

# BRANFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION

**\*\*This meeting will be live streamed\*\***

**Next Regular BOE Meeting: November 15, 2023**

**WEDNESDAY**

**6:30 PM**

**October 18, 2023**

**Walsh Intermediate School Cafeteria**

**185 Damascus Road**

**Branford, CT 06405**

To locate agendas and to access/view meetings please go to [www.branfordschools.org](http://www.branfordschools.org)

## FULL BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING AGENDA

**Branford Public Schools Mission and Vision Statement:** Nurturing students and citizens who develop a deep commitment to learning today and leading tomorrow is the central goal of Branford Public Schools.

### AGENDA

- I. Call to Order
- II. Agenda Changes
- III. Communications
- IV. Public Comment
- V. Approve Minutes
- VI. Student Representatives Report
- VII. Superintendent's Report
- VIII. Recognitions
  - A. John B. Sliney School PTA
  - B. Departing Board of Education Members
- IX. Presentations
  - A. WIS Athletic Field, Facilitated by Dominick Celtruda from BL Companies
  - B. Superintendent's Goals
- X. Standing Committee: Reports and Referrals to Full Board for Action
  - A. BOE Committee Chairs  
Next scheduled meeting: November 2, 2023 5:00 P.M., This meeting takes place virtually.
  - B. Teaching & Learning Committee (Ellen Michaels, Chair).  
Next scheduled meeting: November 8, 2023, 6:00 P.M., Walsh Intermediate School Cafeteria.
  - C. Personnel & Finance Committee (Meaghan DeLucia, Chair).  
Next scheduled meeting: November 8, 2023, 7:00 P.M., Walsh Intermediate School Cafeteria.
  - D. Policy Committee (Marie Watson, Chair).  
Next scheduled meeting: November 8, 2023, 7:30 P.M., Walsh Intermediate School Cafeteria.
  - E. Communication Committee (Meredith Gaffney, Chair).  
Next scheduled meeting: November 15, 2023, 6:00, P.M., Walsh Intermediate School Cafeteria.
- XI. Consent Agenda Item
  - A. Second Reading of Policies:
    - a. 1000 Non-Discrimination (Community) P/R
    - b. 4160 Emergency Action Plan for Interscholastic and Intramural Athletic Events P
    - c. 4300 Employment and Student Teacher Checks P
    - d. 4350 FMLA P
    - e. 4600 Non-Discrimination (Personnel) P/R
- XII. Discussion/Action Items
  - A. To consider and if appropriate, vote to approve the Arts Education Resolution
  - B. To consider and if appropriate, vote to approve timeline for implementation of Facilities Use policy
  - C. To consider and if appropriate, vote to appoint Pullman & Comley LLC as the law firm whose attorneys will serve as an Impartial Hearing Officer for student disciplinary matters, expulsion expungement requests and for hearing school accommodations appeals, including transportation appeals as provided by Statute for the 2023-2024 school year, as they arise
  - D. John B. Sliney School Project Update
  - E. 2024 BOE Meeting Schedule Discussion
  - F. First Reading of Policies:
    - a. Policy 3500 Purchasing
    - b. Policy 5450 Student Drug and Alcohol Use and Chemical Health

Continued...

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- XIII. Board Reports:**
  - ACES – Ellen Michaels**
  - CABE – John Prins**
- XIV. PTA Reports**
- XV. Adjourn**

**TO PARTICIPATE IN PUBLIC COMMENTS PLEASE CALL:**

**(646) 558-8656 - Meeting ID: 815 6405 4671 - Passcode: 812124**

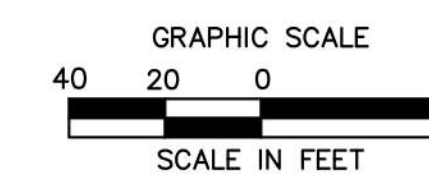
*When participating by telephone please mute your phone when joining the meeting and unmute your phone when you are ready to speak. This can be done by pressing \*6 on your phone's keypad.*

### **Rules Governing Public Comments:**

- **Three minutes will be allotted to each speaker. The Board may modify this limitation at the beginning of a meeting if the number of persons wishing to speak makes it advisable to do so. (Board Bylaw 9325)**
- **Conduct intended primarily to be disruptive or verbally abusive shall not be permitted at the Board of Education meeting. Any speaker who engages in such conduct will be warned and allowed to correct such conduct. If the speaker continues to engage in the disruptive conduct such will be grounds for termination of the speaker's privilege to participate in public comment and may be deemed grounds for removal from the meeting site.**
- **All speakers must identify themselves by name and address.**



**FRANCIS WALSH INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL**  
185 DAMASCUS RD, BRANFORD CT  
CONCEPT PLAN



10.18.2023

## Memo

**To:**  
Branford Board of  
Education

**From:**  
Christopher Tranberg, Ph.D.  
Superintendent of Schools

**Re:**  
Superintendent's Goals  
2023 - 2024

The Branford Board of Education Policy 2400, in alignment with Connecticut State Statute, requires an annual performance evaluation of the Superintendent of Schools. In accordance with guidelines, these criteria are mutually determined and agreed to by the Board and the Superintendent.

Through the evaluation of the Superintendent, the Board strives to accomplish the following:

1. Clarification for the Superintendent of the Superintendent's role in the school system as understood by the Board.
2. Clarification for all Board members of the role of the Superintendent in light of the Superintendent's responsibilities, authority, and organizational expectations.
3. Development of a unity of purpose in order to achieve high priority goals and objectives.
4. Development of opportunities for regular dialogue between the Board and the Superintendent concerning the Superintendent's goal progress.
5. Development of an opportunity for goal achievement through regular appraisal and feedback.
6. Enhancement of organizational health resulting from involved, committed, and strengthened individuals.

The goals presented here align to Connecticut Core of Leading, the Superintendent Stakeholder Report, and initial findings related to the Superintendent's Entry Plan. If these goals are agreeable to the Board, an update will be provided at the midyear and end of year with additional updates provided at the request of the Board Chair.

## Branford Public Schools

**Tel** (203) 315-7816

**Fax** (475) 338-3910

185 Damascus Road

Branford, CT 06405

[www.branfordschools.org](http://www.branfordschools.org)

[cttranberg@branfordschools.org](mailto:cttranberg@branfordschools.org)



**Student Achievement**

1. Increase SAT, SBAC & NGSS student achievement scores to place Branford in top third of DRG.
2. Support building and department leaders in developing strategy maps that target student achievement and support Strategic Coherence Plan goals.
3. Implement policies and practices to address gaps in student performance.
4. Develop actions for the Board's Strategic Coherence Plan.

**Professional/Personal Leadership**

1. Increase the capacity of school teams to function as a professional learning community.
2. Expand opportunities for teacher and administrator leadership.
3. Participate in local, State and national professional learning organizations to remain current with research and implementation of best practices.
4. Increase opportunities to celebrate student and staff accomplishments.

**Board & Community Relations**

1. Advance and assist the Board in implementation and monitoring of the Strategic Coherence Plan.
2. Develop and complete an entry plan to inform action steps that support goals outlined in the Strategic Plan.
3. Improve district communication to all stakeholder groups.
4. Assist the Board in their engagement of opportunities that influence and advance State education policy.

**Educational Leadership (instructional & Curriculum)**

1. Support and monitor the implementation of elementary literacy and mathematics curriculum.
2. Explore and support Branford high school in creating coursework, curriculum and opportunities that align to a variety of college and career pathways.
3. Exhibit a high level of visibility within schools and classrooms.
4. Support the implementation of an efficacious coaching and tiered intervention model.

**Business & Operations**

1. Develop a budget that reflects the economic climate while supporting the Board's Strategic Coherence Plan Goals, Global Learning Competencies and the district's mission, vision and definition of deep learning..
2. Serve as a resource to the Board through contract negotiations.
3. Work collaboratively with town boards and agencies to strengthen school and community relations.
4. Advance safety and security practices across the district.



## NON-DISCRIMINATION

It is the policy of the Branford Board of Education (the “Board”) that any form of discrimination or harassment on the basis of race, religion, color, national origin, ancestry, alienage, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, age, disability, pregnancy, gender identity or expression, veteran status, status as a victim of domestic violence, or any other basis prohibited by state or federal law (“Protected Class”) is prohibited in the Branford Public Schools (“the District”), whether by students, Board employees, Board members or third parties subject to the control of the Board. The Board’s prohibition of discrimination or harassment in its educational programs or activities expressly extends to academic, nonacademic and extracurricular activities, including athletics, school-sponsored activities, as well as the district website.

The Board further prohibits reprisal or retaliation against any individual who reports incidents in good faith that may be a violation of this policy, or who participates in the investigation of such reports.

Discrimination and/or harassment against any individual on the basis of that individual’s association with someone in a Protected Class may also be considered a form of Protected Class discrimination and/or harassment, and therefore prohibited by this policy.

### I. Definitions:

The following definitions apply for purposes of this policy:

A. Discrimination: Discrimination in violation of this policy occurs when an individual is denied participation in, or the benefits of, a program or activity of the Board because of such individual’s actual or perceived membership in a Protected Class.

B. Harassment: Harassment is a form of Protected Class discrimination that is prohibited by law and by this policy. Harassment constitutes unlawful discrimination when it creates a hostile environment, which occurs when the harassment is sufficiently severe, pervasive, or persistent so as to interfere with or limit an individual’s ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities, or opportunities offered by the District.

Although not an exhaustive list, the following are examples of the types of conduct that may be considered Protected Class harassment and can lead to a hostile environment, and are therefore prohibited by this policy:



- objectively offensive racial, ethnic, or religious epithets (or epithets commonly associated with any Protected Class membership);
- other words or phrases considered demeaning or degrading on the basis of Protected Class membership;
- display of images or symbols commonly associated with discrimination against individuals on the basis of their membership in a Protected Class;
- graphic, written or electronic communications that are harmful or humiliating based on Protected Class membership;
- bigoted conduct or communications; or
- physical, written, electronic or verbal threats based on Protected Class membership.

Harassment does not have to include intent to harm, be directed at a specific target, or involve repeated incidents.

Sexual harassment is a form of harassment that is prohibited by law and Board policy. For more information regarding harassment based on sex, sexual orientation, pregnancy, or gender identity or expression, contact the District's Title IX Coordinator at:

BPS District Title IX Coordinator  
Assistant Superintendent  
185 Damascus Road  
Branford, CT 06405  
[bpstitle9@branfordschools.org](mailto:bpstitle9@branfordschools.org)  
(203) 315-7816

C. "Gender identity or expression" refers to a person's gender-related identity, appearance or behavior, whether or not that gender-related identity, appearance or behavior is different from that traditionally associated with the person's physiology or assigned sex at birth, which gender-related identity can be shown by providing evidence including, but not limited to, medical history, care or treatment of the gender-related identity, consistent and uniform assertion of the gender-related identity or any other evidence that the gender-related identity is sincerely held, part of a person's core identity or not being asserted for an improper purpose.

D. "Veteran" means any person honorably discharged from, released under honorable conditions from or released with an other than honorable discharge based on a qualifying condition from active service in, the United States Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard and Air Force and any reserve component thereof, including the Connecticut National Guard. "Qualifying condition" means (A) a diagnosis of post-traumatic stress disorder or traumatic brain injury made by an



individual licensed to provide health care services at a United States Department of Veterans Affairs facility, (B) an experience of military sexual trauma disclosed to an individual licensed to provide health care services at a United States Department of Veterans Affairs facility, or (C) a determination that sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression was more likely than not the primary reason for an other than honorable discharge, as determined in accordance with Conn. Gen. Stat. §§ 27-103(c), (d).

E. Race: the term is inclusive of ethnic traits historically associated with race, including but not limited to, hair texture and protective hairstyles. “Protective hairstyles” includes, but is not limited to, wigs, headwraps and hairstyles such as individual braids, cornrows, locs, twists, Bantu knots, afros and afro puffs.

F. Domestic violence: Domestic violence means (1) a continuous threat of present physical pain or physical injury against a family or household member, as defined in Conn. Gen. Stat. § 46b-38a; (2) stalking, including but not limited to, stalking as described in Conn. Gen. Stat. § 53a-181d, of such family or household member; (3) a pattern of threatening, including but not limited to, a pattern of threatening as described in Conn. Gen. Stat. § 53a-62, of such family or household member or a third party that intimidates such family or household member; or (4) coercive control of such family or household member, which is a pattern of behavior that in purpose or effect unreasonably interferes with a person's free will and personal liberty. “Coercive control” includes, but is not limited to, unreasonably engaging in any of the following: (a) isolating the family or household member from friends, relatives or other sources of support; (b) depriving the family or household member of basic necessities; (c) controlling, regulating or monitoring the family or household member's movements, communications, daily behavior, finances, economic resources or access to services; (d) compelling the family or household member by force, threat or intimidation, including, but not limited to, threats based on actual or suspected immigration status, to (i) engage in conduct from which such family or household member has a right to abstain, or (ii) abstain from conduct that such family or household member has a right to pursue; (e) committing or threatening to commit cruelty to animals that intimidates the family or household member; or (f) forced sex acts, or threats of a sexual nature, including, but not limited to, threatened acts of sexual conduct, threats based on a person's sexuality or threats to release sexual images.

## **II. Reporting :**

It is the policy of the Board to provide for the prompt and equitable resolution of complaints alleging Protected Class discrimination or harassment.





Any individual who believes an individual has experienced Protected Class discrimination or harassment or an act of retaliation or reprisal in violation of this policy should report such concern in writing to the building principal, or if more appropriate, the BPS Human Resources Manager at [HR@branfordschools.org](mailto:HR@branfordschools.org) in accordance with the Board's complaint procedures included in the Board's Administrative Regulations Regarding Non-Discrimination/ Community which accompany this policy, and are available online at [www.branfordschools.org](http://www.branfordschools.org) or upon request from the main office of any District school.

If a complaint involves allegations of discrimination or harassment based on sex, sexual orientation, pregnancy, or gender identity or expression, such complaints will be handled in accordance with the procedures set forth in Board Policy 4650 *Sex Discrimination and Sexual Harassment in the Workplace (Personnel)* or Policy 5250 *Title IX Sex Discrimination and Sexual Harassment (Students)*. Complaints involving allegations of discrimination or harassment based on disability will be addressed in accordance with the procedures set forth in Board Policy 4625 *Section 504/ADA (Personnel)* or Policy 5125 *Section 504/ADA (Students)*. If an event reported conduct allegedly violates more than one policy, the Board will coordinate any investigation in compliance with the applicable policies.

