

POLICY GUIDE

Adopted: August 2025

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Duties of Public School Accountant

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[See POLICY ALERT Nos. 190 and 235]

0173 DUTIES OF PUBLIC SCHOOL ACCOUNTANT

The Board of Education shall cause an audit of the annual financial statements to be made pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:23-1 et seq., and shall engage, to conduct the annual audit, only a licensed public school accountant who has an external peer/quality report performed in accordance with Government Auditing Standards (Yellow Book) by the Comptroller General of the United States (U.S. Government Printing Office, Stop SSOP, Washington, DC 20402-0001). The Board shall ensure that the external peer/quality report is completed within the time established the Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States unless the accountant or firm can show good cause as to why there is a delay. ~~The Board will engage only a licensed public school accountant to conduct the annual audit in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:23-1 et seq. The accountant must have an external peer/quality report performed in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.2(i)1, unless the accountant or firm can show good cause as to why there was a delay completing such report within the required timelines established by Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.~~

The Board ~~shall will~~ require the submission of the most recent external peer/quality report and letter of comment to the Board for review and evaluation prior to each the appointment of a the licensed public school accountant to conduct the annual audit in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.2(i)2.

The Board ~~shall will~~ acknowledge the receipt, review, and evaluation of the external peer/quality report in the public session and Board minutes in which the Board authorizes the engagement of the accountant or firm to perform the audit is engaged in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.2(i)2.i.

The Board ~~shall will~~ require the submission of an updated external peer/quality report of the engaged licensed public school accountant, within thirty days after



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the issuance date of the external peer/quality report if ~~such~~ the report is issued prior to the date of the audit opinion for the most recent fiscal year **in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.2(i)2.ii.**

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Duties of Public School Accountant

In accordance with NJOMB Circular Letter 15-08 98-07, **Single Audit Policy for Recipients of Federal Grants, State Grants, and State Aid, including any amendments or revisions thereto, the Board shall ensure the public school accountant will provides a copy of the most recent external peer/quality report to the New Jersey Department of Education, within thirty days after the initial engagement of a licensed public school accountant or firm by the Board and within thirty days after the issuance of a subsequent peer/quality report in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.2(i)2.iii.**

The Board shall engage a public school accountant during the audit engagement period for non-auditing, management, or other consulting services only if ~~the such~~ services comply with the ~~independence independent~~ standards as established in Government Auditing Standards (Yellow Book) by the Comptroller General of the United States **in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.2(i)3.**

~~The Board may be prohibited for good cause by the Commissioner of Education~~ **may prohibit, for good cause, the Board** from engaging a particular licensed public school accountant, or may ~~be directed the use of a process for by the Commissioner on a process to be used in~~ the appointment of a licensed public school accountant pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.2(i)4.

The public school accountant ~~shall will~~ complete the annual audit as required by the New Jersey Department of Education and N.J.S.A. 18A:23-12. Each annual audit shall include an audit of the books, accounts and moneys, and a verification of all cash and bank balances, of the Board and of any officer or employee ~~thereof~~ and of moneys derived from athletic events or ~~the other~~ activities of any organization of **public school** students conducted under the auspices of the Board, from the date of the last annual audit to the date of the ~~current~~ **audit in question.** ~~Such The~~ **audit shall will** also include a determination of the extent to which the district ~~has~~ used contracts entered into by the State Division of Purchase and Property pursuant to P.L. 1969 c. 104 (~~C.~~ N.J.S.A. 52:25-16.1 et seq.) in the



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purchase of materials, supplies, or equipment for the district in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:23-2. The report of each annual audit shall ~~will~~ be completed in accordance with the time requirements of N.J.S.A. 18A:23-1 and shall ~~will~~ be filed by the public school accountant in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:23-2:3.

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Duties of Public School Accountant

The Board Secretary shall prepare or have prepared a synopsis or summary of the annual audit and recommendations, prior to the holding of the meeting of the Board to take action thereon; a copy of which synopsis or summary shall be available for distribution to interested parties at the meeting in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:23-4. Within thirty days following the receipt of the report of the annual audit the Board shall, at a regularly scheduled public meeting, ~~will~~ cause the recommendations of the auditor ~~accountant~~ to be read and to be discussed and the discussion ~~will be~~ duly noted on in the Board meeting minutes in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:23-5. ~~The Board Secretary will prepare or have prepared a summary of the annual audit for this Board meeting in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:23-4.~~

N.J.S.A. 18A:23-1 et seq.
N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.2

Cross reference: Policy Guide No. 6830



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Legal Services
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[See POLICY ALERT Nos. 182, 188, and 235]

0174 LEGAL SERVICES

In accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.2, the Board of Education adopts this Policy and its strategies to **minimize the cost of legal services** ~~ensure the use of legal services by employees and the Board of Education members and the tracking of the use of legal services.~~

The Board ~~of Education~~ authorizes the Superintendent of Schools,

[select designated contact person(s) below]

- ☐ Superintendent of Schools' designee
- ☒ School Business Administrator/Board Secretary
- ☒ Board President
- ☒ Director of Special Services
- ☐ other _____

as designated contact person(s) to request services or advice from contracted legal counsel.

~~The _____ shall be responsible to review all legal bills and confer with designated contact persons in reviewing such legal bills.~~

In accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.2(a)2, the Board **shall** ~~designates an~~ administrative staff member to review all legal bills and **confer**



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with designated ~~designates~~ contact person(s) to ensure the prudent use of legal services and the tracking of the use of those services.

In the event the ~~s~~School district's with legal costs that exceed one hundred thirty percent of the Statewide average per student amount, ~~should establish~~ the procedures established ~~outlined~~ in 1., 2., 3., and 4. below shall be implemented and, if not implemented, and, ~~if not established,~~ the district shall provide evidence the ~~such~~ procedures established in 1., 2., 3., and 4. below would not result in a reduction of costs:-

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1. The designated contact person(s) shall ensure that contracted legal counsel is not contacted unnecessarily for management decisions or readily available information contained in district materials such as Board policies, administrative regulations, or guidance available through professional source materials.
2. All requests for legal advice shall be made to the designated contact person(s) in writing and shall be maintained on file in the district offices. The designated contact person(s) shall determine whether the request warrants legal advice or if legal advice is necessary.
3. The designated contact person(s) shall maintain a log of all legal counsel contact including the name of the legal counsel contacted, date of the contact, issue discussed, and length of contact.
4. All written requests for legal advice and logs of legal counsel contacts shall be forwarded to the designated contact person(s) ~~(administrator responsible for maintaining district files of requests for legal advice and logs of legal counsel contacts)~~ _____, who shall be responsible to review all legal bills and compare all legal bills to the contact logs and to investigate and resolve any variances.

Any professional services contract(s) for legal services shall prohibit advance payments. Services to be provided shall be described in detail in the contract and invoices for payment shall itemize the legal services provided for the billing



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period. Payments to legal counsel(s) shall only be for legal services actually provided in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.2(a)4.

School districts and county vocational school districts shall not contract are prohibited from contracting with legal counsel or use using in-house legal counsel to pursue any affirmative claim or cause of action on behalf of district administrators and/or any individual Board member(s) for or pursuing any claim or cause of action in for which the damages to be awarded would benefit an individual rather than the school district as a whole in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.2(b).

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Legal Services

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.2(a)1., tThe Board of Education will annually establish prior to budget preparation, a maximum dollar limit for each type of professional service, including legal services. In the event it becomes necessary to exceed the established maximum dollar limit for legal the professional services, the Superintendent of Schools shall recommend to the Board of Education an increase in the maximum dollar amount. Any increase in the maximum dollar amount shall require formal Board action.

Contracts for legal services will be issued by the Board in a deliberative and efficient manner that ensures the district receives the highest quality services at a fair and competitive price or through a shared service arrangement. This may include, but is not limited to, issuance of such contracts through a Request for Proposals (RFP) based on cost and other specified factors or other comparable processes in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.2(a)5. Contracts for legal services shall be limited to non-recurring or specialized work for which the district does not possess adequate in-house resources or in-house expertise to conduct in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.2(a)6.

N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.2



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Professional Services
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[See POLICY ALERT Nos. 182, 188, and 235]

0177 PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

In accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.2, the Board of Education adopts this Policy and its strategies to minimize the cost of professional services.

The Board shall establish a maximum dollar limit, annually prior to budget preparation, for each type of professional service, with appropriate notification to the Board if it becomes necessary to exceed the maximum. Upon such notification, the Board may adopt a dollar increase in the maximum amount through formal Board action in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.2(a)1.

