

Wallace Stegner Academy Board of Directors Meeting

Date: September 29, 2026

Time: 4:00 PM

Location: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86501750130>



Wallace Stegner Academy will foster a community of active learners through academic rigor and citizenship by providing an opportunity for students to achieve academic excellence.

AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER

CONSENT ITEMS

- August 5, 2026, Board Meeting Minutes

PUBLIC COMMENT (Comments will be limited to three minutes)

REPORTS

- Finance Report
- Directors' Report

VOTING ITEMS

- LEA-Specific Licenses
- 100 Women Who Care Donation
- Amended TSSA Framework
- Policies
 - Amended Bullying and Hazing Policy
 - Amended Financial Reporting Policy
 - Amended Financial Reporting, Debt, and Risk Management Plan
 - Amended Purchasing and Disbursement Policy
 - Amended Student Conduct and Discipline Policy

CALENDARING

- Next Board Meeting – Wednesday, December 16, 2026, via Zoom.

ADJOURN

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons needing accommodations for this meeting should call 801-444-9378 to make appropriate arrangements. One or more board members may participate electronically or telephonically pursuant to UCA 52-4-207.

Wallace Stegner Academy

Board of Directors Meeting — September 29, 2026, 4:00 PM

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

LEA SPECIFIC LICENSE

Administration is requesting the approval of LEA-Specific Licenses for (7) individuals. The license areas, and endorsements shall be valid for three (3) academic years as indicated on the attached spreadsheet which contains the associated educator information and rationale for the request. All LEA-Specific licenses will expire on June 30th of the final academic year approved. The Wallace Stegner Academy Board of Directors additionally acknowledges that LEA-Specific educator licenses, license areas, or endorsements may be renewed by the Utah State Board of Education (USBE). These renewals will be approved or denied on a case-by-case basis.

Action: Board Vote

AMENDED TSSA FRAMEWORK

The TSSA framework is required to be updated to include a Literacy Achievement in accordance with SB 241 (2026) and State Rule R277-927. The Plan has been updated to address the school's progress toward statewide literacy proficiency goals and if the school fails to meet statewide literacy goals, the school must dedicate at least 50% of TSSA funds toward evidence-based literacy interventions and practices as described in 53G-7-921304(2)(e).

Action: Board Vote

POLICIES

Amending Bullying and Hazing Policy:

The USBE recently published a model Bullying Policy. Although the school's existing Bullying and Hazing Policy is already consistent with the model policy in most respects, several provisions from the model policy have been incorporated to further strengthen and clarify the school's policy. These revisions include adding definitions for "accountability practice" and "restorative justice practice," requiring the school to leave a voicemail and send an email to a parent if the parent cannot be reached by telephone regarding an incident involving the parent's child, clarifying that a student's age, development, maturity, and other relevant factors will be considered when determining appropriate discipline for a policy violation, and expanding the policy's provisions regarding annual reporting, employee training, and bullying incident reporting.

Amending Financial Reporting Policy:

Audits of the school's financial reporting must now be conducted in accordance with both Generally Accepted Auditing Standards (GAAS) and Generally Accepted Government Auditing Standards (GAGAS). Because the School's Financial Reporting Policy currently references only GAAS, it has been revised to also require compliance with GAGAS.

Amending Purchasing and Disbursement Policy:

The CEOs would like to increase the various purchasing thresholds in this policy to have it better align with the School's current size, operational needs, and School structure.

Amending Student Conduct and Discipline Policy:

SB 167 revised the requirements governing the reintegration of students involved in serious offenses, including the timing and required contents of student reintegration plans. SB 181 established new physical standards and requirements for seclusion rooms used in schools, including standards governing room size, ceiling height, construction materials, lighting, ventilation, audio and video recording equipment, and door locks. In addition, SB 181 establishes the circumstances under which seclusion may continue when a parent cannot be reached after 15 minutes and the 30-minute time limit has expired, and imposes new requirements on schools when violations relating to seclusion or physical restraint are alleged. HB 188 also revised the circumstances under which a school may refer a student to court for a drug offense, generally prohibiting a referral until after a third allegation that the student committed a drug offense on school property. The Student Conduct and Discipline Policy has been revised to reflect these legislative changes.

Action: Board Vote



Wallace Stegner Academy Board of Directors Meeting

Date: August 5, 2026

Teleconference: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83672428866>

In Attendance: Sarah Vaughan, Tony Furano, Jeremy Schow

Excused: Frank Magana, Reed Farnsworth

Others in Attendance: Adam Gerlach, Anthony Sudweeks, Platte Nielson, Chantel Wixon, Hannah Jones, David Robertson, Brandon Johnson

Wallace Stegner Academy will foster a community of active learners through academic rigor and citizenship by providing an opportunity for students to achieve academic excellence.

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER Sarah Vaughan called the meeting to order at 5:33 PM.

CONSENT ITEMS

- July 6, 2026, Board Meeting Minutes
Sarah Vaughan made a motion to approve the July 6th, 2026, Board Meeting Minutes. Tony Furano seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The votes were as follows: Sarah Vaughan, Aye; Tony Furano, Aye; Jeremy Schow, Aye.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

VOTING ITEMS

- Financing Resolution
Board members are asked to consider adoption of a resolution authorizing the acquisition and construction of school facilities and a financing for the project. The attached resolution approves (i) the bond financing, (ii) the project, including the acquisition and construction of the Kearns and Sunset campuses, and (iii) tax and continuing disclosure procedures relating to the bonds.
Sarah Vaughan made a motion to approve the Financing Resolution. Jeremy Schow seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The votes were as follows: Sarah Vaughan, Aye; Tony Furano, Aye; Jeremy Schow, Aye.

Brandon Johnson and David Robertson left the meeting at 5:46 PM.

- Mariposa Consulting Invoice
Mariposa Consulting Group has submitted Invoice No. 2283 in the amount of \$38,250.00 for board review and approval. The invoice represents the fourth of four installments (Invoice 4 of 4) under the school's enrollment and marketing

engagement and includes two-line items: Enrollment and Marketing Consulting for the Marketing Accelerator Program coaching and capacity building (\$8,250.00), and Direct Media Costs for student recruitment advertising (\$30,000.00). The invoice is dated July 1, 2026, with Net 30 terms and a due date of July 31, 2026. Board approval is requested to authorize payment.

Tony Furano made a motion to approve the Mariposa Consulting Invoice. Jeremy Schow seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The votes were as follows: Sarah Vaughan, Aye; Tony Furano, Aye; Jeremy Schow, Aye.

- School Transportation Quote

Lewis Bus Group has submitted Quote No. 415520, dated July 22, 2026, in the amount of \$215,000.00 for board review and approval. The quote is for one (1) 2027 Thomas Built HDX2 380DS school bus (85-passenger capacity, Cummins L9 300 diesel engine, full air-ride suspension, and air conditioning), configured as a trip bus per the school's specifications (Customer Order No. WSA-AC-TRIP-FULL AIR) and including installation of a video camera system per WSA specifications. The total delivery cost of \$215,000.00 is inclusive of all listed equipment. Board approval is requested to authorize the purchase.

Sarah Vaughan made a motion to approve the School Transportation Quote from Lewis Bus Group not to exceed \$215,000. Jeremy Schow seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The votes were as follows: Sarah Vaughan, Aye; Tony Furano, Aye; Jeremy Schow, Aye.

- IXL Invoice

IXL Learning has submitted Renewal Quote No. 1680242-2, dated July 27, 2026, in the amount of \$48,395.00 for board review and approval. The quote renews the school's IXL subscriptions for the period August 7, 2026, through August 7, 2027, and includes IXL Personalized Learning Premium – Math and Science, Grades PK-8 (\$42,900.00); IXL Personalized Learning Select – Math, Grades PK-12 (\$4,200.00); and Express PD professional development services (\$1,295.00). Board approval is requested to authorize payment.

Sarah Vaughan made a motion to approve the IXL Invoice. Tony Furano seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The votes were as follows: Sarah Vaughan, Aye; Tony Furano, Aye; Jeremy Schow, Aye.

- 2026-2027 LEA Specific Licenses

The license areas and endorsements shall be valid for three (3) academic years as indicated on the attached spreadsheet, which contains the associated educator information and rationale for the request. All LEA-Specific licenses will expire on June 30th of the final academic year approved. The Wallace Stegner Academy Board of Directors additionally acknowledges that LEA-Specific educator licenses, license areas, or endorsements may be renewed by the Utah State Board of Education (USBE). These renewals will be approved or denied on a case-by-case basis. It is being requested that 26 individuals be approved for LEA Specific Licenses.

Sarah Vaughan made a motion to approve the 2026-2027 LEA Specific Licenses. Jeremy Schow seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The votes were as follows: Sarah Vaughan, Aye; Tony Furano, Aye; Jeremy Schow, Aye.

○ **Policies**

- Parent and School Compact
- Parent & Family Engagement Policy
- Attendance Policy
- Capitalization and Expense Policy
- Electronic Resources Policy
- Fee Waiver Policy
- Lottery and Enrollment Policy
- Paid Parental and Postpartum Recovery Leave Policy
- Procurement Policy
- Religion and Education Policy
- Sex Education Instruction Policy
- Emergency Operations Plan

The policy summaries included in the board documentation highlight the changes made to each policy listed above. Board members reviewed and discussed the suggested changes.

Sarah Vaughan made a motion to approve the policies listed above. Tony Furano seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The votes were as follows: Sarah Vaughan, Aye; Tony Furano, Aye; Jeremy Schow, Aye.

CLOSED SESSION- to discuss the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual pursuant to Utah Code 52-4-205(1)(a).

This item was tabled.

VOTING ITEMS

- Ratified 2026-2027 CEO Employment Agreements

The board reviewed the ratified CEO employment agreements. There were no questions or concerns from the board regarding the agreements.

Sarah Vaughan made a motion to approve the policies listed above. Tony Furano seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The votes were as follows: Sarah Vaughan, Aye; Tony Furano, Aye; Jeremy Schow, Aye.

CALENDARING

The next board meeting is scheduled for October 28, 2026, at 5:30 PM via Zoom.

ADJOURN

At 6:03 PM Sarah Vaughan made a motion to adjourn. Jeremy Schow seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The votes were as follows: Sarah Vaughan, Aye; Tony Furano, Aye; Jeremy Schow, Aye.



FINANCE REPORT

Wallace Stegner Academy continues to remain in a strong financial position through August 31, 2026. We are approximately 16.7% through the fiscal year. Year-to-date revenues totaled approximately \$7.35 million, representing 18.1% of the annual budget, while total expenses were approximately \$3.72 million, or 9.7% of budgeted expenditures. This resulted in year-to-date net income of approximately \$3.63 million. The school continues to maintain strong reserves and liquidity, with approximately \$16.18 million in combined operating and restricted cash.

REVENUES

- Local revenues are at 22.3% of budget, with approximately \$118,357 recognized year to date.
- State revenues are at 19.5% of budget, with approximately \$7.0 million recognized year to date.
- Federal revenues are at 5.6% of budget, with approximately \$228,104 recognized year to date.
- Total revenues are at 18.1% of the annual budget, slightly above the 16.7% point in the fiscal year.

EXPENSES

- Overall expenses are at 9.7% of budget, below the 16.7% point in the fiscal year.
- Most expense categories remain below the 16.7%; however, two categories are currently above 16.7%:
 - Purchased Property Services are at 35.4% of budget, mainly driven by the rental of land & buildings.
 - Property expenditures are at 24.5% of budget, mainly due to the CSP bus purchase.
 - Instruction/Salaries are at 6.7% of budget, while Employee Benefits are at 6.1% of budget. These categories typically lag behind budget expectations at this point in the year due to the timing of teacher contracts and final payroll accruals.
- Debt Services & Miscellaneous expenditures are at 1.1% of budget, with approximately \$46,024 spent year to date.

CASH POSITION

- Operating cash totaled approximately \$9.97 million compared to \$4.64 million at the same time last year.
 - Restricted cash totaled approximately \$6.21 million compared to \$5.38 million at the same time last year.
 - Combined operating and restricted cash totaled approximately \$16.18 million at August 31, 2026.
- Accounts receivable totaled approximately \$3,822 compared to \$152,686 at the same time last year.

BALANCE SHEET

- Total assets increased to approximately \$104.09 million compared to \$65.99 million at the same point last year.
- Fixed assets increased to approximately \$96.91 million, compared to \$60.22 million last year. Net fixed assets, after accumulated depreciation and amortization, were approximately \$87.91 million. The increase is primarily attributable to the recognition of right-of-use (ROU) assets related to the school's lease agreements.
- Long-term liabilities increased to approximately \$91.29 million, compared to \$57.72 million at the same point last year. The increase is primarily attributable to the recognition of lease liabilities associated with the right-of-use (ROU) assets recorded on the books.
- Current liabilities were approximately \$325,381 compared to \$74,886 at the same point last year.
- Net income reflected on the balance sheet is approximately \$3.70 million, compared to \$1.39 million at the same point last year.

Wallace Stegner Academy

Statement of Activities

Created on September 28, 2026
For Prior Month

	Annual June 30, 2027 Budget	Year-to-Date August 31, 2026 Actual	% of Budget
Net Income			
Income			
Revenue From Local Sources	530,200	118,357	22.3 %
Revenue From State Sources	35,886,909	6,999,253	19.5 %
Revenue From Federal Sources	4,094,668	228,104	5.6 %
Total Income	40,511,777	7,345,714	18.1 %
Expenses			
Instruction/Salaries	19,652,362	1,310,015	6.7 %
Employee Benefits	3,023,370	184,019	6.1 %
Purchased Prof & Tech Serv	1,753,888	179,347	10.2 %
Purchased Property Services	3,754,541	1,328,873	35.4 %
Other Purchased Services	762,322	47,844	6.3 %
Supplies & Materials	4,508,564	405,702	9.0 %
Property	875,830	215,000	24.5 %
Debt Services & Miscellaneous	4,138,819	46,024	1.1 %
Total Expenses	38,469,696	3,716,824	9.7 %
Total Net Income	2,042,081	3,628,890	177.7 %

Wallace Stegner Academy
Statement of Financial Position
Created on September 28, 2026
For Prior Month

	Period Ending 08/31/2026 <u>Actual</u>	Period Ending 08/31/2025 <u>Actual</u>
Assets & Other Debits		
Current Assets		
Operating Cash	9,966,725	4,644,787
Accounts Receivables	3,822	152,686
Total Current Assets	<u>9,970,547</u>	<u>4,797,473</u>
Restricted Cash	<u>6,210,922</u>	<u>5,382,922</u>
Net Assets		
Fixed Assets	96,910,303	60,224,126
Depreciation	(9,003,035)	(4,414,895)
Total Net Assets	<u>87,907,268</u>	<u>55,809,231</u>
Total Assets & Other Debits	<u>104,088,737</u>	<u>65,989,626</u>
Liabilities & Fund Equity		
Current Liabilities	325,381	74,886
Long-Term Liabilities	<u>91,285,051</u>	<u>57,724,789</u>
Fund Balance	<u>8,783,193</u>	<u>6,798,032</u>
Net Income	<u>3,695,112</u>	<u>1,391,919</u>
Total Liabilities & Fund Equity	<u>104,088,737</u>	<u>65,989,626</u>

WALLACE STEGNER ACADEMY

September WSA CEO Report



ENROLLMENT · ACTIVE STUDENTS (Effective 9/29/2026)

3,128 active students across four campuses.

Current active student counts by grade level and campus.

Active Students	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	Total
Wallace Stegner Academy - Kearns	116	114	108	100	122	126	143	185	177	133	111	65	1500
Wallace Stegner Academy - SLC	80	89	77	69	85	80	74	67	64	—	—	—	685
Wallace Stegner Academy - Sunset	22	23	18	14	19	16	21	12	—	—	—	—	145
Wallace Stegner Academy - WVC	79	86	82	99	97	91	89	90	85	—	—	—	798
Effective 9/29/2026	297	312	285	282	323	313	327	354	326	133	111	65	3,128

+ strong active enrollment baseline across all four campuses.

Kearns serving grades K-11; SLC, Sunset, and West Valley serving grades K-8. Budget is based off of 2900 students.

