

SECTION E: SUPPORT SERVICES

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SECTION E: SUPPORT SERVICES

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SECTION E: SUPPORT SERVICES

(Continued)

EI Insurance Management

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* denotes areas covered by Board policy

SUPPORT SERVICES GOALS

The Board views the support services operations of the school system as essential to the educational program. The Board serves as trustee of school facilities and overseer of school business operations for the purpose of providing the facilities and services which will support an excellent educational program.

The Board expects operation and maintenance of the school plant, equipment and services to set high standards of safety, to promote the health of students and staff, to reflect the aspirations of the community and to support the efforts of the staff to provide good instruction of high quality.

[Adoption date: August 20, 1992]

[Re-adoption date: May 16, 2002]

[Re-adoption date: September 16, 2010]

[Re-adoption date: September 17, 2015]

CROSS REFS.: EB, Safety Program

EBC, Emergency Management and Safety Plans

EF, Food Services Management (Vanguard Career Center)

EFB, Free and Reduced-Price Food Services

SAFETY PROGRAM

The Board is concerned with the safety of all students, employees and members of the school community present on Vanguard-Sentinel Career and Technology Centers property and at all career center sponsored events at other sites. The Board directs the administration to develop a safety program, which is reviewed on an annual basis.

The Superintendent/designee is the administrator responsible for the safety program of the District and develops written procedures to comply with all applicable Federal and State laws and regulations.

The practice of safety is also a part of the instructional plan of the District through educational programs. The educational program includes instruction in traffic and pedestrian safety, fire prevention, in-service training and emergency procedures appropriately geared to students.

All staff are encouraged to participate in the safety practices of the Health and Safety Committee by providing recommendations that ensure a safe environment for all.

[Adoption date: August 20, 1992]

[Re-adoption date: May 16, 2002]

[Re-adoption date: September 16, 2010]

[Re-adoption date: September 17, 2015]

LEGAL REFS.: Public Employment Risk Reduction Act;

ORC 4167.01 et seq.

2744

3313.536

3313.60; 3313.643

3707.26

3737.73

OAC 3301-35-06

CROSS REFS.: EA, Support Services Goals

GBE, Staff Health and Safety

JHF, Student Safety

FIRST AID

Safety and accident prevention are a constant concern of the Board. To safeguard the welfare and health of students and employees, the Board shall direct the administration to develop a procedure for handling emergency situations.

[Adoption date: August 20, 1992]

[Re-adoption date: May 16, 2002]

[Re-adoption date: September 16, 2010]

[Re-adoption date: September 17, 2015]

LEGAL REFS: ORC 2305.23

3301.56

3313.712

OAC 3301-27-01; 3301-35-06

CROSS REFS: EB, Safety Program

EBBC, Bloodborne Pathogens

EBC, Emergency Management and Safety Plans

IGD, Cocurricular and Extracurricular Activities

JHCD, Administering Medicines to Students

Emergency Medical Authorization Form

FIRST AID

The following requirements will be adhered to by all personnel.

1. A physician, trained person and/or an emergency medical service will be called in case of serious illness or injury.
2. In compliance with law, the parents of all students will be asked to sign and submit an emergency medical authorization, which will indicate the procedure they wish to be followed in the event of a medical emergency involving their child. The forms will be kept readily at hand in the main office of the building.
3. Only emergency care and first aid will be provided.
4. In cases where the nature of an illness or an injury appears serious, the parents will be contacted and the instructions on the student's emergency card followed. In extreme emergencies, arrangements may be made for a student's immediate hospitalization whether or not the parent can be reached.

[Approval date: August 20, 1992]

[Re-approval date: May 16, 2002]

[Re-approval date: September 16, 2010]

[Re-approval date: September 17, 2015]

BLOODBORNE PATHOGENS

Staff/students incur some risk of infection and illness each time they are exposed to bodily fluids or other potentially infectious materials. While the risk to staff/students of exposure to body fluids due to casual contact with individuals in the school environment is very low, the Board regards any such risk as serious.

Consequently, the Board directs adherence to universally recognized precautions. Universally recognized precautions require that staff and students approach infection control as if all direct contact with human blood and body fluids is known to be infectious for HIV, HBV, HCV and/or other bloodborne pathogens.*

To reduce the risk to staff/students by minimizing or eliminating staff exposure incidents to bloodborne pathogens, the Board directs the Superintendent to develop and implement an exposure control plan. This plan must be reviewed and updated at least annually in accordance with Federal law.

The plan includes annual in-service training for staff and students; first-aid kits in the building and each school vehicle; correct procedures for cleaning up body fluid spills and for personal clean-up.

Training is followed by an offer of immunization with hepatitis B vaccine for all staff who are required to provide first aid to students and/or staff. The vaccine is also offered to all staff who have occupational exposure as determined by the administrator.

[Adoption date: May 16, 2002]

[Re-adoption date: September 16, 2010]

[Re-adoption date: September 17, 2015]

LEGAL REFS.: 29 CFR 1910.1030
ORC 3707.26
Public Employment Risk Reduction Program;
ORC 4167.01 et seq.

CROSS REFS.: EBBA, First Aid
EBC, Emergency Management and Safety Plans

* Bloodborne pathogens are pathogenic microorganisms that are present in human blood and can cause disease in humans. These include, but are not limited to, hepatitis B virus (HBV), hepatitis C virus (HCV) and human immunodeficiency virus (HIV).

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND SAFETY PLANS

The Board acknowledges that the safety and well-being of students and staff are high priorities. Although emergencies cannot be predicted, effective prevention and management strategies are used to minimize the effects of emergency situations arising in the District.

An emergency is defined as an event that threatens the actual safety and security of students, employees or visitors of the District or whose impact threatens the feeling of safety and security, both of which are detrimental to a positive learning environment. Emergencies include, but are not limited to, fire, natural disasters, medical emergencies, industrial accidents, suicide, death of a student or employee, acts of violence, trauma and terrorism.

Comprehensive Emergency Management and School Safety Plans and Drills

The Board directs the Superintendent/designee to prepare emergency/safety plans for use by staff and students. The plans are posted in each classroom and other areas accessible to staff and students.

The comprehensive emergency management plan sets a protocol for addressing and responding to serious threats to the safety of the school property, students, staff, volunteers and visitors. Each protocol includes procedures deemed appropriate by the Board or governing authority for responding to threats and emergency events including, but not limited to, notification of appropriate law enforcement personnel, calling upon specified emergency response personnel for assistance and informing parents of affected students.

State law determines the type and number of drills the District must conduct in order to adequately prepare staff and students for emergency situations. Drills provide both students and staff with practice in responding to emergency conditions should such conditions occur.

