

Special Education Association of Peoria County

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SECTION 6 - INSTRUCTION

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6:10 Educational Philosophy and Objectives

The Association's educational program will seek to provide an opportunity for each student to develop to his or her maximum potential. The objectives for the educational program are to:

1. Foster students' self-discovery, self-awareness, and self-discipline.
2. Develop students' awareness of and appreciation for cultural diversity.
3. Stimulate students' intellectual curiosity and growth.
4. Provide students with fundamental career concepts and skills.
5. Help students develop sensitivity to the needs and values of others and a respect for individual and group differences.
6. Help each student strive for excellence and instill a desire to reach the limit of his or her potential.
7. Encourage students to become lifelong learners.
8. Provide an educational climate and culture free of bias concerning the protected classifications identified in policy 7:10, *Equal Educational Opportunities*.

In order for the Board to monitor whether the educational program is attaining these objectives and to be knowledgeable of current and future resource needs, the Director shall prepare as needed a report that includes:

1. A review and evaluation of the present curriculum.
2. A projection of curriculum and resource needs.
3. An evaluation of, and plan to eliminate, any bias in the curriculum or instructional materials and methods concerning the classifications referred to in item 8, above.
4. Any plan for new or revised instructional program implementation.
5. A review of present and future facility needs.

CROSS REF.: 1:30 (Association Philosophy), 3:10 (Goals and Objectives), 6:15 (School Accountability), 7:10 (Equal Educational Opportunities)

Adopted: February 9, 2024

Special Education Association of Peoria County

6:15 School Accountability

According to the Illinois General Assembly, the primary purpose of schooling is the transmission of knowledge and culture through which students learn in areas necessary to their continuing development and entry into the world of work. To fulfill that purpose, the Ill. State Board of Education (ISBE) prepared *State Goals for Learning and Learning Standards*.

The Board of Control gives priority in the allocation of resources, including funds, time, personnel, and facilities, to fulfilling this purpose.

Quality Assurance

The Board continuously monitors student achievement and the quality of the Association's work. The Director shall supervise the following quality assurance components, in accordance with State law and ISBE, and continuously keep the Board informed:

1. Prepare each school's annual recognition application and quality assurance appraisal, whether internal or external, to assess each school's continuous school improvement.
2. Continuously assess the Association's and each school's overall performance in terms of both academic success and equity. This includes, without limitation, a thorough analysis of ISBE's balanced accountability measure and each school's *Multiple Measure Index* and corresponding *Annual Measurable Objective* provided by ISBE.
3. If applicable, develop School Improvement Plans, present them for Board approval, and supervise their implementation.
4. Prepare a school report card, present it at a regular Board meeting, and disseminate it as provided in State law.
5. In accordance with 105 ILCS 5/2-3.153, annually administer a climate survey on the instructional environment within the school to, at minimum, students in grades 4 through 12 and teachers.

LEGAL REF.:

105 ILCS 5/2-3.25, 5/2-3.25a, 5/2-3.25b, 5/2-3.25c, 5/2-3.25d-5, 5/2-3.25e-5, 5/2-3.25f, 5/2-3.25f-5, 5/2-3.63, 5/2-3.64a-5, 5/2-3.153, 5/10-17a, 5/10-21.3a, and 5/27-1.

23 Ill.Admin.Code Part 1, Subpart A: Recognition Requirements.

CROSS REF.: 7:10 (Equal Educational Opportunities)

Adopted: February 9, 2024

Special Education Association of Peoria County

6:20 School Year Calendar and Day

School Calendar

The Board of Control, upon the Director's recommendation and subject to State regulations, annually establishes the dates for opening and closing classes, teacher institutes and in-services, the length and dates of vacations, and the days designated as legal school holidays. The school calendar shall have a minimum of 185 days to ensure 176 days of actual student attendance.

Commemorative Holidays

The teachers and students shall devote a portion of the school day on each commemorative holiday designated in the School Code to study and honor the commemorated person or occasion. The Board may, from time to time, designate a regular school day as a commemorative holiday.

School Day

The Board establishes the length of the school day with the recommendation of the Director and subject to State law requirements. The Director or designee shall ensure that observances required by State law are followed during each day of school attendance.

LEGAL REF.:

105 ILCS 5/10-19, 5/10-19.05, 5/10-20.56, 5/10-20.46, 5/10-30, 5/18-12, 5/18-12.5, 5/24-2, 5/27-3, 5/27-18, 5/27-19, 5/27-20, 5/27-20.1, and 5/27-20.2.

10 ILCS 5/11-4.1, Election Code.

5 ILCS 490/, State Commemorative Dates Act.

23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.420(f).

Metz v. Leininger, 850 F.Supp. 740 (N.D. Ill. 1994), *aff'd by* 57 F.3d 618 (7th Cir. 1995).

CROSS REF.: 2:20 (Powers and Duties of the Board of Control; Indemnification), 4:180 (Pandemic Preparedness; Management; and Recovery), 5:200 (Terms and Conditions of Employment and Dismissal), 5:330 (Sick Days, Vacation, Holidays, and Leaves), 6:60 (Curriculum Content), 6:70 (Teaching About Religions), 7:90 (Release During School Hours)

Adopted: December 9, 2022

Special Education Association of Peoria County

6:40 Curriculum Development

Adoption

The Director shall recommend a comprehensive curriculum that is aligned with:

1. The Association's educational philosophy and goals,
2. Student needs as identified by research, demographics, and student achievement and other data,
3. The knowledge, skills, and abilities required for students to become life-long learners,
4. The minimum requirements of State and federal law and regulations for curriculum and graduation requirements,
5. The curriculum Association-wide and articulated across all grade levels,
6. The Illinois State Learning Standards and any Association learning standards, and
7. Any required State or federal student testing.

The Board of Control will adopt, upon recommendation of the Director, a curriculum that meets the above criteria.

Experimental Educational Programs and Pilot Projects

The Director or designee may recommend experimental educational programs and/or pilot projects for Board consideration. Proposals must include goals, material needs, anticipated expenses, and an evaluation process. The Director shall submit to the Board periodic progress reports for programs that exceed one year in duration and a final evaluation with recommendation upon the program's completion.

Single-Gender Classes and Activities

The Director or designee may recommend a program of nonvocational single-gender classes and/or activities to provide diverse educational opportunities and/or meet students' identified educational needs. Participation in the classes or activities must be voluntary, both genders must be treated with substantial equality, and the program must otherwise comply with State and federal law and with Board policy 7:10, *Equal Educational Opportunities*. The Director must periodically evaluate any single-gender class or activity to ensure that: (1) it does not rely on overly broad generalizations about the different talents, capabilities, or preferences of either gender, and (2) it continues to comply with State and federal law and with Board policy 7:10, *Equal Educational Opportunities*.

Development

The Director or designee shall develop a curriculum review program to monitor the current curriculum and promptly suggest changes to make the curriculum more effective, to take advantage of improved teaching methods and materials, and to be responsive to social change, technological developments, student needs, and community expectations.

The Director shall report to the Board as appropriate, the curriculum review program's efforts to:

1. Regularly evaluate the curriculum and instructional program.
2. Ensure the curriculum continues to meet the stated adoption criteria.
3. Include input from a cross-section of teachers, administrators, parents/guardians, and students, representing all schools, grade levels, disciplines, and specialized and alternative programs.
4. Coordinate with the process for evaluating the instructional program and materials.

Curriculum Guides and Course Outlines

The Director or designee shall develop and provide subject area curriculum guides to appropriate staff members.

