

TABLE OF CONTENTS  
SERIES 400

400	Role of and Guiding Principles for Employees	1
401.1	Equal Employment Opportunities	2-3
401.2	Employee Conflict of Interest	4-5
401.3	Nepotism	6
401.4	Employee Complaints	7
401.5	Employee Records	8
401.5R1	Employee Records Regulation	9
401.6	Transporting of Students by Employee	10
401.7	Employee Travel Compensation	11
401.8	Recognition for Service of Employees	12
401.9	Employee Political Activity	13
401.10	Credit Cards	14
401.11	Employee Orientation	15
401.12	Employee Use of Cell Phones	16
401.12R1	Employee Use of Cell Phones Regulations	17
401.13	Staff Technology Use/Social Networking	18-19
401.13R1	Staff Technology Use Regulation	20-21
402.1	Release of Credit Information	22
402.2	Child Abuse Reporting	23
402.3	Abuse of Students by School District Employees	24
402.4	Gift to Employees	25-26
402.5	Public Complaints about Employees	27
402.6	Employee Outside Employment	28
403.1	Employee Physical Examinations	29
403.2	Employee Injury on the Job	30
403.3	Communicable Diseases - Employees	31
403.3E1	Hepatitis B Vaccine Information and Record	32-35
403.3R1	Universal Precautions Regulation	36-37
403.4	Hazardous Chemical Disclosure	38
403.5	Substance Free Workplace	39
403.5E1	Substance Free Workplace Notice to Employees	40
403.5R1	Substance Free Workplace Regulations	41
403.6	Drug and Alcohol Testing Program	42
403.6E1	Drug and Alcohol Testing Program Notice to Employees	43
403.6E2	Drug & Alcohol Program & Pre-Employment Testing Form	44
404	Employee Conduct and Appearance	45
405.1	Licensed Employee Defined	46
405.2	Licensed Employee Qualifications, Recruitment, Selection	47
405.3	Licensed Employee Individual Contracts	48
405.4	Licensed Employee Continuing Contracts	49
405.5	Licensed Employee Work Day	50
405.6	Licensed Employee Assignment	51
405.7	Licensed Employee Transfers	52
405.8	Licensed Employee Evaluation	53
405.9	Licensed Employee Probationary Status	54
406.1	Licensed Employee Salary Schedule	55
406.2	Licensed Employee Salary Schedule Advancement	56
406.3	Licensed Employee Continued Education Credit	57
406.4	Licensed Employee Compensation for Extra Duty	58
406.5	Licensed Employee Group Insurance Benefits	59

406.6	Licensed Employee Tax Shelter Programs	60
407.1	Licensed Employee Resignation	61
407.2	Licensed Employee Contract Release	62
407.4	Licensed Employee Suspension	63
407.5	Licensed Employee Reduction in Force	64
407.6	Retirement Savings Plan and Early Retirement Incentive Plan	65-67
407.6E1	Resignation and Election for Early Retirement	68
407.6E2	Waiver and Release	69
408.1	Licensed Employee Professional Development	70
408.2	Licensed Employee Publication or Creation of Materials	71
408.3	Licensed Employee Tutoring	72
409.1	Licensed Employee Vacation – Holidays – Personal Leave	73
409.2	Licensed Employee Personal Illness – Bereavement - Family Illness Leave	74-75
409.2R1	Licensed Employee Sick Bank	76
409.3	Licensed Employee Family and Medical Leave	77
409.3E1	Licensed Employee Family & Medical Leave Notice to Employees	78
409.3E2	Employee Family & Medical Leave Request Form	79-80
409.3R1	Employee Family & Medical Leave Regulation	81-86
409.3R2	Employee Family & Medical Leave Definitions	87-90
409.5	Licensed Employee Political Leave	91
409.6	Licensed Employee Jury Duty Leave	92
409.7	Licensed Employee Military Service Leave	93
409.8	Licensed Employee Unpaid Leave	94
410.1	Substitute Teachers	95
410.2	Summer School Licensed Employees	96
410.4	Education Aide/Para-Educator	97
411.1	Classified Employee Defined	98
411.2	Classified Employee – Qualifications, Recruitment, Selection	99
411.3	Classified Employee Contracts	100
411.4	Classified Employee Licensing/Certification	101
411.5	Classified Employee Assignment	102
411.6	Classified Employee Transfers	103
411.7	Classified Employee Evaluation	104
411.8	Classified Employee Probationary Status	105
412.1	Classified Employee Compensation	106
412.2	Classified Employee Wage and Overtime Compensation	107
412.3	Classified Employee Group Insurance Benefits	108
412.4	Classified Employee Tax Shelter Programs	109
413.1	Classified Employee Resignation	110
413.2	Classified Employee Retirement	111
413.3	Classified Employee Suspension	112
413.4	Classified Employee Dismissal	113
413.5	Classified Employee Reduction in Force	114
414.1	Classified Employee Vacation – Holidays – Personal Leave	115
414.2	Classified Employee Personal Illness Leave	116
414.3	Classified Employee Family and Medical Leave	117
414.3E1	Classified Employee Family & Medical Leave Notice to Employees	118
414.5	Classified Employee Political Leave	119
414.6	Classified Employee Jury Duty Leave	120
414.7	Classified Employee Military Service Leave	121
414.8	Classified Employee Unpaid Leave	122
414.9	Classified Employee Professional Purposes Leave	123

## ROLE OF AND GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR EMPLOYEES

This series of the board policy manual is devoted to the board's goals and objectives for employees in the performance of their jobs. Employees provide a variety of important services for the children of the school district community. They may be teaching or assisting in the classroom, working in the office, maintaining the facilities, driving or repairing the school buses, or cooking lunches. Each employee plays a vital role in providing an equal opportunity for a quality education for students commensurate with the students' individual needs. While the teachers have the most direct impact on the formal instruction of students, all employees have an impact on the school environment by their dedication to their work and their actions. As role models for the students, employees shall promote a cooperative, enthusiastic, and supportive learning environment for the students.

In striving to achieve a quality education program, the board's goal is to obtain and retain qualified and effective employees. The board shall have complete discretion to determine the number, the qualifications, and the duties of the positions and the school district's standards of acceptable performance. It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent to make recommendations to the board in these areas prior to board action. The board recognizes its duty to bargain collectively with duly certified collective bargaining units.

Board policies in this series relating to general employees shall apply to employees regardless of their position as a licensed employee, classified employee, substitute or administrator. Board policies relating to licensed employees shall apply to positions that require a teaching license or administrator's certificate or other professional license, certificate or endorsement, unless administrative positions are specifically excluded from the policy or a more specific policy is in the 300 series, Administration. Classified employees' policies included in this series shall apply to positions that do not fall within the definition of licensed employee.

Approved 12/17

Reviewed 11/17

Revised \_\_\_\_\_

## EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The Rock Valley Community School District will provide equal opportunity to employees and applicants for employment in accordance with applicable equal employment opportunity and affirmative action laws, directives and regulations of federal, state and local governing bodies. Opportunity to all employees and applicants for employment includes hiring, placement, promotion, transfer or demotion, recruitment, advertising or solicitation for employment, treatment during employment, rates of pay or other forms of compensation, and layoff or termination. The school district will take affirmative action in major job categories where women, men, minorities and persons with disabilities are underrepresented. Employees will support and comply with the district's established equal employment opportunity and affirmative action policies. Employees will be given notice of this policy annually.

The board will appoint an affirmative action coordinator. The affirmative action coordinator will have the responsibility for drafting the affirmative action plan. The affirmative action plan will be reviewed by the board at least every two years.

Individuals who file an application with the school district will be given consideration for employment if they meet or exceed the qualifications set by the board, administration, and Iowa Department of Education for the position for which they apply. In employing individuals, the board will consider the qualifications, credentials, and records of the applicants without regard to race, color, creed, sex, national origin, religion, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, or disability. In keeping with the law, the board will consider the veteran status of applicants.

Prior to a final offer of employment for any position (involving contact with students) the school district will perform criminal, child abuse and sexual abuse background checks. The district may determine on a case-by-case basis that, based on the duties, some positions within the district will require more thorough background checks. Based upon the results of the background checks, the school district will determine whether an offer will be extended. If the candidate is a teacher who has received an initial license from the BOEE then the requirement for a background check is waived.

Advertisements and notices for vacancies within the district will contain the following statement: "The Rock Valley Community School District is an EEO/AA employer." The statement will also appear on application forms.

Inquiries by employees or applicants for employment regarding compliance with equal employment opportunity and affirmative action laws and policies, including but not limited to complaints of discrimination, will be directed to the Affirmative Action Coordinator by writing to the Affirmative Action Coordinator, Rock Valley Community School District, 1712 20<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Rock Valley, Iowa 51247; or by telephoning 712-476-2701.

Inquiries by employees or applicants for employment regarding compliance with equal employment opportunity and affirmative action laws and policies, including but not limited to complaints of discrimination, may also be directed to the Equal Employment Opportunity Commissions, 500 W Madison St, Suite 2000, Chicago, IL 60661, (800) 669-4000 or TTY (800) 669-6820. <http://www.eeoc.gov/field/chicago/> or the Iowa Civil Rights Commission, 400 E. 14<sup>th</sup> Street, Des Moines, Iowa, 50319-1004, (515) 281-4121 or 1-800-457-4416, <http://www.iowa.gov/government/crc/>. This inquiry or complaint to the federal office may be done instead of, or in addition to, an inquiry or complaint at the local level.

Approved 12/17Reviewed 11/17

Revised \_\_\_\_\_

## EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Further information and copies of the procedures for filing a complaint are available in the school district's central administrative office and the administrative office in each attendance center.

Legal Reference: 29 U.S.C. §§ 621-634 (2012).  
42 U.S.C. §§ 2000e et seq. (2012).  
42 U.S.C. §§ 12101 et seq. (2012).  
Iowa Code §§ 19B; 20; 35C; 73; 216; 279.8 (2013);  
281 I.A.C. 12.4; 95.

Cross Reference: 102 Equal Educational Opportunity  
104 Bullying/Harassment  
405.2 Licensed Employee Qualifications, Recruitment, Selection  
411.2 Classified Employee Qualifications, Recruitment, Selection

## EMPLOYEE CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Employees' use of their position with the school district for financial gain is considered a conflict of interest with their position as employees and may subject employees to disciplinary action.

Employees have access to information and a captive audience that could award the employee personal or financial gain. No employee may solicit other employees or students for personal or financial gain to the employee without the approval of the superintendent. If the approval of the superintendent is given, the employee must conduct the solicitations within the conditions set by the superintendent. Further, the superintendent may, upon five days notice, require the employee to cease such solicitations as a condition of continued employment.

Employees will not act as an agent or dealer for the sale of textbooks or other school supply companies doing business with the school district. Employees will not participate for personal financial remuneration in outside activities wherein their position on the staff is used to sell goods or services to students or to parents. Employees will not engage in outside work or activities where the source of information concerning the customer, client or employer originates from information obtained because of the employee's position in the school district.

It will also be a conflict of interest for an employee to engage in any outside employment or activity which is in conflict with the employee's official duties and responsibilities. In determining whether outside employment or activity of an employee creates a conflict of interest, situations in which an unacceptable conflict of interest is deemed to exist will include, but not be limited to, any of the following:

- (1) The outside employment or activity involves the use of the school district's time, facilities, equipment and supplies or the use of the school district's badge, uniform, business card or other evidences of office to give the employee or the employee's immediate family an advantage or pecuniary benefit that is not available to other similarly situated members or classes of members of the general public. For purposes of this section, a person is not "similarly situated" merely by being related to an employee who is employed by the school district.
- (2) The outside employment or activity involves the receipt of, promise of, or acceptance of more or other consideration by the employee or a member of the employee's immediate family from anyone other than the school district for the performance of any act that the employee would be required or expected to perform as part of the employee's regular duties or during the hours during which the employee performs service or work for the school district.
- (3) The outside employment or activity is subject to the official control, inspection, review, audit or enforcement authority of the employee during the performance of the employee's duties.

If the outside employment or activity is employment or activity in (1) or (2) above, the employee must cease the employment of or activity. If the activity or employment falls under (3), then the employee must:

- Cease the outside employment or activity; or,
- Publicly disclose the existence of the conflict and refrain from taking any official action or performing any official duty that would detrimentally affect or create a benefit for the outside employment or activity. Official action or official duty includes, but is not limited to, participating in any vote, taking affirmative action to influence any vote, or providing any other official service or thing that is not available generally to members of the public in order to further the interests of the outside employment or activity.

EMPLOYEE CONFLICT OF INTEREST

When procurement is supported by Federal Child Nutrition funds, employees will not participate in the selection, award, or administration of a contract if there is a real or apparent conflict of interest in the contract. Contract, for purposes of this paragraph, includes a contract where the employee, employee's immediate family, partner or a non-school district employer of these individuals is a party to the contract.

It is the responsibility of each employee to be aware of and take the necessary action to eliminate a potential conflict of interest should it arise.

Legal Reference: 7 C.F.R. 3016.36(3)  
Iowa Code §§ 20.7; 68B; 279.8; 301.28 (2013).

Cross Reference: 203 Board of Directors' Conflict of Interest  
402.4 Gifts to Employees  
402.7 Employee Outside Employment  
404 Employee Conduct and Appearance

Approved 12/17

Reviewed 11/17

Revised \_\_\_\_\_

NEPOTISM

More than one family member may be an employee of the school district. It is within the discretion of the superintendent to allow one family member employed by the school district to supervise another family member employed by the school district subject to the approval of the board.

The employment of more than one individual in a family is on the basis of their qualifications, credentials and records.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 20; 71; 277.27; 279.8 (2013).

Cross Reference: 405.2 Licensed Employee Qualifications, Recruitment Selection  
411.2 Classified Employee Qualifications, Recruitment Selection

Approved 12/17

Reviewed 11/17

Revised \_\_\_\_\_



## EMPLOYEE COMPLAINTS

Complaints of employees against fellow employees should be discussed directly between employees. If necessary, complaints will be brought directly to the immediate supervisor, principal or superintendent and will be made in a constructive and professional manner. Complaints will never be made in the presence of other employees, students or outside persons.

A formal grievance procedure will be spelled out in board policy. Further, the complaint will be written and will identify the specifics of the issue including the problem, employees involved and necessary corrections that the grieved employee recommends.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 20.7, .9; 279.8

Cross Reference: 307 Communication Channels

Approved 12/17

Reviewed 11/17

Revised \_\_\_\_\_

EMPLOYEE RECORDS

The school district will maintain personnel records on employees. The records are important for the daily administration of the educational program, for implementing board policy, for budget and financial planning, and for meeting state and federal requirements.

The records will include, but not be limited to, records necessary for the daily administration of the school district, salary records, evaluations, application for employment, references, and other items needed to carry out board policy. Employee personnel files are school district records and are considered confidential records and therefore are not generally open to public inspection or accessibility. Only in certain limited instances, when the employee has given a signed consent, will employee personnel records be accessible to individuals other than the employee or authorized school officials.

Employees may have access to their personnel files, with the exception of letters of reference, and copy items from their personnel files at a time mutually agreed upon between the superintendent and the employee. The school district may charge a reasonable fee for each copy made. However, employees will not be allowed access to the employment references written on behalf of the employee. Board members will generally only have access to an employee's file when it is necessary because of an employee related matter before the board.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent to keep employees' personnel files current. The board secretary, or designee, is the custodian of employee records.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent to develop administrative regulations for the implementation of this policy.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code chs. 20; 21; 22; 91B (2013).

Cross Reference: 402.1 Release of Credit Information  
403 Employees' Health and Well-Being  
708 Care, Maintenance and Disposal of School District Records

Approved 12/17

Reviewed 11/17

Revised \_\_\_\_\_

## EMPLOYEE RECORDS REGULATION

## Employee Personnel Records Content

1. Employee personnel records may contain the following information:
  - Personal information including, but not limited to, name, address, telephone number, emergency numbers, birth date and spouse.
  - Individual employment contract.
  - Evaluations.
  - Application, resume and references.
  - Salary information.
  - Copy of the employee's license or certificate, if needed for the position.
  - Educational transcripts.
  - Assignment.
  - Records of disciplinary matters.
  
2. Employee health and medical records are kept in a file separate from the employee's personnel records. Health and medical records may contain, but are not limited to:
  - Medical professional signed physical form.
  - Sick or long-term disability leave days.
  - Worker's compensation claims.
  - Reasonable accommodation made by the school district to accommodate the employee's disability.
  - Employee's medical history.
  - Employee emergency names and numbers.
  - Family and medical leave request forms.

## Applicant File Records Content

Records on applicants for positions with the school district are maintained in the central administration office. The records will include, but not be limited to:

- Application for employment.
- Resume.
- References.
- Evidence of appropriate license or certificate, if necessary for the position for which the individual applied.
- Affirmative action form, if submitted.

## Record Access

Only authorized school officials will have access to an employee's records without the written consent of the employee. Authorized school officials may include, but not be limited to, the superintendent, building principal, or board secretary or designee. In the case of a medical emergency, the school nurse or other first aid or safety personnel may have access to the employee's health or medical file without the consent of the employee. Board members will generally only have access to an employee's personnel file without the consent of the employee when necessary for the conducting of board business.

## Employee Record Retention

All employee records, except payroll and salary records, are maintained for a minimum of seven years after termination of employment with the district. Applicant records are maintained for minimum of three years after the position was filled. Payroll and salary records are maintained for a minimum of three years after payment.

TRANSPORTING OF STUDENTS BY EMPLOYEES

Generally, transportation of students is in a motor vehicle owned by the school district and driven by an employee. In some cases, it may be more economical or efficient for the school district to allow an employee of the school district to transport the students in the employee's motor vehicle.

However, employees who transport students (in the employee's car) for school purposes must have the permission of the superintendent. In the absence of the Superintendent the building principal may grant such a request.

This policy statement applies to transportation of students for school purposes in addition to the regular bus route transporting students to and from their designated attendance center.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code chs. 285; 321 (2013).

Cross Reference: 401.7 Employee Travel Compensation  
711 Transportation  
904.1 Transporting Students in Private Vehicles

Approved 12/17

Reviewed 11/17

Revised \_\_\_\_\_

## EMPLOYEE TRAVEL COMPENSATION

Employees traveling on behalf of the school district and performing approved school district business will be reimbursed according to district fee schedule. Actual and necessary travel expenses will include, but not be limited to, transportation and/or mileage costs, lodging expenses, meal expenses and registration costs according to district fee schedule.

## Travel Outside the School District

Travel outside of the school district must be pre-approved. Pre-approval will include an evaluation of the necessity of the travel, the reason for the travel and an estimate of the cost of the travel to qualify as approved school district business. Travel outside the school district by employees, other than the superintendent, is approved by the superintendent or designee.

Reimbursement for actual and necessary expenses will be allowed for travel outside the school district if the employee received pre-approval for the travel. Prior to reimbursement of actual and necessary expenses, the employee must provide the school district with a detailed receipt, indicating the date, purpose and nature of the expense for each claim item. In exceptional circumstances, the superintendent may allow a claim without proper receipt. Written documentation explaining the exceptional circumstances is maintained as part of the school district's record of the claim.

Failure to have a detailed receipt will make the expense a personal expense. Personal expenses, including mileage, in excess of that required for the trip are reimbursed by the employee to the school district no later than 10 working days following the date of the expense.

Reimbursement for actual and necessary expenses for travel outside the school district will be limited to the pre-approved expenses according to the district fee schedule.

Pre-approved expenses for transportation within three-hundred miles of the school district administrative office will be by automobile. If a school district vehicle is not available, the employee will be reimbursed 67% of IRS rate cents per mile. Pre-approved expenses for transportation outside of three-hundred miles of the school district administrative office may be by public carrier. Reimbursement for air travel will require the approval of the Superintendent.

Legal Reference: Iowa Constitution, Art. III, § 31.  
Iowa Code §§ 70A.9-.11 (2013).  
1980 Op. Att'y Gen. 512.

Cross Reference: 216.3 Board of Directors' Member Compensation and Expenses  
401.6 Transporting of Students by Employees  
401.10 Credit Cards  
904.1 Transporting Students in Private Vehicles

Approved 12/17

Reviewed 11/17

Revised \_\_\_\_\_

RECOGNITION FOR SERVICE OF EMPLOYEES

The board recognizes and appreciates the service of its employees. Employees who retire or resign may be honored by the board, administration and staff in an appropriate manner.

If the form of honor thought appropriate by the administration and employees involves unusual expense to the school district, the superintendent will seek prior approval from the board.

Legal Reference: Iowa Const. Art. III, § 31.  
Iowa Code § 279.8 (2013).  
1980 Op. Att'y Gen. 102.

Cross Reference: 407 Licensed Employee Termination of Employment  
413 Classified Employee Termination of Employment

Approved 12/17

Reviewed 11/17

Revised \_\_\_\_\_

EMPLOYEE POLITICAL ACTIVITY

Employees will not engage in political activity upon property under the jurisdiction of the board including the use of school district e-mail accounts. Activities including, but not limited to, posting of political circulars or petitions, the distribution of political circulars or petitions, the collection of or solicitation for campaign funds, solicitation for campaign workers, general information regarding elections or ballot issues and the use of students for writing or addressing political materials, or the distribution of such materials to or by students are specifically prohibited.