Source: WSA Student Information System — Active Enrollment, effective 9/29/2026



CSP Grant

Bus Purchase

Every WSA campus serves a higher share of low-income students than its closest peers — and still outperforms them.



Dear Superintendent,

The Wallace Stegner Academy School Board has approved LEA-Specific educator license(s) for seven (7) individual(s) in a public meeting held on September 29, 2026. The license areas, and endorsements shall be valid for three academic years as indicated on the attached spreadsheet which contains the associated educator information and rationale for the request. All LEA-Specific licenses will expire on June 30th of the final academic year approved.

Wallace Stegner Academy Board following assurances:

- The LEA has adopted a policy, in accordance to R277-301-7, to prepare and support educators with an LEA-Specific license. This policy is posted online at [Wallace Stegner Policies & FAQ](#).
- The educator has completed a criminal background check in accordance with Rule R277-214 53G-11-403 and continued monitoring in accordance with Subsection (1);
- The LEA will provide requisite training (educator ethics, classroom management/instruction, special education law/instruction, & Utah Effective Teaching Standards) within the first year of employment;
- The educators will complete the USBE Ethics Review within one calendar year prior to being issued the license;
- The LEA will post all educator data, including assignments, in CACTUS no later than 60 days following the date of the public governing board meeting approving the license area(s) and/or endorsement(s);
- Each LEA school employing an individual with an LEA-Specific license will prominently post the following on the school's website:
 - Disclosure that the school employs individuals holding an LEA-Specific educator license, license areas, and/or endorsements;
 - An explanation of the types of educator licenses issued by USBE (Professional, Associate, LEA-Specific);
 - Percentage (based on FTE) of types of licenses, license areas, and endorsements held by educators employed in the school;
 - A link to the Utah Educator Look-up Tool.

The **Wallace Stegner Academy Board** additionally acknowledges that LEA-Specific educator licenses, license areas, or endorsements may be renewed by the Utah State Board of Education. These renewals will be approved or denied on a case by case basis.

Sincerely,

Sarah Vaughn

LEA Governing Body Chairperson



Student Success Framework

Pursuant to UCA 53G-7-1304, Wallace Stegner's Board of Directors adopts the following framework to provide guidelines and processes for the development of a Teacher and Student Success Plan ("Plan"). The school's Director will develop a Plan in accordance with this framework and submit the Plan to the Board for approval. The Plan will be developed by integrating school-specific goals and criteria for improving the school's performance within the state accountability system.

The goal of the school's Plan shall be to improve school performance and student academic achievement.

The Plan may contain any of the following strategies:

1. school personnel stipends for taking on additional responsibility outside of a typical work assignment;
2. professional learning;
3. additional school employees, including counselors, social workers, mental health workers, tutors, media specialists, information technology specialists, or other specialists;
4. technology;
5. before- or after-school programs;
6. summer school programs;
7. community support programs or partnerships;
8. early childhood education;
9. class size reduction strategies;
10. augmentation of existing programs; or
11. any other strategy reasonably designed to improve school performance or student academic achievement.

Funding received pursuant to the school Plan may not be used:

1. to supplant funding for existing education programs;
2. for administrative costs;
3. for capital expenditures.

Literacy Achievement Requirement

1. The Plan shall address the school's progress toward statewide literacy proficiency goals in accordance with SB 241 (2026) and State Rule R277-927.
2. If the school fails to meet statewide literacy goals, the school must dedicate at least 50% of TSSA funds toward evidence based literacy interventions and practices as described in 53G-7-921304(2)(e).

Wallace Stegner Academy
Policy: Bullying & Hazing Policy
Adopted: 9.21.23
Approved: 12.17.2025



Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to prohibit bullying, cyber-bullying, hazing, retaliation, and abusive conduct involving Wallace Stegner Academy (the "School") students and employees. The School's Board of Directors (the "Board") has determined that a safe, civil environment in School is necessary for students to learn and achieve high academic standards and that conduct constituting bullying, cyber-bullying, hazing, retaliation, and abusive conduct disrupts both a student's ability to learn and the School's ability to educate its students in a safe environment.

Policy

Prohibited Conduct

Bullying, cyber-bullying, hazing, retaliation, and abusive conduct towards students and employees are against federal, state, and local policy and are not tolerated by the School. The School is committed to providing all students with a safe and civil environment in which all members of the School community are treated with dignity and respect. To that end, the School has in place policies, procedures, and practices that are designed to reduce and eliminate this conduct – including, but not limited to, civil rights violations – as well as processes and procedures to deal with such incidents. Bullying, cyber-bullying, hazing, retaliation, and abusive conduct towards students and/or employees by students and/or employees will not be tolerated in the School. Likewise, abusive conduct by students or parents or guardians against School employees is prohibited by the School and will not be tolerated in the School.

In order to promote a safe, civil learning environment, the School prohibits all forms of bullying of students and School employees (a) on School property, (b) at a School-related or sponsored event, or (c) while the student or School employee is traveling to or from School property or a School-related or sponsored event.

The School prohibits all forms of bullying, cyber-bullying, hazing, abusive conduct of or retaliation against students and School employees at any time and any location.

Students and School employees are prohibited from retaliating against any student, School employee or an investigator for, or witness of, an alleged incident of bullying, cyber-bullying, hazing, abusive conduct, or retaliation.

Students and School employees are prohibited from making false allegations of bullying, cyber-bullying, hazing, abusive conduct, or retaliation against a student or School employees.

Students and School employees are prohibited from sharing a recording of an act of bullying, cyber-bullying, hazing, abusive conduct, and retaliation in order to impact or encourage future incidents. [This restriction does not prevent a student or employee from sharing such a recording with a teacher or administrator as part of reporting the incident or in response to a request from a teacher or administrator for the recording.](#)

Students and School employees are prohibited from creating or distributing sexually explicit or nonconsensual intimate images.

In addition, School employees, coaches, sponsors and volunteers shall not permit, condone or tolerate any form of hazing, bullying, cyber-bullying, or abusive conduct and shall not plan, direct, encourage, assist, engage or participate in any activity that involves hazing, bullying, cyber-bullying, or abusive conduct.

Any bullying, cyber-bullying, hazing, abusive conduct, or retaliation that is found to be targeted at a federally protected class is further prohibited under federal anti-discrimination laws and is subject to OCR compliance regulations.

Definitions

Abusive Conduct – For purposes of this policy, “abusive conduct” means verbal, nonverbal, or physical conduct of a parent or guardian or student directed toward a School employee that, based on its severity, nature, and frequency of occurrence, a reasonable person would determine is intended to cause intimidation, humiliation, or unwarranted distress. A single act does not constitute abusive conduct.

[*Accountability Practice* – For purposes of this policy, “accountability practice” means any evidence-based practice that increases academic outcomes, decreases behavior that disrupts the learning environment, and holds students accountable for their actions by requiring them to take responsibility to repair harm and provide restitution when appropriate.](#)

Action Plan – For purposes of this policy, “action plan” means a process to address an incident of bullying, cyber-bullying, hazing, or retaliation.

Bullying – For purposes of this policy, “bullying” means student bullying and staff bullying.

Civil Rights Violations – For purposes of this policy, “civil rights violations” means violations as outlined in the following federal laws:

- (1) Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, or national origin);
- (2) Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex);
- (3) Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability); or

- (4) Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability).

Cyber-bullying – For purposes of this policy, "cyber-bullying" means using the Internet, a cell phone, or another device to send or post text, video, or an image with the intent or knowledge, or with reckless disregard, that the text, video, or image will hurt, embarrass, or threaten an individual, regardless of whether the individual directed, consented to, or acquiesced in the conduct, or voluntarily accessed the electronic communication.

Hazing – For purposes of this policy, "hazing" means a School employee or student intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly committing an act or causing another individual to commit an act toward a School employee or student that:

- (1) (a) endangers the mental or physical health or safety of a School employee or student;
(b) involves any brutality of a physical nature, including whipping, beating, branding, calisthenics, bruising, electric shocking, placing of a harmful substance on the body, or exposure to the elements;
(c) involves consumption of any food, alcoholic product, drug, or other substance or other physical activity that endangers the mental or physical health and safety of a School employee or student; or
(d) involves any activity that would subject a School employee or student to extreme mental stress, such as sleep deprivation, extended isolation from social contact, or conduct that subjects a School employee or student to extreme embarrassment, shame, or humiliation; and
- (2) (a)(i) is committed for the purpose of initiation into, admission into, affiliation with, holding office in, or as a condition for membership in a School or School sponsored team, organization, program, club, or event; or
(ii) is directed toward a School employee or student whom the individual who commits the act knows, at the time the act is committed, is a member of, or candidate for membership in, a School or School sponsored team, organization, program, club, or event in which the individual who commits the act also participates.
- (3) The conduct described above constitutes hazing, regardless of whether the School employee or student against whom the conduct is committed directed, consented to, or acquiesced in, the conduct.

Incident – For purposes of this policy, "incident" means a verified incident of bullying, cyber-bullying, hazing, abusive conduct, or retaliation that is prohibited in Utah Code § 53G-9-601 *et seq.*

Restorative Justice Practice – For purposes of this policy, "restorative justice practice" means a discipline practice that brings together students, school personnel, families,

[and community members to resolve conflicts, address disruptive behaviors, promote positive relationships, and healing.](#)

Retaliate or Retaliation – For purposes of this policy, "retaliate or retaliation" means an act or communication intended:

- (1) as retribution against a person for reporting bullying or hazing; or
- (2) to improperly influence the investigation of, or the response to, a report of bullying or hazing.

School Employee – For purposes of this policy, "School employee" means an individual working in the individual's official capacity as:

- (1) a School teacher;
- (2) a School staff member;
- (3) a School administrator; or
- (4) an individual:
 - (a) who is employed, directly or indirectly, by the School; and
 - (b) who works on the School's campus(es).

Staff Bullying – For purposes of this policy, "staff bullying" means a School employee, with the intent to cause harm, repeatedly committing a written, verbal, or physical act against a student or another School employee, or engaging in a single egregious act toward another employee involving an imbalance of power, that:

- (1) creates an environment that a reasonable person would find hostile, threatening, or humiliating; and
- (2) substantially interferes with a student's or employee's educational or professional performance, opportunities, or benefits.

Student Bullying – For purposes of this policy, "student bullying" means one or more students, with the intent to cause harm, repeatedly committing a written, verbal, or physical act against another student, or engaging in a single egregious act toward another student involving an imbalance of power, that:

- (1) creates an environment that a reasonable person would find hostile; and
- (2) interferes with a student's educational performance, opportunities, or benefits.

"Student bullying" and "staff bullying" do not mean instances of:

- (1) ordinary teasing, horseplay, argument, or peer conflict;
- (2) reasonable correction of behavior by a School employee; or
- (3) reasonable coaching strategies and techniques by a School employee who is a coach.

Verification – For purposes of this policy, "verification" means that an alleged incident has been found to be substantiated through a formal investigation process done by the School as outlined in this policy.

Volunteer – For purposes of this policy, “volunteer” means a non-employee with significant, unsupervised access to students in connection with a School assignment.

Reporting Prohibited Conduct

Students who have been subjected to or witnessed bullying, cyber-bullying, hazing, or retaliation, and students who have witnessed abusive conduct, [are strongly encouraged to](#) promptly report such prohibited conduct to any School personnel orally or in writing. School personnel who receive reports of such prohibited conduct must report them to the Principal.

Deleted: must

School employees who have been subjected to or witnessed hazing, bullying, cyber-bullying, abusive conduct, or retaliation must report such prohibited conduct to the School’s Principal orally or in writing.

Each report of prohibited conduct shall include:

- (1) the name of complaining party;
- (2) the name of person subjected to the prohibited conduct (if different than complaining party);
- (3) the name of perpetrator (if known);
- (4) the date and location of the prohibited conduct; and
- (5) a statement describing the prohibited conduct, including names of witnesses (if known).

In connection with a report of prohibited conduct, students and School employees may request that their identity be kept anonymous, and reasonable steps shall be taken by the Principal and others involved in the reporting and investigation to maintain the anonymity of such individuals, if possible. School employees must take strong responsive action to prevent retaliation, including assisting students who are subjected to prohibited conduct and his or her parents or guardians in reporting subsequent problems and new instances of prohibited conduct.

The Principal or his/her designee shall promptly make a reasonably thorough investigation of all complaints of prohibited conduct, including, to the extent possible, anonymous reports, and shall, in accordance with the Consequences of Prohibited Behavior section below, administer appropriate discipline to all individuals who violate this policy. Formal disciplinary action is prohibited based solely on an anonymous report.

The Principal may report to OCR all incidents of bullying, hazing, cyber-bullying, abusive conduct, or retaliation that he/she reasonably determines may be violations of a student's or employee's civil rights.

It is the School's policy, in compliance with state and federal law, that students have a limited expectation of privacy on the School's computer equipment and network system, and routine monitoring or maintenance may lead to discovery that a user has violated School policy or law. Also, individual targeted searches will be conducted if there is reasonable suspicion that a user has violated policy or law. Personal electronic devices of any student suspected of violation of this policy will be confiscated for investigation and may be turned over to law enforcement.

Investigation of Alleged Incidents

The School will investigate all allegations of bullying, cyber-bullying, hazing, retaliation, and abusive conduct in accordance with this policy and applicable law. The Principal or his/her designee will investigate such allegations, and the School shall ensure that the investigator is provided adequate training to conduct such an investigation. The Chief Executive Officer(s) or his/her designee will be the point person with training and expertise to assist, direct, and supervise training of other employees in the responsibilities set forth in this paragraph.

The School will investigate these alleged incidents by interviewing:

- (1) the individual who was allegedly targeted;
- (2) the individual who is alleged to have engaged in the prohibited conduct;
- (3) the parents or guardians of the students who were allegedly targeted and the individual who is alleged to have engaged in prohibited conduct;
- (4) any witnesses;
- (5) School staff familiar with the student who was allegedly targeted;
- (6) School staff familiar with the individual who is alleged to have engaged in prohibited conduct; or
- (7) Other individuals who may provide additional information.

The individual who investigates an alleged incident will inform an individual being interviewed that (1) to the extent allowed by law, the individual is required to keep all details of the interview confidential; and (2) further reports of bullying will become part of the review. However, the confidentiality requirement described in this paragraph does not apply to conversations with law enforcement, requests for information pursuant to a warrant or subpoena, a state or federal reporting requirement, or other reporting required by R277-613.

In conducting this investigation, the School may (1) review disciplinary reports of involved students; and (2) review physical evidence, including video or audio, notes, email, text messages, social media, or graffiti.

The School shall keep a written record of the date and time individuals were interviewed; which individuals were interviewed (unless the individual requests to remain anonymous); and disciplinary reports and physical evidence reviewed as part of the investigation.

The School will report alleged incidents of bullying, cyber-bullying, hazing, retaliation, and abusive conduct to law enforcement when the Principal reasonably determines that the alleged incident may have violated criminal law.

The School shall follow up with the parents or guardians of all parties to:

- (1) inform parents or guardians when an investigation is concluded;
- (2) inform parents or guardians what safety measures will be in place for their child, as determined by the investigation;
- (3) provide additional information about the investigation or the resolution consistent with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, 20 U.S.C. 1232g ("FERPA"); and
- (4) inform parents or guardians of the School's Parent Grievance Policy if the parents or guardians disagree with the resolution of the investigation.

If the investigation results in a verification of an incident of bullying, cyber-bullying, hazing, retaliation, or abusive conduct, the School shall create and implement an action plan for each such incident in accordance with Utah Code § 53G-9-605.5 and R277-613.

In addition, following verification of an incident of bullying, cyber-bullying, hazing, retaliation, or abusive conduct, the Principal may, if he/she determines it is appropriate:

- (1) use accountability practices in accordance with policies established by the School; and
- (2) provide supportive services designed to preserve the student's access to educational opportunities and a sense of safety.

However, a student to whom an incident of bullying, cyber-bullying, hazing, retaliation, or abusive conduct is directed is not required to participate in a restorative justice practice with an individual who is alleged to have engaged in prohibited conduct. If the School would like any student to participate in a restorative justice practice, the School will notify the student's parent or guardian of the restorative justice practice and obtain consent from the student's parent or guardian before including the student in the process.