LEGAL REF.:

20 U.S.C. §1681, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, implemented by 34 C.F.R. Part 106.

105 ILCS 5/10-20.8 and 5/10-19.

CROSS REF.:6:60 (Curriculum Content), 6:65 (Student Social and Emotional Development), 6:70 (Teaching About Religions), 6:80 (Teaching About Controversial Issues) 6:100 (Using Animals in the Educational Program), 6:110 (Programs for Students At Risk of Academic Failure and/or Dropping Out of School and Graduation Incentives Program), 6:120 (Education of Children with Disabilities), 6:135 (Accelerated Placement Program), 6:140 (Education of Homeless Children), 6:145 (Migrant Students), 6:150 (Home and Hospital Instruction), 6:160 (English Learners), 7:10 (Equal Educational Opportunities),7:15 (Student and Family Privacy Rights)

Adopted: October 11, 2019

Special Education Association of Peoria County

6:50 School Wellness

Student wellness, including good nutrition and physical activity, shall be promoted in the Association's educational program, school-based activities, and meal programs. This policy shall be interpreted consistently with Section 204 of the Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act of 2004 and the Healthy Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 (HHFKA).

The Director will ensure:

1. Each association run building complies with this policy;
2. The policy is available to the community on an annual basis through copies of or online access to the Board Policy Manual; and
3. The community is informed about the progress of this policy's implementation.

Goals for Nutrition Education and Nutrition Promotion

The goals for addressing nutrition education and nutrition promotion include the following:

- Schools will support and promote sound nutrition for students.
- Schools will foster the positive relationship between sound nutrition, physical activity, and the capacity of students to develop and learn.
- Nutrition education will be part of the District's comprehensive health education curriculum. See Board policy 6:60, *Curriculum Content*.

Goals for Physical Activity

The goals for addressing physical activity include the following:

- Schools will support and promote an active lifestyle for students.
- Physical education will be taught in all grades and shall include a developmentally planned and sequential curriculum that fosters the development of movement skills, enhances health-related fitness, increases students' knowledge, offers direct opportunities to learn how to work cooperatively in a group setting, and encourages healthy habits and attitudes for a healthy lifestyle. See policies 6:60, *Curriculum Content* and 7:260, *Exemption from Physical Education*.
- During the school day, all students will be required to engage in a daily physical education course, unless otherwise exempted. See policies 6:60, *Curriculum Content* and 7:260, *Exemption from Physical Education*.
- The curriculum will be consistent with and incorporate relevant *Illinois Learning Standards for Physical Development and Health* as established by the Ill. State Board of Education (ISBE).

Goals for Other School-Based Activities

The goals for school-based activities include the following:

- Schools will support and promote a healthy eating environment for students.
- Schools will promote and participate in wellness activities.
- Schools will offer other school-based activities to support student health and wellness, including coordinated events and clubs.

Nutrition Guidelines for Foods Available During the School Day; Marketing Prohibited

Students will be offered and schools will promote nutritious food and beverage choices during the school day that are consistent with Board policy 4:120, *Food Services* (requiring compliance with the

nutrition standards specified in the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture's (USDA) *Smart Snacks* rules).

In addition, in order to promote student health and reduce childhood obesity, the Director or designee shall:

1. Restrict the sale of *competitive foods*, as defined by the USDA, in the food service areas during meal periods;
2. Comply with all ISBE rules; and
3. Prohibit marketing during the school day of foods and beverages that do not meet the standards listed in Board policy 4:120, *Food Services*, i.e., in-school marketing of food and beverage items must meet *competitive foods* standards.

Competitive foods standards do not apply to foods and beverages available, but not sold in school during the school day; e.g., brown bag lunches, foods for classroom parties, school celebrations, and reward incentives.

Exempted Fundraising Day (EFD) Requests

All food and beverages sold to students on the school campuses of participating schools during the school day must comply with the "general nutrition standards for competitive foods" specified in federal law.

ISBE rules prohibit EFDs for grades 8 and below in participating schools.

The Director or designee in a participating school may grant an EFD for grades 9 through 12 in participating schools. To request an EFD and learn more about the Association's related procedure(s), contact the Director or designee. The Association's procedures are subject to change. The number of EFDs for grades 9 through 12 in participating schools is set by ISBE rule.

Guidelines for Reimbursable School Meals

Reimbursable school meals served shall meet, at a minimum, the nutrition requirements and regulations for the National School Lunch Program and/or School Breakfast Program.

Unused Food Sharing Plan

In collaboration with SEAPCO's local health department, the Director or designee will:

1. Develop and support a food sharing plan (Plan) for unused food that is focused on needy students.
2. Implement the Plan throughout the Association.
3. Ensure the Plan complies with the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act, as well as accompanying guidance from the U.S. Department of Agriculture on the Food Donation Program.
4. Ensure that any leftover food items are properly donated to combat potential food insecurity in SEAPCO's community. *Properly* means in accordance with all federal regulations and State and local health and sanitation codes.

Monitoring

At least every three years, the Director shall provide implementation data and/or reports to the Board concerning this policy's implementation sufficient to allow the Board to monitor and adjust the policy (a triennial report). This triennial report must include without limitation each of the following:

- An assessment of the Association's implementation of the policy

- The extent to which schools in the Association are in compliance with the policy
- The extent to which the policy compares to model local school wellness policies
- A description of the progress made in attaining the goals of the policy
- How the Association will make the results of the assessment available to the public
- Where the Association will retain records of the assessment

The Board will monitor and adjust the policy pursuant to policy 2:240, *Board Policy Development*.

Community Involvement

The Board of Control and the Director will actively invite suggestions and comments concerning the development, implementation, periodic reviews, and updates of the school wellness policy from parents, students, representatives of the school food authority, teachers of physical education, school health professionals, the school board, school administrators, and the community. Community involvement methods shall align their suggestions and comments to policy 2:140, *Communications To and From the Board* and/or the **Community Engagement** subhead in policy 8:10, *Connection with the Community*.

Recordkeeping

The Director shall retain records to document compliance with this policy, the Association's records retention protocols, and the Local Records Act.

LEGAL REF.:

Pub. L. 108-265, Sec. 204, Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act of 2004.

42 U.S.C. §1751 et seq., Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act.

42 U.S.C. §1758b, Pub. L. 111-296, Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010.

42 U.S.C. §1771 et seq., Child Nutrition Act of 1966.

42 U.S.C. §1779, as implemented by 7 C.F.R. §§210.11 and 210.31.

50 ILCS 205/, Local Records Act.

105 ILCS 5/2-3.139 and 5/2-3.189.

23 Ill.Admin.Code Part 305, Food Program.

ISBE's *School Wellness Policy* Goal, adopted Oct. 2007.

CROSS REF.: 2:140 (Communications To and From the Board), 2:150 (Committees), 2:240 (Board Policy Development), 4:120 (Food Services), 5:100 (Staff Development Program), 6:60 (Curriculum Content), 7:260 (Exemption from Physical Education), 8:10 (Connection with the Community)

Adopted: February 9, 2024

6:60 Curriculum Content

The curriculum shall contain instruction on subjects required by State statute or regulation as follows:

1. In kindergarten through grade 8, subjects include: (a) language arts, (b) reading, (c) other communication skills, (d) science, (e) mathematics, (f) social studies, (g) art, (h) music, and (i) drug and substance abuse prevention including the dangers of opioid abuse. A reading opportunity of 60 minutes per day will be promoted for all students in kindergarten through grade 3 whose reading levels are one grade level or more lower than their current grade level. Daily time of at least 30 minutes (with a minimum of at least 15 consecutive minutes if divided) will be provided for supervised, unstructured, child-directed play for all students in kindergarten through grade 5. Before the completion of grade 5, students will be offered at least one unit of cursive instruction. In grades 6, 7, or 8, students must receive at least one semester of civics education in accordance with Illinois Learning Standards for social science.
2. In grades 9 through 12, subjects include: (a) language arts, (b) writing intensive courses, (c) science, (d) mathematics, (e) social studies including U.S. history, American government and one semester of civics, (f) foreign language, (g) music, (h) art, (i) driver and safety education, and (j) vocational education.