~~The Board of Education will establish annually prior to budget preparation a maximum dollar limit for each type of professional service. In the event it becomes necessary to exceed the established maximum dollar limit for the professional services, the Superintendent of Schools shall recommend to the Board of Education an increase in the maximum dollar amount. Any increase in the maximum dollar amount shall require formal Board action.~~

Contracts for professional legal services will be issued by the Board in a deliberative and efficient manner that ensures the district receives the highest quality services at a fair and competitive price or through a shared service arrangement. This may include, but is not limited to, issuance of such contracts



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through a Request for Proposals (RFP) based on cost and other specified factors or other comparable processes; and professional services contracts are ~~Contracts for legal services shall be~~ limited to non-recurring or specialized work for which the district does not possess adequate in-house resources or in-house expertise to conduct in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.2(a)5. and 6.

Nothing in this Policy or N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.2 shall preclude the Board from complying with the requirements of any statute, administrative code, or regulation for the award of professional services contracts.

N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.2
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Internal Controls
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[See POLICY ALERT Nos. 182, 188, and 235]

1570 INTERNAL CONTROLS

As a condition of receiving State aid, the school district shall establish specific policies and procedures on internal controls designed to provide management with reasonable assurance that the district's goals and objectives will be met and that meet the requirements at of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-6.5 through N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-6.13. Internal controls shall promote operational efficiency and effectiveness, provide reliable financial information, safeguard assets and records, encourage adherence to prescribed policies, and comply with law and regulation in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-6.4(a).

The specific internal controls contained in N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-6 shall be established together with other internal controls contained in N.J.A.C. 6A and other law and regulations, required by professional standards, and as deemed necessary and appropriate by district management. The district may submit to the **Commissioner of Education** a written request to the ~~Commissioner~~ to approve an alternative system, approach, or process for implementing the internal controls required in N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-6. The application ~~shall must~~ include documented evidence, ~~that including includes~~, but is not limited to, an independent, third-party written assessment that the alternative system, approach, or process will achieve the same safeguards, efficiency, and other purposes as the specified internal control requirement(s) in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-6.4(b).



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The ~~school~~ district shall evaluate business processes annually and allocate available resources appropriately in an effort to establish a strong control environment pursuant to ~~the requirements of~~ N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-6.5. In accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-6.5(b), the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary shall identify processes that, ~~when performed by the same individuals,~~ are a violation of sound segregation of duties ~~when performed by the same individuals.~~ The School Business Administrator/Board Secretary ~~and~~ shall segregate the duties of all such processes among Business Office staff based on available district resources, assessed vulnerability, and the associated cost-benefit, **except as required at N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-6.5(b)1. and 2.** The district shall include in the **Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR)** ~~Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR)~~ a detailed organizational charts for the Central Office that tie to the district's position control logs, including, but not limited to, the business, human resources, and information management functions.

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Internal Controls

The ~~school~~ district shall establish Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) for each task or function of the business operations of the district ~~by December 31, 2009.~~ The SOP ~~m~~Manual shall include sections on each routine task or function as outlined in N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-6.6(b) ~~and 6A:23A-6.6(e).~~ **The district shall establish a SOP** ~~A standard operating procedure shall be established~~ that ensures office supplies are ordered in appropriate quantities, maintained in appropriate storage facilities, and monitored to keep track of inventory **in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-6.6(c).**

If the ~~School~~ districts has a ~~with~~ budgets in excess of \$25,000,000 or ~~with~~ more than three hundred employees, ~~the district~~ shall maintain an Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) System ~~that which~~ integrates all data and processes of the ~~school~~ district into a unified system. ~~An~~ The ERP system shall uses multiple components of computer software and hardware and a unified database to store data for the various system modules to achieve the integration. ~~Districts required to maintain an ERP System that do not have an ERP System in place on July 1, 2008 shall fully implement an ERP System by the 2010-2011 school year and maintain both the existing system(s) and run a beta test ERP System during the 2009-2010 school year.~~ Whenever considering financial systems or the automation of other services or functions, the Superintendent ~~of Schools~~ or School Business Administrator/Board Secretary shall notify the Executive County Superintendent in writing to see if opportunities for a shared service system exist.



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Access controls shall be established for key elements of financial systems to ensure that a single person does not have the ability to make system edits that would violate segregation of duties controls in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-6.7(c).

The ~~school~~ district shall maintain an accurate, complete, and up-to-date automated position control roster to track the actual number and category of employees and the detailed information for each in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-6.8(a). ~~Districts are required to maintain a position control roster by December 31, 2009.~~ The position control roster shall share a common database and be integrated with the district's payroll system, agree to the account codes in the budget software, and ensure that the data within the position control roster system includes, at a minimum, the ~~required~~ information as ~~outlined required~~ in N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-6.8(a)3.

N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-6.4; 6A:23A-6.5; 6A:23A-6.6; 6A:23A-6.7; 6A:23A-6.8

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Administrative Employment Contracts

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[See POLICY ALERT Nos. 182, 184, 188, 221, and 235]

1620 ADMINISTRATIVE EMPLOYMENT CONTRACTS

The Executive County Superintendent shall review and approve, for all Superintendents of Schools, Superintendents of Schools reappointed pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:17-20.1, Deputy Superintendents of Schools, Assistant Superintendents of Schools, and School Business Administrators, including any interim, acting, or person otherwise serving in these positions, in school districts, county vocational school districts, county special services school districts and other districts, except charters schools, within the cCounty under the supervision of the Executive County Superintendent:

1. New employment contracts, including contracts that replace expired contracts for existing tenured and non-tenured employees;
2. Renegotiations, extensions, amendments, or other alterations of the terms of existing employment contracts that have been previously approved by the Executive County Superintendent; and



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3. Provisions for contract extensions where such terms were not included in the original employment contract or are different from the provisions contained in the original approved employment contract.

In counties where there is no Executive County Superintendent, an Executive County Superintendent from another county shall be designated by the Commissioner of Education to review and approve all contracts in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-3-1(a) and listed 1., 2., and 3. above.

The contract review and approval shall take place prior to any required public notice and hearing pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:11-11, and prior to the Board of Education approval and execution of the contracts to ensure compliance with all applicable laws, including, but not limited to, N.J.S.A. 18A:30-3.5;; 18A:30-9;; 18A:17-15.1; and 18A:11-12.

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Administrative Employment Contracts

In accordance with the provisions of ~~N.J.S.A. 18A:11-11~~ and N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-3.1(c)1, the public notice and public hearing required pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:11-11 shall be applicable to a Board of Education that renegotiates, extends, amends, or otherwise alters the terms of an existing contract with a Superintendent of Schools, Deputy Superintendent of Schools, Assistant Superintendent of Schools, or School Business Administrator. In accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:11-11, notice must be provided to the public at least thirty days prior to the scheduled action by the Board. The Board shall also hold a public hearing and shall not take any action on the matter until the hearing has been held. The Board shall provide the public with at least ten days' notice of the public hearing.

In accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-3.1(c)1, the public notice and public hearing required pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:11-11 shall not apply to new contracts, including contracts that replace expired contracts for existing employees in one of these positions listed at N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-3.1(a), whether tenured or not tenured. Nothing shall preclude a Board from issuing a public notice and/or holding a



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public hearing on new contracts, including new contracts that replace expired contracts for existing tenured and non-tenured employees.

The public notice and public hearing required pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:11-11 is also required in the event an existing contract for a Superintendent of Schools, Deputy Superintendent of Schools, Assistant Superintendent of Schools, or School Business Administrator is rescinded or terminated by the Board of Education before it is due to expire and the parties agree to new employment terms.

In connection with the Executive County Superintendent's review of the contract, the Board shall provide the Executive County Superintendent with a detailed statement setting forth the total cost of the contract for each applicable year, including salary, longevity (if applicable), benefits, and all other emoluments in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-3.1(d).

The review and approval of the employment contracts of Superintendents of Schools, Deputy Superintendents of Schools, Assistant Superintendents of Schools, and School Business Administrators conducted by the Executive County Superintendent shall be consistent with the following additional standards outlined in N.J.S.A. 18A:7-8.1 and N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-3.1(e):

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1. Contracts for each class of administrative position shall be comparable with the salary, benefits, and other emoluments contained in the contracts of similarly credentialed and experienced administrators in other ~~school~~ districts in the region with similar enrollment, academic achievement levels and challenges, and grade span.
2. No contract shall include provisions that are inconsistent with the travel requirements pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:11-12 and N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7, including, but not limited to, the provisions for mileage reimbursement and reimbursement for meals and lodging in New Jersey. Any contractual provision that is inconsistent with law shall be is superseded by the law.