In addition to reporting to District officials in accordance with this policy, individuals may also file a complaint with the following agencies:

Office for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education ("OCR"):

Office for Civil Rights, Boston Office  
U.S. Department of Education  
8th Floor  
5 Post Office Square  
Boston, MA 02109 3921  
(617-289-0111)  
<http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/howto.html>

Connecticut Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities:

Connecticut Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities  
450 Columbus Blvd.  
Hartford, CT 061031835  
(860-541-3400 or Connecticut Toll Free Number 800-477-5737)

Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (employees only):



Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, Boston Area Office  
John F. Kennedy Federal Building  
475 Government Center  
Boston, MA 02203  
(800-669-4000)

Anyone who has questions or concerns about this policy, and/or who may wish to request or discuss accommodations based on religion, and/or who would like a copy of the Board's complaint procedures or complaint forms related to claims of discrimination or harassment, may contact:

Branford Public Schools  
185 Damascus Road  
Branford, CT 06405  
(203) 315-7806  
[HR@branfordschools.org](mailto:HR@branfordschools.org)

Anyone who has questions or concerns about the Board's policies regarding discrimination or harassment on the basis of gender/sex, gender identity, or sexual orientation may contact the Board's Title IX Coordinator:

Assistant Superintendent  
Branford Public Schools  
185 Damascus Road  
Branford, CT 06405  
(203) 315-7811  
[BPStitle9@branfordschools.org](mailto:BPStitle9@branfordschools.org)

Anyone who has questions or concerns about the Board's policies regarding discrimination or harassment on the basis of disability, and/or who may wish to request or discuss accommodations for a disability, may contact the Board's Section 504/ADA Coordinator:

Director of Student Services  
Department of Student Services  
12 Melrose Avenue  
Branford, CT 06405  
[504-ADA@branfordschools.org](mailto:504-ADA@branfordschools.org)

#### Legal References:

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 U.S.C. § 2000c et seq.



Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 U.S.C. § 2000e et seq.  
Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, 20 U.S.C. § 1681 et seq.  
Age Discrimination in Employment Act, 29 U.S.C. § 621 et seq.  
Americans with Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C. § 12101  
Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 U.S.C. § 794  
Connecticut General Statutes § 1-1n, “Gender Identity or Expression”  
defined  
Connecticut General Statutes § 27-103

Connecticut General Statutes § 46a-51, Definitions  
Connecticut General Statutes § 46a-58, Deprivation of rights  
Connecticut Fair Employment Practices Act, Connecticut General  
Statutes § 46a-60  
Connecticut General Statutes § 46a-81a, Sexual orientation  
discrimination: Definitions  
Connecticut General Statutes § 46a-81c, Sexual orientation  
discrimination: Employment  
Connecticut General Statutes § 46b-1, Family relations matters and  
domestic violence defined  
Public Act No. 22-82, “An Act Concerning Online Dating Operators,  
the Creation of a Grant Program to Reduce Occurrences of Online  
Abuse and the Provision of Domestic Violence Training and  
Protections for Victims of Domestic Violence.”

ADOPTED: 10-19-2022

REVISED:

5/4/2023



## ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS REGARDING DISCRIMINATION COMPLAINTS (COMMUNITY MEMBERS)

It is the policy of the Branford Board of Education (the “Board”) that any form of discrimination or harassment on the basis of race, religion, color, national origin, ancestry, alienage, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, age, disability, pregnancy, gender identity or expression, veteran status is forbidden, status as a victim of domestic violence, or any other basis prohibited by state or federal law (“Protected Class”) is prohibited in the Branford Public Schools (the “District”), whether by students, Board employees, Board members or third parties subject to the control of the Board. Students, Board employees, Board members and third parties are expected to adhere to a standard of conduct that is respectful of the rights of all members of the school community.

It is also the express policy of the Board to provide for the prompt and equitable resolution of complaints alleging Protected Class discrimination or harassment.

Although not an exhaustive list, the following are examples of the types of conduct that may be considered Protected Class harassment and can lead to a hostile environment, and are therefore prohibited:

- objectively offensive racial, ethnic, or religious epithets (or epithets commonly associated with any Protected Class membership);
- other words or phrases considered demeaning or degrading on the basis of Protected Class membership;
- display of images or symbols commonly associated with discrimination against individuals on the basis of their membership in a Protected Class;
- graphic, written or electronic communications that are harmful or humiliating based on Protected Class membership;
- bigoted conduct or communications; or
- physical, written, electronic or verbal threats based on Protected Class membership.

Harassment does not have to include intent to harm, be directed at a specific target, or involve repeated incidents.

Any individual who believes an individual has experienced Protected Class discrimination or harassment or an act of retaliation or reprisal in violation of Board policy should report such concern in writing to the building principal, or if more appropriate, the BPS Human Resources Manager at [HR@branfordschools.org](mailto:HR@branfordschools.org)



accordance with the Board's complaint procedures included in these Administrative Regulations Regarding Non-Discrimination (Community).

If a complaint involves allegations of discrimination or harassment based on sex, sexual orientation, pregnancy, or gender identity or expression, such complaints will be handled in accordance with the procedures set forth in Board Policy 4650 *Sex Discrimination and Sexual Harassment in the Workplace (Personnel)* or Policy 5250 *Title IX Sex Discrimination and Sexual Harassment (Students)*. Complaints involving allegations of discrimination or harassment based on disability will be addressed in accordance with the procedures set forth in Board Policy 4625 *Section 504/ADA (Personnel)* or Board Policy 5125 *Section 504/ADA (Students)*. If the event report conduct allegedly violates more than one policy, the Board will coordinate any investigation in compliance with the applicable policies.

Preferably, complaints should be filed within thirty (30) calendar days of the alleged occurrence. Timely reporting of complaints facilitates the investigation and resolution of such complaints. The District will investigate such complaints promptly and equitably, and will take corrective action when allegations are verified.

The District will not tolerate any reprisals or retaliation that occur as a result of the good faith reporting of charges of Protected Class harassment or discrimination. Any such reprisals or retaliation will result in disciplinary action against the retaliator, and other corrective actions as appropriate.

The District will periodically provide staff development for District administrators and periodically distribute this policy and the implementing administrative regulations to employees and students in an effort to maintain an environment free of discrimination and harassment.

### Complaint Procedure

As soon as an individual feels that they, or another individual has been subjected to Protected Class discrimination or harassment, the individual should make a written complaint to the Superintendent, or designee.

Complaints pertaining to the Superintendent should be filed with the Board Chair. Complaints pertaining to any Board members other than the Board Chair should be filed with the Board Chair. Complaints pertaining to the Board Chair should be filed with the Board Vice Chair. In all cases, the individual receiving the complaint shall take appropriate steps to cause the matter to be investigated in a manner consistent with the Board's nondiscrimination policy and regulation.



If any party to the complaint involving the Superintendent or Board member is not satisfied with the findings and conclusions of an investigation, within (30) calendar days of receiving the findings, such party may present the complaint and written outcome to the Board Chair (or, if presented by the Board Chair, to the Board Vice Chair), who will take appropriate steps, such as retaining an independent investigator different from the investigator who investigated the complaint, to cause the matter to be reviewed in a manner consistent with the Board's non-discrimination policy and regulation.

The individual who is alleged to have experienced Protected Class discrimination/harassment (the "complainant") and any individual accused of Protected Class discrimination/harassment (the "respondent") (if applicable) will be provided a copy of the Board's policy and regulation and made aware of the individual's rights under this policy and regulation. In the event the Superintendent or designee receives a complaint alleging discrimination or harassment on the basis of sex, sexual orientation, pregnancy, or gender identity or expression, the Superintendent or designee shall follow the procedures identified in Board Policy 4650 *Sex Discrimination and Sexual Harassment in the Workplace (Personnel)* or Policy 5250 *Title IX Sex Discrimination and Sexual Harassment (Students)*. In the event the Superintendent or designee receives a complaint alleging discrimination or harassment based on disability, the Superintendent or designee shall follow the procedures identified in Board Policy 4625 *Section 504/ADA (Personnel)* or Policy 5125 *Section 504/ADA (Students)*.

The complaint should state the:

- A. Name of the complainant,
- B. Date of the complaint,
- C. Date(s) of the alleged harassment/discrimination,
- D. Name(s) of the harasser(s) or discriminator(s),
- E. Location where such harassment/discrimination occurred,
- F. Names of any witness(es) to the harassment/discrimination,
- G. Detailed statement of the circumstances constituting the alleged harassment/discrimination; and
- H. Proposed remedy.

Any individual who makes an oral complaint of discrimination or harassment will be provided a copy of this regulation and will be requested to take a written complaint



pursuant to the above procedure. If an individual is unable to make a written complaint, the employee receiving the oral complaint will either reduce the complaint to writing or assist the individual with completing the written complaint form.

All complaints received by employees are to be forwarded immediately to the Superintendent or designee. Upon receipt of a complaint alleging discrimination or harassment under this complaint procedure, the Superintendent or designee shall promptly investigate the complaint. During the course of the investigation, the investigator shall interview or consult with all individuals reasonably believed to have relevant information, including the complainant, the reporter (if different from the complainant), the alleged discriminator/harasser (“respondent”) and any witnesses to the conduct. Complaints will be investigated promptly within the timeframes identified below. Timeframes may be extended as needed given the complexity of the investigation, availability of individuals with relevant information and/or other extenuating circumstances. Confidentiality will be maintained by all persons involved in the investigation to the extent possible, as determined by the investigator.

Upon receipt of a written complaint of discrimination or harassment, the investigator should:

1. Offer to meet with the complainant and respondent (if applicable) within ten (10) business days (provided that such timeframe may be reasonably extended based on the availability of necessary witnesses and/or participants, the complexity of the investigation, and/or other extenuating circumstances) to discuss the nature of the complaint, discuss the availability of interim measures, identify individuals the complainant or respondent believes has relevant information, and obtain any relevant documents the complainant or respondent may have;
2. Provide the complainant and respondent (if applicable) with a copy of the Board’s non-discrimination policy and accompanying regulations;
3. Conduct an investigation that is adequate, reliable, and impartial. Investigate the factual basis of the complaint, including, as applicable, conducting interviews with the parties to the complaint and any relevant witnesses or other individuals deemed relevant to the complaint;
4. Review any records, notes, statements, or other documents relevant to the complaint;
5. Maintain confidentiality to the extent practicable throughout the investigative process, in accordance with state and federal law;



6. Complete a final investigation report that includes: (i) a findings of fact based on the evidence gathered; (ii) for each allegation, the conclusion(s) and reasoning(s) as to whether the discrimination or harassment occurred; and (iii) for any individual(s) found to have engaged in discrimination or harassment, a broad statement of consequences imposed (to the extent permitted by state and federal confidentiality requirements) (i.e. "Consequences were imposed.").
7. Communicate the outcome of the investigation in writing to the complainant and respondent (if any) (to the extent permitted by state and federal confidentiality requirements), within thirty (30) business days (provided that such timeframe may be reasonably extended based on the availability of necessary witnesses and/or participants, the complexity of the investigation, and/or other extenuating circumstances) from the date the complaint was received by the Superintendent's office. The complainant and respondent (if any) shall be notified of any extension of the investigation timeline. The written notice shall include a finding whether the complaint was substantiated and if so, shall identify, to the extent possible, how the District will remedy the discrimination or harassment, adhering to the requirements of state and federal law;
8. If a complaint is made during summer recess, the complaint will be reviewed and addressed as quickly as possible given the availability of employees and/or other individuals who may have information relevant to the complaint. If fixed timeframes cannot be met, the complainant and respondent (if any) will receive notice and interim measures may be implemented as necessary (see sub-paragraph 6);
9. Whenever allegations are verified, ensure that appropriate corrective action is taken (including, but not limited to, disciplinary action) aimed at preventing the recurrence of the discrimination or harassment. Corrective action should include steps to avoid continuing discrimination or harassment;
10. If a complainant or respondent is not satisfied with the findings and conclusions of the investigation, such party may present the complaint and written outcome to the Superintendent within thirty (30) calendar days of receiving the findings. Upon review of a written request from the party requesting an appeal, the Superintendent shall review the investigative results of the investigator and determine if further action and/or investigation is warranted. Such action may include consultation with a designated investigator (if applicable), complainant, and respondent (if any) and meeting with appropriate individuals to attempt to resolve the complaint, or a decision affirming or overruling a designated investigator's conclusions or findings (if





applicable). The Superintendent shall provide written notice to the complainant and respondent (if any) of the proposed actions within thirty (30) business days (provided that such timeframe may be reasonably extended based on the availability of necessary witnesses and/or participants, the complexity of the investigation, and/or other extenuating circumstances) following the receipt of the written request for review.

If the District makes a finding of discrimination, harassment or retaliation, the District will take appropriate remedial action designed to eliminate the discriminatory/harassing conduct, prevent its recurrence, and address its effects on the complainant and any other affected individuals. Examples of appropriate action may include:

- (a) Interventions for the individual who engaged in the discrimination/harassment, such as parent/guardian or supervisor notification, discipline, counseling, or training.
- (b) Interventions for the complainant, such as counseling, academic support, and information on how to report further incidents of discrimination.
- (c) Separating the complainant and the individual who engaged in the discrimination/harassment, provided the separation does not penalize the complainant.
- (d) Follow-up inquiries with the complainant and witnesses to ensure that the discriminatory/harassing conduct has stopped and that they have not experienced any retaliation.
- (e) Training or other interventions for the larger school community to ensure that students, staff, and parents understand the types of behavior that constitute discrimination/harassment, that the District does not tolerate it, and how to report it.

A complainant alleging discrimination or harassment may file a formal complaint with the Boston Office, Office for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor, 5 Post Office Square, Boston, MA 02109-3921 (TELEPHONE NUMBER: 617-289-0111).

A complainant may also file a complaint with the Connecticut Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities, 450 Columbus Blvd., Hartford, CT 06103-1835 (TELEPHONE NUMBER: 860-541-3400).

An employee alleging discrimination or harassment related to their employment may also file a complaint with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, Boston Area Office, John F. Kennedy Federal Building, 475 Government Center, Boston, MA 02203 (TELEPHONE NUMBER: 800-669-4000).