A copy of each school building's current comprehensive emergency management plan and blueprint is filed with the Ohio Department of Education, the law enforcement agency that has jurisdiction over the school building and, upon request, the fire department and emergency medical service organization that serves the political subdivision in which the school building is located. The floor plan is used solely by first responders responding to an emergency in the building and is not a public record.

The administration reviews the plan annually, considering the most current information dealing with the subjects, as well as making relevant information about the plan known to the community. When the comprehensive emergency management plan is used, assessment of the way the emergency was handled is completed by the Board and the administration. Suggestions for improvement, if necessary, are solicited from all stakeholders.

Although the plan is reviewed annually, State law requires the District's comprehensive emergency management plan to be updated every three years and whenever a major modification to an individual school building requires changes in that building's procedures or whenever information on the emergency contact information sheet changes.

[Adoption date: August 20, 1992]

[Re-adoption date: May 16, 2002]

[Re-adoption date: September 16, 2010]

[Re-adoption date: September 17, 2015]

LEGAL REFS.: ORC 149.433

2305.235

2923.11

3301.56

3313.20; 3313.536; 3313.717; 3313.719

3314.03; 3314.16

3701.85

3737.73; 3737.99

OAC 3301-35-06

CROSS REFS.: EBBA, First Aid

EBBC, Bloodborne Pathogens

ECA, Buildings and Grounds Security

EEAC, School Vehicle Safety Program

EF, Food Services Management (Vanguard Career Center)

EFB, Free and Reduced-Price Food Services

EFH, Food Allergies

GBE, Staff Health and Safety

JHCD, Administering Medicines to Students

JHF, Student Safety

KK, Visitors to the Schools

Emergency/Safety Plans Handbook

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND SAFETY PLANS (Administrative Rules/Protocols)

The Board directs the Superintendent/designee to prepare and maintain comprehensive emergency management and safety plans and administrative rules/protocols regarding the topics listed below. The rules/protocols are kept in the central office in a secure location.

Administrative Rules/Protocols

1. A list of dangerous or recalled products.
2. Radon rules or protocols including evidence that each school has been built radon resistant or has been tested for radon within the past five years.
3. An asbestos management plan including evidence of inspection for asbestos within three years, evidence of periodic surveillance within the past six months and a copy of the yearly written notice to the public referencing asbestos inspection and the availability of the asbestos management plan for review.
4. A schoolwide safety or crisis management plan, which provides a protocol for responding to any emergency events and a protocol providing for immediate notification to the appropriate fire department and board of health in the event of any spill or release of a hazardous substance on school grounds.
5. Guidance regarding bloodborne pathogen risk reduction.
6. Procedures for administering medications to students.
7. A written comprehensive safety plan addressing:
 - A. safety management accountabilities and strategies;
 - B. safe work practices;
 - C. accident analysis procedures;
 - D. job safety analysis procedures;
 - E. safety committees and employee involvement strategies;

- F. employee safety and health training;
 - G. treatment of sick or injured workers;
 - H. safety and health hazard audits;
 - I. ergonomics;
 - J. transportation safety;
 - K. identification and control of physical hazards;
 - L. substance abuse;
 - M. school violence prevention and
 - N. personal protective equipment.
8. A written chemical hygiene plan, which sets forth procedures, equipment, personal protective equipment and work practices that are capable of protecting employees and students from the health hazards of chemicals in the school.
 9. Safety data sheets for every hazardous chemical used in each school building or on the school grounds for cleaning, maintenance or instruction. (These must be kept where the chemicals are stored in addition to the main office of each building.)
 10. Protocols on staff and student hand washing.
 11. No-smoking signs.
 12. The District's integrated pest management policy.
 13. Protocols for using automated external defibrillators (AEDs).
 14. Protocols for responding to in-school crises, including student crime, suicide, death of a student or employee, acts of violence (including bomb threats and school intruders), trauma, accidents and/or terrorism.
 15. Protocols for the management of students with life-threatening allergies.

[Approval date: September 17, 2015]

EMERGENCY CLOSINGS

The Superintendent may close the schools, dismiss students early or delay the opening of schools in the event of hazardous weather, other emergencies that threaten the safety or health of students or staff members, law enforcement emergencies or other circumstances where the Superintendent determines a closure, dismissal or delay is necessary. It is understood that the Superintendent takes such action only after consultation with transportation and other necessary authorities.

Parents, students and staff members are informed early in each school year relative to the method of notification in the event of emergency closings or early dismissals.

The District may choose to make up a maximum of three days via online lessons and/or blizzard bags.

[Adoption date: August 20, 1992]

[Re-adoption date: May 16, 2002]

[Re-adoption date: September 16, 2010]

[Re-adoption date: September 17, 2015]

LEGAL REFS.: ORC 3313.48; 3313.482

CROSS REFS.: EBC, Emergency Management and Safety Plans
IC/ICA, School Year/School Calendar
ID, School Day

CONTRACT REFS.: Certificated Staff Negotiated Agreement

USE OF FACE COVERINGS

Recognizing the importance of face coverings (masks) as one of the comprehensive measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19, the Board directs the Superintendent to work with the local health department to develop procedures, considering the guidance provided by the Ohio Department of Health and all the available science, for the use of face coverings in the District, at activities under the control of the District and on District provided transportation. The use of face coverings is one part of the comprehensive plan in place for student and staff health.

Recognizing that available scientific information and local needs may change, the Board authorizes the Superintendent to continue to review and adjust face covering procedures in consultation with health officials. All face covering procedures and any changes to procedures must be clearly communicated to all staff, volunteers, parents and students in a timely manner. At no time may the Superintendent require any less for face coverings than may be required by law or health department requirement.

Face coverings not provided by the school district may not promote/endorse political statements, promote alcohol or drugs, or violate regular dress code policies.

Staff and Volunteers

All staff and volunteers who do not meet one of the listed exceptions are required to wear face coverings in the work setting unless it is unsafe to do so or doing so would significantly interfere with the learning process. Exceptions include:

1. Facial coverings in the school setting are prohibited by law or regulation;
2. Facial coverings are in violation of documented industry standards;
3. Facial coverings are not advisable for health reasons;
4. Facial coverings are in violation of the school's documented safety policies;
5. Facial coverings are not required when the staff works alone in an assigned work area;
6. There is a functional (practical) reason for a staff member or volunteer to not to wear a facial covering in the workplace.

The District must provide written justification to local health officials, upon request, explaining why a staff member is not required to wear a face covering in the school.

School nurses or staff who care for individuals with symptoms must use appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) provided by the District in accordance with all current Occupational Safety and Health Administration standards.

Students

The Board directs the Superintendent to work in consultation with local health officials to develop detailed procedures for the use of face coverings by students that consider all available science. In drafting these procedures, the Superintendent will take into consideration currently available guidance from state and local health departments with the understanding that this guidance will continue to change over time. These procedures must address the use of face coverings by students in all environments under control by the District as well as requirements based on age or grade level for student use of face coverings. The procedures provide direction for parents when there is a health or developmental reason for which a student cannot wear a face covering. The District will take steps to reduce any social stigma for students who, for medical or developmental reasons, cannot and should not wear a face covering.