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3. No contract shall include provisions for the reimbursement or payment of employee contributions that are either required by law or by a contract in effect in the ~~school~~ district with other teaching staff members, such as payment of the employee's State or Federal taxes, or of the employee's contributions to FICA, Medicare, State pensions and annuities (TPAF), life insurance, disability insurance (if offered), and health benefit costs.
4. No contract shall contain a payment as a condition of separation from service that is deemed by the Executive County Superintendent to be prohibited or excessive in nature. The payment cannot exceed the lesser of the calculation of three months' pay for every year remaining on the contract with pro-rata for partial years, not to exceed twelve months, or the remaining salary amount due under the contract.
5. No contract shall include benefits that supplement or duplicate benefits that are otherwise available to the employee by operation of law, an existing group plan, or other means; **for example e.g.,** an annuity or life insurance plan that supplements or duplicates a plan already made available to the employee. Notwithstanding the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-3.1 ~~this section~~, a contract may contain an annuity where ~~those~~ benefits are already contained in the existing contract between ~~that the~~ employee and the district.

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Administrative Employment Contracts

6. Contractual provisions regarding accumulation of sick leave and supplemental compensation for accumulated sick leave shall be consistent with N.J.S.A. 18A:30-3.5 and 18A:30-3.6. Supplemental payment for accumulated sick leave shall be payable only at the time of retirement and shall not be paid to the individual's estate or beneficiaries in the event of the individual's death prior to retirement. Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:30-3.2, a new Board ~~of Education~~ contract may include credit of unused sick leave **days** in accordance with the new Board's ~~of Education's~~ policy on sick leave credit for all employees.
7. Contractual provisions regarding accumulation of unused vacation leave and supplemental compensation for accumulated unused



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vacation leave shall be consistent with N.J.S.A. 18A:30-9. Contractual provisions for payments of accumulated vacation leave prior to separation can be included, but only for leave accumulated prior to June 8, 2007, and remaining unused at the time of payment. Supplemental payments for unused vacation leave accrued consistent with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:30-9 after June 8, 2007, as well as unused vacation leave accumulated prior to June 8, 2007, that has not been paid, shall be payable at the time of separation and may be paid to the individual's estate or beneficiaries in the event of the individual's death prior to separation.

8. Contractual provisions that include a calculation of per diem for twelve-month employees shall be based on a two hundred sixty-day work year.
9. No provision for a merit bonus shall be made except where payment is contingent upon achievement of quantitative merit criterion and/or qualitative merit criterion:
 - a. A contract may include no more than three quantitative merit criteria and/or two qualitative merit criteria per contract year.
 - b. The Executive County Superintendent shall approve or disapprove the selection of quantitative merit and/or qualitative merit criteria and the data that forms the basis of measuring the achievement of quantitative merit and/or qualitative merit criteria.

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Administrative Employment Contracts

- c. A contract may provide for merit bonuses in an amount not exceeding 3.33 percent of annual salary for each quantitative merit criterion achieved and 2.5 percent of annual salary for each qualitative merit criterion achieved. Any such merit bonus shall be considered "extra compensation" for purpose of N.J.A.C. 17:3-4.1 and shall not be cumulative.



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- d. The Board of Education shall submit to the Executive County Superintendent a resolution certifying that a quantitative merit criterion or a qualitative merit criterion has been satisfied and shall await confirmation of the satisfaction of that criterion from the Executive County Superintendent prior to payment of any merit bonus.
10. No provision for a bonus shall be made except where payment is contingent upon achievement of measurable specific performance objectives expressly contained in a contract approved pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-3.1, where compensation is deemed reasonable relative to the established performance objectives and achievement of the performance objectives has been documented to the satisfaction of the Board of Education.
11. No provision for payment at the time of separation or retirement shall be made for work not performed except as otherwise authorized in N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-3.1 and N.J.S.A. 18A:7-8.1.
12. No contract shall include a provision for a monthly allowance except for a reasonable car allowance. A reasonable car allowance shall not exceed the monthly cost of the average monthly miles traveled for business purposes multiplied by the allowable mileage reimbursement pursuant to applicable law and regulation and New Jersey Office of Management and Budget (NJOMB) circulars. If such allowance is included, the employee ~~cannot~~ ~~shall not~~ be reimbursed for business travel mileage nor assigned permanently a car for official district business. Any provision of a car for official district business ~~shall must~~ conform with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-6.12 and ~~shall~~ be supported by detailed justification. No contract shall include a provision of a dedicated driver or chauffeur.
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Administrative Employment Contracts
13. All Superintendent contracts shall include, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:17-15.1, the required provision ~~that pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:17-15.1~~ which states that the contract is null and void in the event the Superintendent's certificate is revoked, ~~the contract is null and void.~~



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14. No contract shall include a provision for additional compensation upon the acquisition of a graduate degree unless the graduate degree is conferred by an ~~a-regionally~~ accredited college or university ~~as defined in applicable regulations~~. No contract shall include a provision for assistance, tuition reimbursement, or additional compensation for graduate school coursework, unless the coursework culminates in the acquisition of a graduate degree conferred by an ~~a-regionally~~ accredited institution, college, or university ~~as defined in applicable regulations~~.

The review and approval of an employment contract for the Superintendent of Schools shall not include maximum salary amounts pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:7-8.j.

Any action(s) by the Executive County Superintendent undertaken pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:7-8.1, N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-3.1, and this Policy may be appealed to the Commissioner of Education pursuant to the procedures set forth at N.J.A.C. 6A:3, Controversies and Disputes.

N.J.S.A. 18A:7-8; 18A:7-8.1; 18A:11-11
N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-3.1; 6A:23A-7 et seq.

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Notification of Promotion, New Job,
and Transfer Opportunities
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[See POLICY ALERT No. 235]

1636.01 NOTIFICATION OF PROMOTION, NEW JOB,



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AND TRANSFER OPPORTUNITIES

The Board of Education shall make reasonable efforts to announce, post, or otherwise make known opportunities for promotion that are advertised internally within the district or externally on internet-based advertisements, postings, printed flyers, or other similar advertisements to all current employees in the affected department or departments of the district prior to making a promotion decision in accordance with N.J.S.A. 34:6B-23.

For the purpose of N.J.S.A. 34:6B-23 and this Policy, "promotion" means a change in job title and an increase in compensation.

Any promotion for a current employee that is awarded on the basis of years of experience or performance shall not be subject to the notification requirements established in N.J.S.A. 34:6B-23 and this Policy. Nothing in N.J.S.A. 34:6B-23 and this Policy shall be construed to prohibit the Board from making a promotion on an emergent basis due to an unforeseen event.

The Board shall disclose in each posting for new jobs and transfer opportunities that are advertised by the Board either externally or internally the hourly wage or salary, or a range of the hourly wage or salary, and a general description of benefits and other compensation programs for which the staff member would be eligible. Nothing in N.J.S.A. 34:6B-23 and this Policy shall be construed to prohibit the Board from increasing the wages, benefits, and compensation identified in the job opening posting at the time of making an offer for employment to an applicant.

N.J.S.A. 34:6B-23

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Statutory Curricular Requirements
~~Comprehensive Health and Physical Education~~
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[See POLICY ALERT Nos. 208, 217, 219, 224, and 235]

2422 STATUTORY CURRICULAR REQUIREMENTS COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION

The New Jersey Student Learning Standards (NJSLS) provide clear and consistent learning goals across distinct content areas to help prepare students for postsecondary success. The NJSLS demonstrate what students are expected to learn at specific grade levels and bands, so that every parent and teacher can understand and support learning. The NJSLS offer the foundation on which school districts build coherent curriculum and plan instruction to prepare each student with the knowledge and skills needed to succeed.

~~The Board of Education requires all students to participate in a comprehensive, sequential, health and physical education program aligned with the New Jersey Student Learning Standards (NJSLS) that emphasizes the natural interdisciplinary connection between wellness and health and physical education. The primary focus of the NJSLS is the development of knowledge and skills that influence healthy behaviors within the context of self, family, school, and the local and global community.~~

~~The curriculum requirements listed below address the need for students to gain knowledge and skill in caring for themselves, interacting effectively with others, and analyzing the impact of choices and consequences. The primary focus of the curriculum listed below is to help students develop concepts and skills that promote and influence healthy behaviors.~~

The New Jersey State Board of Education adopts the NJSLS and the The NJSLS incorporate New Jersey statutes require instruction to be part of the school district's implementation of the NJSLS related to health and well-being of students in New Jersey schools. The following statutes that require instruction to be part of the school district's implementation of incorporated into the NJSLS include, but are not limited to, the following requirements:

1. Accident and Fire Prevention (N.J.S.A. 18A:6-2) requires regular courses of instruction in accident and fire prevention.

