to the contrary, school bus operations in the State shall comply with the requirements outlined in N.J.S.A. 39:3B-27.

N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-1 et seq.; 18A:39-1 et seq.; 18A:39-11.1 et seq.

N.J.S.A. 27:15-16

N.J.S.A. 39:3B-1 et seq.; 39:3B-2.1; 39:3B-10; 39:3B-27

N.J.A.C. 6A:27-1.1 et seq.; 6A:27-2.1 et seq.; 6A:27-3.1 et seq.;

6A:27-4.1 et seq.; 6A:27-5.1; 6A:27-6.2 through 6.5;

6A:27-7.1 et seq.; 6A:27-9.1 et seq.; 6A:27-10.1 et seq.;

6A:27-11.1 et seq.; 6A:27-12.1 et seq.

Adopted:



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ADMINISTRATION

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The Road Forward COVID-19 – Health and Safety

Aug 21

Mandated

1648.11 THE ROAD FORWARD COVID-19 – HEALTH AND SAFETY

The Board of Education plans to provide full-day, full-time, in-person instruction and operations for the 2021-2022 school year. In June 2021, the New Jersey Department of Health (NJDOH) and the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) worked collaboratively to develop guidance, The Road Forward – Health and Safety Guidance for the 2021-2022 School Year (The Road Forward).

The Road Forward replaces the mandatory anticipated minimum standards outlined in the NJDOE’s “The Road Back – Restart and Recovery Plan for Education” (June 2020) and provides a range of recommendations rather than mandatory standards. These recommendations are meant to assist school districts in implementing protocols to reduce risks to students and staff from COVID-19 while still allowing for full-time learning.

The Board considered many factors as they prepared for the 2021-2022 school year, including the level of COVID-19 transmission in the community at large and in the school community, as well as vaccination coverage rates in both the community at large and the school community.

For the purpose of this Policy, “Order” shall mean any Governor of New Jersey Executive Order, New Jersey State Agency mandate, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidance, New Jersey statute, or administrative code requiring compliance by the school district.

The Board considered the recommendations outlined in The Road Forward to develop health and safety protocols. The Board will consider all recommended Orders and comply with all mandatory Orders when developing health and safety protocols and reviewing them periodically.

The Board considered the recommendations outlined in The Road Forward to develop the school district’s COVID-19 protocols in the following areas and included in corresponding Appendices:



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The Road Forward COVID-19 – Health and Safety

- A. General Health and Safety Concerns of Students, Staff Members, and Visitors
 - 1. Vaccination – See Appendix A.;
 - 2. Communication with the Local Health Department – See Appendix B.;
 - 3. Mask Wearing Protocol – See Appendix C.;
 - 4. Physical Distancing and Cohorting Protocols – See Appendix D.;
 - 5. Hand Hygiene and Respiratory Etiquette Protocols – See Appendix E.;
 - 6. Provision of Meals – See Appendix F.; and
 - 7. Transportation Protocols – See Appendix G.
- B. Cleaning, Disinfection, and Airflow – See Appendix H.
- C. Screening, Exclusion, and Response to Symptomatic Students and Staff Members – See Appendix I.
- D. Contact Tracing – See Appendix J.
- E. Testing – See Appendix K.
- F. Student and Staff Member Travel – See Appendix L.

The absence of one or more of the recommendations outlined in The Road Forward and/or in the school district's health and safety protocols will not prevent the reopening of the school(s) in the district for full-day in-person operation with all enrolled students and staff members present.



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ADMINISTRATION

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The Road Forward COVID-19 –Health and Safety

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-9, schools must be in session for 180 days to receive State Aid. The statute requires that school facilities be provided for at least 180 days during the school year. N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-9(b) indicates when a school district is required to close the schools of the district for more than three consecutive school days due to a declared state of emergency, declared public health emergency, or a directive and/or recommendation by the appropriate health agency or officer to institute a public health-related closure, days of virtual or remote instruction commensurate with in-person instruction will count toward the school district's 180-day requirement.

The school district may be confronted with the incidence of COVID-19 positive cases among staff and/or students. If the school district is required to exclude a student, group of students, a class, or multiple classes as a result of possible exposure to COVID-19, while the school itself remains open for in-person instruction, the school district may offer virtual or remote instruction to those students in a manner commensurate with in-person instruction to the extent possible. In circumstances when the school facilities remain open and in-person instruction continues in those classrooms that are not required to quarantine, those days in session will also count toward the school district's 180-day requirement in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-9.

The school district anticipates updates to The Road Forward and as such this Policy is subject to review by the Superintendent to ensure compliance with Orders that may arise after Board adoption of this Policy. All revisions to Orders affecting this Policy and corresponding Appendices shall be reviewed by the Superintendent with the Board Attorney, School Physician, and Board of Education, if appropriate. The Superintendent may revise the health and safety protocols included in any Appendix as necessary and appropriate. All students, parents, and staff members will be notified of any changes to school district-developed protocols implemented as a result of this Policy, as appropriate.

Adopted:



THE ROAD FORWARD

Appendices

The Road Forward

Cluster Board of Education

Note:

As of August 10, 2021, the only mandatory requirements are included in Appendix C – Mask Wearing Protocol and Appendix G – Transportation Protocols. The school district should anticipate potential updates to The Road Forward Guidance as additional guidance becomes available.

Fall 2021



THE ROAD FORWARD

Appendix A

Vaccination

Closter Public Schools will:

- a. Determine the vaccination status of all staff and eligible students (those over 12 years of age).
- b. Actively promote vaccination for all eligible students and staff.