Additional considerations

The District provides staff training and age appropriate instruction for students on appropriate use of face coverings and PPE.

The Board directs the Superintendent to develop procedures for when face shields may be considered as a preapproved alternative where cloth face coverings would hinder the learning process, including but not limited to the following situations:

1. When interacting with students, such as those with disabilities, where communication could be impacted;
2. When interacting with English-language learners or when teaching a foreign language;
3. In settings where cloth face coverings might present a safety hazard (i.e., science labs);
4. For individuals who have difficulty wearing a cloth face covering.

The Board directs the Superintendent to develop procedures for face coverings for all visitors, contractors and other individuals on District property in addition to the procedures addressed herein for employees, volunteers and students. Such procedures must be appropriately communicated.

[Adoption date: August 20, 2020]

LEGAL REF.: ORC 3313.20(A)

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS SECURITY

Buildings and grounds constitute one of the greatest investments of the Board. It is in the best interest of the District to protect such investments.

Security includes maintenance of a secure building and protection from fire hazards, faulty equipment and unsafe practices in the use of electrical, plumbing and heating equipment. The Board shall cooperate with local law enforcement agencies and fire departments and with insurance company inspectors.

Access to buildings and grounds outside of regular school hours is limited to personnel whose work requires such access. A security control system is established which limits access to buildings to authorized personnel and guards against entrance to buildings by unauthorized persons.

Surveillance Equipment

The Board recognizes the District's responsibility to maintain order and discipline on school property and in school vehicles. Recognizing the value of electronic surveillance systems in monitoring activity, the Board directs the administration to develop regulations to implement the surveillance program. The regulations must be in compliance with law to protect the privacy rights of students and staff.

1. Cameras

Surveillance cameras may be used both inside and outside of buildings to assist in the security of students, staff and property.

2. Metal Detectors

The administration is authorized to use stationary or mobile metal detectors at its discretion. The Board directs the administration to develop regulations for the use of detectors.

Any search of a student's person as a result of activation of the detector is conducted in private.

[Adoption date: June 16, 2005]

[Re-adoption date: September 16, 2010]

[Re-adoption date: September 17, 2015]

LEGAL REFS.: The Elementary and Secondary Education Act; 20 USC 1221 et seq.
Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act; 20 USC Section 1232g
U.S. Const. Amend. IV ORC 3313.20

CROSS REFS.: EBC, Emergency Management and Safety Plans
JFC, Student Conduct (Zero Tolerance)
JFCJ, Weapons in the Schools
JFG, Interrogations and Searches
JO, Student Records
KK, Visitors to the Schools

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS SECURITY

The Board recognizes the value of electronic surveillance systems in monitoring activity on school property and in school vehicles in protecting the health, welfare and safety of its students and staff. Carefully weighing the rights of privacy of students and staff against the District's duty to maintain order and discipline, the Board authorizes the use of electronic surveillance systems.

Cameras

1. Cameras are not positioned in areas where individuals have a reasonable expectation of privacy.
2. The administration provides written notice to staff, students and parents/guardians that electronic surveillance may occur on school property or in school vehicles. In addition, appropriate signs are posted in building entrances and at other locations deemed appropriate by the administration to inform visitors that electronic surveillance may occur on District property.
3. The use of cameras in transportation vehicles is supervised by the building directors and the transportation supervisor.
4. The use of cameras is subject to District policies concerning the confidentiality of student and staff records.
5. Surveillance cameras are used only to promote the order, safety and security of students, staff and property.

Portable Metal Detectors

Notices are posted at each main doorway and in student handbooks explaining that weapons are not permitted at school and that students may be required to submit to a metal detector check.

1. Prior to beginning metal detector checks, an administrator or law enforcement officer explains the process to the student body, emphasizing that checks are intended to maintain a safe school environment.
2. The administrator or officer checks each student by visually searching his/her locker and having them bring contents to a check point.

3. The administrator or officer will ask the student to remove all metal-containing objects from his/her clothing and personal effects. The administrator/officer scans the student without touching him/her, as well as the student's personal effects. If the student refuses to cooperate, the administrator/officer may proceed with the check in the presence of another adult.
4. If the metal detector is activated during scanning of the student's effects, the administrator/officer opens the student's bag, purse, etc. and looks for weapons. If the detector is activated during scanning of the student's person, the student is given a second opportunity to remove any metal-containing object from his/her person.
5. If the metal detector is again activated, a same-sex administrator/officer conducts a pat-down search of the student's outer clothing in the area where the metal detector was activated. If the administrator/officer feels an object on the student's person, the student is given an opportunity to remove the object. If the student refuses, the administrator/officer escorts the student into a private room and removes the object from the student in the presence of an adult witness of the same sex.
6. If a properly conducted search yields a weapon or any other illegal material, it is turned over to the proper legal authorities for ultimate dispositions.

[Approval date: June 16, 2005]

[Re-approval date: September 16, 2010]

[Re-approval date: September 17, 2015]

VANDALISM

Parents and students will be made aware of legal consequences of vandalism. Students, employees and citizens of the District are urged to report any incidents of vandalism to property belonging to the District together with the name(s) of the person(s) believed to be responsible. The Board may offer a reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of any person who steals or damages Board property.

The Superintendent is authorized to sign a criminal complaint and to press charges against perpetrators of vandalism against school property. The Superintendent is further authorized to delegate, as he/she sees fit, authority to sign such complaints and to press charges.

Any student found guilty of any form of vandalism or defacement of school property may be subject to suspension or expulsion.

Parents are liable, up to the amount provided by law, for the willful destruction of property by a minor in their custody or control. If parents are found liable for monetary damages and are unable to make restitution, the Board may allow the parents and/or students to perform community services for the schools instead of repayment of the damages.

[Adoption date: August 20, 1992]

[Re-adoption date: May 16, 2002]

[Re-adoption date: September 16, 2010]

[Re-adoption date: September 17, 2015]

LEGAL REFS.: ORC 2909.05
3109.09
3313.173
3737.73; 3737.99

CROSS REFS.: JGA, Corporal Punishment
JGD, Student Suspension
JGDA, Emergency Removal of Student
JGE, Student Expulsion

CAMPUS SAFETY AND SECURITY REPORTS
(Joint Vocational School Districts)

In compliance with the requirements for participating in postsecondary Title IV financial aid programs, the District complies with the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act (Clery Act). The District is concerned with the safety and welfare of students and staff and has developed procedures meeting the requirements of Federal law to address crime response and prevention.

