#### PERSONNEL

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Sexual Harassment, Sexual Intimidation and Sexual Misconduct in the Workplace

The District does not discriminate on the basis of sex in any education program or activity that it operates. The District is required by Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 and the regulations promulgated through the U.S. Department of Education not to discriminate in such a manner. Inquiries about the application of Title IX to the District may be referred to the District's Title IX Coordinator, to the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights of the Department of Education, or both.

The Board designates the following individual to serve as the District's Title IX Coordinator:

Title:

Administrator

Office address: PO Box 150, 125 Washington Street, East Glacier Park, MT 59434

Email:

eastglacierschool@yahoo.com

Phone number: 406-226-5543

Any person may report sex discrimination, including sexual harassment, at any time, including during non-business hours. Such a report may be made using the attached form, in person, by mail, by telephone or by electronic mail, using the contact information listed for the Title IX Coordinator, or by any other means that results in the Title IX Coordinator receiving the person's verbal or written report.

For purposes of this policy and the grievance process, "sexual harassment" means conduct on the basis of sex that satisfies one or more of the following:

- 1. A District employee conditioning the provision of an aid, benefit, or service of the District on an individual's participation in unwelcome sexual conduct;
- 2. Unwelcome conduct determined by a reasonable person to be so severe, pervasive and objectively offensive that it effectively denies a person equal access to the District's education program or activity; or
- 3. "Sexual assault" as defined in 20 USC 1092(f)(6)(A)(v), "dating violence" as defined in 34 USC 12291(a)(10), "domestic violence" as defined in 34 USC 12291(a)(8) or "stalking" as defined in 34 USC 12291(a)(30).

When the harassment or discrimination on the basis of sex does not meet the definition of sexual harassment, the Title IX Coordinator directs the individual to the applicable sex discrimination process for investigation.

An individual is not required to submit a report of sexual harassment involving the Title IX coordinator. In the event the Title IX Coordinator is responsible for or a witness to the alleged harassment, the individual may report the allegations to the building principal or superintendent or other unbiased school official.

#### Retaliation Prohibited

The District prohibits intimidation, threats, coercion or discrimination against any individual for the purpose of interfering with any right or privilege secured by Title IX or this policy, or because the individual has made a report or complaint, testified, assisted, or participated or refused to participate in any manner in an investigation proceeding or hearing, if applicable. Intimidation, threats, coercion, or discrimination, including charges against an individual for code of conduct violations that do not involve sex discrimination or sexual harassment, but arise out of the same facts or circumstances as a report or complaint of sex discrimination, or a report or formal complaint of sexual harassment, for the purpose of interfering with any right or privilege secured by Title IX or this part, constitutes retaliation.

#### Confidentiality

The District must keep confidential the identity of any individual who has made a report or complaint of sex discrimination, including any individual who has made a report or filed a formal complaint of sexual harassment, any individual who has been alleged to be the victim or perpetrator of conduct that could constitute sexual harassment, and any witness, except as may be permitted by Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) or as required by law, or to carry out the purposes of the Title IX regulations, including the conduct of any investigation, hearing or judicial proceeding arising thereunder.

#### Notice Requirements

The District provides notice to applicants for admission and employment, students, parents or legal guardians of elementary and secondary school students, employees and the union(s) with the name or title, office address, email address and telephone number of the Title IX Coordinator and notice of the District grievance procedures and process, including how to report or file a complaint of sex discrimination, how to file a formal complaint of sexual harassment and how the District will respond. The District also posts the Title IX Coordinator's contact information and Title IX policies and procedures in a prominent location on the District website and in all handbooks made available by the District.

#### Training Requirements

The District ensures that Title IX Coordinators, investigators, decision-makers, and any person who facilitates an informal resolution process, receives training on the definition of sexual harassment, the scope of the District's education program or activity, how to conduct an investigation and grievance process including hearings, appeals and informal resolution processes, when applicable, and how to serve impartially including by prejudgment avoiding of the facts at issue, conflicts of interest and bias. The District also ensures that decision-makers and investigators receive training on issues of relevance of questions and evidence, including when questions and evidence about the complainant's sexual predisposition or prior sexual behavior are not relevant as set forth in the formal procedures that follow, and training on any technology to be used at a live hearing, if applicable. Investigators also receive training on issues of relevance to create an investigative report that fairly summarizes relevant evidence. All materials used to train individuals who receive training under this section must

not rely on sex stereotypes and must promote impartial investigations and adjudications of formal complaints of sexual harassment and are made publicly available on the District's website.

#### Conflict of Interest and Bias

The District ensures that Title IX Coordinators, investigators, decision-makers, and any person who facilitates an informal resolution process do not have a conflict of interest or bias for or against complainants or respondents generally or an individual complainant or respondent.

# Determination of Responsibility

The individual who has been reported to be the perpetrator of conduct that could constitute sexual harassment is presumed not responsible for alleged conduct. A determination regarding responsibility will be made by the decision-maker at the conclusion of the investigation in accordance with the process outlined in Policy 5012P. No disciplinary sanctions will be imposed unless and until a final determination of responsibility is reached.

Cross Reference:

5010 - Equal Employment and Non-Discrimination

5012P - Sexual Harassment Procedures

Legal References:

Art. X, Sec. 1, Montana Constitution – Educational goals and duties

§§ 49-3-101, et seq., MCA Montana Human Rights Act

Civil Rights Act, Title VI; 42 USC 2000d et seq. Civil Rights Act, Title VII; 42 USC 2000e et seq.

Education Amendments of 1972, Title IX; 20 USC 1681, et seq.

34 CFR Part 106

Nondiscrimination on the basis of sex in education programs or activities receiving

Federal financial assistance

10.55.701(1)(f), ARM

**Board of Trustees** 

10.55.719, ARM

Student Protection Procedures

10.55.801(1)(a), ARM

**School Climate** 

Policy History:

Adopted on: April 26, 1999

Reviewed on:

Revised on: January 20, 2020 Revised on: December 7, 2020 Revised on: February 22, 2021

Sexual Harassment Reporting/Intake Form for Employees
This form is not required. Complaints may be submitted in any manner noted in Policy 5012.
The form may be used by the Title IX Coordinator to document allegations.

hool	Date
nployee's name	
	or incident(s)?
	(s) occurred.
Were other individuals involved in the inc	ident(s)?  yes no
	heir roles.
Did anyone witness the incident(s)?  years, name the witnesses.	s 🗌 no
Did anyone witness the incident(s)?  years of the so, name the witnesses.  Did you take any action in response to the lif yes, what action did you take?	s 🔲 no

R

#### **PERSONNEL**

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# Sexual Harassment Grievance Procedure — Employees

The Board requires the following grievance process to be followed for the prompt and equitable resolution of employee complaints alleging any action that would be prohibited as sexual harassment by Title IX. The Board directs the process to be published in accordance with all statutory and regulatory requirements.

#### **Definitions**

The following definitions apply for Title IX policies and procedures:

"Actual knowledge:" notice of sexual harassment or allegations of sexual harassment to the District's Title IX Coordinator or any official of the District who has authority to institute corrective measures on behalf of the District, or to any employee of an elementary or secondary school.

"Education program or activity:" includes locations, events or circumstances over which the District exercised substantial control over both the individual who has been reported to be the perpetrator of conduct that could constitute sexual harassment, and the context in which the sexual harassment occurs.

"Complainant:" an individual who is alleged to be the victim of conduct that could constitute sexual harassment.

"Respondent:" an individual who has been reported to be the perpetrator of conduct that could constitute sexual harassment.

"Formal complaint:" a document filed by a Complainant or signed by the Title IX Coordinator alleging sexual harassment against a Respondent and requesting that the District investigate the allegation of sexual harassment.

"Supportive measures:" non-disciplinary, non-punitive individualized services offered as appropriate, as reasonably available and without fee or charge to the Complainant or Respondent before or after the filing of a formal complaint or where no formal complaint has been filed.

# District Requirements

When the District has actual knowledge of sexual harassment in an education program or activity of the District, the District will respond promptly in a manner that is not deliberately indifferent. When the harassment or discrimination on the basis of sex does not meet the definition of sexual harassment, the Title IX Coordinator will direct the individual to the applicable sex discrimination process, bullying and harassment policy, or public complaint procedure for investigation.

The District treats individuals who are alleged to be the victim (Complainant) and perpetrator (Respondent) of conduct that could constitute sexual harassment equitably by offering supportive

measures. Supportive measures are designed to restore or preserve equal access to the District's education program or activity without unreasonably burdening the other party, including measures designed to protect the safety of all parties or the District's educational environment, or deter sexual harassment. Supportive measures may include counseling, extensions of deadlines or other course-related adjustments, modifications of work or class schedules, mutual restrictions on contact between the parties, leaves of absence, increased security and monitoring of certain areas of the District's property, campus escort services, changes in work locations and other similar measures.

The Title IX Coordinator is responsible for coordinating the effective implementation of supportive measures. Upon the receipt of a complaint, the Title IX Coordinator must promptly contact the Complainant to discuss the availability of supportive measures, consider the Complainant's wishes with respect to supportive measures, inform the Complainant of the availability of supportive measures with or without the filing of a formal complaint, and explain to the Complainant the process for filing a formal complaint. If the District does not provide the Complainant with supportive measures, then the District must document the reasons why such a response was not clearly unreasonable in light of the known circumstances.

#### **Timelines**

The District has established reasonably prompt time frames for the conclusion of the grievance process, including time frames for filing and resolving appeals and informal resolution processes. The grievance process may be temporarily delayed or extended for good cause. Good cause may include considerations such as the absence of a party, a party's advisor, or a witness; concurrent law enforcement activity; or the need for language assistance or accommodation of disabilities. In the event the grievance process is temporarily delayed for good cause, the District will provide written notice to the Complainant and the Respondent of the delay or extension and the reasons for the action.

#### Response to a Formal Complaint

At the time of filing a formal complaint, a Complainant must be participating in or attempting to participate in the education program or activity of the District with which the formal complaint is filed. A formal complaint may be filed with the Title IX Coordinator in person, by mail, by electronic mail, or other means designated by the District.

The District must follow the formal complaint process before the imposition of any disciplinary sanctions or other actions that are not supportive measures. However, nothing in this policy precludes the District from placing a non-student employee Respondent on administrative leave during the pendency of the grievance process. The District may also remove a student Respondent alleged to have harassed an employee Complainant from the education setting. The student may receive instruction in an offsite capacity during the period of removal. This provision may not be construed to modify any rights under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, or the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Upon receipt of a formal complaint, the District must provide written notice to the known parties including:

- 1. Notice of the allegations of sexual harassment, including information about the identities of the parties involved in the incident, the conduct allegedly constituting sexual harassment, the date and location of the alleged incident, and any sufficient details known at the time. Such notice must be provided with sufficient time to prepare a response before any initial interview;
- 2. An explanation of the District's investigation procedures, including any informal resolution process;
- 3. A statement that the Respondent is presumed not responsible for the alleged conduct and that a determination regarding responsibility will be made by the decision-maker at the conclusion of the investigation;
- 4. Notice to the parties that they may have an advisor of their choice who may be, but is not required to be, an attorney, and may inspect and review any evidence; and
- 5. Notice to the parties of any provision in the District's code of conduct or policy that prohibits knowingly making false statements or knowingly submitting false information.

If, in the course of an investigation, the District decides to investigate allegations about the Complainant or Respondent that are not included in the notice initially provided, notice of the additional allegations must be provided to known parties.

The District may consolidate formal complaints as to allegations of sexual harassment against more than one Respondent, or by more than one Complainant against one or more Respondents, or by one party against the other party, where the allegations of sexual harassment arise out of the same facts or circumstances.