Violation of this policy may be grounds for disciplinary action.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 55; 279.8 (2013).

Cross Reference: 409.5 Licensed Employee Political Leave  
414.5 Classified Employee Political Leave

Approved 12/17

Reviewed 11/17

Revised \_\_\_\_\_

CREDIT CARDS

Employees may use school district credit cards for the actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of work-related duties. Actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of work-related duties include, but not are limited to, fuel for school district transportation vehicles used for transporting students to and from school and for school-sponsored events, payment of claims related to professional development of the board and employees, and other expenses required by employees and the board in the performance of their duties.

Employees and officers using a school district credit card must submit a detailed receipt in addition to a credit card receipt indicating the date, purpose and nature of the expense for each claim item. Failure to provide a proper receipt will make the employee responsible for expenses incurred. Those expenses are reimbursed to the school district no later than ten working days following use of the school district's credit card. In exceptional circumstances, the superintendent or board may allow a claim without proper receipt. Written documentation explaining the exceptional circumstances is maintained as part of the school district's record of the claim.

The school district may maintain a school district credit card for actual and necessary expenses incurred by certain employees and officers in the performance of their duties. The superintendent may maintain a school district credit card for actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of the superintendent's duties. The business manager may maintain a school district credit card for fueling school district transportation vehicles in accordance with board policy.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent to determine whether the school district credit card use is for appropriate school business. It is the responsibility of the board to determine through the audit and approval process of the board whether the school district credit card use by the superintendent and the board is for appropriate school business.

The superintendent is responsible for developing administrative regulations regarding actual and necessary expenses and use of a school district credit card. The administrative regulations will include the appropriate forms to be filed for obtaining a credit card.

Legal Reference: Iowa Constitution, Art. III, § 31.  
Iowa Code §§ 279.8, .29, .30 (2013).  
281 I.A.C. 12.3(1).

Cross Reference: 219.3 Board of Directors' Member Compensation and Expenses  
401.7 Employee Travel Compensation

Approved 12/17

Reviewed 11/17

Revised \_\_\_\_\_



EMPLOYEE ORIENTATION

Employees must know their role and duties. New employees may be required to participate in an orientation program for new employees. The employee's immediate supervisor should provide the new employee with a review of the employee's responsibilities and duties. Payroll procedures and employee benefit programs and accompanying forms will be explained to the employee by the business manager. Regular employees ineligible for the school district's group health plan will be given information regarding where they can obtain health care or health care insurance.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 20; 279.8 (2013).  
191 I.A.C. 74.

Cross Reference: 404 Employee Conduct and Appearance  
406 Licensed Employee Compensation and Benefits  
412 Classified Employee Compensation and Benefits

Approved 12/17

Reviewed 11/17

Revised \_\_\_\_\_

EMPLOYEE USE OF CELL PHONES

The use of cell phones and other communication devices may be appropriate to provide for the effective and efficient operation of the School district and to help ensure safety and security of people and property while on School district property or engaged in school-sponsored activities.

The Board authorizes the purchase and employee use of cell phones as deemed appropriate by the superintendent. Use of cell phones in violation of board policies, administrative regulations, and/or state/federal laws will result in discipline, up to and including dismissal, and referral to law enforcement officials, as appropriate.

The superintendent is directed to develop administrative regulations for the implementation of this policy, including a uniform and controlled system for identifying employee cell phone need and monitoring use. Provisions may also be included for staff use of privately owned cell phone for authorized school district business.

Employees may possess and use cell phones during the school day as outlined in this policy. Employees should not use cell phones for personal business while on-duty, including staff development times, parent-teacher conferences, etc., except in the case of an emergency or during prep time or break/lunch times.

School bus drivers are prohibited from using any communication device while operating the bus except in the case of an emergency, or to call for assistance, after the vehicle has been stopped. Employees violating the policy will be subject to discipline, up to and including, discharge.

Approved 12/17

Reviewed 11/17

Revised \_\_\_\_\_

EMPLOYEE USE OF CELL PHONES REGULATION

1. Cell phones shall be used in a manner that does not disrupt instruction and should not be used during school-sponsored programs, meetings, in-services, or other events where there exists a reasonable expectation of quiet attentiveness unless there is a reason of personal health or safety involved.
2. Employees issued a cell phone are responsible for its safekeeping at all times. Defective, lost or stolen cell phones are to be reported immediately to the superintendent who will in turn notify the service provider. Reckless or irresponsible use of school district equipment, resulting in loss or damage may result in the employee having to reimburse the school district for any associated costs of replacement or repair.
3. Insurance on district-provided cell phones shall be the responsibility of the employee.

Cell Phone Authorization - School district-provided cell phones may be purchased and authorized for staff use in accordance with the following guidelines:

1. The assignment of a cell phone device to the employee is a prudent use of school district resources.
2. The employee's job responsibilities require the ability to communicate frequently and access to a school district or public telephone is not readily available.
3. The employee's job involves situations where immediate communication is necessary to ensure the safety of individuals and security of school district property.

## STAFF TECHNOLOGY USE/SOCIAL NETWORKING

Computers are a powerful and valuable education and research tool and, as such, are an important part of the instructional program. In addition, the school district depends upon computers as an integral part of administering and managing the schools' resources, including the compilation of data and recordkeeping for personnel, students, finances, supplies and materials. This policy outlines the board's expectations in regard to these different aspects of the school district's computer resources. Employees must conduct themselves in a manner that does not disrupt from or disrupt the educational process and failure to do so will result in discipline, up to and including, discharge.

### General Provisions

The superintendent is responsible for designating a computer network coordinator or designee who will oversee the use of school district computer resources. The computer network coordinator or designee will prepare inservice programs for the training and development of school district staff in computer skills, appropriate use of computers and for the incorporation of computer use in subject areas.

The superintendent, working with appropriate staff, shall establish regulations governing the use and security of the school district's computer resources. The school district will make every reasonable effort to maintain the security of the system. All users of the school district's computer resources, including students, staff and volunteers, shall comply with this policy and regulation as well as others impacting the use of school equipment and facilities. Failure to comply may result in disciplinary action, up to and including discharge, as well as suspension and/or revocation of computer access privileges.

Usage of the school district's computer resources is a privilege, not a right, and that use entails responsibility. All information on the school district's computer system is considered a public record. Whether there is an exception to keep some narrow, specific contact within the information confidential is determined on a case by case basis. Therefore, users of the school district's computer network must not expect, nor does the school district guarantee, privacy for e-mail or use of the school district's computer network including web sites visited. The school district reserves the right to access and view any material stored on school district equipment or any material used in conjunction with the school district's computer network.

### Social Networking or Other External Web Sites

For purposes of this policy and web site, other than the school district web site or school-school district sanctioned web sites, are considered external web sites. Employees shall not post confidential or proprietary information, including photographic images, about the school district, its employees, students, agents or others on any external web site without consent of the superintendent. The employee shall adhere to all applicable privacy and confidentiality policies adopted by the school district when on external web sites. Employees shall not use the school district logos, images, iconography, etc. on external web sites. Employees shall not use school district time or property on external sites that are not in direct-relations to the employee's job. Employees, students and volunteers need to realize that the Internet is not a closed system and anything posted on an external site may be viewed by others, all over the world. Employees, students and volunteers who don't want school administrators to know their personal information, should refrain from exposing it on the Internet. Employees should not connect with students via external web sites without the consent of the superintendent. Employees, who would like to start a social media site for school district sanctioned activities, should contact the superintendent or superintendent designee.

Approved 12/17

Reviewed 11/17

Revised \_\_\_\_\_

It is the responsibility of the superintendent to develop administrative regulations implementing this policy.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code § 279.8 (2013)  
281 I.A.C. 13.13, .26

Cross Reference: 104 Anti-Bullying/Harassment  
306 Administrator Code of Ethics  
401.11 Employee Orientation  
407 Licensed Employee Termination of Employment  
413 Classified Employee Termination of Employment  
605 Instructional Materials

## STAFF TECHNOLOGY USE REGULATION

### General

The following rules and regulations govern the use of the school district's computer network system, employee access to the Internet, and management of computerized records:

- Employees will be issued a school district e-mail account. Passwords must be changed periodically.
- Each individual in whose name an access account is issued is responsible at all times for its proper use.
- Employees are expected to review their e-mail regularly throughout the day, and shall reply promptly to inquiries with information that the employee can reasonably be expected to provide.
- Communications with parents and/or students must be made, unless in the case of an emergency, and should be saved and the school district will archive the e-mail records according to procedures developed by the superintendent.
- Employees may access the Internet for education-related and/or work-related activities.
- Employees shall refrain from using computer resources for personal use, including access to social networking sites.
- Use of the school district computers and school e-mail address is a public record. Employees cannot have an expectation of privacy in the use of the school district's computers.
- Use of computer resources in ways that violate the acceptable use and conduct regulation, outlined below, will be subject to discipline, up to and including discharge.
- Use of the school district's computer network is a privilege, not a right. Inappropriate use may result in the suspension or revocation of that privilege.
- Off-site access to the school district computer network will be determined by the superintendent in conjunction with appropriate personnel.
- All network users are expected to abide by the generally accepted rules of network etiquette. This includes being polite and using only appropriate language. Abusive language, vulgarities and swear words are all inappropriate.
- Network users identifying a security problem on the school district's network must notify appropriate staff. Any network user identified as a security risk or having a history of violations of school district computer use guidelines may be denied access to the school district's network.

### Prohibited Activity and Uses

The following is a list of prohibited activity for all employees concerning use of the school district's computer network. Any violation of these prohibitions may result in discipline, up to and including discharge, or other appropriate penalty, including suspension or revocation of a user's access to the network.

- Using the network for commercial activity, including advertising, or personal gain.
- Infringing on any copyrights or other intellectual property rights, including copying, installing, receiving, transmitting or making available any copyrighted software on the school district computer network.
- Using the network to receive, transmit or make available to others obscene, offensive, or sexually explicit material.
- Using the network to receive, transmit or make available to others messages that are racist, sexist, and abusive or harassing to others.
- Use of another's account or password.
- Attempting to read, delete, copy or modify the electronic mail (e-mail) of other system users.

- Forging or attempting to forge e-mail messages.
- Engaging in vandalism. Vandalism is defined as any malicious attempt to harm or destroy school district equipment or materials, data of another user of the school district's network or of any of the entities or other networks that are connected to the Internet. This includes, but is not limited to, creating and/or placing a computer virus on the network.
- Using the network to send anonymous messages or files.
- Revealing the personal address, telephone number or other personal information of oneself or another person.
- Intentionally disrupting network traffic or crashing the network and connected systems.
- Installing personal software or using personal disks on the school district's computers and/or network without the permission of the computer network coordinator.
- Using the network in a fashion inconsistent with directions from teachers and other staff and generally accepted network etiquette.

RELEASE OF CREDIT INFORMATION

The following information will be released to an entity with whom an employee has applied for credit or has obtained credit: title of position, income, and number of years employed. This information will be released without prior written notice to the employee. Confidential information about the employee will be released to an inquiring creditor with a written authorization from the employee.

It is the responsibility of the board secretary or superintendent to respond to inquiries from creditors.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 22.7; 279.8 (2013).

Cross Reference: 401.5 Employee Records

Approved 12/17

Reviewed 11/17

Revised \_\_\_\_\_



## CHILD ABUSE REPORTING

In compliance with state law and to provide protection to victims of child abuse, the board believes incidents of alleged child abuse should be reported to the proper authorities. Employees are encouraged, and licensed employees are required as mandatory reporters, to report alleged incidents of child abuse they become aware of within the scope of their professional duties.

When a mandatory reporter suspects a student is the victim of child abuse, the mandatory reporter will orally or in writing notify the Iowa Department of Human Services. If the mandatory reporter believes the child is in immediate danger, the local law enforcement agency will also be notified. Within forty-eight hours of the oral report, the mandatory reporter will file a written report with the Iowa Department of Human Services.

Within six months of their initial employment, mandatory reporters will take a two-hour training course involving the identification and reporting of child abuse, or submit evidence they've taken the course within the previous five years. The course will be re-taken at least every five years.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 232.67-.77; 232A; 235A; 280.17 (2013).  
441 I.A.C. 9.2; 155; 175.  
1982 Op. Att'y Gen. 390, 417.  
1980 Op. Att'y Gen. 275.

Cross Reference: 402.3 Abuse of Students by School District Employees  
502.9 Interviews of Students by Outside Agencies  
507 Student Health and Well-Being

Approved 12/17

Reviewed 11/17

Revised \_\_\_\_\_

ABUSE OF STUDENTS BY SCHOOL DISTRICT EMPLOYEES

Physical or sexual abuse of students, including inappropriate and intentional sexual behavior, by employees will not be tolerated. The definition of employees for the purpose of this policy includes not only those who work for pay but also those who are volunteers of the school district under the direction and control of the school district. Employees found in violation of this policy will be subject to disciplinary action up to and including discharge.

The school district will respond promptly to allegations of abuse of students by school district employees by investigating or arranging for the investigation of an allegation. The processing of a complaint or allegation will be handled confidentially to the maximum extent possible. Employees are required to assist in the investigation when requested to provide information and to maintain the confidentiality of the reporting and investigation process.

The school district has appointed a Level I investigator and alternate Level I investigator. The school district has also arranged for a trained, experienced professional to serve as the Level II investigator. The Level I investigator and alternate will be provided training in the conducting of an investigation at the expense of the school district. The names of the investigators are listed in the student handbook and made available through other media formats.

The superintendent is responsible for drafting administrative regulations to implement this policy.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 232.67, .70, .73, .75; 235A; 272A; 280.17; 709; 728.12(1) (2013).  
281 I.A.C. 12.3(6), 102; 103.  
441 I.A.C. 155; 175.  
1980 Op. Att'y Gen. 275.

Cross Reference: 104 Bullying/Harassment  
402.2 Child Abuse Reporting  
503.5 Corporal Punishment

Approved 12/17

Reviewed 11/17

Revised \_\_\_\_\_

## GIFTS TO EMPLOYEES

Employees may receive a gift on behalf of the school district. Employees will not, either directly or indirectly, solicit, accept or receive any gift, series of gifts or an honorarium unless the donor does not meet the definition of "restricted donor" stated below or the gift or honorarium does not meet the definition of gift or honorarium stated below.

A "restricted donor" is defined as a person or other entity which:

- Is seeking to be, or is a party to, any one or any combination of sales, purchases, leases or contracts to, from or with the school district;
- Will be directly and substantially affected financially by the performance or nonperformance of the employee's official duty in a way that is greater than the effect on the public generally or on a substantial class of persons to which the person belongs as a member of a profession, occupation, industry or region; or
- Is a lobbyist or a client of a lobbyist with respect to matters within the school district's jurisdiction.

A "gift" is the giving of anything of value in return for which something of equal or greater value is not given or received. However, "gift" does not include any of the following:

- Contributions to a candidate or a candidate's committee;
- Information material relevant to an employee's official function, such as books, pamphlets, reports, documents, periodicals or other information that is recorded in a written, audio or visual format;
- Anything received from a person related within the fourth degree by kinship or marriage, unless the donor is acting as an agent or intermediary for another person not so related;
- An inheritance;
- Anything available or distributed to the general public free of charge without regard to the official status of the employee;
- Items received from a charitable, professional, educational or business organization to which the employee belongs as a dues paying member if the items are given to all members of the organization without regard to an individual member's status or positions held outside of the organization and if the dues paid are not inconsequential when compared to the items received;
- Actual expenses of an employee for food, beverages, travel and lodging for a meeting, which is given in return for participation in a panel or speaking engagement at the meeting when the expenses relate directly to the day or days on which the employee has participation or presentation responsibilities;
- Plaques or items of negligible resale value given as recognition for public service;
- Nonmonetary items with a value of less than three dollars that are received from any one donor during one calendar day;
- Items or services solicited or given to a state, national or regional organization in which the state of Iowa or a school district is a member for purposes of a business or educational conference, seminar or other meeting or solicited by or given for the same purposes to state, national or regional government organizations whose memberships and officers are primarily composed of state or local government officials or employees for purposes of a business or educational conference, seminar or other meeting;
- Funeral flowers or memorials to a church or nonprofit organization;
- Gifts other than food, beverages, travel and lodging received by an employee which are received from a person who is a citizen of a country other than the United States and is given during a ceremonial presentation or as a result of a custom of the other country and is of personal value only to the employee
- Gifts which are given to an employee for the employee's wedding or twenty-fifth or fiftieth wedding anniversary;
- Items or services received by members or representatives of members as part of a regularly scheduled event that is part of a business or educational conference, seminar or other meeting that is sponsored and directed by any state, national or regional government organization in which the state of Iowa or a political subdivision of the state of Iowa is a member or received at such an event by members or representatives of members of state, national or regional government organizations whose memberships and officers are primarily composed of state or local government officials or employees;

## GIFTS TO EMPLOYEES

- Payment of salary or expenses by the school district for the cost of attending a meeting of a subunit of an agency when the employee whose expenses are being paid serves on a board, commission, committee, council or other subunit of the agency and the employee is not entitled to receive compensation or reimbursement of expenses from the school district for attending the meeting; or
- Actual registration costs for informational meetings or sessions which assist a public official or public employee in the performance of the person's official functions. The costs of food, drink, lodging and travel are not "registration costs" under this paragraph. Meetings or sessions which a public official or public employee attends for personal or professional licensing purposes are not "informational meetings or sessions which assist a public official or public employee in the performance of the person's official functions" under this paragraph.

An "honorarium" is anything of value that is accepted by, or on behalf of, an employee as consideration for an appearance, speech or article. An honorarium does not include any of the following:

- Actual expenses of an employee for registration, food, beverages, travel or lodging for a meeting, which is given in return for participation in a panel or speaking engagement at a meeting when the expenses relate directly to the day or days on which the employee has participation or presentation responsibilities;
- A nonmonetary gift or series of nonmonetary gifts donated within thirty days to a public body, an educational or charitable organization or the Iowa department of general services; or
- A payment made to an employee for services rendered as part of a private business, trade or profession in which the employee is engaged if the payment is commensurate with the actual services rendered and is not being made because of the person's status as an employee of the district, but, rather, because of some special expertise or other qualification.

It is the responsibility of each employee to know when it is appropriate to accept or reject gifts or an honorarium.

Legal References: Iowa Code ch. 68B (2013).  
1972 Op. Att'y Gen. 276.  
1970 Op. Att'y Gen. 319.

Cross References: 217 Gifts to Board of Directors  
401.2 Employee Conflict of Interest  
704.4 Gifts-Grants-Bequests

Approved 12/17

Reviewed 11/17

Revised \_\_\_\_\_

PUBLIC COMPLAINTS ABOUT EMPLOYEES

The board recognizes situations may arise in the operation of the school district which are of concern to parents and other members of the school district community. While constructive criticism is welcomed, the board desires to support its employees and their actions to free them from unnecessary, spiteful, or negative criticism and complaints that do not offer advice for improvement or change.

The board firmly believes concerns should be resolved at the lowest organizational level by those individuals closest to the concern. Whenever a complaint or concern is brought to the attention of the board it will be referred to the administration to be resolved. Prior to board action however, the following should be completed:

- (a) Matters should first be addressed to the teacher or employee.
- (b) Unsettled matters from (a) above or problems and questions about individual attendance centers should be addressed to the employee's building principal for licensed employees and the superintendent for classified employees.
- (c) Unsettled matters regarding licensed employees from (b) above or problems and questions concerning the school district should be directed to the superintendent.
- (d) If a matter cannot be settled satisfactorily by the superintendent, it may then be brought to the board. To bring a concern regarding an employee, the individual may notify the board president in writing, who may bring it to the attention of the entire board, or the item may be placed on the board agenda of a regularly scheduled board meeting.

It is within the discretion of the board to address complaints from the members of the school district community, and the board will only do so if they are in writing, signed, and the complainant has complied with this policy.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code § 279.8 (2013).

Cross Reference: 210.8 Board Meeting Agenda  
 213 Public Participation in Board Meetings  
 307 Communication Channels

Approved 12/17

Reviewed 11/17

Revised \_\_\_\_\_

EMPLOYEE OUTSIDE EMPLOYMENT

The board believes the primary responsibility of employees is to the duties of their position within the school district as outlined in their job description. The board considers an employee's duties as part of a regular, full-time position as full-time employment. The board expects such employees to give the responsibilities of their positions in the school district precedence over any other employment.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent to counsel employees, whether full-time or part-time, if, in the judgment of the superintendent and the employee's immediate supervisor, the employee's outside employment interferes with the performance of the employee's duties required in the employee's position within the school district.

The board may request the employee to cease the outside employment as a condition of continued employment with the school district.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 20.7; 279.8 (2013).

Cross Reference: 401.2 Employee Conflict of Interest  
408.3 Licensed Employee Tutoring

Approved 12/17

Reviewed 11/17

Revised \_\_\_\_\_

EMPLOYEE PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS

Good health is important to job performance. School bus drivers will present evidence of good health every other year in the form of a physical examination report unless otherwise required by law or medical opinion. Employees whose physical or mental health, in the judgment of the administration, may be in doubt will submit to additional examinations, when requested to do so, at the expense of the school district.