THE ROAD FORWARD

Appendix B

Communication with the Local Health Department

Closter Public Schools will:

- a. Maintain close communication with the Local Health Department in order to provide information and share resources on COVID-19 transmission, prevention, and control.
- b. Notify the Closter Health Department and the Mid-Bergen Health department in response to COVID-19 illness in the schools.
- c. Communicate with the Mid-Bergen Health Department about COVID-19 cases requiring contact tracing and will assist with the contact tracing process.



THE ROAD FORWARD

Appendix C

Mask Wearing Protocol

Students, school staff and visitors are required to wear face masks at all times, unless doing so would inhibit the individual's health or the individual is under two years of age. Visitors who refuse to wear a face mask will be denied entry to the school building. Administrators, teachers and staff will encourage mask wearing by modeling correct and consistent mask use. Closter Public Schools will comply with all updated directions and guidelines that will be provided by the New Jersey Department of Education and the New Jersey Department of Health for the 2021-2022 school year.



THE ROAD FORWARD

Appendix D

Physical Distancing and Cohorting Protocols

Closter Public Schools will:

- a. Implement physical distancing measures as an effective COVID-19 prevention strategy.
 - (1) Maintaining three feet of distance between students in classroom settings, to the extent possible.
 - (2) Maintaining three feet of distance between students when outside at recess, to the extent possible.
- b. Limit the use of shared equipment and items.
 - (1) When equipment must be shared, the equipment or items will be cleaned or disinfected between use.
- c. Hillside Elementary School students (PreK-4) will be kept in class cohorts when inside the school building.
- d. Tenakill Middle School students in grades 5 & 6 will be kept in cohorts, to the extent possible. Students in grades 7 & 8 are not in cohorts, due to World Language courses and advanced mathematics.



THE ROAD FORWARD

Appendix E

Hand Hygiene and Respiratory Etiquette Protocols

Closter Public Schools will:

- a. Teach and reinforce hand washing or sanitizing throughout each school day.
- b. Encourage students and staff to cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue, if possible. If students and staff sneeze with a mask on, the mask should be replaced with a clean mask.
- c. Maintain adequate hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette supplies for every instructional space. Hand sanitizing stations are in every classroom and at entry/exit doors.



THE ROAD FORWARD

Appendix F

Provision of Meals

Closter Public Schools will:

- a. Implement layered prevention strategies to help mitigate the spread of COVID-19 in cafeterias or other group dining areas.
 - i. Students at Hillside Elementary School will eat snack and lunch in their classrooms, while wearing a face shield.
 - ii. Students at Tenakill Middle School will eat lunch in the gymnasium and will be seated with social distancing.
- b. Permit the Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) to sell lunches to students through a limited number of local vendors.
 - i. Parents who assist with the distribution of lunches within the schools must complete a daily health screening form.
 - ii. Lunch items purchased through the PTO lunch program must be individually wrapped and labeled with the student's name for efficient and safe delivery to the student.



THE ROAD FORWARD

Appendix G

Transportation Protocols

Closter Public School will require:

- a. All students to wear masks while being transported on a school bus.
- b. Bus transportation companies to provide assurances that they will follow all guidelines recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the New Jersey Department of Health (NJDOH).



THE ROAD FORWARD

Appendix H

Cleaning, Disinfection, and Airflow

Closter Public Schools will:

- a. Clean and disinfect surfaces and objects that are touched often; such as desks, countertops, doorknobs, computer keyboards, hands-on learning items, faucet handles, phones, and toys at least daily.
- b. Ensure that fresh air intake will be maintained to the extent possible in the HVAC system to increase circulation of outdoor air and increase the delivery of clean air in classrooms and office spaces.



THE ROAD FORWARD

Appendix I

Screening, Exclusion, and Response to Symptomatic Students and Staff Members

Closter Public Schools will:

- a. Require staff and students to complete an online daily health screening administered through Realtime, which is the district's student information system. Students' survey results will be scanned by an assigned staff member prior to entering the school building. If a student has not completed the screening, his/her temperature will be taken and the parent will be called to complete the survey.
- b. Require anyone with a temperature or COVID-19 symptoms during the school day to be directed to the school nurse's office. The nurse will examine the individual. A student exhibiting symptoms of COVID 19 may be required to submit to a COVID 19 test.
- c. Partner with a vendor to provide free weekly COVID-19 testing for all staff, students, parents, and community members.
- d. Comply with all updated directions and guidelines for diagnostic and screening testing provided by the New Jersey Department of Education and the New Jersey Department of Health for the 2021-2022 school year.



THE ROAD FORWARD

Appendix J

Contact Tracing

Closter Public Schools will:

- a. Ensure that school nurses and administrators identify school-based close contacts of positive COVID-19 cases in the school.
- b. Report close contacts to the Mid-Bergen Department of Health.
- c. Notify, as directed by the Mid-Bergen Department of Health, parents and staff of the close contact exposure and exclusion requirements while maintaining confidentiality.



THE ROAD FORWARD

Appendix K

Testing

Closter Public Schools will:

- a. Identify rapid viral testing options in their community for the testing of individuals who were exposed to someone with COVID-19.
- b. Host COVID-19 testing onsite once per week.



THE ROAD FORWARD

Appendix L

Student and Staff Member Travel

When students and staff members travel outside of New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Connecticut, and Delaware, Closter Public Schools will:

- a. Follow the recommended CDC guidelines for student and staff member quarantine requirements.
- b. During quarantine (for COVID-19 illness, close contact with someone who tests positive for COVID-19, and after travel outside of the states listed above) students will be eligible for continuation of instruction offered through a live stream of the classroom. Parents must notify the school nurse of the quarantine and the necessity for access to the live stream.