Students otherwise eligible to take a driver education course must receive a passing grade in at least eight courses during the previous two semesters before enrolling in the course. The Director or designee may waive this requirement if he or she believes a waiver to be in the student's best interest. The course shall include: (a) instruction necessary for the safe operation of motor vehicles, including motorcycles, to the extent that they can be taught in the classroom, (b) classroom instruction on distracted driving as a major traffic safety issue, (c) instruction on required safety and driving precautions that must be observed at emergency situations, highway construction and maintenance zones, and railroad crossings and their approaches, and (d) instruction concerning law enforcement procedures for traffic stops, including a demonstration of the proper actions to be taken during a traffic stop and appropriate interactions with law enforcement. Automobile safety instruction covering traffic regulations and highway safety must include instruction on the consequences of alcohol consumption and the operation of a motor vehicle. The eligibility requirements contained in State law for the receipt of a certificate of completion from the Secretary of State shall be provided to students in writing at the time of their registration.

3. In grades 7 through 12, as well as in interscholastic athletic programs, steroid abuse prevention must be taught.
4. In kindergarten through grade 12, provided it can be funded by private grants or the federal government, violence prevention and conflict resolution must be stressed, including: (a) causes of conflict, (b) consequences of violent behavior, (c) non-violent resolution, and (d) relationships between drugs, alcohol, and violence. In addition, anti-bias education and intergroup conflict resolution may be taught as an effective method for preventing violence and lessening tensions in schools; these prevention methods are most effective when they are respectful of individuals and their divergent viewpoints and religious beliefs, which are protected by the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States.
5. In grades kindergarten through 12, age-appropriate Internet safety must be taught, the scope of which shall be determined by the Director or designee. The curriculum must incorporate policy 6:235, *Access to Electronic Networks* and, at a minimum, include: (a) education about appropriate online behavior, (b) interacting with other individuals on social networking websites and in chat rooms, and (c) cyberbullying awareness and response.
6. In all grades, students must receive developmentally appropriate opportunities to gain computer literacy skills that are embedded in the curriculum.
7. In all grades, character education must be taught including respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, trustworthiness, and citizenship in order to raise students' honesty, kindness, justice,

discipline, respect for others, and moral courage. Instruction in all grades will include examples of behaviors that violate policy 7:180, *Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment*.

8. In all schools, citizenship values must be taught, including: (a) American patriotism, (b) principles of representative government (the American Declaration of Independence, the Constitution of the United States of America and the Constitution of the State of Illinois), (c) proper use and display of the American flag, (d) the Pledge of Allegiance, and (e) the voting process.
9. In all grades, physical education must be taught including a developmentally planned and sequential curriculum that fosters the development of movement skills, enhances health-related fitness, increases students' knowledge, offers direct opportunities to learn how to work cooperatively in a group setting, and encourages healthy habits and attitudes for a healthy lifestyle. Unless otherwise exempted, all students are required to engage in a physical education course with such frequency as determined by the Board after recommendation from the Director, but at a minimum of three days per five-day week. For exemptions and substitutions, see policies 6:310, *High School Credit for Non-Association Experiences; Course Substitutions; Re-Entering Students* and 7:260, *Exemption from Physical Education*.
10. In all schools, health education must be stressed, including: (a) proper nutrition, (b) physical fitness, (c) components necessary to develop a sound mind in a healthy body, (d) dangers and avoidance of abduction, (e) age-appropriate and evidence-informed sexual abuse and assault awareness and prevention education in all grades, and (f) beginning in the fall of 2024, in grades 9-12, the dangers of fentanyl. The Director or designee shall implement a comprehensive health education program in accordance with State law.
11. In all schools, career/vocational education must be taught, including: (a) the importance of work, (b) the development of basic skills to enter the world of work and/or continue formal education, (c) good work habits and values, (d) the relationship between learning and work, and (e) if possible, a student work program that provides the student with work experience as an extension of the regular classroom. A career awareness and exploration program must be available at all grade levels.
12. In grades 9 through 12, consumer education must be taught, including: (a) financial literacy, including consumer debt and installment purchasing (including credit scoring, managing credit debt, and completing a loan application); budgeting; savings and investing; banking (including balancing a checkbook, opening a deposit account, and the use of interest rates); understanding simple contracts; State and federal income taxes; personal insurance policies; the comparison of prices; higher education student loans; identity-theft security; and homeownership (including the basic process of obtaining a mortgage and the concepts of fixed and adjustable rate mortgages, subprime loans, and predatory lending); and (b) the roles of consumers interacting with agriculture, business, labor unions and government in formulating and achieving the goals of the mixed free enterprise system.
13. In grades 9 through 12, intensive instruction in computer literacy, which may be included as a part of English, social studies, or any other subject.
14. In grades 9 through 12, a unit of instruction on media literacy that includes, but is not limited to, all of the following topics: (a) accessing information to evaluate multiple media platforms and better understand the general landscape and economics of the platforms, and issues regarding the trustworthiness of the source of information; (b) analyzing and evaluating media messages to deconstruct media representations according to the authors, target audience, techniques, agenda setting, stereotypes, and authenticity to distinguish fact from opinion; (c) creating media to convey a coherent message using multimodal practices to a specific target audience that includes, but is not limited to, writing blogs, composing songs, designing video games, producing podcasts, making videos, or coding a mobile or software application; (d) reflecting on media consumption to assess how media affects the consumption of information and how it triggers emotions and behavior; and (e) social responsibility and civics to suggest a plan of action in the class, school, or community for engaging others in a respectful, thoughtful, and inclusive dialogue over a specific issue using facts and reason.

15. In grades 9 through 12, an opportunity for students to take at least one computer science course aligned to Illinois learning standards. *Computer science* means the study of computers and algorithms, including their principles, hardware and software designs, implementation, and impact on society. Computer science does not include the study of everyday uses of computers and computer applications; e.g., keyboarding or accessing the Internet.
16. In all schools, conservation of natural resources must be taught, including: (a) home ecology, (b) endangered species, (c) threats to the environment, and (d) the importance of the environment to life as we know it.
17. In all schools, instruction as determined by the Director or designee on United States (U.S.) history must be taught, including: (a) the principles of representative government, (b) the Constitutions of the U.S. and Illinois, (c) the role of the U.S. in world affairs, (d) the role of labor unions, (e) the role and contributions of ethnic groups, including but not limited to, African Americans, Albanians, Asian Americans, Bohemians, Czechs, French, Germans, Hispanics (including the events related to the forceful removal and illegal deportation of Mexican-American U.S. citizens during the Great Depression), Hungarians, Irish, Italians, Lithuanians, Polish, Russians, Scots, and Slovaks in the history of this country and State, (f) a study of the roles and contributions of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) people in the history of the U.S. and Illinois, (g) Illinois history, (h) the contributions made to society by Americans of different faith practices, including, but not limited to, Muslim Americans, Jewish Americans, Christian Americans, Hindu Americans, Sikh Americans, Buddhist Americans, and any other collective community of faith that has shaped America, (i) Native American nations' sovereignty and self-determination, both historically and in the present day, with a focus on urban Native Americans, and (j) beginning in the fall of 2024, the events of the Native American experience and Native American history within the Midwest and Illinois since time immemorial in accordance with 105 ILCS 5/27-20.05.

In addition, all schools shall hold an educational program on the United States Constitution on Constitution Day, each September 17, commemorating the September 17, 1787 signing of the Constitution. However, when September 17 falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or holiday, Constitution Day shall be held during the preceding or following week.