The cost of the initial examination will be paid by the employee. The form indicating the employee is able to perform the duties for which the employee was hired must be returned prior to payment of salary. The cost of bus driver renewal physicals will be paid by the school district up to a maximum of \$150.00. The school district will provide the standard examination form to be completed by the personal physician of the employee. Employees identified as having reasonably anticipated contact with blood or infectious materials will receive the Hepatitis B vaccine or sign a written waiver stating that they will not take the vaccine.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent to write an exposure control plan to eliminate or minimize district occupational exposure to bloodborne pathogens. The plan for designated employees will include, but not be limited to, scope and application, definitions, exposure control, methods of compliance, Hepatitis B vaccination and postexposure evaluation and follow-up, communication of hazards to employees, and record keeping.

Legal Reference: 29 C.F.R. § 1910.1030  
49 C.F.R. §§ 391.41- 391.49.  
Iowa Code §§ 20.9; 279.8, 321.376  
281 I.A.C. 43.15; 43.17.

Cross Reference: 403 Employees' Health and Well-Being

Approved 12/17

Reviewed 11/17

Revised \_\_\_\_\_

EMPLOYEE INJURY ON THE JOB

When an employee becomes seriously injured on the job, an administrator will attempt to notify a member of the family, or an individual of close relationship, as soon as an administrator becomes aware of the injury.

Employees should provide the school district with current information for persons to be contacted in case of an emergency.

If possible, an employee may administer emergency or minor first aid. An injured employee will be turned over to the care of the employee's family or qualified medical employees as quickly as possible. The school district is not responsible for medical treatment of an injured employee.

It is the responsibility of the employee injured on the job to inform the superintendent within twenty-four hours of the occurrence. It is the responsibility of the employee's immediate supervisor to file an accident report within twenty-four hours after the employee reported the injury.

It is the responsibility of the employee to file claims, such as worker's compensation, through the board secretary.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 85; 279.40; 613.17 (2013).  
1972 Op. Att'y Gen. 177.

Cross Reference: 403 Employees' Health and Well-Being  
409.2 Licensed Employee Personal Illness Leave  
414.2 Classified Employee Personal Illness Leave

Approved 12/17

Reviewed 11/17

Revised \_\_\_\_\_



## COMMUNICABLE DISEASES - EMPLOYEES

Employees with a communicable disease will be allowed to perform their customary employment duties provided they are able to perform the essential functions of their position and their presence does not create a substantial risk of illness or transmission to students or other employees. The term "communicable disease" will mean an infectious or contagious disease spread from person to person, or animal to person, or as defined by law.

Prevention and control of communicable diseases is included in the school district's bloodborne pathogens exposure control plan. The procedures will include scope and application, definitions, exposure control, methods of compliance, universal precautions, vaccination, post-exposure evaluation, follow-up, communication of hazards to employees and record keeping. This plan is reviewed annually by the superintendent and school nurse.

The health risk to immunodepressed employees is determined by their personal physician. The health risk to others in the school district environment from the presence of an employee with a communicable disease is determined on a case-by-case basis by the employee's personal physician, a physician chosen by the school district and/or public health officials.

Any employee who is at work and who has a communicable disease which creates a substantial risk of harm to a student, coworkers. Or others at the workplace shall report the condition to the Superintendent any time the employee is aware that the disease actively creates such risk.

Health data of an employee is confidential and it will not be disclosed to third parties. Employee medical records are kept in a file separate from their personal file.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent, in conjunction with the school nurse, to develop administrative regulations stating the procedures for dealing with employees with a communicable disease.

Legal Reference:        School Board of Nassau County v. Arline, 480 U.S. 273 (1987).  
                                  29 U.S.C. §§ 794, 1910 (2012).  
                                  42 U.S.C. §§ 12101 *et seq.* (2012).  
                                  45 C.F.R. Pt. 84.3 (2012).  
                                  Iowa Code chs. 139(a); 141(a) (2013).  
                                  641 I.A.C. 1.2-.7.

Cross Reference:        401.5 Employee Records  
                                  403.1 Employee Physical Examinations  
                                  507.3 Communicable Diseases - Students

Approved 12/17

Reviewed 11/17

Revised \_\_\_\_\_

## HEPATITIS B VACCINE INFORMATION AND RECORD

### The Disease

Hepatitis B is a viral infection caused by the Hepatitis B virus (HBV) which may cause death in those infected. Most people with HBV recover completely, however a small percentage become chronic carriers of the virus. Most of these people have no symptoms, but can continue to transmit the disease to others. Some may develop chronic active hepatitis and cirrhosis. HBV may be a causative factor in the development of liver cancer. Immunization against HBV can prevent acute hepatitis and its complications.

### The Vaccine

The HBV vaccine is produced from yeast cells. It has been extensively tested for safety and effectiveness in large scale clinical trials.

Approximately 90 percent of healthy people who receive two doses of the vaccine and a third dose as a booster achieve high levels of surface antibody (anti-HBs) and protection against the virus. The HBV vaccine is recommended for workers with potential for contact with blood or body fluids. Full immunization requires three doses of the vaccine over a six-month period, although some persons may not develop immunity even after three doses.

There is no evidence that the vaccine has ever caused Hepatitis B. However, persons who have been infected with HBV prior to receiving the vaccine may go on to develop clinical hepatitis in spite of immunization.

### Dosage and Administration

The vaccine is given in three intramuscular doses in the deltoid muscle. Two initial doses are given one month apart and the third dose is given six months after the first.

### Possible Vaccine Side Effects

The incidence of side effects is very low. No serious side effects have been reported with the vaccine. Ten to 20 percent of persons experience tenderness and redness at the site of injection and low grade fever. Rash, nausea, joint pain, and mild fatigue have also been reported. The possibility exists that other side effects may be identified with more extensive use.

## HEPATITIS B VACCINE INFORMATION AND RECORD

**CONSENT FORM OF HEPATITIS B VACCINATION**

I have knowledge of Hepatitis B and the Hepatitis B vaccination. I have had an opportunity to ask questions of a qualified nurse or physician and understand the benefits and risks of Hepatitis B vaccination. I understand that I must have three doses of the vaccine to obtain immunity. However, as with all medical treatment, there is no guarantee that I will become immune or that I will not experience side effects from the vaccine. I give my consent to be vaccinated for Hepatitis B.

---

 Signature of Employee (consent for Hepatitis B vaccination)

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 Date

---

 Signature of Witness

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 Date
**REFUSAL FORM OF HEPATITIS B VACCINATION**

I understand that due to my occupational exposure to blood or other potentially infectious materials I may be at risk of acquiring the Hepatitis B virus infection. I have been given the opportunity to be vaccinated with Hepatitis B vaccine at no charge to myself. However, I decline the Hepatitis B vaccination at this time. I understand that by declining this vaccine, I continue to be at risk of acquiring Hepatitis B, a serious disease. If in the future I continue to have occupational exposure to blood or other potentially infectious materials and I want to be vaccinated with the Hepatitis B vaccine, I can receive the vaccination series at no charge to me.

---

 Signature of Employee (refusal for Hepatitis B vaccination)

---

 Date

---

 Signature of Witness

---

 Date

I refuse because I believe I have (check one)

started the series

completed the series

HEPATITIS B VACCINE INFORMATION AND RECORD

RELEASE FORM FOR HEPATITIS B MEDICAL INFORMATION

I hereby authorize \_\_\_\_\_ (individual or organization holding Hepatitis B records and address) to release to the \_\_\_\_\_ Community School District, my Hepatitis B vaccination records for required employee records.

I hereby authorize release of my Hepatitis B status to a health care provider, in the event of an exposure incident.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Employee

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Witness

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



## UNIVERSAL PRECAUTIONS REGULATION

Universal precautions (UP) are intended to prevent transmission of infection, as well as decrease the risk of exposure for employees and students. It is not currently possible to identify all infected individuals, thus precautions must be used with every individual. UP pertain to blood and other potentially infectious materials (OPIM) containing blood. These precautions do not apply to other body fluids and wastes (OBFW) such as saliva, sputum, feces, tears, nasal secretions, vomitus and urine unless blood is visible in the material. However, these OBFW can be sources of other infections and should be handled as if they are infectious. The single most important step in preventing exposure to and transmission of any infection is anticipating potential contact with infectious materials in routine as well as emergency situations. Based on the type of possible contact, employees and students should be prepared to use the appropriate precautions prior to the contact. Diligent and proper hand washing, the use of barriers, appropriate disposal of waste products and needles, and proper decontamination of spills are essential techniques of infection control. All individuals should respond to situations practicing UP followed by the activation of the school response team plan. Using common sense in the application of these measures will enhance protection of employees and students.

### Hand Washing

Proper hand washing is crucial to preventing the spread of infection. Textured jewelry on the hands or wrists should be removed prior to washing and kept off until completion of the procedure and the hands are rewashed. Use of running water, lathering with soap and using friction to clean all hand surfaces is key. Rinse well with running water and dry hands with paper towels.

- Hands should be washed before physical contact with individuals and after contact is completed.
- Hands should be washed after contact with any used equipment.
- If hands (or other skin) come into contact with blood or body fluids, hands should be washed immediately before touching anything else.
- Hands should be washed whether gloves are worn or not and, if gloves are worn, after the gloves are removed.

### Barriers

Barriers anticipated to be used at school include disposable gloves, absorbent materials and resuscitation devices. Their use is intended to reduce the risk of contact with blood and body fluids as well as to control the spread of infectious agents from individual to individual. Gloves should be worn when in contact with blood, OPIM or OBFW. Gloves should be removed without touching the outside and disposed of after each use.

### Disposal of Waste

Blood, OPIM, OBFW, used gloves, barriers and absorbent materials should be placed in a plastic bag and disposed of in the usual procedure. When the blood or OPIM is liquid, semi-liquid or caked with dried blood, it is not absorbed in materials, and is capable of releasing the substance if compressed, special disposal as regulated waste is required. A band-aid, towel, sanitary napkin or other absorbed waste that does not have the potential of releasing the waste if compressed would not be considered regulated waste. It is anticipated schools would only have regulated waste in the case of a severe incident. Needles, syringes and other sharp disposable objects should be placed in special puncture-proof containers and disposed of as regulated waste. Bodily wastes such as urine, vomitus or feces should be disposed of in the sanitary sewer system.

## UNIVERSAL PRECAUTIONS REGULATION

Clean up

Spills of blood and OPIM should be cleaned up immediately. The employee should:

- Wear gloves.
- Clean up the spill with paper towels or other absorbent material.
- Use a solution of one part household bleach to one hundred parts of water (1:100) or other EPA-approved disinfectant and use it to wash the area well.
- Dispose of gloves, soiled towels and other waste in a plastic bag.
- Clean and disinfect reusable supplies and equipment.

Laundry

Laundry with blood or OPIM should be handled as little as possible with a minimum of agitation. It should be bagged at the location. If it has the potential of releasing the substance when compacted, regulated waste guidelines should be followed. Employees who have contact with this laundry should wear protective barriers.

Exposure

An exposure to blood or OPIM through contact with broken skin, mucous membrane or by needle or sharp stick requires immediate washing, reporting and follow-up.

- Always wash the exposed area immediately with soap and water.
- If a mucous membrane splash (eye or mouth) or exposure of broken skin occurs, irrigate or wash the area thoroughly.
- If a cut or needle stick injury occurs, wash the area thoroughly with soap and water.

The exposure should be reported immediately, the parent or guardian is notified, and the person exposed contacts a physician for further health care.

## HAZARDOUS CHEMICAL DISCLOSURE

The board authorizes the development of a comprehensive hazardous chemical communication program for the school district to disseminate information about hazardous chemicals in the workplace.

Each employee will annually review information about hazardous substances in the workplace. When a new employee is hired or transferred to a new position or work site, the information and training, if necessary, is included in the employee's orientation. When an additional hazardous substance enters the workplace, information about it is distributed to all employees, and training is conducted for the appropriate employees. The superintendent or designee will maintain a file indicating which hazardous substances are present in the workplace and when training and information sessions take place.

Employees who will be instructing or otherwise working with students will disseminate information about the hazardous chemicals with which they will be working as part of the instructional program.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent or designee to develop administrative regulations regarding this program.

Legal Reference: 29 C.F.R. Pt. 1910; 1200 *et seq.* (2012).  
Iowa Code chs. 88; 89B (2013).  
347 I.A.C. 120.

Cross Reference: 403 Employees' Health and Well-Being  
804 Safety Program

Approved 12/17

Reviewed 11/17

Revised \_\_\_\_\_



## SUBSTANCE-FREE WORKPLACE

The board expects the school district and its employees to remain substance free. No employee will unlawfully manufacture, distribute, dispense, possess, use, or be under the influence of, in the workplace, any narcotic drug, hallucinogenic drug, amphetamine, barbituate, marijuana or any other controlled substance or alcoholic beverage as defined by federal or state law. "Workplace" includes school district facilities, school district premises or school district vehicle, also includes nonschool property if the employee is at any school-sponsored, school-approved or school-related activity, event or function, such as field trips or athletic events where students are under the control of the school district or where the employee is engaged in school business.

If an employee is convicted of a violation of any criminal drug offense committed in the workplace, the employee will notify the employee's supervisor of the conviction within five days of the conviction.

The superintendent will make the determination whether to require the employee to undergo substance abuse treatment or to discipline the employee. An employee who violates the terms of this policy may be subject to discipline up to and including termination. An employee who violates this policy may be required to successfully participate in a substance abuse treatment program approved by the board. If the employee fails to successfully participate in a program, the employee may be subject to discipline up to and including termination.

The superintendent is responsible for publication and dissemination of this policy to each employee. In addition, the superintendent will oversee the establishment of a substance-free awareness program to educate employees about the dangers of substance abuse and notify them of available substance abuse treatment programs.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent to develop administrative regulations to implement this policy.

Legal Reference: 41 U.S.C. §§ 81 (2012).  
 42 U.S.C. §§ 12101 *et seq.* (2012).  
 34 C.F.R. Pt. 85 (2012).  
 Iowa Code §§ 123.46; 124; 279.8 (2013).

Cross Reference: 404 Employee Conduct and Appearance

Approved 12/17

Reviewed 11/17

Revised \_\_\_\_\_

SUBSTANCE-FREE WORKPLACE NOTICE TO EMPLOYEES

EMPLOYEES ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED it is a violation of the Substance-Free Workplace policy for an employee to unlawfully manufacture, distribute, dispense, possess, use, or be under the influence of in the workplace any narcotic drug, hallucinogenic drug, amphetamine, barbiturate, marijuana or any other controlled substance or alcohol, as defined in Schedules I through V of section 202 of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 812) and as further defined by regulation at 21 C.F.R. 1300.11 through 1300.15 and Iowa Code Chapter 124.

"Workplace" is defined as the site for the performance of work done in the capacity as an employee. This includes school district facilities, other school premises or school district vehicles. Workplace also includes nonschool property if the employee is at any school-sponsored, school-approved or school-related activity, event or function, such as field trips or athletic events where students are under the control of the school district or where the employee is engaged in school business.

Employees who violate the terms of the Substance-Free Workplace policy may be required to successfully participate in a substance abuse treatment program approved by the board. The superintendent retains the discretion to discipline an employee for violation of the Substance-Free Workplace policy. If the employee fails to successfully participate in such a program the employee is subject to discipline up to and including termination.

EMPLOYEES ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED it is a condition of their continued employment that they comply with the above policy of the school district and will notify their supervisor of their conviction of any criminal drug statute for a violation committed in the workplace, no later than five days after the conviction.

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SUBSTANCE-FREE WORKPLACE ACKNOWLEDGMENT FORM

I, \_\_\_\_\_, have read and understand the Substance-Free Workplace policy. I understand that if I violate the Substance-Free Workplace policy, I may be subject to discipline up to and including termination or I may be required to participate in a substance abuse treatment program. If I fail to successfully participate in a substance abuse treatment program, I understand I may be subject to discipline up to and including termination. I understand that if I am required to participate in a substance abuse treatment program and I refuse to participate, I may be subject to discipline up to and including termination. I also understand that if I am convicted of a criminal drug offense committed in the workplace, I must report that conviction to my supervisor within five days of the conviction.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of Employee)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

## SUBSTANCE-FREE WORKPLACE REGULATION

A superintendent who suspects an employee has a substance abuse problem will follow these procedures:

1. **Identification** - the superintendent will document the evidence the superintendent has which leads the superintendent to conclude the employee has violated the Substance-Free Workplace policy. After the superintendent has determined there has been a violation of the Substance-Free Workplace policy, the superintendent will discuss the problem with the employee.
2. **Discipline** - if, after the discussion with the employee, the superintendent determines there has been a violation of the Substance-Free Workplace policy, the superintendent may recommend discipline up to and including termination or may recommend the employee seek substance abuse treatment. Participation in a substance abuse treatment program is voluntary.
3. **Failure to participate in referral** – if the employee refuses to participate in a substance abuse treatment program or if the employee does not successfully complete a substance abuse treatment program, the employee may be subject to discipline up to and including termination.
4. **Conviction** - if an employee is convicted of a criminal drug offense committed in the workplace, the employee must notify the employer of the conviction within five days of the conviction.

## DRUG AND ALCOHOL TESTING PROGRAM

Employees who operate school vehicles are subject to drug and alcohol testing if a commercial driver's license is required to operate the school vehicle and the school vehicle transports sixteen or more persons including the driver or the school vehicle weighs twenty-six thousand one pounds or more. For purposes of the drug and alcohol testing program, the term "employees" includes applicants who have been offered a position to operate a school vehicle.

The employees operating a school vehicle as described above are subject to pre-employment drug testing and random, reasonable suspicion and post-accident drug and alcohol testing. Employees operating school vehicles will not perform a safety-sensitive function within four hours of using alcohol. Employees governed by this policy are subject to the drug and alcohol testing program beginning the first day they operate or are offered a position to operate school vehicles and continue to be subject to the drug and alcohol testing program as long as they may be required to perform a safety-sensitive function as it is defined in the administrative regulations. Employees with questions about the drug and alcohol testing program may contact the school district superintendent and/or school nurse in the Rock Valley School District.

Employees who violate the terms of this policy are subject to discipline up to and including termination.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent to develop administrative regulations to implement this policy in compliance with the law. The superintendent will inform applicants of the requirement for drug and alcohol testing in notices or advertisements for employment.

The superintendent will also be responsible for publication and dissemination of this policy and its supporting administrative regulations and forms to employees operating school vehicles. The superintendent will also oversee a substance-free awareness program to educate employees about the dangers of substance abuse and notify them of available substance abuse treatment resources and programs.

IASB Drug and Alcohol Testing Program (IDATP) Web site: <http://www.ia-sb.org/MemberBenefits.aspx?id=304>

Legal Reference: American Trucking Association, Inc., v. Federal Highway Administration, 51 Fed. 3<sup>rd</sup> 405 (4<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1995).  
 49 U.S.C. §§ 5331 et seq. (2010).  
 42 U.S.C. §§ 12101 (2010).  
 41 U.S.C. §§ 701-707 (2010).  
 49 C.F.R. Pt. 40; 382; 391.81-123 (2010).  
 34 C.F.R. Pt. 85 (2010).  
 Local 301, Internat'l Assoc. of Fire Fighters, AFL-CIO, and City of Burlington, PERB No. 3876 (3-26-91).  
 Iowa Code §§ 124; 279.8; 321.375(2); 730.5 (2011).

Cross Reference: 403.5 Substance-Free Workplace  
 409.2 Licensed Employee Personal Illness Leave  
 414.2 Classified Employee Personal Illness Leave

Approved 12/17

Reviewed 11/17

Revised \_\_\_\_\_

DRUG AND ALCOHOL TESTING PROGRAM NOTICE TO EMPLOYEES

EMPLOYEES GOVERNED BY THE DRUG AND ALCOHOL TESTING POLICY ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED they are subject to the school district's drug and alcohol testing program for pre-employment drug testing and random, reasonable suspicion and post-accident drug and alcohol testing as outlined in the Drug and Alcohol Testing Program policy, its supporting documents and the law.

Employees who operate school vehicles are subject to drug and alcohol testing if a commercial driver's license is required to operate the school vehicle and the school vehicle transports sixteen or more persons including the driver or the school vehicle weighs twenty-six thousand, one pound or more. For purposes of the drug and alcohol testing program, "employees" also includes applicants who have been offered a position to operate a school vehicle. The employees operating a school vehicle are subject to the drug and alcohol testing program beginning the first day they operate or are offered a position to operate a school vehicle and continue to be subject to the drug and alcohol testing program.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent to inform employees of the drug and alcohol testing program requirements. Employees with questions regarding the drug and alcohol testing requirements will contact the school district contact person.

EMPLOYEES GOVERNED BY THE DRUG AND ALCOHOL TESTING POLICY ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that employees violating this policy, its supporting documents or the law may be subject to discipline up to and including termination.