Parental Notification

The Principal or his/her designee will timely notify a student's parent or guardian if:

- (1) the student threatens suicide; or
- (2) the student is involved in an incident (including if the student is subjected to the incident or is the person who caused the incident) and of the action plan to address the incident.

If the Principal or his/her designee believe that a situation exists which presents a serious threat to the well-being of a student, the Principal or his/her designee shall notify the student's parent or guardian without delay, before the end of the school day.

The Principal or his/her designee will attempt to contact the parent or guardian by telephone to provide this notification and to discuss the matter. If the parent or guardian is not available by telephone, the Principal or his/her designee will [leave a voicemail](#) and then also provide the parent or guardian the required notification by email.

The Principal or his/her designee will produce and maintain a record that:

- (1) verifies that the School notified each parent or guardian as required above. If an in-person meeting takes place, the Principal or his/her designee may ask the parent or guardian to sign the record acknowledging that the notification was provided. If a telephone conversation takes place, the Principal or his/her designee may document on the record such details as the date and time of the telephone call, who was spoken to, and brief notes regarding the notification that was provided and the content of the conversation. If an email is sent, the Principal or his/her designee will retain a copy of the email; and
- (2) tracks implementation of the action plan addressing the incident, if applicable.

The School will retain the record for at least as long as the student is enrolled at the School and will provide or expunge the record in accordance with Utah Code § 53G-9-604. The School will maintain the confidentiality of the record in accordance with the state and federal student data privacy laws referenced in Utah Code § 53G-9-604.

In addition to notifying the parent or guardian as set forth above, the Principal or his/her designee will provide the parent or guardian with the following:

- (1) suicide prevention materials and information as recommended by the Utah State Board of Education in accordance with Utah Code § 53G-9-604(2)(b);
- (2) information on ways to limit a student's access to fatal means, including firearms or medication; and
- (3) information and resources on the healthy use of social media and online practices as provided in R277-613.

Action Plan to Address Incidents

Following verification of an incident of bullying, cyber-bullying, hazing, retaliation, or abusive conduct, the School shall develop and implement an action plan. The action plan shall include:

- (1) with respect to the targeted student and in direct coordination with the student's parent or guardian:
 - (a) a tailored response to the incident that addresses the student's needs;
 - (b) a mechanism to consider consequences or accommodations the student may need regarding decreased exposure or interactions with the student who caused the incident;
 - (c) notification of the consequences and plan to address the behavior of the student who caused the incident, to the extent allowed by FERPA;
 - (d) support measures designed to preserve the student's access to educational services and opportunities; and
 - (e) to the extent available, access to other resources the parent requests for the student; and
- (2) with respect to the student who caused the incident and in direct coordination with the student's parent or guardian:
 - (a) a range of tailored and appropriate consequences, making reasonable effort to preserve the student's access to educational services and activities;
 - (b) a process to determine and provide any needed resources related to the underlying cause of the incident;
 - (c) supportive measures designed to preserve the student's access to educational services and opportunities while protecting the safety and well-being of other students; and
 - (d) a process to remove the student from School in an emergency situation, including a description of what constitutes an emergency.

The School may not include in an action plan a requirement that the student to whom the incident was directed change the student's:

- (1) educational schedule or placement; or
- (2) participation in a School sponsored sport, club, or activity.

The School shall try to involve the parent or guardian of a student who was involved in an incident of bullying, cyber-bullying, hazing, retaliation, or abusive conduct in the development and implementation of an action plan. However, if, after the School attempts to involve a parent or guardian in the development and implementation of an action plan, the parent or guardian chooses to not participate in the process, the School may develop and implement an action plan without the parent or guardian's involvement.

Communication Plan

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The School shall communicate with the parent or guardian of each student involved in an incident of bullying, cyber-bullying, hazing, retaliation, or abusive conduct about the implementation of the action plan. Specifically, the School shall provide regular updates on the implementation of the action plan to each such parent or guardian. The updates shall include:

- (1) the outcome of the School's investigation (if not already provided at the conclusion of the investigation);
- (2) a discussion of safety considerations for the student who is the subject of the incident; and
- (3) an explanation of the School's process for addressing the incident.

The Principal or his/her designee shall oversee the implementation of the action plan, monitor the implementation of the communication plan/requirements within the action plan, and assist the School with case-specific needs when the School is addressing an incident of bullying, cyber-bullying, hazing, retaliation, or abusive conduct.

Consequences of Prohibited Behavior

If, after an investigation, a student is found to be in violation of this policy by participating in or encouraging conduct prohibited by this policy, the student shall be disciplined by appropriate measures up to, and including, suspension and expulsion, pursuant to Utah Code § 53G-8-205 and School policy, removal from participation in School activities, and/or discipline in accordance with regulations of the U.S.

Department of Education Office for Civil Rights (OCR). [In determining the appropriate disciplinary or other responsive action for such a student, the School shall consider all relevant circumstances, including the involved students' respective ages and development and maturity levels, the nature and impact of the prohibited conduct, the surrounding circumstances, any prior incidents or patterns of behavior, the relationship between the parties involved, and the extent to which the prohibited conduct disrupted or interfered with the orderly operation of the School. Discipline may only be imposed on a student after appropriate due process has been provided.](#)

If, after an investigation, a School employee is found to be in violation of this policy, the employee shall be disciplined by appropriate measures, which may include termination, reassignment or other appropriate action.

School officials have the authority to discipline students for off-campus or online speech that causes or threatens a substantial disruption to School operations, including violent altercations or a significant interference with a student's educational performance and involvement in School activities.

Grievance Process for School Employees

As explained above, a School employee who has experienced abusive conduct must report the abusive conduct to the School Principal orally or in writing. If the School employee is not satisfied with the Principal or designee's investigation of the abusive

conduct and/or the resulting disciplinary action (or recommended disciplinary action) against the perpetrator, the School employee may address/raise the issue in accordance with the School's Staff Grievance Policy.

Grievance Process for Parents and Guardians

A parent or guardian of a student who caused an incident of bullying, cyber-bullying, hazing, retaliation, or abusive conduct may appeal one or more of the consequences included in an action plan in accordance with the School's Parent Grievance Policy.

Additional Provisions

The Principal will ensure compliance with OCR regulations when civil rights violations are reported, as follows:

- (1) Once the School knows or reasonably should know of possible student-on-student bullying, cyber-bullying, or hazing, the School must take immediate and appropriate action to investigate.
- (2) If it is determined that the bullying, cyber-bullying, or hazing of a student did occur as a result of the student's membership in a protected class, the School shall take prompt and effective steps reasonably calculated to:
 - (a) end the bullying, cyber-bullying, or hazing;
 - (b) eliminate any hostile environment; and
 - (c) prevent its recurrence.
- (3) These duties are the School's responsibilities even if the misconduct is also covered by a separate anti-bullying policy and regardless of whether the student makes a complaint, asks the School to take action, or identifies the bullying, cyber-bullying, or hazing as a form of discrimination.

The Principal will take reasonable steps to ensure that any person subjected to prohibited conduct will be protected from further hazing, bullying, cyber-bullying, abusive conduct, and retaliation and that any student or School employee who reports such prohibited conduct will be protected from retaliation.

If the Principal believes that any person who was subjected to or who caused conduct prohibited by this policy would benefit from counseling, the Principal may refer such individuals for counseling.

If the Principal believes that it would be in the best interests of the individuals involved, the Principal may involve the parents or guardians of a student who was subjected to or a student who caused hazing, bullying, cyber-bullying, or retaliation in the process of responding to and resolving conduct prohibited by this policy.

Incidents of bullying, cyber-bullying, hazing, and retaliation will be reported in the School's student information system as required.

Student Assessment

The Principal or his/her designee will assess the prevalence of bullying, cyber-bullying, hazing, and retaliation in the School, specifically locations where students are unsafe and additional adult supervision may be required, such as playgrounds, hallways, and lunch areas.

Training

The Principal will ensure that School students, employees, coaches, and volunteers receive training on bullying, cyber-bullying, hazing, retaliation, and abusive conduct from individuals qualified to provide such training. The training shall meet the standards established by the Utah State Board of Education's rules and include information on:

- (1) bullying, cyber-bullying, hazing, retaliation, and abusive conduct;
- (2) discrimination under the following federal laws:
 - (a) Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964;
 - (b) Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972;
 - (c) Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973; and
 - (d) Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990;
- (3) how bullying, cyber-bullying, hazing, retaliation, and abusive conduct are different from discrimination and may occur separately from each other or in combination;
- (4) how bullying, cyber-bullying, hazing, retaliation, and abusive conduct are prohibited based upon race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or religion;
- (5) the right of free speech and how it differs for students, employees, and parents or guardians; and
- (6) safe digital citizenship.

The training will also complement the suicide prevention program required for students under R277-620 and the suicide prevention training required for licensed educators consistent with Section 53G-9-704(1), and also include information on when issues relating to R277-613 may lead to student or employee discipline.

The training shall be offered to:

- (1) new school employees, coaches, and volunteers within the first year of employment or service;
- (2) all School employees, coaches, and volunteers at least once every three years after the initial training; and
- (3) all students (regardless of whether they are involved in athletics or extracurricular activities or clubs) at a frequency determined by the Principal.

In addition to the training requirements described above, any student, employee, or volunteer coach participating in a School sponsored athletic program, both curricular and extracurricular, or extracurricular club or activity, shall, prior to participating in the athletic program or activity, participate in bullying, cyber-bullying, hazing, retaliation, and abusive conduct prevention training. This training shall be offered to new participants on an annual basis and to all participants at least once every three years. The School will inform student athletes and extracurricular club members of prohibited activities under R277-613 and potential consequences for violation of the law and the rule. The School will maintain training participant lists or signatures and provide them to the Utah State Board of Education upon request.

Liaison to Utah State Board of Education

The Chief Executive Officer(s) or his/her designee shall act as the School's liaison to the Utah State Board of Education regarding bullying, cyber-bullying, hazing, abusive conduct, and retaliation.

Distribution of Policy and Signed Acknowledgement

The School will inform students, parents or guardians, School employees, and volunteers that hazing, bullying, cyber-bullying, abusive conduct, and retaliation are prohibited by distributing a copy of this policy to such individuals annually. A copy of this policy will also be posted on the School's website and included in any student conduct or employee handbooks issued by the School.

On an annual basis, School employees, students who are at least eight years old, and parents or guardians of students shall sign a statement indicating that they have received this policy.

Annual Reporting

In accordance with Utah Code 53G-9-606 and R277-613, the School shall annually report the following information to the Utah State Board of Education on or before June 30:

- (1) a copy of this policy;
- (2) the School's implementation of the signed statement requirement described in Utah Code § 53G-9-605;
- (3) verification of the School's training of its employees relating to bullying, cyber-bullying, hazing, retaliation, and abusive conduct described in Utah Code § 53G-9-607;
- (4) incidents of student bullying, cyber-bullying, hazing, and retaliation; and

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(5) the number and type of incidents described in subsection (4) immediately above that include a student who was alleged bullied, cyber-bullied, hazed, or retaliated against based on the student's actual or perceived characteristics, including disability, race, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity, or sexual orientation, including the federal reporting requirements for civil rights violations.

Financial Reporting Policy

Adopted: September 19, 2017



Policy

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that Wallace Stegner Academy (the “School”) practices sound financial reporting in accordance with state and federal law and applicable accounting standards.

Policy

The School will ensure that financial reporting for the School is performed in accordance with [Generally Accepted Accounting Principles \(GAAP\)](#) and that audits of the School’s financial reporting are performed in accordance with [Generally Accepted Auditing Standards \(GAAS\)](#) and [Generally Accepted Government Auditing Standards \(GAGAS\)](#).

The School will provide financial reporting in a manner consistent with the basis of accounting as required by GAAP, as applicable to the School.

The School will provide reconciliation between the accrual basis of accounting and modified accrual basis of accounting, as applicable.

The School will provide data and information consistent with budgeting, accounting (including the uniform chart of accounts for LEAs), and auditing standards for Utah LEAs provided online annually by the Utah State Superintendent of Public Education.

**Wallace Stegner Academy
Financial, Debt, and Risk Management Plan
Adopted: June 20, 2019**

In general, the Board of Directors (the "Board") and administration of Wallace Stegner Academy (the "School") shall manage the financial affairs of the School based on the following principles: (1) comply with all applicable laws and bond covenants; (2) provide the best educational services to the students of the School consistent with the School's charter; and (3) get the most effective and cost efficient services possible in all areas at the School.

Financial

General Financial Management

The Board understands that the School is a steward over the financial resources and assets entrusted to it by the state of Utah. The Board recognizes the need to abide by all applicable laws and regulations, including Utah Code § 53G-5-303, including the following acknowledgements: (i) fiscal procedures will be consistent with generally accepted financial management standards; and (ii) neither the School's authorizer nor the state, including an agency of the state, is liable for the debts or financial obligations of the School or persons or entities who operate the School, unless agreed to in writing with the School.

The School adheres to Generally Accepted Accounting Principles as constituted by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board. The School also complies with all applicable areas of the Utah Money Management Act. Cash collected at the School is handled properly, as set forth in the School's Cash Handling Policy.

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In accordance with state law, the School, prior to June 30th of each fiscal year, prepares an annual operating budget for the next fiscal year. The budget is designed so that the School priorities, as established by the Board, are met. All budgets and budget amendments are approved by the Board through a vote in a public meeting in accordance with the Utah Open and Public Meetings Act.

Subject to appropriation limits with object codes and other restrictions, the School reserves the right to reallocate funds from one line item in the budget to another if purchasing practices or conservation result in an expenditure different from the budgeted amount. The Board may choose to add undistributed reserves from the School operational budget to the following year and/or may reallocate them to the current fiscal year's budget, at its discretion. The budget and cash flow projections utilized by the School provide sufficient detail to enable reasonably accurate projections of revenues and expenses, separation of capital and operational items, cash flow, and subsequent audit trail documentation.

In addition, the School understands and complies with all applicable fiscal rules and regulations, including completion and submission of an annual financial audit of the current fiscal year conducted by an independent certified public accounting firm by November 30th of the following fiscal year, submission of October and December student counts in accordance with state-mandated deadlines, Utah Money Management reports, wages and benefits negotiation reports, Utah Transparency Act reports and updates, October 1st AFR and APR submissions, and any other regular enrollment and financial reports as required by the State Board of Education now or in the future.

Purchases are authorized and carried out in accordance with the Purchasing and Disbursement Policy and the Procurement Policy adopted by the Board and the Utah Procurement Code.

The School tracks fixed assets in accordance with the Capitalization and Expense Policy and other applicable requirements.

All fiscal policies and procedures comply with the School's Conflict of Interest Policy.

The School assigns a representative to attend school finance and statistics training and all required finance training. The School will continue to take the measures necessary so that its representatives attend future trainings as announced or provided to ensure accounting and management of the School resources are in compliance with any revisions to applicable rules and statutes.

Minimum Reserve and Coverage Levels

The School will maintain minimum reserve and coverage levels that the Board determines are consistent with long-term financial health. The Board Financial Coordinator, administration, business manager, and accounting staff will regularly monitor the status of reserve and coverage ratios and report that information to the Board.

The School will ensure that it satisfies minimum reserve and coverage levels as required by law or applicable bond covenants.

The School will take reserve and coverage levels into consideration when making budgeting, financial planning, and other financial decisions, including decisions regarding major purchases.

Financial Forecasting and Budgeting

Throughout the fiscal year, the Board Financial Coordinator, administration, business manager, and accounting staff will meet regularly to discuss the budget, the School financial status, and any changes. The Board will be fully engaged in the budgetary process and informed of such issues on a regular basis.

The Board Financial Coordinator, administrator, business manager, and accounting staff will meet to prepare a tentative budget. The School's budgeting philosophy will be to conservatively project both revenues and expenses while achieving the level of accuracy required by state standards. The tentative budget will be circulated to the Board for further review and discussion. The tentative budget will be scheduled for discussion on a board meeting agenda, further discussed, and adopted at the annual board meeting.

As the October 1 count is finalized, and as the School receives new revenues, the Board will be updated on new figures. In order to account for these changes, the Board will approve revisions and amendments to the budget over the course of the fiscal year, as needed and appropriate.