The Board directs the Superintendent/designee to:

1. Collect, classify and count crime reports and statistics;
2. Issue campus alerts;
3. Provide educational programs and campaigns;
4. Develop procedures for institutional disciplinary action in cases of dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking and
5. Submit crime statistics to the U.S. Department of Education.

The District will publish and distribute an annual security report meeting statutory requirements. The annual security report will include District policies outlining:

1. How students and others should report crimes or other emergencies occurring on campus;
2. Security of and access to campus facilities;
3. Crime prevention;
4. Campus law enforcement and security;
5. Alcohol and drugs;
6. Dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking and
7. Obtaining registered sex offender information

[Adoption date: July 1, 2017]

LEGAL REFS.: Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act, 20 U.S.C. Section 1092(f)

CROSS REFS.: ACA/ACAA, Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex/Sexual Harassment
EBC, Emergency Management and Safety Plans
ECA, Buildings and Grounds Security
JFCH/JFCI, Alcohol Use by Students/Student Drug Abuse
Student Handbooks
Employee Handbooks

COMPUTER/ONLINE SERVICES (Acceptable Use and Internet Safety)

Technology can greatly enhance the instructional program, as well as the efficiency of the District. The Board recognizes that careful planning is essential to ensure the successful, equitable and cost-effective implementation of technology-based materials, equipment, systems and networks.

Computers and use of the District network or online services support learning and enhance instruction, as well as assist in administration. For purposes of this policy, computers include District-owned desktop computers, laptops, tablets and other mobile computing devices.

All computers are to be used in a responsible, efficient, ethical and legal manner. Failure to adhere to this policy and the guidelines below will result in the revocation of the user's access privilege. Unacceptable uses of the computer/network include but are not limited to:

1. violating the conditions of Federal and State laws dealing with students' and employees' rights to privacy, including unauthorized disclosure, use and dissemination of personal information;
2. using profanity, obscenity or other language that may be offensive to another user or intended to harass, intimidate or bully other users;
3. accessing personal social networking websites for noneducational purposes;
4. reposting (forwarding) personal communication without the author's prior consent;
5. copying commercial software and/or other material in violation of copyright law;
6. using the network for financial gain, for commercial activity or for any illegal activity;
7. "hacking" or gaining unauthorized access to other computers or computer systems, or attempting to gain such unauthorized access unless part of a network training program such as CCNT, where this is used in a lab setting supervised by a lab instructor;

8. accessing and/or viewing inappropriate material and
9. downloading of freeware or shareware programs unless authorized by technology coordinator.

The Superintendent/designee shall develop a plan to address the short- and long-term technology needs and provide for compatibility of resources among school sites, offices and other operations. As a basis for this plan, he/she shall examine and compare the costs and benefits of various resources and shall identify the blend of technologies and level of service necessary to support the instructional program.

Because access to online services provides connections to other computer systems located all over the world, users (and parents of users who are under 18 years old) must understand that neither the school nor the District can control the content of the information available on these systems. Some of the information available is controversial and sometimes offensive.

The Board does not condone the use of such materials. Employees, students and parents of students must be aware that the privileges to access on-line services are withdrawn from users who do not respect the rights of others or who do not follow the rules and regulations established. A user's agreement is signed to indicate the user's acknowledgment of the risks and regulations for computer/online services use. The District has implemented technology-blocking measures that protect against access by both adults and minors to visual depictions that are obscene, child pornography or, with respect to the use of computers by minors harmful to minors. The District has also purchased monitoring devices which maintain a running log of Internet activity, recording which sites a particular user has visited.

“Harmful to minors” is defined as any picture, image, graphic image file or other visual depiction that:

1. taken as a whole and with respect to minors appeals to a prurient interest in nudity, sex or excretion;
2. depicts, describes or represents, in a patently offensive way with respect to what is suitable for minors, an actual or simulated sexual act or sexual contact, actual or simulated normal or perverted sexual acts or lewd exhibition of genitals and
3. taken as a whole, lacks serious literary, artistic, political or scientific value as to minors.

The District will educate minors about appropriate online behavior, including interacting with other individuals on social networking websites and in chat rooms and cyberbullying awareness and response. The Superintendent/designee will develop a program to educate students on these issues.

Annually, a student who wishes to have computer network and Internet access during the school year must read the acceptable use and Internet safety policy and submit a properly signed agreement form. Students and staff are asked to sign a new agreement each year after reviewing the policies and regulations of the District. The District reserves the right to amend policies and regulations as necessary throughout the school year. Users are notified of the updated policies and regulations and must comply with the updated requirements. These policies and regulations also apply to use of District-owned devices, or accessing of District intranet and software programs off District property. All users using platforms established for e-learning regardless of whether the student or employee is using a personal or District provided device must be used in accordance with the standards for conduct outlined in this policy and the accompanying regulation. Users in violation of this policy or the accompanying regulation may be subject to discipline.

[Adoption date: May 16, 2002]

[Re-adoption date: September 16, 2010]

[Re-adoption date: September 17, 2015]

[Re-adoption date: February 18, 2021]

LEGAL REFS.: U.S. Const. Art. I, Section 8

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act; 20 USC 1232g et seq.

Children's Internet Protection Act; 47 USC 254 (h)(5)(b)(iii); (P.L. 106-554, HR 4577, 2000, 114 Stat 2763)

ORC 3313.20

3319.321

CROSS REFS.: AC, Nondiscrimination

ACA, Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Gender

ACAA, Sexual Harassment

IB, Academic Freedom IIA,

Instructional Materials

JFC, Student Conduct (Zero Tolerance)

Student Handbooks

COMPUTER/ONLINE SERVICES (Acceptable Use and Internet Safety)

The following guidelines and procedures shall be complied with by staff, students or community members who are specifically authorized to use the District's computers or on-line services.

1. Use appropriate language. Do not use profanity, obscenity or other language which may be offensive to other users. Illegal activities are strictly forbidden.
2. Do not reveal your personal home address or phone number or those of other students or colleagues.
3. Note that electronic mail (e-mail) is not guaranteed to be private. Systems managers have access to all messages relating to or in support of illegal activities and such activities may be reported to the authorities.
4. Use of the computer and/or network is not for financial gain or for any commercial or illegal activity.
5. The network should not be used in such a way that it disrupts the use of the network by others.
6. All communications and information accessible via the network should be assumed to be property of the District.
7. Rules and regulations of on-line etiquette are subject to change by the administration.
8. The user in whose name an on-line service account is issued is responsible for its proper use at all times. Users shall keep personal account numbers and passwords private. They shall use this system only under their account numbers issued by the District.
9. The system shall be used only for purposes related to education or administration. Commercial, political and/or personal use of the system is strictly prohibited. The administration reserves the right to monitor any computer activity and on-line communications for improper use.
10. Users shall not use the system to encourage the use of drugs, alcohol or tobacco nor shall they promote unethical practices or any activity prohibited by law or Board policy.