18. In grade 7 and all high school courses concerning U.S. history or a combination of U.S. history and American government, students must view a Congressional Medal of Honor film made by the Congressional Medal of Honor Foundation, provided there is no cost for the film.
19. In all schools, the curriculum includes instruction as determined by the Director or designee on the Holocaust and crimes of genocide, including Nazi atrocities of 1933-1945, the Native American genocide in North America, Armenian Genocide, the Famine-Genocide in Ukraine, and more recent atrocities in Cambodia, Bosnia, Rwanda, and Sudan.
20. In all schools, the curriculum includes instruction as determined by the Director or designee on the history, struggles, and contributions of women.
21. In all schools, the curriculum includes instruction as determined by the Director or designee on Black History, including the pre-enslavement of Black people from 3,000 BCE to AD 1619, the African slave trade, slavery in America, the study of the reasons why Black people came to be enslaved, the vestiges of slavery in this country, the study of the American civil rights renaissance, as well as the struggles and contributions of African-Americans.
22. In all schools offering a secondary agricultural education program, the curriculum includes courses as required by 105 ILCS 5/2-3.80.
23. In all schools, instruction during courses as determined by the Director or designee on disability history, awareness, and the disability rights movement.
24. In all schools, instruction as determined by the Director or designee on the events of Asian American history, including the history of Asian Americans in Illinois and the Midwest, as well as the contributions of Asian Americans toward advancing civil rights from the 19th century onward, which must include the contributions made by individual Asian Americans in government and the

arts, humanities, and sciences, as well as the contributions of Asian American communities to the economic, cultural, social, and political development of the United States.

25. In kindergarten through grade 8, education must be available to students concerning effective methods of preventing and avoiding traffic injuries related to walking and bicycling.

LEGAL REF.:

Pub. L. No. 108-447, Section 111 of Division J, Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2005.

Pub. L. No. 110-385, Title II, 122 stat. 4096 (2008), Protecting Children in the 21st Century Act.

47 C.F.R. §54.520.

5 ILCS 465/3 and 465/3a.

20 ILCS 2605/2605-480.

105 ILCS 5/2-3.80(e) and (f), 5/10-20.79, 5/10-23.13, 5/27-3, 5/27-3.5, 5/27-5, 5/27-6, 5/27-6.5, 5/27-7, 5/27-12, 5/27-12.1, 5/27-13.1, 5/27-13.2, 5/27-20.05, 5/27-20.08, 5/27-20.3, 5/27-20.4, 5/27-20.5, 5/27-20.7, 5/27-20.8, 5/27-21, 5/27-22, 5/27-23.3, 5/27-23.4, 5/27-23.7, 5/27-23.8, 5/27-23.10, 5/27-23.11, 5/27-23.15, 5/27-23.16, 5/27-24.1, and 5/27-24.2.

105 ILCS 110/3, Comprehensive Health Education Program.

105 ILCS 435/, Vocational Education Act.

625 ILCS 5/6-408.5, Ill. Vehicle Code.

23 Ill.Admin.Code §§1.420, 1.425, 1.430, and 1.440.

CROSS REF.: 4:165 (Awareness and Prevention of Child Sex Abuse and Grooming Behaviors), 6:20 (School Year Calendar and Day), 6:40 (Curriculum Development), 6:70 (Teaching About Religions), 6:235 (Access to Electronic Networks), 7:180 (Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment), 7:185 (Teen Dating Violence Prohibited), 7:190 (Student Behavior), 7:260 (Exemption from Physical Education)

Adopted: February 9, 2024

Special Education Association of Peoria County

6:65 Student Social and Emotional Development

Social and emotional learning (SEL) is defined as the process through which students enhance their ability to integrate thinking, feeling, and behaving to achieve important life tasks. Students competent in SEL are able to recognize and manage their emotions, establish healthy relationships, set positive goals, meet personal and social needs, and make responsible and ethical decisions.

The Director shall incorporate SEL into the Association's curriculum and other educational programs consistent with the Association's mission and the goals and benchmarks of the Ill. Learning Standards. The Ill. Learning Standards include three goals for students:

1. Develop self-awareness and self-management skills to achieve school and life success.
2. Use social-awareness and interpersonal skills to establish and maintain positive relationships.
3. Demonstrate decision-making skills and responsible behaviors in personal, school, and community contexts.

The incorporation of SEL objectives into the Association's curriculum and other educational programs may include but is not limited to:

1. Classroom and school-wide programming to foster a safe, supportive learning environment where students feel respected and valued. This may include incorporating scientifically based, age-and-culturally appropriate classroom instruction, Association-wide, and school-wide strategies that teach SEL skills, promote optimal mental health, and prevent risk behaviors for all students.
2. Staff development and training to promote students' SEL development. This may include providing all personnel with age-appropriate academic and SEL and how to promote it.
3. Parent/Guardian and family involvement to promote students' SEL development. This may include providing parents/guardians and families with learning opportunities related to the importance of their children's optimal SEL development and ways to enhance it.
4. Community partnerships to promote students' SEL development. This may include establishing partnerships with diverse community agencies and organizations to assure a coordinated approach to addressing children's mental health and SEL development.
5. Early identification and intervention to enhance students' school readiness, academic success, and use of good citizenship skills. This may include development of a system and procedures for periodic and universal screening, assessment, and early intervention for students who have significant risk factors for social, emotional, or mental health conditions that impact learning.
6. Treatment to prevent or minimize mental health conditions in students. This may include building and strengthening referral and follow-up procedures for providing effective clinical services for students with social, emotional, and mental health conditions that impact learning. This may include student and family support services, school-based behavioral health services, and school-community linked services and supports.
7. Assessment and accountability for teaching SEL skills to all students. This may include implementation of a process to assess and report baseline information and ongoing progress about school climate, students' social and emotional development, and academic performance.

LEGAL REF.:

Children's Mental Health Act, 405 ILCS 49/.

CROSS REF.: 1:30, (Association Philosophy), 6:10 (Educational Philosophy and Objectives), 6:40 (Curriculum Development), 6:60 (Curriculum Content), 6:270 (Guidance and Counseling Program), 7:100 (Health, Eye, and Dental Examinations; Immunizations; and Exclusion of Students), 7:180 (Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment), 7:250 (Student Support Services)

Adopted: December 9, 2022

Special Education Association of Peoria County

6:70 Teaching About Religions

The Association's curriculum may include the study of religions as they relate to geography, history, culture, and the development of various ethnic groups. The study of religions shall give neither preferential nor derogatory treatment to any single religion, religious belief, or to religion in general. The study of religions shall be treated as an academic subject with no emphasis on the advancement or practice of religion.

LEGAL REF.:

School Dist. of Abington Twp v. Schempp, 374 U.S. 203 (1963).

Allegheny County v. ACLU Pittsburgh Chapter, 492 U.S. 573 (1989).

CROSS REF.: 6:20 (School Year Calendar and Day), 6:40 (Curriculum Development), 6:60 (Curriculum Content), 6:255 (Assemblies and Ceremonies)

Adopted: June 10, 2022

Special Education Association of Peoria County

6:80 Teaching About Controversial Issues

The Director shall ensure that all school-sponsored presentations and discussions of controversial or sensitive topics in the instructional program, including those made by guest speakers, are:

- Age-appropriate. Proper decorum, considering the students' ages, should be followed.
- Consistent with the curriculum and serve an educational purpose.
- Informative and present a balanced view.
- Respectful of the rights and opinions of everyone. Emotional criticisms and hurtful sarcasm should be avoided.
- Not tolerant of profanity or slander.

The Association specifically reserves its right to stop any school-sponsored activity that it determines violates this policy, is harmful to the Association or the students, or violates State or federal law.

LEGAL REF.:

Garcetti v. Ceballos, 547 U.S. 410 (2006).

Mayer v. Monroe Cnty. Cmty. Sch. Corp., 474 F.3d 477 (7th Cir. 2007).

CROSS REF.: 6:40 (Curriculum Development), 6:255 (Assemblies and Ceremonies)

Adopted: June 10, 2022

Special Education Association of Peoria County

6:100 Using Animals in the Educational Program

Animals may be brought into school facilities for educational purposes according to procedures developed by the Director assuring: (a) the animal is appropriately housed, humanely cared for, and properly handled, and (b) students will not be exposed to a dangerous animal or an unhealthy environment.