EMPLOUEES GOVERNED BY THE DRUG AND ALCOHOL TESTING POLICY ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED it is a condition of their continued employment to comply with the Drug and Alcohol Testing Program policy, its supporting documents and the law. It is a condition of continues employment for employees operating a school vehicle to notify their supervisor of any prescription medication they are using. Drug and alcohol testing records about a driver are confidential and are released in accordance with this policy, its supporting documents or the law.

DRUG & ALCOHOL PROGRAM AND PRE-EMPLOYMENT TESTING  
ACKNOWLEDGMENT FORM

I, ( Name of Employee ), have received a copy, read and understand the Drug and Alcohol Testing Program policy of the Rock Valley Community School District and its supporting documents.

I understand that if I violate the Drug and Alcohol Testing Program policy, its supporting documents or the law, I may be subject to discipline up to and including termination.

I also understand that I must inform my supervisor of any prescription medication I use.

In addition, I have received a copy of the U.S. DOT publication, "What Employees Need to Know about DOT Drug & Alcohol Testing," and have read and understand its contents.

Furthermore, I know and understand that I am required to submit to a controlled substance (drug) test, the results of which must be received by this employer before being employed by the school district and before being allowed to perform a safety-sensitive function. I also understand that if the results of the pre-employment test are positive, that I will not be considered further for employment with the school district.

I further understand that drug and alcohol testing records and information about me are confidential, and may be released at my request or in accordance with the district's drug and alcohol testing program policy, its supporting documents or the law.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of Employee)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

## EMPLOYEE CONDUCT AND APPEARANCE

Employees are role models for the students who come in contact with them during and after school hours. The board recognizes the positive effect employees can have on students in this capacity. To this end, the board strongly suggests and encourages employees to dress themselves, groom themselves and conduct themselves in a manner appropriate to the educational environment.

Employees will conduct themselves in a professional manner. Employees will dress in attire appropriate for their position. Clothing should be neat, clean, and in good taste. Discretion and common sense call for an avoidance of extremes which would interfere with or have an effect on the educational process.

Licensed employees of the school district, including administrators, will follow the code of ethics for their profession as established by the Iowa Board of Educational Examiners.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code § 279.8 (2011).  
282 I.A.C. 13.25, .26

Cross Reference: 104 Anti-Bullying/Harassment  
305 Administrator Code Of Ethics  
401.11 Employee Orientation  
403.5 Substance-Free Workplace  
407 Licensed Employee Termination of Employment  
413 Classified Employee Termination of Employment

Approved 12/17

Reviewed 11/17

Revised \_\_\_\_\_

LICENSED EMPLOYEE DEFINED

Licensed employees, including administrators, are those employees required to hold an appropriate license from the Iowa Department of Education for their position as required by the Board of Educational Examiners or others with professional licenses. Licenses required for a position will be considered met if the employee meets the requirements established by the Iowa Department of Education.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent to establish job specifications and job descriptions for licensed employees' positions, other than the position of the superintendent. Job descriptions may be approved by the board.

Licensed employees must present evidence of current license to the board secretary prior to payment of salary each year.

Legal Reference: Clay v. Independent School District of Cedar Falls, 187 Iowa  
89, 174 N.W. 47 (1919).  
Iowa Code §§ 256.7(3); 272.6; 272A; 279.8; 294.1 (2011).  
282 I.A.C. 14.  
281 I.A.C. 12.4; 41.25.  
1940 Op. Att'y Gen. 375.

Cross Reference: 405.2 Licensed Employee Qualifications, Recruitment Selection  
410.1 Substitute Teachers  
411.1 Classified Employee Defined

Approved 12/17

Reviewed 11/17

Revised \_\_\_\_\_



LICENSED EMPLOYEE QUALIFICATIONS, RECRUITMENT, SELECTION

Persons interested in a licensed position, other than administrative positions which will be employed in accordance with board policies in Series 300, "Administration," will have an opportunity to apply and qualify for licensed positions in the school district in accordance with applicable laws and school district policies regarding equal employment. Job applicants for licensed positions will be considered on the basis of the following:

- Training, experience, and skill;
- Nature of the occupation;
- Demonstrated competence; and
- Possession of, or ability to obtain, state license if required for the position.

All job openings shall be submitted to the Iowa Department of Education for posting on TeachIowa, the online state job posting system. Additional announcements of the position may occur in a manner which the superintendent believes will inform potential applicants about the position. Whenever possible, the preliminary screening of applicants will be conducted by the administrator who will be directly supervising and overseeing the person being hired.

The board will employ licensed employees after receiving a recommendation from the superintendent. However, the superintendent will have the authority to employ a licensed employee on a temporary basis until a recommendation can be made and action can be taken by the board on the position.

Legal Reference:       29 U.S.C. §§ 621-634  
                               42 U.S.C. §§ 2000e, 12101 *et seq.*  
                               Iowa Code §§ 20; 35C; 216; 279.13;  
                               281 I.A.C. 12.  
                               282 I.A.C. 14.  
                               1980 Op. Att'y Gen. 367.

Cross Reference:       401.1 Equal Employment Opportunity  
                               405 Licensed Employees - General  
                               410.1 Substitute Teachers

Approved 12/17

Reviewed 11/17

Revised \_\_\_\_\_

LICENSED EMPLOYEE INDIVIDUAL CONTRACTS

The board will enter into a written contract with licensed employees, other than administrators, employed on a regular basis. Each contract will be for a period of one year.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent to complete the contracts for licensed employees and present them to the board for approval. The contracts, after being signed by the board president, are returned to the superintendent. The superintendent will obtain the employee's signature. After being signed, the contract is filed with the board secretary.

Legal Reference:        Harris v. Manning Independent School District of Manning, 245 Iowa 1295, 66 N.W.2d 438 (1954).  
                              Shackelford v. District Township of Beaver, Polk County, 203 Iowa 243, 212 N.W. 467 (1927).  
                              Burkhead v. Independent School District of Independence, 107 Iowa 29, 77 N.W. 491 (1898).  
                              Iowa Code chs. 20; 279 (2011).

Cross Reference:        405.2 Licensed Employee Qualifications, Recruitment, Selection  
                              405.4 Licensed Employee Continuing Contracts  
                              407 Licensed Employee Termination of Employment

Approved 12/17

Reviewed 11/17

Revised \_\_\_\_\_

LICENSED EMPLOYEE CONTINUING CONTRACTS

Contracts entered into with licensed employees, other than an administrator, will continue from year to year except as modified or terminated as provided by law. The board may issue temporary and nonrenewable contracts in accordance with law.

Licensed employees whose contracts will be recommended for termination by the board will receive due process as required by law. The superintendent will make a recommendation to the board for the termination of the licensed employee's contract.

Licensed employees who wish to resign, to be released from a contract, or to retire must comply with applicable law and board policies.

Legal Reference: Ar-We-Va Community School District v. Long and Henkenius, 292 N.W.2d 402 (Iowa 1980).  
Bruton v. Ames Community School District, 291 N.W.2d 351 (Iowa 1980).  
Hartman v. Merged Area VI Community College, 270 N.W.2d 822 (Iowa 1978).  
Keith v. Community School District of Wilton in the Counties of Cedar and Muscatine, 262 N.W.2d 249 (Iowa 1978).  
Iowa Code §§ 272; 279.

Cross Reference: 405.3 Licensed Employee Individual Contracts  
405.9 Licensed Employee Probationary Status  
407 Licensed Employee Termination of Employment

Approved 12/17

Reviewed 11/17

Revised \_\_\_\_\_

LICENSED EMPLOYEE WORK DAY

The work day for licensed employees will begin each day of the school year at a time established by the superintendent. Licensed employees who are employed only during the academic year will have the same work day as other licensed employees. "Day" is defined as one work day regardless of full-time or part-time status of an employee.

Licensed employees are to be in their assigned school building during the work day. Advance approval to be absent from the school building must be obtained from the principal whenever the licensed employees must leave the school building during the work day.

The building principal is authorized to make changes in the work day in order to facilitate the education program. These changes are reported to the superintendent.

The work day outlined in this policy is a minimum work day. Nothing in this policy prohibits licensed employees from working additional hours outside the work day.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 20; 279.8 (2011).

Cross Reference: 200.3 Powers of the Board of Directors

Approved 12/17

Reviewed 11/17

Revised \_\_\_\_\_

LICENSED EMPLOYEE ASSIGNMENT

Determining the assignment of each licensed employee is the responsibility of and within the sole discretion of the board. In making such assignments the board will consider the qualifications of each licensed employee and the needs of the school district.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent to make recommendations to the board regarding the assignment of licensed employees.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 279.8

Cross Reference: 200.2 Powers of the Board of Directors

Approved 12/17

Reviewed 11/17

Revised \_\_\_\_\_

LICENSED EMPLOYEE TRANSFERS

Determining the location where an employee's assignment will be carried out is within the sole discretion of the board. In making such assignments the board will consider the qualifications of each licensed employee and the needs of the school district.

A transfer may be initiated by the employee, the principal, or the superintendent.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent to make recommendations to the board regarding the transfer of licensed employees.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 20.9; 216.14; 279.8 (2011).

Cross Reference: 405.2 Licensed Employee Qualifications, Recruitment, Selection  
405.6 Licensed Employee Assignment

Approved 12/17

Reviewed 11/17

Revised \_\_\_\_\_

## LICENSED EMPLOYEE EVALUATION

Evaluation of licensed employees on their skills, abilities, and competence is an ongoing process supervised by the building principals and conducted by approved evaluators. The goal of the formal evaluation of licensed employees, other than administrators, but including extracurricular employees, is to improve the education program, to maintain licensed employees who meet or exceed the board's standards of performance, to clarify the licensed employee's role, to ascertain the areas in need of improvement, to clarify the immediate priorities of the board, and to develop a working relationship between the administrators and other employees.

The formal evaluation criteria is in writing and approved by the board. The formal evaluation will provide an opportunity for the evaluator and the licensed employee to discuss the past year's performance and the future areas of growth. The formal evaluation is completed by the evaluator, signed by the licensed employee and filed in the licensed employee's personnel file. This policy supports, and does not preclude, the ongoing informal evaluation of the licensed employee's skills, abilities and competence.

Licensed employees will be required to:

- Demonstrate the ability to enhance academic performance and support for and implementation of the school district's student achievement goals
- Demonstrate competency in content knowledge appropriate to the teaching position
- Demonstrate competency in planning and preparation for instruction
- Use strategies to deliver instruction that meets the multiple learning needs of students
- Use a variety of methods to monitor student learning
- Demonstrate competence in classroom management
- Engage in professional growth
- Fulfill professional responsibilities established by the school district.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent to ensure licensed employees are evaluated. New and probationary licensed employees are evaluated at least twice each year.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 20.9; 279, 284, 294;  
Aplington Community School District v. PERB, 392 N.W.2d 495 (Iowa 1986).  
Saydel Education Association v. PERB, 333 N.W.2d 486 (Iowa 1983).  
 281 I.A.C. 83; 12.3

Cross Reference: 405.2 Licensed Employee Qualifications, Recruitment, Selection  
 405.9 Licensed Employee Probationary Status

Approved 12/17

Reviewed 11/17

Revised \_\_\_\_\_

LICENSED EMPLOYEE PROBATIONARY STATUS

The first three years of a new licensed employee's contract is a probationary period unless the employee has already successfully completed the probationary period in an Iowa school district. New employees who have successfully completed a probationary period in a previous Iowa school district will serve a one year probationary period. For purposes of this policy, an employee will have met the requirements for successfully completing a probationary period in another Iowa school district if, at the teacher's most recent performance evaluation, the teacher received at least a satisfactory or better evaluation and the individual has not engaged in conduct which would disqualify the teacher for a continuing contract.

Only the board, in its discretion, may waive the probationary period. The board may extend the probationary period for one additional year with the consent of the licensed employee. The board will make the decision to extend or waive a licensed employee's probationary status based upon the superintendent's recommendation. During this probationary period the board may terminate the licensed employee's contract at year-end or discharge the employee in concert with corresponding board policies.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 279.

Cross Reference: 405.4 Licensed Employee Continuing Contracts  
405.8 Licensed Employee Evaluation

Approved 12/17

Reviewed 11/17

Revised \_\_\_\_\_



LICENSED EMPLOYEE SALARY SCHEDULE

The board will establish salary schedules for licensed employees' positions keeping in mind the financial condition of the school district, the education and experience of the licensed employee, the educational philosophy of the school district, and other factors deemed relevant by the board.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent to make a recommendation to the board annually regarding the salary schedule. The salary schedule is subject to review and modification through the collective bargaining process.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 20.1, .4, .7, .9; 279.8 (2011).

Cross Reference: 405 Licensed Employees - General  
406.2 Licensed Employee Salary Schedule Advancement

Approved 12/17

Reviewed 11/17

Revised \_\_\_\_\_

LICENSED EMPLOYEE SALARY SCHEDULE ADVANCEMENT

The board will determine which licensed employees will advance on the salary schedule for the licensed employees' positions, keeping in mind the financial condition of the school district, the education and experience of the licensed employee, the educational philosophy of the school district, and other considerations as determined by the board.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent to make a recommendation to the board for the advancement of licensed employees on the salary schedule.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 20.1, .4, .7, .9; 279.8 (2011).

Cross Reference: 405 Licensed Employees - General  
406 Licensed Employee Compensation and Benefits

Approved 12/17

Reviewed 11/17

Revised \_\_\_\_\_

LICENSED EMPLOYEE CONTINUED EDUCATION CREDIT

Continued education on the part of licensed employees may entitle them to advancement on the salary schedule. Licensed employees who have completed additional hours will be considered for advancement on the salary schedule. The board will determine which licensed employees will advance on the salary schedule for continued education keeping in mind the financial condition of the school district, the education and experience of the licensed employee, the educational philosophy of the school district, and any other items deemed relevant by the board.

Licensed employees who wish to obtain additional education for advancement on the salary schedule must notify their supervisor by June 1 of the school year preceding the actual year when advancement occurs. This additional education must be in the same area as the education that was required of the employee to hold the employee's current position with the school district. The superintendent has the discretion to approve credit outside the employee's area of endorsement or responsibility.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent to make a recommendation to the board for the advancement of a licensed employee on the salary schedule.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 20.1, .4, .7, .9; 279.8 (2011).

Cross Reference: 405 Licensed Employees - General  
406 Licensed Employee Compensation and Benefits

Approved 12/17

Reviewed 11/17

Revised \_\_\_\_\_

LICENSED EMPLOYEE COMPENSATION FOR EXTRA DUTY

A licensed employee may volunteer or be required to take on extra duty, with the extra duty being secondary to the major responsibility of the licensed employee. The board will establish a salary schedule for extra duty licensed employee positions, keeping in mind the financial condition of the school district, the education and experience of the licensed employee, the educational philosophy of the school district, and other considerations as determined by the board.

Vacant extra duty positions, for which extra compensation will be earned, will be posted to allow qualified licensed employees to volunteer for the extra duty. If no licensed employee volunteers for extra duty, the superintendent will assign the extra duty positions to qualified licensed employees. The licensed employee will receive compensation for the extra duty required to be performed.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent to make a recommendation to the board annually as to which licensed employees will have the extra duty, and the salary schedule for extra duty, for the board's review.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 20.1, .4, .7, .9; 279.8, .13-.15, .19A-B (2011).

Cross Reference: 405 Licensed Employees - General  
406 Licensed Employee Compensation and Benefits

Approved 12/17

Reviewed 11/17

Revised \_\_\_\_\_

## LICENSED EMPLOYEE GROUP BENEFITS

Licensed employees are eligible for group benefits as determined by the board and required by law. The board will select the group benefit program(s) and the insurance company or third party administrator which will provide or administer the program.

In accordance with the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA), the board will offer licensed employees who work an average of at least thirty (3) hours per week or one hundred thirty (13) hours per month, based on the measurement method adopted by the board, with minimum essential coverage that is both affordable and provides minimum value. Licensed employees who work between 20 and 30 hours per week may also choose to participate at a pro-rated amount per the percentage of time they work. The board will have the authority and right to change or eliminate group benefit programs, other than the group health plan, for its licensed employees.

Licensed employees who work an average of at least (3) hours per week or one hundred thirty (130) hours per month, based on the measurement method adopted by the board, are eligible to participate in the group health plan. Licensed employees who work at least 20 hours per week are eligible to participate in life, accidental death and dismemberment, and long-term disability group insurance plans. Employers should maintain documents regarding eligible employee's acceptance and rejection of coverage.

Regular part-time employees (i.e., employees who work less than 20 hours per week or 120 hours per month for health benefit purposes or employees who work less than 20 hours per week for benefits other than health) who wish to purchase coverage may participate in group benefit programs by meeting the requirements of the applicable plan. Full-time and regular part-time licensed employees who wish to purchase coverage for their spouse or dependents may do so by meeting the requirements of the applicable plan.

Licensed employees and their spouse and dependents may be allowed to continue coverage of the school district's group health program if they cease employment with the school district by meeting the requirements of the plan.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 20.9; 85; 85B; 279.12, .27; 509; 509A; 509B  
 Internal Revenue Code § 4980H9c(4); Treas. Reg. § 54.4980H-1(a)(21)(ii)  
 Shared Responsibility for Employers Regarding Health Coverage, 26 CFR parts 1, 54 and 301, 78 Fed. Reg. 217, (Jan 2, 2013)  
 Shared Responsibility for Employers Regarding Health Coverage, 26 CFR parts 1, 54 and 301, 79 Fed. Reg. 8543, (Feb. 12, 2014)

Cross Reference: 405.1 Licensed Employee Defined  
 706.2 Payroll Deductions

Approved 12/17

Reviewed 11/17

Revised \_\_\_\_\_

LICENSED EMPLOYEE TAX SHELTER PROGRAMS

The board authorizes the administration to make a payroll deduction for licensed employees' tax sheltered annuity premiums purchased from any company the employee chooses or through an Iowa-licensed salesperson selected by the employee.

Licensed employees wishing to have payroll deductions for tax sheltered annuities will make a written request to the superintendent.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 20.9; 260C; 273; 294.16 (2011).  
1988 Op. Att'y Gen. 38.  
1976 Op. Att'y Gen. 462, 602.  
1966 Op. Att'y Gen. 211, 220.

Cross Reference: 706 Payroll Procedures

Approved 12/17

Reviewed 11/17

Revised \_\_\_\_\_

LICENSED EMPLOYEE RESIGNATION

A licensed employee who wishes to resign must notify the superintendent in writing within the time period set by the board for return of the contract. This applies to regular contracts for the licensed employee's regular duties and for an extracurricular contract for extra duty. Resignations of this nature will be accepted by the board.

The board may require an individual who has resigned from an extracurricular contract to accept the resigned position for only the subsequent school year when the board has made a good faith effort to find a replacement and the licensed employee is continuing to be employed by the school district.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 91A.2, .3, .5; 279.13, .19A (2011).

Cross Reference: 405.3 Licensed Employee Individual Contracts  
405.4 Licensed Employee Continuing Contracts  
407 Licensed Employee Termination of Employment

Approved 12/17

Reviewed 11/17

Revised \_\_\_\_\_

LICENSED EMPLOYEE CONTRACT RELEASE

Licensed employees who wish to be released from an executed contract must give at least twenty-one days notice to the superintendent. Licensed employees may be released at the discretion of the board. Only in unusual and extreme circumstances will the board release a licensed employee from a contract. The board will have sole discretion to determine what constitutes unusual and extreme circumstances.

Release from a contract will be contingent upon finding a suitable replacement. Licensed employees requesting release from a contract after it has been signed and before it expires may be required to pay the board the cost of advertising incurred to locate and hire a suitable replacement. Upon written mutual agreement between the employee and the superintendent, the costs may be deducted from the employee's salary. Payment of these costs is a condition for release from the contract at the discretion of the board. Failure of the licensed employee to pay these expenses may result in a cause of action being filed in small claims court. The superintendent may recommend that any/all costs be removed/reduced.

The superintendent is authorized to file a complaint with the Board of Educational Examiners against a licensed employee who leaves without proper release from the board.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 216; 272; 279.13, .19A, .46 (2011).  
1978 Op. Att'y Gen. 247.  
1974 Op. Att'y Gen. 11, 322.

Cross Reference: 405.3 Licensed Employee Individual Contracts  
405.4 Licensed Employee Continuing Contracts  
407.3 Licensed Employee Retirement

Approved 12/17

Reviewed 11/17

Revised \_\_\_\_\_



LICENSED EMPLOYEE SUSPENSION

Licensed employees will perform their assigned job, respect and follow board policy and obey the law. The superintendent is authorized to suspend a licensed employee pending board action on a discharge, for investigation of charges against the employee, and for disciplinary purposes. It is within the discretion of the superintendent to suspend a licensed employee with or without pay.

In the event of a suspension, appropriate due process will be followed.

Legal Reference: Northeast Community Education Association v. Northeast Community School District, 402 N.W.2d 765 (Iowa 1987).  
McFarland v. Board of Education of Norwalk Community School District, 277 N.W.2d 901 (Iowa 1979).  
Iowa Code §§ 20.7, .24; 279.13, .15-.19, .27 (2011).