Anyone who has questions or concerns about this policy, and/or who may wish to request or discuss accommodations based on religion, and/or who would like a copy of



the Board's complaint procedures or complaint forms related to claims of discrimination or harassment, may contact:

Branford Public Schools  
185 Damascus Road  
Branford, CT 06405  
(203) 315-7806  
[HR@branfordschools.org](mailto:HR@branfordschools.org)

Anyone who has questions or concerns about the Board's policies regarding discrimination or harassment on the basis of gender/sex, gender identity, or sexual orientation may contact the Board's Title IX Coordinator:

Assistant Superintendent  
Branford Public Schools  
185 Damascus Road  
Branford, CT 06405  
(203) 315-7811  
[BPStitle9@branfordschools.org](mailto:BPStitle9@branfordschools.org)

Anyone who has questions or concerns about the Board's policies regarding discrimination or harassment on the basis of disability, and/or who may wish to request or discuss accommodations for a disability, may contact the Board's Section 504/ADA Coordinator:

Director of Student Services  
Department of Student Services  
12 Melrose Avenue  
Branford, CT 06405  
[504-ADA@branfordschools.org](mailto:504-ADA@branfordschools.org)

Adopted: October 19, 2022

Revised:  
5/4/2023



**DISCRIMINATION/HARASSMENT COMPLAINT FORM**

**(For complaints based on race, color, religion, age, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, national origin, alienage, ancestry, disability, pregnancy, gender identity or expression, veteran status, or status as a victim of domestic violence)**

Name of the complainant

\_\_\_\_\_

Date of the complaint

\_\_\_\_\_

Date of the alleged discrimination/harassment

\_\_\_\_\_

Name or names of the discriminator(s) or harasser(s)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Location where such discrimination/harassment occurred

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Name(s) of any witness(es) to the discrimination/harassment

\_\_\_\_\_

Detailed statement of the circumstances constituting the alleged discrimination or harassment

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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Proposed remedy: \_\_\_\_\_

SECOND RDG-SEPT. 2023



## EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN FOR INTERSCHOLASTIC AND INTRAMURAL ATHLETIC EVENTS

The Branford Board of Education (the “Board”), in consultation with local emergency medical services providers and allied health professions, authorizes the Administration to develop an emergency action plan to be followed in the event that a student sustains a serious injury or illness while participating in an interscholastic or intramural athletic event. Such plan shall include, but need not be limited to, the following components:

- 1) A list of the school employees, coaches or licensed athletic trainers in each school who will be responsible for implementing the emergency action plan and a description of each person's responsibilities under the plan;
- 2) Identification of the location(s) or venue(s) where the interscholastic or intramural athletic event is taking place;
- 3) A description of the equipment and supplies that may be available at the site of the interscholastic or intramural athletic event that will assist in responding to an emergency, including the location of where such equipment and supplies may be found at such site;
- 4) A description of the procedures to be followed when a student sustains a serious sports-related injury, including, but not limited to, responding to the injured student, summoning emergency medical care, assisting local first responders in getting to the injured student and documenting the actions taken during the emergency;
- 5) A description of the protocols to be followed during cardiac or respiratory emergencies, including the operation of an automatic external defibrillator, use of cardiopulmonary resuscitation or the administration of medication, in accordance with applicable state law and Board policy;
- 6) A description of the protocols to be followed when a student is observed to exhibit signs, symptoms or behaviors consistent with a concussion or is diagnosed with a concussion, in accordance with applicable state law and Board policy;
- 7) A description of the protocols to be followed when a student suffers from a traumatic brain injury or spinal cord injury, provided such protocols are designed to include instructions that are based on the level of training of the person implementing the emergency action plan and are in accordance with best practices and state law; and

- 8) A description of the protocols to be followed in the event of heat and cold-related emergencies, provided such protocols are in accordance with current professional standards.

In developing the emergency action plan, the Administration may also consult recommendations from the governing authority for intramural and interscholastic athletics.

The Board shall annually review such emergency action plan and authorize the Administration to update such plan, as necessary. Any school employee, coach or licensed athletic trainer identified in the emergency action plan shall (1) annually rehearse such emergency action plan, and (2) be certified in cardiopulmonary resuscitation and have completed a course in first aid offered by the American Red Cross, the American Heart Association, the Department of Public Health, any director of health, or an organization using guidelines for first aid published by the American Heart Association and the American Red Cross.

The Board shall distribute the emergency action plan to all school employees, coaches and licensed athletic trainers identified in the emergency action plan. The Board shall also post such emergency action plan in all athletic facilities and at all sites where interscholastic and intramural athletic events will take place, and make such emergency action plan available on the Internet web site for the school district or school.

#### Legal References

Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-212i. Emergency action plans for serious and life-threatening sports-related injuries during interscholastic and intramural athletic events

Connecticut Association of Schools, Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Conference, Medical Handbook 2022-2023, available at [https://www.casciac.org/pdfs/CIAC\\_medical\\_handbook22-23.pdf](https://www.casciac.org/pdfs/CIAC_medical_handbook22-23.pdf).

ADOPTED: \_\_\_\_\_

REVISED: \_\_\_\_\_

9/2/2022



Personnel

4300 P

## EMPLOYMENT AND STUDENT TEACHER CHECKS

As set forth below, each applicant for a position with the Branford Public Schools (the “District”), and each student who is enrolled in a teacher preparation program, as defined in section 10-10a of the Connecticut General Statutes, and completing a student teaching experience in the District (collectively referred to as “applicants”), shall be asked to provide in writing: (1) whether the applicant has ever been convicted of a crime; (2) whether there are any criminal charges pending against the applicant at the time of the application and, if charges are pending, to state the charges and the court in which such charges are pending; and (3) whether the applicant is included on the Abuse and Neglect Registry of the Connecticut Department of Children and Families (“DCF”) (the “Registry”). If the applicant’s current or most recent employment occurred out of state, the applicant will also be asked whether the applicant is included on an equivalent database and/or abuse/neglect registry maintained in that state.

Applicants shall not be required to disclose any arrest, criminal charge or conviction that has been erased. An employment application form that contains any question concerning the criminal history of the applicant shall contain the following notice, in clear and conspicuous language:

**Pursuant to section 31-51i(d) of the Connecticut General Statutes, the applicant is hereby notified that (1) the applicant is not required to disclose the existence of any erased criminal history record information, (2) erased criminal history record information are records pertaining to a finding of delinquency or that a child was a member of a family with service needs, an adjudication as a youthful offender, a criminal charge that has been dismissed or nolle, a criminal charge for which the person has been found not guilty or a conviction for which the person received an absolute pardon or criminal records that are erased pursuant to statute or by other operation of law, and (3) any person with erased criminal history record information shall be deemed to have never been arrested within the meaning of the general statutes with respect to the proceedings so erased and may so swear under oath.**

In addition, the District shall conduct an employment history check for each applicant for a position, as set forth below.

For the purposes of this policy:

“Sexual misconduct” means any verbal, nonverbal, written, or electronic communication, or any other act directed toward or with a student that is designed to establish a sexual relationship with the student, including a sexual invitation, dating or soliciting a date, engaging in sexual dialog, making sexually suggestive comments, self-disclosure or physical exposure of a sexual or erotic nature, and any other sexual contact or erotic contact with a student.

“Abuse or neglect” means abuse or neglect as described in Conn. Gen. Stat. § 46b-120, and includes any violation of Conn. Gen. Stat. §§ 53a-70 (sexual assault in the first degree), 53a-70a (aggravated sexual assault in the first degree), 53a-71 (sexual assault in the second degree), 53a-72a (sexual assault in the third degree), 53a-72b (sexual assault in the third degree with a firearm), or 53a-73a (sexual assault in the fourth degree).

“Former employer” means any person, firm, business, educational institution, nonprofit agency, corporation, limited liability company, the state, any political subdivision of the state, any governmental agency, or any other entity that such applicant was employed by during any of the previous twenty years prior to applying for a position with a local or regional board of education.

## I. Employment History Check Procedures

A. The District shall not offer employment to an applicant for a position, including any position that is contracted for, if such applicant would have direct student contact, prior to the District:

1. Requiring the applicant:

- a. to list the name, address, and telephone number of each current employer or former employer (please note the definition of “former employer” above, including the applicable twenty year reporting period) during any of the previous twenty years, if:
  - (i) such current or former employer is/was a local or regional board of education, council of a state or local charter school, interdistrict magnet school operator, or a supervisory agent of a nonpublic school, and/or
  - (ii) the applicant’s employment with such current or former employer caused the applicant to have contact with children.
- b. to submit a written authorization that
  - (i) consents to and authorizes disclosure by the employers listed under paragraph I.A.1.a of this policy of the information requested under paragraph I.A.2 of this policy and the release of related records by such employers,
  - (ii) consents to and authorizes disclosure by the Connecticut State Department of Education (the “Department”) of the information requested under paragraph I.A.3 of this policy and the release of related records by the Department, and
  - (iii) releases those employers and the Department from liability that may arise from such disclosure or release of records pursuant to paragraphs I.A.2 or I.A.3 of this policy; and
- c. to submit a written statement of whether the applicant



- (i) has been the subject of an abuse or neglect or sexual misconduct investigation by any employer, state agency or municipal police department, unless the investigation resulted in a finding that all allegations were unsubstantiated,
  - (ii) has ever been disciplined or asked to resign from employment or resigned from or otherwise separated from any employment while an allegation of abuse or neglect was pending or under investigation by DCF, or an allegation of sexual misconduct was pending or under investigation or due to an allegation substantiated pursuant to Conn. Gen. Stat. § 17a-101g of abuse or neglect, or of sexual misconduct or a conviction for abuse or neglect or sexual misconduct, or
  - (iii) has ever had a professional or occupational license or certificate suspended or revoked or has ever surrendered such a license or certificate while an allegation of abuse or neglect was pending or under investigation by DCF or an investigation of sexual misconduct was pending or under investigation, or due to an allegation substantiated by DCF of abuse or neglect or of sexual misconduct or a conviction for abuse or neglect or sexual misconduct;
2. Conducting a review of the employment history of the applicant by contacting those employers listed by the applicant under paragraph I.A.1.a of this policy. Such review shall be conducted using a form developed by the Department, which shall request the following:
- a. the dates employment of the applicant, and
  - b. a statement as to whether the employer has knowledge that the applicant:
    - (i) was the subject of an allegation of abuse or neglect or sexual misconduct for which there is an investigation pending with any employer, state agency, or municipal police department or which has been substantiated;
    - (ii) was disciplined or asked to resign from employment or resigned from or otherwise separated from any employment while an allegation of abuse or neglect or sexual misconduct was pending or under investigation, or due to a substantiation of abuse or neglect or sexual misconduct; or
    - (iii) has ever had a professional or occupational license, certificate, authorization or permit suspended or revoked or has ever surrendered such a license, certificate, authorization or permit while an allegation of abuse or neglect or sexual misconduct was pending or under investigation, or due to a substantiation of abuse or neglect or sexual misconduct. Such review may be conducted telephonically or through written communication. Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (g)

of Conn. Gen. Stat. § 31-51i, not later than five (5) business days after the District receives a request for such information about an employee or former employee, the District shall respond with such information. The District may request more information concerning any response made by a current or former employer for information about an applicant, and, notwithstanding subsection (g), such employer shall respond not later than five (5) business days after receiving such request.

3. Requesting information from the Department concerning:
  - a. the eligibility status for employment of any applicant for a position requiring a certificate, authorization or permit,
  - b. whether the Department has knowledge that a finding has been substantiated by DCF pursuant to Conn. Gen. Stat. § 17a-101g of abuse or neglect or of sexual misconduct against the applicant and any information concerning such a finding, and
  - c. whether the Department has received notification that the applicant has been convicted of a crime or of criminal charges pending against the applicant and any information concerning such charges.
- B. Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (g) of Conn. Gen. Stat. § 31-51i, if the District receives information that an applicant for a position with or an employee of the District has been disciplined for a finding of abuse or neglect or sexual misconduct, it shall notify the Department of such information.
- C. The District shall not employ an applicant for a position involving direct student contact who does not comply with the provisions of paragraph I.A.1 of this policy.
- D. The District may employ or contract with an applicant on a temporary basis for a period not to exceed ninety (90) calendar days, pending the District's review of information received under this section, provided:
  1. The applicant complied with paragraph I.A.1 of this policy;
  2. The District has no knowledge of information pertaining to the applicant that would disqualify the applicant from employment with the District; and
  3. The applicant affirms that the applicant is not disqualified from employment with the District.
- E. The District shall not enter into a collective bargaining agreement, an employment contract, an agreement for resignation or termination, a severance agreement, or any other contract or agreement or take any action that:

1. Has the effect of suppressing information relating to an investigation of a report of suspected abuse or neglect or sexual misconduct by a current or former employee;
  2. Affects the ability of the District to report suspected abuse or neglect or sexual misconduct to appropriate authorities; or
  3. Requires the District to expunge information about an allegation or a finding of suspected abuse or neglect or sexual misconduct from any documents maintained by the District, unless, after investigation, such allegation is dismissed or found to be false.
- F. The District shall not offer employment to a person as a substitute teacher, unless such person and the District comply with the provisions of paragraph I.A.1 of this policy. The District shall determine which such persons are employable as substitute teachers and maintain a list of such persons. The District shall not hire any person as a substitute teacher who is not on such list. Such person shall remain on such list as long as such person is continuously employed by the District as a substitute teacher, as described in paragraph III.B.2 of this policy, provided the District does not have any knowledge of a reason that such person should be removed from such list.
- G. In the case of an applicant who is a contractor, the contractor shall require any employee with such contractor who would be in a position involving direct student contact to supply to such contractor all the information required of an applicant under paragraphs I.A.1.a and I.A.1.c of this policy and a written authorization under paragraph I.A.1.b of this policy. Such contractor shall contact any current or former employer (please note the definition of “former employer” above, including the applicable twenty year reporting period) of such employee that was a local or regional board of education, council of a state or local charter school, interdistrict magnet school operator, or a supervisory agent of a nonpublic school, or if the employee’s employment with such current or former employer caused the employee to have contact with children, and request, either telephonically or through written communication, any information concerning whether there was a finding of abuse or neglect or sexual misconduct against such employee. Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (g) of Conn. Gen. Stat. § 31-51i, such employer shall report to the contractor any such finding, either telephonically or through written communication. If the contractor receives any information indicating such a finding or otherwise receives any information indicating such a finding or otherwise has knowledge of such a finding, the contractor shall, notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (g) of Conn. Gen. Stat. § 31-51i, immediately forward such information to the District, either telephonically or through written communication. If the District receives such information, it shall determine whether such employee may work in a position involving direct student contact at any school in the District. No determination by the District that any such employee of the contractor shall not work under any such contract in any such position shall constitute a breach of such contract.
- H. Any applicant/employee who knowingly provides false information or knowingly fails to disclose information required in subdivision (1) of subsection (A) of this section shall be subject to discipline by the District that may include:
1. denial of employment, or

2. termination of the contract of a certified employee, in accordance with the provisions of Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-151, or
  3. termination of a non-certified employee in accordance with applicable law and/or any applicable collective bargaining agreement, contract or District policy.
- I. If the District provides information in accordance with paragraph I.A.2 or I.G of this policy, the District shall be immune from criminal and civil liability, provided the District did not knowingly supply false information.
  - J. Notwithstanding the provisions of Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-151c and subsection (g) of Conn. Gen. Stat. § 31-51i, the District shall provide, upon request by another local or regional board of education, governing council of a state or local charter school, interdistrict magnet school operator, or supervisory agent of a nonpublic school for the purposes of an inquiry pursuant to paragraphs I.A.2 or I.G of this policy or to the Commissioner of Education pursuant to paragraph I.B of this policy any information that the District has concerning a finding of abuse or neglect or sexual misconduct by a subject of any such inquiry.
  - K. Prior to offering employment to an applicant, the District shall make a documented good faith effort to contact each current and any former employer (please note the definition of “former employer” employer above, including the applicable twenty year reporting period) of the applicant that was a local or regional board of education, governing council of a state or local charter school, interdistrict magnet school operator, or supervisory agent of a nonpublic school, or if the applicant’s employment with such current or former employer caused the applicant to have contact with children in order to obtain information and recommendations that may be relevant to the applicant’s fitness for employment. Such effort, however, shall not be construed to require more than three telephonic requests made on three separate days.
  - L. The District shall not offer employment to any applicant who had any previous employment contract terminated by a local or regional board of education, council of a state or local charter school, interdistrict magnet school operator, or a supervisory agent of a nonpublic school, or who resigned from such employment, if the person has been convicted of a violation of Conn. Gen. Stat. § 17a-101a, when an allegation of abuse or neglect or sexual assault has been substantiated.