Debt

The School will seek to avoid debt to the extent possible. The School's plan is to only assume debt as absolutely necessary or when the benefits of a purchase will, in the judgment of the Board, benefit the School's students for the life of such debt. The Board recognizes that the ability to take on debt will be governed by the covenants of existing indebtedness and pending indebtedness. The School's accounting staff, administration, and Board Financial Coordinator will be informed of the requirements affecting the School ability to incur debt. Any debt assumed by the School will therefore comply with applicable laws and any existing bond covenants.

As economical or in its best interests, the School will seek refunding opportunities to either lower its debt profile, meet bond covenants or other advantageous benefits realized through a restructure of its debt.

Risk Management

As a nonprofit corporation and public school, the School shall actively seek to avoid unnecessary risks to the greatest extent possible. The School shall always maintain insurance at the highest amount that is either (a) required by law, (b) required by existing bond covenants, (c) is reasonable and customary for a Utah charter school, or (d) is considered prudent by the Board after consulting with qualified professionals. In the event any material risk is identified by the School's Board or administration that is not covered by existing insurance, a qualified professional shall promptly be engaged to evaluate such risk and recommend the appropriate action.

The Board will work with qualified professionals to recognize and avoid risks associated with its governance of the School. In particular, the Board will be cognizant of financial risks that are addressed by the provisions above, compliance with applicable laws, including but not limited to the Utah Open and Public Meetings Act and the Government Records Access and Management Act. The Board will periodically review the policies that it has adopted to ensure that it has all necessary policies in place and that the policies that have been adopted comply with current law, adequately address issues at

which they are aimed, and cover all areas requiring board guidance. The Board may periodically request that the administration provide assurance that Board policies are being complied with. In the event the Board learns that policies are not being complied with, it will request the administration to create a plan to remedy any deficiencies and establish procedures to ensure that the policies are complied with in the future.

The administration is also directed to work with qualified professionals, including the School's management company and loss control representatives of the School insurer, to recognize, manage, and avoid risks associated with the operation of the School. In particular, the administration will be cognizant of risks associated with human resources activities, student safety and security, facility matters, and state and federal legal compliance, including civil rights issues. The administration will establish procedures in order to address key issues pertaining to the School operations and will ensure that all the School employees and, to the extent necessary, students and parents, are aware of such procedures. The administration will periodically review and revise administrative procedures in order to ensure that they adequately address the pertinent issues and are consistent with the School situation and needs.

Signature:

Sarah Vaughan, Board President

Date

Student Conduct and Discipline Policy

Adopted: January 20, 2016

Reviewed: June 14, 2023

Amended: 01.21.2026



1. PURPOSE, BELIEFS, AND PHILOSOPHY

1.1 Purpose

The purpose of Wallace Stegner Academy's (the "School") Student Conduct and Discipline Policy is to help all students develop positive relationships with other students and adults, take responsibility for their actions and learning, and develop the self-discipline necessary to create an environment that is characterized by physical and emotional safety in order to enhance learning for everyone.

The School will foster a School and community-wide expectation of good citizenship for students and a sense of responsibility in the School community for rules and standards of behavior.

The School will promote and require:

- student responsibility for learning and behavior in all grades;
- student conduct that produces a proper learning environment and respect for the personal, civil, and property rights of all members of the School community;
- parents of all students to assume proper responsibility for their students' behavior and to cooperate with School authorities in encouraging student self-discipline and discouraging behavior that is disruptive to the School's educational program.

1.2 Beliefs and Expectations

The School's beliefs and expectations set a positive and inviting culture for dealing with student behavior issues.

Beliefs:

- Punishment alone will not change behavior
- Most aggressive behavior is a relationship problem, not a behavior problem
- Adults must model the behaviors they expect from the students
- We expect conflicts, but we expect conflicts to be resolved and relationships mended

Expectations:

- Students will show respect for other students
- Students will show respect for adults
- Students will show respect for the building
- Adults will show respect for students
- Students will develop self-discipline

1.3 Procedural Philosophy

The School recognizes that establishing a procedural philosophy consistent with the desired positive school environment is as important as following legal and due process

procedures. The School's policy sets forth appropriate legal and due process procedures and will be followed within the context of the procedural philosophy outlined below:

Procedures:

When students are involved in conflicts with other students, they will, when appropriate:

- Work together to resolve the conflict
- Work to repair the relationship and build trust
- Be subject to additional consequences if they exhibit unsafe behaviors during the conflict

When students are involved in a conflict with or feel they have been treated unfairly by a member of the staff or a volunteer, they will:

- Report their feelings to their parent or to the administrator or counselor, who will work together to set up a conference with the student, the parent, an administrator or counselor, and/or the adult involved in order to resolve the conflict and mend the relationship

When students flagrantly disregard the safety of others, show blatant disrespect to others, or consistently behave in a disrespectful or unsafe way:

- The student will be subjected to consequences and positive behavior support to ensure that the student will make better choices in the future. Consequences might include:
 - In-School Suspension
 - Out-of-School Suspension
 - Expulsion
 - Restitution
 - Repayment for damages
- The student will work to earn back the trust of the School community by actions such as:
 - Genuine apology to injured or affected parties
 - Demonstration of appropriate behaviors following the incident
 - Repair or replace any damaged items

Due process to protect the rights of students will include:

- All students will be treated with dignity and respect as they go through correction procedures. The administration will see to it that their rights are protected through the process. If parents feel their student has not been treated fairly, they may address those concerns in accordance with this policy or the School's Parent Grievance Policy, as applicable.
- Parents will be notified when students are involved in situations that are deemed to be serious.
- Parents and students will be notified of the expectations, possible consequences, and the procedures involved in this policy at the beginning of each school year.

2. ENVIRONMENT

2.1 Safe School Environment

It is the School's policy to promote a safe and orderly school environment for all students

and employees. Accordingly, the School holds all students, employees, and other adults to the highest standards of behavior in the classroom, on School grounds, in School vehicles, and during School-sponsored activities. Criminal acts or disruptive behavior of any kind will not be tolerated, and any individual who engages in such activity will be subject to disciplinary action, criminal prosecution, or both.

2.2 Discrimination Prohibited

It is the School's policy to provide equal educational and employment opportunity for all individuals. Therefore, the School prohibits all discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, disability, or veteran status. Complaints of discrimination or unfair application of this policy should be submitted pursuant to the School's applicable Grievance Policy.

3. DEFINITIONS

3.1 Suspension

For purposes of this policy, suspension means: (a) an in-school suspension that is a temporary removal of a student from the student's regular classroom for disciplinary reasons for at least half a school day but remains under the direct supervision of School personnel; or (b) an out-of-school suspension that is the removal of a student from School grounds for disciplinary reasons unless the student removed is: (i) served solely under a Section 504 plan, where an out-of-school suspension is the excluding of the student from school for disciplinary purposes for one day or longer; or (ii) a student with disabilities under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, where an out-of-school suspension is the temporary removal of the student from the student's regular school for disciplinary reasons to another setting.

A student who is suspended for ten (10) or fewer school days may, at the Principal's discretion, have access to homework, tests, and other schoolwork through a home study program but will not be allowed to attend classes or participate in any School activities during the period of suspension.

A student who is suspended for more than ten (10) school days shall be provided, or at least offered, alternative education services by the School, but such students will not be allowed to attend classes or participate in any School activities during the period of suspension.

3.2 Expulsion

For purposes of this policy, expulsion means a disciplinary removal from the School for more than ten (10) school days without an offer of alternative education services. An expulsion may be for a fixed or indefinite period of time. If a student is expelled from the School, that student's status as an enrolled student of the School is terminated. Expelled students are excluded from all School programs or activities for the period of expulsion.

3.3 Change of Placement for Students with Disabilities under IDEA and Section 504

For purpose of the removal of a student with a disability from the student's current educational placement, a "change of placement" occurs if (a) the removal is for more than ten (10) consecutive school days or (b) the student is subjected to a series of removals

that constitute a pattern because they total more than ten (10) school days in a school year or because of factors such as the length of each removal, the total amount of time the student is removed, and the proximity of the removals to one another. Any "change of placement" requires compliance with the procedures outlined in Section 10 of this policy.

3.4 Disruptive Student Behavior

For purposes of this policy, "disruptive student behavior" means the behavior identified as grounds for suspension or expulsion described in Section 4.1, below.

3.5 Parent

For purposes of this policy, "parent" means (i) a custodial parent of a school-age child; (ii) a legally appointed guardian of a school-age child; or (iii) any other person purporting to exercise any authority over the child which could be exercised by a person described above.

3.6 Qualifying Minor

For purposes of this policy, "qualifying minor" means a school-age child who: (i) is at least nine years old; or (ii) turns nine years old at any time during the school year.

3.7 School Year

For purposes of this policy, "school year" means the period of time designated as the school year by the Board of Directors (the "Board") in the calendar adopted each year.

3.8 School-age Child

For purposes of this policy, "school-age child" means a minor who: (i) is at least six years old but younger than 18 years old; and (ii) is not emancipated.

4. GROUNDS FOR SUSPENSION, EXPULSION, OR CHANGE OF PLACEMENT

4.1 Suspension

4.1.1 A student may be suspended from School for the following reasons:

[a] frequent or flagrant willful disobedience, defiance of proper authority, or disruptive behavior, including, but not limited to: fighting; gang activity; noncompliance with School dress code; harassment, including sexual, racial, or religious harassment; the use of foul, profane, vulgar or abusive language; or other unreasonable and substantial disruption of a class, activity, or other function of the School;

[b] willful damage to or defacement of School property;

[c] behavior or threatened behavior that poses an immediate and significant threat to the welfare, safety, or morals of other students or School personnel or to the operation of the School;

[d] possession, distribution, control, use, sale, or arranging for the sale of an alcoholic beverage as defined in Utah Code Ann. § 32B-1-102;

[e] possession, distribution, control, use, sale, or arranging for the sale of cigars, cigarettes, electronic cigarettes, or tobacco, as defined by Utah Code Ann. § 76-10-101;

[f] possession, distribution, control, use, sale, or arranging for the sale of contraband, including but not limited to real, look-alike or pretend weapons, fireworks, matches, lighters, alcohol, tobacco, mace, pepper spray, laser pointers, pornography, illegal drugs and controlled substances, drug paraphernalia, or any other material or item that has caused or will imminently cause substantial disruption to school operations;

[g] inappropriate use or possession of electronic devices in class or in any other way that substantially disrupts the educational environment;

[h] any criminal activity;

[i] any serious violation involving weapons, drugs, or the use of force, including those actions prohibited in Section 4.1.2 below, that threatens harm or causes harm to the School or School property, to a person associated with the School, or property associated with any such person, regardless of where it occurs; or

[j] bullying or hazing as defined in Utah Code Ann. § 53G-9-601 and/or the School's Bullying and Hazing Policy.

4.1.2 A student shall be suspended or expelled from School for the following reasons:

[a] a serious violation affecting another student or a staff member, or a serious violation occurring in a School building, in or on School property, or in conjunction with a School-sponsored activity, including:

(i) the possession, control, or actual or threatened use of a real weapon, explosive, or noxious or flammable material;

(ii) the actual use of violence or sexual misconduct, including but not limited to such violence or sexual misconduct related to hazing;

(iii) the actual or threatened use of a lookalike weapon with intent to intimidate another person or to disrupt normal School activities; or

(iv) the sale, control, or distribution of a drug or controlled substance as defined in Utah Code Ann. § 58-37-2, an imitation controlled substance defined in Utah Code Ann. § 58-37b-2, or drug paraphernalia as defined in Utah Code Ann. § 58-37a-3;

[b] the commission of an act involving the use of force or the threatened use of force which if committed by an adult would be a felony or class A misdemeanor; or

[c] making a false report of an emergency at the School or another school under Utah Code Ann. § 76-9-202(2)(d).

4.2 Expulsion

A student may be expelled from School for any violation listed under Section 4.1 of this policy if the violation is serious or persistent.

4.3 Weapons – Mandatory Expulsion for One Year – Utah Code Ann. § 53G-8-205; 20

U.S.C. § 7151

4.3.1 Any student who commits an act for which mandatory suspension or expulsion is provided under Section 4.1.2, above, involving a real or lookalike weapon, explosive, or noxious or flammable material shall be expelled from School and all School programs and activities for a period of not less than one (1) year, subject to the following:

[a] Within forty-five (45) days after the expulsion, the student shall appear before the Case Management Team (“**CMT**”), which shall be comprised of the Chief Executive Officer(s) (“**CEO**”), Principal, a Board member, and a teacher selected by them, accompanied by a parent; and

[b] The CMT shall determine:

(i) what conditions must be met by the student and the student's parent for the student to return to School;

(ii) if the student should be placed on probation in a regular school setting consistent with Utah Code Ann. § 53G-8-208, and what conditions must be met by the student in order to ensure the safety of students and faculty at the School; and

(iii) if it would be in the best interest of both the School and the student to modify the expulsion term to less than a year, conditioned on approval by the Board and giving highest priority to providing a safe school environment for all students.

[c] For purposes of this policy, the term “firearm”, “explosive”, and “noxious or flammable material” include but are not limited to: guns, starter pistols, cap guns, bombs, bullets and ammunition, gasoline or other flammable liquids, mace, pepper spray, matches, and lighters.

4.3.2 Students with Disabilities under IDEA and Section 504

Whenever a student receiving special education and related services under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (“**IDEA**”) or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act is determined to have carried a weapon to School or a School-sponsored activity, the procedures outlined in Section 10 of this policy must be followed.

4.4 Drugs and Controlled Substances – Mandatory Suspension or Expulsion – Utah Code Ann. § 53G-8-205

4.4.1 A student shall be suspended or expelled from the School for any of the following reasons:

[a] use, control, possession, distribution, sale, or arranging for the sale of an illegal drug or controlled substance (which includes alcohol), an imitation controlled substance, or drug paraphernalia in a School building, in a School vehicle, on School property, or in conjunction with any School-sponsored activity;

[b] misuse or abuse, distribution, sale or arranging for the sale of prescription medication at School or a School-sponsored activity; or

[c] misuse or abuse of over-the-counter remedies, or sharing, distribution, sale, or

arranging for the sale of over-the-counter remedies. A student may possess and use over-the-counter remedies at School only in amounts not to exceed the recommended daily dose including, but not limited to: aspirin, ibuprofen, Tylenol (acetaminophen), cough drops, allergy medication, cough syrup and mouthwash.

4.4.2 Students with Disabilities under Section 504

Any student identified as being disabled under either Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act or the Americans with Disabilities Act who currently is engaging in the illegal use of drugs or alcohol shall be suspended or expelled to the same extent as non-disabled students for the possession, use, control, distribution, sale, or arrangement of the sale of illegal drugs, alcohol, or controlled substances on School property or in conjunction with any School-sponsored activity.

4.4.3 Drug Testing

[a] Any student who is reasonably suspected of violating Section 4.4 may be subject to a drug test for cause, arranged and paid for by the School.

[b] Any student who has been suspended or expelled for a violation of Section 4.4 may be required to provide a clean drug test and evidence of completion of drug assessment and/or drug counseling programs as a condition of readmission to School. Testing and counseling required as a condition of readmission rather than for the purpose of providing justification for the initial suspension or expulsion shall be arranged and paid for by the student's parent.

[c] Students who refuse to submit to required drug testing and counseling programs or to cooperate with School officials with respect to the sharing of appropriate information, may be expelled from the School.

[d] Any student who is suspended or expelled for violation of Section 4.4 may be subject to random drug testing, at any time and for any reason, for a period of one year from the date of offense. If the student tests positive, he/she may be expelled from all School programs or activities. Any student who refuses consent for random drug testing under these conditions shall be expelled from all School programs or activities.

4.4.4 Students with Disabilities under IDEA

Whenever a student receiving special education and related services under IDEA knowingly possesses or uses illegal drugs or sells or solicits the sale of a controlled substance while at School or a School-sponsored activity, the procedures outlined in Section 10 of this policy must be followed.