Animal Experiments

Experiments on living animals are prohibited; however, behavior studies that do not impair an animal's health or safety are permissible.

LEGAL REF.:

105 ILCS 5/2-3.122, 5/27-14, and 112/.

CROSS REF.: 6:40 (Curriculum Development)

Adopted: August 13, 2021

Special Education Association of Peoria County

6:110 Programs for Students At Risk of Academic Failure and/or Dropping Out of School and Graduation Incentives Program

The Director or designee shall develop, maintain, and supervise a program for students at risk of academic failure or dropping out of school. The program shall include education and support services addressing individual learning styles, career development, and social needs, and may include without limitation one or more of the following:

- Parent-teacher conferences
- Counseling services by social workers and/or guidance counselors
- Counseling services by psychologists
- Psychological testing
- Truants' alternative and optional education program
- Alternative school placement
- Community agency services
- Alternative learning opportunities program, in conformity with the Alternative Learning Opportunities Law, as it may be amended from time to time
- Graduation incentives program
- Remediation program

Any student who is below the age of 20 years is eligible to enroll in a graduation incentives program if he or she:

1. Is considered a dropout according to State law;
2. Has been suspended or expelled;
3. Is pregnant or is a parent;
4. Has been assessed as chemically dependent; or
5. Is enrolled in a bilingual education or English Language Learners program.

LEGAL REF.:105 ILCS 5/2-3.41, 5/2-3.66, 5/10-20.9a, 5/13B, 5/26-2a, 5/26-13, 5/26-14, and 5/26-16.

CROSS REF.:7:70 (Attendance and Truancy)

ADOPTED: March 8, 2019

Special Education Association of Peoria County

6:120 Education of Children with Disabilities

The Association shall provide a free appropriate public education in the least restrictive environment and necessary related services to all children with disabilities enrolled in the Association, as required by the Individuals With Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and implementing provisions of the School Code, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Americans With Disabilities Act. The term *children with disabilities*, as used in this policy, means children between ages 3 and 21 (inclusive) for whom it is determined, through definitions and procedures described in the Ill. State Board of Education (ISBE) *Special Education* rules, that special education services are needed. Children with disabilities who turn 22 years old during the school year are eligible for such services through the end of the school year.

It is the intent of the Association to ensure that students who are disabled within the definition of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 are identified, evaluated, and provided with appropriate educational services. Students may be disabled within the meaning of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act even though they do not require services pursuant to IDEA.

For students eligible for services under IDEA, the Association shall follow procedures for identification, evaluation, placement, and delivery of services to children with disabilities provided in the ISBE *Special Education* rules. For those students who are not eligible for services under IDEA, but, because of disability as defined by Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, need or are believed to need special instruction or related services, the Association shall establish and implement a system of procedural safeguards. The safeguards shall cover students' identification, evaluation, and educational placement. This system shall include notice, an opportunity for the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) to examine relevant records, an impartial hearing with opportunity for participation by the student's parent(s)/guardian(s), representation by counsel, and a review procedure.

The Association may enter in to intergovernmental agreements with other entities to assist the Association in fulfilling its obligations to the Association's students with disabilities.

If necessary, students may also be placed in nonpublic special education programs or education facilities.

LEGAL REF.:

20 U.S.C. §1400 et seq., Individuals With Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004.

29 U.S.C. §794, Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 504.

42 U.S.C. §12101 et seq., Americans With Disabilities Act.

34 C.F.R. Part 106.

34 C.F.R. Part 300.

105 ILCS 5/14-1.01 et seq., 5/14-7.02, and 5/14-7.02b.

23 Ill.Admin.Code Part 226.

CROSS REF.: 2:150 (Committees), 7:230 (Misconduct by Students with Disabilities)

Adopted: March 11, 2022

6:122 Recording of IEP Meetings

Recording of Individual Education Program (IEP) meetings is not permitted. When a party requests that a meeting be recorded, staff is obligated to indicate that SEAPCO policy does not allow recordings unless the party requesting has a specific documented medical condition that requires recording as an accommodation to fully participate in the meeting.

Adopted: August 13, 2021

Special Education Association of Peoria County

6:135 Accelerated Placement Program

The Association provides an Accelerated Placement Program (APP). The APP advances the Association's goal of providing educational programs with opportunities for each student to develop to his or her maximum potential. The APP provides an educational setting with curriculum options usually reserved for students who are older or in higher grades than the student participating in the APP. APP options include, but may not be limited to: (a) accelerating a student in a single subject; (b) other grade-level acceleration; and (c) early entrance to kindergarten or first grade. Participation in the APP is open to all students who demonstrate high ability and who may benefit from accelerated placement. It is not limited to students who have been identified as gifted and talented. Eligibility to participate in the Association's APP shall not be conditioned upon the protected classifications identified in Board policy 7:10, *Equal Educational Opportunities*, or any factor other than the student's identification as an accelerated learner.

The Director or designee shall implement an APP that includes:

1. Decision-making processes that are fair, equitable, and involve multiple individuals, e.g. Association administrators, teachers, and school support personnel, and a student's parent(s)/guardian(s);
2. Notification processes that notify a student's parent(s)/guardian(s) of a decision affecting a student's participation in the APP;
3. Assessment processes that include multiple valid, reliable indicators; and
4. The automatic enrollment, in the following school term, of a student into the next most rigorous level of advanced coursework offered by the high school if the student meets or exceeds State standards in English language arts, mathematics, or science on a State assessment administered under 105 ILCS 5/2-3.64a-5, as follows:
 - a. A student who meets or exceeds State standards in English language arts shall be automatically enrolled into the next most rigorous level of advanced coursework in English, social studies, humanities, or related subjects.
 - b. A student who meets or exceeds State standards in mathematics shall be automatically enrolled into the next most rigorous level of advanced coursework in mathematics.
 - c. A student who meets or exceeds State standards in science shall be automatically enrolled into the next most rigorous level of advanced coursework in science.

The Director or designee shall annually notify the community, parent(s)/guardian(s), students, and school personnel about the APP, the process for referring a student for possible evaluation for accelerated placement, and the methods used to determine whether a student is eligible for accelerated placement, including strategies to reach groups of students and families who have been historically underrepresented in accelerated placement programs and advanced coursework. Notification may: (a) include varied communication methods, such as student handbooks and Association or school websites; and (b) be provided in multiple languages, as appropriate.

LEGAL REF.:

105 ILCS 5/14A.

23 Ill.Admin.Code Part 227, Gifted Education.

CROSS REF.: 6:10 (Educational Philosophy and Objectives), 7:10 (Equal Educational Opportunities)

Adopted: June 9, 2023

6: 140 Education of Homeless Children

Each child of a homeless individual and each homeless youth has equal access to the same free, appropriate public education as provided to other children and youths, including a public pre-school education. A *homeless child* is defined as provided in the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act and the Education for Homeless Children Act. The Director or designee shall act as or appoint a Liaison for Homeless Children to coordinate this policy's implementation.

A homeless child may attend the Association school that the child attended when permanently housed or in which the child was last enrolled. A homeless child living in any Association school's attendance area may attend that school.

The Director or designee shall review and revise rules or procedures that may act as barriers to the enrollment of homeless children and youths. In reviewing and revising such procedures, consideration shall be given to issues concerning transportation, immunization, residency, birth certificates, school records and other documentation, and guardianship. Transportation shall be provided in accordance with the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act and State law. The Director or designee shall give special attention to ensuring the enrollment and attendance of homeless children and youths who are not currently attending school. If a child is denied enrollment or transportation under this policy, the Liaison for Homeless Children shall immediately refer the child or his or her parent/guardian to the ombudsperson appointed by the Regional Superintendent and provide the child or his or her parent/guardian with a written explanation for the denial. Whenever a child and his or her parent/guardian who initially share the housing of another person due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar hardship continue to share the housing, the Liaison for Homeless Children may, after the passage of 18 months and annually thereafter, conduct a review as to whether such hardship continues to exist in accordance with State law.