## II. DCF Registry Checks

Prior to hiring any person for a position with the District, and before a student who is enrolled in a teacher preparation program in the District, as defined in section 10-10a of the Connecticut General Statutes, and completing a student teaching experience with the District, begins such student teaching experience, the district shall require such applicant or student to submit to a records check of information maintained on the Registry concerning the applicant.

For any applicant whose current or most recent employment occurred out of state, the District shall request that the applicant provide the District with authorization to access information maintained concerning the applicant by the equivalent state agency in the state of most recent employment, if such state maintains information about abuse and neglect and has a procedure by which such information can be obtained. Refusal to permit the District to access such information shall be considered grounds for rejecting any applicant for employment.

The District shall request information from the Registry, its out of state equivalent promptly and in any case no later than thirty (30) calendar days from the date of employment. Registry checks will be processed according to the following procedure:

- A. No later than ten (10) calendar days after the Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee has notified a job applicant of a decision to offer employment to the applicant, or as soon thereafter as practicable, the Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee will either obtain the information from the Registry or, if the applicant's consent is required to access the information, will supply the applicant with the release form utilized by DCF or its out of state equivalent when available for obtaining information from the Registry.
- B. If consent is required to access the Registry, later than ten (10) calendar days after the Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee has provided the successful job applicant with the form, the applicant must submit the signed form to DCF or its out of state equivalent with a copy to the Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee. Failure of the applicant to submit the signed form to DCF or its out of state equivalent within such day period, without good cause, will be grounds for the withdrawal of the offer of employment.
- C. Upon receipt of Registry or out-of-state registry information indicating previously undisclosed information concerning abuse or neglect investigations concerning the successful job applicant/employee, the Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee will notify the affected applicant/employee in writing of the results of the Registry check and will provide an opportunity for the affected applicant/employee to respond to the results of the Registry check.
- D. If notification is received by the Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee that the applicant is listed as a perpetrator of abuse or neglect on the Registry, the Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee shall provide the applicant with an opportunity to be heard regarding the results of the Registry check. If warranted by the results of the Registry check and any additional information provided by the applicant, the Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee shall revoke the offer of employment and/or terminate the applicant's employment if the applicant has already commenced working for the District.

### III. Criminal Records Check Procedure

- A. Each person hired by the District shall be required to submit to state and national criminal records checks within thirty (30) calendar days from the date of employment. A student who is enrolled in a teacher preparation program, as defined in section 10-10 of the Connecticut General Statutes, and completing a student teaching experience with the District, shall be required to submit to state and national criminal records checks within sixty (60)

calendar days from the date such student begins to perform such student teaching experience. Record checks will be processed according to the following procedure:\*

1. No later than five (5) calendar days after the Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee has notified a job applicant of a decision to hire the applicant, or as soon thereafter as practicable, the Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee will provide the applicant with a packet containing all documents and materials necessary for the applicant to be fingerprinted by the Connecticut State Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection. This packet shall also contain all documents and materials necessary for the police department to submit the completed fingerprints to the State Police Bureau of Identification for the processing of state and national criminal records checks. The Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee will also provide each applicant with the following notifications before the applicant obtains the applicant's fingerprints: (1) Agency Privacy Requirements for Noncriminal Justice Applicants; (2) Noncriminal Justice Applicant's Privacy Rights; (3) and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, United States Department of Justice Privacy Act Statement.
2. No later than ten (10) calendar days after the Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee has provided the successful job applicant with the fingerprinting packet, the applicant must arrange to be fingerprinted by the Connecticut State Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection. Failure of the applicant to have the applicant's fingerprints taken within such ten-day period, without good cause, will be grounds for the withdrawal of the offer of employment.
3. Any person for whom criminal records checks are required to be performed pursuant to this policy must pay all fees and costs associated with the fingerprinting process and/or the submission or processing of the requests for criminal records checks. Fees and costs associated with the fingerprinting process and the submission and process of requests are waived for student teachers, in accordance with state law.
4. Upon receipt of a criminal records check indicating a previously undisclosed conviction, the Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee will notify the affected applicant/employee in writing of the results of the record check and will provide an opportunity for the affected applicant/employee to respond to the results of the criminal records check. The affected applicant/employee may notify the Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee in writing within five (5) calendar days that the affected applicant/employee will challenge such individual's criminal history records check. Upon written notification to the Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee of such a challenge, the affected applicant/employee shall have ten (10) calendar days to provide the Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee with necessary documentation regarding the affected applicant/employee's record challenge. The Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee may grant an extension to the preceding ten-day period during which the affected applicant/employee may provide such documentation for good cause shown.
5. Decisions regarding the effect of a conviction upon an applicant/employee, whether disclosed or undisclosed by the applicant/employee, will be made on a case-by-case

basis. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the falsification or omission of any information on a job application or in a job interview, including but not limited to information concerning criminal convictions or pending criminal charges, shall be grounds for disqualification from consideration for employment or discharge from employment.

6. Notwithstanding anything in paragraph III.A.5 of this policy, above, no decision to deny employment or withdraw an offer of employment on the basis of an applicant/employee's criminal history record shall be made without affording the applicant/employee the opportunities set forth in paragraph III.A.4 of this policy, above.

#### **B. Criminal Records Check for Substitute Teachers:**

A substitute teacher who is hired by the District must submit to state and national criminal history records checks according to the procedures outlined above, subject to the following:

1. If the state and national criminal history records checks for a substitute teacher have been completed within one year prior to the date the District hired the substitute teacher, and if the substitute teacher arranged for such prior criminal history records checks to be forwarded to the Superintendent the Superintendent's designee, then the substitute teacher will not be required to submit to another criminal history records check at the time of such hire.
2. If a substitute teacher submitted to state and national criminal history records checks upon being hired by the District, then the substitute teacher will not be required to submit to another criminal history records check so long as the substitute teacher is continuously employed by the District, that is, employed for at least one day of each school year, by the District, provided a substitute teacher is subjected to such checks at least once every five years.

#### **IV. Sex Offender Registry Checks**

District personnel shall cross-reference the Connecticut Department of Public Safety's sexual offender registry prior to hiring any new employee and before a student who is enrolled in a teacher preparation program, as defined in section 10-10a of the Connecticut General Statutes, and completing a student teaching experience with the District, begins such student teaching experience. Registration as a sexual offender constitutes grounds for denial of employment opportunities and opportunities to perform student teaching experiences in the district.

#### **V. Credit Checks**

The District may also ask a prospective employee for a credit report for employment for certain District positions, where the District's receipt of a credit report is substantially related to the employee's potential job. "Substantially related to the current or potential job" is defined to mean "the information contained in the credit report is related to the position for which the employee or prospective employee who is the subject of the report is being evaluated because of the position." Prior to asking for a credit report, the District will determine whether the position falls within one of

the categories as described in this paragraph. The position must: (1) be a managerial position which involves setting the direction or control of the District; (2) involve access to employees' personal or financial information; (3) involve a fiduciary responsibility to the District, including, but not limited to, the authority to issue payments, collect debts, transfer money or enter into contracts; (4) provide an expense account or District debit or credit card; or (5) involve access to the District's nonfinancial assets valued at two thousand five dollars or more.

When a credit report will be requested as part of the employment process, the District will provide written notification to the prospective employee regarding the use of credit checks. That notification must be provided in a document separate from the employment application. The notification must state that the District may use the information in the consumer credit report to make decisions related to the individual's employment.

The District will obtain consent before performing the credit or other background checks. If the District intends to take an action adverse to a potential employee based on the results of a credit report, the District must provide the prospective employee with a copy of the report on which the District relied in making the adverse decision, as well as a copy of "A Summary of Your Rights Under the Fair Credit Reporting Act," which should be provided by the company that provides the results of the credit check. The District will notify the prospective employee either orally, in writing or via electronic means that the adverse action was taken based on the information in the consumer report. That notice must include the name, address and phone number of the consumer reporting company that supplied the credit report; a statement that the company that supplied the report did not make the decision to take the unfavorable action and cannot provide specific reasons for the district's actions; and a notice of the person's right to dispute the accuracy or completeness of any information the consumer reporting company furnished, and to get an additional free report from the company if the person asks for it within sixty (60) calendar days.

#### VI. Notice of Conviction

If, at any time, the District receives notice of a conviction of a crime by a person holding a certificate, authorization or permit issued by the State Board of Education, the District shall send such notice to the State Board of Education. In complying with this requirement, the District shall not disseminate the results of any national criminal history records check.

#### VII. School Nurses

School nurses or nurse practitioners appointed by, or under contract with, the District shall also be required to submit to a criminal history records check in accordance with the procedures outlined above.

#### VIII. Personal Online Accounts

For purposes of this policy, "personal online account" means any online account that is used by an employee or applicant exclusively for personal purposes and unrelated to any business purpose of the District, including, but not limited to, electronic mail, social media and retail-based Internet web sites. "Personal online account" does not include any account created, maintained, used or accessed by an employee or applicant for a business purpose of the District.



- A. During the course of an employment check, the District may not:
1. request or require that an applicant provide the District with a user name and password, password or any other authentication means for accessing a personal online account;
  2. request or require that an applicant authenticate or access a personal online account in the presence of District personnel; or
  3. require that an applicant invite a supervisor employed by the District or accept an invitation from a supervisor employed by the District to join a group affiliated with any personal online account of the applicant.
- B. The District may request or require that an applicant provide the District with a user name and password, password or any other authentication means for accessing:
1. any account or service provided by District or by virtue of the applicant's employment relationship with the District or that the applicant uses for the District's business purposes, or
  2. any electronic communications device supplied or paid for, in whole or in part, by the District.
- C. In accordance with applicable law, the District maintains the right to require an applicant to allow the District to access the applicant's personal online account, without disclosing the user name and password, password or other authentication means for accessing such personal online account, for the purpose of:
1. conducting an investigation for the purpose of ensuring compliance with applicable state or federal laws, regulatory requirements or prohibitions against work-related employee misconduct based on the receipt of specific information about activity on an applicant's personal online account; or
  2. conducting an investigation based on the receipt of specific information about an applicant's unauthorized transfer of the District's proprietary information, confidential information or financial data to or from a personal online account operated by an applicant or other source.

IX. Policy Inapplicable to Certain Individuals

This policy shall not apply to:

- A. A student employed by the District who attends a District school.
- B. A person employed by the District as a teacher for a noncredit adult class or adult education activity, as defined in Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-67, who is not required to hold a teaching certificate pursuant to Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-145b for such position.

X. Falsification of Records

Notwithstanding any other provisions of this policy, the falsification or omission of any information on a job application or in a job interview, including but not limited to information concerning abuse or neglect investigations or pending criminal applications, shall be grounds for disqualification from consideration for employment or discharge from employment.

Legal References Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-212

Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-221d

Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-222c

Conn. Gen. Stat. § 31-40x

Conn. Gen. Stat. § 31-51i

Conn. Gen. Stat. § 31-1tt

Elementary and Secondary Education Act, reauthorized as the Every Student Succeeds Act, Pub. L. 114-95, codified at 20 U.S.C. § 1001 *et seq.*

Fair Credit Reporting Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1681 *et seq.*

ADOPTED: 10-19-2022

REVISED:

1/4/2023

# Agency Privacy Requirements for Noncriminal Justice Applicants

Authorized governmental and non-governmental agencies/officials that conduct a national fingerprint-based criminal history record check on an applicant for a noncriminal justice purpose (such as employment or a license, immigration or naturalization matter, security clearance, or adoption) are obligated to ensure the applicant is provided certain notices and that the results of the check are handled in a manner that protects the applicant's privacy. All notices must be provided in writing.<sup>1</sup> These obligations are pursuant to the Privacy Act of 1974, Title 5, United States Code (U.S.C.), Section 552a, and Title 28, Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Section 50.12, among other authorities.

- Officials must ensure that each applicant receives an adequate written FBI Privacy Act Statement (dated 2013 or later) when the applicant submits the applicant's fingerprints and associated personal information.<sup>2</sup>
- Officials must advise all applicants in writing that procedures for obtaining a change, correction, or update of an FBI criminal history record are set forth at 28 CFR 16.34. Information regarding this process may be found at <https://www.fbi.gov/services/cjis/identity-history-summary-checks> and <https://www.edo.cjis.gov>.
- Officials must provide the applicant the opportunity to complete or challenge the accuracy of the information in the FBI criminal history record.
- Officials should not deny the employment, license, or other benefit based on information in the FBI criminal history record until the applicant has been afforded a reasonable time to correct or complete the record or has declined to do so.
- Officials must use the criminal history record for authorized purposes only and cannot retain or disseminate it in violation of federal statute, regulation or executive order, or rule, procedure or standard established by the National Crime Prevention and Privacy Council.<sup>3</sup>

The FBI has no objection to officials providing a copy of the applicant's FBI criminal history record to the applicant for review and possible challenge when the record was obtained based on positive fingerprint identification. If agency policy permits, this courtesy will save the applicant the time and additional FBI fee to obtain the applicant's record directly from the FBI by following the procedures found at 28 CFR 16.30 through 16.34. It will also allow the officials to make a more timely determination of the applicant's suitability.

Each agency should establish and document the process/procedures it utilizes for how/when it gives the applicant the FBI Privacy Act Statement, the 28 CFR 50.12 notice, and the opportunity to correct the applicant's record. Such documentation will assist State and/or FBI auditors during periodic compliance reviews on use of criminal history records for noncriminal justice purposes.

If you need additional information or assistance, contact:

<p><b>Connecticut Records:</b> <b>Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection</b> <b>State Police Bureau of Identification (SPBI)</b> <b>1111 Country Club Road</b> <b>Middletown, CT 06457</b> <b>860-685-8480</b></p>	<p><b>Out-of-State Records:</b> <b>Agency of Record</b> <b>OR</b> <b>FBI CJIS Division-Summary Request</b> <b>1000 Custer Hollow Road</b> <b>Clarksburg, West Virginia 26306</b></p>
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## Noncriminal Justice Applicant's Privacy Rights

<sup>1</sup> Written notification includes electronic notification, but excludes oral notification.

<sup>2</sup> See <https://www.fbi.gov/services/cjis/compact-council/privacy-act-statement>

<sup>3</sup> See 5 U.S.C. 552a(b); 28 U.S.C. 534(b); 34 U.S.C. § 40316 (formerly cited as 42 U.S.C. § 14616), Article IV(c); 28 CFR 20.21(c), 20.33(d), 50.12(b) and 906.2(d).

As an applicant who is the subject of a national fingerprint-based criminal history record check for a noncriminal justice purpose (such as an application for a job or license, an immigration or naturalization matter, security clearance, or adoption), you have certain rights which are discussed below. All notices must be provided to you in writing.<sup>4</sup> These obligations are pursuant to the Privacy Act of 1974, Title 5, United States Code (U.S.C.) Section 552a, and Title 28 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), 50.12, among other authorities.