4.5 Gangs

For purposes of this policy, "gang" means any ongoing organization, association or group of three or more persons, whether formal or informal, having as one its primary activities the commission of criminal acts, which has a unique name or identifiable signs, symbols, or marks, and whose members individually or collectively engage in criminal or violent behavior to persons or property, or who create an unreasonable and substantial disruption or risk of disruption of a class, activity, program, or other function of a school.

4.5.1 Gang Activity and Apparel Prohibited

Students who engage in any form of gang activity on or about School property, or at any School-sponsored activity may be suspended or expelled under the terms of this policy. For the purposes of this policy, "gang activities" include, but are not limited to any of the following:

- [a] Wearing, possessing, using, distributing, displaying, or selling any clothing, jewelry, apparel, emblems, badges, tattoos or manner of grooming, accessories, symbols, signs, or other thing which is evidence of membership in or affiliation with any gang;
- [b] Committing any act or omission or using any speech, either verbal or nonverbal, (flashing signs, gestures, hand shakes, etc.) that demonstrates membership in or a affiliation with a gang;
- [c] Soliciting others for membership in a gang;
- [d] Requesting any person to pay for "protection", claiming "turf", or otherwise intimidating, bullying, retaliating against, threatening, abusing, or harassing any person;
- [e] Possessing a weapon, controlled substances, drug paraphernalia, or other contraband;
- [f] Committing any illegal act; or
- [g] Encouraging or inciting another person to act with physical violence upon any other person or cause damage to property.

4.5.2 Confiscation of Gang Items

Subject to the search and seizure provisions of this policy, gang paraphernalia, apparel, or weapons may be confiscated by School officials at any time.

4.5.3 Consultation with Law Enforcement Authorities

School officials shall consult with local law enforcement authorities and gang detectives whenever they have questions regarding gang-related clothing, apparel, or other gang activity.

4.6 Bullying, Cyber-Bullying, Harassment, Hazing, and Abusive Conduct

Bullying, cyber-bullying, harassment, hazing, and abusive conduct of students and employees are against federal law, state law, and School policy, and are not tolerated by the School. It is the School's intent to respond to school-related incidents by implementing prevention efforts where victims can be identified and assessed, and perpetrators educated, in order to create a safer school that provide a positive learning environment.

School administration has the authority to discipline students and employees for off-campus speech that causes or threatens a substantial disruption on campus, at School activities, or causes or threatens a significant interference with a student's educational performance or involvement in School activities.

Additional information regarding these issues are contained in the School's Bullying and Hazing Policy, which is available on the School's website.

4.7 Possession or Use of Electronic Cigarette Products

4.7.1 Students are prohibited from possessing or using electronic cigarette products, as defined by Utah Code Ann. § 76-10-101, on School property.

4.7.2 The Principal or their designee shall request the surrender of or confiscate electronic cigarette products as provided in Section 16 of this policy.

4.7.3 The Principal will ensure that any surrendered or confiscated electronic cigarette product is destroyed or disposed of. However, the Principal may allow the release of any surrendered or confiscated electronic cigarette product to local law enforcement if School personnel have a reasonable suspicion that the electronic cigarette product contains an illegal substance and local law enforcement requests that the School release it to them as part of an investigation or action.

5. AUTHORITY TO SUSPEND OR EXPEL

5.1 Authority to Suspend for Ten (10) School Days or Less for Regular Education Students

The Principal has the authority to suspend a regular education student for up to three (3) school days. Except as provided in Section 5.3, the CEO has the authority to suspend a regular education student for up to ten (10) school days. In considering whether to suspend a student, the Principal and CEO shall consider all relevant factors, including but not limited to, the severity of the offense, the student's age, disability, academic status and disciplinary record, parental capabilities, and community resources.

5.2 Authority to Suspend and Duration of Suspension for Students with Disabilities

The Principal has the authority to suspend a student with disabilities (504 or IDEA) for not more than three (3) school days. The CEO has the authority to suspend a student with disabilities for more than (3) three school days, up to a maximum of ten (10) consecutive school days, and additional removals of not more than ten (10) total school days in that same school year for separate incidents of misconduct as long as those removals do not constitute a pattern resulting in a change of placement. The School need not provide services during periods of removal of ten (10) days cumulative or less if services are not provided to a student without disabilities who has been similarly suspended.

5.3 Authority to Suspend for Longer than Ten (10) School Days or Expel for Regular Education Students

Subject to the requirements for due process set forth in Section 9, below, the CEO may suspend a regular education student for longer than ten (10) school days and up to one (1) year or expel a regular education student.

Expulsions shall be reviewed by the CMT and the conclusions reported to the Board at least once each year if the parent of the expelled student has expressed a desire for the student to return to the School.

5.3.1 Parental Responsibility

If a student is suspended for a period longer than ten (10) days or expelled, the student's parent is responsible for undertaking an alternative education plan that will ensure that the student's education continues during the period of the suspension or expulsion. The parent shall work with designated School officials to determine how the student's education will continue through private education paid for by the parents, an alternative program offered by the School, or other alternatives which will reasonably meet the educational needs of the student. Costs of educational services which are not provided by the School are the responsibility of the student's parent.

5.3.2 The parent and designated School officials may enlist the cooperation of the Division of Child and Family Services, the juvenile court, law enforcement, or other appropriate government agencies in determining how to meet the educational needs of the student.

5.3.3 The School shall contact the parent of each student under age 16 who has been suspended for longer than ten (10) school days or expelled from all School programs and services at least once a month to determine the student's progress if the parent of the student has expressed a desire for the student to return to the School.

5.4 Authority to Institute Change of Placement for Student with Disabilities

Where the student is receiving special education services or accommodations on the basis of disability under IDEA, 504, or ADA, procedures outlined in the State of Utah Special Education Rules shall be followed, including prior written notice to parents regarding their procedural due process rights, before any long-term disciplinary action or change of placement takes place.

5.5 Reinstatement of Students Who Have Been Suspended

In accordance with Utah Code Ann. § 53G-8-206, a student who has received an out-of-school suspension may not be readmitted to the School until (a) the student and the parent have met with a designated School official to review the suspension and agreed upon a plan to avoid the recurrence of the problem; or (b) in the discretion of the Principal or CEO, the parent of the suspended student and the student have agreed to participate in such a meeting. This provision is subject to the requirements in Section 5.2 and 5.3.

6. PROCEDURES FOR ADDRESSING DISRUPTIVE STUDENT BEHAVIOR – Utah Code Ann. § 53G-8-210

6.1 Efforts to Resolve Disruptive Student Behavior Problems

6.1.1 Information About Resources. The School will provide to a parent of a student who engages in disruptive student behavior a list of resources available to assist the parent in resolving the student's disruptive behavior problem.

6.1.2 Procedures for Resolving Problems. The Principal, or a teacher or counselor designated by the Principal will work with students who engage in disruptive student behavior according to the procedures identified in Section 7, below, in an attempt to help the student's behavior to improve and to prevent problems from escalating. Incidents of disruptive student behavior and attempts to resolve behavior issues will be documented. The notices of disruptive student behavior described in Section 6.2 and 6.3 below are

issued at the discretion of the Principal and are not required to be issued prior to suspending or expelling a qualifying minor.

6.2 Notice of Disruptive Student Behavior

6.2.1 Authorization and Criteria. The Principal is authorized to issue notices of disruptive student behavior to qualifying minors who:

[a] engage in “disruptive student behavior” that does not result in suspension or expulsion three times during the school year; or

[b] engage in disruptive student behavior that results in suspension or expulsion once during the school year.

6.2.2 Contents of Notice. A notice of disruptive student behavior will:

[a] require the qualifying minor and a parent of the qualifying minor to whom the notice is issued to (i) meet with School authorities to discuss the qualifying minor's disruptive student behavior; and (ii) cooperate with the Principal and the Board in correcting the student's disruptive student behavior; and

[b] be mailed by certified mail to, or served in person on, a parent of the qualifying minor.

6.2.3 Contesting Notice. A qualifying minor, or a qualifying minor's parent, may contest a notice of disruptive student behavior by requesting in writing, within ten (10) business days after receipt of the notice, a meeting with the CMT at which the parent and the CMT will discuss the facts related to the student's behavior, the basis of the parent's concerns with or objections to the issuance of the notice, and efforts that have been made to address the behavior problems.

6.3 Habitual Disruptive Student Behavior Notice

6.3.1 Authorization and Criteria. The Principal may issue a “habitual disruptive student behavior notice” to a qualifying minor who:

[a] engages in disruptive student behavior that does not result in suspension or expulsion at least six times during the school year;

[b] (i) engages in disruptive student behavior that does not result in suspension or expulsion at least three times during the school year; and (ii) engages in disruptive student behavior that results in suspension or expulsion at least once during the school year; or

[c] engages in disruptive student behavior that results in suspension or expulsion at least twice during the school year.

6.3.2 Notice to Parents. Within five (5) days after the day on which a habitual disruptive student behavior notice is issued, the Principal shall provide documentation to a parent of the qualifying minor who receives the notice of the efforts made by a School representative under Section 7, below.

6.4 Responses to School-Based Behavior

6.4.1 Definitions.

[a] "Mobile crisis outreach team" means a crisis intervention service for minors or families of minors experiencing behavioral health or psychiatric emergencies.

[b] "Restorative justice program" means a school-based program or a program used or adopted by a school that is designed to enhance school safety, reduce school suspensions, and limit referrals to court, and is designed to help minors take responsibility for and repair the harm of behavior that occurs in school.

[c] "Youth court" means the same as that term is defined in § 80-6-901, including that it is a diversion program that provides an alternative disposition for cases involving minors who have committed minor offenses in which youth participants, under the supervision of an adult coordinator, may serve in various capacities within the courtroom, acting in the role of jurors, lawyers, bailiffs, clerks, and judges.

6.4.2 Alternative School-Related Interventions. The Board may establish or partner with a certified youth court program or establish or partner with a comparable restorative justice program. The School may refer a student to youth court or a comparable restorative justice program in accordance with § 53G-8-211.

6.4.3 Referrals of Minors. A qualifying minor to whom a habitual disruptive student behavior notice is issued under Section 6.3.1 may not be referred to the juvenile court. The School will follow § 53G-8-211 with respect to referring a minor who is alleged to be a habitual truant or is alleged to have committed an offense on School property when School is in session or during a School-sponsored activity. In accordance with § 53G-8-211:

[a] if the alleged offense on School property is a class C misdemeanor, an infraction, or a status offense, or a minor is alleged to be a habitual truant, the minor shall be referred:

(i) to an evidence-based alternative intervention, including:

(1) a mobile crisis outreach team;

(2) youth services center, as defined in § 80-5-102;

(3) a certified youth court, as defined in § 80-6-901, or comparable restorative justice program;

(4) an evidence-based alternative intervention created and developed by the School or other governmental entities as set forth in § 53G-8-211(3)(a)(v);

(5) a tobacco cessation or education program if the offense is a violation of § 76-10-105; or

(6) truancy mediation; or

(ii) for prevention and early intervention youth services, as described in § 80-5-201, by the Division of Juvenile Justice and Youth Services if the minor refuses to participate in an evidence-based alternative intervention described above.

[b] Except as provided in Subsection [c] below, if a minor is alleged to have committed an offense on School property that is a class C misdemeanor, an infraction, or a status

offense, the minor may be referred directly to a law enforcement officer or agency or a court only if:

(i) the minor allegedly committed an offense on School property on a previous occasion; and

(ii) the minor was referred to an evidence-based alternative intervention, or to prevention or early intervention youth services, as described in Subsection [a] above for the previous offense.

[c] If a minor is alleged to have committed a traffic offense that is an infraction, the minor may be referred directly to a law enforcement officer or agency, a prosecuting attorney, or a court for the traffic offense.

[d] If a minor is alleged to have committed an offense on School property that is a class B misdemeanor or a class A misdemeanor, the minor may be referred directly to a court or to the evidence-based alternative interventions in Subsection [a] above.

[e] If a minor is alleged to have committed a drug possession offense on School property and the minor has allegedly committed a drug possession offense on School property on at least two previous occasions, the minor shall be referred directly to a court.

[f] If a minor is alleged to be a habitual truant, the minor may be referred to a law enforcement officer or agency or a court if:

(i) the minor was previously alleged of being a habitual truant at least twice during the same school year; and

(ii) the minor was referred to an evidence-based alternative intervention, or for prevention and early intervention youth services, as described in Subsection [a] above for at least two of the previous habitual trancies.

[g] If a student allegedly commits an offense described in this Section on School grounds when School is in session or at a School-sponsored activity and that information is reported to, or known by, a School employee, the School employee shall notify the Principal. After receiving such a notification, the Principal shall notify:

(i) a law enforcement officer or agency if the Principal may refer the offense to a law enforcement officer or agency as explained above in this Section;

(ii) other School personnel if the Principal determines that other School personnel should be informed; and

(iii) The student's parent.

The Principal may not disclose to the student, or to the student's parent, the identity of the School employee who made the initial notification under Subsection (g) above. The identity of a School employee who notifies the Principal under Subsection (g) above shall be kept confidential, except that the identity of a School employee may be disclosed to a law enforcement officer or agency for purposes of an investigation or prosecution.

6.4.4 Referral of Students for Firearm Offense. If a student brings a firearm or weapon to

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the School, the student shall be referred directly to a law enforcement officer or agency, a prosecuting attorney, or a court.

7. ALTERNATIVES TO EXPULSION, OR CHANGE OF PLACEMENT FOR FREQUENT OR FLAGRANT DISRUPTIVE BEHAVIOR – Utah Code Ann. § 53G-8-207

A continuum of intervention strategies shall be available to help students whose behavior in School repeatedly falls short of reasonable expectations. Prior to suspending a student for more than ten (10) school days or expelling a student for repeated acts of willful disobedience, defiance of authority, or disruptive behavior which are not so extreme or violent that immediate removal is warranted, good faith efforts shall be made to implement a remedial discipline plan to allow the student to remain in the School.

7.1 Before referring the student for long-term suspension, expulsion or change of placement under this Section, School staff should demonstrate that they have attempted some or all of the following interventions:

7.1.1 Talking with the student;

7.1.2 Class schedule adjustment;

7.1.3 Phone contact with the parent;

7.1.4 Informal parent/student conferences;

7.1.5 Behavioral contracts;

7.1.6 After-school make-up time;

7.1.7 Short-term in-school suspension;

7.1.8 Short-term at-home suspensions;

7.1.9 Appropriate evaluation;

7.1.10 Home study;

7.1.11 Alternative programs; or

7.1.12 Law enforcement assistance as appropriate.

7.2 Parental Attendance with Student – Utah Code Ann. § 53G-8-207

As part of a remedial discipline plan for a student, the School may require the student's parent, with the consent of the student's teachers, to attend class with the student for a period of time specified by a designated School official. If the parent does not agree or fails to attend class with the student, the student shall be suspended in accordance with the provisions of this policy.

8. DUE PROCESS FOR SUSPENSIONS OF TEN (10) SCHOOL DAYS OR LESS

The following procedure shall apply to all students facing suspension of ten (10) school

days or less:

8.1 The CEO or Principal shall notify the student's custodial parent of the following without delay: that the student has been suspended, the grounds for the suspension, the period of time for which the student is suspended, and the time and place for the parent to meet with the CEO or Principal to review the suspension.

8.2 The CEO or Principal shall also notify the non-custodial parent, if requested in writing, of the suspension.

8.2.1 Section 8.2 does not apply to the portion of School records which would disclose any information protected under a court order.

8.2.2 The custodial parent is responsible to provide the School a certified copy of any court order under subsection 8.2.1.

8.3 The CEO or Principal shall document the charges, evidence, and action taken.

8.4 Unless one of the exceptions below applies, before a suspension begins the student shall be given notice of the charges, provided with an explanation of the evidence, and given an opportunity to present his/her version of the incident to the CEO or Principal. The student shall be requested to present his/her version of the incident in writing. Students with disabilities or young students who are unable to write their own statements shall be accommodated through the use of tape recorder, scribe, etc.

8.4.1 In general, the notice and informal conference described in Section 8.4 above shall precede the student's removal from the School.

8.4.2 If, in the judgment of the CEO or Principal, notice and an informal conference is not possible because the student poses a danger to a person or property or an ongoing threat of substantially disrupting the academic process, he/she may be removed immediately. However, in such cases, the necessary notice and informal conference shall follow as soon as possible.