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2. Breast Self-Examination (N.J.S.A. 18A:35-5.4) requires offering instruction on breast self-examination for students in grades seven through twelve.
3. Bullying Prevention Programs (N.J.S.A. 18A:37-17) requires the establishment of bullying prevention programs.
4. Cancer Awareness (N.J.S.A. 18A:40-33) requires the development of a school program on cancer awareness by the Commissioner of Education.
5. Dating Violence Education (N.J.S.A. 18A:35-4.23a) requires instruction regarding dating violence in grades seven through twelve.
6. Domestic Violence Education (N.J.S.A. 18A:35-4.23) allows instruction on problems related to domestic violence and child abuse.
7. Gang Violence Prevention (N.J.S.A. 18A:35-4.26) requires instruction in gang violence prevention for elementary school students.
8. Health, Safety, and Physical Education (N.J.S.A. 18A:35-5) requires that all students in grades one through twelve participate in at least two and one-half hours of health, safety, and physical education each school week.
9. Drugs, Alcohol, Tobacco, Controlled Dangerous Substances, and Anabolic Steroids (N.J.S.A. 18A:40A-1) requires instructional programs on drugs, alcohol, anabolic steroids, tobacco, and controlled dangerous substances and the development of curriculum guidelines for each grade Kindergarten through twelve.

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10. Lyme Disease Prevention (N.J.S.A. 18A:35-5.1 through 18A:35-5.3) requires the development of Lyme disease curriculum guidelines for the teaching of information on the prevention of Lyme disease and other tick-borne diseases and ~~training to all teaching staff members who instruct students with Lyme Disease.~~
11. Organ Donation (N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-4.3) requires information relative to organ donation to be given to students in grades nine through twelve.
12. Sexual Assault Prevention (N.J.S.A. 18A:35-4.3) requires the development of a sexual assault prevention education program by the Commissioner of Education for utilization by school districts.
13. Stress Abstinence (N.J.S.A. 18A:35-4.19 through ~~N.J.S.A. 18A:35-4.22~~), also known as the "AIDS Prevention Act of 1999," requires sex education programs to stress abstinence.
14. Suicide Prevention (N.J.S.A. 18A:6-111 through 18A:6-113) requires instruction in suicide prevention in public schools.
15. Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR)/Automated External Defibrillator (AED) (N.J.S.A. 18A:35-4.28 and 18A:35-4.29) requires public high schools and charter schools to provide instruction in cardiopulmonary resuscitation and the use of an automated external defibrillator to each student prior to graduation.
16. Sexually Explicit Images through Electronic Means (N.J.S.A. 18A:35-4.32 and 18A:35-4.33) requires instruction, once during middle school, on the social, emotional, and legal consequences of distributing and soliciting sexually explicit images through electronic means.
17. History of Disabled and LGBT Persons (N.J.S.A. 18A:35-4.35 and 18A:35-4.36) requires instruction on the political, economic, and social contributions of persons with disabilities and lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people for middle and high school students.

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18. Financial Literacy (N.J.S.A. 18A:35-4.34) requires instruction with basic financial literacy necessary for sound financial decision-making in each of the grades six through eight.
19. Sexual Abuse and Assault Awareness and Prevention Education (N.J.S.A. 18A:35-4.5a) requires age-appropriate sexual abuse and assault awareness and prevention education in grades preschool through twelve.
20. Curriculum to Include Instruction on Diversity and Inclusion (N.J.S.A. 18A:35-4.36a) requires instruction on diversity and inclusion in an appropriate place in the curriculum for students in grades Kindergarten through twelve.
21. Incorporation of Age-Appropriate Instruction Relative to Consent for Physical Contact and Sexual Activity (N.J.S.A. 18A:35-4.38) requires age-appropriate instruction in grades six through twelve on the law and meaning of consent for physical contact and sexual activity.
22. Health Curriculum to Include Instruction on Mental Health (N.J.S.A. 18A:35-4.39) requires health education programs to include instruction on mental health and the relation of physical and mental health for students in grades Kindergarten through twelve.
23. Information About "New Jersey Safe Haven Infant Protection Act" Included in Public School Curriculum (N.J.S.A. 18A:35-4.40) **requires** information on the provisions of the "New Jersey Safe Haven Infant Protection Act" shall be included in curriculum for public school students in grades nine through twelve.
24. Infusion of African American Accomplishments into School Curricula (N.J.S.A. 18A:35-4.43) requires in the curriculum for all elementary and secondary students instruction that infuses into all courses on the United States the centuries of accomplishments by African Americans in the building and development of America.



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25. Asian American, Pacific Islander History, Contributions; Instruction Included in Curriculum (N.J.S.A. 18A:35-4.44) requires instruction on the history and contributions of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in an appropriate place in the curriculum of students in grades Kindergarten through twelve as part of the district's implementation of the NJSLs in Social Studies.
2625. Any oOther sStatutory or aAdministrative cCodes requiring instruction to be part of the district's implementation of the NJSLs. ~~The Board will incorporate into its health and physical education curriculum any other requirements of the NJSLs in Comprehensive Health and Physical Education.~~

In accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:35-4.7, any student whose parent presents to the Principal a signed statement that any part of the instruction in health, family life education, or sex education is in conflict with **their** his/her conscience or sincerely held moral or religious beliefs shall be excused from that portion of the course where such instruction is being given and no penalties as to credit or graduation shall result.

The Board of Education must provide two and one-half hours of health, safety, and physical education courses in each school week, or proportionately less when holidays fall within the week. Recess period(s) shall not be used to meet the requirements of N.J.S.A. 18A:35-5, 7, and 8.

In accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:35-4.31, the Board of Education shall provide a daily recess period of at least twenty minutes for students in grades Kindergarten through five. A recess period is not required on a school day in which the day is substantially shortened due to a delayed opening or early dismissal. The recess period shall be outdoors, if feasible. A student shall not be denied recess for any reason, except as a consequence of a violation of the school district's Code of Student Conduct, including a harassment, intimidation, or bullying (HIB) investigation pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:37-13 et seq. Students may not be denied recess more than twice per week for a violation of the Code of Student Conduct or



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HIB investigation and these students shall be provided restorative justice activities during the recess period.

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Restorative justice activities are defined as activities designed to improve the socioemotional and behavioral responses of students through the use of more appropriate and less punitive interventions thereby establishing a more supportive and inclusive school culture. The student's recess period should be scheduled in a manner that does not interfere with the implementation of a student's Individualized Education Program (IEP). School staff may deny recess for a student on the advice of a medical professional, school nurse, or the provisions of a student's IEP and/or 504 Plan.

A copy of the ~~NJSLS for Comprehensive Health and Physical Education~~ and all related curriculum/course guides and instructional material shall be available for public inspection ~~in each school~~.



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[See POLICY ALERT No. 235]

5339.01 STUDENT SUN PROTECTION

The Board of Education believes it is important that school district students protect themselves against harmful sun-related skin diseases by using protective measures. Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:40-12.39 and notwithstanding any law or regulation to the contrary, the Board adopts this Policy concerning a student's use of sunscreen and sun-protective clothing, such as hats and sunglasses, while outdoors at school and school-sponsored functions.

As used in this Policy, "sunscreen" means a topical product used for the purpose of limiting skin damage caused by overexposure to the sun, and which is regulated by the Federal Food and Drug Administration for over-the-counter use, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:40-12.39.a.

Students are not required to provide documentation from a physician or other licensed health care professional in order to use sunscreen or sun-protective clothing while outdoors at school or a school-sponsored function.

[Optional

The Board requires written permission from a student's parent to allow that student to carry or use sunscreen at school or a school-sponsored function for all students in grade(s) Pre K -12. Any student required to have written permission from their parent to carry or use sunscreen shall be monitored by school staff to ensure safety through the appropriate use of sunscreen.]