Cross Reference:           404    Employee Conduct and Appearance  
                                  407    Licensed Employee Termination of Employment

Approved 12/17                                   Reviewed 11/17                                   Revised \_\_\_\_\_

LICENSED EMPLOYEE REDUCTION IN FORCE

The board has the exclusive authority to determine the appropriate number of licensed employees. A reduction of licensed employees may occur as a result of, but not be limited to, changes in the education program, staff realignment, changes in the size or nature of the student population, financial situation considerations, and other reasons deemed relevant by the board.

The reduction in licensed employees, other than administrators, will be done through normal attrition if possible. If normal attrition does not meet the necessary reduction in force required, the board may terminate licensed employees.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent to make a recommendation for termination to the board. The superintendent shall consider the following criteria in making the recommendations:

- Endorsements and educational preparation within the grade level and subject areas in which the employee is now performing;
- Relative skills, ability and demonstrated performance;
- Qualifications for co-curricular programs; and
- Number of continuous years of service to the school district. This will be considered only when the foregoing factors are relatively equal between licensed employees.

Due process for terminations due to a reduction in force will be followed.

Legal Reference:Iowa Code §§ 20.7, .24; 279.13, .15-.19, .27 (2011).

Cross Reference:	407.5	Licensed Employee Suspension
	413.6	Classified Employee Reduction in Force
	703	Budget

Approved 12/17

Reviewed 11/17

Revised \_\_\_\_\_

## RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN AND EARLY RETIREMENT INCENTIVE PLAN

The Rock Valley Community School District Board of Directors encourages employees to save for retirement. The Board intends to offer a Retirement Savings Plan and, make available, on a limited basis, a Voluntary Early Retirement Incentive Plan to its certified teachers under certain terms and conditions.

### I. Retirement Savings Plan

Beginning September 2007, and continuing as long as the Board determines, all certified teachers will be provided compensation in the amount of \$540 per year in an effort to encourage employees to select a deferred compensation plan such as a tax sheltered annuity or other savings and investment option which is in compliance with Internal Revenue Code section 403(b). This will be an employee directed investment and neither the Board nor the District will be responsible for funds invested by the employee.

### II. Voluntary Early Retirement Incentive Plan

In addition to the Retirement Savings Plan described in Section I above, it is the intention of the Rock Valley Community School District to provide a supplemental benefit for those eligible employees who choose to retire early. Eligibility to participate in the Early Retirement Incentive Plan will be determined by the employee's years of service and age at the end of the school term in the year that early retirement is requested. Employees must be at least 57 years of age and have a minimum of 20 continuous years of service, as described below. Early retirement requests from employees who are not yet the age of 57 years may receive Board consideration but may be declined by the Board.

It is the intention of the Board of Directors to not create any age discrimination in this policy, but rather to reward years of service by the employee to this District. A person wishing to elect this benefit shall notify the superintendent by December 15 of the calendar year prior to commencement of the requested early retirement.

- A. Eligibility. To be eligible to apply for early retirement incentive benefits, the employee must:
1. Be a teacher\* with a certificate in good standing with the State of Iowa.
  2. Submit a written request or application for early retirement (also indicating an offer of resignation) on the form provided by December 15 of the calendar year prior to when the early retirement would commence.
  3. Sign a waiver on the form and comply with the procedures required by the Board of Directors and the law for execution of that waiver.
  4. Have completed the equivalent of 20 years of full-time continuous service in the district as a certified teacher (excluding absences due to illness or other approved leave.)
  5. The person must be under contract with the District and not have received a notice of staff reduction or notice of termination prior to submitting the request for acceptance of resignation.
  6. The person may not be on an extended unpaid leave of absence at the time of the application for early retirement.
  7. Persons who are serving on a part-time contract may receive the percentage of benefits (i.e. 50% teacher = 50% of the described benefits) as the person's contract is in the last year of employment.
  8. Retirement begins July 1 following the end of the school term in which the early retirement application was made.

B. Benefits. The benefits granted under this policy shall be limited to contributions by the School District towards the employee's health insurance and life insurance premiums.

1. Employees retiring on or before June 30, 2013.

Retiring teachers under this program may be entitled to a contribution toward single health insurance coverage with the District's group insurance plan. If approved, the School District will pay all or part of the cost of the actual premium for five years or until the employee/retiree becomes Medicare eligible, whichever occurs sooner. The District's level of monthly contribution will be determined as follows:

- a. The District will determine the number of months from the employee's retirement date to the date of Medicare eligibility, not to exceed 60 months.
- b. The District will establish the current monthly cost of insurance premium, up to a maximum of \$419.49 per month.
- c. The District will multiply the monthly cost for insurance (not to exceed \$419.49 per month) times the number of months until the employee is Medicare eligible, not to exceed 60 months. This product will be the total possible early retirement benefit.
- d. The District will reduce this total amount by the amount of compensation paid to the employee as part of the Retirement Savings Plan described in Section I above.
- e. The different between the total possible early retirement benefit and the Retirement Savings Plan payments will be divided into equal monthly installments and applied toward health insurance.

2. Employees retiring after June 30, 2013 but before July 1, 2018.

Retiring teachers under this program may be entitled to a contribution toward single health insurance coverage with the District's group insurance plan. If approved, the School District will pay all or part of the cost of the actual premium (up to \$419.49 per month) for five years or until the employee/retiree becomes Medicare eligible, which ever occurs sooner. The District's level of monthly contribution will be determined as follows:

- a. The District will determine the number of months from the employee's retirement date to the date of Medicare eligibility, not to exceed 60 months.
- b. The District will establish the current monthly cost of insurance premium at the applicable level of participation.
- c. The District will multiply the monthly cost for insurance times the number of months until the employee is Medicare eligible, not to exceed 60 months. This product will be the total possible early retirement benefit but shall not exceed \$16,881.26.
- d. The District will reduce this total amount by the total amount of money paid to the employee as part of the Retirement Savings Plan described above.
- e. The difference between the total possible early retirement benefit (up to a maximum of \$16,881.26) and the Retirement Savings Plan payments will be divided into equal monthly installments and applied toward health insurance.

3. Employees retiring after July 1, 2018.

The District anticipates that these employees will have accumulated substantial retirement savings through the benefit of the Retirement Savings Plan and through other means. These employees may elect to continue participation in the District's health insurance plan at their own expense until they reach 65 years of age pursuant to Iowa Code section 509A.12.

### C. Health Insurance Rates and Eligibility

For all employees, any increases in annual premium rates will be the responsibility of the employee/retiree. The retiree must meet the requirements of the insurer for coverage under this plan (i.e. spouse must be on health insurance at time of early retirement if employee is to carry continuing insurance on that individual). Health insurance coverage will stop at the death of a retiree with no additional reimbursement being made to the beneficiary or estate. Nothing in this policy shall limit the District's ability to change the terms of its existing health and major medical insurance coverage and the policy in no way guarantees the participating retiree any certain level of insurance benefits during the time of the retiree's participation in the health insurance portion of the early retirement program. Additionally, the retiree (or spouse/family) must be on the District's health insurance program at the time of the announced retirement to qualify for this benefit.

### III. Other Terms and Information

The Board of Directors may alter the terms and conditions of this policy with or without notice. The Board of Directors will make no guarantee that the Retirement Savings Plan or the Early Retirement Incentive Plan will continue. This will not affect those early retirement agreements already in progress.

In consideration of the benefits that will be provided by the Rock Valley Community School District through its Retirement Policy, the employee/retiree must resign and retire from all current contracts of employment, release the School District of any and all employment related claims, agree that he or she is not entitled to reemployment and agree that he or she will not apply for or seek employment with the School District at any time in the future.

An employee's application for retirement benefits on the form provided is, in itself, merely an application and not a resignation of a contract with the School District. The application may be rejected by the Board in its sole discretion. Acceptance by the Board of an employee's application for retirement will be considered a voluntary resignation and termination of his/her continuing contract effective at the end of the current school year. If the Board of Directors rejects an application for retirement benefits, the request for acceptance of resignation shall be considered void.

The Board may limit the number of early retirement benefit approvals in any given year. Should more than the designated number of employees apply, determination of priority shall be by the largest number of years of service first; the fewest number of years last; then by the date of application in the case of a tie.

Years of service as a substitute employee shall not count as part of this retirement package. Code No. 407.6

\*The definition of a teacher shall include certified staff members, employed as a member of the certified staff, and holding a valid Iowa license issued by the Board of Educational Examiners.

Legal Reference: 29 U.S.C. §§ 621 et seq. (2010)  
Iowa Code §§ 97B; 216; 279.46; 509A.13 (2011)  
1978 Op. Att'y Gen. 247  
1974 Op. Att'y Gen. 11, 322.

Cross Reference: 407.3 Recognition for Service of Employees  
413.2 Classified Employee Early Retirement

Approved 12/17

Reviewed 11/17

Revised \_\_\_\_\_

**ROCK VALLEY COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**RESIGNATION AND ELECTION FOR EARLY RETIREMENT**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, being born on \_\_\_\_\_, hereby submit to the Board of Directors of the Rock Valley Community School District and elect the early retirement benefits available to me in the Rock Valley Community School District.

I commenced \_\_\_\_\_ years of continuous full/part time service in the Rock Valley School District on \_\_\_\_\_. Additionally, I shall be allowed to continue participation in the district's health insurance programs and life insurance programs at least until the month in which the retired employee reaches the age of 65. The school district shall subsidize health insurance and life insurance as agreed in the Retirement Savings Plan and Early Retirement Incentive Plan.

In consideration of the benefits that will be provided to be by the School District through its Retirement Savings Plan and Early Retirement Incentive Plan, I hereby agree not to apply for or seek employment with the School District at any time in the future.

Retiree \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

The Board of Directors accepted this Resignation and Election for Early Retirement the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_, by action as noted in the minutes of the Board.

The benefits which I will receive in accordance with the above policy are:

1. Being allowed to continue my present **medical and hospital insurance** program with the Board of Education contributing to the payment of my premiums. I understand this coverage to be: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. Being allowed to continue my present level of **life insurance** with the Board of Education contributing to the payment of my premium. I understand this coverage to be:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

I, the undersigned, do hereby attest to these terms and conditions.

Employee \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary, Board of Directors, RVCSD Date \_\_\_\_\_

**ROCK VALLEY COMMUNITY SCHOOLS**  
**WAIVER AND RELEASE**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, signed this Waiver and Release with the terms and conditions as follows:

1. I, \_\_\_\_\_ have elected to take early retirement under the Early Retirement Incentive Plan available to teachers, the business manager and administrators in the Rock Valley Community School District.
2. By signing this Waiver and Release, the undersigned acknowledges and agrees that all rights are waived and released to claim that the Rock Valley Community School District has discriminated against the undersigned in any way due to age or that the undersigned has been treated unfairly in this retirement due to age.
3. The effect of this Waiver is to prevent the undersigned from suing the Rock Valley Community School District for age discrimination under the Older Workers Benefit Protection Act of the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967 (29 U.S.C. §621, et seq.). This Waiver releases any claims under those statutes that the undersigned may have. The claims, which are being released, would include but not be limited to a claim that this retirement was improperly coerced due to age of the undersigned or that there has been some age bias against the undersigned in some manner.
4. The undersigned is further advised that they may wish to consult an attorney before signing the Waiver.
5. The undersigned acknowledges that he/she received a copy of this Agreement on \_\_\_\_\_, 200\_\_\_\_\_, and that he/she was given twenty-one (21) days to consider this Agreement.
6. Following the date of the signing of this Agreement, \_\_\_\_\_ shall have seven (7) days to revoke the Agreement, and this Agreement shall not be effective until this seven (7) day period has expired.

This Waiver was delivered to \_\_\_\_\_ on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, by \_\_\_\_\_ of the Rock Valley Community School District.

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Secretary, RVCSD*

The undersigned, \_\_\_\_\_, hereby executes and signs this Waiver and Release voluntarily on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Retiring Employee*

LICENSED EMPLOYEE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The board encourages licensed employees to attend and participate in professional development activities to maintain, develop, and extend their skills. The board will maintain and support an in-service program for licensed employees.

Requests for attendance or participation in a development program, other than those development programs sponsored by the school district, are made to the superintendent. Approval of the superintendent must be obtained prior to attendance by a licensed employee in a professional development program when the attendance would result in the licensed employee being excused from their duties or when the school district pays the expenses for the program.

The superintendent will have sole discretion to allow or disallow licensed employees to attend or participate in the requested event. When making this determination, the superintendent will consider the value of the program for the licensed employee and the school district, the effect of the licensed employee's absence on the education program and school district operations and the school district's financial situation as well as other factors deemed relevant in the judgment of the superintendent.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code § 279.8 (2011).  
281 I.A.C. 12.7.

Cross Reference: 414.9 Classified Employee Professional Purposes Leave

Approved 12/17

Reviewed 11/17

Revised \_\_\_\_\_



LICENSED EMPLOYEE PUBLICATION OR CREATION OF MATERIALS

Materials created by licensed employees and the financial gain there from are the property of the school district if school materials and time were used in their creation and/or such materials were created in the scope of the licensed employee's employment. The licensed employee must seek prior written approval of the superintendent concerning such activities.

Legal Reference: 17 U.S.C. § 101 et al.  
Iowa Code § 279.8 (2011).

Cross Reference: 401.3 Employee Conflict of Interest  
606.6 Student Production of Materials and Services

Approved 12/17

Reviewed 11/17

Revised \_\_\_\_\_

LICENSED EMPLOYEE TUTORING

Every effort will be made by the licensed employees to help students with learning problems before recommending that the parents engage a tutor. Since there are exceptional cases when tutoring will help students overcome learning deficiencies, tutoring by licensed employees may be approved by the superintendent.

Licensed employees may only tutor students other than those for whom the teacher is currently exercising teaching, administrative or supervisory responsibility unless approved by the superintendent.

Tutoring for a fee may not take place within school facilities or during regular school hours unless approved by the superintendent.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 20.7; 279.8 (2011).

Cross Reference: 401.2 Employee Conflict of Interest  
402.7 Employee Outside Employment

Approved 12/17

Reviewed 11/17

Revised \_\_\_\_\_

LICENSED EMPLOYEE VACATION - HOLIDAYS - PERSONAL LEAVE

The board will determine the amount of vacation, holidays, and personal leave that will be allowed on an annual basis for licensed employees.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent to make a recommendation to the board annually on vacations, holidays, and personal leave for licensed employees.

Unused personal days will be reimbursed annually at the substitute rate. It is the responsibility of the superintendent to develop administrative regulations for the implementation of this policy.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 1C.1-.2; 4.1(34); 20.9 (2011).

Cross Reference: 414.1 Classified Employee Vacations - Holidays - Personal Leave  
601.1 School Calendar

Approved 12/17

Reviewed 11/17

Revised \_\_\_\_\_

## LICENSED EMPLOYEE PERSONAL ILLNESS – BEREAVEMENT – FAMILY ILLNESS LEAVE

Licensed employees will be granted ten days of sick leave in their first year of employment. Each year thereafter, one additional day of sick leave will be granted to the licensed employees up to a maximum of fifteen days. "Day" is defined as one work day regardless of full-time or part-time status of the employee. A new employee will report for work at least one full work day prior to receiving sick leave benefits. A returning employee will be granted the appropriate number of days at the beginning of each fiscal year.

Sick leave may be accumulated up to a maximum of 110 days for licensed employees.

The amounts shall apply only to consecutive years of employment in the same school district and unused portions shall be accumulative to at least a total of one hundred five days. The school board shall in each instance, require such reasonable evidence, as it may desire the necessity for such leave of absence.

Evidence may be required regarding the mental or physical health of the employee when the administration has a concern about the employee's health. Evidence may also be required to confirm the employee's illness, the need for the illness leave, the employee's ability to return to work, and the employee's capability to perform the duties of the employee's position. It is within the discretion of the board or the superintendent to determine the type and amount of evidence necessary. When an illness leave will be greater than three consecutive days, the employee will comply with the board policy regarding family and medical leave.

The Rock Valley Board of Education will accept requests from teachers who have used up their sick leaves, and cannot return to work. Such requests will be reviewed by the Board of Education and additional payment may be granted, depending on the individual situation and circumstance. A doctor's order will be required before such requests will be reviewed.

The following is a guideline to be used in determining leave of absence besides sick leave for the licensed employees of the Rock Valley Community School system. Days used for the following are to be deducted from the accumulated total sick leave. Approval by the Superintendent of Schools is necessary for the use of such days.

### NUMBER OF DAYS ALLOWED PER YEAR

#### DEATH OF:

Spouse – 10	Child – 10	Parents – 5
Grandchild – 4	Grandparents – 3	Sibling – 3
Mother/Father-in-law – 3	Sister/Brother-in-law – 2	Niece/Nephew – 2
Other – 1		

#### LEAVE FOR SERIOUS ILLNESS IN THE FAMILY:

(this must be serious and must be approved by the Administration before taken.)

Spouse – 4	Child – 4	Parents – 2
Grandparents – 2	Mother/Father-in-law – 2	Sibling – 2

TEACHERS ONLY:

The following must be arranged in advance and approved by the building principal. Two days will be granted for professional meetings. Personal leave will be granted for two days with no questions asked. Application for such leave must be received and approved 7 days before the date of leave, and no leave will be granted the day before or the day after a holiday or vacation day unless considered an emergency by the superintendent of schools. Additionally, personal leave will be granted for no more than two people from a building per day and none during the first/last week of the school year. Building level is defined as grade levels Preschool – Grade 5 and Grades 6 – 12.

Other temporary leaves of absence may be granted at the discretion of the Superintendent.

Legal Reference: Whitney v. Rural Ind. School District, 232 Iowa 61, 4 N.W.2d 394 (1942).

29 U.S.C. §§ 2601 *et seq.* (2010)

29 C.F.R. Pt. 825 (2010).

Iowa Code §§ 20; 85.33, .34, .38(3); 216; 279.40 (2011).

1980 Op. Att'y Gen. 605.

1972 Op. Att'y Gen. 177, 353.

1952 Op. Att'y Gen. 91.

Cross Reference:	403.2	Employee Injury on the Job
	409.3	Licensed Employee Family and Medical Leave
	409.8	Licensed Employee Unpaid Leave

Approved 12/17

Reviewed 11/17

Revised \_\_\_\_\_

## LICENSED EMPLOYEE SICK BANK

Beginning, July 1, 2008, a Sick Leave Bank will be established for the use of all instructional staff that voluntarily chose to participate during that contract year. The purpose of the sick bank is to provide sick leave benefits to those employees who incur a prolonged serious health condition, illness or injury and have exhausted their sick leave and personal leave. Eligibility of sick leave bank days will commence on the first day after the exhaustion of personal sick leave and personal leave. Bank days will not be available if the employee qualifies for disability insurance, workers compensation, and/or social security disability. The bank year will be the contract year, and there will be no carry over of days from one year to the next. A doctor's order is required to qualify for payment from the sick leave bank. However, this does not guarantee the availability of the use of the sick bank.

## Guidelines:

1. To be eligible to participate, an employee must enroll no later than September 1 of the contract year and contribute one sick day from his/her current year allocation of sick days. Enrollment will consist of filling out, signing and submitting the school districts Sick Leave Bank Enrollment Form to the superintendent's office. Once enrolled, the eligibility is automatically continued every year until canceled by the employee. This cancellation shall be in writing, signed and submitted to the superintendent's office by the employee prior to September 1 of each contract year.
2. The annual contribution by a member may not exceed one sick day of the current contract years allocation of sick leave. To be eligible to participate in the Sick Leave Bank the employee must have contributed during the contract year. In turn, each participant would be entitled to utilize the Sick Leave Bank on a first come – first serve basis. However, an employee may not use more than fifteen days from the Sick Leave Bank. In rare circumstances, an employee may petition the superintendent for additional days if the Sick Leave Bank has a remaining balance of days. Decisions relative to granting these additional days will be made by the superintendent with input from the Rock Valley Education Association.
3. The day contributed to the Sick Leave Bank shall become the property of the bank and are non-returnable to the employee. Days contributed to the school district sick bank will not impact the schedule for unused sick days and/or personal days.
4. Eligible employees must request in writing to the superintendent that he/she wishes to withdraw days from the Sick Leave Bank.
5. Should all days in the Sick Leave Bank be expended, that years allocation of days in the Sick Leave Bank would be considered used. No further contributions to the Sick Leave Bank will be allowed during that contract year.
6. All records of the Sick Leave Bank shall be maintained in the superintendent's office.
7. The decision in granting use of the sick leave bank rests with the superintendent. However, the superintendent will consult with the president of the Rock Valley Education Association in granting Sick Leave Bank days.

LICENSED EMPLOYEE FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE

Unpaid family and medical leave will be granted up to 12 weeks per year to assist employees in balancing family and work life and as otherwise provided by law. Requests for family and medical leave will be made to the superintendent.

Employees shall be allowed to substitute available paid leave for unpaid family and medical leave by meeting the requirements set out in the family and medical leave administrative rules. Employees eligible for family and medical leave must comply with the family and medical leave administrative rules prior to starting family and medical leave. It is the responsibility of the superintendent to develop administrative rules to implement this policy.