9. DUE PROCESS FOR SUSPENSIONS OF MORE THAN TEN (10) SCHOOL DAYS AND EXPULSIONS

The following procedure shall apply to all students facing suspension of more than ten (10) school days or expulsion:

9.1 The CEO or Principal shall first follow the due process procedures set forth in Section 8 above. If, after following the due process procedures in Section 8, the CEO or Principal believes that a student should be suspended for more than ten (10) school days or expelled, the CEO may make the initial decision and shall meet with the student's parent to discuss the charges against the student and the proposed discipline within five (5) school days after the suspension or expulsion began. If requested in writing, the CEO shall also notify the non-custodial parent of the suspension or expulsion as outlined in Section 8.2 of this policy. A suspension may not extend beyond ten (10) school days unless the student and the student's parent have been given a reasonable opportunity to meet with the CEO and respond to the allegations and proposed disciplinary action.

9.2 Notice to Student and Parent

During the meeting required in Section 9.1, the CEO shall provide the student's parent with written notice that includes all of the following elements (or, if the student's parent refuses to meet, the CEO shall send the notice by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the student's parent within ten (10) school days after the suspension or expulsion began):

9.2.1 a description of the alleged violation(s) or reason(s) giving rise to disciplinary action;

9.2.2 the penalty being imposed (duration of suspension or expulsion);

9.2.3 a statement that a due process hearing may be requested by providing the CEO with written notice within ten (10) school days of the parent's receipt of the notice;

9.2.4 a statement that, if a due process hearing is requested, the Board, even though less than a quorum, will conduct the hearing, with or without the help of a hearing officer;

9.2.5 a statement that the suspension or expulsion is taking effect immediately and will continue for the stated period unless a due process hearing is requested in a timely manner and the Board (even though less than a quorum) determines otherwise;

9.2.6 the mailing date of the notice; and

9.2.7 a statement that, if a hearing is not requested within ten (10) school days after receipt of the notice, the CEO's decision to suspend or expel the student will be final, and the parent's right to oppose the decision will be waived.

9.3 Hearing Procedures

If a Due Process Hearing is requested in response to the notice sent pursuant to Section 9.2 of this policy, the following procedures shall apply:

9.3.1 After receipt of the request, the School shall schedule a hearing as soon as possible but not later than ten (10) school days following receipt of the request unless the student's parent agrees otherwise.

9.3.2 A written Hearing Notice shall be sent to the parent informing the parent that the Due Process Hearing will be conducted before the Board (even though less than a quorum) and of the following information:

[a] the date, place, and time of the hearing;

[b] the circumstances, evidence, and issues to be discussed at the hearing;

[c] the right of all parties to have legal counsel present;

[d] the right of all parties to present evidence;

[e] the right of all parties to cross-examine witnesses subject to the presiding Board member's or hearing officer's determination that this right should be limited to protect student witnesses from retaliation, ostracism or reprisal; and

[f] the right of all parties to examine all relevant records.

9.3.3 The Board (even though less than a quorum) shall conduct the Due Process Hearing on the record and shall:

[a] ensure that a written record of the Hearing is made, a copy of which shall be provided to all parties upon request, with the cost borne by the School;

[b] consider all relevant evidence presented at the Hearing;

[c] allow the right to cross-examination of witnesses, unless the presiding Board member or hearing officer determines that this right should be limited to protect student witnesses from ostracism, retaliation or reprisal;

[d] allow all parties a fair opportunity to present relevant evidence; and

[e] issue a written decision including findings of fact and conclusions.

9.3.4 Hearing Rules

Formal Rules of Evidence do not apply to the Due Process Hearing, and no discovery is permitted. However, the following rules will apply:

[a] parties may have access to information contained in the School's files to the extent permitted by law;

[b] hearings shall be closed to the press and the public;

[c] documents, testimony, or other evidence submitted by the parties after the hearing will not be considered by the Board (even though less than a quorum) or hearing officer; and

[d] the Board (even though less than a quorum) or hearing officer may excuse witnesses or parties or suspend or terminate a hearing if persons involved in the hearing are abusive, disorderly, disruptive, or if they refuse to abide by the rules and orders of the Board or hearing officer.

10. DUE PROCESS FOR CHANGE OF PLACEMENT OF STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Where the student is receiving special education services or accommodations on the basis of disability under IDEA, 504 or ADA, procedures outlined in the Utah State Board of Education ("USBE") Special Education Rules shall be followed, including prior written notice to parents regarding their procedural due process rights, before any long-term disciplinary action or change of placement takes place.

10.1 Required Services

10.1.1 504 and ADA Students

When a determination is made that the conduct of a 504 or ADA student (but not a student who is disabled under IDEA) is not a manifestation of the student's disability pursuant to Section 10.5, the student shall be subject to the same disciplinary consequences as regular education students, up to and including expulsion from School; however, the School must continue to provide education services in accordance with guidelines established by the USBE.

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10.1.2 IDEA

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A school need not provide services during periods of removal to a student with a disability under IDEA who has been removed from his or her current placement for ten (10) school days or less in that school year if services are not provided to a student without disabilities who has been similarly removed.

If a student with a disability under IDEA has been removed from his or her current placement for more than ten (10) school days in the same school year, for the remainder of the removals the School shall provide services to the extent necessary to enable the student to progress in the general curriculum and appropriately advance toward achieving the goals set out in the student's IEP. School personnel, in consultation with the student's special education teacher, determine the extent to which services are necessary to enable the student to appropriately progress in the general curriculum and advance toward achieving the goals set out in the student's IEP.

10.2 Change of Placement for Weapons, Drugs, or Serious Bodily Injury

A student's IEP team may order a change in placement of a student with a disability to an appropriate interim alternative educational setting for the same amount of time that a student without a disability would be subject to discipline, but for not more than forty-five (45) school days, if:

10.2.1 The student carries a weapon to or possesses a weapon at School, on School premises, or to or at a School-sponsored activity; or

10.2.2 The student knowingly possesses or uses illegal drugs or sells or solicits the sale of a controlled substance while at School, on School premises, or at a School-sponsored activity; or

10.2.3 The student has inflicted serious bodily injury upon another person while at School, on School premises, or at a School-sponsored activity.

10.3 Change of Placement Due to Student's Serious Misconduct

School officials may request an expedited due process hearing in order to change the placement of a student with a disability to an appropriate interim alternative educational setting, recommended by the student's IEP team, for not more than forty-five (45) school days. A hearing officer may order such a change, if he/she:

10.3.1 Determines that School officials have demonstrated by substantial evidence that maintaining the current placement of a student is substantially likely to result in injury to the student or others;

10.3.2 Considers the appropriateness of the student's current placement;

10.3.3 Considers whether School officials have made reasonable efforts to minimize the risk of harm in the student's current placement, including the use of supplementary aids and services; and

10.3.4 Determines that the interim alternative educational setting being recommended by School officials (1) has been selected so as to enable the student to continue to progress

in the general curriculum, although in another setting, and to continue to receive those services and modifications, including those described in the student's current IEP, that will enable the student to meet the goals set out in that IEP: and (2) includes services and modifications designed to address the behavior at issue so that it does not recur.

10.4 Parental Notice

As soon as a decision is made by School officials to remove a student with a disability from his/her current placement for more than ten (10) school days, the student's parents must be notified of that decision and of all procedural safeguards outlined by law and School policy.

10.5 IEP Meetings for Manifestation Determination

10.5.1 Immediately, if possible, but in no case later than ten (10) school days after the date on which the decision is made to remove the student from the current placement, a review must be conducted of the relationship between the student's disability and the behavior subject to the disciplinary action.

10.5.2 The manifestation review must be conducted by the student's IEP team and other qualified School personnel.

10.5.3 In conducting the manifestation review, the IEP team may determine that the behavior of the student was not a manifestation of student's disability only if the IEP team:

[a] First considers, in terms of behavior subject to disciplinary action, all relevant information, including:

- (i) Evaluation and diagnostic results, including the results or other relevant information supplied by the parents of the student;
- (ii) Observations of the student; and
- (iii) The student's IEP and placement; and

[b] Then determines whether:

- (i) The conduct in question was caused by or had a direct and substantial relationship to the child's disability; or
- (ii) The conduct in question was the direct result of the School's failure to implement the student's IEP.

10.5.4 If the IEP team determines that either of the standards above was met, the behavior must be considered a manifestation of the student's disability.

10.5.5 Determination that Behavior was not Manifestation of Disability

If the result of the manifestation review is a determination that the behavior of a student with a disability was not a manifestation of the student's disability, the relevant disciplinary procedures applicable to students without disabilities may be applied to the student in the same manner in which they would be applied to students without disabilities, except that a free appropriate public education must still be made available to the student if the student

is suspended or expelled from School.

10.5.6 Determination that Behavior was Manifestation of Disability

If the result of the manifestation review is a determination that the behavior of a student with a disability was a manifestation of the student's disability, the student must remain in or be returned to the prior placement.

10.6 IEP Meetings for Functional Behavioral Assessments

10.6.1 Post-Discipline Functional Behavioral Assessments

If School officials have not conducted a Functional Behavioral Assessment and implemented a behavioral intervention plan for the student before the behavior that results in a removal from School for longer than ten (10) school days or a change of placement to an interim alternative educational setting, School officials shall convene an IEP meeting to develop an assessment plan and appropriate behavioral interventions to address that behavior.

10.6.2 Pre-Discipline Behavioral Intervention Plans

If the student already has a behavioral intervention plan, the IEP team shall review the plan and modify it, as necessary, to address the behavior.

10.7 Placement During Appeals and Stay Put

10.7.1 If a parent requests a due process hearing to challenge the interim alternative educational setting or the manifestation determination, the student must remain subject to the disciplinary action pending the decision of the hearing officer or until the expiration of the forty-five (45) school-day period, whichever occurs first, unless the parent and School officials agree otherwise.

10.7.2 If a student is placed in an interim alternative educational setting and School personnel propose to change the student's placement after expiration of the interim alternative placement, during the pendency of any proceeding to challenge the proposed change in placement the student must remain in the current placement (the student's placement prior to the interim alternative education setting), unless School officials succeed in getting an order through an expedited hearing as described in Section 10.3.

11. ADMINISTRATIVE STUDENT CONDUCT AND DISCIPLINE PLAN(S)

11.1 Elements of Plan(s)

The CEO will develop, with input from administration, instruction and support staff, students, parents, and other community members, a Student Conduct and Discipline Plan(s). The plan(s) shall be comprehensive, clearly written, consistently enforced, and include the following elements:

11.1.1 written standards for student behavior expectations, including schoolwide and classroom management;

11.1.2 effective instructional practices for teaching student expectations;

11.1.3 systematic methods for reinforcing expected behaviors;

11.1.4 uniform and equitable methods for correcting student behavior;

11.1.5 procedures for re-teaching behavior expectations followed by effective, evidence-based interventions matched to student needs before suspension or court referral;

11.1.6 direction to determine the range of behaviors and establish the continuum of administrative procedures that may be used by School personnel to address student behavior; and

11.1.7 procedures for responding to reports received through the SafeUT Crisis Line under Utah Code Ann. § 53H-4-210.

11.2 Plan(s) Consistent with this Policy

The administrative Student Conduct and Discipline Plan(s) shall be consistent with this policy. It shall also be consistent with the School's Plan for Harassment and Discrimination Free Learning, which shall be developed by the School in accordance with § 53G-8-802 and R277-609.

12. EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Participation in interscholastic athletics and other extracurricular activities is not a constitutionally protected civil right. Therefore, students who are suspended or expelled may lose the privilege of participation during the period of suspension/expulsion and may not be allowed to invoke due process procedures to challenge the denial of extracurricular participation.

13. RE-ADMISSION OF EXPELLED STUDENTS AND DENIAL OF ADMISSION BASED ON PRIOR EXPULSION – Utah Code Ann. § 53G-8-205

A student who is expelled from the School can only be re-admitted to the School through the School's standard lottery procedures.

A student may be denied admission to the School if he or she was expelled from the School or any other school during the preceding 12 months.

14. INVESTIGATIONS

Whenever the Principal has reason to believe that School rules or policies have been broken, he or she shall proceed with an investigation. However, if the Principal believes that laws have been broken or child abuse has occurred, he/she shall request appropriate authorities to conduct the investigation.

14.1 General Investigation Guidelines for Principal

The Principal has the authority and duty to conduct investigations and to question students pertaining to infractions of School rules, whether or not the alleged conduct is a violation of criminal law. The Principal shall conduct investigations according to the following general guidelines:

14.1.1 The Principal shall conduct investigations in a way that does not unduly interfere

with School activities.

14.1.2 The Principal shall separate witnesses and offenders in an attempt to keep witnesses from collaborating their statements and have all parties provide separate statements concerning the incident under investigation; written statements are preferable, if possible.

14.1.3 The Principal shall advise students suspected of wrongdoing orally or in writing of the nature of the alleged offense.

14.1.4 Students must be provided an opportunity to give their version of the incident under investigation; however, refusals to respond or provide information should be respected.

14.1.5 When questioning students as part of an investigation, School staff should have another adult present whenever possible.

14.1.6 The Principal shall accommodate students with disabilities and young children unable to write their own statements through use of tape recorders, scribes, etc.

14.1.7 All students involved in the investigation shall be instructed that retaliation is prohibited. Any act of reprisal against any person who has testified, assisted, or participated in any manner in an investigation, proceeding, or hearing is strictly prohibited and subject to disciplinary action.

14.1.8 When the investigation is completed and if it is determined that disciplinary action may be in order, due process requirements must be met. Specifically, the student must be given proper notice of the charges against him/her and the disciplinary action being recommended, as well as a fair opportunity to present his or her version of the facts.

14.2 Coordination with Law Enforcement

The Principal has the responsibility and the authority to determine when the help of law enforcement officers is necessary, as outlined in this policy and Utah State law.

14.2.1 The School administration may invite law enforcement officials to the School to:

[a] conduct an investigation of alleged criminal conduct on the School premises or during a School-sponsored activity;

[b] maintain a safe and orderly educational environment; or

[c] maintain or restore order when the presence of such officers is necessary to prevent injury to persons or property.

14.2.2 Investigation of Criminal Conduct

During an investigation for violation of School rules, it may become evident that the incident under investigation may also be a violation of criminal law. If the School official has reason to suspect that a criminal act has been committed and, in the opinion of the Principal, law enforcement should be notified, the following procedure should be followed:

[a] The Principal shall request that law enforcement officers conduct an investigation

during school hours and question students who are potential witnesses to the alleged criminal behavior.

[b] The School official shall inform the student's parent as soon as possible that the student may have committed a criminal act and that law enforcement authorities will be involved in the investigation.

[c] Unless circumstances dictate otherwise, questioning of the student by School officials shall not begin or continue until the law enforcement officers arrive.

[d] Reasonable attempts shall be made to contact the student's parents who, unless an emergency exists, shall be given the opportunity to meet with the student and to be present with the student during questioning by law enforcement authorities.

[e] The Principal shall document the contact or attempted contact with the student's parents. If the Principal cannot contact the student's parent, or if the parent is unable to be present with the student for questioning, the Principal shall be present and document generally what occurs during the interview.

[f] The student shall not be questioned by law enforcement unless or until he/she has received Miranda warnings from the officer.

[g] If the parent or student refuses to consent to questioning by law enforcement authorities, the law enforcement authorities shall determine the course of action to be pursued.

14.2.3 Investigation Initiated by Law Enforcement Authorities

School officials shall cooperate with law enforcement authorities who are carrying out official duties such as investigating crimes, serving subpoenas, etc.

[a] When law enforcement officers can show a need to do so, they shall be permitted to conduct an investigation on School grounds during School hours.

[b] Such a need will ordinarily be shown if delay in police investigation might result in danger to a person, flight from jurisdiction by a person reasonably suspected of a crime, or destruction of evidence. In such cases:

(i) The officers shall be required to get prior approval of the Principal or other designated person before beginning an investigation on School premises.

(ii) The Principal shall document the circumstances warranting the investigation as soon as practical.

(iii) Alleged criminal behavior related to the School environment brought to the Principal's attention by law enforcement officers shall be dealt with under the provisions of Section 14.1.