[Optional



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~~Sunscreen can be packaged as aerosol, spray, lotion or cream with fragrances, as such the district prohibits the use of sunscreen that the Principal or designee may deem harmful to students with asthma or other respiratory ailments or a nuisance to students or staff members.}~~

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Student Sun Protection

~~Any student found to be using sunscreen in an inappropriate manner shall have their permission to use sunscreen revoked and be disciplined in accordance with the student code of conduct. If a student's permission to use sunscreen is revoked, the district shall notify the student's parent in writing of the reasons and duration for the revocation of that permission and of any discipline associated with the incident.~~

~~The district shall provide for the transportation and storage of sunscreen to ensure accessibility when students travel off school grounds for school-sponsored functions.~~

Nothing in this Policy shall be construed as requiring a staff member to assist a student in applying sunscreen.

N.J.S.A. 18A:40-12.39



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[See POLICY ALERT Nos. 182, 188, and 235]

6111 SPECIAL EDUCATION MEDICAID INITIATIVE (SEMI) PROGRAM

Every New Jersey school district, with the exception of any district that obtains a waiver of the requirements of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.3(b) pursuant to the procedures set forth at N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.3(b), shall take appropriate steps to maximize its revenue from the Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI) pProgram by following the policies and procedures to maximize participation in the program as set forth in N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.3(d) and to comply with all program requirements as set forth in N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.3(e).

The school district may seek, in the prebudget year, a waiver of the requirements of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.3 in accordance with the procedures as outlined in N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.3(b). As part of the annual budget information, the New Jersey Department of Education shall provide each school district with a projection of available SEMI reimbursement for the budget year, as determined by the New Jersey State Department of the Treasury's third-party administrator for SEMI. Beginning with the 2009-2010 school year, Tthe school district shall recognize as revenue in its annual school district budget no less than ninety percent of the projection provided by the Department of Education. The district may seek approval from the Executive County Superintendent to use its own projection of SEMI reimbursement upon demonstration that the numbers it used in calculating the projection are more accurate than the projection provided.



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The ~~school~~ district shall strive to achieve maximum participation in the SEMI program. "Maximum participation" means obtaining a ninety percent return rate of parental consent forms for all SEMI-eligible students. Districts shall enter all students following their evaluations into the third-party system **as determined by the New Jersey Department of the Treasury** to identify the district's universe of eligible students. This ~~may~~ **can** be done without parental consent.

If the district participates ~~Districts participating~~ in the SEMI reimbursement program, **the district** shall comply with program requirements as outlined in N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.3(e).

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If the ~~A school~~ district ~~that~~ has less than ninety percent participation of SEMI-eligible students in the prebudget year or that has failed to comply with all program requirements ~~at set forth in~~ N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.3(c), **the district** shall submit a SEMI action plan to the Executive County Superintendent for review and approval as part of the ~~school~~ district's proposed budget submission. The district's SEMI action plan shall include the components as outlined in N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.3(g).

If the district does ~~Districts that did~~ not achieve ninety percent participation, or **does not** achieve their approved benchmarks in the SEMI program for a given budget year and cannot demonstrate that they fully implemented their **New Jersey Department of Education-approved SEMI action plan required at N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.3(f) and (g)**, **the district** shall be subject to review for the withholding of State aid by the **Commissioner of Education**, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:55-3, in an amount equal to the SEMI revenue projection based on their approved benchmark for the budget year, if applicable, less actual SEMI reimbursements for the budget year. The State aid deduction shall be made in the second subsequent year after the budget year.

If the district does not meet the requirement of the cost-settlement components of SEMI, the district may be required to refund all or part of their SEMI reimbursements.

N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.3



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[See POLICY ALERT Nos. 192 and 235]

6220 BUDGET PREPARATION

The annual budget is the financial plan for the effectuation of the educational plan for the district.; ~~its preparation is, therefore, one of the most important functions performed by the Board of Education.~~ The budget shall be designed to carry out that plan in a thorough and efficient manner, to maintain school district facilities, and to honor continuing obligations of the district.

A proposed budget requires the critical analysis ~~by~~ of every member of the Board of Education during its preparation. The administration shall work with the Board to ensure Board members have a thorough understanding of the budget appropriations, budget revenue, the proposed educational program, and the budget's impact to the local tax levy. The Board shall also provide for community input during the budget development process.

~~The annual school district budget and supporting documentation shall be prepared in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:71; et seq. and N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-8.1 et seq. The Board will obtain approval of the local funding for a non-referendum capital project (school facility project or other capital project) in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-8.4.~~



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The annual school district budget and supporting documentation shall be prepared in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:7F; N.J.S.A. 18A:22-7 and 18A:22-8; and N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-8. The Board shall adopt and will submit its proposed budget and supporting documentation as prescribed by the Commissioner to the Executive County Superintendent for approval, together with Commissioner-prescribed supporting documentation, a budget that provides for a thorough and efficient education pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-8.1(a). Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:26-3.7 and 6A:26-3.12, the Board shall obtain approval of the local funding for a non-referendum capital project (school facility project or other capital project) in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-8.4.

The budget will be presented to the Board of Education to allow adequate time for review and adoption. The budget should evolve primarily from the needs of the individual schools as expressed by the Building Principals and the district educational program as expressed by the central administrative staff and be compatible with approved district plans.

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Budget Preparation

The Board shall include in the budget application to the Executive County Superintendent a complete reporting of revenues and appropriations and other requirements pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:22-8-1 et seq. and N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-5 through 63.

The Board, upon submission of its budget application to the Executive County Superintendent or by the statutory submission date, whichever is earlier, shall make available upon request for public inspection all budget and supporting documentation contained in the budget application and all other documents listed in N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-8.1 once the budget application has been submitted to the Executive County Superintendent for approval.

The budget, as adopted for the school year pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-5, shall be provided for public inspection on the district's website Internet site, if one exists, and made available in print in a "user-friendly," plain language budget summary format in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-8.1(c).

All budgetary and accounting systems used in the school district must be in accordance with double-entry bookkeeping and Generally Accepted Accounting Principles as required in N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.1 et seq.



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N.J.S.A. 18A:7F et seq.; 18A:22-7 et seq.
N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-8.1 et seq.; 6A:23A-16.1 et seq.



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[See POLICY ALERT Nos. 182, 188, and 235]

R 1570 INTERNAL CONTROLS

A. Segregation of ~~Business~~ Duties; and Organizational Structure - N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-6.5

1. The school district shall evaluate business processes annually and allocate available resources appropriately in an effort to establish a strong control environment.
2. The School Business Administrator/Board Secretary shall identify processes that ~~when performed by the same individuals~~ are a violation of sound segregation of duties **when performed by the same individuals**. The School Business Administrator/Board Secretary shall segregate the duties of all such processes among Business Office staff based on available district resources, assessed vulnerability, and the associated cost-benefit, except as required ~~at by~~ N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-6.5(b)1. and 2. and A.2.a. and A.2.b. below.
 - a. The functions of human resources and payroll shall be segregated and completed by different employees in ~~the all~~ districts.
 - b. The functions of purchasing and accounts payable shall be segregated and completed by different employees in ~~the all~~ districts.
3. The district shall include in the **Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR)** ~~Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR)~~ a detailed organizational charts for the Central Office that tie to the district's position control logs, including, but not limited to, the business, human resources, and information management functions.



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- k. Food service;
- l. Technology systems; and
- m. Information management.

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- 3. ~~The district A standard operating procedure~~ shall establish SOPs ~~be established~~ that ensures office supplies are ordered in appropriate quantities, maintained in appropriate storage facilities, and monitored to keep track of inventory.