11. Users shall not view, download or transmit material that is threatening, obscene, disruptive or sexually explicit or that could be construed as harassment, bullying or disparagement of others based on their race, color, national origin, ancestry, citizenship status, sex, sexual orientation, age, disability, religion economic status, military status, political beliefs or any other personal or physical characteristics.
12. Copyrighted material may not be placed on the system without the author's permission.
13. Vandalism results in the cancellation of user privileges. Vandalism includes uploading/downloading any inappropriate material, creating computer viruses and/or any malicious attempt to harm or destroy equipment or materials or the data of any other user.
14. Users shall not read other users' mail or files; they shall not attempt to interfere with other users' ability to send or receive electronic mail, nor shall they attempt to read, delete, copy, modify or forge other users' mail.
15. Users are expected to keep messages brief and use appropriate language.
16. Users shall report any security problem or misuse of the network to the teacher or the director or immediate supervisor.

[Approval date: May 16, 2002]

[Re-approval date: September 16, 2010]

[Re-approval date: September 17, 2015]

SCHOOL VEHICLE SAFETY PROGRAM

The primary consideration in all matters pertaining to transportation is the safety and welfare of student riders. Safety precautions shall include the following.

1. The transportation program meets all state requirements regarding the testing and approval of bus drivers, standards for vehicles and safe speeds.
2. Drivers of Board owned, leased, contracted or operated vehicles other than schoolbuses have met state training qualifications and the vehicles have been equipped for safety and signage according to State law.
3. All vehicles used to transport students are maintained in such condition as to provide safe and efficient transportation service with a minimum of delay and disruption of service due to mechanical or equipment failure.

[Adoption date: September 16, 2010]

[Re-adoption date: September 17, 2015]

LEGAL REFS.: ORC 3327.09; 3327.10
4511.75; 4511.76; 4511.761; 4511.762 through 4511.78
OAC 3301-51-10
3301-83

CROSS REFS.: EB, Safety Program
GBQ, Criminal Records Check

**DRUG TESTING FOR DISTRICT PERSONNEL REQUIRED
TO HOLD A COMMERCIAL DRIVER'S LICENSE**

School bus drivers and others required to hold a commercial driver's license are subject to a drug and alcohol testing program that fulfills the requirements of federal regulations. The Board directs the Superintendent/designee to develop a driver drug testing program in compliance with State and Federal laws and regulations.

[Adoption date: September 16, 2010]

[Re-adoption date: September 17, 2015]

LEGAL REFS.: 49 USC 31136; 31301 et seq.
49 CFR, Subtitle A, Part 40
ORC 4506.15; 4506.16
OAC 3301-83-07

CROSS REFS.: EB, Safety Program
GBCB, Staff Conduct
GBE, Staff Health and Safety
GBP, Drug-Free Workplace GBQ,
Criminal Records Check Staff
Handbooks

SCHOOL BUS IDLING

The Board is committed to transporting students on school buses in a manner that is safe and consistent with the Board's goal of resource conservation. The Board recognizes that accumulated emissions from diesel engines can be harmful to students and bus drivers. Also, unnecessary engine idling wastes diesel fuel and financial resources. Therefore, the Board prohibits all unnecessary diesel engine idling.

Diesel engine idling in excess of five minutes in school loading zones is not permitted unless the operation of a wheelchair lift is required. This policy applies to all buses used to transport students to and from school, cocurricular/extracurricular activities, field trips and other school-related activities.

The Board directs the Superintendent/designee to develop and maintain regulations to implement this policy.

[Adoption date: September 17, 2015]

LEGAL REFS.: ORC 3327.01
4511.76
OAC 3301-83-20 (O)

CROSS REFS.: EEAC, School Vehicle Safety Program
Staff Handbooks

USE OF SCHOOL-OWNED VEHICLES (Training Vehicle)

The Board has determined that it is appropriate and necessary for the curriculum to purchase an automobile, similar to a police automobile, for use and training. This automobile will be used only for training of students and/or for certain promotional events. Any exception to this policy requires the approval of the Superintendent.

The Board and administration are concerned for the health, safety and welfare of students, staff and visitors at any of their schools or school-sponsored activities. Before any student and/or staff operates the vehicle, that individual must present to the appropriate administrator or teacher evidence that the individual is licensed to legally operate a motor vehicle in the state of Ohio. No one without a valid Ohio driver's license may operate the training vehicle either on school property or on public roadways.

Furthermore, any student and/or staff member must inform the appropriate administrator or teacher if that individual in the last five years has been convicted of the following:

1. driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs (illegal or legal);
2. reckless operation;
3. vehicular homicide/manslaughter;
4. speeding that resulted in physical injury or death;
5. speeding in a school zone;
6. failure to stop after an accident involving injury or property damage;
7. failure to stop at a railroad crossing or
8. operating a vehicle without control.

Any violations of the above do not automatically prevent the individual from operating the training vehicle. The administrator or teacher determines if the facts supporting any of the above traffic violations should deny use to the individual on the grounds of safety for staff, students and visitors.

Students and staff, on an as-needed basis, may drive the training vehicle on school grounds during regular school hours. Students are not granted permission to drive the training vehicle off the geographical limits of the school's campus. Administrators or teachers may drive the training vehicle on public roadways; however, if the training vehicle is so driven on public roadways, the teacher or administrator must give prior written notice to the Superintendent/designee for approval. All administrators or teachers eligible to drive the training vehicle on public roadways are required to pass a mandatory van driver's training course.

[Adoption date: November 16, 2006]

[Re-adoption date: September 16, 2010]

[Re-adoption date: September 17, 2015]

LEGAL REFS: ORC 121.07
125.832
4513.263; 4513.264
OAC 3301-83-20(M)

CROSS REFS: GBCB, Staff Conduct
GBE, Staff Health and Safety
GBP, Drug-Free Workplace
Staff Handbooks

FOOD SERVICES MANAGEMENT/ FREE AND REDUCED-PRICE FOOD SERVICES

The Board operates a food services program in its schools. Food preparation is centralized for elementary, intermediate and secondary schools when appropriate.

Food services include breakfasts and lunches in all schools through participation in the National Child Nutrition Programs. The food services supervisor reviews and recommends to the Board the types of foods to be sold.

The food services staff cooperates with the principals of the schools in matters essential to the proper functioning of the food services program. The responsibility for control of students using the cafeteria rests with the building principal.

All prices set for school breakfasts, lunches and milk are subject to Board approval, except for a la carte food prices. The food services supervisor sets these prices without Board approval.