# Investigation of a Formal Complaint

When investigating a formal complaint and throughout the grievance process, the District must:

- 1. Ensure that the burden of proof and the burden of gathering evidence sufficient to reach a determination regarding responsibility rests on the District and not the parties';
- 2. Provide an equal opportunity for the parties to present witnesses and evidence;
- 3. Not restrict either party's ability to discuss the allegations under investigation or to gather and present relevant evidence;
- 4. Allow the parties to be accompanied with an advisor of the party's choice who may be, but is not required to be, an attorney. The District may establish restrictions regarding the extent to which the advisor may participate in the proceedings, as long as the restrictions apply equally to both parties;

- 5. Provide written notice of the date, time, location, participants, and purpose of any interview or meeting at which a party is expected to participate, with sufficient time for the party to prepare to participate;
- 6. Provide the parties equal access to review all the evidence collected which is directly related to the allegations raised in a formal complaint and comply with the review periods outlined in this process;
- 7. Objectively evaluate all relevant evidence without relying on sex stereotypes;
- 8. Ensure that Title IX Coordinators, investigators, decision-makers and individuals who facilitate an informal resolution process, do not have a conflict of interest or bias for or against Complainants or Respondents generally or an individual Complainant or Respondent;
- 9. Not make creditability determinations based on the individual's status as Complainant, Respondent or witness;
- 10. Not use questions or evidence that constitute or seek disclosure of privileged information unless waived.

#### Dismissal of Formal Complaints

If the conduct alleged in the formal complaint would not constitute sexual harassment even if proved, did not occur in the District's education program or activity, or did not occur against a person in the United States, then the District must dismiss the formal complaint with regard to that conduct for purposes of sexual harassment under this policy.

The Title IX Coordinator also may dismiss the formal complaint or any allegations therein at any time during the investigation or hearing, if applicable, when any of the following apply:

- 1. a Complainant provides written notification to the Title IX Coordinator that the Complainant would like to withdraw the formal complaint or any allegations therein;
- 2. the Respondent is no longer enrolled or employed by the District or;
- 3. specific circumstances prevent the District from gathering evidence sufficient to reach a determination as to the formal complaint or allegations therein.

Upon dismissal, the Title IX Coordinator promptly sends written notice of the dismissal and the reasons for dismissal simultaneously to both parties. The grievance process will close in the event a notice of dismissal is provided to the parties. Support measures may continue following dismissal.

#### Evidence Review

The District provides both parties an equal opportunity to inspect and review any evidence obtained as part of the investigation so that each party can meaningfully respond to the evidence prior to the conclusion of the investigation. The evidence provided by the District must include evidence that is

directly related to the allegations in the formal complaint, evidence upon which the District does not intend to rely in reaching a determination regarding responsibility, and any inculpatory or exculpatory evidence whether obtained from a party or other source. Prior to completion of the investigative report, the Title IX Coordinator must send to each party and the party's advisor, if any, the evidence subject to inspection and review in an electronic format or a hard copy. The parties have 10 calendar days to submit a written response to the Title IX Coordinator, which the investigator will consider prior to completion of the investigative report.

# Investigative Report

The investigator must prepare an investigative report that fairly summarizes relevant evidence and send the report to the Title IX Coordinator. The Title IX Coordinator must send to each party and the party's advisor, if any, the investigative report in an electronic format or a hard copy, for their review and written response. The parties have 10 calendar days to submit a written response to the Title IX Coordinator.

# Decision-Maker's Determination

The investigative report is submitted to the decision-maker. The decision-maker cannot be the same person(s) as the Title IX Coordinator or the investigator. The decision-maker cannot hold a hearing or make a determination regarding responsibility until 10 calendar days from the date the Complainant and Respondent receive the investigator's report.

Prior to reaching a determination regarding responsibility, the decision-maker must afford each party the opportunity to submit written, relevant questions that a party wants asked of any party or witness, provide each party with the answers, and allow for additional, limited follow-up questions from each party. Questions and evidence about the Complainant's sexual predisposition or prior sexual behavior are not relevant, unless such questions and evidence about the Complainant's prior sexual behavior are offered to prove that someone other than the Respondent committed the conduct alleged by the Complainant, or if the questions and evidence concern specific incidents of the Complainant's prior sexual behavior with respect to the Respondent and are offered to prove consent. Questions must be submitted to the Title IX Coordinator within three calendar days from the date the Complainant and Respondent receive the investigator's report.

The decision-maker must issue a written determination regarding responsibility based on a preponderance of the evidence standard. The decision-maker's written determination must:

- 1. Identify the allegations potentially constituting sexual harassment;
- 2. Describe the procedural steps taken, including any notifications to the parties, interviews with parties and witnesses, site visits, methods used to gather evidence, and hearings held;
- 3. Include the findings of fact supporting the determination;
- 4. Draw conclusions regarding the application of any District policies and/or code of conduct rules to the facts;

- 5. Address each allegation and a resolution of the complaint including a determination regarding responsibility, the rationale therefore, any recommended disciplinary sanction(s) imposed on the Respondent, and whether remedies designed to restore or preserve access to the educational program or activity will be provided by the District to the Complainant; and
- 6. The procedures and permissible bases for the Complainant and/or Respondent to appeal the determination.

A copy of the written determination must be provided to both parties simultaneously, and generally will be provided within 60 calendar days from the District's receipt of a formal complaint.

The determination regarding responsibility becomes final either on the date that the District provides the parties with the written determination of the result of the appeal, if an appeal is filed, or if an appeal is not filed, the date on which an appeal would no longer be considered timely.

Where a determination of responsibility for sexual harassment has been made against the Respondent, the District will provide remedies to the Complainant that are designed to restore or preserve equal access to the District's education program or activity. Such remedies may include supportive measures; however, remedies need not be non-disciplinary or non-punitive and need not avoid burdening the Respondent. The Title IX Coordinator is responsible for effective implementation of any remedies. Following any determination of responsibility, the District may implement disciplinary sanctions in accordance with State or Federal law and or/the negotiated agreement. For students, the sanctions may include disciplinary action, up to and including permanent exclusion.

#### Appeals

Either the Complainant or Respondent may appeal the decision-maker's determination regarding responsibility or a dismissal of a formal complaint, on the following bases:

- 1. Procedural irregularity that affected the outcome of the matter;
- 2. New evidence that was not reasonably available at the time that could affect the outcome and
- 3. The Title IX Coordinator, investigator, or decision-maker had a conflict of interest or bias for or against Complainants or Respondents generally or an individual Complainant or Respondent that affected the outcome.

The District also may offer an appeal equally to both parties on additional bases.

The request to appeal must be made in writing to the Title IX Coordinator within seven calendar days after the date of the written determination. The appeal decision-maker must not have a conflict of interest or bias for or against Complainants or Respondents generally or an individual Complainant or Respondent and cannot be the Title IX Coordinator, the investigator, or the decision-maker from the original determination.

The appeal decision-maker must notify the other party in writing when an appeal is filed and give both parties a reasonable equal opportunity to submit a written statement in support of, or challenging, the outcome. After reviewing the evidence, the appeal decision-maker must issue a written decision describing the result of the appeal and the rationale for the result. The decision must be provided to both parties simultaneously, and generally will be provided within 10 calendar days from the date the appeal is filed.

#### Informal Resolution Process

Except when concerning allegations that an employee sexually harassed a student, at any time during the formal complaint process and prior to reaching a determination regarding responsibility, the District may facilitate an informal resolution process, such as mediation, that does not involve a full investigation and determination of responsibility, provided that the District:

- 1. Provides to the parties a written notice disclosing:
  - A. The allegations;
  - B. The requirements of the informal resolution process including the circumstances under which it precludes the parties from resuming a formal complaint arising from the same allegations, provided, however, that at any time prior to agreeing to a resolution, any party has the right to withdraw from the informal resolution process and resume the Title IX formal complaint process with respect to the formal complaint; and
  - C. Any consequences resulting from participating in the informal resolution process, including the records that will be maintained or could be shared.
- 2. Obtains the parties' voluntary, written consent to the informal resolution process.

The informal resolution process generally will be completed within 30 calendar days, unless the parties and the Title IX Coordinator mutually agree to temporarily delay or extend the process. The formal grievance process timelines are stayed during the parties' participation in the informal resolution process. If the parties do not reach resolution through the informal resolution process, the parties will resume the formal complaint grievance process, including timelines for resolution, at the point they left off.

#### Recordkeeping

The District must maintain for a period of seven years records of:

- 1. Each sexual harassment investigation, including any determination regarding responsibility, any disciplinary sanctions imposed on the Respondent, and any remedies provided to the Complainant designed to restore or preserve equal access to the District's education program or activity;
- 2. Any appeal and the result therefrom;

- 3. Any informal resolution and the result therefrom; and
- 4. All materials used to train Title IX Coordinators, investigators, decision-makers, and any person who facilitates an informal resolution process. The District must make these training materials publicly available on its website.

The District must create, and maintain for a period of seven years, records of any actions, including any supportive measures, taken in response to a report or formal complaint of sexual harassment. In each instance, the District must document the basis for its conclusion that its response was not deliberately indifferent, and document that it has taken measures designed to restore or preserve equal access to the District's education program or activity.

Cross Reference:

Policy 5010 Equal Employment and Nondiscrimination

Policy 5012 Sexual Harassment Policy 5255 Employee Discipline

Legal References:

Art. X, Sec. 1, Montana Constitution - Educational goals and duties

§§ 49-3-101, et seq., MCA Montana Human Rights Act

Civil Rights Act, Title VI; 42 USC 2000d et seq. Civil Rights Act, Title VII; 42 USC 2000e et seq.

Education Amendments of 1972, Title IX; 20 USC 1681, et seq.

34 CFR Part 106

Nondiscrimination on the basis of sex in education programs or activities receiving

Federal financial assistance

10.55.701(1)(f), ARM

Board of Trustees

10.55.719, ARM

**Student Protection Procedures** 

10.55.801(1)(a), ARM

School Climate

Policy History:

Adopted on: December 7, 2020

Reviewed on:

Revised on: February 22, 2021 Revised on: January 24, 2022

#### PERSONNEL

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# Bullying/Harassment/Intimidation

The Board will strive to provide a positive and productive working environment. Bullying, harassment, or intimidation between employees or by third parties, are strictly prohibited and shall not be tolerated. This includes bullying, harassment, or intimidation via electronic communication devices.

#### **Definitions**

- "Third parties" include but are not limited to coaches, school volunteers, parents, school visitors, service contractors, or others engaged in District business, such as employees of businesses or organizations participating in cooperative work programs with the District, and others not directly subject to District control at inter-district and intra-District athletic competitions or other school events.
- "District" includes District facilities, District premises, and non-District property if the
  employee is at any District-sponsored, District-approved, or District-related activity or
  function, such as field trips or athletic events, where the employee is engaged in District
  business.
- "Harassment, intimidation, or bullying" means any act that substantially interferes with an employee's opportunities or work performance, that takes place on or immediately adjacent to school grounds, at any school-sponsored activity, on school-provided transportation, or anywhere such conduct may reasonably be considered to be a threat or an attempted intimidation of a staff member or an interference with school purposes or an educational function, and that has the effect of:
  - a. Physically harming an employee or damaging an employee's property;
  - b. Knowingly placing an employee in reasonable fear of physical harm to the employee or damage to the employee's property; or
  - c. Creating a hostile working environment.

# Reporting

All complaints about behavior that may violate this policy shall be promptly investigated. Any employee or third party who has knowledge of conduct in violation of this policy or feels he/she has been a victim of harassment, intimidation, or bullying in violation of this policy is encouraged to immediately report his/her concerns to the building principal or the District Administrator, who have overall responsibility for such investigations. Complaints against the building principal shall be filed with the Superintendent. Complaints against the Superintendent or District Administrator shall be filed with the Board, via written communication to the Board Chair.

The complainant may be provided a summary of the findings of the investigation and, as appropriate, that remedial action has been taken.

#### Responsibilities

The District Administrator shall be responsible for ensuring that notice of this policy is provided to staff and third parties.

When an employee has actual knowledge that behavior in violation of this policy is sexual harassment, the employee must contact the Title IX Coordinator. The Title IX sexual harassment grievance process will be followed, if applicable, prior to imposing any discipline that cannot be imposed without resolution of the Title IX process.

#### Consequences

Staff whose behavior is found to be in violation of this policy will be subject to discipline up to and including termination of employment. Third parties whose behavior is found to be in violation of this policy shall be subject to appropriate sanctions as determined and imposed by the District Administrator or the Board. Individuals may also be referred to law enforcement officials.

## Retaliation and Reprisal

Retaliation is prohibited against any person who reports or is thought to have reported a violation, files a complaint, or otherwise participates in an investigation or inquiry. Such retaliation shall be considered a serious violation of Board policy, whether or not a complaint is substantiated. False charges shall also be regarded as a serious offense and will result in disciplinary action or other appropriate sanctions.