C. Financial and Human Resource Management Systems;; Access Controls - N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-6.7

- 1. ~~If the sSchool districts has a with~~ budgets in excess of \$25,000,000 or ~~with~~ more than ~~three hundred 300~~ employees, the district shall maintain an Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) System ~~that which~~ integrates all data and processes of the school district into a unified system. ~~An The~~ ERP system ~~shall~~ uses multiple components of computer software and hardware and a unified database to store data for the various system modules to achieve the integration.
 - a. ~~Districts affected by C.1. above that do not have an ERP system in place on July 1, 2008 shall fully implement one by the 2010-2011 school year and maintain both the existing system(s) and run a beta test ERP system during the 2009-2010 school year.~~
- 2. Whenever considering financial systems or the automation of other services or functions, the Superintendent ~~of Schools~~ or School Business Administrator/Board Secretary shall notify the Executive County Superintendent in writing to see if opportunities for a shared service system exist.
- 3. Access controls shall be established for key elements of financial systems to ensure ~~that~~ a single person does not have the ability to



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c. Ensure ~~that~~ the data within the position control roster system includes, at a minimum, the following information:

- (1) The employee's name;
- (2) The **employee's** date of hire;
- (3) A permanent position tracking number for **the each** employee, including:

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- (a) The expenditure account codes for the general fund consistent with the State prescribed budget, special revenue fund, and enterprise funds;
- (b) The building(s) **to which** the position is assigned;
- (c) The **certificate(s)** ~~certification—title~~ and endorsement(s) held, as applicable;
- (d) The assignment position title as follows:
 - i. Superintendent or Chief School Administrator;
 - ii. Assistant Superintendent;
 - iii. School Business Administrator;
 - iv. Board Secretary (when other than N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-6.8(a)3.iii.(4)(A), (B), or (C) and D.1.c.(3)(d)i., D.1.c.(3)(d)ii., or D.1.c.(3)(d)iii. above);



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- xxiii. Instructional Assistants;
- xxiv. Certificated Instructional – Other;
- xxv. Aides supported by IEP;
- xxvi. Other Aides;
- xxvii. Maintenance Worker;
- xxviii. Custodian;
- xxix. Bus Driver;
- xxx. Vehicle Mechanic;
- xxxi. Food Service; and

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xxxii. Other Non-certificated;-

- (4) A control number for substitute teachers;
- (5) A control number for overtime;
- (6) A control number for extra pay;
- (7) The status of the position (filled, vacant, abolished, etc.);
- (8) An indication, when available, of whether the employee is retiring in the budget year or not being renewed, including associated costs such as contractual buyouts, severance pay, paid vacation or sick days, etc.;
- (9) Each of the following: base salary, step, longevity, guide, stipends by type, overtime, and other extra compensation;



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A. Waiver

1. The school district may seek, in the prebudget year, a waiver of the requirements of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.3, Policy 6111, and this Regulation upon demonstration that for the subsequent school year: the district projects, based on reliable evidence, that it will have forty or fewer Medicaid-eligible classified students.
 - a. The application for a waiver of the requirements of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.3, Policy 6111, and this Regulation shall be made to the Executive County Superintendent no less than forty-five days prior to the submission of the district's proposed budget for the school year to which the waiver request applies. The Executive County Superintendent shall notify the district of the decision on the waiver application within twenty days of receipt of the waiver request. If the waiver is not granted, the district shall submit to the Executive County Superintendent a SEMI action plan required at N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.3(f) and D. below as part of its annual district budget submission, or shall demonstrate to the Executive County Superintendent that the district has achieved maximum participation in the SEMI program in the prebudget year.

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Special Education Medicaid Initiative
(SEMI) Program

- ~~a. The district projects, based on reliable evidence, that it will have forty or fewer Medicaid-eligible classified students; or~~
- ~~b. The district demonstrates that efforts to participate in SEMI would not provide a cost benefit to the district, based on the projection of the district's available SEMI reimbursement for the budget year as set forth in N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.3(c) and B. below.~~
2. ~~The application for a waiver of the requirements of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.3 shall be made to the Executive County Superintendent no less than forty-five days prior to the submission of the district's proposed budget for the school year to which the waiver request~~



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c. ~~One HEP meeting per eligible student per year; and~~

d. ~~Applicable SEMI reimbursement rates.~~

2. ~~Beginning with the 2009-2010 school year, the school district shall recognize as revenue in its annual school district budget no less than ninety percent of the projection of available SEMI reimbursement. The district may seek approval from the Executive County Superintendent to use its own projection of SEMI reimbursement upon demonstration that the numbers it used in calculating the projection are more accurate than the projection provided.~~

C. SEMI Program Requirements

1. The school district shall strive to achieve maximum participation in the SEMI program. **For the purpose of Policy 6111 and this Regulation, "Maximum participation"** means obtaining a ninety percent return rate of parental consent forms for all SEMI-eligible students. Districts shall enter all students following their evaluations into the third-party system **as determined by the New Jersey Department of the Treasury** to identify the district's universe of eligible students. This may ~~can~~ be done without parental consent.
2. **If the district participates** ~~Districts participating~~ in the SEMI reimbursement program, **the district** shall comply with program requirements as follows:

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Special Education Medicaid Initiative
(SEMI) Program

- a. ~~The school~~ district shall implement Policy 6111 and this Regulation ~~6111~~ concerning the effective and efficient administration of the SEMI reimbursement program consistent with the requirements of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.3. **A complete listing of requirements and information are available at the SEMI/MAC website.**



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~~educational requirements and work experience necessary for ASHA certification have been met.~~

(a) Qualification and documentation for provision of evaluation services shall include:

- (i) Copy of licensed physician's orders, which shall be maintained with the student's IEP; or
- (ii) Copy of New Jersey license as a speech-language pathologist and educational services certificate with a speech-language specialist endorsement (N.J.A.C. 6A:9B-14.6) for the individual whose signature appears on the IEP; or
- (iii) Copy of documentation that identifies the referral of speech services included in or with the student's IEP.

(b) Qualification for provision of related services shall include:

- (i) Copy of educational services certificate or endorsement issued by the State Board of Examiners and an American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) Certificate of Clinical Competence; or

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- e5. Entities where the ~~school~~ district has placed SEMI-eligible students shall take steps to enable ~~school~~ districts to maximize participation, including either logging the eligible services provided directly through the **third-party system as determined by the New Jersey Department of the Treasury** ~~vendor~~ or the sending ~~school~~ district, as mutually agreed upon with the ~~school~~ district, and obtaining SEMI provider qualification certifications. Every out-of-district placement **shall must** provide copies of SEMI provider qualifications, certifications, and licenses. ~~This provision~~ N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.3(e)5. applies to the following out-of-district placement options:
- (1)a: Approved private schools for students with disabilities;
 - (2)b: Educational services commissions;
 - (3)c: Jointure commissions;
 - (4)d: Vocational half-time programs;
 - (5)e: **New Jersey Department of Education** ~~rRegional~~ **Day sSchools**; and
 - (6)f: **County sSpecial sService sSchool dDistricts**.
- f. If the district does not have an approved waiver pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.3(b) and A. above the district shall comply with the program requirements to assure the year-end cost settlement of SEMI claims is properly calculated with the standardized submission of quarterly and annual cost data, as well as staff pool lists transmitted directly through the third-party system as determined by the New Jersey Department of the Treasury.



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are available from the New Jersey Department of Education.

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- b. Establishment of a benchmark for the ~~2008-2009 school year~~ **of implementation** or for the first year the district does not have an approved waiver pursuant to the ~~provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.3(b) and A. above,~~ whichever is applicable, for obtaining maximum participation of all SEMI-eligible students by the start of the subsequent school year.:
- (1) The benchmarks for the ~~first 2008-2009 school year~~ **of implementation** or for the first year that the district does not have an approved waiver pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.3(b) and A. above, whichever is applicable, for achieving maximum participation shall ~~at a minimum~~ close, at a **minimum**, the gap between current participation and maximum participation by fifty percent by the beginning of the subsequent school year; and
- (2) The benchmarks shall be based on the percentage of parental consent forms collected from eligible students. The number of parental consent forms shall reflect one parental consent form **or one document noting parental refusal** for each eligible student;: ~~This should include documentation of parental refusal to give consent.~~
- c. Procedures to ensure ~~that~~ all IEP meetings are documented in the third-party administrator's system. IEPs are ~~only~~ claimable **only** if a Medicaid qualified practitioner is present **and it is documented that a health-related service is discussed;**
- d. Procedures to ensure ~~that~~ all SEMI-eligible services, including services provided by entities where the school



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~~to review for the withholding of State aid by the Commissioner pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:55-3 in an amount equal to the SEMI revenue projection based on their approved benchmark for the budget year, if applicable, less actual SEMI reimbursements for the budget year. The State aid deduction shall be made in the second subsequent year after the budget year.~~

Issued:

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Budget Preparation
Jul 25

[See Policy Alert No. 235]

R 6220 BUDGET PREPARATION

The annual school district budget will be prepared in accordance with the following procedure.

A. Responsibility

1. The **School Business Administrator/Board Secretary or designee** _____ is responsible for the administration and coordination of all budget preparation activities and will be guided by the budget planning forecasts prepared in accordance with Policy No. 6210.
2. Each Principal will assess the educational needs of the students, collect and evaluate the requests for funds submitted by the teaching and support staff members in **their his/her** building, and compile an estimate of the total building needs for the next budget year. The estimate will be submitted to the **School Business Administrator/Board Secretary or designee** _____.
3. Each central office administrator will assess the needs of the program operation for which **they are he/she is** responsible (such as staff recruiting, facilities maintenance, transportation, capital improvements) and will prepare an estimate of the program needs for the next budget year. The estimate will be submitted to the **School Business Administrator/Board Secretary or designee** _____.