As required for participation in the National Child Nutrition Programs, the Board agrees that:

1. breakfast and a "Type A" lunch are made available to students, provided at least one-fifth of the students are eligible under Federal law for free meals;
2. breakfast is made available in every school in which the parents of at least one-half of the children enrolled have requested that the breakfast program be established;
3. students who qualify receive free or reduced-price meals;
4. all meals must meet USDA nutritional standards;
5. the management of food services complies with all federal, state and local regulations and
6. a summer meal program is provided to students attending a state-mandated summer remedial program.

All students are expected to eat lunch at school and may not leave school grounds during the lunch hour, except when permission has been granted by the principal. Students are permitted to bring their lunches from home and to purchase milk and incidental items.

School lunch funds and other food service funds are kept in a special account.

The District provides for at least one employee, who has received instruction in methods to prevent choking and has demonstrated an ability to perform the Heimlich maneuver, to be present while students are being served.

Meal Charges

The Board directs the administration to develop procedures for the management of meal charges and unpaid meal charges. The procedures allow for students to receive the daily nutrition they need, minimize the identification of students with insufficient funds to pay, maintain the integrity of the school food service account, and includes guidelines for the collection of delinquent meal charges. The procedures are provided to all parents and all District and school staff responsible for enforcement at the start of each school year.

Students with Special Dietary Needs

At the beginning of each school year, or at the time of enrollment, parents are responsible for communicating any special dietary needs of their child, including food allergies, to the District. Students with dietary needs that qualify as disabilities under law are provided reasonable accommodation.

Substitutions to regular school meals provided by the District are made for students who are unable to eat regular school meals due to a qualifying dietary need when that need is certified in writing by the student's physician. Substitute meals are provided in the most integrated setting appropriate to the special needs of the student.

The nature of the student's qualifying dietary need, the reason this need prevents the student from eating regular school meals (including foods to be omitted from the student's diet), the specific diet prescription along with the needed substitution must be specifically stated in the physician's statement. The District, in compliance with the USDA Child Nutrition Division guidelines, provides substitute meals to food-allergic students based upon the physician's signed statement.

The District develops and implements administrative regulations for the management of food-allergic students. Such regulations include, but are not limited to, schoolwide training programs regarding food allergy education, staff development regarding food allergy identification and management, allergy emergency drills, strategies for the identification of students with life-threatening food allergies and management skills including avoidance measures, designation of typical symptoms and dosing instructions for medications.

[Adoption date: August 20, 1992]
[Re-adoption date: May 16, 2002]
[Re-adoption date: June 16, 2005]
[Re-adoption date: September 16, 2010]
[Re-adoption date: September 17, 2015]
[Re-adoption date: February 15, 2018]

LEGAL REFS.: Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act; Pub. L. No. 108-265 (Title I, Section 204), 118 Stat. 729
National School Lunch Act; 42 USC 1751 et seq.
Child Nutrition Act; 42 USC 1771 et seq.
Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act of 2008; 42 USC 12101 et seq.
Rehabilitation Act of 1973; 29 USC 794
ORC 3313.719; 3313.81; 3313.812; 3313.813; 3313.815
3314.18
OAC 3301-91-01 through 3301-91-09

CROSS REFS.: ACB, Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Disability
EFF, Food Sale Standards
EFG, Student Wellness Program EFH,
Food Allergies
JHCD, Administering Medicines to Students
JN, Student Fees, Fines and Charges

FOOD SALE STANDARDS

Through its food service program, the Board encourages healthy eating habits, by governing the types of food and beverages sold in the schools and the time and place at which each type of food and beverage is sold. These standards are based on the following guidelines.

1. The types of food and beverages sold in the schools are determined by their potential to contribute significantly to the:
 - A. daily nutritional needs of students, consistent with the guidelines established by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA);
 - B. provisions of the District's student wellness program and
 - C. nutritional guidelines established by State law.
2. A licensed dietician, a registered dietetic technician or a certified/credentialed school nutrition specialist must be initially consulted to assist the food services supervisor in drafting for Board adoption a plan:
 - A. for complying with and enforcing the nutritional standards governing the types of food and beverages that may be sold on school premises in compliance with State law and
 - B. specifying the time and place each type of food or beverage may be sold.
3. The time of day and place for the sale of food and beverages to students must be consistent with the nutrient intake needs and eating patterns of students and compatible with class schedules. The following restrictions are enforced for non-breakfast/lunch food and beverage sales.
 - A. Foods or beverages that do not meet the nutritional standards established by the District in accordance with USDA regulations may not be sold during the schoolday. The Board reserves the right to totally restrict the sale of non-nutritional foods and beverages in vending machines.
 - B. Bake sales and other school fundraising activities involving food and beverage items may not be held during the school day.

4. Annually, the cafeteria manager reviews and recommends to the Board the types of foods and beverages to be sold as part of the school breakfast and lunch programs.

Separate standards may be established for the types of food and beverages to be sold to staff members and for events and activities held outside the school day.

[Adoption date: August 20, 1992]

[Re-adoption date: May 16, 2002]

[Re-adoption date: June 16, 2005]

[Re-adoption date: September 16, 2010]

[Re-adoption date: September 17, 2015]

LEGAL REFS.: ORC 3313.814; 3313.816; 3313.817
OAC 3301-91-09

CROSS REFS.: EF, Food Services Management (Vanguard Career Center)
EFG, Student Wellness Program
IGDF, Student Fundraising Activities

STUDENT WELLNESS PROGRAM

The Board directs the Superintendent/designee to develop and maintain a student wellness plan in compliance with Federal law.

The student wellness plan:

1. includes goals for nutrition promotion and education, physical activity and other school-based activities designed to promote student wellness that are developed with consideration of evidence-based strategies and techniques;
2. includes nutrition guidelines for all foods provided, but not sold to students in the District during the school day in order to promote student health and reduce childhood obesity;
3. provides assurance that District guidelines for all food and beverages sold during the school day are, at a minimum, equal to the guidelines issued by the U.S. Department of Agriculture(USDA) and that marketing of foods and beverages on the school campus during the school day is prohibited for foods or beverages that do not meet the nutritional standards established by the District in accordance with USDA regulations and
4. establishes a plan of implementation and evaluation, including designating one or more persons within the District with the responsibility for ensuring that the District is compliant with Federal law.

Development of the student wellness plan must be a collaborative effort between parents, students, food service workers, physical education teachers, school health professionals, administrators, the Board and the public.

The District notifies the public of the wellness plan at least annually. The wellness plan is assessed at least once every three years and the results of the assessment are made available to the public.