LEGAL REF.:

42 U.S.C. §11431 et seq., McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act.

105 ILCS 45/, Education for Homeless Children Act.

CROSS REF.: 2:260 (Uniform Grievance Procedure), 7:10 (Equal Educational Opportunities), 7:60 (Residence), 7:100 (Health, Eye, and Dental Examinations; Immunizations; and Exclusion of Students)

Adopted: June 10, 2022

Special Education Association of Peoria County

6:145 Migrant Students

The Association will support the needs of migrant children in member districts in accordance with federal law.

This program will:

1. Identify migrant students and assess their educational and related health and social needs.
2. Provide a full range of services to migrant students through appropriate local, State and federal educational programs, including applicable Title I programs, special education, gifted education, vocational education, language programs, counseling programs, and elective classes.
3. Provide migrant children with full and appropriate opportunities to meet the same challenging State academic standards that all children are expected to meet.
4. Provide, to the extent feasible:
 - a. Advocacy and outreach programs to migrant children and their families, including helping such children and families gain access to other education, health, nutrition, and social services,
 - b. Professional development programs, including mentoring, for Association staff,
 - c. Family literacy programs,
 - d. The integration of information technology into educational and related programs, and
 - e. Programs to facilitate the transition of secondary school students to postsecondary education or employment.
5. Provide programs, activities, and procedures for the engagement of parents/guardians and family members of migrant students in an understandable format and language.

Migrant Education Program for Parent/Guardian and Family Member Engagement

Parents/guardians and family members of migrant students will be involved in and regularly consulted about the development, implementation, operation, and evaluation of the migrant program.

Parents/guardians and family members of migrant students will receive instruction regarding their role in improving the academic achievement of their children.

LEGAL REF.:

20 U.S.C. §6318.

20 U.S.C. §6391 et seq., Education of Migratory Children.

34 C.F.R. §200.81 et seq.

Adopted: August 13, 2021

Special Education Association of Peoria County

6:150 Home and Hospital Instruction

A student who is absent from school, or whose physician, physician assistant, or advanced practice registered nurse anticipates that the student will be absent from school, because of a medical condition may be eligible for instruction in the student's home or hospital. Eligibility shall be determined by State law and the Illinois State Board of Education rules governing (1) the continuum of placement options for students who have been identified for special education services or (2) the home and hospital instruction provisions for students who have not been identified for special education services. Appropriate educational services from qualified staff will begin no later than five school days after receiving a written statement from: (1) a physician licensed to practice medicine in all of its branches, (2) a licensed physician assistant, or (3) a licensed advanced practice registered nurse. Instructional or related services for a student receiving special education services will be determined by the student's individualized education program.

A student who is unable to attend school because of pregnancy will be provided home instruction, correspondence courses, or other courses of instruction (1) before the birth of the child when the student's physician, physician assistant, or advanced practice registered nurse indicates, in writing, that she is medically unable to attend regular classroom instruction, and (2) for up to three months after the child's birth or a miscarriage.

Periodic conferences will be held between appropriate school personnel, parent(s)/guardian(s), and hospital staff to coordinate course work and facilitate a student's return to school.

LEGAL REF.:

105 ILCS 5/10-19.05(e), 5/10-22.6a, 5/14-13.01, and 5/18-4.5.

23 Ill.Admin.Code §§1.520, 1.610, and 226.300.

CROSS REF.: 6:120 (Education of Children with Disabilities), 7:10 (Equal Educational Opportunity), 7:280 (Communicable and Chronic Infectious Disease)

Adopted: February 14, 2020

Special Education Association of Peoria County

6:160 English Learners

The Association offers support to member districts in providing opportunities for resident English Learners to achieve at high levels in academic subjects and to meet the same challenging State academic standards that all children are expected to meet. The Director or designee will work with member districts to develop and maintain a program for English Learners that will:

1. Assist all English Learners to achieve English proficiency, facilitate effective communication in English, and encourage their full participation in school activities and programs as well as promote participation by the parents/guardians of English Learners.
2. Appropriately identify students with limited English language proficiency. .
3. Comply with State law regarding the Transitional Bilingual Educational Program (TBE) or Transitional Program of Instruction (TPI), whichever is applicable.
4. Comply with any applicable State and federal requirements for the receipt of grant money for English Learners and programs to serve them.
5. Determine the appropriate instructional program and environment for English Learners.
6. Annually assess the English proficiency of English Learners and monitor their progress in order to determine their readiness for a mainstream classroom environment.
7. Include English Learners, to the extent required by State and federal law, in the Association's student assessment program to measure their achievement in reading/language arts and mathematics.
8. Provide information to the parents/guardians of English Learners about: (a) the reasons for their child's identification, (b) their child's level of English proficiency, (c) the method of instruction to be used, (d) how the program will meet their child's needs, (e) how the program will specifically help their child learn English and meet age-appropriate academic achievement standards for grade promotion and graduation, (f) specific exit requirements of the program, (g) how the program will meet their child's individualized education program, if applicable, and (h) information on parent/guardian rights. Parents/guardians will be regularly apprised of their child's progress and involvement will be encouraged.

Parent Involvement

Parents/guardians of English Learners will be informed how they can: (1) be involved in the education of their children; (2) be active participants in assisting their children to attain English proficiency, achieve at high levels within a well-rounded education, and meet the challenging State academic standards expected of all students; and (3) participate and serve on the Association's Transitional Bilingual Education Programs Parent Advisory Committee.

LEGAL REF.:

20 U.S.C. §§6312, 6314, 6315, and 6318.

20 U.S.C. §6801 et seq.

34 C.F.R. Part 200.

105 ILCS 5/14C-1 et seq.

23 Ill.Admin.Code Part 228.

CROSS REF.: 6:15 (School Accountability)

Adopted: August 13, 2021

Special Education Association of Peoria County

6:210 Instructional Materials

All Association classrooms and learning centers should be equipped with an evenly-proportioned, wide assortment of instructional materials, including textbooks, workbooks, audio-visual materials, and electronic materials. These materials should provide quality learning experiences for students and:

1. Enrich and support the curriculum;
2. Stimulate growth in knowledge, literary appreciation, aesthetic values, and ethical standards;
3. Provide background information to enable students to make informed judgments and promote critical reading and thinking;
4. Depict in an accurate and unbiased way the cultural diversity and pluralistic nature of American society; and
5. Contribute to a sense of the worth of all people regardless of sex, race, religion, nationality, ethnic origin, sexual orientation, disability, or any other differences that may exist.

The Director or designee shall maintain a list or description of textbooks and instructional materials used in the Association. Anyone may inspect any textbook or instructional material.

Teachers are encouraged to use age-appropriate supplemental material only when it will enhance, or otherwise illustrate, the subjects being taught. No R-rated movie shall be shown to students unless prior approval is received from the Director or designee, and no movie rated NC-17 (no one 17 and under admitted) shall be shown under any circumstances. These restrictions apply to television programs and other media with equivalent ratings. The Director or designee shall give parents/guardians an opportunity to request that their child not participate in a class showing a movie, television program, or other media with an R or equivalent rating.

Instructional Materials Selection and Adoption

The Director shall approve the selection of all textbooks and instructional materials according to the standards described in this policy. The School Code governs the adoption and purchase of textbooks and instructional materials.