(iv) Law enforcement officials (investigating School-related or student-related crimes) may not have access to student education records, aside from directory information, unless they have a subpoena or court order or permission from a parent.

14.2.4 Release of Student to Law Enforcement Official

[a] Students may not be released to law enforcement authorities voluntarily by School officials unless the student has been placed under arrest or unless the parent and the student agree to the release.

[b] When students are removed from School for any reason by law enforcement authorities, every reasonable effort shall be made to contact the student's parent immediately except in cases of child abuse and neglect. Such effort shall be documented.

[c] The Principal shall immediately notify the Board of the removal of a student from School by law enforcement authorities.

[d] Where it is necessary to take a student into custody on School premises, the law enforcement officer shall contact the Principal and relate the circumstances necessitating such action.

[e] Whenever the need arises to make arrests or take students into custody on School premises, the Principal shall make reasonable efforts to consult and confer with the law enforcement officers as to how an arrest is to be made.

[f] When possible, the Principal shall have the student summoned to the Principal's office before the student is taken into custody.

[g] When a student has been taken into custody or arrested on School premises without prior notification to the Principal, the School staff present shall encourage the law enforcement officers to tell the Principal of the circumstances as quickly as possible. If the officers decline to tell the Principal, the School staff members present shall immediately notify the Principal.

14.2.5 Quelling Disturbances of School Environment

Law enforcement officers may be requested to assist in controlling disturbances of the School environment that a Principal has found to be unmanageable by School personnel and that has the potential of causing harm to students and other persons or to property. Such circumstances include situations where a parent or member of the public exhibits undesirable or illegal conduct on or near School grounds or at a School-sponsored activity and who refuse to abide by a Principal's directive to leave the premises.

14.2.6 Investigations of Alleged Drug Offenses

Nothing in this Section or policy prohibits the Principal or their designee from investigating an alleged drug offense that involves School property, a student, or a School employee, including conducting a search on School property, before notifying a law enforcement officer or agency. Any such investigation, search, and handling of evidence shall comply with the requirements of Utah Code Ann. § 53G-8-511 and related USBE rules.

15. INVESTIGATION OF CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

Utah law requires that whenever any person, including any School employee, has reason to believe that a child has been subjected to incest, molestation, sexual exploitation, sexual abuse, physical abuse, or neglect, or observes a child being subjected to conditions or

circumstances which would reasonably result in such, he/she shall immediately notify the nearest peace officer, law enforcement agency, or office of the Division of Child and Family Services.

15.1 The School shall distribute annually to all School employees copies of the School's procedures for reporting suspected child abuse or neglect.

15.2 If there is reason to believe that a child may have been subjected to abuse or neglect, an oral report shall be made immediately by the School employee reporting the abuse/neglect with a written report to follow within twenty-four (24) hours.

15.2.1 When making the oral report, always have the person you notify identify himself/herself. The notified person's name shall be entered on the written report.

15.2.2 A copy of the written report shall be put in a child abuse-neglect file to be maintained by the Principal, for all reported cases of suspected child abuse or neglect.

15.2.3 The child abuse-neglect reporting form shall not be placed in the student's personal file.

15.3 It is not the responsibility of the Principal or other School employees to prove that the child has been abused or neglected, or to determine whether the child is in need of protection.

15.3.1 Investigation by staff prior to submitting a report shall not go beyond that necessary to support a reasonable belief that a reportable problem exists.

15.3.2 To determine whether or not there is reason to believe that abuse or neglect has occurred, professional School employees may (but are not required to) gather information only to the extent necessary to determine whether a reportable circumstance exists.

15.3.3 Interviews with the child or suspected abuser shall not be conducted by the Principal or School employees.

15.3.4 Notes of voluntary or spontaneous statements by the child shall be made and given to the investigating agency.

15.3.5 The Principal, School employees, Division of Child and Family Services and law enforcement personnel are required to preserve the anonymity of those making the initial report and any others involved in the subsequent investigation.

15.3.6 Investigations are the responsibility of the Division of Child and Family Services.

[a] The Principal or other School employees shall not contact the parents, relatives, friends, neighbors, etc. for the purpose of determining the cause of the injury and/or apparent neglect.

[b] School officials shall cooperate with social service and law enforcement agency employees authorized to investigate reports of alleged child abuse and neglect, assisting as asked as members of interdisciplinary child protection teams in providing protective diagnostic, assessment, treatment, and coordination services.

15.3.7 Persons making reports or participating in good faith in an investigation of alleged child abuse or neglect are immune, in accordance with state law, from any civil or criminal liability that otherwise might arise from those actions.

16. SEARCHES OF PERSON OR PROPERTY

Given the School's custodial and tutelary responsibility for children, and the Board's intent to preserve a safe environment for all students and staff, the Board recognizes that School officials must have the authority to conduct reasonable searches of students and student property. School officials engaging in searches of students and property shall abide by the following guidelines:

16.1 General Guidelines for Searches of Person or Property

16.1.1 Student Lockers

Students have no right or expectation of privacy in school lockers. While lockers are under the joint control of students and the School, lockers are solely School property and may be searched at any time by School officials with or without cause. Once a locker is opened for search, any search of student belongings contained within the locker must comply with the guidelines for searches of personal belongings in Section 16.2 of this policy.

16.1.2 Searches of Students and Student Property

Searches of a student's person, personal property (coats, hats, backpacks, bookbags, purses, wallets, notebooks, gym bags, etc.) may be conducted whenever the student's conduct creates a reasonable suspicion that a particular School rule or law has been violated and that the search is reasonably related to the suspicion and not excessively intrusive in light of the age and sex of the student and nature of the infraction. Circumstances warranting a search include those in which School officials have a reasonable suspicion that the student or student property is concealing items including but not limited to weapons, drugs, controlled substances, electronic cigarette products, alcohol, tobacco, unsafe contraband, pornography, pagers or lost/stolen/misplaced items.

16.2 Searches of Personal Belongings

16.2.1 Personal belongings may be searched by School officials whenever School officials have a reasonable suspicion to believe a student is concealing evidence of a policy violation or criminal activity and the items being searched are capable of concealing such evidence. The student may be asked to open personal belongings and to turn over personal property for search by a School official. All searches of student property by School officials shall be witnessed by an objective third party (such as another teacher, or police officer) to observe that the search is not excessively intrusive.

16.2.2 All contraband discovered in a search by School officials shall be immediately confiscated and turned over to law enforcement officers if School officials have reason to believe the contraband is related to the commission of a criminal act.

16.3 Searches of Person

16.3.1 School officials shall make sure the search meets the following guidelines:

[a] The search shall be conducted in a private area of the School by a School official of the same sex (where practical) as the student being searched;

[b] The search shall be observed by an objective third party of the same sex (where practical) as the student being searched (i.e., Principal, teacher, police officer);

[c] School officials may ask the student to remove his/her hat, coat, shoes and socks, turn pockets inside out, and roll up sleeves to see if the student is hiding contraband;

[d] Under no circumstances may School officials require students to remove any other items of clothing or touch students in any way during the search.

[e] If this limited search does not turn up suspected contraband and School officials have reasonable suspicion that the student is concealing contraband in his/her inner clothing (i.e., hiding drugs, weapons or other contraband underneath shirts, pants or underwear), law enforcement officers shall be summoned immediately to conduct further search and investigation.

[f] In general, all questioning and searching of students conducted by law enforcement officers shall proceed according to the investigation guidelines in Section 14 of this policy.

16.4 Documentation of Searches

School officials shall thoroughly document the details of any search conducted of a student's property or person. Documentation shall be made at the time of the search, or as soon as possible thereafter, and shall include the following:

16.4.1 The time, place and date of the search;

16.4.2 The reasonable suspicion giving rise to the search (what did School officials suspect to find during the search);

16.4.3 The name and title of individuals conducting and observing the search;

16.4.4 A statement about evidence that was found or not found as a result of the search;

16.4.5 A statement about who took possession of contraband (i.e., police, school, etc.);

16.4.6 Information regarding the attempts of School officials to notify parents about the search.

17. RECORDS—INTERAGENCY COLLABORATION – 20 U.S.C. § 1232g(h)(i)-(2); Utah Code Ann. § 53G-8-402 to -405

17.1 Requirements After Receiving Notification From Juvenile Court and/or Law Enforcement Agencies of a Student's Serious Offense or Sexual Crime.

17.1.1 If the President of the Board or the CEO of the School is notified by the juvenile court or a law enforcement agency that a current or former student of the School was arrested for, charged with, or adjudicated in court for a serious offense or sexual crime, the President of the Board or the CEO of the School shall notify the student's Principal within

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three (3) days of receiving the notification.

"Serious offense" is defined in Utah Code Ann. § 80-6-103 and means the following: a violent felony as defined in § 76-3-203.5; an offense that is a violation of Title 76, Chapter 6, Part 4, Theft, and the property stolen is a firearm; or an offense in violation of Title 76, Chapter 11, Weapons.

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"Sexual crime" or "sexual misconduct" means any conduct described in Title 76, Chapter 5, Part 4, Sexual Offenses; Title 76 Chapter 5b, Sexual Exploitation Act; or § 76-7-102, Incest.

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17.1.2 Upon receipt of the information about a student's serious offense (whether from the President of the Board, the CEO, or directly from the juvenile court or law enforcement agency), the Principal shall make a notation in a secure file other than the student's permanent file. Beginning no later than July 1, 2025, the School shall digitally maintain the secure file or, if available, the student's related reintegration plan described below, for one year from the day the notice is received and ensure the secure file follows the student if the student transfers to a different school.

17.1.3 Upon receipt of the information about a student's serious offense or sexual crime (whether from the President of the Board, the CEO, or directly from the juvenile court or law enforcement agency), the Principal shall, if the student is still enrolled in the School, notify staff members who, in the Principal's opinion, should know of the adjudication, arrest, or detention. Staff members receiving information about a juvenile student's adjudication, arrest or detention may only disclose the information to other persons having both a right and a current need to know.

17.2 Multidisciplinary Team and Reintegration Plan

17.2.1 In addition to complying with the requirements above, the School shall, within seven (7) School days after receiving, while School is in session, a notification described in Section 17.1.1 about a student, or within a reasonable time after otherwise being notified of a student being arrested for, charged with, or adjudicated in juvenile court for committing a serious offense or sexual crime, develop a reintegration plan for the student with a multidisciplinary team, the student, and the student's parent. If the School receives the notification when School is not in session, the School shall develop the reintegration plan within seven (7) days of School being back in session from summer break. The multidisciplinary team should include the following or their designees, if applicable: the School, the juvenile court, the Division of Juvenile Justice and Youth Services, the School's Safety and Security Specialist, the School's Safety and Security Director, the School's Resource Officer (if any), and any other relevant party that should be involved in a reintegration plan.

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17.2.2 The reintegration plan shall include:

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[a] a behavioral intervention for the student;

[b] a short-term mental health or counseling service for the student;

[c] an academic intervention for the student; or

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[d] any other intervention that the multidisciplinary team, the student, or the student's

parent determine are necessary.

17.2.3 If the serious offense or sexual crime was directed at a School employee or another student within the School, notification of the reintegration plan shall be provided to that School employee or student and the student's parent.

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17.2.4 The School may deny admission to the student until the School completes the reintegration plan.

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17.2.5 The School's Resource Officer (if any) shall provide input for the School to consider regarding the safety risks a student may pose upon integration. The School shall also notify its Resource Officer (if any) of any student who is on probation.

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17.2.6 The School shall not reintegrate a student into a School campus where:

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[a] a student or staff member of the campus has a protective order against the student being reintegrated; or

[b] a student or staff member of the campus is a victim of an offense listed in Utah Code Ann. § 76-3-203.5 committed by the student who is seeking reintegration or continued enrollment.

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If the circumstances above exist, the multidisciplinary team shall determine if the student is eligible to be offered placement at a different campus of the School.

17.2.7 The School may elect to not integrate a student into the School if the student has committed, or allegedly committed, a forcible felony. If the School elects to not integrate such a student, the School shall provide alternative education options for the student.

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17.2.8 A reintegration plan under this Section is classified as a protected record under Utah Code Ann. § 63G-2-305. All other records of disclosures under this Section are governed by the Government Records Access and Management Act and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act ("FERPA").

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17.2.9 A reintegration plan shall remain in effect for an entire school year or 180 days from the plan's implementation, or as long as the multidisciplinary team deems the reintegration plan necessary.

17.3 Students Committing a Serious Offense or Sexual Crime are Subject to Suspension or Expulsion

Students who commit a serious offense or sexual crime, whether on or off School property, are subject to the suspension and expulsion provisions of this policy.

17.4 Student Discipline Records/Education Records

School officials may include appropriate information in the education record of any student concerning disciplinary action taken against the student for conduct that posed a significant risk to the safety or well-being of that student, other students, or other members of the school community.

17.4.1 Disclosure of Discipline Records to Other Educators

School officials may disclose student discipline information described above to teachers and other School officials, including teachers and school officials in other schools, who have legitimate educational interests in the behavior of the student.

17.4.2 Disclosure of Discipline Records to Other Agencies

School officials shall not release personally identifiable student discipline records to other government agencies, including law enforcement agencies, unless the agency produces a subpoena or court order (need for standing court order from juvenile court), the student's parent has authorized disclosure, or a FERPA exception applies.

18. EMERGENCY SAFETY INTERVENTIONS

A School employee may not use physical restraint on a student or place a student in seclusion except as a necessary emergency safety intervention in compliance with this Section.

18.1 Definitions

18.1.1 "Comprehensive emergency safety intervention training" means a training required for key identified school employees that has the components described in R277-608-4(4).

18.1.2 "Chemical restraint" means the use of medication administered to a student, including medications prescribed by the student's physician or other qualified health professional, on an as-needed basis for the sole purpose of involuntarily limiting the student's freedom of movement.

18.1.3 "Emergency safety intervention" ("ESI") means the use of seclusion or physical restraint when a student presents an immediate danger to self or others. An ESI may not be used for disciplinary purposes.

18.1.4 "Immediate danger" or "immediate and significant threat" means the imminent risk of physical violence toward self or others, or other physical behaviors which are likely to cause imminent risk of substantial bodily injury or serious bodily injury.

18.1.5 "Key Identified School Employee" means a School employee who has completed foundational behavior support training and comprehensive emergency safety intervention training and has been authorized by the CEO or Principal to utilize an ESI at the School when necessary.

18.1.6 "Mechanical restraint" means the use of any device or equipment to restrict a student's freedom of movement.

18.1.7 "Foundational behavior support training" means a training required for all School employees who supervise students or may be asked to assist in managing a student's behavior that has the components described in R277-608-4(1).

18.1.8 "Physical restraint" means a personal restriction that immobilizes or significantly reduces the ability of a student to move the student's arms, legs, body, or head freely.

18.1.9 "Physical escort" means a temporary touching or holding of the hand, wrist, arm,

shoulder, or back for the purpose of guiding a student to another location.

18.1.10 "Seclusion" means seclusionary time out that is the involuntary confinement of a student alone in a room or area from which the student is physically prevented from leaving, including: (i) placing a student in a locked room; or (ii) placing a student in a room where the door is blocked by furniture or held closed by staff.

18.1.11 "Serious bodily injury" means bodily injury that creates or causes serious permanent disfigurement, protracted loss or impairment of the function of any bodily member or organ, or creates a substantial risk of death.

18.1.12 "Substantial bodily injury" means bodily injury, not amounting to serious bodily injury, that creates or causes protracted physical pain, temporary disfigurement, or temporary loss or impairment of the function of any bodily member or organ.

18.2 General Procedures

18.2.1 All School employees who supervise students, or who may be asked to assist in managing a student's behavior, shall receive foundational behavior support training. This training must be completed within two months, or within 30 days if working directly with a student with disabilities, of employment at the School and bi-annually thereafter.

18.2.2 Key Identified School Employees shall receive comprehensive ESI training in addition to foundational behavior support training. Comprehensive ESI training shall be completed before a Key Identified School Employee may use an ESI with a student and annually thereafter.

