

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
MAHOMET-SEYMOUR COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 3
Mahomet, Illinois**

Agenda Item No.: 9.B.4.

Date: August 16, 2021

Presented by: Dr. Colleen Schultz

ACTION

TOPIC:

Revisions to Policies 6:40 and 6:210

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Dr. Colleen Schultz presented changes to these policies at the July 19, 2021 Board of Education Meeting.

SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATION:

The Superintendent recommends the Board of Education approve the revisions of Policies 6:40 and 6:210.

INSTRUCTION

6:40 Curriculum Development

Adoption

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

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

The School Board will adopt, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, a curriculum that meets the above criteria. Curriculum and curriculum revisions will not be adopted at the Board meeting at which they are first introduced. Further Board consideration will be given at a subsequent meeting(s) and after opportunity for community input. In order to provide the opportunity for community input, the superintendent or his/her designee will notify parent(s)/guardian(s) of any proposed curriculum/curriculum revisions, including providing public access to such proposed curriculum/curriculum revisions, a minimum of 21 days before a final vote will be taken by the Board.

Experimental Educational Programs and Pilot Projects

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

Single-Gender Classes and Activities

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

Development

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

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

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

Curriculum Guides and Course Outlines

The Superintendent shall develop and provide subject area curriculum guides to appropriate staff members.

LEGAL REF.:

[20 U.S.C. §1681](#), Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, implemented by [34 C.F.R. Part 106.105 ILCS 5/10-20.8](#) and [5/10-19](#).

CROSS REF.: 6:60 (Curriculum Content), 6:65 (Student Social and Emotional Development), 6:70 (Teaching About Religions), 6:80 (Teaching About Controversial Issues), 6:100 (Using Animals in the Educational Program), 6:110 (Programs for Students At Risk of Academic Failure and/or Dropping Out of School and Graduation Incentives Program), 6:120 (Education of Children with Disabilities), 6:130 (Program for the Gifted), 6:135 (Accelerated Placement Program), 6:140 (Education of Homeless Children), 6:145 (Migrant Students), 6:150 (Home and Hospital Instruction), 6:160 (English Learners), 6:170 (Title I Programs), 7:10 (Equal Educational Opportunities), 7:15 (Student and Family Privacy Rights)

Adopted: September 16, 2019

Mahomet-Seymour CUSD 3

INSTRUCTION

6:210 Instructional Materials

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

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

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

Instructional Materials Selection and Adoption

The Superintendent shall recommend to the Board for consideration and adoption all textbooks and instructional materials and shall include the following information: (1) title, publisher, copyright dates, number of copies desired, and cost; (2) any texts being replaced; and (3) rationale for recommendation. Textbooks and instructional materials and textbook/instructional material revisions will not be adopted at the Board meeting at which they are first introduced. Further Board consideration will be given at a subsequent meeting(s) and after opportunity for community input. In order to provide the opportunity for community input, the superintendent or his/her designee will notify parent(s)/guardian(s) of any proposed new or revised textbooks or instructional materials, including providing public access to such proposed materials, a minimum of 21 days before a final vote will be taken on these materials by the Board. The School Code governs the adoption and purchase of textbooks and instructional materials.

LEGAL REF.:

[105 ILCS 5/10-20.8](#) and [5/28-19.1](#).

CROSS REF.: 6:30 (Organization of Instruction), 6:40 (Curriculum Development), 6:80 (Teaching About Controversial Issues), 6:170 (Title I Programs), 6:260 (Complaints About Curriculum, Instructional Materials, and Programs), 7:10 (Equal Educational Opportunities), 7:15 (Student and Family Privacy Rights), 8:110 (Public Suggestions and Concerns)

ADOPTED: November 20, 2017

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
MAHOMET-SEYMOUR COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO.3
Mahomet, Illinois**

Agenda Item No.: 9.B.5.

Date: August 16, 2021

Presented by: Dr. Jeremy Henrichs

BRIEFING

TOPIC:

Updates to Board of Education Policies 6:260 and 7:15

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Dr. Henrichs has proposed changes to Board Policies 6:260 and 7:15. This is the first public reading of these proposed changes.

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

Persons with suggestions or complaints about curriculum, instructional materials, and programs should complete a curriculum objection form and/or use the Uniform Grievance Procedure. A parent/guardian may request that his/her child be exempt from using a particular instructional material or program by completing a curriculum objection form.

In the case that the parent(s)/guardian(s) of a student have an objection to a required course at the high school, a student may enroll in an online course or community college course of the same discipline and level (or higher) as the required course and may use the course to substitute for the required course, receiving high school credit for work completed, provided:

1. The course is given by an accredited institution.
2. The student is a student in grades 9-12;
3. The student assumes responsibility for all tuition and fees; and
4. The parent(s)/guardian(s) object to the course at MSHS and have completed the course curriculum objection form.
5. The student receives a passing grade in the course.