- You must be provided an adequate written FBI Privacy Act Statement (dated 2013 or later) when you submit your fingerprints and associated person information. This Privacy Act Statement must explain the authority for collecting your fingerprints and associated information and whether your fingerprints and associated information will be searched, shared, or retained.<sup>5</sup>
- You must be advised in writing of the procedures for obtaining a change, correction, or updating of your criminal history record as set forth at 28 CFR 16.34.
- You must be provided the opportunity to complete or challenge the accuracy of the information in your FBI criminal history record (if you have such a record).
- If you have a criminal history record, you should be afforded a reasonable amount of time to correct or complete the record (or decline to do so) before the officials deny you the employment, license, or other benefit based on information in the criminal history record.
- If agency policy permits, the officials may provide you with a copy of your FBI criminal history record for review and possible challenge. If agency policy does not permit it to provide you a copy of the record, you may obtain a copy of the record by submitting fingerprints and a fee to the FBI. Information regarding this process may be obtained at <http://www.fbi.gov/services/cjis/identity-history-summary-checks> and <https://www.edo.cjis.gov>.
- If you decide to challenge the accuracy or completeness of your FBI criminal history record, you should send your challenge to the agency that contributed the questioned information to the FBI. Alternatively, you may send your challenge directly to the FBI by submitting a request via <https://www.edo.cjis.gov>. The FBI will then forward your challenge to the agency that contributed the questioned information and request the agency to verify or correct the challenged entry. Upon receipt of an official communication from that agency, the FBI will make any necessary changes/corrections to your record in accordance with the information supplied by that agency. (See 28 CFR 16.30 through 16.34.)
- You have the right to expect that officials receiving the results of the criminal history record check will use it only for authorized purposes and will not retain or disseminate it in violation of federal statute, regulation or executive order, or rule, procedure or standard established by the National Crime Prevention and Privacy Compact Council.<sup>6</sup>
- If you need additional information or assistance, please contact:

<p><b>Connecticut Records:</b>  <b>Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection</b>  <b>State Police Bureau of Identification (SPBI)</b>  <b>1111 Country Club Road</b>  <b>Middletown, CT 06457</b>  <b>860-685-8480</b></p>	<p><b>Out-of-State Records:</b>  <b>Agency of Record</b>  <b>OR</b>  <b>FBI CJIS Division-Summary Request</b>  <b>1000 Custer Hollow Road</b>  <b>Clarksburg, West Virginia 26306</b></p>
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<sup>4</sup> Written notification includes electronic notification, but excludes oral notification.

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.fbi.gov/services/cjis/compact-council/privacy-act-statement>

<sup>6</sup> See 5 U.S.C. 552a(b); 28 U.S.C. 534(b); 34 U.S.C. § 40316 (formerly cited as 42 U.S.C. § 14616), Article IV(c); 28 CFR 20.21(c), 20.33(d), 50.12(b) and 906.2(d).

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Privacy Act Statement

**This privacy act statement is located on the back of the FD-258 fingerprint card.**

**Authority:** The FBI's acquisition, preservation, and exchange of fingerprints and associated information is generally authorized under 28 U.S.C. 534. Depending on the nature of your application, supplemental authorities include Federal statutes, State statutes pursuant to Pub. L. 92-544, Presidential Executive Orders, and federal regulations. Providing your fingerprints and associated information is voluntary; however, failure to do so may affect completion or approval of your application.

**Principal Purpose:** Certain determinations, such as employment, licensing, and security clearances, may be predicated on fingerprint-based background checks. Your fingerprints and associated information/biometrics may be provided to the employing, investigating, or otherwise responsible agency, and/or the FBI for the purpose of comparing your fingerprints to other fingerprints in the FBI's Next Generation Identification (NGI) system or its successor systems (including civil, criminal, and latent fingerprint repositories) or other available records of the employing, investigating, or otherwise responsible agency. The FBI may retain your fingerprints and associated information/biometrics in NGI after the completion of this application and, while retained, your fingerprints may continue to be compared against other fingerprints submitted to or retained by NGI.

**Routine Uses:** During the processing of this application and for as long thereafter as your fingerprints and associated information/biometrics are retained in NGI, your information may be disclosed pursuant to your consent, and may be disclosed without your consent as permitted by the Privacy Act of 1974 and all applicable Routine Uses as may be published at any time in the Federal Register, including the Routine Uses for the NGI system and the FBI's Blanket Routine Uses. Routine uses include, but are not limited to, disclosures to: employing, governmental or authorized non-governmental agencies responsible for employment, contracting licensing, security clearances, and other suitability determinations; local, state, tribal, or federal law enforcement agencies; criminal justice agencies; and agencies responsible for national security or public safety.

As of 3/30/2018



Personnel

4350 P

## FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE

### *PURPOSE*

The purpose of this policy is to apprise employees of their rights, and establish guidelines for leaves taken by employees of the Branford Board of Education (the “Board”) under the federal Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 (“FMLA”) and applicable Connecticut state law. This policy is not intended to, and does not, recite every provision of applicable law and regulations

### *ELIGIBILITY*

Employees other than school paraprofessionals who have been employed by the Board for at least twelve (12) months, and who have worked at least 1,250 actual work hours, during the twelve (12) months immediately preceding the start of a leave, are eligible for unpaid leave under the FMLA.

A school paraprofessional in an educational setting is eligible for the leave described in this policy if the paraprofessional has worked for the Board for at least twelve (12) months, and has worked at least 950 service hours during the twelve (12) months immediately preceding the start of such leave.

Full-time instructional employees meet the 1,250 hours of service requirement unless the Board can demonstrate that the full-time instructional employee did not meet the 1,250 hours of service requirement in the 12-month period prior to the start of leave.

### *DEFINITIONS*

**Genetic information:** For purposes of this policy, “genetic information” includes an individual’s family medical history, the results of an individual’s or family member’s genetic tests, the fact that an individual or an individual’s family member sought or received genetic services, and genetic information of a fetus carried by an individual or an individual’s family member or an embryo lawfully held by an individual or family member receiving assistive reproductive services.

**Instructional employee** For purposes of this policy, an “instructional employee” is defined as a teacher or other employee of the Board who is employed principally in an instructional capacity and whose principal function is to teach and instruct students in a class, a small group, or an individual setting, and includes athletic coaches, driving instructors, and special education assistants such as signers for the hearing impaired.

The term does not include teacher assistants or aides who do not have as their principal function actual teaching or instructing, nor auxiliary personnel such as counselors, psychologists, curriculum specialists, cafeteria workers, maintenance workers, bus drivers, or other primarily non-instructional employees.

**Paraprofessional:** For purposes of this policy, a “paraprofessional” means a school employee who performs duties that are instructional in nature or deliver either direct or indirect services to students and/or parents and serves in a position for which a teacher has ultimate responsibility for the design and implementation of educational programs and services. This definition is only used for the purpose of calculating eligibility for the leave described in this policy at the 950 hour threshold.

### ***REASONS FOR LEAVE***

Leaves under the FMLA and applicable state law may be taken for the following reasons:

- incapacity due to pregnancy, prenatal medical care or child birth; or
- to care for the employee's newborn child; or
- the placement of a child with the employee by adoption or foster care; or
- to care for the employee's spouse, child or parent who has a serious health condition; or
- to care for the employee's own serious health condition that renders the employee unable to perform the functions of the employee's position; or
- to serve as an organ or bone marrow donor; or
- to care for an injured or ill servicemember (see below Length of Leave for further information); or
- a qualifying exigency arising out of a family member's military service, including one or more of the following reasons (note more detailed information on the following categories is available from the Talent Services Department):
  - short-notice deployment;
  - military events and related activities;
  - childcare and school activities;
  - financial and legal arrangements;

- counseling;
- rest and recuperation;
- post-deployment activities;
- parental care leave for military member's parent who is incapable of self-care and care is necessitated by the military member's covered active duty;
- additional activities that arise out of the active duty or call to active duty status of a covered military member, provided that the Board and the employee agree that such leave qualifies as an exigency, and agree to both the timing and the duration of such leave.

### ***LENGTH OF LEAVE***

#### (a) Basic FMLA Leave Entitlement

If a leave is requested for one of the ~~above~~ reasons, each eligible employee may take up to a total of twelve (12) weeks unpaid family or medical leave in the 12month entitlement period.

The 12month entitlement period for family or medical leave is measured on the basis of a "rolling" 12month period measured backward from the date an employee uses any FMLA leave.

#### (b) Leave to Care for an Injured or Ill Servicemember

In addition to the reasons for leave listed above, an eligible employee may take up to ~~twentysix~~ (26) workweeks of FMLA leave during a 12month period to care for (i) a servicemember who is the employee's spouse, parent, child or next of kin, and who incurred a serious injury or illness in the line of duty and while on active duty in the Armed Forces or had a preexisting injury or illness prior to beginning active duty that was aggravated by service in the line of duty on active duty in the Armed Forces; or, (ii) a covered veteran with a serious injury or illness who is the employee's spouse, parent, child or next of kin.

For servicemembers, the injury or illness must render the servicemember medically unable to perform the duties of office, grade, ~~rank~~ or rating. This provision applies to servicemembers who are undergoing medical treatment, recuperation, or therapy, are in outpatient status, or who are on the temporary disability retired list, for a serious injury or illness.

For covered veterans the veteran must be undergoing medical treatment, recuperation or therapy for a serious injury or illness and must have been (1) a member



of the Armed Forces (including the National Guard or Reserves); (2) discharged or released under conditions that were other than dishonorable; and (3) discharged within the five-year period before the eligible employee first takes FMLA military caregiver leave to care for the veteran.<sup>1</sup>

For covered veterans, serious injury or illness means any of the following:

- (i) a continuation of a serious injury or illness that was incurred or aggravated when the covered veteran was a member of the Armed Forces and rendered the servicemember unable to perform the duties of the servicemember's office, grade, rank, or rating; or
- (ii) a physical or mental condition for which the covered veteran has received a U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Service-Related Disability Rating (VASRD) of 50 percent or greater, and such VASRD rating is based, in whole or in part, on the condition precipitating the need for military caregiver leave; or
- (iii) a physical or mental condition that substantially impairs the covered veteran's ability to secure or follow a substantially gainful occupation by reason of a disability or disabilities related to military service, or would do so absent treatment; or
- (iv) an injury, including a psychological injury, on the basis of which the covered veteran has been enrolled in the Department of Veterans Affairs Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers.

When combined with any other type of FMLA qualifying leave, total leave time may not exceed twenty-six (26) weeks in a single twelve (12) month period. Standard FMLA leave procedures described below apply to all requests for and designation of leave for this purpose. *However*, in the case of leave to care for a servicemember with a serious injury or illness, the 12-month period begins on the day such leave actually commences.

### ***TYPES OF LEAVE AND CONDITIONS***

- (a) Full-Time, Intermittent and Reduced Schedule Leave

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<sup>1</sup> The employee's first date of leave must be within the five-year period. However, the employee may continue to take leave throughout the single 12-month period even if the leave extends past the five-year period. Note- special rules may apply to calculating the five-year period for veterans discharged between October 28, 2009 and March 8, 2013. This period will effectively be excluded from the five year calculation.

Full-time leave excuses the employee from work for a continuous period of time. Full-time unpaid leave may be taken for any of the reasons permitted by the FMLA.

Intermittent leave means leave taken due to a single qualifying event in separate periods of time rather than for one continuous period of time. Examples of intermittent leave include: leave taken one day per week over a period of a few months; or leave taken on an occasional/as-needed basis for medical appointments.

Reduced schedule leave is leave that reduces the employee's usual number of work hours per day for some period of time. For example, an employee may request half-time work for a number of weeks so the employee can assist in the care of a seriously ill parent.

Intermittent or reduced schedule leave may be taken (a) when medically necessary for an employee's or covered family member's serious health condition, or for a covered service member's serious illness or injury, and (b) the need for leave can be best accommodated through an intermittent or reduced schedule leave. In addition, FMLA leave may be taken intermittently or on a reduced schedule basis (1) due to a qualifying exigency; or (2) to effectuate the placement of a child for adoption or foster care before the placement of the child in the home.

If foreseeable intermittent or reduced schedule leave is medically required based upon planned medical treatment of the employee or a family member or a covered service member, including during a period of recovery from an employee's or family member's serious health condition or a serious injury or illness of a covered service member, the Board may, in its sole discretion, temporarily transfer the employee to another job with equivalent pay and benefits that better accommodates the type of leave requested. Also, special arrangements may be required of an instructional employee who needs to take intermittent or reduced-schedule leave which will involve absence for more than twenty (20) percent of the work days in the period over which the leave will extend (for example, more than five days over a five week period), if the leave is to care for a family member with a serious health condition, to care for a covered service member with a serious injury or illness, or for the employee's own serious health condition, which is foreseeable based on planned medical treatment. In such situations, the Board may require the instructional employee to transfer temporarily to another job or take leave for a particular duration, not to exceed the duration of the planned medical treatment.

(b) Both Spouses Working for the Same Employer

If both spouses are eligible employees of the Board and request leave for the birth, placement of a child by adoption or for foster care, or to care for a parent with a serious health condition, they only will be entitled to a maximum combined total leave equal to twelve (12) weeks in the 12-month entitlement period. If either spouse (or both) uses a portion of the total 12-week entitlement for one of the purposes in the preceding sentence, each is entitled to the difference between the amount the employee

has taken individually and the 12 weeks for FMLA leave for their own or their spouse's serious health condition in the 12-month entitlement periods.

(c) Leave Taken by Instructional Employees Near the End of an Academic Term

If a leave taken by an instructional employee for any reason begins more than five (5) weeks before the end of an academic term, the Board may require that instructional employee to continue the leave until the end of the term if the leave will last at least three (3) weeks and the instructional employee would return to work during the three-week period before the end of the term.

If the instructional employee begins a leave during the five-week period preceding the end of an academic term for a reason other than the instructional employee's own serious health condition, the Board may require the instructional employee to continue taking leave until the end of the term if the leave will last more than two (2) weeks and the instructional employee would return to work during the two-week period before the end of the term.

If the instructional employee begins a leave during the three-week period preceding the end of an academic term for a reason other than the instructional employee's own serious health condition, the Board may require the instructional employee to continue taking leave until the end of the term if the leave will last more than five (5) working days.

(d) Light Duty

Should an employee be offered a light duty opportunity during a period of FMLA leave, time spent performing the light duty assignment will not count against the employee's FMLA leave entitlement. The employee's right to restoration to the employee's job will be held in abeyance during the light duty assignment, or until the end of the applicable 12-month FMLA leave period.

***REQUESTS FOR LEAVE***

(a) Forseeable leave

An employee must notify the Talent Services Department of the need for a family or medical leave at least thirty (30) days before the leave is to begin if the need for the leave is foreseeable based on the expected birth of the employee's child, placement of a child with the employee for adoption or foster care, planned medical treatment for the employee's or family member's serious health condition, or the planned medical treatment for a serious injury or illness of a covered service member. If 30 days notice is not practicable, then the employee must provide notice as soon as practicable under the circumstances,

usually the same day or the next business day after the employee becomes aware of the need for FMLA leave.