B. Priorities



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- b. Analyze budget requests on a district-wide basis to determine whether requested resources can be shared; and
- c. Analyze budget requests for staffing requirements and convert those requirements to dollar equivalents.

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Budget Preparation

C. Form

1. The tentative budget shall contain:

- a~~1~~. The total expenditure for each item for the preceding school year, the amount appropriated for the current school year adjusted for transfers as of the date specified by the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) of the current school year, and the amount estimated to be necessary to be appropriated for the ensuing school year, indicated separately for each item as determined by the Commissioner;
- b~~2~~. The amount of the surplus account available at the beginning of the preceding school year, at the beginning of the current school year and the amount anticipated to be available for the ensuing school year;
- c~~3~~. The amount of revenue available for budget purposes from the preceding school year, the amount available for the current school year as of the date specified by the ~~NJDOE~~ New Jersey Department of Education and the amount anticipated to be available for the ensuing school year in the following categories as applicable:
 - (1)~~a~~. Revenues to be raised by local sources;



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expenditures and anticipated revenues in the tentative budget will be supported by sufficient explanatory information to enable the Superintendent and Board to determine their validity.

Issued:



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Internal Controls

Jul 25

M

[See POLICY ALERT Nos. 182, 188, and 235]

R 1570 INTERNAL CONTROLS

A. Segregation of Business Duties; ~~and~~ Organizational Structure - N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-6.5

1. The school district shall evaluate business processes annually and allocate available resources appropriately in an effort to establish a strong control environment.
2. The School Business Administrator/Board Secretary shall identify processes that ~~when performed by the same individuals~~ are a violation of sound segregation of duties **when performed by the same individuals**. The School Business Administrator/Board Secretary shall segregate the duties of all such processes among Business Office staff based on available district resources, assessed vulnerability, and the associated cost-benefit, except as required ~~at~~ by N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-6.5(b)1. and 2. and A.2.a. and A.2.b. below.
 - a. The functions of human resources and payroll shall be segregated and completed by different employees in ~~the all~~ districts.
 - b. The functions of purchasing and accounts payable shall be segregated and completed by different employees in ~~the all~~ districts.
3. The district shall include in the **Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR)** ~~Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR)~~ a detailed organizational charts for the Central Office that tie to the district's position control logs, including, but not limited to, the business, human resources, and information management functions.



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- k. Food service;
- l. Technology systems; and
- m. Information management.

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Internal Controls

3. ~~The district A standard operating procedure~~ shall establish SOPs be established that ensures office supplies are ordered in appropriate quantities, maintained in appropriate storage facilities, and monitored to keep track of inventory.

C. Financial and Human Resource Management Systems;; Access Controls -
N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-6.7

1. If the sSchool districts has a ~~with~~ budgets in excess of \$25,000,000 or ~~with~~ more than three hundred ~~300~~ employees, the district shall maintain an Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) System that ~~which~~ integrates all data and processes of the school district into a unified system. ~~An The~~ ERP system shall uses multiple components of computer software and hardware and a unified database to store data for the various system modules to achieve the integration.
 - a. ~~Districts affected by C.1. above that do not have an ERP system in place on July 1, 2008 shall fully implement one by the 2010-2011 school year and maintain both the existing system(s) and run a beta test ERP system during the 2009-2010 school year.~~
2. Whenever considering financial systems or the automation of other services or functions, the Superintendent ~~of Schools~~ or School Business Administrator/Board Secretary shall notify the Executive County Superintendent in writing to see if opportunities for a shared service system exist.
3. Access controls shall be established for key elements of financial systems to ensure that a single person does not have the ability to



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- c. Ensure ~~that~~ the data within the position control roster system includes, at a minimum, the following information:
- (1) The employee's name;
 - (2) The **employee's** date of hire;
 - (3) A permanent position tracking number for ~~the each~~ employee, including:

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Internal Controls

- (a) The expenditure account codes for the general fund consistent with the State prescribed budget, special revenue fund, and enterprise funds;
- (b) The building(s) **to which** the position is assigned;
- (c) The **certificate(s)** ~~certification—title~~ and endorsement(s) held, as applicable;
- (d) The assignment position title as follows:
 - i. Superintendent or Chief School Administrator;
 - ii. Assistant Superintendent;
 - iii. School Business Administrator;
 - iv. Board Secretary (when other than N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-6.8(a)3.iii.(4)(A), (B), or (C) and D.1.c.(3)(d)i., D.1.c.(3)(d)ii., or D.1.c.(3)(d)iii. above);



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- xxiii. Instructional Assistants;
- xxiv. Certificated Instructional – Other;
- xxv. Aides supported by IEP;
- xxvi. Other Aides;
- xxvii. Maintenance Worker;
- xxviii. Custodian;
- xxix. Bus Driver;
- xxx. Vehicle Mechanic;
- xxxi. Food Service; and

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Internal Controls

- xxxii. Other Non-certificated;:
 - (4) A control number for substitute teachers;
 - (5) A control number for overtime;
 - (6) A control number for extra pay;
 - (7) The status of the position (filled, vacant, abolished, etc.);
 - (8) An indication, when available, of whether the employee is retiring in the budget year or not being renewed, including associated costs such as contractual buyouts, severance pay, paid vacation or sick days, etc.;
 - (9) Each of the following: base salary, step, longevity, guide, stipends by type, overtime, and other extra compensation;



REGULATION GUIDE

A. Waiver

1. The school district may seek, in the prebudget year, a waiver of the requirements of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.3, Policy 6111, and this Regulation upon demonstration that for the subsequent school year: the district projects, based on reliable evidence, that it will have forty or fewer Medicaid-eligible classified students.
 - a. The application for a waiver of the requirements of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.3, Policy 6111, and this Regulation shall be made to the Executive County Superintendent no less than forty-five days prior to the submission of the district's proposed budget for the school year to which the waiver request applies. The Executive County Superintendent shall notify the district of the decision on the waiver application within twenty days of receipt of the waiver request. If the waiver is not granted, the district shall submit to the Executive County Superintendent a SEMI action plan required at N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.3(f) and D. below as part of its annual district budget submission, or shall demonstrate to the Executive County Superintendent that the district has achieved maximum participation in the SEMI program in the prebudget year.

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Special Education Medicaid Initiative
(SEMI) Program

- ~~a. The district projects, based on reliable evidence, that it will have forty or fewer Medicaid-eligible classified students; or~~
- ~~b. The district demonstrates that efforts to participate in SEMI would not provide a cost benefit to the district, based on the projection of the district's available SEMI reimbursement for the budget year as set forth in N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.3 (c) and B. below.~~
2. ~~The application for a waiver of the requirements of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.3 shall be made to the Executive County Superintendent no less than forty-five days prior to the submission of the district's proposed budget for the school year to which the waiver request~~



REGULATION GUIDE

c. ~~One IEP meeting per eligible student per year, and~~

d. ~~Applicable SEMI reimbursement rates.~~

2. ~~Beginning with the 2009-2010 school year, the school district shall recognize as revenue in its annual school district budget no less than ninety percent of the projection of available SEMI reimbursement. The district may seek approval from the Executive County Superintendent to use its own projection of SEMI reimbursement upon demonstration that the numbers it used in calculating the projection are more accurate than the projection provided.~~

C. SEMI Program Requirements

1. The school district shall strive to achieve maximum participation in the SEMI program. **For the purpose of Policy 6111 and this Regulation, "Maximum participation" means obtaining a ninety percent return rate of parental consent forms for all SEMI-eligible students. Districts shall enter all students following their evaluations into the third-party system as determined by the New Jersey Department of the Treasury to identify the district's universe of eligible students. This may ~~can~~ be done without parental consent.**

2. **If the district participates** ~~Districts participating~~ in the SEMI reimbursement program, **the district shall comply with program requirements as follows:**

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Special Education Medicaid Initiative
(SEMI) Program

a. ~~The school~~ district shall implement Policy 6111 and this Regulation ~~6111~~ concerning the effective and efficient administration of the SEMI reimbursement program consistent with the requirements of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.3. **A complete listing of requirements and information are available at the SEMI/MAC website.**



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~~educational requirements and work experience necessary for ASHA certification have been met.~~

(a) Qualification and documentation for provision of evaluation services shall include:

- (i) Copy of licensed physician's orders, which shall be maintained with the student's IEP; or
- (ii) Copy of New Jersey license as a speech-language pathologist and educational services certificate with a speech-language specialist endorsement (N.J.A.C. 6A:9B-14.6) for the individual whose signature appears on the IEP; or
- (iii) Copy of documentation that identifies the referral of speech services included in or with the student's IEP.