[Adoption date: September 16, 2010]

[Re-adoption date: September 17, 2015]

[Re-adoption date: February 15, 2018]

LEGAL REFS.: Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act; Pub. L. No. 108-265
(Title I, Section 204), 118 Stat. 729
National School Lunch Act; 42 USC 1751 et seq.
Child Nutrition Act; 42 USC 1771 et seq.
7 CFR, Subtitle B, Chapter 11, Part 210
7 CFR 220
7 CFR 225
7 CFR 245
ORC 3313.814
OAC 3301-91-09

CROSS REFS.: EF, Food Services Management
EFB, Free and Reduced-Price Food Services
EFF, Food Sale Standards
IGAE, Health Education
IGAF, Physical Education
KJ, Advertising in the Schools
District Wellness Plan

FOOD ALLERGIES

The purpose of this policy is to establish a safe environment for students with food allergies and to support parents regarding food allergy management. In accordance with State law, it is the policy of the Board to provide all students, through necessary accommodations where required, the opportunity to participate fully in all school programs and activities.

The Board takes food allergies seriously and understands that food allergies can be life threatening. Recognizing that the risk of accidental exposure to foods can be reduced in the school setting, the District administration is committed to minimizing risks and providing a safe educational environment for food-allergic students. Students with dietary needs that qualify as disabilities under State and Federal law are provided reasonable accommodation.

Substitutions to regular school meals provided by the District are made for students who are unable to eat regular school meals due to a qualifying dietary need when that need is certified in writing by the student's physician. Substitute meals are provided in the most integrated setting appropriate to the special needs of the student.

The nature of the student's qualifying dietary need, the reason this need prevents the student from eating regular school meals (including foods to be omitted from the student's diet), the specific diet prescription along with the needed substitution must be specifically stated in the physician's statement. The District, in compliance with the USDA Child Nutrition Division guidelines, provides substitute meals to food-allergic students based upon the physician's signed statement.

The administration consults with parents, school nurses and other school employees, school volunteers, students and community members to gather information for the development and implementation of a food allergy plan. The plan includes, but is not limited to, schoolwide training programs regarding food allergy education, staff development regarding food allergy identification and management, allergy emergency drills, strategies for the identification of students with life-threatening food allergies and management skills including avoidance measures, designation of typical symptoms and dosing instructions for medications.

[Adoption date: September 16, 2010]

[Re-adoption date: September 17, 2015]

LEGAL REFS.: Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act; Pub. L. No. 108-265
(Title I, Section 204), 118 Stat. 729 National School Lunch Act; 42
USC 1751 et seq.
Child Nutrition Act of 1966; 42 USC 1771 et seq.
Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act of 2008; 42 USC 12101 et
seq.
Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 USC 794
ORC 3313.719; 3313.81; 3313.812; 3313.813
3314.03
3326.11
OAC 3301-91-01 through 3301-91-08

CROSS REFS.: ACB, Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Disability
EF, Food Services Management (Vanguard Career Center)
EFB, Free and Reduced-Price Food Services
EFF, Food Sale Standards
EFG, Student Wellness Program
IGBA, Programs for Students with Disabilities
JHCD, Administering Medicines to Students

TELEPHONE SERVICES

District telephones are provided for official school use. In order to permit staff members to make necessary personal calls with minimum loss of time, certain telephones may be used for personal calls. The staff members making such calls are responsible for and shall pay any long distance or toll charges.

Students are not to use the school office telephones, except in cases of emergency. The use of the pay telephones by students while classes are in session is subject to the approval of authorized school personnel.

Cellular telephones may be provided to certain staff members who have:

1. administrative authority;
2. supervision of students during field trips or
3. supervision of students during extracurricular activities, practices or events that meet away from District buildings.

The Board authorizes the Superintendent/designee to develop administrative guidelines for the proper handling of use and charges.

[Adoption date: May 16, 2002]

[Re-adoption date: June 16, 2005]

[Re-adoption date: September 16, 2010]

[Re-adoption date: September 17, 2015]

LEGAL REFS.: ORC 3313.20
OAC 3301-35-06
3301-83-20(M)

CROSS REFS.: Student Handbooks
Staff Handbooks

TELEPHONE SERVICES

The administration has established the following guidelines for the appropriate use of District-owned cellular telephones and other communication devices. It also defines guidelines for reimbursement of personal cellular calls and services by the employees of the District.

Cellular telephone services may be provided to employees who, because of job-related activities must have easy access to a telephone. Annually, the Superintendent/designee develops a list of the positions that need cellular telephones. Employees may apply for telephones through the Treasurer's office. Once processed, the employee receives the telephone and guidelines for use.

Plans

The Treasurer/designee contracts with a company that best meets the needs of the District. An employee wishing to have features other than those offered in the District's plan must have approval of the Treasurer/designee.

Damage, Loss or Theft

Cellular equipment that is damaged in the course of business should be brought to the Treasurer's office to be sent to the cellular plan administrator for repairs. Lost or stolen cellular equipment must be immediately reported to the employee's supervisor and to the Treasurer's office so that service can be cancelled. All costs incurred for replacement or repair are the responsibility of the District and/or the employee.

Usage Monitoring

The Treasurer/designee is responsible for:

1. educating employees regarding appropriate cellular telephone procedures and providing monitoring for their usage. (In emergency situations, supervisors may grant exceptions to usage. In such circumstances the employee must reimburse any charges incurred for personal use.);
2. instructing employees not to use District-owned cellular telephones while operating any vehicles;
3. explaining to employees their responsibility for lost, stolen or damaged telephones;

4. explaining to employees that telephones are to be used for District-related business and that the telephones may not be used to operate a personal business and
5. monitoring of monthly bills and employee reimbursements for personal use.

Personal Calls

The District provides cellular telephones to employees for the purpose of conducting District business. The use of District-owned cellular equipment to make or receive personal calls is discouraged, although it is understood that usage for personal reasons may be necessary in emergency situations. All minutes and long distance, roaming or other charges incurred by the employee for personal calls are the responsibility of the employee. It is the employee's responsibility to review his/her monthly bill, document personal calls and charges and reimburse the District.

Bill Payment Procedure

The Treasurer/designee receives and reviews the cellular bills on a monthly basis. It is the Treasurer's/designee's responsibility to review the bill for employee's personal usage and to enforce reimbursement to the District.

[Approval date: June 16, 2005]

[Re-approval date: September 16, 2010]

[Re-approval date: September 17, 2015]

DATA AND RECORDS RETENTION

All records¹ are the property of the District and are not removed, destroyed, mutilated, transferred or otherwise damaged or disposed of, in whole or in part, except as provided by law or under the rules adopted by the District Records Commission. Such records shall be delivered by outgoing officials and employees to their successors and shall not be otherwise removed, transferred or destroyed unlawfully.

The District Records Commission is composed of the Board President, the Treasurer and the Superintendent. The commission meets at least once every 12 months.

The function of the commission is to review applications for disposal of obsolete and schedules of records retention and disposition submitted by any employee of the District. Records may be disposed of by the District pursuant to the procedure outlined below. The commission may at any time review any schedule it has previously approved and may revise that schedule, in accordance with State law.