LEGAL REF.:

105 ILCS 5/10-20.8 and 5/28-19.1.

CROSS REF.: 6:40 (Curriculum Development), 6:80 (Teaching About Controversial Issues), 6:260 (Complaints About Curriculum, Instructional Materials, and Programs), 7:10 (Equal Educational Opportunities), 7:15 (Student and Family Privacy Rights), 8:110 (Public Suggestions and Concerns)

Adopted: February 9, 2024

Special Education Association of Peoria County

6:230 Library Media Program

The Director or designee shall manage the Association's library media program to comply with (1) State law and Ill. State Board of Education (ISBE) rule and (2) the following standards:

1. The program includes an organized collection of resources available to students and staff to supplement classroom instruction, foster reading for pleasure, enhance information literacy, and support research, as appropriate to students of all abilities in the grade levels served.
2. Financial resources for the program's resources and supplies are allocated to meet students' needs.
3. Students in all grades served have equitable access to library media resources.
4. The advice of an individual who is qualified according to ISBE rule is sought regarding the overall direction of the program, including the selection and organization of materials, provision of instruction in information and technology literacy, and structuring the work of library paraprofessionals.
5. The program adheres to the principles of the American Library Association's *Library Bill of Rights*, which indicate that materials should not be proscribed or removed because of partisan or doctrinal disapproval.
6. Staff members are invited to recommend additions to the collection.
7. Students may freely select resource center materials as well as receive guided selection of materials appropriate to specific, planned learning experiences.

Parents/guardians, employees, and community members who believe that library media program resources violate rights guaranteed by any law or Board policy may file a complaint using Board policy 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*.

The Director or designee shall establish criteria consistent with this policy for the review of objections. Parents/guardians, employees, and community members with suggestions or complaints about library media program resources may complete a *Library Media Resource Objection Form*. The Director or designee shall inform the parent/guardian, employee, or community member, as applicable, of the Association's decision.

LEGAL REF.:

75 ILCS 10/8.7.

23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.420(o).

CROSS REF.: 2:260 (Uniform Grievance Procedure), 6:60 (Curriculum Content), 6:210 (Instructional Materials), 6:260 (Complaints About Curriculum, Instructional Materials, and Programs)

Adopted: February 9, 2024

Special Education Association of Peoria County

6:235 Access to Electronic Networks

Electronic networks are a part of the Association's instructional program and serve to promote educational excellence by facilitating resource sharing, innovation, and communication.

The term *electronic networks* includes all of the Association's technology resources, including, but not limited to:

1. The Association's local-area and wide-area networks, including wireless networks (Wi-Fi), Association-issued Wi-Fi hotspots, and any Association servers or other networking infrastructure;
2. Access to the Internet or other online resources via the Association's networks or to any Association-issued online account from any computer or device, regardless of location;
3. Association-owned or Association-issued computers, laptops, tablets, phones, or similar devices.

The Director shall develop an implementation plan for this policy and appoint system administrator(s).

The Association is not responsible for any information that may be lost or damaged, or become unavailable when using the network, or for any information that is retrieved or transmitted via the Internet. Furthermore, the Association will not be responsible for any unauthorized charges or fees resulting from access to the Internet.

Curriculum and Appropriate Online Behavior

The use of the Association's electronic networks shall: (1) be consistent with the curriculum adopted by the Association as well as the varied instructional needs, learning styles, abilities, and developmental levels of the students, and (2) comply with the selection criteria for instructional materials and library resource center materials. As required by federal law and Board policy 6:60, *Curriculum Content*, students will be educated about appropriate online behavior, including but not limited to: (1) interacting with other individuals on social networking websites and in chat rooms, and (2) cyberbullying awareness and response. Staff members may, consistent with the Director's implementation plan, use the Internet throughout the curriculum.

The Association's electronic network is part of the curriculum and is not a public forum for general use.

Acceptable Use

All use of the Association's electronic networks must be: (1) in support of education and/or research, and be in furtherance of the goals stated herein, or (2) for a legitimate school business purpose. Use is a privilege, not a right. Users of the Association's electronic networks have no expectation of privacy in any material that is stored on, transmitted, or received via the Association's electronic networks. General rules for behavior and communications apply when using electronic networks. The Association's administrative procedure, *Acceptable Use of the Association's Electronic Networks*, contains the appropriate uses, ethics, and protocol. Electronic communications and downloaded material, including files deleted from a user's account but not erased, may be monitored or read by school officials.

Internet Safety

Technology protection measures shall be used on each Association computer with Internet access. They shall include a filtering device that protects against Internet access by both adults and minors to visual depictions that are: (1) obscene, (2) pornographic, or (3) harmful or inappropriate for students, as defined by federal law and as determined by the Director or designee. The Director or designee shall enforce the use of such filtering devices. An administrator, supervisor, or other authorized person may disable the filtering device for bona fide research or other lawful purpose, provided the person

receives prior permission from the Director or system administrator. The Director or designee shall include measures in this policy's implementation plan to address the following:

1. Ensure staff supervision of student access to online electronic networks,
2. Restrict student access to inappropriate matter as well as restricting access to harmful materials,
3. Ensure student and staff privacy, safety, and security when using electronic communications,
4. Restrict unauthorized access, including "hacking" and other unlawful activities, and
5. Restrict unauthorized disclosure, use, and dissemination of personal identification information, such as, names and addresses.

Authorization for Electronic Network Access

Each staff member must sign the *Authorization for Access to the Association's Electronic Networks* as a condition for using the Association's electronic network. Each student and his or her parent(s)/guardian(s) must sign the *Authorization* before being granted unsupervised use.

Confidentiality

All users of the Association's computers to access the Internet shall maintain the confidentiality of student records. Reasonable measures to protect against unreasonable access shall be taken before confidential student information is loaded onto the network.

Violations

The failure of any user to follow the terms of the Association's administrative procedure, *Acceptable Use of the Association's Electronic Networks*, or this policy, will result in the loss of privileges, disciplinary action, and/or appropriate legal action.

LEGAL REF.:

20 U.S.C. §7131, Elementary and Secondary Education Act.

47 U.S.C. §254(h) and (l), Children's Internet Protection Act.

47 C.F.R. Part 54, Subpart F, Universal Service Support for Schools and Libraries.

115 ILCS 5/14(c-5), Ill. Educational Labor Relations Act.

720 ILCS 5/26.5.

CROSS REF.: 5:100 (Staff Development Program), 5:170 (Copyright), 6:40 (Curriculum Development), 6:60 (Curriculum Content), 6:210 (Instructional Materials), 6:220 (Bring Your Own Technology (BYOT) Program; Responsible Use and Conduct), 6:230 (Library Media Program), 6:260 (Complaints About Curriculum, Instructional Materials, and Programs), 7:130 (Student Rights and Responsibilities), 7:190 (Student Behavior), 7:310 (Restrictions on Publications; Elementary Schools), 7:315 (Restrictions on Publications; High Schools), 7:345 (Use of Educational Technologies; Student Data Privacy and Security)

Adopted: August 13, 2021

6:240 Field Trips and Recreational Class Trips

Field trips are permissible when the experiences are a part of the school curriculum and/or contribute to the Association's educational objectives.

All field trips must have the Director or designee's prior approval, except that field trips beyond a 200-mile radius of the school or extending overnight must have the prior approval of the Board of Control. The Director or designee shall analyze the following factors to determine whether to approve a field trip: educational value, student safety, parent concerns, heightened security alerts, and liability concerns. On all field trips, a bus fee set by the Director or designee may be charged to help defray the transportation costs.

Parents/guardians of students: (1) shall be given the opportunity to consent to their child's participation in any field trip, and (2) are responsible for all entrance fees, food, lodging, or other costs, except that the Association will pay such costs for students who qualify for a fee waiver under Board policy 4:140, *Waiver of Student Fees*. All non-participating students shall be provided an alternative experience. Any field trip may be cancelled without notice due to an unforeseen event or condition.

Privately arranged trips, including those led by Association staff members, shall not be represented as or construed to be sponsored by the Association or school. The Association does not provide liability protection for privately arranged trips and is not responsible for any damages arising from them.

Recreational Class Trips

Recreational class trips are permissible provided they do not interfere with the Association's educational goals. The provisions in this policy concerning field trips are also applicable to recreational class trips, except those regarding educational value.