For a student to earn an excess of 2 units of credit under this policy to be counted toward the requirements for a student's high school graduation, the permission of the high school principal is required.

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Course Objection Form

Please complete this form and return it to the High School Principal. Please print.

I object to my student, _____, participating in:

Course: _____

Subject Area: _____

and instead, to complete the course requirement, will enroll my student in:

Course: _____ at

Institution: _____

which has been accredited by: (name the accrediting organization) _____

Please state the reason for your objection: _____

I understand that I am responsible for all tuition and fees and my student must earn a passing grade to receive credit.

Parent/Guardian: _____

Email Address: _____ Phone Number:

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

7:15 Student and Family Privacy Rights

Surveys and Research

Surveys and research that take place within the District require prior approval. All research must have prior written approval from the Superintendent as directed by the School Board. The Superintendent will seek prior consent from the School Board before approving any surveys or research.

Staff and student time is valuable. While the District encourages educational research and the collection of information for educational decision-making, the need for research and the collection of information is always balanced against the District's mission and educational objectives as identified in School Board policy 6:10, Educational Philosophy and Objectives. Surveys and research that do not support the mission and educational objectives of the District and take time from instruction may not be approved.

A written proposal must be submitted to the Superintendent for review prior to any approval. No survey or study can be approved without the submission of complete and final copies of surveys and data collection instruments.

PROCEDURES FOR PROPOSAL SUBMISSION AND REVIEW:

- I. A written proposal must be submitted to the Superintendent for review prior to the approval of any survey or research project.
- II. The proposal will be reviewed by the Superintendent. Instruments and procedures must be consistent with all federal and state statutes and regulations that relate to student information release, data collection, and use of human subjects. Appropriate District departments, schools, and programs affected by the survey or study may be asked to review the proposal for merit, costs in staff and student time, and value to the District. The proposer will be contacted if there are questions or modifications needed. The Superintendent will provide a written approval or denial of the survey or research request. Approval may be contingent upon the agreement of the proposer to certain limitations or modifications or to provide specified information to the District.
- III. If the survey or research study is approved, the proposer may proceed with the study. A copy of the approval letter will be provided to administrators whose school or department is affected by the survey or research project. If the proposed survey or research study is denied, the proposer may contact the Superintendent to determine what might be done to make the proposal acceptable.
- IV. Written permission from parents or guardians will have to be demonstrated prior to any release of information, survey, or research activity that requires student participation or the release of student information.
- V. Superintendent will work with principals to determine the activities proposed are not disruptive or have an adverse effect on the educational process at the school. A proposal may be denied if this is the case.

- VI. When the survey or research study is completed, a copy of the final research report or summary of the survey results must be provided to the Superintendent. The District reserves the right to use the information in the research report or summary for planning, solicitation of grants, and staff development.

The following survey or research requests will not be approved:

1. Survey or research requests, submitted by outside researchers or organizations that require parental consent. Parent consent is required if the survey asks students anything about the following:

- A. Political affiliations or beliefs of the student or the student's parent/guardian.
- B. Mental or psychological problems of the student or the student's family.
- C. Behavior or attitudes about sex, gender, or sexual orientation.
- D. Illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating, or demeaning behavior.
- E. Critical appraisals of other individuals with whom students have close family relationships.
- F. Legally recognized privileged or analogous relationships, such as those with lawyers, physicians, and ministers.
- G. Religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or the student's parent/guardian.
- H. Income (other than that required by law to determine eligibility for participation in a program or for receiving financial assistance under such program).

Even if outside researchers or organizations are collecting the parent consent, the District does not have the staff to monitor this process for survey and research requests.

2. Survey or research requests that ask for student records, or personal identifiable information in these records.

Student personal identifiable information may include:

- The student's name
- The name of the student's parent or other family members
- The address of the student or student's family
- A personal identifier, such as the student's social security number or student number
- A list of personal characteristics that would make the student's identity easily traceable

The student's parent(s)/guardian(s) may:

- 1. Inspect any survey or research not requiring any written parent consent, and/or
- 2. Refuse to allow their child to participate in the activity described above. The school shall not penalize any student whose parent(s)/guardian(s) exercised this option.