(b) Qualifying Exigency.

An employee must provide notice as soon as practicable if the foreseeable leave is for a qualifying exigency, regardless of how far in advance such leave is foreseeable.

(c) Unforeseeable Leave.

When the employee's need for leave is not foreseeable, an employee must provide notice as practicable under the circumstances.

### ***SCHEDULING PLANNED MEDICAL TREATMENT***

When planning medical treatment for foreseeable FMLA leave, an employee must consult with the Talent Services Department and make a reasonable effort to schedule the treatment so as not to disrupt unduly the Board's operations, subject to the approval of the health care provider. Similarly, if an employee needs leave intermittently or on a reduced leave schedule for planned medical treatment, the employee must make reasonable effort to schedule the treatment so as not to disrupt unduly the Board's operations. Ordinarily, the employee should consult with the Talent Services Department prior to scheduling the treatment in order to work out a treatment schedule that best suits the needs of the Board and the employee. The Board and the employee shall attempt to work out a schedule for leave that meets the employee's needs without unduly disrupting the Board's operations, subject to the approval of the health care provider as to any modification of the treatment schedule.

### ***REQUIRED CERTIFICATIONS/DOCUMENTATION***

For leaves taken for any FMLA qualifying reason, an employee must submit a completed certification form supporting the need for leave. The appropriate form will be provided to the employee. The employee must submit a complete and sufficient certification form as required within fifteen (15) calendar days of receiving the request for the completed certification. If it is not practicable for the employee to provide the completed form by the due date despite the employee's diligent, good faith efforts, the employee must inform the Talent Services Department of the reason(s) for delay and what efforts the employee undertook to obtain the required certification. FMLA protected leave may be delayed or denied if the employee does not provide a complete and sufficient certification as required. Depending on the reason for leave, an employee may be required to submit medical certification from the employee's health care provider, medical certification the employee's family member's health care provider, and/or other documentation (e.g., to establish a family relationship, military active duty orders, etc.). In certain circumstances and under certain conditions,

employees may also be required to obtain second or third medical opinions and/or recertifications, in accordance with applicable law.

If an employee takes leave to care for the employee's own serious health condition, (except on an intermittent or reduced-schedule basis), prior to returning to work the employee must provide a medical fitness-for-duty certification that the employee is able to resume work and the health condition that created the need for the leave no longer renders the employee unable to perform the essential functions of the job. This certification must be submitted to the Talent Services Department. If the employee is unable to perform one or more of the essential functions of the employee's position, the Board will determine whether the employee is eligible for additional FMLA leave (if such leave has not been exhausted) or whether an accommodation is appropriate, in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

In connection with the Board's request for medical information, employees must be aware that the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008 ("GINA") prohibits employers and other entities covered by Title II of GINA from requesting or requiring genetic information of an individual or family member of the individual, except as specifically allowed by this law. To comply with this law, the Board requests that employees not provide any genetic information when responding to a request for medical information.

**[Note: The medical certification form should include the above language related to GINA.]**

### ***USE OF PAID LEAVE***

Accrued paid personal leave and accrued paid vacation will be substituted (in that order) for any unpaid portions of family or medical leave taken for any reason. However, where the leave is for the employee's own serious health condition, accrued paid sick leave shall be substituted for unpaid portions of family or medical leave prior to the substitution of accrued paid personal and accrued paid vacation leave. The amount of unpaid family or medical leave entitlement is reduced by the amount of paid leave that is substituted.

In addition, in cases involving absences due to a Workers' Compensation injury that also qualifies as an FMLA serious health condition, and if the employee (and the employee's collective bargaining agent, if applicable) and the Board agree to do so, the Board will apply the employee's available accrued paid leave in increments as a supplement to the Workers' Compensation weekly benefit in an appropriate amount so that the employee can maintain the employee's regular weekly income level.

### ***MEDICAL INSURANCE AND OTHER BENEFITS***

During approved family or medical leaves of absence, the Board will continue to pay its portion of medical insurance premiums for the period of unpaid family or

medical leave. The employee must continue to pay the employee's share of the premium, and failure to do so may result in loss of coverage. If the employee does not return to work after expiration of the leave, the employee will be required to reimburse the Board for payment of medical insurance premiums during the family or medical leave, unless the employee does not return because of a serious health condition or circumstances beyond the employee's control.

When accrued paid leave is used in place of an FMLA leave, which is unpaid, an employee shall continue to accrue benefits as provided for by contract. During an (unpaid) FMLA leave, an employee shall not accrue seniority, pension benefits, or sick or vacation or personal leave unless otherwise required by any applicable collective bargaining agreement or Board policy. However, unused employment benefits accrued by the employee up to the day on which the leave begins will not be lost upon return to work. Leave taken under this policy does not constitute an absence under the Board's attendance policy, if any.

### ***REINSTATEMENT***

Except for circumstances unrelated to the taking of a family or medical leave, and unless an exception applies, an employee who returns to work following the expiration of a family or medical leave is entitled to return to the job such ~~as~~ held prior to the leave or to an equivalent position with equivalent pay and benefits.

### ***ADDITIONAL INFORMATION***

Questions regarding family or medical leave may be directed to the Superintendent or designee. An employee may file a complaint with ~~the~~ Department of Labor or may bring a private lawsuit against an employer. FMLA does not affect any federal or state law prohibiting discrimination, or supersede any state or local law or collective bargaining agreement that provides greater family ~~and~~ medical leave rights.

#### **Legal References:**

##### **Connecticut General Statutes:**

Conn. Gen. Stat. § 3-51rr Family and medical leave benefits for employees of political subdivisions

Regs. Conn. State Agencies 31-51rr-1, et seq.

##### **United States Code:**

Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993, 29 U.S.C. Section 2601 et seq., as amended

29 CFR Part 825.100 et seq.

Title II of the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008, 42  
USC 2000ff et seq.

29 CFR 1635.1 et seq.

ADOPTED: 10-19-2022

REVISED:

2/10/2023

SECOND RDG-Sept.2023

# DRAFT

## **Title:**

### **Arts Education in K-12 Schools**

## **Issue:**

CABE believes that the arts are a fundamental component of a well-rounded education that provide **benefits** fostering creativity, critical thinking, collaboration and problem-solving skills. Research has shown that arts education -

- a. enhances academic achievement across multiple disciplines, including math and science
- b. increases student empathy
- c. reduces absenteeism
- d. minimizes the incidence of exclusionary disciplinary action.

Importantly, arts education contributes to the social and emotional well-being of students, providing them with a means of self-expression and a sense of belonging.

Despite these benefits, arts education is often underfunded and undervalued in our schools.

## **Resolution:**

CABE urges Connecticut policy makers and education leaders to commit to fully funding and supporting arts education in K-12 schools to ensure that all students have access to the above-noted **benefits** by:

1. Recognizing the intrinsic value of arts education to providing a well-rounded education;
2. Acknowledging the vital role of arts education in enhancing academic achievement and contributing to the social and emotional well-being of students;
3. Collaborating with arts educators and administrators to articulate what fully-supported arts education looks like including, but not limited to minimum required staffing at building and District levels;
4. Considering other initiatives that have proven to be effective, e.g., arts integration across disciplines

CABE further urges school boards and their communities to affirmatively advocate for the importance of arts education and to hold our leaders accountable for providing the necessary funding.

Branford Board of Education

Approved for submission to CABE Delegate Assembly on \_\_\_\_\_ 2023





## Community/Board Operation

1800 P

### USE OF SCHOOL FACILITIES

In accordance with Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-239, the Branford Board of Education (the “Board”) may permit the use of any school facility for nonprofit educational or community purposes whether or not school is in session. The Board may also grant the temporary use of any school facility for public, educational or other purposes, including the holding of political discussion, at such time the facility is not in use for school purposes. In addition, the Board shall grant such use for any purpose of voting under the provisions of Title 9 of the Connecticut General Statutes whether or not school is in session. In accordance with 20 U.S.C. § 7905, the Board shall not deny equal access to or a fair opportunity to meet, or otherwise discriminate, against any group officially affiliated with the Boy Scouts of America (or any other youth group listed as a patriotic society in Title 36 of the United States Code) that wishes to conduct a meeting using school facilities pursuant to this policy. Such uses shall be governed by the following rules and procedures, and shall be subject to such restrictions as the Superintendent or his/her designee considers expedient.

Consistent with this policy, the Superintendent shall develop and promulgate Administrative Regulations and associated forms governing use of school buildings and facilities by community and other groups. Since the primary purpose of school facilities is for educational activities, such activities will have priority over all other requested uses.

#### A. Application Procedures

Applications for use of facilities shall be submitted in accordance with the Administrative Regulations.

Groups requesting use of school buildings and facilities must identify the specific facilities desired, and approval will be for those specific facilities only. All school equipment on the premises shall remain in the charge and control of the building principal or responsible administrator, and shall not be used without the express written permission of the administrator.

Approval of school facilities by the principal or other responsible party may be revoked at any time by the Superintendent or his/her designee.

#### B. Eligible Organizations and Priority of Use

Requests for use of school district facilities will be made according to the following guidelines regarding priority of usage of such facilities:

Order of priority:

1. School-sponsored programs and activities.
2. Activities of school-related organizations (*e.g.*, PTA, Booster Clubs, After Graduation Committees and similar organizations).
3. Town department or agency activities.
4. Activities of non-profit organizations operating within the Town, other than school-related organizations covered by category #2 above.
5. Activities of for-profit organizations operating within the Town.
6. Out-of-town organizations.

**C. Restrictions on Use of School Facilities**

The following restrictions shall apply to the use of school facilities:

1. Illegal activities will not be tolerated.
2. Use or possession of tobacco, vapor products, alcoholic beverages or unauthorized controlled substances shall not be permitted on school property.
3. Refreshments may not be prepared, served or consumed without the prior approval of the responsible administrator. Notwithstanding, only those beverages permitted by state law may be sold during the school day. The responsible administrator may permit other beverages to be sold at the location of events occurring after the end of the regular school day or on the weekend as long as they are not sold from a vending machine or at a school store. Upon approval by the administrator, refreshments may be prepared, served and consumed only in areas designated by the responsible administrator.
4. Obscene advertising, decorations or materials shall not be permitted on school property.
5. Advertising, decorations or other materials that promote the use of illegal drugs, tobacco products, vapor products, or alcoholic beverages shall not be permitted.

6. Activities that are disruptive of the school environment are not permitted.

Any violation of this Policy or any applicable Administrative Regulations may result in permanent revocation of the privilege to use school facilities against the organization and/or individuals involved.

#### **D. Fees and Other Costs**

Users of school facilities shall be responsible for the fees and costs set out in a fee schedule established by the Superintendent. The following guidelines shall be incorporated into such fee schedule:

<u>Category</u>	<u>Fee</u>
1. School-sponsored programs and activities.	No rental fee or associated costs.
2. Activities of school-related organizations (e.g., PTO, Booster Clubs, After Graduation Committees and similar organizations).	No rental fee or associated costs.
3. Town department or agency activities.	Associated costs.
4. Activities of non-profit organizations operating within the Town, other than school-related organizations covered by category #2 above.	Associated costs.
5. Activities of for-profit organizations operating within the Town.	Rental fee and associated costs.
6. Out-of-town organizations.	Rental fee and associated costs.

“Associated costs” shall include, but shall not be limited to, fees for the services of any custodial personnel, food service personnel, security personnel or other personnel deemed by the responsible administrator to be necessary in connection with the use of a school district facility. Such costs shall be at the rates set forth in the fee schedule. Rental fees and/or associated costs otherwise applicable may be waived by the Superintendent or his/her designee if such waiver is deemed by the Superintendent or his/her designee to be in the best interest of the school system and/or the Town.

#### **E. Responsibility for Damage to Property or Loss of Property**

In order to use school district facilities, any organization or individual requesting such use must agree to assume responsibility for any damage to and/or theft or loss of any school district property arising out of the use of the facilities.

**F. Health and Safety Protocols**

In order to use school district facilities, any organization or individual requesting such use must agree to abide by all health and safety protocols in place by the school district at the time of use, including but not limited to protocols relating to cleaning of the facilities, signage, and health screenings of individuals requesting access to the facilities.

**Legal References:**

Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-239  
Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-215f  
Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-221q  
Conn. Gen. Stat. Title 9

Boy Scouts of America Equal Access Act, 20 U.S.C. § 7905  
Patriotic and National Organizations, 36 U.S.C. § 1010 et seq.

ADOPTED: 10-19-2022

REVISED:

7/5/202

**ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS REGARDING  
USE OF SCHOOL FACILITIES**

**Application for Building Use**

The Branford Public Schools Application for Building Use may be found on the district website by following the link for Buildings, Grounds, and Facilities under Departments (<https://www.branfordschools.org/page/information-bgf>).

**Use of School Facilities**

The priority list for allocating use of school facilities shall be as follows:

1. School-sponsored programs and activities.
2. Activities of school-related organizations (*e.g.*, PTA, Booster Clubs, After Graduation Committees and similar organizations).
3. Town department or agency activities.
4. Activities of non-profit organizations operating within the Town, other than school-related organizations covered by category #2 above.
5. Activities of for-profit organizations operating within the Town.
6. Out-of-town organizations.

Last Version: October 19, 2022

8/3/16



## INDEMNIFICATION AND RELEASE

This form is valid for a period of one calendar year from the date signed for each application of usage which is made.

In consideration of the permission granted to it by the Branford Board of Education (the "Board") to use the school building, grounds, facilities, and/or equipment, the undersigned does hereby indemnify and hold harmless the Board and the Town of Branford, their employees, agents, contractors and assigns against any and all loss or expense, including attorneys' fees, court costs, damages, liability and any other amounts for any and all bodily injuries, including death, and/or for any and all property damage sustained accidentally or otherwise sustained by any person arising out of or connected with the undersigned's use of the school building, grounds, facilities, and/or equipment.

The undersigned further waives the right to initiate and/or pursue in any manner any and all lawsuits and any other claims in any forum against the Board or the Town of Branford, its individual Board members, officers, employees, agents, contractors and assigns for any injury or harm connected to the undersigned's use of the Board's facilities, including but not limited to claims for negligent acts or omissions and/or claims for death and/or serious bodily injury and/or claims for property damage.

The undersigned assumes responsibility for any damage to and/or theft or loss of any school district property arising out of the use of the buildings, grounds, facilities, and/or equipment.

The undersigned has read and agrees to abide by the terms of the Board policies pertaining to use of Board buildings, grounds, facilities, and/or equipment.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_.

**Signatures:**

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11/17/12



## Stephen M. Sedor

Member

### Bridgeport Office

850 Main Street

P.O. Box 7006

Bridgeport, CT 06601-7006

p 203.330.2137

f 203.576 8888

ssedor@pullicom.com

### Practice Areas

Labor and Employment  
Counseling, Training and  
Litigation

School Law

Colleges, Universities and  
Independent Schools

Labor, Employment Law &  
Employee Benefits

Union Issues

Litigation

Internal Investigations

### Bar and Court Admissions

Connecticut

New York

Stephen M. Sedor focuses his practice in the areas of education law, employment litigation and labor disputes. He defends public and private sector employers in lawsuits involving wrongful discharge, employment discrimination, wage and hour disputes, First Amendment and retaliation claims, unfair labor practice charges, restrictive covenants and other disputes. Stephen provides general counseling and advice to public and private sector employers on a wide range of labor and employment matters.