Legal Reference:

10.55.701(3)(g)

**Board of Trustees** 

10.55.801(1)(d)

School Climate

Policy History:

Adopted on: May 14, 2007

Reviewed on:

Revised on: February 22, 2010 Revised on: January 20, 2020 Revised on: December 7, 2020 Revised on: February 22, 2021

#### PERSONNEL

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# Federal Background Check Fingerprint and Information Handling Procedure

- 1. Who needs to be fingerprinted: All individuals 18 years of age or older to be volunteers or hired by the East Glacier Park Grade School, School District 50 need to be fingerprinted.
- 2. East Glacier Park Grade School, School District 50 will obtain a signed waiver from all applicants and provide written communication of applicant rights (Applicant Rights and Consent to Fingerprint Form 5122F). The Applicant Rights and Consent to Fingerprint Form will be kept on file for 5 years or for the length of employment, whichever is longer. The form will be filed in the employees Personnel File.

# Basis to Collect and Submit Fingerprints for Purposes of Federal Background Check

Ink fingerprints are captured in house by agency personnel that have completed and passed the certification course provided by CRISS. All applicants must provide a current government issued photo identification at the time of fingerprinting for identification verification. Two ink fingerprint cards are captured for each applicant and all data fields are completed and checked for accuracy. Complete fingerprint cards are then mailed to DOJ/CRISS along with payment.

#### LASO

Denise Mason has been appointed as the Local Agency Security Officer and acts as the primary point of contact between the School District and CRISS. Denise Mason is responsible for ensuring CJIS Policy compliance by all authorized recipients within the School District. LASO is also responsible of any Privacy and Security Agreements with those who do not use CHRI on a regular basis. Any change in appointment of the LASO or other authorized personnel will be reported to CRISS immediately.

#### Access of CHRI

All background results are received by Denise Mason through the State File Transfer Service. Results are printed and stored in a locked filing cabinet in the business office until a determination for employment is made. Only authorized personnel that have undergone Privacy and Security Information have access to printed criminal history record information. Authorized recipients of CHRI include

Principal Shayna Schildt, and the Business manager Denise Mason.

Printed background checks are reviewed by the Business Manager Denise Mason and a determination form is completed. If any adverse results are present on the background check, it is given to the Principal for final determination of eligibility, consulting with the County Superintendent. East Glacier Park Grade School utilizes a determination form and the CHRI is then shredded.

#### **Determination Procedures**

Personnel staff that have been trained by CRISS and granted access to criminal history record information will receive the background results through their Montana State File Transfer account.

- a. Results are reviewed for determination of eligibility to hire.
- b. Any adverse reports are presented to the appropriate administrator for final approval.
- c. Determination is noted on a determination form and kept in a locked file cabinet.

#### Retention and Storage Procedure

All criminal history record information is stored in a locked filing cabinet within the business office. Only authorized personnel, Superintendent, Principal, and the Business Manager as noted 32 in this policy have access to this information. Only authorized personnel are present during the 33 determination process when the criminal record is being reviewed..

Printed background checks are stored until a final determination for employment has been made, two weeks or less. A determination form is then completed and CHRI is then destroyed in accordance with the Destruction Procedure outlined in this document.

Dissemination Logs are maintained for a period of 3 years from the date of dissemination or between audits, and the Applicant Rights and Consent to Fingerprint form is maintained for at least five years or the length of employment, whichever is longer.

#### Dissemination Procedure

The East Glacier Park Grade School, School District 50 does not disseminate criminal history record information with any other agency. A copy of the determination form can be provided to outside agencies upon request..

#### Destruction Procedure

At the end of the retention and storage period outlined in this document, all CHRI and related information is shredded in house by Denise Mason. Applicant procedures for challenging or correcting their record Boards will Select One Option:

All applicants are given the opportunity to challenge or complete their record before a final determination is made.

Applicants wishing to challenge their record are advised how to obtain a copy of their background report.

The applicant is then given 10 days to contact the state or agency in which the record was created to make corrections. After the allotted time, the applicant must then provide the School District with a copy of the corrected background report provided by and notarized by the State Identification Bureau. The fee associated for a copy of the state record provided by the State Identification Bureau will be the responsibility of the applicant.

# Policy and procedures for misuse of CHRI

The School District does not allow dissemination of CHRI to persons or agencies that are not directly involved in the hiring and determination process. If CHRI is disseminated outside of the authorized receiving department, (agency LASO) will report this to CRISS immediately and provide CRISS with an incident response form. The incident response form will include the nature of the incident, any internal reprimands that may have resulted from the incident, as well as our agencies plan to ensure that this incident does not get repeated.

# Training Procedure

- Local Agency Security Officer (LASO)
  - o Signed user agreement between district and CRISS
- Privacy and Security Training
  - o CRISS training on CHRI required to receive background reports

#### Policy History:

Adopted on: April 26, 1999

Reviewed on:

Revised on: January 20, 2020 Revised on: January 24, 2022

PERSONNEL 5121

# Applicability of Personnel Policies

Except where expressly provided to the contrary, personnel policies apply uniformly to the employed staff of the District. However, where there is a conflict between terms of a collective bargaining agreement and District policy, the terms of the collective bargaining agreement shall prevail for staff covered by that agreement.

Board policies will govern when a matter is not specifically provided for in an applicable collective bargaining agreement.

Each personnel position in the District will be directed by a position description that delineates the responsibilities of the employee. The employee will receive the position description with the employment contract. Position descriptions are available upon request. The Board of Trustees will regularly review the position descriptions.

#### Professional Development

If not otherwise addressed in the applicable collective bargaining agreements, the Board shall establish an advisory committee to evaluate the District's current school year professional development plan; and develop and recommend a plan for the subsequent school year. The advisory committee shall include, but not be limited to, trustees, administrators, and teachers. A majority of the committee shall be teachers. Each school year the Board shall adopt a professional development plan for the subsequent school year based on the recommendation of the advisory committee that meets the requirements of ARM 10.55.714.

Legal Reference: § 39-31-102, MCA Chapter not limit on legislative authority

Policy History:

Adopted on: January 20, 2020

Reviewed on:

Revised on: April 26, 2022

PERSONNEL 5122

# Fingerprints and Criminal Background Investigations

It is the policy of the Board that any finalist recommended for hire to a paid or volunteer position with the District involving regular unsupervised access to students in schools, as determined by the Superintendent, shall submit to a name-based and fingerprint criminal background investigation [federal fingerprint-based criminal history record check] conducted by the appropriate law enforcement agency prior to consideration of the recommendation for employment or appointment by the Board.

Any requirement of an applicant to submit to a fingerprint background check shall be in compliance with the Volunteers for Children Act of 1998 and applicable federal regulations. If an applicant has any prior record of arrest or conviction by any local, state, or federal law enforcement agency for an offense other than a minor traffic violation, the facts must be reviewed by the Superintendent, who shall decide whether the applicant shall be declared eligible for appointment or employment in a manner consistent with the expectations and standards set by the board.

The following applicants for employment, as a condition for employment, will be required, as a condition of any offer of employment, to authorize, in writing, a name-based and fingerprint criminal background investigation:

- A certified employee seeking full- or part-time employment with the District;
- A non-certified or classified employee seeking full- or part-time employment with the District:
- An employee of a person or firm holding a contract with the District, if the employee is assigned to the District:
- A volunteer assigned to work in the District, who has regular unsupervised access to students; and,
- Substitute teachers.

Legal Reference: § 44-5-301, MCA § 44-5-302, MCA

Dissemination of public criminal justice information Dissemination of criminal history record information

that is not public criminal justice information

§ 44-5-303, MCA Dissemination of confidential criminal justice

information - procedure for dissemination through court

Admin. R. Mont. 10.55.716 Substitute Teachers Public Law 105-251, Volunteers for Children Act

#### Policy History:

Adopted on: April 26, 1999

Reviewed on:

Revised on: September 22, 2003 Revised on: March 17, 2008 Revised on: January 20, 2020

# Applicant Rights and Consent to Fingerprint -- Policy 5122F

As an applicant who is the subject of a national fingerprint-based criminal history record check for a noncriminal justice purpose (such as an application for employment or a license, an immigration or naturalization matter, security clearance, or adoption), you have certain rights which are discussed below.

- You must be provided written notification<sup>1</sup> by East Glacier Park Grade School that your fingerprints will be used to check the criminal history records of the FBI.
- You must be provided, and acknowledge receipt of, an adequate Privacy Act Statement when you submit your fingerprints and associated personal information. This Privacy Act Statement should explain the authority for collecting your information and how your information will be used, retained, and shared.
- If you have a criminal history record, the officials making a determination of your suitability for employment, license, or other benefit must provide you the opportunity to complete or challenge the accuracy of the information in the record.
- The officials must advise you that the procedures for obtaining a change, correction, or updating of your criminal history record are set forth at Title 28, Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Section 16.34.
- If you have a criminal history record, you should be afforded a reasonable amount of time to correct or complete the record (or decline to do so) before the officials deny you the employment, license, or other benefit based on information in the criminal history record.<sup>2</sup>

You have the right to expect that officials receiving the results of the criminal history record check will use it only for authorized purposes and will not retain or disseminate it in violation of federal statute, regulation or executive order, or rule, procedure or standard established by the National Crime Prevention and Privacy Compact Council.<sup>3</sup>

If agency policy permits, the officials may provide you with a copy of your FBI criminal history record for review and possible challenge. If agency policy does not permit it to provide you a copy of the record, you may obtain a copy of the record by submitting fingerprints and a fee to the FBI. Information regarding this process may be obtained at http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/background-checks.

If you decide to challenge the accuracy or completeness of your FBI criminal history record, you should send your challenge to the agency that contributed the questioned information to the FBI. Alternatively, you may send your challenge directly to the FBI at the same address as provided above. The FBI will then forward your challenge to the agency that contributed the questioned information and request the agency to verify or correct the challenged entry. Upon receipt of an official communication from that agency, the FBI will make any necessary changes/corrections to your record in accordance with the information supplied by that agency.

If a change, correction, or update needs to be made to a Montana criminal history record, or if you need additional information or assistance, please contact Montana Criminal Records and Identification Services at dojitsdpublicrecords@mt.gov or 406-444-3625.

Your signature below acknowledges this agency has informed you of your privacy rights for fingerprint-based background check requests used by the agency.

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<b>№</b> 1	ന്നമറ	
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Name

Date

<sup>1</sup> Written notification includes electronic notification, but excludes oral notification.

<sup>3.</sup>See 5 U.S.C. 552a(b); 28 U.S.C. 534(b); 42 U.S.C. 14616, Article IV(c); 28 CFR 20,21(c), 20,33(d) and 906.2(d).

# NCPA/VCA Applicants

То			
	ave applied for employment with, will be working in a voces to East Glacier Park Grade School for the position of (	please be	ding vendor or contractor
Act(V( Code (	ational Child Protection Act of 1993 (NCPA), Public Lav CA), Pub. L. 105-251 (Sections 221 and 222 of Crime Id (U.S.C.) Sections 5119a and 5119c, authorizes a state and of an employee, or volunteer, or a person with unsupervi-	lentification Technology Act of 1998), d national criminal history background	codified at 42 United States check to determine the
1.		ears on a document made or issued by ion of a State, a foreign government, a ran international quasi-governmental ondividual, is of a type intended or comm	or under the authority of the political subdivision of a organization which, when
2.	Provide a certification that you (a) have not been convenient have been convicted of a crime. If you are under indicarime and the particulars of the conviction, if any.		
3.	Prior to the completion of the background check, the e whom the entity provides care.	entity may choose to deny you unsuper	rvised access to a person to
letermin hall con	ity shall access and review State and Federal criminal his nation whether you have been convicted of, or are under nvey that determination to the qualified entity. The entity ness days.	pending indictment for, a crime that b	ears upon your fitness and
our Na	ame:	Maiden	Last
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ddress	s:		
	City	State	Zip
	I have been convicted of, or am under pending indictm location/jurisdiction, circumstances and outcome]:	ent for, the following crimes [include	the dates,
	I have not been convicted of, nor am I under pending in	ndictment for, any crimes	
	I authorize Montana Department of Justice, Criminal R criminal history record information to the East Glacier		ction to disseminate
	Signature of Applicant	Dat	te

#### **PERSONNEL**

5125

Page 1 of 2

#### Whistle Blowing and Retaliation

When district employees know or have reasonable cause to believe that serious instances of wrongful conduct (e.g., mismanagement of district resources, violations of law and/or abuse of authority) have occurred, they should report such wrongful conduct to the Superintendent or Board Chairperson.