Links: <https://www.dol.gov/whd/regs/compliance/posters/fmlaen.pdf>  
WH-380-E Certification of Health Care Provider for Employee’s Serious Health Condition (pdf)  
WH-380-F Certification of Health Care Provider for Family Member’s Serious Health Condition  
WH-381 Notice of Eligibility and Rights & Responsibilities (pdf)  
WH-382 Designation Notice (pdf)  
WH-384 Certification of qualifying Exigency for Military Family Leave (pdf)  
WH-385 Certification for Serious Injury or Illness of Covered Servicemember – for Military Family Leave (pdf)

Legal Reference: Whitney v. Rural Ind. School. District, 232 Iowa 61, 4 N.W.2d 394 (1942).  
26 U.S.C. §§ 2601 *et seq.*  
29 C.F.R. Pt. 825  
Iowa Code §§ 20; 85; 216; 279.40

Cross Reference: 409.2 Licensed Employee Personal Illness Leave  
409.9 Licensed Employee Unpaid Leave  
414.3 Classified Employee Family and Medical Leave

Approved 12/17

Reviewed 11/17

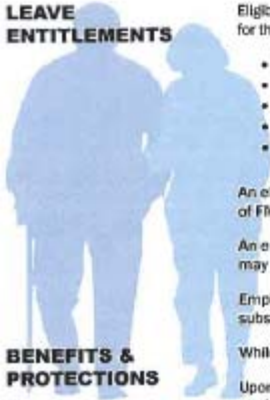
Revised \_\_\_\_\_

## LICENSED EMPLOYEE FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE NOTICE TO EMPLOYEES

# EMPLOYEE RIGHTS UNDER THE FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE ACT

THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR WAGE AND HOUR DIVISION

## LEAVE ENTITLEMENTS



Eligible employees who work for a covered employer can take up to 12 weeks of unpaid, job-protected leave in a 12-month period for the following reasons:

- The birth of a child or placement of a child for adoption or foster care;
- To bond with a child (leave must be taken within 1 year of the child's birth or placement);
- To care for the employee's spouse, child, or parent who has a qualifying serious health condition;
- For the employee's own qualifying serious health condition that makes the employee unable to perform the employee's job;
- For qualifying exigencies related to the foreign deployment of a military member who is the employee's spouse, child, or parent.

An eligible employee who is a covered servicemember's spouse, child, parent, or next of kin may also take up to 26 weeks of FMLA leave in a single 12-month period to care for the servicemember with a serious injury or illness.

An employee does not need to use leave in one block. When it is medically necessary or otherwise permitted, employees may take leave intermittently or on a reduced schedule.

Employees may choose, or an employer may require, use of accrued paid leave while taking FMLA leave. If an employee substitutes accrued paid leave for FMLA leave, the employee must comply with the employer's normal paid leave policies.

While employees are on FMLA leave, employers must continue health insurance coverage as if the employees were not on leave.

Upon return from FMLA leave, most employees must be restored to the same job or one nearly identical to it with equivalent pay, benefits, and other employment terms and conditions.

An employer may not interfere with an individual's FMLA rights or retaliate against someone for using or trying to use FMLA leave, opposing any practice made unlawful by the FMLA, or being involved in any proceeding under or related to the FMLA.

## BENEFITS & PROTECTIONS

## ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

An employee who works for a covered employer must meet three criteria in order to be eligible for FMLA leave. The employee must:

- Have worked for the employer for at least 12 months;
- Have at least 1,250 hours of service in the 12 months before taking leave;\* and
- Work at a location where the employer has at least 50 employees within 75 miles of the employee's worksite.

\*Special "hours of service" requirements apply to airline flight crew employees.

## REQUESTING LEAVE

Generally, employees must give 30 days' advance notice of the need for FMLA leave. If it is not possible to give 30-days' notice, an employee must notify the employer as soon as possible and, generally, follow the employer's usual procedures.

Employees do not have to share a medical diagnosis, but must provide enough information to the employer so it can determine if the leave qualifies for FMLA protection. Sufficient information could include informing an employer that the employee is or will be unable to perform his or her job functions, that a family member cannot perform daily activities, or that hospitalization or continuing medical treatment is necessary. Employees must inform the employer if the need for leave is for a reason for which FMLA leave was previously taken or certified.

Employers can require a certification or periodic recertification supporting the need for leave. If the employer determines that the certification is incomplete, it must provide a written notice indicating what additional information is required.

## EMPLOYER RESPONSIBILITIES

Once an employer becomes aware that an employee's need for leave is for a reason that may qualify under the FMLA, the employer must notify the employee if he or she is eligible for FMLA leave and, if eligible, must also provide a notice of rights and responsibilities under the FMLA. If the employee is not eligible, the employer must provide a reason for ineligibility.

Employers must notify its employees if leave will be designated as FMLA leave, and if so, how much leave will be designated as FMLA leave.

## ENFORCEMENT

Employees may file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Labor, Wage and Hour Division, or may bring a private lawsuit against an employer.

The FMLA does not affect any federal or state law prohibiting discrimination or supersede any state or local law or collective bargaining agreement that provides greater family or medical leave rights.



For additional information or to file a complaint:

## 1-866-4-USWAGE

(1-866-487-9243) TTY: 1-877-889-5627

## www.dol.gov/whd

U.S. Department of Labor | Wage and Hour Division






EMPLOYEE FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE REQUEST FORM

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

I, \_\_\_\_\_, request family and medical leave for the following reason:

(check all that apply)

- for the birth of my child;
- for the placement of a child for adoption or foster care;
- to care for my child who has a serious health condition;
- to care for my parent who has a serious health condition;
- to care for my spouse who has a serious health condition; or
- because I am seriously ill and unable to perform the essential functions of my position.
- because of a qualifying exigency arising out of the fact that my \_\_\_ spouse; \_\_\_ son or daughter; \_\_\_ parent is on active duty or call to active duty status in support of a contingency operation as a member of the National Guard or Reserves.
- because I am the \_\_\_ spouse; \_\_\_ son or daughter; \_\_\_ parent; \_\_\_ next of kin of a covered service member with a serious injury or illness.

I acknowledge my obligation to provide medical certification of my serious health condition or that of a family member in order to be eligible for family and medical leave within 15 days of the request for certification.

I acknowledge receipt of information regarding my obligations under the family and medical leave policy of the school district.

I request that my family and medical leave begin on \_\_\_\_\_ and I request leave as follows:

(check one)

continuous  
I anticipate that I will be able to return to work on \_\_\_\_\_.

intermittent leave for the:

- birth of my child or adoption or foster care placement subject to agreement by the district;
- serious health condition of myself, spouse, parent, or child when medically necessary;
- because of a qualifying exigency arising out of the fact that my \_\_\_ spouse; \_\_\_ son or daughter; \_\_\_ parent is on active duty or call to active duty status in support of a contingency operation as a member of the National Guard or Reserves.
- because I am the \_\_\_ spouse; \_\_\_ son or daughter; \_\_\_ parent; \_\_\_ next of kin of a covered service member with a serious injury or illness.

Details of the needed intermittent leave:

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I anticipate returning to work at my regular schedule on \_\_\_\_\_.

EMPLOYEE FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE REQUEST FORM

\_\_\_\_\_ reduced work schedule for the:

- \_\_\_\_\_ birth of my child or adoption or foster care placement subject to agreement by the district;
- \_\_\_\_\_ serious health condition of myself, spouse, parent, or child when medically necessary;
- \_\_\_\_\_ because of a qualifying exigency arising out of the fact that my \_\_\_\_\_ spouse;
  - \_\_\_\_\_ son or daughter; \_\_\_\_\_ parent is on active duty or call to active duty status in support of a contingency operation as a member of the National Guard or Reserves.
- \_\_\_\_\_ because I am the \_\_\_\_\_ spouse; \_\_\_\_\_ son or daughter; \_\_\_\_\_ parent; \_\_\_\_\_ next of kin of a covered service member with a serious injury or illness.

Details of needed reduction in work schedule as follows:

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I anticipate returning to work at my regular schedule on \_\_\_\_\_.

I realize I may be moved to an alternative position during the period of the family and medical intermittent or reduced work schedule leave. I also realize that with foreseeable intermittent or reduced work schedule leave, subject to the requirements of my health care provider, I may be required to schedule the leave to minimize interruptions to school district operations.

While on family and medical leave, I agree to pay my regular contributions to employer sponsored benefit plans. My contributions will be deducted from moneys owed me during the leave period. If no monies are owed me, I will reimburse the school district by personal check or cash for my contributions. I understand that I may be dropped from the employer-sponsored benefit plans for failure to pay my contribution.

I agree to reimburse the school district for any payment of my contributions with deductions from future monies owed to me or the school district may seek reimbursement of payments of my contributions in court.

I acknowledge that the above information is true to the best of my knowledge.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

If the employee requesting leave is unable to meet the above criteria, the employee is not eligible for family and medical leave.

## EMPLOYEE FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE REGULATION

## A. School district notice.

1. The school district will post the notice in Exhibit 409.3E1 regarding family and medical leave.
2. Information on the Family and Medical Leave Act and the board policy on family and medical leave, including leave provisions and employee obligations will be provided annually.
3. When an employee requests family and medical leave, the school district will provide the employee with information listing the employee's obligations and requirements. Such information will include:
  - a. a statement clarifying whether the leave qualifies as family and medical leave and will, therefore, be credited to the employee's annual 12-week entitlement or 26 week entitlement depending on the purpose of the leave;
  - b. a reminder that employees requesting family and medical leave for their serious health condition or for that of an immediate family member must furnish medical certification of the serious health condition and the consequences for failing to do so or proof of call to active duty in the case of military family and medical leave;
  - c. an explanation of the employee's right to substitute paid leave for family and medical leave including a description of when the school district requires substitution of paid leave and the conditions related to the substitution; and
  - d. a statement notifying employees that they must pay and must make arrangements for paying any premium or other payments to maintain health or other benefits.

## B. Eligible employees.

Option I:

Employees are eligible for family and medical leave if three criteria are met.

1. The school district has more than 50 employees on the payroll at the time leave is requested;
2. The employee has worked for the school district for at least twelve months or 52 weeks (the months and weeks need not be consecutive); and,
3. The employee has worked at least 1,250 hours within the previous year. Full-time professional employees who are exempt from the wage and hour law may be presumed to have worked the minimum hour requirement.

If the employee requesting leave is unable to meet the above criteria, the employee is not eligible for family and medical leave.

## EMPLOYEE FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE REGULATION

- C. Employee requesting leave -- two types of leave.
1. Foreseeable family and medical leave.
    - a. Definition - leave is foreseeable for the birth or placement of an adopted or foster child with the employee or for planned medical treatment.
    - b. Employee must give at least thirty days notice for foreseeable leave. Failure to give the notice may result in the leave beginning thirty days after notice was received. For those taking leave due to military family and medical leave, notice should be given as soon as possible.
    - c. Employees must consult with the school district prior to scheduling planned medical treatment leave to minimize disruption to the school district. The scheduling is subject to the approval of the health care provider.
  2. Unforeseeable family and medical leave.
    - a. Definition - leave is unforeseeable in such situations as emergency medical treatment or premature birth.
    - b. Employee must give notice as soon as possible but no later than one to two work days after learning that leave will be necessary.
    - c. A spouse or family member may give the notice if the employee is unable to personally give notice.
- D. Eligible family and medical leave determination. The school district may require the employee giving notice of the need for leave to provide reasonable documentation or a statement of family relationship.
1. Six purposes.
    - a. The birth of a son or daughter of the employee and in order to care for that son or daughter prior to the first anniversary of the child's birth;
    - b. The placement of a son or daughter with the employee for adoption or foster care and in order to care for that son or daughter prior to the first anniversary of the child's placement;
    - c. To care for the spouse, son, daughter or parent of the employee if the spouse, son, daughter or parent has a serious health condition; or
    - d. Employee's serious health condition that makes the employee unable to perform the essential functions of the employee's position.
    - e. because of a qualifying exigency arising out of the fact that an employee's \_\_\_ spouse; \_\_\_ son or daughter; \_\_\_ parent is on active duty or call to active duty status in support of a contingency operation as a member of the National Guard or Reserves.
    - f. because the employee is the spouse; \_\_\_ son or daughter; \_\_\_ parent; \_\_\_ next of kin of a covered service member with a serious injury or illness.

## EMPLOYEE FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE REGULATION

2. Medical certification.
  - a. When required:
    - (1) Employees shall be required to present medical certification of the employee's serious health condition and inability to perform the essential functions of the job.
    - (2) Employees shall be required to present medical certification of the family member's serious health condition and that it is medically necessary for the employee to take leave to care for the family member.
    - (3) Employees shall be required to present certification of the call to active duty when taking military family and medical leave.
  - b. Employee's medical certification responsibilities:
    - (1) The employee must obtain the certification from the health care provider who is treating the individual with the serious health condition.
    - (2) The school district may require the employee to obtain a second certification by a health care provider chosen by and paid for by the school district if the school district has reason to doubt the validity of the certification an employee submits. The second health care provider cannot, however, be employed by the school district on a regular basis.
    - (3) If the second health care provider disagrees with the first health care provider, then the school district may require a third health care provider to certify the serious health condition. This health care provider must be mutually agreed upon by the employee and the school district and paid for by the school district. This certification or lack of certification is binding upon both the employee and the school district.
  - c. Medical certification will be required fifteen days after family and medical leave begins unless it is impracticable to do so. The school district may request recertification every thirty days. Recertification must be submitted within fifteen days of the school district's request.
  - d. Employees taking military caregiver family and medical leave to care for a family service member cannot be required to obtain a second opinion or to provide recertification.

Family and medical leave requested for the serious health condition of the employee or to care for a family member with a serious health condition which is not supported by medical certification will be denied until such certification is provided.

## E. Entitlement.

1. Employees are entitled to twelve weeks unpaid family and medical leave per year. Employees taking military caregiver family and medical leave to care for a family service member are entitled to 26 weeks of unpaid family and medical leave but only in a single 12 month period.
2. Year is defined as:  
Option I - Fiscal year
3. If insufficient leave is available, the school district may:
  - a. Deny the leave if entitlement is exhausted
  - b. Award leave available
  - c. Award leave in accordance with other provisions of board policy or the collective bargaining agreement.

## EMPLOYEE FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE REGULATION

## F. Type of Leave Requested.

1. Continuous - employee will not report to work for set number of days or weeks.
2. Intermittent - employee requests family and medical leave for separate periods of time.
  - a. Intermittent leave is available for:
    - \_\_\_ birth of my child or adoption or foster care placement subject to agreement by the district;
    - \_\_\_ serious health condition of myself, spouse, parent, or child when medically necessary;
    - \_\_\_ because of a qualifying exigency arising out of the fact that my \_\_\_ spouse; \_\_\_ son or daughter; \_\_\_ parent is on active duty or call to active duty status in support of a contingency operation as a member of the National Guard or Reserves;
    - \_\_\_ because I am the \_\_\_ spouse; \_\_\_ son or daughter; \_\_\_ parent; \_\_\_ next of kin of a covered service member with a serious injury or illness.
  - b. In the case of foreseeable intermittent leave, the employee must schedule the leave to minimize disruption to the school district operation.
  - c. During the period of foreseeable intermittent leave, the school district may move the employee to an alternative position with equivalent pay and benefits. (*For instructional employees, see G below.*)
3. Reduced work schedule - employee requests a reduction in the employee's regular work schedule.
  - a. Reduced work schedule family and medical leave is available for:
    - \_\_\_ birth of my child or adoption or foster care placement subject to agreement by the district;
    - \_\_\_ serious health condition of myself, spouse, parent, or child when medically necessary;
    - \_\_\_ because of a qualifying exigency arising out of the fact that my \_\_\_ spouse; \_\_\_ son or daughter; \_\_\_ parent is on active duty or call to active duty status in support of a contingency operation as a member of the National Guard or Reserves;
    - \_\_\_ because I am the \_\_\_ spouse; \_\_\_ son or daughter; \_\_\_ parent; \_\_\_ next of kin of a covered service member with a serious injury or illness.
  - b. In the case of foreseeable reduced work schedule leave, the employee must schedule the leave to minimize disruption to the school district operation.
  - c. During the period of foreseeable reduced work schedule leave, the school district may move the employee to an alternative position with equivalent pay and benefits.

## G. Special Rules for Instructional Employees.

1. Definition - an instructional employee is one whose principal function is to teach and instruct students in a class, a small group or an individual setting. This includes, but is not limited to, teachers, coaches, driver's education instructors and special education assistants.
2. Instructional employees who request foreseeable medically necessary intermittent or reduced work schedule family and medical leave greater than twenty percent of the work days in the leave period may be required to:
  - a. Take leave for the entire period or periods of the planned medical treatment; or,
  - b. Move to an available alternative position, with equivalent pay and benefits, but not necessarily equivalent duties, for which the employee is qualified.

## EMPLOYEE FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE REGULATION

3. Instructional employees who request continuous family and medical leave near the end of a semester may be required to extend the family and medical leave through the end of the semester. The number of weeks remaining before the end of a semester does not include scheduled school breaks, such as summer, winter or spring break.
    - a. If an instructional employee begins family and medical leave for any purpose more than five weeks before the end of a semester, the school district may require that the leave be continued until the end of the semester if the leave will last at least three weeks and the employee would return to work during the last three weeks of the semester if the leave was not continued.
    - b. If the employee begins family and medical leave for a purpose other than the employee's own serious health condition during the last five weeks of a semester, the school district may require that the leave be continued until the end of the semester if the leave will last more than two weeks and the employee would return to work during the last two weeks of the semester.
    - c. If the employee begins family and medical leave for a purpose other than the employee's own serious health condition during the last three weeks of the semester and the leave will last more than five working days, the school district may require the employee to continue taking leave until the end of the semester.
  4. The entire period of leave taken under the special rules is credited as family and medical leave. The school district will continue to fulfill the school district's family and medical leave responsibilities and obligations, including the obligation to continue the employee's health insurance and other benefits, if an instructional employee's family and medical leave entitlement ends before the involuntary leave period expires.
- H. Employee responsibilities while on family and medical leave.
1. Employee must continue to pay health care benefit contributions or other benefit contributions regularly paid by the employee unless employee elects not to continue the benefits.
  2. The employee contribution payments will be deducted from any money owed to the employee or the employee will reimburse the school district at a time set by the superintendent.
  3. An employee who fails to make the health care contribution payments within thirty days after they are due will be notified that their coverage may be canceled if payment is not received within an additional 15 days.
  4. An employee may be asked to re-certify the medical necessity of family and medical leave for the serious medical condition of an employee or family member once every thirty days and return the certification within fifteen days of the request.
  5. The employee must notify the school district of the employee's intent to return to work at least once each month during their leave and at least two weeks prior to the conclusion of the family and medical leave.
  6. If an employee intends not to return to work, the employee must immediately notify the school district, in writing, of the employee's intent not to return. The school district will cease benefits upon receipt of this notification.

EMPLOYEE FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE REGULATION

I. Use of paid leave for family and medical leave.

Option 1:

An employee may substitute unpaid family and medical leave with appropriate paid leave available to the employee. Paid leave includes, but is not limited to, sick leave, family illness leave, vacation, personal leave, bereavement leave and professional leave. Upon the expiration of available paid leave, any remaining family and medical leave is unpaid. When the school district determines that paid leave is being taken for an FMLA reason, the school district will notify the employee within two business days that the paid leave will be counted as FMLA leave.



## EMPLOYEE FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE DEFINITIONS

Active Duty - duty under a call or order to active duty under a provision of law referring to in section 101(a)(13) of title 10, U.S. Code.

Common Law Marriage - according to Iowa law, common law marriages exist when there is a present intent by the two parties to be married, continuous cohabitation, and a public declaration that the parties are husband and wife. There is no time factor that needs to be met in order for there to be a common law marriage.

Contingency Operation - has the same meaning given such term in section 101(a)(13) of title 10, U.S. Code.

Continuing Treatment - a serious health condition involving continuing treatment by a health care provider includes any one or more of the following:

- A period of incapacity (i.e., inability to work, attend school or perform other regular daily activities due to the serious health condition, treatment for or recovery from) of more than three consecutive calendar days and any subsequent treatment or period of incapacity relating to the same condition that also involves:
  - treatment two or more times by a health care provider, by a nurse or physician's assistant under direct supervision of a health care provider, or by a provider of health care services (e.g., physical therapist) under orders of, or in referral by, a health care provider; or
  - treatment by a health care provider on at least one occasion which results in a regimen of continuing treatment under the supervision of a the health care provider.
- Any period of incapacity due to pregnancy or for prenatal care.
- Any period of incapacity or treatment for such incapacity due to a chronic serious health condition. A chronic serious health condition is one which:
  - requires periodic visits for treatment by a health care provider or by a nurse or physician's assistant under direct supervision of a health care provider;
  - Continues over an extended period of time (including recurring episodes of a single underlying condition); and
  - May cause episodic rather than a continuing period of incapacity (e.g., asthma, diabetes, epilepsy, etc.).
- Any period of incapacity which is permanent or long-term due to a condition for which treatment may not be effective. The employee or family member must be under the continuing supervision of, but need not be receiving active treatment by, a health care provider. Examples include Alzheimer's, a severe stroke or the terminal stages of a disease.
- Any period of absence to receive multiple treatments (including any period of recovery from) by a health care provider or by a provider of health care services under orders of, or on referral by, a health care provider, either for restorative surgery after an accident or other injury, or for a condition that would likely result in a period of incapacity of more than three consecutive calendar days in the absence of medical intervention or treatment, such as cancer (chemotherapy, radiation, etc.), severe arthritis (physical therapy), kidney disease (dialysis).