Stephen also focuses his practice on representing boards of education and municipalities on a full range of collective bargaining matters. He represents clients during collective bargaining and binding interest arbitrations, prohibited practice charges and other labor disputes. He frequently appears before the Connecticut State Board of Labor Relations and the Connecticut State Board of Mediation and Arbitration.

Stephen's practice also involves representing local boards of education on general education matters, student discipline cases, teacher termination and employee discipline matters, residency issues and other matters involving boards of education. In addition to Stephen's litigation practice, he has argued before the Connecticut Supreme Court.

8/22/2019

Stephen Sedor, Pullman & Comley LLC

U.S. District Court Northern  
District of New York  
U.S. District Court District of  
Connecticut

#### Education

Quinnipiac University School  
of Law, J.D., 1995  
Clarkson University, B.A.,  
1992

#### Professional Affiliations

Connecticut Bar Association  
Greater Bridgeport Bar Association

#### Honors & Awards

Named Stamford Lawyer of the Year in the "Labor Law - Management" category in 2016 and 2020 by *The Best Lawyers in America*  
Listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* in the areas of employment law - management and labor law - management since 2015; Listed in the area litigation - labor and employment since 2016

#### News & Events

PRESS RELEASE: 33  
Pullman & Comley Attorneys  
Named to 2020 Best  
Lawyers® List

SEMINAR: Stephen Sedor  
and Melinda Kaufmann  
Presented at 2019 CABA  
Collective Bargaining and  
Labor Relations Seminar

SEMINAR: Developments in  
Labor & Employment Law -  
May 2, 2019

SEMINAR: Please Join Us for  
Our Fifth Annual School Law  
Statewide Seminar

PRESS RELEASE: THIRTY  
THREE PULLMAN &  
COMLEY ATTORNEYS  
RECOGNIZED BY THE  
BEST LAWYERS IN  
AMERICA® 2019

PRESS RELEASE: Thirty-  
four Pullman & Comley  
Attorneys Recognized by The  
Best Lawyers in America®  
2018; Six Named "Lawyer of  
the Year"

SEMINAR: Learning  
Together: Recent  
Developments In The Law  
And Practical Solutions For  
School Districts

WORKSHOP: Attorney  
Stephen M. Sedor To Present  
"Ensuring Safe School  
Climate in Your District.  
Protecting Students,  
Complying with Conflicting  
Legal Requirements, and  
Limiting District Liability"

PRESS RELEASE: Thirty  
One Pullman & Comley  
Attorneys Recognized by The



10.18.2023

## Memo

**To:**  
Branford Board of  
Education

**From:**  
Christopher Tranberg, Ph.D.  
Superintendent of Schools

**Re:**  
Slincy Update

**CC:**  
Donald Neel  
Chief Operating Officer  
Branford Public Schools

James Cosgrove  
First Selectman

James Finch  
Director Finance  
Town of Branford

Joseph Mooney  
Board of Finance Chair

As John B. Slincy School (JBS) inches closer to its 100th birthday, the need for improvements to the facility grows exponentially. Conversations regarding the best approach to meeting the facility needs have been under discussion for at least two decades, with the most recent facility studies taking place in 2013 and again in 2022 by Silver Petrucelli.

The facility studies were conducted to obtain a comprehensive evaluation of the building and provide detailed recommendations and cost estimates for making all necessary alterations, renovations and expansions to meet the needs of contemporary elementary education for the projected student population.

The studies identified systems that will need to be replaced, upgraded or substantially modified over the next 10 years and offered a schedule of estimated costs so that the Board of Education will have the necessary information to plan for capital investments when deciding the best path forward.

The more recent study was also designed to determine space needs as appropriate for a contemporary elementary education by reviewing the existing program and deficiencies and comparing with State space standards. Additionally, the study reviewed potential options and conceptual cost ranges for the options of alterations, renovation as new and new construction.

After reimbursements, the 2022 study estimated the following expenses to the town:

Option 1	Alterations	22.6 Million
Option 2	Renovate As New	33.2 Million

## Branford Public Schools

Tel (203) 315-7816

Fax (475) 338-3910

185 Damascus Road

Branford, CT 06405

[www.branfordschools.org](http://www.branfordschools.org)

[cttranberg@branfordschools.org](mailto:cttranberg@branfordschools.org)



Option 3      New Construction      37.4 Million

While there is a sense of urgency to address facility needs for Sliney, we are simultaneously experiencing other areas requiring attention across the district. These needs range in significance from a recommendation for new construction at the Indian Neck Campus, to smaller scale projects like improvements to the library media centers across campuses. It is abundantly clear a larger master plan that considers all of our district facilities is in order to make a responsible plan for the town all while providing dynamic facilities for students to learn and grow.

In order to move forward as expeditiously as possible, the following steps and timeline are recommended in order to make data informed recommendations to best serve the Branford Community.

- |   |   |                    |
|---|---|--------------------|
| 1 | Onboard Director of Facilities  | fall 2023          |
| 2 | Develop a preventive maintenance plan for current facilities  | winter/spring 2024 |
| 3 | Request capital funds for demography study and development of master plan with architect  | FY 2025 budget     |
| 4 | Complete demography study and development of master plan with architect   | fall 2024          |
| 5 | Create a prioritized list of building projects  | winter 2025        |
| 6 | Develop Ed Specs for prioritized project(s) in consultation with architect  | winter 2025        |
| 7 | Present prioritized project list with applicable ed specs to the Town of Branford and secure funding to move forward with identified project(s) | spring 2025        |
| 8 | Establish building committee  | spring 2025        |
| 8 | Complete required State building project and funding requests   | June 2025          |
| 9 | Establish Building Committee  | fall 2025          |

- 10 Engage in RFP and identify project architect spring 2026
- 11 Begin Construction spring 2027

DRAFT

**BRANFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**2024 MEETING SCHEDULE\***

DATE	TIME	MEETING	DATE	TIME	MEETING
January 4	5:00 PM	BOE Committee Chairs Meeting	July	TBD	Board Retreat
January 10	6:00 PM	Teaching & Learning Committee			
January 10	7:00 PM	Personnel & Finance Committee	August 1	5:00 PM	BOE Committee Chairs Meeting
January 10	7:30 PM	Policy Committee Meeting	August 7	6:00 PM	Teaching & Learning Committee
January 17	6:00 PM	Communication Committee Meeting	August 7	7:00 PM	Personnel & Finance Committee
January 17	6:30PM	Regular Board Meeting	August 7	7:30 PM	Policy Committee Meeting
			August 14	6:00 PM	Communication Committee Meeting
February 1	5:00 PM	BOE Committee Chairs Meeting	August 14	6:30PM	Regular Board Meeting
February 7	7:00 PM	Supt.'s Budget Meeting			
February 14	6:00 PM	Budget Workshop	September 5	5:00 PM	BOE Committee Chairs Meeting
February 14	6:00 PM	Policy Committee Meeting	September 11	6:00 PM	Teaching & Learning Committee
February 14	6:30 PM	Budget Workshop/Personnel & Finance Committee Meeting	September 11	7:00 PM	Personnel & Finance Committee
February 21	6:00 PM	Communication Committee Meeting	September 11	7:30 PM	Policy Committee Meeting
February 21	6:30 PM	Regular Board Meeting	September 18	6:00 PM	Communication Committee Meeting
			September 18	6:30PM	Regular Board Meeting
March TBD**	7:00 PM	BOE Budget Presentation to the Board of Finance			
March 7	5:00 PM	BOE Committee Chairs Meeting	October 3	5:00 PM	BOE Committee Chairs Meeting
March 13	6:00 PM	Teaching & Learning Committee	October 9	6:00 PM	Teaching & Learning Committee
March 13	7:00 PM	Personnel & Finance Committee	October 9	7:00 PM	Personnel & Finance Committee
March 13	7:30 PM	Policy Committee Meeting	October 9	7:30 PM	Policy Committee Meeting
March 20	6:00 PM	Communication Committee Meeting	October 16	6:00 PM	Communication Committee Meeting
March 20	6:30PM	Regular Board Meeting	October 16	6:30PM	Regular Board Meeting
April TBD**	7:00 PM	BOE Budget Presentation to RTM	November 7	5:00 PM	BOE Committee Chairs Meeting
April 4	5:00 PM	BOE Committee Chairs Meeting	November 13	6:00 PM	Teaching & Learning Committee
April 17	6:00 PM	Teaching & Learning Committee	November 13	7:00 PM	Personnel & Finance Committee
April 17	7:00 PM	Personnel & Finance Committee	November 13	7:30 PM	Policy Committee Meeting
April 17	7:30 PM	Policy Committee Meeting	November 20	6:00 PM	Communication Committee Meeting
April 24	6:00 PM	Communication Committee Meeting	November 20	6:30PM	Regular Board Meeting
April 24	6:30PM	Regular Board Meeting			
			December 5	5:00 PM	Committee Chairs Meeting
May TBD**	8:00 PM	RTM Decision on BOE Budget	December 11	6:00 PM	Teaching & Learning Committee
May 2	5:00 PM	BOE Committee Chairs Meeting	December 11	7:00 PM	Personnel & Finance Committee
May 8	6:00 PM	Teaching & Learning Committee	December 11	7:30 PM	Policy Committee Meeting
May 8	7:00 PM	Personnel & Finance Committee	December 18	6:00 PM	Communication Committee Meeting
May 8	7:30 PM	Policy Committee Meeting	December 18	6:30PM	Regular Board Meeting
May 15	6:00 PM	Communication Committee Meeting			
May 15	6:30PM	Regular Board Meeting			
May 30	3:30 PM	End of Year Staff Reception			
June 6	5:00 PM	Committee Chairs Meeting			
June 12	6:00 PM	Teaching & Learning Committee			
June 12	7:00 PM	Personnel & Finance Committee			
June 12	7:30 PM	Policy Committee Meeting			
June 26	6:00 PM	Communication Committee Meeting			
June 26	6:30PM	Regular Board Meeting			

\*Held at Walsh Intermediate School Cafeteria, unless posted otherwise \*\* Fire Headquarters

BOE Approved:



**Business**

**3500P**

## **PURCHASING**

### **I. REQUIREMENTS APPLICABLE TO PURCHASES OF ALL GOODS AND SERVICES**

#### **A. Definition**

For the purposes of this policy:

1. “Goods or service” includes, but is not limited to, portable classrooms, motor vehicles or materials and equipment, such as telephone systems, computers and copy machines.
2. “General services” include all services which result in a measurable end product that can be defined by bid specifications and all services used in the process of building or altering property (excluding architectural, engineering and other design services).
3. “Property” means real property or personal property.

#### **B. Consultation with Municipality Regarding Contracts for Goods or Services, Including Insurance and Payroll Software**

After going out to bid for a good or service and receiving submissions, if the local municipality uses such good or service, the Branford Board of Education (the “Board”) shall consult with the legislative body of the municipality, or in the case of a municipality for which the legislative body is a town meeting or representative town meeting, the board of selectmen, and, if the equivalent level of such good or service is provided by the municipality through a municipal contract for a lower cost than the lowest qualified bid submission received by the Board, the Board will consider a cooperative agreement with the local municipality for the provision of such good or service.

Further, the Board will consult with the local municipality’s legislative body, or in the case of a municipality for which the legislative body is a town meeting or representative town meeting, the board of selectmen, prior to purchasing payroll processing or accounts payable software systems to determine whether such systems may be purchased or shared on a regional basis.

When possible, the Board will consult with the local municipality's legislative body, or in the case of a municipality for which the legislative body is a town meeting or representative town meeting, the board of selectmen, regarding the joint purchasing of property insurance, casualty insurance, and workers' compensation insurance.

## II. COMPETITIVE BIDDING PROCESS

### A. Purchases Requiring Competitive Bidding Process

Purchases of goods or general services, including high technology equipment, expected to involve an expenditure of \$500,000 or more must be made by sealed competitive bid. As set forth below, such purchases in amounts less than \$500,000 may be awarded by the Superintendent or his/her designee. Such purchases in the amount of \$500,000 or more must be awarded by the Board.

### B. Bid Specifications

When competitive bidding is required, all requirements, terms and conditions describing and detailing the goods or general services to be purchased must be included in the bid specifications. The bid specifications should define the requirements for quality of materials, equipment and/or services to be procured, and as such, they should clearly and accurately reflect the required characteristics of the goods and services. The bid specifications should also include any vendor or contractor qualification requirements, a school district contact person responsible for all communications with prospective bidders, a requirement that all communications between the school district contact person and prospective bidders be in writing and, if the purchase will require entering into a contract, a draft contract whenever possible.

The Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee shall develop the proposed bid specifications and other bid documents.

### C. Advertising

A legal notice inviting sealed bids shall be published by the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee at least once ~~in a daily newspaper in the local municipality and~~ on the Board's website and at least once either in a newspaper with general circulation or on the Connecticut Department of Administrative Services website. At least five (5) calendar days must intervene between the date of the last newspaper or website publication and the final date for submitting bids. The notice shall contain a general description of the goods or services being bid, the school district contact person and the day, hour and

place of the bid opening and may contain other information relating to the bid including, but not limited to, where and when bid packages may be obtained.

D. Bid Openings and Awards

All bids, and bid security if applicable, must be submitted to the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee in sealed envelopes and show on the face of the envelopes the bid number, the title of the bid and the bidder's name. All envelopes will be date stamped as received.

All bids shall be opened in public and read aloud at the time stated in the legal notice. No bids shall be accepted, or opened, that were not submitted in compliance with the procedures set forth in the notice advertising the bid.

Within a reasonable time following the bid opening, the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee will tabulate and analyze the bids. For contracts of less than \$500,000, the Superintendent shall, subject to the right of rejection, award the bid to the Lowest Responsible Qualified Bidder, as defined below. For contracts of \$500,000 or more, the Board shall, subject to the right of rejection, award the bid to the Lowest Responsible Qualified Bidder, as defined below.

Transportation contracts **including at least one zero emission bus may be awarded covering periods of not more than ten (10) years.** Transportation contracts lacking such provision may be awarded covering periods of not more than five years.

A record of all bids submitted, giving the names of the bidders, the amounts of the bids and indicating the successful bidder, shall be preserved by the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee in accordance with State law.

E. Bid Security

When, in the judgment of the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee, bid security is advisable, all bids must be accompanied by security in one of the following forms - certified check, cashier's check, personal money order, letter of credit or bid bond. The requirement for, and the amount of, the security must be set forth in the bid advertisement. All security presented must show the "Branford Board of Education" as the payee.

F. Requirements Governing Bid Awards

The award shall be made to the bidder whose bid meets the requirements, terms and conditions contained in the bid specifications and is the lowest among those bidders possessing the skill, ability and integrity necessary

for faithful performance of the work based on objective criteria considering past performance and financial responsibility (the "Lowest Responsible Qualified Bidder"), and after consideration of a cooperative agreement with the municipality as described in Section I.B, above.

