

## District 108 Notice of Parents' Legal Rights

**This page summarizes specific rights guaranteed by law and Board Policy. Full texts of Board Policies (Numbers in parentheses) are available at the District 108 Central Office, 501 Washington Street, and on the District 108 home page.**

**Uniform Grievance Procedure (2.260)**. The following guarantee rights to students and parent(s)/guardian(s): Board Policies listed below, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973; Individuals With Disabilities Education Act; Title VI of the Civil Rights Act; Equal Employment Opportunities Act (Title VII of the Civil Rights Act); Sexual harassment (Illinois Human Rights Act, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972); misuse of funds received for services to improve educational opportunities for educationally disadvantaged or deprived children; Victims' Economic Security and Safety Act, P.A. 93-591; Illinois Equal Pay Act of 2003, P.A. 93-0006; or Provision of services to homeless students. Students, parents, or employees who believe one or more of the above have been violated, or who have complaints about curriculum, instructional materials, may lodge complaints with a District 108 Complaint Manager.

**District 108 Complaint Manager Leonard Ealey (477-4740)**

**District 108 Complaint Manager Joe Franklin (477-4740)**

**Access to District's Public Records (2.250)**. District 108 will respond to all requests under the Illinois Freedom of Information Act from all persons desiring access to and copying of the District's public records. Contact the District Office at 501 Washington Street or by phone at 477-4740.

**Free and Reduced-Price Food Services (4.130)**. Students who meet eligibility requirements will receive free or reduced priced meals and comparable reductions in other school fees. Parents may complete the application at any time during the year by contacting the school principal.

### **Safety Program (4.170)**

Convicted Child Sex Offender and Notification Laws

State law prohibits a child sex offender from being present on school property or loitering within 500 feet of school property when persons under the age of 18 are present, unless the offender is: 1. A parent/guardian of a student attending the school and the parent/guardian is: (i) attending a conference at the school with school personnel to discuss the progress of his or her child academically or socially, (ii) participating in child review conferences in which evaluation and placement decisions may be made with respect to his or her child regarding special education services, or (iii) attending conferences to discuss other student issues concerning his or her child such as retention and promotion and notifies the Building Principal of his or her presence at the school, or 2. Has permission to be present from the School Board, Superintendent, or Superintendent's designee. If permission is granted, the Superintendent shall provide the details of the offender's upcoming visit to the Building Principal.

In all cases, the Superintendent, or designee who is a certified employee, shall supervise a child sex offender whenever the offender is in a child's vicinity.

**Harassment of Students or Employees (5.20, 7.20)**. No person, including a District employee or agent, or student, shall harass, intimidate or bully another student based upon a student's race, color, nationality, gender, sexual orientation, ancestry, age, religion, creed, physical or mental disability, gender identity, order of protection status, status of being homeless, or actual or potential marital or parental status, including pregnancy, or other protected group status. The District will not tolerate harassing or intimidating conduct, or bullying whether verbal, physical, or visual, that affects tangible benefits of education, that unreasonably interferes with a student's educational performance, or that creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive educational environment. Violation of District sexual harassment rules and procedures may result in disciplinary measures. Reports of sexual harassment should be made to a District Complaint Manager.

**Experiments Upon or Dissection of Animals (6.100)**. Experiments on living animals are prohibited, except for behavior studies that do not impair the health or safety of the animal. If dissection of dead animal tissues meets a legitimate educational objective, it shall be confined to the classroom and must comply with The School Code. Students whose parents object to the student performing, participating in, or observing the dissections of animals are excused from classroom attendance without penalty during times when such activities are taking place.

**Limited English Proficient Students (6.160)**. District 108 provides special instruction for students with limited proficiency in English. The parent/guardian of an identified student has a right to know about these services and to understand how the student is progressing. For more information about services to Limited English Proficiency students, please contact the school principal or the District 108 Office (477-4740).