For purposes of this policy, the term "wrongful conduct" shall be defined to include:

- theft of district money, property, or resources;
- misuse of authority for personal gain or other non-district purpose;
- fraud;
- violations of applicable federal and state laws and regulations; and/or
- serious violations of district policy, regulation, and/or procedure.

The Board of Trustees will not tolerate any form of reprisal, retaliation or discrimination against:

- Any employee, or applicant for employment, because he/she opposed any practice that he/she reasonably believed to be made unlawful by federal or state laws prohibiting employment discrimination on the basis of sex, sexual orientation, race, color, national origin, age, religion, height, weight, marital status, handicap or disability.
- Any employee, or applicant for employment, because he/she filed a charge, testified, assisted or participated, in any manner, in an investigation, proceeding or hearing under federal or state laws prohibiting employment discrimination on the basis of sex, sexual orientation, race, color, national origin, age, religion, height, weight, marital status, handicap or disability or because he/she reported a suspected violation of such laws according to this policy; or,
- Any employee or applicant because he/she reported, or was about to report, a suspected violation of any federal, state or local law or regulation to a public body (unless the employee knew that the report was false) or because he/she was requested by a public body to participate in an investigation, hearing or inquiry held by that public body or a court.

An employee or applicant for employment who believes that he/she has suffered reprisal, retaliation or discrimination in violation of this policy shall report the incident(s) to the Superintendent or his/her designee. The Board of Trustees guarantees that no employee or applicant for employment who makes such a report will suffer any form of reprisal, retaliation or discrimination for making the report. Individuals are forbidden from preventing or interfering with whistle blowers who make good faith disclosures of misconduct.

The Board or its agents will not discharge, discipline or otherwise penalize any employee because the employee or someone acting on the employee's behalf, reports, verbally or in writing, a violation or suspected violation of any state or federal law or regulation or any town/city ordinance or regulation to a public body, or because an employee is requested by a public body to participate in an investigation,

hearing or inquiry held by that public body, or a court action. Further, the Board or its agents will not discharge, discipline or otherwise penalize any employee because the employee, or a person acting on his/her behalf, reports, verbally or in writing, to a public body, as defined in the statutes, concerning unethical practices, mismanagement or abuse of authority by the employer. This section does not apply when an employee knowingly makes a false report. The District will exercise reasonable efforts to: • investigate any complaints of retaliation or interference made by whistle blowers; • take immediate steps to stop any alleged retaliation; and • discipline any person associated with the District found to have retaliated against or interfered with a whistle blower. 13 The Board of Trustees considers violations of this policy to be a major offense that will result in disciplinary action, up to and including termination, against the offender, regardless of the offender's position within the District. 17 The Board shall make this policy available to its staff by posting it on its website with its other District policies.

Legal References:

Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 U.S.C. §2000e-3(a) Age Discrimination in Employment Act, 29 U.S.C. §623 (d) Americans with Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C. §12203(a) and (b) Fair Labor Standards Act, 29 U.S.C. §215(a)(3) Occupational Safety and Health Act, 29 U.S.C. §6660(c) Family and Medical Leave Act, 29 U.S.C. §2615 National Labor Relations Act, 29 U.S.C. §158(a)

Policy History:

Adopted on: May 11, 2015

Reviewed on:

Revised on: January 20, 2020

#### PERSONNEL

5130

Page 1 of 2

#### Staff Health

#### Medical Examinations

Through its overall safety program and various policies pertaining to school personnel, the Board will promote the safety of employees during working hours and assist them in the maintenance of good health. The Board will encourage all its employees to maintain optimum health through the practice of good health habits.

The Board may require physical examinations of its employees, under circumstances defined below. The District will maintain results of physical examinations in medical files separate from the employee's personnel file and will release them only as permitted by law.

#### Physical Examinations

The District participates in a Pre-Placement Physical Program for all custodial and maintenance personnel and other positions deemed inclusive of this policy as determined by specific Board action. Subsequent to a conditional offer of employment in a position for which the District may require participation in a pre-placement physical but before commencement of work, the District may require an applicant to have a medical examination and to meet any other health requirements which may be imposed by the state. The District may condition an offer of employment on the results of such examination, if all employees who received a conditional offer of employment in the applicable job category are subject to such examination. The report shall certify the employee's ability to perform the job-related functions of the position for which the employee is being considered. Such examination shall be used only to determine whether the applicant is able to perform with reasonable accommodation job-related functions.

All bus drivers, whether full-time, regular part-time, or temporary part-time, are required by state law to have a satisfactory medical examination before employment.

#### Communicable Diseases

The term "communicable disease" refers to the diseases identified in 37.114.203, ARM, Reportable Diseases, with the exception of common colds and flu.

If a staff member has a communicable disease, the staff member must notify the school nurse or other responsible person designated by the Board of the communicable disease which could be life threatening to an immune-compromised person. The school nurse or other responsible person designated by the Board must determine, after consultation with and on the advice of public health officials, if the immune-compromised person needs appropriate accommodation to protect their health and safety.

An employee with a communicable disease shall not report to work during the period of time in which the employee is infectious. An employee afflicted with a communicable disease capable of being readily transmitted in the school setting (e.g., airborne transmission of tuberculosis) shall be encouraged to report the existence of the illness so that precautions may be taken to protect the health of others. The District reserves the right to require a statement from an employee's primary care provider, before the employee may return to work.

# Confidentiality

In all instances, District personnel will respect an individual's right to privacy and treat any medical diagnosis as confidential information. Any information obtained regarding the medical condition or history of any employee will be collected and maintained on separate forms and in separate medical files and will be treated as confidential information. Only those individuals with a legitimate need to know will be provided necessary medical information.

Supervisors and managers may be informed of necessary restrictions on the work or duties of an employee and necessary accommodations. First aid and safety personnel may be informed, when appropriate, if a staff member with a disability might require emergency treatment.

Cross Reference: Policy 5005 Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act

Legal Reference: 29 U.S.C. § 794, et seq. Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act

42 U.S.C. § 12101, et seq. Americans with Disabilities Act
29 CFR, Part 1630.14(c) Examination of employees
Title 49, Chapter 2, MCA Illegal Discrimination

Title 49, Chapter 4, MCA
§ 20-10-103(4), MCA
Admin. R. Mont. 37.111.825
Rights of Persons With Disabilities
School bus driver qualifications
Health Supervision and Maintenance

Policy History:

Adopted on: April 26, 1999

Reviewed on:

Revised on: February 22, 2010 Revised on: January 20, 2020

PERSONNEL 5220

# Prohibition on Aiding Sexual Abuse

The district prohibits any employee, contractor or agent from assisting a school employee, contractor or agent in obtaining a new job if the individual or district knows or has probable cause to believe that such school employee, contractor or agent engaged in sexual misconduct regarding a minor or a student in violation of the law. This prohibition does not include the routine transmission of administrative and personnel files.

This prohibition does not apply under certain conditions specified by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) such as:

- 1. The matter has been reported to law enforcement authorities and it has been officially closed or the school officials have been notified by the prosecutor or police after an investigation that there is insufficient information to establish probable cause, or;
- 2. The individual has been acquitted or otherwise cleared of the alleged misconduct, or;
- 3. The case remains open without charges for more than 4 years after the information was reported to a law enforcement agency.

Legal Reference:

ESSA section 8038, § 8546

45-2-302, MCA

When accountability exists.

Policy History:

Adopted on: January 20, 2020

Reviewed on: Revised on:

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# PERSONNEL 5223 Page 1 of 3

# Personal Conduct

School District employees will abide by all district policies, state and federal laws in the course of their employment. Where applicable, employees will abide by and honor the professional educator code of conduct.

All employees are expected to maintain high standards of honesty, integrity, professionalism, decorum, and impartiality in the conduct of District business. All employees shall maintain appropriate employee-student relationship boundaries in all respects, including but not limited to personal, speech, print, and digital communications. Failure to honor the appropriate employee student relationship boundary will result in a report to the Department of Public Health and Human Services and the appropriate law enforcement agency.

While on school property, employees shall not injure or threaten to injure another person; damage another's property or that of the District; or use, control, possess or transfer any weapon or any item that could be reasonably considered to be a weapon as defined in Policies 3310 and 3311. "School property" means within school buildings, in vehicles used for school purposes, or on grounds leased or owned by the school district.

In accordance with state law, an employee shall not dispense or utilize any information gained from employment with the District, accept gifts or benefits, or participate in business enterprises or employment that creates a conflict of interest with the faithful and impartial discharge of the employee's District duties. A District employee, before acting in a manner which might impinge on any fiduciary duty, may disclose the nature of the private interest which would create a conflict. Care should be taken to avoid using or avoid the appearance of using official positions and confidential information for personal advantage or gain. Curriculum or materials created within the course of the employee's duties for the District using District resources are considered to be the property of the District.

Further, employees are expected to hold confidential all information deemed not to be for public consumption as determined by state law and Board policy. Employees also will respect the confidentiality of people served in the course of an employee's duties and use information gained in a responsible manner. The Board may discipline, up to and including discharge, any employee who discloses confidential and/or private information learned during the course of the employee's duties or learned as a result of the employee's participation in a closed (executive) session of the Board. Discretion should be used even within the school system's own network of communication and confidential information should only be communicated on a need to know basis. Employees shall not record or cause to be recorded a conversation by use of a hidden electronic or mechanical device which may include any combination of audio or video that reproduces a human conversation without the knowledge of all parties to the conversation

Administrators and supervisors may set forth specific rules and regulations governing staff conduct on the job within a particular building.

#### Firearms and Weapons

Employees of the District shall not injure or threaten to injure another person; damage another's property or that of the District; or possess any firearm or other non-firearm weapon on school property at any time.

For the purposes of this policy, the term "firearm" means (A) any weapon which will or is designed to or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive; (B) the frame or receiver of any such weapon; (C) any firearm muffler or firearm silencer; or (D) any destructive device pursuant to 18 U.S.C. 921 (4). Such term does not include an antique firearm pursuant to 18 U.S.C. 921 (16).

For purposes of this policy, "non-firearm weapon" means any object, device, or instrument designed as a weapon or through its use is capable of intimidating threatening or producing bodily harm or which may be used to inflict injury, including but not limited to air guns; pellet guns; BB guns; fake or facsimile weapons; all knives; blades; clubs; metal knuckles; nunchucks; throwing stars; explosives; fireworks; mace or other propellants; stun guns; ammunition; poisons; chains; arrows; and objects that have been modified to serve as a weapon.

District administrators are authorized to appropriate action, as circumstances warrant, to enforce this section of the policy including but not limited to requesting the assistance of law enforcement in accordance with Montana law.

For the purposes of this policy, "school property" means within school buildings, in vehicles used for school purposes, or on owned or leased school land or grounds. "Building" specifically means a combination of any materials, whether mobile, portable, or fixed, to form a structure and the related facilities for the use or occupancy by persons or property owned or leased by a local school district that are used for instruction or for student activities as specified in Section 50-60-101(2), MCA and Section45-8-361, MCA. The term is construed as though followed by the words "or part or parts of a building" and is considered to include all stadiums, bleachers, and other similar outdoor facilities, whether temporary or permanently fixed.

This section does not apply to a law enforcement officer acting in the officer's official capacity or an individual previously authorized by the Board of Trustees to possess a firearm or weapon in a school building.

The Board of Trustees shall annually review this policy and update this policy as determined necessary by the trustees based on changing circumstances pertaining to school safety.