Covered Servicemember - a current member of the Armed Forces, including a member of the National Guard or Reserves, who is undergoing medical treatment, recuperation, or therapy, is otherwise in outpatient status, or is otherwise on the temporary disability retired list, for a serious injury or illness.

Eligible Employee - the district has more than 50 employees on the payroll at the time leave is requested. The employee has worked for the district for at least twelve months and has worked at least 1250 hours within the previous year.

Essential Functions of the Job - those functions which are fundamental to the performance of the job. It does not include marginal functions.

## EMPLOYEE FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE DEFINITIONS

Employment Benefits - all benefits provided or made available to employees by an employer, including group life insurance, health insurance, disability insurance, sick leave, annual leave, educational benefits, and pensions, regardless of whether such benefits are provided by a practice or written policy of an employer or through an "employee benefit plan."

Family Member - individuals who meet the definition of son, daughter, spouse or parent.

Group Health Plan - any plan of, or contributed to by, an employer (including a self-insured plan) to provide health care (directly or otherwise) to the employer's employees, former employees, or the families of such employees or former employees.

Health Care Provider-

- A doctor of medicine or osteopathy who is authorized to practice medicine or surgery by the state in which the doctor practices; or
- Podiatrists, dentists, clinical psychologists, optometrists, and chiropractors (limited to treatment consisting of manual manipulation of the spine to correct a subluxation as demonstrated by X ray to exist) authorized to practice in the state and performing within the scope of their practice as defined under state law; and
- Nurse practitioners and nurse-midwives, and clinical social workers who are authorized to practice under state law and who are performing within the scope of their practice as defined under state law; and
- Christian Science practitioners listed with the First Church of Christ Scientist in Boston, Massachusetts;
- Any health care provider from whom an employer or a group health plan's benefits manager will accept certification of the existence of a serious health condition to substantiate a claim for benefits;
- A health care provider as defined above who practices in a country other than the United States who is licensed to practice in accordance with the laws and regulations of that country.

In Loco Parentis - individuals who had or have day-to-day responsibilities for the care and financial support of a child not their biological child or who had the responsibility for an employee when the employee was a child.

Incapable of Self-Care - that the individual requires active assistance or supervision to provide daily self-care in several of the "activities of daily living" or "ADLs." Activities of daily living include adaptive activities such as caring appropriately for one's grooming and hygiene, bathing, dressing, eating, cooking, cleaning, shopping, taking public transportation, paying bills, maintaining a residence, using telephones and directories, using a post office, etc.

Instructional Employee - an employee employed principally in an instructional capacity by an educational agency or school whose principal function is to teach and instruct students in a class, a small group, or an individual setting, and includes athletic coaches, driving instructors, and special education assistants such as signers for the hearing impaired. The term does not include teacher assistants or aides who do not have as their principal function actual teaching or instructing, nor auxiliary personnel such as counselors, psychologists, curriculum specialists, cafeteria workers, maintenance workers, bus drivers, or other primarily noninstructional employees.

Intermittent Leave - leave taken in separate periods of time due to a single illness or injury, rather than for one continuous period of time, and may include leave or periods from an hour or more to several weeks.

Medically Necessary - certification for medical necessity is the same as certification for serious health condition.

## EMPLOYEE FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE DEFINITIONS

"Needed to Care For" - the medical certification that an employee is "needed to care for" a family member encompasses both physical and psychological care. For example, where, because of a serious health condition, the family member is unable to care for his or her own basic medical, hygienic or nutritional needs or safety or is unable to transport himself or herself to medical treatment. It also includes situations where the employee may be needed to fill in for others who are caring for the family member or to make arrangements for changes in care.

Next of Kin - an individual's nearest blood relative

Outpatient Status - the status of a member of the Armed Forces assigned to –

- either a military medical treatment facility as an outpatient; or
- a unit established for the purpose of providing command and control of members of the Armed Forces receiving medical care as outpatients.

Parent - a biological parent or an individual who stands in loco parentis to a child or stood in loco parentis to an employee when the employee was a child. Parent does not include parent-in-law.

Physical or Mental Disability - a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more of the major life activities of an individual.

Reduced Leave Schedule - a leave schedule that reduces the usual number of hours per workweek, or hours per workday, of an employee.

Serious Health Condition -

- An illness, injury, impairment, or physical or mental condition that involves:
- Inpatient care (i.e. an overnight stay) in a hospital, hospice or residential medical care facility including any period of incapacity (for purposes of this section, defined to mean inability to work, attend school or perform other regular daily activities due to the serious health condition, treatment for or recovery from), or any subsequent treatment in connection with such inpatient care; or
- Continuing treatment by a health care provider. A serious health condition involving continuing treatment by a health care provider includes:
  - A period of incapacity (i.e., inability to work, attend school or perform other regular daily activities due to the serious health condition, treatment for or recovery from) of more than three consecutive calendar days, including any subsequent treatment or period of incapacity relating to the same condition, that also involves:
    - Treatment two or more times by a health care provider, by a nurse or physician's assistant under direct supervision of a health care provider, or by a provider of health care services (e.g., physical therapist) under orders or, or on referral by, a health care provider; or
    - Treatment by a health care provider on at least one occasion which results in a regimen of continuing treatment under the supervision of the health care provider.
  - Any period of incapacity due to pregnancy or for prenatal care.
  - Any period of incapacity or treatment for such incapacity due to a chronic serious health condition. A chronic serious health condition is one which:
    - Requires periodic visits for treatment by a health care provider or by a nurse or physician's assistant under direct supervision of a health care provider;
    - Continues over an extended period of time (including recurring episodes of a single underlying condition); and
    - May cause episodic rather than a continuing period of incapacity (e.g., asthma, diabetes, epilepsy, etc.).

## EMPLOYEE FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE DEFINITIONS

- A period of incapacity which is permanent or long-term due to a condition for which treatment may not be effective. The employee or family member must be under the continuing supervision of, but need not be receiving active treatment by, a health care provider. Examples include Alzheimer's a severe stroke or the terminal stages of a disease.
- Any period of absence to receive multiple treatments (including any period of recovery from) by a health care provider or by a provider of health care services under orders of, or on referral by, a health care provider, either for restorative surgery after an accident or other injury, or for a condition that would likely result in a period of incapacity of more than three consecutive calendar days in the absence of medical intervention or treatment, such as cancer (chemotherapy, radiation, etc.), severe arthritis (physical therapy), kidney disease (dialysis).
- Treatment for purposes of this definition includes, but is not limited to, examinations to determine if a serious health condition exists and evaluation of the condition. Treatment does not include routine physical examinations, eye examinations or dental examinations. Under this definition, a regimen of continuing treatment includes, for example, a course of prescription medication (e.g., an antibiotic) or therapy requiring special equipment to resolve or alleviate the health condition (e.g., oxygen). A regimen of continuing treatment that includes the taking of over-the-counter medications such as aspirin, antihistamines, or salves; or bed rest, drinking fluids, exercise and other similar activities that can be initiated without a visit to a health care provider, is not, by itself, sufficient to constitute a regimen of continuing treatment for purposes of FMLA leave.
- Conditions for which cosmetic treatments are administered (such as most treatments for acne or plastic surgery) are not "serious health conditions" unless inpatient hospital care is required or unless complications develop. Ordinarily, unless complications arise, the common cold, the flu, ear aches, upset stomach, ulcers, headaches other than migraine, routine dental or orthodontia problems, periodontal disease, etc., are examples of conditions that do not meet the definition of a serious health condition and do not qualify for FMLA leave. Restorative dental or plastic surgery after an injury or removal of cancerous growths are serious health conditions provided all the other conditions of this regulation are met. Mental illness resulting from stress or allergies may be serious health conditions, but only if all the conditions of this section are met.
- Substance abuse may be a serious health condition if the conditions of this section are met. However, FMLA leave may only be taken for treatment for substance abuse by a health care provider or by a provider of health care on referral by a health care provider. On the other hand, absence because of the employee's use of the substance, rather than for treatment, does not qualify for FMLA leave.
- Absence attributable to incapacity under this definition qualify for FMLA leave even though the employee or the immediate family member does not receive treatment from a health care provider during the absence, and even if the absence does not last more than three days. For example, an employee with asthma may be unable to report for work due to the onset of an asthma attack or because the employee's health care provider has advised the employee to stay home when the pollen count exceeds a certain level. An employee who is pregnant may be unable to report to work because of severe morning sickness.

Serious Injury or Illness - an injury or illness incurred by a member of the Armed forces, including the National Guard or Reserves in the line of duty on active duty in the Armed Forces that may render the member medically unfit to perform the duties of the member's office, grade, rank, or rating.

Son or daughter - a biological child, adopted child, foster child, stepchild, legal ward, or a child of a person standing in loco parentis. The child must be under age 18 or, if over 18, incapable of self-care because of a mental or physical disability.

Spouse - a husband or wife recognized by Iowa law including common law marriages.

LICENSED EMPLOYEE POLITICAL LEAVE

The board will provide a leave of absence to licensed employees to run for elective public office. The superintendent will grant a licensed employee a leave of absence to campaign as a candidate for an elective public office as unpaid leave.

The licensed employee will be entitled to one period of leave to run for the elective public office, and the leave may commence within thirty days of a contested primary, special, or general election and continue until the day following the election.

The request for leave must be in writing to the superintendent of schools at least thirty days prior to the starting date of the requested leave.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code ch. 55 (2011).

Cross Reference: 401.15 Employee Political Activity  
409 Licensed Employee Vacations and Leaves of Absence

Approved 12/17

Reviewed 11/17

Revised \_\_\_\_\_

LICENSED EMPLOYEE JURY DUTY LEAVE

The board will allow licensed employees to be excused for jury duty unless extraordinary circumstances exist. The superintendent has the discretion to determine when extraordinary circumstances exist.

Employees who are called for jury service will notify the direct supervisor within twenty-four hours after notice of call to jury duty and suitable proof of jury service pay must be presented to the school district. The employee will report to work within a reasonable amount of time on any day when the employee is excused from jury duty during regular working hours.

Licensed employees will receive their regular salary. Any payment for jury duty will be paid to the school district.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 20.9; 607A (2005).

Cross Reference: 409 Licensed Employee Vacations and Leaves of Absence

Approved 12/17

Reviewed 11/17

Revised \_\_\_\_\_

LICENSED EMPLOYEE MILITARY SERVICE LEAVE

The board recognizes licensed employees may be called to participate in the armed forces, including the National Guard. If a licensed employee is called on to serve in the armed forces, the employee will have a leave of absence for military service until the military service is completed.

The leave is without loss of status or efficiency rating and without loss of pay during the first thirty calendar days of the leave.

Legal Reference: Bewley v. Villisca Community School District, 299 N.W. 2d 904 (Iowa 1980).  
Iowa Code §§ 20; 29A.28 (2011).

Cross Reference: 409 Licensed Employee Vacations and Leaves of Absence

Approved 12/17

Reviewed 11/17

Revised \_\_\_\_\_

LICENSED EMPLOYEE UNPAID LEAVE

Unpaid leave may be used to excuse an involuntary absence not provided for in other leave policies of the board. Unpaid leave for licensed employees must be authorized by the superintendent.

The superintendent will have complete discretion to grant or deny the requested unpaid leave. In making this determination, the superintendent will consider the effect of the employee's absence on the education program and school district operations, length of service, previous record of absence, the financial condition of the school district, the reason for the requested absence and other factors the superintendent believes are relevant to making this determination.

If unpaid leave is granted, the duration of the leave period will be coordinated with the scheduling of the education program whenever possible to minimize the disruption of the education program and school district operations.

Whenever possible, licensed employees will make a written request for unpaid leave 10 days prior to the beginning date of the requested leave. If the leave is granted, the deductions in salary are made unless they are waived specifically by the superintendent.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 20; 85; 85A; 85B; 279.12; 509; 509A; 509B (2011).

Cross Reference: 409 Licensed Employee Vacations and Leaves of Absence

Approved 12/17

Reviewed 11/17

Revised \_\_\_\_\_



## SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS

The board recognizes the need for substitute teachers. Substitute teachers shall be licensed to teach in Iowa.

It shall be the responsibility of the building principal to maintain a list of substitute teachers who may be called upon to replace regular contract licensed employees. Individuals whose names do not appear on this list will not be employed as a substitute without specific approval of the superintendent. It shall be the responsibility of the building principal to fill absences with substitute teachers immediately.

Substitute teachers will be paid a per diem base rate. Substitutes employed for 1-5 consecutive days in the same position shall be paid a rate of \$110 per day; 6-20 consecutive days in the same position at a rate of \$118 per day; 21+ consecutive days in the same position shall be paid BA base, first step on the salary schedule. Substitute licensed employees are expected to perform the same duties as the licensed employees.

Legal Reference: Iowa Association of School Boards v. PERB, 400 N.W.2d 571 (Iowa 1987).  
Iowa Code §§ 20.1, .4(5), .9 Ch.272 (2013)  
281 I.A.C. 12.4.

Cross Reference: 405.1 Licensed Employee Defined  
405.2 Licensed Employee Qualifications, Recruitment, Selection

Approved 12/17

Reviewed 11/17

Revised \_\_\_\_\_

SUMMER SCHOOL LICENSED EMPLOYEES

The Rock Valley Community School District shall offer summer school options in accordance with law and may, in its discretion offer additional programming during the summer recess. Licensed employees who volunteer or who are appointed to deliver the summer education program are compensated in addition to their regular duties during the school academic year, unless such arrangements are made prior to determining the employee's compensation for the year.

Licensed employees will be given the opportunity to volunteer for the positions available. If the board determines a course must be offered and no licensed employee volunteers for the position, the board will make the necessary arrangements to fill the position. The board will consider applications from volunteers of current licensed employees in conjunction with other applications.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent to make a recommendation to the board regarding the need for and the delivery of the summer education program.

Legal Reference:Iowa Code §§ 279.8; 280.14 (2015).

Cross Reference: 505.2 Student Promotion – Retention - Acceleration  
603.2 Summer School Instruction

Approved 12/17

Reviewed 11/17

Revised \_\_\_\_\_

EDUCATION AIDE/PARA-EDUCATOR

The board may employ education aides/para-educators or other instructional support personnel to assist licensed personnel in non-teaching duties, including, but not limited to:

- managing and maintaining records, materials and equipment;
- attending to the physical needs of children; and
- performing other limited services to support teaching duties when such duties are determined and directed by the teacher.

Education aides/para-educators who hold a teaching certificate are compensated at the rate of pay established for their position as an education aide/para-educator. It is the responsibility of the principal to supervise education aides/para-educator.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 279.8; 280.3, .14 (2011).  
281 I.A.C. 12.4(9); .5(9).

Cross Reference: 411.2 Classified Employee Qualifications, Recruitment, Selection

Approved 12/17

Reviewed 11/17

Revised \_\_\_\_\_

CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEE DEFINED

Classified employees are employees who are not administrators or employees in positions which require a teaching license issued by the Iowa Board of Educational Examiners and who are employed to fulfill the duties listed on their job description on a monthly or hourly basis. Classified employees will include, but not be limited to, teacher and classroom aides, custodial and maintenance employees, clerical employees, food service employees, bus drivers, and temporary help for summer or other maintenance. The position may be full-time or part-time.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent to establish job specifications and job descriptions for classified employee positions. Job descriptions may be approved by the board.

Classified employees required to hold a license for their position must present evidence of their current license to the board secretary prior to payment of wages each year.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 20; 279.8

Cross Reference: 405.1 Licensed Employee Defined  
411.2 Classified Employee Qualifications, Recruitment, Selection  
412.3 Classified Employee Group Insurance Benefits

Approved 12/17

Reviewed 11/17

Revised \_\_\_\_\_

CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEE - QUALIFICATIONS, RECRUITMENT, SELECTION

Persons interested in a classified employee position will have an opportunity to apply and qualify for classified employee positions in the school district in accordance with applicable laws and school district policies regarding equal employment. Job applicants for classified employee positions will be considered on the basis of the following:

- Training, experience, and skill;
- Nature of the occupation;
- Demonstrated competence; and
- Possession of, or ability to obtain, state or other license or certificate, if required, for the position.

All job openings shall be submitted to the Iowa Department of Education for posting on TeachIowa, the online state job posting system. Additional announcements of the position will be through means the superintendent believes will inform potential applicants about the position. Whenever possible, the preliminary screening of applicants will be conducted by the administrator who directly supervises and oversees the position.

The superintendent will recommend employment of classified employees to the board for approval.

Legal Reference: 29 U.S.C. §§ 621-634  
42 U.S.C. §§ 2000e; 12101 *et seq.*  
Iowa Code §§ 20; 35C; 216; 256.27; 279.8; 279.20  
281 I.A.C. 12

Cross Reference: 401.1 Equal Employment Opportunity  
411 Classified Employees - General

Approved 12/17

Reviewed 11/17

Revised \_\_\_\_\_

CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEE CONTRACTS

The board may enter into written contracts with classified employees employed on a regular basis. The contract will state the terms of employment.

Each contract will include a 30 day cancellation clause. Either the employee or the board must give notice of the intent to cancel the contract at the end of 30 days. This notice will not be required when the employee is terminated during a probationary period or for cause.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent to draw up and process the classified employee contracts and present them to the board for approval. The contracts, after being signed by the board president, are filed with the board secretary.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 20; 279.7A; 285.5(9) (2005).

Cross Reference: 411 Classified Employees - General  
412.1 Classified Employee Compensation  
412.2 Classified Employee Wage and Overtime Compensation  
413 Classified Employee Termination of Employment

Approved 12/17

Reviewed 11/17

Revised \_\_\_\_\_

CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEE LICENSING/CERTIFICATION

Classified employees who require a special license or other certification will keep them current at their own expense unless the superintendent deems it necessary for reimbursement due to difficulty filling the position. Licensing requirements needed for a position will be considered met if the employee meets the requirements established by law and by the Iowa Department of Education for the position.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 285.5(9); 272; 279.8  
281 I.A.C. 12.4(10); 36; 43.

Cross Reference: 411.2 Classified Employee Qualifications, Recruitment, Selection

Approved 12/17

Reviewed 11/17

Revised \_\_\_\_\_

CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEE ASSIGNMENT

Determining the assignment of each classified employee is the responsibility of the superintendent and within the sole discretion of the board. In making such assignments each year the superintendent will consider the qualifications of each classified employee and the needs of the school district.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent to assign classified employees and report such assignments to the board.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 20; 279.8 (2013).

Cross Reference: 200.3 Powers of the Board of Directors  
411.6 Classified Employee Transfers

Approved 12/17

Reviewed 11/17

Revised \_\_\_\_\_



CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEE TRANSFERS

Determining the location where a classified employee's assignment will be performed is the responsibility of the superintendent and within the sole discretion of the board. In making such assignments each year the superintendent will consider the qualifications of each classified employee and the needs of the school district.

A transfer may be initiated by the employee, the principal or the superintendent.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent to transfer classified employees and report such transfers to the board.

Legal Reference: 29 U.S.C. §§ 621-634 (2012).  
42 U.S.C. §§ 2000e *et seq.* (2012)  
42 U.S.C. §§ 12101 *et seq.* (2012).  
Iowa Code §§ 20.9; 35C; 216; 279.8; 294.1 (2013).

Cross Reference: 411.2 Classified Employee Qualifications, Recruitment, Selection  
411.5 Classified Employment Assignment

Approved 12/17

Reviewed 11/17

Revised \_\_\_\_\_

CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEE EVALUATION

Evaluation of classified employees on their skills, abilities, and competence is an ongoing process supervised by the superintendent. The goal of the formal evaluation of classified employees is to maintain classified employees who meet or exceed the board's standards of performance, to clarify each classified employee's role, to ascertain the areas in need of improvement, to clarify the immediate priorities of the board, and to develop a working relationship between the administrators and other employees.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent to ensure classified employees are formally evaluated annually.

Legal Reference: Aplington Community School District v. PERB, 392 N.W.2d 495 (Iowa 1986).  
Saydel Education Association v. PERB, 333 N.W.2d 486 (Iowa 1983).  
Iowa Code §§ 20.9; 279.14 (2013).  
281 I.A.C. 12.3(3).

Cross Reference: 411.2 Classified Employee Qualifications, Recruitment, Selection  
411.8 Classified Employee Probationary Status

Approved 12/17

Reviewed 11/17

Revised \_\_\_\_\_

CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEE PROBATIONARY STATUS

The first 90 days of a newly employed classified employee's contract is a probationary period. "Day" is defined as one work day regardless of full-time or part-time status of the employee. New employees, regardless of experience, are subject to this probationary period.