Surveys

~~All surveys requesting personal information from students, as well as any other instrument used to collect personal information from students, must advance or relate to~~

~~the District's educational objectives as identified in School Board policy [6:10](#), *Educational Philosophy and Objectives*, or assist students' career choices. This applies to all surveys, regardless of whether the student answering the questions can be identified and regardless of who created the survey.~~

Surveys Created by a Third Party

~~Before a school official or staff member administers or distributes a survey or evaluation created by a third party to a student, the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) may inspect the survey or evaluation, upon their request and within a reasonable time of their request.~~

~~This section applies to every survey: (1) that is created by a person or entity other than a District official, staff member, or student, (2) regardless of whether the student answering the questions can be identified, and (3) regardless of the subject matter of the questions.~~

Survey Requesting Personal Information

~~School officials and staff members shall not request, nor disclose, the identity of any student who completes any survey or evaluation (created by any person or entity, including the District) containing one or more of the following items:~~

- ~~1. Political affiliations or beliefs of the student or the student's parent/guardian.~~
- ~~2. Mental or psychological problems of the student or the student's family.~~
- ~~3. Behavior or attitudes about sex.~~
- ~~4. Illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating, or demeaning behavior.~~
- ~~5. Critical appraisals of other individuals with whom students have close family relationships.~~
- ~~6. Legally recognized privileged or analogous relationships, such as those with lawyers, physicians, and ministers.~~
- ~~7. Religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or the student's parent/guardian.~~
- ~~8. Income (other than that required by law to determine eligibility for participation in a program or for receiving financial assistance under such program).~~

~~The student's parent(s)/guardian(s) may:~~

- ~~1. Inspect the survey or evaluation upon, and within a reasonable time of, their request, and/or~~
- ~~2. Refuse to allow their child to participate in the activity described above. The school shall not penalize any student whose parent(s)/guardian(s) exercised this option.~~

Instructional Material

A student's parent(s)/guardian(s) may inspect, upon their request, any instructional material used as part of their child's educational curriculum within a reasonable time of their request.

The term “instructional material” means instructional content that is provided to a student, regardless of its format, printed or representational materials, audio-visual materials, and materials in electronic or digital formats (such as materials accessible through the Internet). The term does not include academic tests or academic assessments.

Physical Exams or Screenings

No school official or staff member shall subject a student to a non-emergency, invasive physical examination or screening as a condition of school attendance. The term “invasive physical examination” means any medical examination that involves the exposure of private body parts, or any act during such examination that includes incision, insertion, or injection into the body, but does not include a hearing, vision, or scoliosis screening.

The above paragraph does not apply to any physical examination or screening that:

1. Is permitted or required by an applicable State law, including physical examinations or screenings that are permitted without parental notification.
2. Is administered to a student in accordance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act ([20 U.S.C. §1400 et seq.](#)).
3. Is otherwise authorized by School Board policy.

Selling or Marketing Students’ Personal Information Is Prohibited

No school official or staff member shall market or sell personal information concerning students (or otherwise provide that information to others for that purpose). The term “personal information” means individually identifiable information including: (1) a student or parent's first and last name, (2) a home or other physical address (including street name and the name of the city or town), (3) a telephone number, (4) a Social Security identification number or (5) driver’s license number or State identification card.

The above paragraph does not apply: (1) if the student’s parent(s)/guardian(s) have consented; or (2) to the collection, disclosure or, use of personal information collected from students for the exclusive purpose of developing, evaluating or providing educational products or services for, or to, students or educational institutions, such as the following:

1. College or other postsecondary education recruitment, or military recruitment.
2. Book clubs, magazines, and programs providing access to low-cost literary products.
3. Curriculum and instructional materials used by elementary schools and secondary schools.
4. Tests and assessments to provide cognitive, evaluative, diagnostic, clinical, aptitude, or achievement information about students (or to generate other statistically useful data for the purpose of securing such tests and assessments) and the subsequent analysis and public release of the aggregate data from such tests and assessments.

5. The sale by students of products or services to raise funds for school-related or education-related activities.
6. Student recognition programs.

Under no circumstances may a school official or staff member provide a student's "personal information" to a business organization or financial institution that issues credit or debit cards.

Notification of Rights and Procedures

The Superintendent or designee shall notify students' parents/guardians of:

1. This policy as well as its availability upon request from the general administration office.
2. How to opt their child out of participation in activities as provided in this policy.
3. The approximate dates during the school year when a survey requesting personal information, as described above, is scheduled or expected to be scheduled.
4. How to request access to any survey or other material described in this policy.

This notification shall be given parents/guardians at least annually, at the beginning of the school year, and within a reasonable period after any substantive change in this policy.

The rights provided to parents/guardians in this policy transfer to the student when the student turns 18 years old, or is an emancipated minor.

LEGAL REF.:

Protection of Pupil Rights, [20 U.S.C. §1232h](#).

Children's Privacy Protection and Parental Empowerment Act, [325 ILCS 17/1 et seq.](#)
[105 ILCS 5/10-20.37](#).

CROSS REF.: [2:260](#) (Uniform Grievance Procedure), [6:210](#) (Instructional Materials), [6:260](#) (Complaints About Curriculum, Instructional Materials, and Programs), [7:130](#) (Student Rights and Responsibilities)

ADOPTED: August 20, 2018