18.2.3 An ESI shall:

[a] be applied for the minimum time necessary to ensure safety, as reasonably understood by the Key Identified School Employee using the ESI;

[b] be released under the following circumstances (release criteria):

(i) as soon as the student is no longer an immediate danger of physical harm to self or others (e.g., student is no longer hitting, kicking, biting, throwing objects, self-harming, or making other movements that create imminent risk of physical violence; student is able to respond to staff verbally or nonverbally in a regulated way; and/or the student exhibits signs of de-escalation, such as having a relaxed body, no longer attempting to break free, or breathing slowly); or

(ii) if the student is in severe distress (e.g., student is having difficulty breathing or is vomiting, gagging, experiencing chest pain, or turning pale or blue in the face);

[c] never be used as punishment or discipline;

[d] in no instance be imposed for more than 30 minutes, per occurrence; and

[e] be documented and reported, as required.

18.2.4 The School prohibits dangerous practices as defined by the School, including dangerous practices outlined in the Least Restrictive Behavioral Interventions (LRBI) Technical Assistance manual.

18.3 Students with Disabilities Receiving Special Education Services

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18.3.1 Use of ESI for a student with a disability receiving specialized educational services under IDEA or Section 504 shall be subject to all applicable state and federal laws, including LRBI policies and procedures for special education/504 programs.

18.3.2 Additionally, ESIs written into a student's IEP as a planned intervention are prohibited unless school personnel, the family, and the IEP team agree less restrictive means have been attempted; a Functional Behavioral Assessment has been conducted; and a positive behavior intervention plan based on data analysis has been written into the plan and implemented.

18.4 Physical Restraint

18.4.1 Key Identified School Employees may, in accordance with Section 18.2.3 and when acting within the scope of employment, use physical restraint on a student when the student presents an immediate danger to self or others and when no other safe or effective intervention is available.

18.4.2 Key Identified School Employees may use reasonable and necessary physical restraint only:

[a] in self-defense;

[b] to protect a student or another person from physical injury;

[c] to remove from a situation a student who is violent;

[d] to take possession of a weapon or other dangerous object in the possession or under the control of a student; or

[e] to protect property from being damaged, when physical safety is at risk.

18.4.3 When an employee exercises physical restraint as an ESI on a student, the following types of physical restraint are prohibited:

[a] prone, or face-down;

[b] supine, or face-up;

[c] physical restraint which obstructs the airway or adversely affects the student's primary mode of communication;

[d] mechanical restraint, except for restraints required by law, including seatbelts or any other safety equipment used to secure students during transportation, protective or stabilizing restraints as prescribed by an appropriate medical or related services professional, and devices used by a law enforcement officer in carrying out law enforcement duties; or

[e] chemical restraint.

18.4.4 A Key Identified School Employee may not use physical restraint on a student for

more than the shortest of the following before stopping, releasing, and reassessing the intervention used:

[a] the amount of time described in the School's ESI training program;

[b] 30 minutes; or

[c] when law enforcement intervenes.

18.4.5 Despite the foregoing, a Key Identified School Employee shall first use the least restrictive intervention available to the employee, including a physical escort, to address circumstances described in Section 18.4.1. In addition, nothing in this Section prohibits a Key Identified School Employee from subsequently using less restrictive interventions to address circumstances described in Section 18.4.1.

18.4.6 A student who has been physically restrained and then released shall, in addition to being promptly reassessed by the Key Identified School Employee, be monitored for a reasonable period of time to help ensure the continued safety and well-being of the student and others. Monitoring should include observation for signs of such things as injury, respiratory distress, or continued escalation, and the CEO or Principal and medical personnel shall be notified when warranted.

18.5 Seclusion

18.5.1 A Key Identified School employee may, in accordance with Section 18.2.3 and when acting within the scope of employment, place a student who is in grade 1 or higher in seclusion as an ESI when the student presents an immediate danger to self or others and when no other safe or effective intervention is available. Students in kindergarten shall not be placed in seclusion.

18.5.2 Key Identified School Employees may use seclusion only when:

[a] other less restrictive interventions have failed;

[b] a staff member who is familiar to the student is actively supervising the student for the duration of the seclusion;

[c] the student is observed at all times during the seclusion by School personnel who have received the comprehensive ESI training;

[d] any door to the area or room used for seclusion remains unlocked consistent with applicable fire and public safety requirements described in R392-200 and R710-4; and

[e] the seclusion is time-limited to a maximum time of 30 minutes, per occurrence, and monitored.

18.5.3 A School employee may not place a student in seclusion:

[a] as a behavioral intervention;

[b] as a disciplinary practice;

[c] for coercion, retaliation, or humiliation;

[d] due to inadequate staffing; or

[e] for the School employee's convenience.

18.5.4 A student who has been placed in seclusion and then released shall be promptly reassessed by the Key Identified School Employee and also monitored for a reasonable period of time to help ensure the continued safety and well-being of the student and others. Monitoring should include observation for signs of such things as injury, severe distress, or continued escalation, and the CEO or Principal and medical personnel shall be notified when warranted.

18.5.5 The CEO or Principal shall ensure that all the following individuals are debriefed at an appropriate time after a student seclusion has taken place:

[a] all witnesses;

[b] all School staff who were involved;

[c] the student who was secluded; and

[d] the parent of the student who was secluded.

18.5.6 The CEO or Principal shall also ensure that a proper review of the decision to use seclusion is performed as soon as reasonably possible after a student seclusion has taken place.

18.5.7 The School does not allow the designation of any enclosed area in its buildings for the sole purpose of seclusion. If the School chooses to operate a room primarily intended for seclusion, the room shall comply with the physical standards and other requirements for seclusion rooms as set forth in Utah Code Ann. § 53G-8-301(14), even if the room is also used for other purposes. These requirements include, but are not limited to, physical standards governing square footage, distance between walls, ceiling height, and construction design; requirements for lighting, ventilation, climate, safety features, and audio and video recording equipment; and compliance with building and fire codes.

18.6 Notification of the Use of an ESI

18.6.1 If an ESI is used on a student, the School or the employee who used the ESI shall immediately notify the following:

[a] the student's parent; and

[b] School administration.

This notice shall be provided no later than 15 minutes after the use of an ESI.

18.6.2 If the student's parent cannot be reached after 15 minutes, and the 30-minute time limit has been reached, the School or the employee who used the ESI may:

[a] conduct a reassessment of the student's condition;

[b] determine whether the student continues to pose an immediate and significant threat to the student or others; and

[c] if the School determines that the threat continues and that less restrictive interventions remain ineffective, place the student back in seclusion for an additional period not to exceed 30 minutes, after which the same process described above shall be repeated if necessary.

18.6.3 Parent notifications made under this Section shall be documented in the School's student information system.

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18.7 Documentation of the Use of an ESI

18.7.1 If an ESI is used on a student, the School or the employee who used the ESI shall document the use of the ESI. This shall include a written description of the type of ESI used, the date and time the ESI was used, the location where the ESI was used (and if a seclusion room was used, whether the room complied with Utah Code Ann. § 53G-8-301(14)), the length of time the ESI was used, the reason the ESI was used, the alternative interventions or de-escalation strategies attempted before the ESI was used, and demographic information on the student (sex, gender, age, grade in school, and disability status, if any). This documentation shall be provided to the School's Emergency Safety Intervention Committee and the student's parents.

18.7.2 In addition, upon request of a student's parent, the School shall provide the parent with a copy of any notes or additional documentation taken during the use of the ESI, including a description of the physical space in which a seclusion occurred or the type of physical restraint that was used.

18.7.3 Within 48 hours of using an ESI on a student, the School shall notify the parent that the parent may request a copy of any notes or additional documentation taken during the use of the ESI.

18.7.4 A parent may request a time to meet with School staff and administration to discuss the use of an ESI.

18.7.5 The documentation of an ESI described in this Section shall be documented in the School's student information system.

18.8 Emergency Safety Intervention (ESI) Committee

18.8.1 The School shall establish an ESI committee that includes:

[a] at least one administrator;

[b] at least one parent of a student enrolled in the School, appointed by the School's CEO;

[c] at least one licensed educational professional with behavior support training and knowledge in both state law and the School's conduct and discipline policies related to ESIs; and

[d] at least one other licensed educator.

18.8.2 The ESI committee shall:

[a] meet often enough to monitor the use of ESIs within the School;

[b] determine and recommend professional learning needs;

[c] develop policies for processes to resolve concerns regarding the use of ESIs; and

[d] ensure that each emergency incident where a School employee uses an ESI is documented in the School's student information system and reported annually to the State Superintendent of Schools through UTREx.

18.9 ESI Records and Reporting

18.9.1 The School shall collect, maintain, and periodically review the documentation or records regarding the use of ESIs in the School.

18.9.2 The School shall annually provide documentation of any School use of an ESI to the State Superintendent of Schools in accordance with Utah Code Ann. § 53G-8-301(11). This includes documentation described in Section 18.7.

18.10 Violation of ESI Requirements

18.10.1 Violations of Seclusion Room Standards

If the School identifies or receives a report of a violation of the physical standards applicable to a seclusion room, the School shall notify the Board, develop a corrective action plan, and report the violation and corrective action plan to the USBE within the timeframe established by USBE rule. If the USBE identifies or receives a report of such a violation and notifies the School, the School shall investigate the matter and take corrective action as required by law. If the School fails to develop an appropriate corrective action plan or achieve compliance within the timeframe established by the USBE, the USBE may take further action as authorized by law.

18.10.2 Violations of Seclusion or Physical Restraint Requirements

If the School identifies or receives a report of a violation of the statutory requirements governing the use of seclusion or physical restraint, including improper use of seclusion or physical restraint, failure to provide the required parent notification, or failure to properly document the use of an ESI, the School shall investigate the matter, take appropriate disciplinary action against involved staff, and implement corrective measures to prevent future violations. Any violation constituting unlawful detention, including the use of seclusion or physical restraint in violation of Utah Code Ann. § 53G-8-301(10), shall be handled in accordance with applicable law, including a referral to local law enforcement and the Utah Professional Practices Advisory Commission.

19. CORPORAL PUNISHMENT

"Corporal punishment" means the intentional infliction of physical pain upon the body of a

student as a disciplinary measure. Corporal punishment at the School is prohibited. School employees may not inflict or cause the infliction of corporal punishment upon a student. The School shall take prompt and appropriate action, including in-service training and other administrative action, upon confirming a violation with respect to corporal punishment. School personnel who inflict or cause the infliction of corporal punishment on a student will be subject to discipline up to and including termination. School personnel who have been disciplined for the infliction of corporal punishment upon a student may appeal the disciplinary action in accordance with the School's Staff Grievance Policy.

20. TRAINING

20.1 All new employees shall receive information about this policy and the administrative Student Conduct and Discipline Plan at new employee orientation. All other employees shall be provided information on a regular basis regarding this policy, the Student Conduct and Discipline Plan, and the School's commitment to a safe and orderly school environment.

20.2 Employees who have specific responsibilities for investigating, addressing, and resolving issues addressed in the policy shall receive annual training on this policy and related legal developments.

20.3 The Principal shall be responsible for informing students, parents, and staff of the terms of this policy and the Student Conduct and Discipline Plan, including the procedures outlined for investigation and resolution of violations.

21. REPORTING ON SUSPENSIONS AND EXPULSIONS

21.1 The School shall develop a consistent process to collect incident, infraction, and discipline data, including the number of days of student suspensions and expulsions.

21.2 The School shall submit all required incident, infraction, and discipline data, including suspensions and expulsions consistent with R277-484. The School shall submit any yearly and comprehensive updates no later than June 30th of each year.

21.3 The School shall compile an annual report of all out-of-school suspensions and expulsions and submit it to the Utah State Board of Education as described in Utah Code Ann. § 53G-8-205(5).

22. POLICY DISSEMINATION AND REVIEW

22.1 This policy shall be posted in a prominent location in the School and on the School's website. The policy shall also be published in student registration materials, student and employee handbooks, and other appropriate school publications as directed by the Board.

22.2 This policy shall be reviewed as necessary with appropriate revisions recommended to the Board. The data described in Section 21 may be used by the School to evaluate the efficiency and effectiveness of this policy.

23. AUTHORITY OF CEO

The CEO may exercise any action, authority, discretion, or responsibility required of or granted to the Principal under this policy.

Signature:

Sarah Vaughan, Board President _____ Date

Wallace Stegner Academy
Purchasing and Disbursement Policy
Adopted: August 13, 2015
Revised: February 21, 2017
Revised: March 14, 2019
Revised: May 20, 2021
Revised: December 17, 2025
Revised: September 29, 2026



Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to enable the administration to make purchases that are necessary for the day-to-day operation of Wallace Stegner Academy (the “School”), without approval of the Board of Directors (the “Board”).

Purchasing

The responsibility for approving purchases is delegated to the Chief Executive Officer(s) of the School by the Board as set forth below.

- All purchases up to \$15,000 must be approved by the Chief Executive Officer(s);
- All purchases between \$15,000 and \$25,000 must be approved by either the Board President *or* Board Treasurer;
- All purchases between \$25,000 and \$50,000 must be approved by the Board President *and* the Board Treasurer; and
- All purchases above \$50,000 must be approved by a majority vote of the Board.

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Employee purchases that require reimbursement are discouraged.

Purchases that require the use of a credit card should follow the process established by this policy and utilize a purchase order when feasible.

Disbursements

The responsibility for disbursement is delegated to the School’s management company and Chief Executive Officer(s) as set forth below.

Disbursements will be charged to one of two School accounts: (i) the General Operating Account; and (ii) the Petty Cash Account. The School’s management company is responsible for disbursements charged to the General Operating Account, and the School’s Chief Executive Officer(s) is responsible for disbursements charged to the Petty Cash Account.

Disbursements are handled in such a manner as to ensure that the proper funds and accounts are charged; that the disbursement is used only for authorized purposes; and that laws, rules and regulations governing the disbursements and handling of public funds are followed.

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General Operating Account

The following controls are established to ensure that all payments charged to the General Operating Account are made on a timely basis and in accordance with all purchase orders and contracts:

- A purchase order shall be completed prior to disbursing funds for a purchase unless the disbursement is made in accordance with the terms of an ongoing contract that has been previously approved by the Board.
- A purchase order shall be authorized by the individual(s) listed above based on the purchase amount.
- Following proper authorization, purchase orders are reviewed by the School's management company.
- The School's management company must be given a valid invoice and properly completed purchase order prior to making payment.
- Disbursements are to be made primarily by check with counter signatures to provide additional control.

Petty Cash Account

In addition to the General Operating Account, the Board may approve a Petty Cash Account with corresponding checks and a debit card to be utilized at the discretion of the Chief Executive Officer(s). The purpose of the Petty Cash Account is to provide a convenient way to pay for small expenses while minimizing exposure of School funds to the risk of misuse or theft.

Blank warrants/checks and/or a debit card for the Petty Cash Account may be kept in locked storage under the control of the Chief Executive Officer(s) or designated alternate. Disbursements charged to the Petty Cash Account shall be made in accordance with the following provisions to ensure payments are properly authorized and recorded:

- In general, the Petty Cash Account should maintain a balance between \$500 and \$2,000.
- Access to the Petty Cash debit card is limited to the School's Chief Executive Officer(s) or a designated alternate.
- Access to blank checks is limited to the School's Chief Executive Officer(s) or a designated alternate. When blank checks are received, the date, quantity, and inclusive serial numbers are recorded and added to the total balance on hand. When a blank check is used, the stub along with a copy of the receipt is to be signed by the Chief Executive Officer(s) and

forwarded to the management company. The use of these blank checks should be kept to an absolute minimum.

- The School's Chief Executive Officer(s) or designated alternate is responsible for: (i) maintaining records and receipts for each transaction charged to this account; and (ii) entering the information into the School's accounting software on a regular basis. Information should be uploaded in a timely manner to allow the School's management company adequate time to provide accurate monthly financial reports to the Board.
- The School's Chief Executive Officer(s) or designated alternate is responsible for replenishment of the account when petty cash is low. To replenish petty cash, the Chief Executive Officer(s) must request the School's management company to transfer funds.

Recording Transactions

Purchase orders and requisition requests must identify the fund, function, location, program, and object or revenue code to which the purchase is to be booked. Accounting staff will periodically review this information to ensure that expenditures are booked accurately.