"New" employees includes individuals who are being hired for the first time by the school district and those who may have been employed by the school district in the past, but have not been employed by the board during the school year prior to the one for which contracts are being issued.

Only the board, in its discretion, may waive the probationary period.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 20; 279.8 (2013).

Cross Reference: 411.3 Classified Employee Contracts  
411.7 Classified Employee Evaluation

Approved \_\_\_\_\_

Reviewed 11/17

Revised \_\_\_\_\_

CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEE COMPENSATION

The board will determine the compensation to be paid for the classified employees' positions, keeping in mind the education and experience of the classified employee, the educational philosophy of the school district, the financial condition of the school district and any other considerations as deemed relevant by the board.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent to make a recommendation to the board annually regarding the compensation of classified employees.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 20.1, .4, .7, .9; 279.8 (2013).

Cross Reference: 411.3 Classified Employee Contracts  
412.2 Classified Employee Wage and Overtime Compensation

Approved 12/17

Reviewed 11/17

Revised \_\_\_\_\_

CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEE WAGE AND OVERTIME COMPENSATION

Each non-exempt employee compensated on an hour-by-hour basis, whether full-or part-time, permanent or temporary, will be paid no less than the prevailing minimum wage. Whenever a non-exempt employee must work more than forty hours in a given work week, the employee is compensated at one and one-half times their regular hourly wage rate. This compensation is in the form of overtime pay or compensatory time. Overtime will not be permitted without prior authorization of the superintendent.

Each non-exempt employee paid on an hour-by-hour basis must utilize the electronic payroll system to complete and turn in a daily time record showing the actual hours worked. Failure of the employee to maintain, or falsification of, a daily time record will be grounds for disciplinary action.

It is the responsibility of the board secretary to maintain wage records.

Legal Reference: Garcia v. San Antonio Metropolitan Transit Authority, 469 U.S. 528 (1985).  
29 U.S.C. §§ 206 *et seq.* (2012).  
29 C.F.R. Pt. 511-800 (2012).

Cross Reference: 411.3 Classified Employee Contracts  
412.1 Classified Employee Compensation

Approved 12/17

Reviewed 11/17

Revised \_\_\_\_\_

CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEE GROUP INSURANCE BENEFITS

Classified employees may be eligible for group insurance benefits as determined by the board and required by law. The board will select the group benefit program(s) and the insurance company or third party administrator which will provide or administer the program.

In accordance with the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA), the board will offer classified employees, who work an average of at least thirty (3) hours per week or one hundred thirty (13) hours per month, based on the measurement method adopted by the board, with minimum essential coverage that is both affordable and provides minimum value. Licensed employees who work between 20 and 30 hours per week may also choose to participate at a pro-rated amount per the percentage of time they work. The board will have the authority and right to change or eliminate group benefits programs, other than the group health plan for its licensed employees.

Classified employees who work an average of at least thirty (30) hours per week or one hundred thirty (130) hours per month, based on the measurement method adopted by the board, are eligible to participate in the group health plan. Classified employees who work 20 hours per week are eligible to participate in life, accidental death and dismemberment, and long term disability group insurance plans. Employers should maintain documents regarding eligible employee’s acceptance and rejection of coverage.

Regular part-time classified employees (i.e., employees who work less than 30 hours per week or 130 hours per month for health benefit purposes or employees who work less than 30 hour per week for benefits other than health) who wish to purchase coverage may participate in group benefit programs by meeting the requirements of the applicable plan. Full-time and regular part-time classified employees who wish to purchase coverage their spouse or dependents may do so by meeting the requirements of the applicable plan.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 20.9; 85; 85B; 279.12, .27; 509; 509A; 509B (2013)  
Internal Revenue Code § 4980H9c(4); Treas. Reg. § 54.4980H-1(a)(21)(ii)  
Shared Responsibility for Employers Regarding Health Coverage, 26 CFR parts 1, 54 and 301, 78 Fed. Reg. 217, (Jan 2, 2013)  
Shared Responsibility for Employers Regarding Health Coverage, 26 CFR parts 1, 54 and 301, 79 Fed. Reg. 8543, (Feb. 12, 2014)

Cross Reference: 411.1 Classified Employee Defined

Approved 12/17

Reviewed 11/17

Revised \_\_\_\_\_

CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEE TAX SHELTER PROGRAMS

The board authorizes the administration to make a payroll deduction for classified employees' tax sheltered annuity premiums purchased from any company the employee chooses or through an Iowa-licensed salesperson selected by the employee.

Classified employees wishing to have payroll deductions for tax sheltered annuities will make a written request to the superintendent.

Legal Reference: Small Business Job Protection Act of 1996, Section 1450(a), repealing portions of IRS REG § 1.403(b)-1(b)(3).  
Iowa Code §§ 20.9; 260C; 273; 294.16 (2011).  
1988 Op. Att'y Gen. 38.  
1976 Op. Att'y Gen. 462, 602.  
1966 Op. Att'y Gen. 211, 220.

Cross Reference: 706 Payroll Procedures

Approved 12/17

Reviewed 11/17

Revised \_\_\_\_\_

CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEE RESIGNATION

Classified employees who wish to resign during the school year will give the board notice of their intent to resign and final date of employment and cancel their contract 30 days prior to their last working day.

Notice of the intent to resign will be in writing to the superintendent.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 91A.2, .3, .5; 279.19A; 285.5(9) (2013).

Cross Reference: 411.3 Classified Employee Contracts  
413 Classified Employee Termination of Employment

Approved 12/17

Reviewed 11/17

Revised \_\_\_\_\_



CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT

Classified employees who will complete their current contract with the board may apply for retirement. No classified employee will be required to retire at any specific age.

Application for retirement will be considered made when the classified employee states in writing to the superintendent, no later than the date set by the board for the return of the employee's contract to the board if applicable, the employee's intent to retire. The letter must state the employee's desire to retire and be witnessed by another party other than the principal or the superintendent.

Board action to approve a classified employee's application for retirement is final, and such action constitutes termination of the employee's contract effective the day of the employee's retirement.

Classified employees and their spouse and dependents who have group insurance coverage through the school district may be allowed to continue coverage of the school district's group health insurance program, at their own expense, by meeting the requirements of the insurer.

Legal Reference: 29 U.S.C. §§ 621 *et seq.* (2012).  
Iowa Code §§ 91A.2, .3, .5; 97B; 216; 279.19A, .46 (2013).  
1978 Op. Att'y Gen. 247.  
1974 Op. Att'y Gen. 11, 322.

Cross Reference: 412 Classified Employee Compensation and Benefits  
413 Classified Employee Termination of Employment

Approved 12/17

Reviewed 11/17

Revised \_\_\_\_\_

CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEE SUSPENSION

Classified employees will perform their assigned job, respect and follow board policy and obey the law. The superintendent is authorized to suspend a classified employee with or without pay pending board action on a discharge or during investigation of charges against the employee or for disciplinary purposes. It is within the discretion of the superintendent to suspend a classified employee with or without pay.

In the event of a suspension, due process will be followed.

Legal Reference: Northeast Community Education Association v. Northeast Community School District, 402 N.W.2d 765 (Iowa 1987).  
McFarland v. Board of Education of Norwalk Community School District, 277 N.W.2d 901 (Iowa 1979).  
Iowa Code §§ 20.7, .24 (2013).

Cross Reference: 404 Employee Conduct and Appearance  
413 Classified Employee Termination of Employment

Approved 12/17

Reviewed 11/17

Revised \_\_\_\_\_

CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEE DISMISSAL

The board believes classified employees should perform their jobs, respect board policy and obey the law. A classified employee may be dismissed upon thirty days notice or immediately for cause. Due process procedures will be followed.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent to make a recommendation for dismissal to the board. A classified employee may be dismissed for any reason, including, but not limited to, incompetence, willful neglect of duty, reduction in force, willful violation of board policy or administrative regulations, or a violation of the law.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 20.7, .24 (2013).

Cross Reference: 404 Employee Conduct and Appearance  
413.4 Classified Employee Suspension  
413.6 Classified Employee Reduction in Force

Approved 12/17

Reviewed 11/17

Revised \_\_\_\_\_

CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEE REDUCTION IN FORCE

It is the exclusive power of the board to determine when a reduction in classified employees is necessary. Employees who are terminated due to a reduction in force will be given thirty days notice. Due process will be followed for terminations due to a reduction in force.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent to make a recommendation for termination to the board. The superintendent will consider the relative qualifications, skills, ability and demonstrated performance through evaluation procedures in making the recommendations.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 20.7, .24 (2013).

Cross Reference: 407.6 Licensed Employee Reduction in Force  
413.4 Classified Employee Suspension  
413.5 Classified Employee Dismissal  
703 Budget

Approved 12/17

Reviewed 11/17

Revised \_\_\_\_\_

CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEE VACATIONS - HOLIDAYS - PERSONAL LEAVE

The board will determine the amount of vacation, holidays and personal leave that will be allowed on an annual basis for classified employees.

Classified employees who work twelve months a year will be allowed six paid holidays if the holidays fall on a regular working day. The six holidays are New Year's Day, Memorial Day, July 4, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day. Classified employees, whether full-time or part-time, will have time off in concert with the school calendar.

Classified employees will be paid only for the hours they would have been scheduled for the day. Vacation will not be accrued from year to year without a prior written arrangement with the superintendent.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent to make a recommendation to the board annually on vacation and personal leave for classified employees.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 1C; 4.1(34); 20.

Cross Reference: 409.1 Licensed Employee Vacations - Holidays - Personal Leave  
601.1 School Calendar

Approved 12/17

Reviewed 11/17

Revised \_\_\_\_\_

## CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEE PERSONAL ILLNESS LEAVE

Classified employees are granted ten days of sick leave in their first year of employment. Each year thereafter, one additional day of sick leave will be granted to the employees up to a maximum of fifteen days. "Day" is defined as one work day regardless of full-time or part-time status of the employee. A new employee will report for work at least one full work day prior to receiving sick leave benefits. A returning employee will be granted the appropriate number of days at the beginning of each fiscal year. Sick leave may be accumulated up to a maximum of 110 days for classified employees.

Evidence may be required regarding the mental or physical health of the employee including, but not limited to, confirmation of the following: the employee's illness, the need for the illness leave, the employee's ability to return to work, and the employee's capability to perform the duties of the employee's position. It is within the discretion of the board and the superintendent to determine the type and amount of evidence necessary. When an illness leave will be greater than three consecutive days, the employee will comply with board policy regarding family and medical leave.

If an employee is eligible to receive workers' compensation benefits, the employee will contact the board secretary to implement these benefits.

The Rock Valley Board of Education will accept requests from classified employees who have used up their sick leaves and cannot return to work. Such requests will be reviewed by the Board of Education and additional payment may be granted, depending on the individual situation and circumstance. A doctor's order will be required before such requests will be reviewed.

The following is a guideline to be used in determining leave of absence besides sick leave for the classified employees. Days used for the following are to be deducted from the accumulated total sick leave. Approval by the Superintendent of Schools is necessary for the use of such days.

**NUMBER OF DAYS ALLOWED PER YEAR****DEATH OF:**

Spouse – 10	Children – 10	Parents – 5	Grandchild – 4
Mother/Father-in-law – 3	Sibling – 3	Grandparents – 3	Sister/Brother-in-law – 2
Niece/Nephew – 2	Other – 1		

**LEAVE FOR SERIOUS ILLNESS IN THE FAMILY:**

(this must be serious and must be approved by the Administration before taken.)

Spouse – 4	Child – 4	Parents – 2	Grandparents – 2
Mother/Father-in-law – 2	Siblings -2		

Legal Reference: Whitney v. Rural Ind. School District, 232 Iowa 61, 4 N.W.2d 394 (1942).  
26 U.S.C. §§ 2601 *et seq.* (Supp. 2010) 29 C.F.R. Pt. 825 (2010).  
Iowa Code §§ 20; 85.33, .34, .38(3); 279.40 (2011).  
1980 Op. Att'y Gen. 605. 1972 Op. Att'y Gen. 177, 353. 1952 Op. Att'y Gen. 91.

Cross Reference: 403.2 Employee Injury on the Job  
414.3 Classified Employee Family and Medical Leave  
414.8 Classified Employee Unpaid Leave

Approved 12/17Reviewed 11/17

Revised \_\_\_\_\_

CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEE FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE

Unpaid family and medical leave will be granted up to 12 weeks per year to assist employees in balancing family and work life. For purposes of this policy, year is defined as July/June. Requests for family and medical leave are made to the superintendent.

Employees may be allowed to substitute paid leave for unpaid family and medical leave by meeting the requirements set out in the family and medical leave administrative rules. Employees eligible for family and medical leave must comply with the family and medical leave administrative rules prior to starting family and medical leave. It is the responsibility of the superintendent to develop administrative rules to implement this policy.

(To request Family & Medical Leave – see Employee Family & Medical Leave Request form earlier in 400 Series.)

Legal Reference: Whitney v. Rural Ind. School. District, 232 Iowa 61, 4 N.W.2d 394 (1942).  
26 U.S.C. §§ 2601 *et seq.* (Supp. 2012)  
29 C.F.R. Pt. 825 (2012).  
Iowa Code §§ 20; 85.33, .34, .38(3); 216; 279.40 (2013).  
1980 Op. Att'y Gen. 605.  
1972 Op. Att'y Gen. 177, 353.  
1952 Op. Att'y Gen. 91.

Cross Reference: 409.2 Licensed Employee Personal Illness Leave  
409.3 Licensed Employee Family and Medical Leave  
409.8 Licensed Employee Unpaid Leave

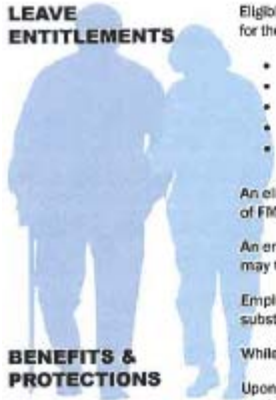
Approved 12/17 Reviewed 11/17 Revised \_\_\_\_\_

## CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEE FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE NOTICE TO EMPLOYEES

# EMPLOYEE RIGHTS UNDER THE FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE ACT

THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR WAGE AND HOUR DIVISION

## LEAVE ENTITLEMENTS



Eligible employees who work for a covered employer can take up to 12 weeks of unpaid, job-protected leave in a 12-month period for the following reasons:

- The birth of a child or placement of a child for adoption or foster care;
- To bond with a child (leave must be taken within 1 year of the child's birth or placement);
- To care for the employee's spouse, child, or parent who has a qualifying serious health condition;
- For the employee's own qualifying serious health condition that makes the employee unable to perform the employee's job;
- For qualifying exigencies related to the foreign deployment of a military member who is the employee's spouse, child, or parent.

An eligible employee who is a covered servicemember's spouse, child, parent, or next of kin may also take up to 26 weeks of FMLA leave in a single 12-month period to care for the servicemember with a serious injury or illness.

An employee does not need to use leave in one block. When it is medically necessary or otherwise permitted, employees may take leave intermittently or on a reduced schedule.

Employees may choose, or an employer may require, use of accrued paid leave while taking FMLA leave. If an employee substitutes accrued paid leave for FMLA leave, the employee must comply with the employer's normal paid leave policies.

While employees are on FMLA leave, employers must continue health insurance coverage as if the employees were not on leave.

Upon return from FMLA leave, most employees must be restored to the same job or one nearly identical to it with equivalent pay, benefits, and other employment terms and conditions.

An employer may not interfere with an individual's FMLA rights or retaliate against someone for using or trying to use FMLA leave, opposing any practice made unlawful by the FMLA, or being involved in any proceeding under or related to the FMLA.

## BENEFITS & PROTECTIONS

## ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

An employee who works for a covered employer must meet three criteria in order to be eligible for FMLA leave. The employee must:

- Have worked for the employer for at least 12 months;
- Have at least 1,250 hours of service in the 12 months before taking leave;\* and
- Work at a location where the employer has at least 50 employees within 75 miles of the employee's worksite.

\*Special "hours of service" requirements apply to airline flight crew employees.

## REQUESTING LEAVE

Generally, employees must give 30-days' advance notice of the need for FMLA leave. If it is not possible to give 30-days' notice, an employee must notify the employer as soon as possible and, generally, follow the employer's usual procedures.

Employees do not have to share a medical diagnosis, but must provide enough information to the employer so it can determine if the leave qualifies for FMLA protection. Sufficient information could include informing an employer that the employee is or will be unable to perform his or her job functions, that a family member cannot perform daily activities, or that hospitalization or continuing medical treatment is necessary. Employees must inform the employer if the need for leave is for a reason for which FMLA leave was previously taken or certified.

Employers can require a certification or periodic recertification supporting the need for leave. If the employer determines that the certification is incomplete, it must provide a written notice indicating what additional information is required.

## EMPLOYER RESPONSIBILITIES

Once an employer becomes aware that an employee's need for leave is for a reason that may qualify under the FMLA, the employer must notify the employee if he or she is eligible for FMLA leave and, if eligible, must also provide a notice of rights and responsibilities under the FMLA. If the employee is not eligible, the employer must provide a reason for ineligibility.

Employers must notify its employees if leave will be designated as FMLA leave, and if so, how much leave will be designated as FMLA leave.

## ENFORCEMENT

Employees may file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Labor, Wage and Hour Division, or may bring a private lawsuit against an employer.

The FMLA does not affect any federal or state law prohibiting discrimination or supersede any state or local law or collective bargaining agreement that provides greater family or medical leave rights.



For additional information or to file a complaint:

## 1-866-4-USWAGE

(1-866-487-9243) TTY: 1-877-889-5627

## www.dol.gov/whd

U.S. Department of Labor | Wage and Hour Division






CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEE POLITICAL LEAVE

The board will provide a leave of absence to classified employees to run for elective public office. The superintendent will grant a classified employee a leave of absence to campaign as a candidate for an elective public office as unpaid leave.

The classified employee will be entitled to one period of leave to run for the elective public office, and the leave may commence any time within thirty days of a contested primary, special, or general election and continue until the day following the election.

The request for leave must be in writing to the superintendent at least thirty days prior to the starting date of the requested leave.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code ch. 55 (2013).

Cross Reference: 401.9 Employee Political Activity  
414 Classified Employee Vacations and Leaves of Absence

Approved 12/17

Reviewed 11/17

Revised \_\_\_\_\_

CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEE JURY DUTY LEAVE

The board will allow classified employees to be excused for jury duty unless extraordinary circumstances exist. The superintendent has the discretion to determine when extraordinary circumstances exist.

Employees who are called for jury service will notify the direct supervisor within twenty-four hours after notice of call to jury duty and suitable proof of jury service pay must be presented to the school district.

Classified employees will receive their regular salary. Any payment for jury duty is turned over to the school district.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 20.9; 607A (2013).

Cross Reference: 414 Classified Employee Vacations and Leaves of Absence

Approved 12/17

Reviewed 11/17

Revised \_\_\_\_\_

CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEE MILITARY SERVICE LEAVE

The board recognizes classified employees may be called to participate in the armed forces, including the national guard. If a classified employee is called to serve in the armed forces, the employee will have a leave of absence for military service until the military service is completed.

The leave is without loss of status or efficiency rating, and without loss of pay during the first thirty calendar days of the leave.

Legal Reference: Bewley v. Villisca Community School District, 299 N.W. 2d 904 (Iowa 1980).  
Iowa Code §§ 20; 29A.28 (2013).

Cross Reference: 414 Classified Employee Vacations and Leaves of Absence

Approved 12/17

Reviewed 11/17

Revised \_\_\_\_\_

CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEE UNPAID LEAVE

Unpaid leave may be used to excuse an involuntary absence not provided for in other leave policies. Unpaid leave for classified employees must be authorized by the superintendent. Whenever possible, classified employees will make a written request for unpaid leave ten days prior to the beginning date of the requested leave. If the leave is granted, the deductions in salary are made unless they are waived specifically by the superintendent.

The superintendent will have complete discretion to grant or deny the requested unpaid leave. In making this determination, the superintendent will consider the effect of the employee's absence on the education program and school district operations, the financial condition of the school district, length of service, previous record of absence, the reason for the requested absence and other factors the superintendent believes are relevant in making this determination.

If unpaid leave is granted, the duration of the leave period is coordinated with the scheduling of the education program whenever possible, to minimize the disruption of the education program and school district operations.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 20.9; 279.8 (2011).

Cross Reference: 414 Classified Employee Vacations and Leaves of Absence

Approved 12/17

Reviewed 11/17

Revised \_\_\_\_\_

CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEE PROFESSIONAL PURPOSES LEAVE

Professional purposes leave may be granted to classified employees for the purpose of attending meetings and conferences directly related to their assignments. Application for the leave must be presented to the superintendent 10 days prior to the meeting or conference.

It is within the discretion of the superintendent to grant professional purposes leave. The leave may be denied on the day before or after a vacation or holiday, on special days when services are needed, when it would cause undue interruption of the education program and school district operations, or for other reasons deemed relevant by the superintendent.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code § 279.8 (2011).  
281 I.A.C. 12.7.

Cross Reference: 411 Classified Employees - General  
408.1 Classified Employee Professional Development

Approved 12/17

Reviewed 11/17

Revised \_\_\_\_\_