Cross Reference:

Professional Educators of Montana Code of Ethics

Policy 3311 – Firearms and Weapons

Policy 5232- Abused and Neglected Children
Policy 4332 - Conduct on School Property
Policy 5121 - Applicability of Postcornal Police

Policy 5121 – Applicability of Personnel Policies

Legal Reference:

§ 20-1-201, MCA School officers not to act as agents

Title 2, Chapter 2, Part 1 Standards of Conduct § 39-2-102, MCA What belongs to employer

§ 45-8-361, MCA Possession or allowing possession of a

weapon in a school building

§ 45-5-501, MCA Definitions § 45-5-502, MCA Sexual Assault ARM 10.55.701(2)(d) Board of Trustees

§ 45-8-213, MCA Privacy in communications

Policy History:

Adopted on: April 26, 1999

Reviewed on:

Revised on: June 24, 2002 Revised on: January 20, 2020 Revised on: January 24, 2022 Revised on: April 26, 2022

#### PERSONNEL

5226 page 1 of 2

# Drug-Free Workplace

All District workplaces are drug- and alcohol-free. All employees are prohibited from:

- Unlawfully manufacturing, dispensing, distributing, possessing, using, or being under the influence of a controlled substance while on District premises or while performing work for the District, including employees possessing a "medical marijuana" card.
- Distributing, consuming, using, possessing, or being under the influence of alcohol while on District premises or while performing work for the District.

For purposes of this policy, a controlled substance is one that is:

- Not legally obtainable;
- Being used in a manner other than as prescribed;
- Legally obtainable but has not been legally obtained; or
- Referenced in federal or state controlled-substance acts.

As a condition of employment, each employee will:

- Abide by the terms of the District policy respecting a drug- and alcohol-free workplace; and
- Notify his or her supervisor of his or her conviction under any criminal drug statute, for a violation occurring on District premises or while performing work for the District, no later than five (5) days after such conviction.

In order to make employees aware of dangers of drug and alcohol abuse, the District will endeavor to:

- Provide each employee with a copy of the District drug- and alcohol-free workplace policy;
- Post notice of the District drug- and alcohol-free workplace policy in a place where other information for employees is posted;
- Enlist the aid of community and state agencies with drug and alcohol informational and rehabilitation programs, to provide information to District employees; and
- Inform employees of available drug and alcohol counseling, rehabilitation, reentry, and any employee-assistance programs.

# District Action Upon Violation of Policy

An employee who violates this policy may be subject to disciplinary action; up to and including termination of employment. Alternatively, the Board may require an employee to successfully complete an appropriate drug- or alcohol-abuse, employee-assistance rehabilitation program.

The Board will take disciplinary action with respect to an employee convicted of a drug offense in the workplace, within thirty (30) days of receiving notice of a conviction.

Should District employees be engaged in the performance of work under a federal contract or grant, or under a state contract or grant, the Superintendent will notify the appropriate state or federal agency from which the District receives contract or grant moneys of an employee's conviction, within ten (10) days after receiving notice of the conviction.

Legal Reference:

41 U.S.C. §§ 702, 703, 706 Drug-free workplace requirements for

Federal grant recipients

Johnson v. Columbia Falls Aluminum Company LLC, 2009 MT 108N.

Policy History:

Adopted on: April 26, 1999

Reviewed on:

Revised on: January 20, 2020

#### PERSONNEL

5226F page 1 of 2

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Legal Reference:	41 U.S.C. §§ 702, 703, 706  Johnson v. Columbia Falls A	Drug-free workplace requirements for Federal grant recipients luminum Company LLC, 2009 MT 108N.
Policy History: Adopted on: April 20 Reviewed on: Revised on: January		
Board of Trustees:		
2		
19:		DATE
	and, and agree to abide by the that East Glacier Park Grade	drug-free workplace policy of School District School prohibits the unlawful possession or
I understand that vio action.	lation of the drug-free workpl	ace policy may subject me to disciplinary
EMPLOYEE SIGNATURE		DATE

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#### **PERSONNEL**

5228

## Drug and Alcohol Testing for School Bus and Commercial Vehicle Drivers

The District will adhere to federal law and regulations requiring a drug and alcohol testing program for school bus and commercial vehicle drivers.

The program will comply with requirements of the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 49, §§ 382, et seq. The Superintendent will adopt and enact regulations consistent with federal regulations, defining the circumstances and procedures for testing.

Legal Reference:

49 U.S.C. §§ 45101, et seq. Alcohol and Controlled Substances Testing

(Omnibus Transportation Employee Testing Act of 1991)

49 C.F.R. Parts 40 (Procedures for Transportation Workplace Drug and Alcohol Testing Programs), 382 (Controlled substance and alcohol use

and testing), and 395 (Hours of service of drivers)

Policy History:

Adopted on: April 26, 1999

Reviewed on:

Revised on: January 20, 2020

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#### PERSONNEL

5228P page 1 of 6

## Drug and Alcohol Testing for School Bus and Commercial Vehicle Drivers

School bus and commercial vehicle drivers shall be subject to a drug and alcohol testing program that fulfills the requirements of the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 49, Part 382.

Other persons who drive vehicles designed to transport sixteen (16) or more passengers, including the driver, are likewise subject to the drug and alcohol testing program.

Testing procedures and facilities used for the tests shall conform with the requirements of the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 49, §§ 40, et seq.

### Pre-Employment Tests

Tests shall be conducted before the first time a driver performs any safety-sensitive function for the District. Safety-sensitive functions include all on-duty functions performed from the time a driver begins work or is required to be ready to work, until he/she is relieved from work and all responsibility for performing work. It includes driving; waiting to be dispatched; inspecting and servicing equipment; supervising, performing, or assisting in loading and unloading; repairing or obtaining and waiting for help with a disabled vehicle; performing driver requirements related to accidents; and performing any other work for the District or paid work for any entity.

The tests shall be required of an applicant only after he/she has been offered the position.

Exceptions may be made for drivers who have had the alcohol test required by law within the previous six (6) months and participated in the drug testing program required by law within the previous thirty (30) days, provided that the District has been able to make all verifications required by law.

#### Post-Accident Tests

Alcohol and controlled substance tests shall be conducted as soon after an accident as practicable on any driver:

- 1. Who was performing safety-sensitive functions with respect to the vehicle, if the accident involved loss of human life; or
- 2. Who receives a citation within 8 hours of the occurrence under state or local law, for a moving traffic violation arising from the accident if the accident involved:
  - (i) Bodily injury to any person who, as a result of the injury, immediately receives 43 medical treatment away from the scene of the accident; or
  - (ii) (ii) One or more motor vehicles incurring disabling damage as a result of the 45 accident, requiring the motor vehicle to be transported away from the scene by a 46 tow truck or other motor vehicle.

Disabling damage under the law means damage which precludes departure of a motor vehicle from the scene of the accident in its usual manner in daylight after simple repairs.

Accidents will be reported to the Superintendent or designee immediately. Drivers shall make themselves readily available for testing, absent the need for immediate medical attention. No such driver shall use alcohol for eight (8) hours after the accident, or until after he/she undergoes a post-accident alcohol test, whichever occurs first. If an alcohol test is not administered within two (2) hours or if a drug test is not administered within thirty-two (32) hours, the District shall prepare and maintain records explaining why the test was not conducted. Tests will not be given if not administered within eight (8) hours after the accident for alcohol or within thirty-two (32) hours for drugs. Tests conducted by authorized federal, state, or local officials will fulfill post-accident testing requirements, provided they conform to applicable legal requirements and are obtained by the District. Breath tests will validate only the alcohol test and cannot be used to fulfill controlled substance testing obligations.

#### Random Tests

Tests shall be conducted on a random basis at unannounced times throughout the year. Tests for alcohol shall be conducted just before, during, or just after the performance of safety-sensitive functions. The number of random alcohol tests annually must equal twenty-five percent (25%) of the average number of driver positions. The number of random drug tests annually must equal fifty percent (50%) of the average number of driver positions. Drivers shall be selected by a scientifically valid random process, and each driver shall have an equal chance of being tested each time selections are made.

#### Reasonable Suspicion Tests

Tests shall be conducted when a supervisor or District official trained in accordance with law has reasonable suspicion that the driver has violated the District's alcohol or drug prohibitions. This reasonable suspicion must be based on specific, contemporaneous, articulable observations concerning the driver's appearance, behavior, speech, or body odors. The observations may include indications of the chronic and withdrawal effects of controlled substances.

Alcohol tests are authorized for reasonable suspicion only if the required observations are made during, just before, or just after the period of the work day when the driver must comply with alcohol prohibitions. An alcohol test may not be conducted by the person who determines that reasonable suspicion exists to conduct such a test. If an alcohol test is not administered within two (2) hours of a determination of reasonable suspicion, the District shall prepare and maintain a record explaining why this was not done. Attempts to conduct alcohol tests shall terminate after eight (8) hours.

A supervisor or District official who makes observations leading to a controlled substance reasonable suspicion test shall make a written record of his/her observations within twenty-four (24) hours of the observed behavior or before the results of the drug test are released, whichever is earlier.

#### Enforcement

Any driver who refuses to submit to a post-accident, random, reasonable suspicion, or follow-up test shall not perform or continue to perform safety-sensitive functions.

Drivers who test positive for alcohol or drugs shall be subject to disciplinary action up to and including termination of employment.

A driver who violates District prohibitions related to drugs and alcohol shall receive from the District the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of substance abuse professionals and counseling and treatment programs available to evaluate and resolve drug and alcohol-related problems. The employee shall be evaluated by a substance abuse professional who shall determine what help, if any, the driver needs in resolving such a problem. Any substance abuse professional who determines that a driver needs assistance shall not refer the driver to a private practice, person, or organization in which he/she has a financial interest, except under circumstances allowed by law.

An employee identified as needing help in resolving a drug or alcohol problem shall be evaluated by a substance abuse professional to determine that he/she has properly followed the prescribed rehabilitation program and shall be subject to unannounced follow-up tests after returning to duty.

#### Return-to-Duty Tests

A drug or alcohol test shall be conducted when a driver who has violated the District's drug or alcohol prohibition returns to performing safety-sensitive duties.

Employees whose conduct involved drugs cannot return to duty in a safety-sensitive function until the return-to-duty drug test produces a verified negative result.

Employees whose conduct involved alcohol cannot return to duty in a safety-sensitive function until the return-to-duty alcohol test produces a verified result that meets federal and District standards.

#### Follow-Up Tests

A driver who violates the District's drug or alcohol prohibition and is subsequently identified by a substance abuse professional as needing assistance in resolving a drug or alcohol problem shall be subject to unannounced follow-up testing as directed by the substance abuse professional in accordance with law. Follow-up alcohol testing shall be conducted just before, during, or just after the time when the driver is performing safety-sensitive functions.

#### Records

Employee drug and alcohol test results and records shall be maintained under strict confidentiality and released only in accordance with law. Upon written request, a driver shall receive copies of any records pertaining to his/her use of drugs or alcohol, including any records pertaining to his/her drug or alcohol tests. Records shall be made available to a subsequent employer or other identified persons only as expressly requested in writing by the driver.

#### **Notifications**

Each driver shall receive educational materials that explain the requirements of the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 49, Part 382, together with a copy of the District's policy and regulations for meeting these requirements. Representatives of employee organizations shall be notified of the availability of this information. The information shall identify:

- 1. The person designated by the District to answer driver questions about the materials;
- 2. The categories of drivers who are subject to the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 49, Part 382;
- 3. Sufficient information about the safety-sensitive functions performed by drivers to make clear what period of the work day the driver is required to comply with Part 382;
- 4. Specific information concerning driver conduct that is prohibited by Part 382;
- 5. The circumstances under which a driver will be tested for drugs and/or alcohol under Part 382;
- 6. The procedures that will be used to test for the presence of drugs and alcohol, protect the driver and the integrity of the testing processes, safeguard the validity of test results, and ensure that test results are attributed to the correct driver;
- 7. The requirement that a driver submit to drug and alcohol tests administered in accordance with Part 382;
- 8. An explanation of what constitutes a refusal to submit to a drug or alcohol test and the attendant consequences;
- 9. The consequences for drivers found to have violated the drug and alcohol prohibitions of Part 382, including the requirement that the driver be removed immediately from safety- sensitive functions and the procedures for referral, evaluation, and treatment;
- 10. The consequences for drivers found to have an alcohol concentration of 0.02 or greater but less than 0.04; and
- 11. Information concerning the effects of drugs and alcohol on an individual's health, work, and personal life; signs and symptoms of a drug or alcohol problem (the driver's or a coworker's); and available methods of intervening when a drug or alcohol problem is suspected, including confrontation, referral to an employee assistance program, and/or referral to management; and,
- 12. The requirement that the following personal information collected and maintained under this part shall be reported to the Commercial Driver's License Drug and Alcohol Clearinghouse:

- A. A verified positive, adulterated, or substituted drug test result;
- B. An alcohol confirmation test with a concentration of 0.04 or higher;
- C. A refusal to submit to any test required by law;
- D. An employer's report of actual knowledge, as defined in law:
- E. On duty alcohol use;
- F. Pre-duty alcohol use;
- G. Alcohol use following an accident;
- H. Controlled substance use;
- I. A substance abuse professional report of the successful completion of the return-to-duty process;
- J. A negative return-to-duty test; and
- K. An employer's report of completion of follow-up testing.