The Superintendent designates a Records Officer in each department/building who is responsible for all aspects of records retention, including electronic mail, within that department/building.

When the District Records Commission has approved an application for one-time disposal of obsolete records or any schedule of records retention and disposition, the applications and/or schedules are sent to the Ohio Historical Society (OHS) for review. The OHS will review the application or schedule within a period of 60 days, and these records are not destroyed. During this time, the OHS may select for its custody any records it considers to be of continuing historical value. The OHS will denote upon any schedule of records retention, and disposal, the records for which they will require a certificate of records disposal prior to their disposal. After the OHS has completed their review, OHS will forward the applications and/or schedules to the Auditor of State for their approval or disapproval. The Auditor of State must approve or disapprove the application and/or schedule within 60 days.

Before public records are disposed of pursuant to an approved schedule, the District must inform OHS of the disposal of only the records that OHS has requested to see. OHS is given the opportunity for a period of 15 days to select for its custody such public records as it considers to be of continuing historical value.²

Electronic Mail and Social Media Content

Electronic mail sent or received by the Board and/or District employees and social media content may be considered a public record subject to public disclosure or inspection under the Open Meetings Act (Sunshine Law). If the electronic mail or social media content is the District's official record and meets the definition of a record as defined by State law, then the information must be retained in accordance with the District records retention schedule.

All Board and District electronic mail and social media content communications are monitored in accordance with the attached regulation to ensure that all electronic mail and social media public records are retained, archived and destroyed in compliance with State law.

District employees are subject to disciplinary action for violation of this policy and regulation.

[Adoption date: May 16, 2002]

[Re-adoption date: June 16, 2005]

[Re-adoption date: September 16, 2010]

[Re-adoption date: September 17, 2015]

LEGAL REFS.: Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act; 20 USC 1232g et seq.

ORC 9.01

149.011; 149.35; 149.381; 149.41; 149.43

3313.29

3319.321

3701.028

Ohio Historical Society Form RC-1

Ohio Historical Society Form RC-2

Ohio Historical Society Form RC-3

CROSS REFS.: GBL, Personnel Records

JO, Student Records

KBA, Public's Right to Know

¹Records include any document, device or item, regardless of physical form or characteristic, including an electronic record (as defined in Ohio Revised Code Section (RC) 1306.01), created or received by or coming under the jurisdiction of the District that serves to document the organization, functions, policies, decisions, procedures, operations or other activities of the District, RC 149.011.

²The Historical Society may not review or select for its custody the records set forth in RC 149.381(E).

DATA AND RECORDS RETENTION (Electronic Mail)

The Ohio Electronic Records Committee has established the following guidelines for managing electronic mail (email) and social media content.

Retention or disposition of email messages and social media content must be related to the information they contain or the purpose they serve. The content, transactional information and any attachments associated with the message are considered a record (if they meet State law criteria). Because the content of email messages and social media content may vary considerably, the content must be evaluated to determine the length of time messages and social media content must be retained.

There are two categories of email retention: non-record messages and official record messages.

Non-Record Messages

Email messages that do not meet the criteria of the Ohio Revised Code definition of a record may be deleted at any time, unless they become part of some official record as a result of special circumstances. These items may be immediately deleted, or maintained in a “Non-Record” mail box and deleted later, just as you might trash the unwanted publications or promotional flyers. Types of messages may include:

1. Personal Correspondence: Any email not received or created in the course of state business may be deleted immediately, since it is not an official record. Examples include, but are not limited to, the “Let’s do lunch” (not a business lunch) or “Can I catch a ride home” type of note.
2. Non-State Publications: Publications, promotional material from vendors and similar materials that are “publicly available” to anyone are not official records. In the electronic world, this includes list serve messages (other than those you post in your official capacity), unsolicited promotional material (“spam”), files copied or downloaded from Internet sites, etc.

Official Record Messages

Email messages that meet the definition of a record in the ORC are official records and must be scheduled, retained and disposed of as such. These official records fall into the following categories:

1. Transient Messages: This type of email has a very limited administrative value. Transient messages do not set policy, establish guidelines or procedures, certify a transaction or become a receipt. The informal tone of transient messages might be compared to a communication that might take place during a telephone conversation in an office hallway.

Transient Documents: Include telephone messages, drafts and other limited documents which serve to convey information of temporary importance in lieu of oral communication.

Retention: Until no longer of administrative value, then destroy

2. Intermediate Messages: Email messages that have more significant administrative, legal and/or fiscal value but are not scheduled as transient or permanent should be categorized under other appropriate record series. These may include (but are not limited to):
 - A. General Correspondence: Includes internal correspondence (e.g., letters, memos); also, correspondence from various individuals, companies and organizations requesting information pertaining to agency and legal interpretations and other miscellaneous inquiries. This correspondence is informative (it does not attempt to influence District policy).

Retention: One year, then destroy

- B. Routine Correspondence: Referral letters, requests for routine information or publications provided to the public by the District that are answered by standard form letters.

Retention: Six months, then destroy

- C. Monthly and Weekly Reports: Document status of ongoing projects and issues; advise supervisors of various events and issues.

Retention: One year, then destroy

- D. Minutes of Agency Staff Meetings: Minutes and supporting records documenting internal policy decisions.

Retention: Two years, then transfer to State Archives for their possible retention or destruction

- 3. Permanent Messages: Email messages that have significant administrative, legal and/or fiscal value and are scheduled as permanent also should be categorized under the appropriate record series. These may include, but are not limited to:

- A. Executive Correspondence: Correspondence dealing with significant aspects of the administration of executive offices. Correspondence includes information concerning policies, program, fiscal and personnel matters.

Retention: Two years, then transfer to State Archives

- B. Departmental Policies and Procedures: Includes published reports, unpublished substantive reports and policy studies.

Retention: Retain until superseded, obsolete or replaced, then transfer to State Archives for their possible retention and destruction

Social Media Content

Social media content that meets the definition of a record as defined by State law is an official record of the District and must be scheduled, retained and disposed of as such. The District will work with stakeholders to determine the appropriate method for preserving content created through the use of social media. When determining whether social media content must be retained, the District will:

1. look beyond the electronic social medium and analyze the content to determine if the information meets the definition of a record as defined by State law that must be managed and kept in accordance with retention schedules;
2. determine whether the information or social media content is duplicated elsewhere.
 - A. If the content or information is duplicated elsewhere, then the social media version will be considered a secondary copy and will not need to be maintained in accordance with the records retention schedule.
 - B. When the official record becomes eligible for disposal, duplicate content maintained on social media will also be purged and

3. whenever possible, the District will make an effort to map the information value of the social media content to existing records retention schedules. If content is determined to have record value and cannot be mapped to an existing schedule, a new retention schedule will be created and approved.

[Approval date: September 16, 2010]

[Re-approval date: September 17, 2015]