LEGAL REF.:

105 ILCS 5/29-3.1.

CROSS REF.: 6:10 (Educational Philosophy and Objectives), 7:10 (Equal Educational Opportunities), 7:270 (Administering Medicines to Students)

Adopted: February 9, 2024

Special Education Association of Peoria County

6:250 Community Resource Persons and Volunteers

The Board of Control encourages the use of resource persons and volunteers to: (1) increase students' educational attainment; (2) provide enrichment experiences for students; (3) increase the effective utilization of staff time and skills; (4) give more individual attention to students; and (5) promote greater community involvement.

Resource persons and volunteers may be used:

1. For non-teaching duties not requiring instructional judgment or evaluation of students;
2. For supervising study halls, long distance teaching reception areas used incident to instructional programs transmitted by electronic media (such as computers, video, and audio), detention and discipline areas, and school-sponsored extracurricular activities;
3. To assist with academic programs under a licensed teacher's immediate supervision;
4. To assist in times of violence or other traumatic incidents within the Association by providing crisis intervention services to lessen the effects of emotional trauma on staff, students, and the community, provided the volunteer meets the qualifications established by the Ill. School Crisis Assistance Team Steering Committee;
5. As a guest lecturer or resource person under a licensed teacher's direction and with the administration's approval; or
6. As supervisors, chaperones, or sponsors for non-academic school activities.

The Director shall follow Board policy 4:175, *Convicted Child Sex Offender; Screening; Notifications*, to establish procedures for securing and screening resource persons and volunteers. A person who is a *sex offender*, as defined by the Sex Offender Registration Act, or a *violent offender against youth*, as defined in the Murderer and Violent Offender Against Youth Registration Act, is prohibited from being a resource person or volunteer. All volunteer coaches must comply with the requirement to report hazing in policy 5:90, *Abused and Neglected Child Reporting*.

LEGAL REF.:

105 ILCS 5/10-22.34, 5/10-22.34a, and 5/10-22.34b.

720 ILCS 5/12C-50.1, Failure to Report Hazing.

730 ILCS 150/1 et seq., Sex Offender Registration Act.

730 ILCS 152/101 et seq., Sex Offender Community Notification Law.

730 ILCS 154/75 et seq., Murderer and Violent Offender Against Youth Community Notification Law.

730 ILCS 154/101 et seq., Murderer and Violent Offender Against Youth Registration Act.

CROSS REF.: 4:170 (Safety), 4:175 (Convicted Child Sex Offender; Screening; Notifications), 5:90 (Abused and Neglected Child Reporting), 5:280 (Duties and Qualifications), 8:30 (Visitors to and Conduct on School Property), 8:95 (Parental Involvement)

Adopted: December 9, 2022

6:255 Assemblies and Ceremonies

Assemblies must be approved by the Director or designee and be consistent with the Association's educational objectives.

While the Association respects an individual's brief, quiet, personal religious observance(s), it shall not endorse or otherwise promote invocations, benedictions, and group prayers at any school assembly, ceremony, or other school-sponsored activity.

LEGAL REF.:

Lee v. Weisman, 505 U.S. 577 (1992).

Santa Fe Independent Sch. Dist. v. Doe, 530 U.S. 290 (2000).

Kennedy v. Bremerton Sch. Dist., 142 S.Ct. 2407 (2022).

Jones v. Clear Creek Independent Sch. Dist., 930 F.2d 416 (5th Cir. 1991), *cert. granted, judgement vacated*, 505 U.S. 1215 (1992), *remand*, 977 F.2d 963, *reh'g denied*, 983 F.2d 234 (5th Cir. 1992), and *cert. denied*, 508 U.S. 967 (1993).

CROSS REF.: 6:70 (Teaching About Religion), 6:80 (Teaching About Controversial Issues)

Adopted: December 9, 2022

Special Education Association of Peoria County

6:260 Complaints About Curriculum, Instructional Materials, and Programs

Parents/guardians have the right to inspect any instructional material used as part of their child's educational curriculum pursuant to Board policy 7:15, *Student and Family Privacy Rights*.

Parents/guardians, employees, and community members who believe that curriculum, instructional materials, or programs violate rights guaranteed by any law or Board policy may file a complaint using Board policy 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*.

Parents/guardians, employees, and community members with other suggestions or complaints about curriculum, instructional materials, or programs should complete a *Curriculum Objection Form*. A parent/guardian may request that his/her child be exempt from using a particular instructional material or program by completing a *Curriculum Objection Form*. The Director or designee shall establish criteria for the review of objections and inform the parent/guardian, employee, or community member, as applicable, of SEAPCO's decision.

LEGAL REF.:

20 U.S.C. §1232h, Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment.

CROSS REF.: 2:260 (Uniform Grievance Procedure), 7:15 (Student and Family Privacy Rights), 8:110 (Public Suggestions and Concerns)

Adopted: December 9, 2022

Special Education Association of Peoria County

6:270 Guidance and Counseling Program

The Association provides a guidance and counseling program for students. The Director or designee shall direct the Association's guidance and counseling program. School counseling services, as described by State law, may be performed by a qualified guidance specialist or any certificated staff member.

Each staff member is responsible for effectively guiding students under his/her supervision in order to provide early identification of intellectual, emotional, social, or physical needs, diagnosis of any learning disabilities, and development of educational potential. The Association's counselors shall offer counseling to those students who require additional assistance.

The guidance program will assist students to identify career options consistent with their abilities, interests, and personal values. Students shall be encouraged to seek the help of counselors to develop specific curriculum goals that conform to the student's career objectives. High school juniors and seniors will have the opportunity to receive career-oriented information. Representatives from colleges and universities, occupational training institutions and career-oriented recruiters, including the military, may be given access to the school campus in order to provide students and parents/guardians with information.

LEGAL REF.:

105 ILCS 5/10-22.24a and 5/10-22.24b.

23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.420(q).

CROSS REF.: 6:65 (Student Social and Emotional Development), 6:110 (Programs for Students At Risk of Academic Failure and/or Dropping Out of School and Graduation Incentives Program), 6:120 (Education of Children with Disabilities), 7:100 (Health, Eye, and Dental Examinations; Immunizations; and Exclusion of Students), 7:250 (Student Support Services), 7:290 (Suicide and Depression Awareness and Prevention)

Adopted: December 9, 2022

Special Education Association of Peoria County

6:280 Grading and Promotion

Grading and Promotion

The Director or designee shall establish a system of grading and reporting academic achievement to students and their parents/guardians for SEAPCO programs housed in the building. The system shall also determine when promotion and graduation requirements are recommended to the IEP team and home district. The decision to promote a student to the next grade level shall be based on successful completion of the curriculum, attendance, and performance on the standardized tests required by the Ill. State Board of Education (ISBE) and/or other assessments. A student shall not be promoted based upon age or any other social reason not related to academic performance. The administration shall determine remedial assistance for a student who is not promoted.

Every teacher shall maintain an evaluation record for each student in the teacher's classroom. An administrator cannot change the final grade assigned by the teacher without notifying the teacher. Reasons for changing a student's final grade include:

- A miscalculation of test scores,
- A technical error in assigning a particular grade or score,
- The teacher agrees to allow the student to do extra work that may impact the grade,
- An inappropriate grading system used to determine the grade, or
- An inappropriate grade based on an appropriate grading system.

Should a grade change be made, the administrator making the change must sign the changed record.

LEGAL REF.:

105 ILCS 5/2-3.64a-5, 5/10-20.9a, 5/10-21.8, and 5/27-27.

CROSS REF.: 6:110 (Programs for Students At Risk of Academic Failure and/or Dropping Out of School and Graduation Incentives Program), 6:300 (Graduation Requirements), 6:340 (Student Testing and Assessment Program), 7:50 (School Admissions and Student Transfers To and From Non-District Schools)

Adopted: December 9, 2022

Special Education Association of Peoria County