Drivers shall also receive information about legal requirements, District policies, and disciplinary consequences related to the use of alcohol and drugs.

Each driver shall sign a statement certifying that he/she has received a copy of the above materials.

Before any driver operates a commercial motor vehicle, the District shall provide him/her with post-accident procedures that will make it possible to comply with post-accident testing requirements.

Before drug and alcohol tests are performed, the District shall inform drivers that the tests are given pursuant to the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 49, Part 382. This notice shall be provided only after the compliance date specified in law.

The District shall notify a driver of the results of a pre-employment drug test if the driver requests such results within sixty (60) calendar days of being notified of the disposition of his/ her employment application.

The District shall notify a driver of the results of random, reasonable suspicion, and post-accident drug tests if the test results are verified positive. The District shall also tell the driver which controlled substance(s) were verified as positive.

Drivers shall inform their supervisors if at any time they are using a controlled substance which their physician has prescribed for therapeutic purposes. Such a substance may be used only if the physician has advised the driver that it will not adversely affect his/her ability to safely operate a commercial motor vehicle.

#### Clearinghouse

The School District will comply with the requirements of the Commercial Driver's License Drug and Alcohol Clearinghouse. The School District and Transportation service providers are called upon to report DOT drug and alcohol testing program violations to the Clearinghouse. Drivers have been notified that any information subject to disclosure will be submitted to the Clearinghouse in accordance with this policy and applicable regulations.

Legal Reference:

49 C.F.R. Part 40

Procedures for Transportation Workplace Drug and

Alcohol Testing

49. C.F.R. Part 382

Controlled Substances and Alcohol Use and Testing

Procedure History:

Promulgated on: April 26, 1999

Reviewed on:

Revised on: January 20, 2020 Revised on: January 24, 2022 Revised on: April 26, 2022

## PERSONNEL 5230

## Prevention of Disease Transmission

All District personnel will be advised of routine procedures to follow in handling body fluids. These procedures, developed in consultation with public health and medical personnel, will provide simple and effective precautions against transmission of diseases to persons exposed to the blood or body fluids of another. The procedures will follow standard health and safety practices. No distinction will be made between body fluids from individuals with a known disease or infection and from individuals without symptoms or with an undiagnosed disease.

The District will provide training on procedures on a regular basis. Appropriate supplies will be available to all personnel, including those involved in transportation and custodial services.

Policy History:

Adopted on: April 26, 1999

Reviewed on:

Revised on: January 20, 2020



#### PERSONNEL

5232 page 1 of 2

## Child Abuse, Neglect, and Sex Trafficking Reporting

A District employee who has reasonable cause to suspect, as a result of information they receive in their professional or official capacity, that a child is abused, neglected, or subjected to sex trafficking by anyone regardless of whether the person suspected of causing the abuse, neglect, or trafficking is a parent or other person responsible for the child's welfare, shall report the matter promptly to the Department of Public Health and Human Services and local law enforcement.

Child abuse or neglect means actual physical or psychological harm to a child, substantial risk of physical or psychological harm to a child, exposure to or involvement with sex trafficking, and abandonment. This definition includes sexual abuse and sexual contact by or with a student. The obligation to report suspected child abuse or neglect also applies to actual or attempted sexual or romantic contact between a student and a staff member.

The District administration is authorized to provide access to educational resources for interested parents, teachers, and students on how to prevent and report child abuse, neglect and sex trafficking; identify the warning signs of child abuse, neglect and sex trafficking; recognize predatory behaviors; and coordinate efforts with law enforcement, the Department of Public Health and Human Services, and local organizations on these topics.

A District employee who makes a report of child abuse, neglect or sex trafficking is encouraged to notify the building administrator of the report. An employee does not discharge the obligation to personally report by notifying the Superintendent or Principal.

Any District employee who fails to report a suspected case of abuse, neglect, or sex trafficking to law enforcement or the Department of Public Health and Human Services, or who prevents another person from doing so, may be civilly liable for damages proximately caused by such failure or prevention and is guilty of a misdemeanor. The employee will also be subject to disciplinary action up to and including termination.

When a District employee makes a report, the Department of Health and Human Services may share information with that individual or others as permitted by law. Individuals in the District who receive information related to a report of child abuse, neglect or sex trafficking shall maintain the confidentiality of the information.

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Cross Reference:	Policy 5223	Personal Conduct
	Policy 3225	Sexual Harassment of Students
Legal Reference:	§ 41-3-201, MCA	Reports
	§ 41-3-202, MCA	Action on reporting
	§ 41-3-203, MCA	Immunity from liability
	§ 41-3-205, MCA	Confidentiality – disclosure exceptions
	§ 41-3-207, MCA	Penalty for failure to report
	§ 45-5-501, MCA	Definitions
	§ 45-5-502, MCA	Sexual Assault

Child Sex Trafficking Prevention

§ 20-7-1316, MCA

Policy History: Adopted on: April 26, 1999 Reviewed on:

Revised on: January 20, 2020 Revised on: January 24, 2022

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PERSONNEL 5314

#### Substitutes

The Board will regularly approve a list of acceptable substitutes for classified and certified staff that meet the guidelines as prescribed in this policy. Appearance on the substitute list authorizes the administration to call upon a substitute to temporarily work for the District, but does not guarantee employment.

All substitute employees will be required to undergo fingerprint and background checks. All substitute employees are subject to District Policies during their term of service to the District. All substitute employees shall abide by student and staff confidentiality standards during their term of service to the District.

## Substitute Certified Staff

The Board authorizes the use of substitute teachers that appear on the list to replace teachers who are temporarily absent. The principal shall arrange for the substitute to work for the absent teacher. Under no condition is a teacher to select or arrange for their own substitute. A substitute teacher may be employed to carry on a teacher's duties not to exceed 35 consecutive teaching days.

If the absence of the regular, licensed or authorized teacher continues for more than 35 consecutive teaching days, the board of trustees shall place a licensed teacher under contract or seek an emergency authorization of employment.

The Board annually establishes a daily rate of pay for substitute teachers. No fringe benefits are given to substitute teachers.

## Substitutes for Classified Staff

The Board authorizes the use of substitute employees that appear on the list to replace classified employees who are temporarily absent. The principal shall arrange for the substitute to work for the absent employee. Under no condition is an employee to select or arrange for their own substitute.

Substitutes for classified positions will be paid by the hour. When a classified employee is called upon to substitute for a teacher, the teacher sub rate shall apply unless the classified rate of pay is higher

Legal Reference:

10.55.716, ARM

Substitute teachers

10.55.716, ARM

Emergency Authorization of Employment

Policy History:

Adopted on: April 26, 1999

Reviewed on:

Revised on: September 22, 2003

Revised on: January 20, 2020

Revised on: January 24, 2022 Revised on April 26, 2022

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## PERSONNEL 5337

## Workers' Compensation Benefits

All employees of the District are covered by workers' compensation benefits. In the event of an industrial accident, an employee should:

- 1. Attend to first aid and/or medical treatment during an emergency;
- 2. Correct or report as needing correction a hazardous situation as soon as possible after an emergency situation is stabilized;
- 3. Report the injury or disabling condition, whether actual or possible, to the immediate supervisor, within forty-eight (48) hours, on the Employer's First Report of Occupational Injury or Disease; and
- 4. Call or visit the administrative office after medical treatment, if needed, to complete the necessary report of accident and injury on an Occupational Injury or Disease form.

The administrator will notify the immediate supervisor of the report and will include the immediate supervisor as necessary in completing the required report.

An employee who is injured in an industrial accident may be eligible for workers' compensation benefits. By law, employee use of sick leave must be coordinated with receipt of workers' compensation benefits, on a case-by-case basis, in consultation with the Workers' Compensation Division, Department of Labor and Industry.

The District will not automatically and simply defer to a report of industrial accident but will investigate as it deems appropriate to determine: (1) whether continuing hazardous conditions exist which need to be eliminated; and (2) whether in fact an accident attributable to the District working environment occurred as reported. The District may require the employee to authorize the employee's physician to release pertinent medical information to the District or to a physician of the District's choice, should an actual claim be filed against the Workers' Compensation Division, which could result in additional fees being levied against the District.

Legal Reference:

§§ 39-71-101, et seq., MCA Workers' Compensation Act

Policy History:

Adopted on: April 26, 1999

Reviewed on:

Revised on: January 20, 2020

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#### PERSONNEL

5450 page 1 of 2

## Employee use of Electronic Mail, Internet, Networks, and District Equipment

The District equipment, e-mail, and Internet systems are intended to be used for educational purposes only, and employees have no expectation of privacy. Employees have no expectation of privacy in district owned technology equipment, including but not limited to district-owned desktops, laptops, memory storage devices, and cell phones.

Users of District equipment, e-mail and Internet systems are responsible for their appropriate use. All illegal and improper uses of the equipment, e-mail, and Internet system, including but not limited to network etiquette violations including mail that degrades or demeans other individuals, pornography, obscenity, harassment, solicitation, gambling, and violating copyright or intellectual property rights, are prohibited. Abuse of the equipment, e-mail, or Internet systems through personal use, or use in violation of the law or District policies, will result in disciplinary action, up to and including termination of employment.

All e-mail/Internet records are considered District records and should be transmitted only to individuals who have a need to receive them. If the sender of an e-mail or Internet message does not intend for the e-mail or Internet message to be forwarded, the sender should clearly mark the message "Do Not Forward."

To keep District equipment, e-mail, and Internet systems secure, users shall not leave the terminal "signed on" when unattended and may not leave their password available in an obvious place near the terminal or share their password with anyone except the system administrator. The District reserves the right to bypass individual passwords at any time and to monitor the use of such systems by employees.

Additionally, District equipment, records, and e-mail/Internet records are subject to disclosure to law enforcement or government officials or to other third parties through subpoena or other process.

Consequently, the District retains the right to access stored records in cases where there is reasonable cause to expect wrongdoing or misuse of the system and to review, store, and disclose all information sent over the District e-mail systems for any legally permissible reason, including but not limited to determining whether the information is a public record, whether it contains information discoverable in litigation, and to access District information in the employee's absence. Employee e-mail/Internet messages may not necessarily reflect the views of the District.

All District employees should be aware that e-mail messages can be retrieved, even if they have been deleted, and that statements made in e-mail communications can form the basis of various legal claims against the individual author or the District.

All e-mail/Internet records are considered District records and should be transmitted only to individuals who have a need to receive them. E-mail sent or received by the District or the District's employees may be considered a public record subject to public disclosure or inspection. All District e-mail and Internet communications may be monitored.

## Policy History:

Adopted on: April 26, 1999

Reviewed on:

Revised on: January 20, 2020 Revised on: April 26, 2022

#### PERSONNEL

5450F page 1 of 3

# EMPLOYEE EQUIPMENT USE, INTERNET CONDUCT, AND NETWORK ACCESS AGREEMENT

Every staff member must read and sign below:

I have read, understand, and agree to abide by the terms of the School District's policy regarding District-Provided Access to Electronic Information, Equipment, Services, and Networks (Policies 5460 and 5460P). Should I commit any violation or in any way misuse my access to the District's computers, network and/or the Internet, I understand and agree that my access privilege may be revoked and school disciplinary action may be taken against me.