**Complaints about Curriculum, Instructional Materials, and Programs (6.260)**. Persons with complaints about curriculum, instructional materials, and programs should complete a curriculum objection form and use the Uniform Grievance Procedure. A parent/guardian may request that his/her child be exempt from using a particular

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instructional material or program by completing a curriculum objection form and using the Uniform Grievance Procedure.

**Education of Homeless Children (6.140)**. Children living under the following circumstances have certain rights or protections under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Assistance Act: In a shelter, motel, vehicle or campground, on the street, in an abandoned building, trailer, or other inadequate accommodations, or doubled up with friends or relatives because you cannot find or afford housing. Each child living in such conditions has equal access to the same free, appropriate public education, as provided to other children and youths, including a public pre-school education. A homeless child may attend the District school that the child attended when permanently housed or in which the child was last enrolled. A homeless child living in any District school's attendance area may attend that school. For specific information about these rights, contact either the school principal or a District Complaint Manager (477-4740) or the District Homeless Liaisons (241-6001).

**Equal Educational Opportunities (7.10)**. Equal educational and extracurricular opportunities shall be available for all students without regard to color, race, nationality, religion, gender, sexual orientation, ancestry, age beliefs, physical or mental disability, gender identity, status of being homeless, or order of protection status. Any student may file a discrimination grievance by using the Uniform Grievance Procedure. A student may appeal the School Board's resolution of the complaint to the Regional Superintendent of Schools (pursuant to 105 ILCS 5/3-10 of The School Code) and, thereafter, to the State Superintendent of Education (pursuant to 105 ILCS 5/2-3.8 of The School Code).

**Student and Family Privacy Rights (7.15, 7.340)**. Throughout the school year District 108 legitimately collects personally identifiable information about individual students. State and federal laws provide parents and students with certain privacy rights with regard to the collection, use and release of that information. These rights are summarized below. For more detailed information or to exercise the rights, please contact the school principal or the District 108 Office at 477-4740.

**Student School Records**. State and federal law grant certain rights, including the right to inspect, copy, and challenge school records. The information contained in school student records shall be kept current, accurate, clear and relevant. The District may release directory information as permitted by law. Parents/guardians may prevent the release of such information by contacting the school principal before it is released.

**Surveys**. Any instrument used to collect personal information from students, must advance or relate to the District's educational objectives. Surveys given by school officials and/or students for legitimate educational purposes may be administered without parent permission, but parents/guardians will receive prior notice of any other surveys of students. Parents/guardians may inspect survey documents.

**Marketing Information**. Except for purposes specifically allowed in policy, no school official or staff member shall collect personal information for marketing or for selling that information or otherwise providing that information to others for that purpose.

**Pictures of Unnamed Students**. No consent or notice is needed or will be given before the school uses pictures of unnamed students taken while they are at school or a school-related activity. Contact the principal if you believe such pictures present a specific danger to your child.

**Pictures of Students Taken by Non-School Agencies**. While the school limits access to school buildings by outside photographers, it has no control over news media or other entities that may publish a picture of a named or unnamed student. School staff members will not, without parent/guardian permission, identify a student for an outside photographer.

**Directory Information**. As permitted by law, schools may release student information normally found in a directory or phonebook to help students contact each other or to be included in school sponsored programs and activities. Parent(s)/guardian(s) may prevent the release of directory information by contacting their child's principal.

**Administering Medicines to Students (7.270)**. Students are not allowed to possess or take any drug or medication at school, until a completed and signed "School Medication Authorization Form" is submitted by the student's parent/guardian. Except for asthma medications as allowed by law, any student medication must be administered in the presence of a school employee and/or Methodist Medical Center, Inc employee.

**Individuals with Disabilities (8.70)**. Individuals with disabilities shall be provided an opportunity to participate in all school-sponsored services, programs, or activities on an equal basis to those without disabilities and will not be subject to illegal discrimination. Where necessary, the District may provide to persons with disabilities separate or different aids, benefits, or services from, but as effective as, those provided to others.