(b) Qualification for provision of related services shall include:

- (i) Copy of educational services certificate or endorsement issued by the State Board of Examiners and an American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) Certificate of Clinical Competence; or

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Special Education Medicaid Initiative
(SEMI) Program



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(SEMI) Program

- e5. Entities where the ~~school~~ district has placed SEMI-eligible students shall take steps to enable ~~school~~ districts to maximize participation, including either logging the eligible services provided directly through the **third-party system as determined by the New Jersey Department of the Treasury** ~~vendor~~ or the sending ~~school~~ district, as mutually agreed upon with the ~~school~~ district, and obtaining SEMI provider qualification certifications. Every out-of-district placement **shall must** provide copies of SEMI provider qualifications, certifications, and licenses. ~~This provision N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.3(e)5. applies to the following out-of-district placement options:~~
- (1)~~a~~: Approved private schools for students with disabilities;
 - (2)~~b~~: Educational services commissions;
 - (3)~~c~~: Jointure commissions;
 - (4)~~d~~: Vocational half-time programs;
 - (5)~~e~~: New Jersey Department of Education ~~r~~Regional ~~d~~Day ~~s~~Schools; and
 - (6)~~f~~: County ~~s~~Special ~~s~~Service ~~s~~School ~~d~~Districts.
- f. If the district does not have an approved waiver pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.3(b) and A. above the district shall comply with the program requirements to assure the year-end cost settlement of SEMI claims is properly calculated with the standardized submission of quarterly and annual cost data, as well as staff pool lists transmitted directly through the third-party system as determined by the New Jersey Department of the Treasury.



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are available from the New Jersey Department of Education.

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Special Education Medicaid Initiative
(SEMI) Program

- b. Establishment of a benchmark for the ~~2008-2009 school~~ year **of implementation** or for the first year the district does not have an approved waiver pursuant to ~~the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.3(b) and A. above,~~ whichever is applicable, for obtaining maximum participation of all SEMI-eligible students by the start of the subsequent school year:
 - (1) The benchmarks for the ~~first 2008-2009 school~~ year **of implementation** or for the first year that the district does not have an approved waiver pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.3(b) and **A. above**, whichever is applicable, for achieving maximum participation shall ~~at a minimum~~ close, at a **minimum**, the gap between current participation and maximum participation by fifty percent by the beginning of the subsequent school year; and
 - (2) The benchmarks shall be based on the percentage of parental consent forms collected from eligible students. The number of parental consent forms shall reflect one parental consent form **or one document noting parental refusal** for each eligible student; ~~This should include documentation of parental refusal to give consent.~~
- c. Procedures to ensure ~~that~~ all IEP meetings are documented in the third-party administrator's system. IEPs are ~~only~~ **claimable only** if a Medicaid qualified practitioner is present **and it is documented that a health-related service is discussed;**
- d. Procedures to ensure ~~that~~ all SEMI-eligible services, including services provided by entities where the ~~school~~



REGULATION GUIDE

~~to review for the withholding of State aid by the Commissioner pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:55-3 in an amount equal to the SEMI revenue projection based on their approved benchmark for the budget year, if applicable, less actual SEMI reimbursements for the budget year. The State aid deduction shall be made in the second subsequent year after the budget year.~~

Issued:

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Budget Preparation
Jul 25

[See Policy Alert No. 235]

R 6220 BUDGET PREPARATION

The annual school district budget will be prepared in accordance with the following procedure.

A. Responsibility

1. The **School Business Administrator/Board Secretary or designee** _____ is responsible for the administration and coordination of all budget preparation activities and will be guided by the budget planning forecasts prepared in accordance with Policy No. 6210.
2. Each Principal will assess the educational needs of the students, collect and evaluate the requests for funds submitted by the teaching and support staff members in **their his/her** building, and compile an estimate of the total building needs for the next budget year. The estimate will be submitted to the **School Business Administrator/Board Secretary or designee** _____.
3. Each central office administrator will assess the needs of the program operation for which **they are he/she is** responsible (such as staff recruiting, facilities maintenance, transportation, capital improvements) and will prepare an estimate of the program needs for the next budget year. The estimate will be submitted to the **School Business Administrator/Board Secretary or designee** _____.

B. Priorities



REGULATION GUIDE

- b. Analyze budget requests on a district-wide basis to determine whether requested resources can be shared; and
- c. Analyze budget requests for staffing requirements and convert those requirements to dollar equivalents.

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Budget Preparation

C. Form

1. The tentative budget shall contain:

- a1. The total expenditure for each item for the preceding school year, the amount appropriated for the current school year adjusted for transfers as of the date specified by the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) of the current school year, and the amount estimated to be necessary to be appropriated for the ensuing school year, indicated separately for each item as determined by the Commissioner;
- b2. The amount of the surplus account available at the beginning of the preceding school year, at the beginning of the current school year and the amount anticipated to be available for the ensuing school year;
- c3. The amount of revenue available for budget purposes from the preceding school year, the amount available for the current school year as of the date specified by the NJDOE ~~New Jersey Department of Education~~ and the amount anticipated to be available for the ensuing school year in the following categories as applicable:
 - (1)a. Revenues to be raised by local sources;



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expenditures and anticipated revenues in the tentative budget will be supported by sufficient explanatory information to enable the Superintendent and Board to determine their validity.

Issued:



POLICY

Hasbrouck Heights Board of Education

Section: Administration
1648.15. RECORDKEEPING FOR HEALTHCARE SETTINGS IN SCHOOL BUILDINGS -- COVID-19
Date Created: June 2022
Date Edited: June 2022

1648.15. RECORDKEEPING FOR HEALTHCARE SETTINGS IN SCHOOL BUILDINGS -- COVID-19

The Board of Education is committed to providing a safe and healthy workplace for all employees. The school district shall maintain its records in accordance with Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 (OSHA) COVID-19 Emergency Temporary Standard (ETS) published on June 21, 2021 as adopted by the Public Employees Occupational Safety and Health (PEOSH), the agency with jurisdiction over public employers in New Jersey. The provisions of the ETS have expired and are no longer in effect for school districts except for the provisions addressing recordkeeping, outlined in 29 CFR §1910.502(q). The ETS and this Policy are only applicable for employees working in the school nurse's office and any adjoining clinical areas in the school building.

For the purpose of this Policy, "employee" means any district employee or contracted service provider working in a healthcare setting where people with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 are reasonably expected to be present. Therefore, the provisions of the ETS and this Policy only apply to employees or contracted service providers working in a nurse's office or any adjoining clinical areas.

For the purpose of this Policy, "healthcare setting" means all settings in the school district where any employee or contracted service provider provides healthcare services or healthcare support services. Where a healthcare setting is embedded within a non-healthcare setting (i.e. school nurse's office and any adjoining clinical areas in a school building), the ETS and this Policy only apply to the embedded healthcare setting and not to the remainder of a school building.

The school district will retain all versions of Policy 1648.14 – Safety Plan for Healthcare Settings in School Buildings, to comply with the ETS while the ETS remains in effect, even after Policy 1648.14 has been abolished.

The school district will establish and maintain a COVID-19 log to record each instance in which an employee is COVID-19 positive, regardless of whether the instance is connected to exposure to COVID-19 at work. The COVID-19 log will contain, for each instance, the employee's name, one form of contact information, occupation, location where the employee worked, the date of the employee's last day in the healthcare setting, the date of the positive test for, or diagnosis of, COVID-19, and the date the employee first had one or more COVID-19 symptoms, if any were experienced.

The school district will record the information in the COVID-19 log within twenty-four hours of learning the employee is COVID-19 positive. The school district will maintain the COVID-19 log as a confidential medical record and will not disclose it except as required by the ETS or other Federal law. The school district will maintain and preserve the COVID-19 log while the ETS remains in effect.

By the end of the next business day after a request, the school district will provide for examination and copying: all versions of Policy 1648.14; the individual COVID-19 log entry for a particular employee to that employee and to anyone having written authorized consent of that employee; and a version of the COVID-19 log that removes the names of employees, contact information, and occupation, and only includes, for each employee in the COVID-19 log, the location where the employee worked, the last day that the employee was in the healthcare setting before removal, the date of that employee's positive test for, or diagnosis of, COVID-19, and the date the employee first had one or more COVID-19 symptoms, if any were experienced, to all employees.

29 CFR §1910.502(q)

Approved: June 16, 2022