#### Terms and Conditions

- 1. Acceptable Use Access to the District's technology and electronic networks must be: (a) for the purpose of education or research and consistent with the educational objectives of the District; or (b) for legitimate business use.
- 2. Privileges The use of the District's technology and electronic networks is a privilege, not a right, and inappropriate use will result in cancellation of those privileges. The system administrator (and/or principal) will make all decisions regarding whether or not a user has violated these procedures and may deny, revoke, or suspend access at any time. That decision is final.
- 3. Unacceptable Use The user is responsible for his or her actions and activities involving the network. Some examples of unacceptable uses are:
  - a. Using the network for any illegal activity, including violation of copyright or other contracts, or transmitting any material in violation of any federal or state law;
  - b. Unauthorized downloading of software, regardless of whether it is copyrighted or devirused;
  - c. Downloading copyrighted material for other than personal use;
  - d. Using the network for private financial or commercial gain;
  - e. Wastefully using resources, such as file space;
  - f. Hacking or gaining unauthorized access to files, resources, or entities;
  - g. Invading the privacy of individuals, which includes the unauthorized disclosure, dissemination, and use of information of a personal nature about anyone;
  - h. Using another user's account or password;
  - i. Posting material authored or created by another, without his/her consent;
  - j. Posting anonymous messages;
  - k. Using the network for commercial or private advertising;

- 1. Accessing, submitting, posting, publishing, or displaying any defamatory, inaccurate, abusive, obscene, profane, sexually oriented, threatening, racially offensive, harassing, or illegal material; and
- m. Using the network while access privileges are suspended or revoked.
- 4. Network Etiquette The user is expected to abide by the generally accepted rules of network etiquette. These include but are not limited to the following:
  - a. Be polite. Do not become abusive in messages to others.
  - b. Use appropriate language. Do not swear or use vulgarities or any other inappropriate language.
  - c. Do not reveal personal information, including the addresses or telephone numbers, of students or colleagues.
  - d. Recognize that electronic mail (e-mail) is not private. People who operate the system have access to all mail. Messages relating to or in support of illegal activities may be reported to the authorities.
  - e. Do not use the network in any way that would disrupt its use by other users.
  - f. Consider all communications and information accessible via the network to be private property.
- 5. No Warranties The District makes no warranties of any kind, whether expressed or implied, for the service it is providing. The District will not be responsible for any damages the user suffers. This includes loss of data resulting from delays, non-deliveries, missed deliveries, or service interruptions caused by its negligence or the user's errors or omissions. Use of any information obtained via the Internet is at the user's own risk. The District specifically denies any responsibility for the accuracy or quality of information obtained through its services.
- 6. Indemnification The user agrees to indemnify the District for any losses, costs, or damages, including reasonable attorney fees, incurred by the District, relating to or arising out of any violation of these procedures.
- 7. Security Network security is a high priority. If the user can identify a security problem on the Internet, the user must notify the system administrator or building principal. Do not demonstrate the problem to other users. Keep your account and password confidential. Do not use another individual's account without written permission from that individual. Attempts to log on to the Internet as a system administrator will result in cancellation of user privileges. Any user identified as a security risk may be denied access to the network.
- 8. Vandalism and Damage Vandalism will result in cancellation of privileges, and other disciplinary action. Vandalism is defined as any malicious attempt to harm or destroy data of another user, the Internet, or any other network. This includes but is not limited to uploading or creation of computer viruses. The user is responsible for any unintentional damage to the District-owned equipment or technology that cause by the use or user's negligence. Such damage includes but is not limited to that caused by drops, spills, virus, exposure to heat and cold, or submersion.

9. Charges – The District assumes no responsibility for any unauthorized charges or fees, including telephone charges, long-distance charges, per-minute surcharges, and/ or equipment or line costs.

#### Internet Safety

- 1. Internet access is limited to only those "acceptable uses," as detailed in these procedures. Internet safety is almost assured if users will not engage in "unacceptable uses," as detailed in these procedures, and will otherwise follow these procedures.
- 2. Staff members shall supervise students while students are using District Internet access, to ensure that the students abide by the Terms and Conditions for Internet access, as contained in these procedures.
- 3. Each District computer with Internet access has a filtering device that blocks entry to visual depictions that are: (1) obscene; (2) pornographic; or (3) harmful or inappropriate for students, as defined by the Children's Internet Protection Act and determined by the Superintendent or designee.
- 4. The district shall provide age-appropriate instruction to students regarding appropriate online behavior. Such instruction shall include, but not be limited to: positive interactions with others online, including on social networking sites and in chat rooms; proper online social etiquette; protection from online predators and personal safety; and how to recognize and respond to cyberbullying and other threats.
- 5. The system administrator and principal shall monitor student Internet access.

I understand and will abide by the technology, equipment and network access policies. I understand that the District and/or its agents may access and monitor my use of the Internet, including my e-mail and downloaded material, without prior notice to me. I further understand that should I commit any violation, my access privileges may be revoked, and school disciplinary action and/or appropriate legal action may be taken. In consideration for using the District's issuance of technology, electronic network connection and having access to public networks, I hereby acknowledge the risk for any claims and damages arising from my use of, or inability to use the equipment, network, and Internet. I understand any negligence arising out of my use of equipment or networks shall be attributed to me as comparative negligence within the meaning of Section 27-1-702, MCA.

USER NAME (please print)	
USER SIGNATURE	DATE

Form History:

Adopted on: September 28, 1998 Re-adopted on: April 26, 1999

Reviewed on:

Revised on: June 24, 2002 Revised on: March 30, 2009 Revised on: January 20, 2020 Revised on: April 26, 2022

#### **PERSONNEL**

5450P page 1 of 3

## Employee Use of Electronic Mail, Internet, Networks, and District Equipment Procedure

All use of electronic networks shall be consistent with the District's goal of promoting educational excellence by facilitating resource sharing, innovation, and communication. These procedures do not attempt to state all required or proscribed behaviors by users. However, some specific examples are provided. The failure of any user to follow these procedures will result in the loss of privileges, disciplinary action, and/or appropriate legal action.

#### Terms and Conditions

- 1. Acceptable Use Access to the District's electronic networks must be: (a) for the purpose of education or research and consistent with the educational objectives of the District; or (b) for legitimate business use.
- 2. Privileges The use of the District's electronic networks is a privilege, not a right, and inappropriate use will result in cancellation of those privileges. The system administrator (and/or principal) will make all decisions regarding whether or not a user has violated these procedures and may deny, revoke, or suspend access at any time. That decision is final.
- 3. Unacceptable Use The user is responsible for his or her actions and activities involving the network. Some examples of unacceptable uses are:
  - a. Using the network for any illegal activity, including violation of copyright or other contracts, or transmitting any material in violation of any federal or state law;
  - b. Unauthorized downloading of software;
  - c. Downloading copyrighted material for other than personal use;
  - d. Using the network for private financial or commercial gain;
  - e. Wastefully using resources, such as file space;
  - f. Hacking or gaining unauthorized access to files, resources, or entities;
  - rg. Invading the privacy of individuals, which includes the unauthorized disclosure, dissemination, and use of information of a personal nature about anyone;
  - h. Using another user's account or password;
  - i. Posting material authored or created by another, without his/her consent;
  - j. Posting anonymous messages;
  - k. Using the network for commercial or private advertising;
  - 1. Accessing, submitting, posting, publishing, or displaying any defamatory, inaccurate, abusive, obscene, profane, sexually oriented, threatening, racially offensive, harassing, or illegal material; and
  - m. Using the network while access privileges are suspended or revoked.

- 4. Network Etiquette The user is expected to abide by the generally accepted rules of network etiquette. These include but are not limited to the following:
  - a. Be polite. Do not become abusive in messages to others.
  - b. Use appropriate language. Do not swear or use vulgarities or any other inappropriate language.
  - c. Do not reveal personal information, including the addresses or telephone numbers, of students or colleagues.
  - d. Recognize that electronic mail (e-mail) is not private. People who operate the system have access to all mail. Messages relating to or in support of illegal activities may be reported to the authorities.
  - e. Do not use the network in any way that would disrupt its use by other users.
  - f. Consider all communications and information accessible via the network to be private property.
- 5. No Warranties The District makes no warranties of any kind, whether expressed or implied, for the service it is providing. The District will not be responsible for any damages the user suffers. This includes loss of data resulting from delays, non-deliveries, missed deliveries, or service interruptions caused by its negligence or the user's errors or omissions. Use of any information obtained via the Internet is at the user's own risk. The District specifically denies any responsibility for the accuracy or quality of information obtained through its services.
- 6. Indemnification The user agrees to indemnify the District for any losses, costs, or damages, including reasonable attorney fees, incurred by the District, relating to or arising out of any violation of these procedures.
- 7. Security Network security is a high priority. If the user can identify a security problem on the Internet, the user must notify the system administrator or building principal. Do not demonstrate the problem to other users. Keep your account and password confidential. Do not use another individual's account without written permission from that individual. Attempts to log on to the Internet as a system administrator will result in cancellation of user privileges. Any user identified as a security risk may be denied access to the network.
- 8. Vandalism and Damage Vandalism will result in cancellation of privileges, and other disciplinary action. Vandalism is defined as any malicious attempt to harm or destroy data of another user, the Internet, or any other network. This includes but is not limited to uploading or creation of computer viruses. The user is responsible for any unintentional damage to the District-owned equipment or technology that cause by the use or user's negligence. Such damage includes but is not limited to that caused by drops, spills, virus, exposure to heat and cold, or submersion.
- 9. Charges The District assumes no responsibility for any unauthorized charges or fees, including telephone charges, long-distance charges, per-minute surcharges, and/ or equipment or line costs.
- 10. Copyright Web Publishing Rules Copyright law and District policy prohibit the republishing of text or graphics found on the Web or on District Websites or file servers, without explicit written permission.

- a. For each republication (on a Website or file server) of a graphic or text file that was produced externally, there must be a notice at the bottom of the page crediting the original producer and noting how and when permission was granted. If possible, the notice should also include the Web address of the original source.
- b. Students and staff engaged in producing Web pages must provide library media specialists with e-mail or hard copy permissions before the Web pages are published. Printed evidence of the status of "public domain" documents must be provided.
- c. The absence of a copyright notice may not be interpreted as permission to copy the materials. Only the copyright owner may provide the permission. The manager of the Website displaying the material may not be considered a source of permission.
- d. The "fair use" rules governing student reports in classrooms are less stringent and permit limited use of graphics and text.
- e. Student work may only be published if there is written permission from both the parent/guardian and the student.

### Internet Safety

- 1. Internet access is limited to only those "acceptable uses," as detailed in these procedures. Internet safety is almost assured if users will not engage in "unacceptable uses," as detailed in these procedures, and will otherwise follow these procedures.
- 2. Staff members shall supervise students while students are using District Internet access, to ensure that the students abide by the Terms and Conditions for Internet access, as contained in these procedures.
- 3. Each District computer with Internet access has a filtering device that blocks entry to visual depictions that are: (1) obscene; (2) pornographic; or (3) harmful or inappropriate for students, as defined by the Children's Internet Protection Act and determined by the Superintendent or designee.
- 4. The district shall provide age-appropriate instruction to students regarding appropriate online behavior. Such instruction shall include, but not be limited to: positive interactions with others online, including on social networking sites and in chat rooms; proper online social etiquette; protection from online predators and personal safety; and how to recognize and respond to cyberbullying and other threats.
- 5. The system administrator and principal shall monitor student Internet access.

Legal Reference:

Children's Internet Protection Act, P.L. 106-554

Broadband Data Services Improvement Act/Protecting Children in the 21st Century

Act of 2008 (P.L. 110-385)

20 U.S.C. § 6801, et seq.

Language instruction for limited English

proficient and immigrant students

47 U.S.C. § 254(h) and (l)

Universal service

Procedure History:

Adopted on: April 26, 2022

Reviewed on: Revised on:

PERSONNEL 5460 page 1 of 2

## Electronic Resources and Social Networking

The East Glacier Park Grade School, School District 50 recognizes that an effective public education system develops students who are globally aware, civically engaged, and capable of managing their lives and careers. The District also believes that students need to be proficient users of information, media, and technology to succeed in a digital world.

Public school employees are held to a high standard of behavior. The Montana Department of Education *Professional Educators of Montana Code of Ethics* requires District staff to maintain a professional relationship with each student, both in and outside the classroom. The District encourages all staff to read and become familiar with the Code of Ethics.

The School District staff shall not socialize with students on social networking websites (during school or out-of-school) in a manner contrary to this policy. Staff is reminded that the same relationship, exchange, interaction, information, or behavior that would be unacceptable in a non-technological medium, is unacceptable when done through the use of technology. In fact, due to the vastly increased potential audience digital dissemination presents, extra caution must be exercised by staff to ensure they don't cross the line of acceptability.

Specifically, the following forms of technology-based interactivity or connectivity are expressly forbidden when used in a manner not related to the delivery of educational services or district operations.

- Sharing personal landline or cell phone numbers with students for non-educational purposes;
- Text messaging students for non-educational purposes;
- Emailing students other than through and to school controlled and monitored accounts;
- Soliciting students as friends or contacts on social networking sites for non-educational purposes;
- Accepting the solicitation of students as friends or contacts on social networking sites for non-educational purposes;
- Creation of administratively approved and sanctioned "groups" on social networking sites that permit the broadcast of information without granting students access to staff member's personal information;
- Sharing with student's access information to personal websites or other media through which the staff member would share personal information and occurrences.

Accessing social networking websites for individual use during school hours is prohibited, unless asked to do so by administration. Except in an emergency, staff shall not access social networking sites using district equipment or personal equipment, including during breaks or preparation periods.

All School District employees who participate in social networking websites, shall not post any School District data, documents, photographs, logos, or other district owned or created information on any website. Further, the posting of any private or confidential School District material on such websites is strictly prohibited.

The Board directs the Superintendent or his/her designee to create strong electronic educational systems that support innovative teaching and learning, to provide appropriate staff development opportunities and to develop procedures to support this policy.

Staff should contact the administration if they would like to establish an educational related social media presence.

Cross Reference:

5015

Bullying/Harassment/Intimidation

5223

Personal Conduct

5255 E

Disciplinary Action

Professional Educators of Montana Code of Ethics

Policy History:

Adopted on: January 20, 2020

Reviewed on: Revised on:

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#### PERSONNEL

5510 page 1 of 4

#### **HIPAA**

#### Note:

(1) Any school district offering a group "health care plan" for its employees is affected by HIPAA. School districts offering health plans that are self-insured will be entirely responsible for compliance with HIPAA, despite a third party administrator managing the plan. School districts may also be subject to HIPAA as a "health care provider" by either having a school-based health center or a school nurse. School-based health centers staffed and serviced by a hospital or local health department are responsible for complying with HIPAA if there is a sharing of records containing health information. For those districts providing the services of a school nurse, HIPAA regulations issued in 2000 commented that an "educational institution that employs a school nurse is subject to [the] regulations as a health care provider if the school nurse or the school engaged in a HIPAA transaction." This transaction occurs when a school nurse submits a claim electronically.

(2) Any personally identifiable health information contained in an "education record" under FERPA is subject to FERPA, not HIPAA.

## Background

## Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA)

The District's group health plan is a Covered Entity under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) and its implementing regulations, the Standards for the Privacy of Individually Identifiable Information. In order to comply with HIPAA and its related regulations, the District has implemented the following HIPAA Privacy Policy:

#### The HIPAA Privacy Rule

HIPAA required the federal government to adopt national standards for *electronic health care transactions*. At the same time, Congress recognized that advances in electronic technology could erode the privacy of health information and determined there was a need for national privacy standards. As a result HIPAA included provisions which mandated the adoption of federal privacy standards for individually identifiable health information.

The standards found in the Privacy Rule are designed to protect and guard against the misuse of individually identifiable health information, with particular concern regarding employers using an employee's (or dependent's) health information from the group health plan to make adverse employment-related decisions. The Privacy Rule states that verbal, written, or electronic information that can be used to connect a person's name or identity with medical, treatment, or health history information is Protected Health Information (PHI) under the HIPAA Privacy Rule.

## Under the HIPAA Privacy Rule:

- 1. Individuals have a right to access and copy their health record to the extent allowed by HIPAA.
- 2. Individuals have the right to request an amendment to their health record. The plan may deny an individual's request under certain circumstances specified in the HIPAA Privacy Rule.

- 3. Individuals have the right to an accounting of disclosures of their health record for reasons other than treatment, payment, or healthcare operations.
- 4. PHI, including health, medical, and claims records, can be used and disclosed without authorization for specific, limited purposes (treatment, payment, or operations of the group health plan). A valid authorization from the individual must be provided for use or disclosure for other than those purposes.
- 5. Safeguards are required to protect the privacy of health information.
- 6. Covered entities are required to issue a notice of privacy practices to their enrollees.
- 7. Violators are held accountable with civil and criminal penalties for improper use or disclosure of PHI.

#### Compliance

The Clerk/Business Manager has been designated Privacy Officer. The Privacy Officer will oversee all ongoing activities related to the development, implementation, maintenance of, and adherence to the District's policies and procedures covering the privacy of and access to patient health information in compliance with HIPAA, other applicable federal and state laws, and the District's privacy practices.

As required for a Covered Entity under HIPAA, the plan has developed these internal privacy policies and procedures to assure that PHI is protected and that access to and use and disclosure of PHI are restricted in a manner consistent with HIPAA's privacy protections. The policies and procedures recognize routine and recurring disclosures for treatment, payment, and healthcare operations and include physical, electronic, and procedural safeguards to protect PHI. The procedures include safeguards for sending PHI via mail or fax, receiving PHI for plan purposes, and workstation safeguards and procedures for securing and retaining PHI received by the plan. Plan participants are entitled to receive a copy of the plan's policies and procedures upon request.

Designating a limited number of privacy contacts allows the District to control who is receiving PHI from the contract claims payor for plan operations purposes. The contract claims payor will provide only the minimum PHI necessary for the stated purpose and, as required under the Privacy Rule, will provide PHI only to individuals with a legitimate need to know for plan operations purposes.

The District has distributed a notice of privacy practices to plan participants. The notice informs plan participants of their rights and the District's privacy practices related to the use and disclosure of PHI. A copy of this notice may be obtained by contacting the Privacy Officer.

The District has reviewed how PHI is used and disclosed by the plan and has limited disclosure of that information to employees who have a legitimate need to know or possess the PHI for healthcare operations and functions. The District will make reasonable efforts to use de-identified information whenever possible in the operations of the plan and will only use the minimum PHI necessary for the stated purpose.

Some of the District's employees need access to PHI in order to properly perform the functions of their jobs. The District has identified these employees and has given them training in the important aspects of the HIPAA Privacy Rule, the privacy policy, and procedures. New employees who will have access to PHI will receive training on the HIPAA Privacy Rule and related policies and procedures as soon as reasonably possible after they are employed. Employees who improperly use or disclose PHI or misuse their access to that information may be subject to discipline, as deemed appropriate.

In the event the group health plan must disclose PHI in the course of performing necessary plan operations functions or as required by law or a governmental agency, the District has developed a system to record those disclosures and requests for disclosures. An individual may request a list of disclosures of his or her PHI made by the plan for other than treatment or claims payment purposes. All requests for an accounting of PHI disclosures must be made in writing, and the plan may impose fees for the cost of production of this information. Requests will be responded to within sixty (60) days. If the plan is not able to provide the requested information within sixty (60) days, a written notice of delay will be sent to the requesting individual, with the reasons for the delay and an estimated time for response.

In order to comply with the new privacy regulations, the plan has implemented compliant communication procedures. Except for its use in legitimate healthcare operations, written permission will be required in order for the District to disclose PHI to or discuss it with a third party.

The HIPAA Privacy Rule prohibits the District from disclosing medical information without the patient's written permission other than for treatment, payment, or healthcare operations purposes. An authorization signed by the patient and designating specified individuals to whom the District may disclose specified medical information must be on file, before the plan can discuss a patient's medical information with a third party (such as a spouse, parent, group health plan representative, or other individual).

The District has taken the following steps to ensure PHI is safeguarded:

- The District has implemented policies and procedures to designate who has and who does not have authorized access to PHI.
- Documents containing PHI are kept in a restricted/locked area.

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- Computer files with PHI are password protected and have firewalls making unauthorized access difficult.
- Copies of PHI will be destroyed when information is no longer needed, unless it is required by law to be retained for a specified period of time.
- The District will act promptly to take reasonable measures to mitigate any harmful effects known to the group health plan, due to a use or disclosure of PHI in violation of the plan's policies, procedures, or requirements of the HIPAA Privacy Rule.

• The District will appropriately discipline employees who violate the District's group health plan's policies, procedures, or the HIPAA Privacy Rule, up to and including termination of employment if warranted by the circumstances.

The District has received signed assurances from the plan's business associates that they understand the HIPAA Privacy Rule, applicable regulations, and the Privacy Policy and will safeguard PHI just as the plan would.

The contract claims payor and certain other entities outside the group health plan require access on occasion to PHI, if they are business associates of the group health plan and in that role need to use, exchange, or disclose PHI from the group health plan. The plan requires these entities to sign an agreement stating they understand HIPAA's privacy requirements and will abide by those rules just as the group health plan does, to protect the PHI to which they have access. For example the plan engages a certified public accountant to audit the plan annually and to make sure payments are made in compliance with the Plan Document. In order for the CPA to complete an audit, the auditor reviews a sample of the claims for accuracy.

The District will ensure health information will not be used in making employment and compensation decisions. The HIPAA Privacy Rule and other applicable laws expressly prohibit an employer from making adverse employment decisions (demotions, terminations, etc.) based on health information received from the group health plan. To the extent possible, the District has separated the plan operations functions from the employment functions and has safeguards in place to prevent PHI from the plan from going to or being used by an employee's supervisor, manager, or superior to make employment-related decisions.

### Complaints

If an employee believes their privacy rights have been violated, they may file a written complaint with the Privacy Officer. No retaliation will occur against the employee for filing a complaint. The contact information for the Privacy Officer is:

Business Manager/District Clerk
East Glacier Park Grade School, School District 50
PO Box 150
East Glacier Park, MT 50434-0150

Legal Reference:

45 C.F.R. Parts 160, 162, 161

Policy History:

Adopted on: January 20, 2020

Reviewed on: Revised on:

## **PERSONNEL**

5510F

## Request for Protected Health Information

This form should be used when release of a patient's protected health information is being made to the health care provider for an employee or student for a purpose other than treatment, payment or health care operations.
I,, hereby authorize
To use and/or disclose my protected health information described below to East Glacier Park Grade School, School District #50.
My protected health information will be used or disclosed upon request for the following purposes (name and explain each purpose):
This authorization for use and/or disclosure applies to the following information (please mark those that apply):
<ul> <li>Any and all records in the possession of the above-named physician or physician's practice, including mental health, HIV, and/or substance abuse records. (Please cross out any item you do not authorize to be released.)</li> <li>Records regarding treatment for the following condition or</li> </ul>
injury on or about
Records covering the period of time
☐ Other (Specify and include dates.)
I understand that I have the right to revoke this authorization, in writing, at any time by sending such written notification to above-named physician/practice. I also understand that my revocation is not effective to the extent that the persons I have authorized to use and/or disclose my protected health information have acted in reliance upon this authorization.
I understand that I do not have to sign this authorization and that the above-named physician/practice may not condition treatment or payment on whether I sign this authorization.
I understand that information used or disclosed pursuant to this authorization may be subject to re- disclosure by the recipient and no longer protected by federal laws and regulations regarding the privacy of my protected health information.
This authorization expires on the following date or event:
I certify that I have received a copy of this authorization.
Signature of Patient or Personal Representative Date

Personal Representative's Authority

Name of Patient or Personal Representative

PERSONNEL 5630

#### Employee Use of Mobile Devices

The Board recognizes that the use of mobile devices may be appropriate to help ensure the safety and security of District property, students, staff, and others while on District property or engaged in District-sponsored activities.

District-owned mobile devices will be used for authorized District business purposes. Unauthorized personal use of such equipment is prohibited except in emergency situations. Use of mobile devices in violation of Board policies, administrative regulations, and/or state/federal laws will result in discipline up to and including termination of employment.

District employees are prohibited from using mobile devices while driving or otherwise operating District-owned motor vehicles, or while driving or otherwise operating personally-owned vehicles for school district purposes.

#### Emergency Use

Staff is encouraged to use any available mobile device in the event of an emergency that threatens the safety of students, staff, or other individuals.

#### Use of Personal Mobile Devices

Employees are prohibited from using their personal mobile devices during the instructional period for non-instructional purposes. When necessary, employees may use their personal mobile devices only during non-instructional time. In no event shall an employee's use of a mobile device interfere with the employee's job obligations and responsibilities. If such use is determined to have interfered with an employee's obligations and responsibilities, the employee may be disciplined in accordance with the terms of the collective bargaining agreement and Board policies.

Policy History:

Adopted on: January 20, 2020

Reviewed on: Revised on:

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