In determining the Lowest Responsible Qualified Bidder the following criteria will be considered, as applicable:

- (1) The ability and capacity of the bidder to perform the work based on an evaluation of the character, integrity, reputation and experience of the bidder. Consideration shall be given to previous work performed by the bidder for the Board or for other agencies, including the quality and degree of satisfaction with the work performed.
- (2) The financial resources of the bidder and the bidder's ability to secure any required bonds and/or insurance.
- (3) Compliance by the bidder with all applicable federal, state and local laws, including any licensing requirements.
- (4) Delivery or completion time.
- (5) Cost.
- (6) Involvement in litigation.

Should a situation arise where it is impossible to distinguish between two bidders to identify the Lowest Responsible Qualified Bidder, and one of the bidders has its principal place of business located within the Town of Branford, the award will be made to the local bidder.

#### G. Rejection Of Bids

The Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee has the right to reject any and all bids in whole or in part. Any or all bids may be rejected if there is any reason to believe that collusion exists among the bidders. Individual bids may be rejected for irregularities of any kind, including, without limitation, alteration of form, additions not called for, conditional bids, incomplete bids and unexplained erasures.

The Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee retains the right to waive any formality or procedural irregularities in the bids received. Nothing in this Section should be construed to limit in any way the right of the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee to reject any and all bids.

#### H. Advisement Of Bid Award

Upon acceptance of the Lowest Responsible Qualified Bidder, a letter will be sent to the successful bidder(s) announcing the award of the bid.



All unsuccessful bidders will be sent a letter notifying them that they were not selected.

### III. COMPETITIVE QUOTATION PROCESS

#### A. Purchases Requiring Competitive Quotation Process

Price quotations should be requested for all purchases of goods or general services, including high technology equipment, expected to involve an expenditure of at least \$10,000 but less than the Town Charter bid threshold. Purchases of goods or services which involve an expenditure of less than \$10,000 may be made directly, without regard to any competitive bid or quotation process. Waivers from the quotation process are available for the same reasons that Waivers are available from the bidding process. (See Section V.)

#### B. Process For Obtaining Quotations

Generally quotations, either oral or written, should be solicited by the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee from at least three (3) vendors or obtained from current catalogues or price sheets. The refusal of an otherwise valid supplier to quote shall qualify as a quotation. The quotation process does not require a public opening, and the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee may send requests to a limited number of selected vendors. However, vendors must furnish all of the necessary information to the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee by the specified date.

The purchase shall be awarded to the provider whose proposal is deemed to best provide the good and/or services desired, taking into account cost and the project requirements, and after consideration of a cooperative agreement with the municipality as described in Section I.B, above.

### IV. COMPETITIVE PROPOSAL PROCESS FOR SPECIAL OR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

#### A. Purchases Requiring Competitive Proposal Process

Purchases of Special or Professional Services may be made by competitive proposal should the situation warrant if the purchase exceeds the monetary thresholds set forth below. Special or Professional Services involve the furnishing of judgment, expertise, advice or effort by persons other than Board employees, and not involving the delivery of a specific end product that is defined by bid specifications. Examples of Professional Services include, but are not limited to, in-service instructional leaders, pupil services, special education evaluations, interpreters, tutors, computer programmers, architects, auditors, attorneys, instructional consultants, and temporary agencies. Examples of Special Services include, but are not limited to, repair services for Board property, equipment and vehicles where the nature of the repair cannot be

defined in advance by bid specifications and the professional expertise of the service provider is critical. Waivers from the proposal process are available for the same reasons that Waivers are available from the bidding process. (See Section V.) Funds must be available in the proper account in order to begin development of a Request for Proposals ("RFP").

Purchases of Special or Professional Services that are expected to be less than \$150,000 shall be made directly by the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee, without regard to a competitive proposal process.

B. Informal Competitive Proposal Process (\$10,000 to \$149,999)

Purchases of Special or Professional Services for at least \$10,500 but less than \$150,000 shall be based upon a reasonable and documented attempt to solicit proposals. Where possible, proposals should be solicited from at least three (3) potential service providers. The refusal to submit a proposal from an otherwise valid provider shall qualify as a proposal. The process shall be documented in writing by the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee. If a single reasonable source exists for the service, this fact shall be documented in writing.

An evaluation of the proposals received will be made by the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee. The Superintendent or his/her designee shall award the contract to the service provider whose proposal is deemed to best provide the services desired, taking into account cost and the project requirements.

A record of all proposals submitted, giving the names of the service providers, the amount of the proposal and indicating the successful provider, shall be preserved by the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee in accordance with State law.

C. Formal Competitive Proposal Process

Request for Proposals for Purchases of Special or Professional Services for \$150,000 or more shall be prepared by the Superintendent or his/her designee. All requirements, terms and conditions, including provider qualifications, should be included in the RFP, as well as a draft contract whenever possible. The award of any such contracts for \$150,000 or more shall be approved by the Board.

The Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee will arrange to have a legal notice requesting proposals published in a local newspaper and on the Board's website at least ten (10) business days prior to the deadline for submitting proposals. Whenever the Superintendent or his/her designee determines that the service requested is so specialized that few appropriate

providers can reasonably be expected to respond to the notice, the Superintendent may substitute another means of notifying potential providers of the RFP in lieu of such newspaper and website notice. Any advertisement or other notice of the RFP shall include the general description of the services sought and the location where RFPs may be obtained.

Where possible, proposals should be solicited from at least three (3) potential service providers. The refusal to submit a proposal from an otherwise valid provider shall qualify as a proposal. The process shall be documented in writing by the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee. If a single reasonable source exists for the service, this fact shall be documented in writing.

An evaluation of the proposals will be made by the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee. The contract shall be awarded to the service provider whose proposal is deemed to best provide the services desired, taking into account cost and the requirements, terms and conditions contained in the RFP.

A record of all proposals submitted, giving the names of the service providers, the amount of the proposal and indicating the successful provider, shall be preserved by the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee in accordance with State law.

## V. WAIVERS

In certain situations the bidding, quotation and proposal processes described above may be waived even though the estimated cost exceeds the dollar threshold established by the Board. The formal processes may be waived for any of the following reasons:

- (1) Only one (1) reasonable or qualified source can be identified. This shall include situations such as the purchase of copyrighted materials and textbooks.
- (2) Time is a critical factor, and taking the time necessary to comply with the formal process would not be in the best interests of the school district.
- (3) In the opinion of the Superintendent or his/her designee, an emergency requires the purchase of goods or services to avoid injury or damage to human life or property.
- (4) A special source, including but not limited to a sale, purchasing plan, government discount or trade-in allowance, will supply a lower cost than that which would result from a bid process.

- (5) A formal process would result in substantially higher costs to the school district, or inefficient use of personnel, or cause substantial disruption of school district operations.
- (6) Prices of goods or services are subject to specific federal or state competitive bidding requirements, including, but not limited to, "school building projects" as defined in the Connecticut General Statutes.
- (7) Regional or cooperative purchases.
- (8) Cooperative agreement with the local municipality.

For a requesting administrator to obtain a Waiver, the requesting administrator must make a written request to the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee. The Waiver must bear the signature of the requesting administrator and state the reason(s) for requesting the Waiver. Upon receipt of such request, the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee will promptly notify the requesting administrator if such Waiver has been granted.

In addition, the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee, in his/her sole determination, may grant a Waiver for any of the above-listed reasons. Upon granting such a Waiver, the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee must, in writing, state the reason(s) for granting such Waiver.

VI. PROCUREMENT OF PROPERTY AND SERVICES UNDER A FEDERAL AWARD

When procuring property and/or services under a Federal award, the Board will comply with relevant regulations in the Code of Federal Regulations, as described in 2 C.F.R. § 200.318 through 2 C.F.R. § 200.327, as amended from time to time, to the extent it is required to do so. See Appendix A.

VII. AUDITS

The Board may periodically engage an independent audit firm to review the purchasing procedures outlined in this policy.

Legal References:

State Law:

- Conn. Gen. Stat. §10-241c Local board of education to consult with municipality re joint purchasing of property insurance, casualty insurance and workers' compensation insurance.
- Conn. Gen. Stat. §10-241d Local board of education consultation with municipality re goods and services. Cooperative arrangements.

Conn. Gen. Stat. §10-241e Local board of education consultation with  
municipality prior to purchase of payroll processing  
or accounts payable software program.

Federal Law:

2 C.F.R. § 200.317 through 2 § C.F.R. 200.327.

2 C.F.R. § 200.81 (definition of property).

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## APPENDIX A

### Procurement Standards for the Acquisition of Property or Services Under a Federal Award 2 C.F.R. §§ 200.317-300.327

*This Appendix addresses procurements of property and services under a Federal award. Whenever these Federal Uniform Guidance Procurement Standards, as may be amended from time to time, are applicable to procurements made by the Board of Education (the “Board”), the Board shall apply the more restrictive procurement rules, to the extent it is required to do so.*

2 C.F.R. §	FULL TEXT OF C.F.R. SECTION	BRIEF SUMMARY
200.317	<b>Procurements by States</b>	
	When procuring property and services under a Federal award, a State follow the same policies and procedures it uses for procurements from non-Federal funds. The State will comply with §§ 200.321, 200.322, and 200.323 and ensure that every purchase order or other contract includes any clauses required by 200.327. All other non-Federal entities, including subrecipients of a State, must follow the procurement standards in §§ 200.318 through 200.327.	A State must follow the same policies and procedures when making procurements under a Federal award and when making procurements using non-Federal funds. The Board must follow 2 C.F.R. §§ 200.318 through 200.327 when making procurements under a Federal award.
200.318	<b>General Procurement Standards</b>	
200.318(a)	The non-Federal entity must have and use documented procurement procedures, consistent with State, local, and tribal laws and regulations and the standards of this section, for the acquisition of property or services.	The Board must have and use documented procurement procedures consistent with State,

	required under a Federal award or subaward. The non-Federal entity's documented procurement procedures must conform to the procurement standards identified in §§ 200.317 through 200.327.	local, and Federal requirements for procurements made under a Federal award.
200.318(b)	Non-Federal entities must maintain oversight to ensure that contractors perform in accordance with the terms, conditions, and specifications of their contracts or purchase orders.	The Board must maintain oversight of its contractors.
200.318(c)(1)	The non-Federal entity must maintain written standards of conduct covering conflicts of interest and governing the performance of its employees engaged in the selection, award and administration of contracts. No employee, officer, or agent may participate in the selection, award, or administration of a contract supported by a Federal award if he or she has a real or apparent conflict of interest. Such conflict of interest would arise when the employee, officer, or agent, any member of his or her immediate family, his or her partner, or an organization which employs or is about to employ any of the parties indicated herein, has a financial or other interest in or a tangible personal benefit from a firm considered for contract. The officers, employees, and agents of the non-Federal entity must neither solicit nor accept gratuities, favors, or anything of monetary value from contractors or parties to subcontracts. However, non-Federal entities may set standards for situations in which the financial interest is not substantial or the gift is an unsolicited item of nominal value. The standards of conduct must provide for disciplinary actions to be applied for violations of such standards by officers, employees, or agents of the non-Federal entity.	The Board must have written standards of conduct covering conflicts of interest and governing the performance of its employees engaged in the selection, award, and administration of contracts. Board officers and employees (and their immediate family members, partners, and organizations which employ or are about to employ them) must not have a financial or other interest in a contract and must not solicit or accept gifts from contractors or subcontractors. The standards of conduct must provide for disciplinary actions for violations. See Code of Conduct Governing Procurements Under a Federal Award.
200.318(c)(2)	If the non-Federal entity has a parent, affiliate, or subsidiary organization that is not a state, local government, or Indian tribe, the non-Federal entity must also maintain written standards of conduct covering organizational conflicts of interest. Organizational conflicts of interest means that because	The Board's conflict of interest policy must cover relationships with certain parent, affiliate, or subsidiary organizations, if any.

	of relationships with a parent company, affiliate, or subsidiary organization, the non-Federal entity is unable or appears to be unable to be impartial in conducting a procurement action involving a related organization.	
200.318(d)	The non-Federal entity's procedures must avoid acquisition of unnecessary or duplicative items. Consideration should be given to consolidating or breaking out procurements to obtain a more economical purchase. Where appropriate, an analysis will be made of lease versus purchase alternatives, and any other appropriate analysis to determine the most economical approach.	The Board must avoid acquisition of unnecessary or duplicative items.
200.318(e)	To foster greater economy and efficiency, and in accordance with efforts to promote cost-effective use of shared services across the Federal government, the non-Federal entity is encouraged to enter into state and local intergovernmental agreements or inter-entity agreements where appropriate for procurement or use of common or shared goods and services. Competition requirements will be met with documented procurement actions using strategic sourcing, shared services, and other similar procurement arrangements.	The Board is encouraged to use intergovernmental agreements or inter-entity agreements.
200.318(f)	The non-Federal entity is encouraged to use Federal excess and surplus property in lieu of purchasing new equipment and property whenever such use is feasible and reduces project costs.	The Board is encouraged to use Federal excess and surplus in lieu of purchasing new, when feasible.
200.318(g)	The non-Federal entity is encouraged to use value engineering clauses in contracts for construction projects of sufficient size to offer reasonable opportunities for cost reductions. Value engineering is a systematic and creative analysis of each contract item or task to ensure that its essential function is provided at the overall lower cost.	The Board is encouraged to use value engineering clauses in construction contracts of sufficient size.
200.318(h)	The non-Federal entity must award contracts only to responsible contractors possessing the ability to perform successfully under the terms and conditions of a proposed procurement. Consideration will be given to such matters as contractor integrity, compliance with public policy, record of past performance, and financial and technical resources.	The Board must award contracts to responsible contractors, after considering contractor integrity, compliance with public policy, past



		performance, and financial and technical resources.
200.318(i)	The non-Federal entity must maintain records sufficient to detail the history of procurement. These records will include, but are not necessarily limited to the following: rationale for the method of procurement, selection of contract type, contractor selection or rejection, and the basis for the contract price.	The Board must maintain procurement records.
200.318(j)(1)	The non-Federal entity may use a time-and-materials type contract only after a determination that no other contract is suitable and if the contract includes a ceiling price that the contractor exceeds at its own risk. Time-and-materials type contract means a contract whose cost to a non-Federal entity is the sum of: (i) The actual cost of materials; (ii) Direct labor hours charged at fixed hourly rates that reflect wages, general and administrative expenses, and profit.	The Board may only use time-and-materials type contracts in limited circumstances.
200.318(j)(2)	Since this formula generates an open-ended contract price, a time-and-materials contract provides no positive profit incentive to the contractor for cost control or labor efficiency. Therefore, each contract must set a ceiling price that the contractor exceeds at its own risk. Further, the non-Federal entity awarding such a contract must assert a high degree of oversight in order to obtain reasonable assurance that the contractor is using efficient methods and effective cost controls.	The Board must set a ceiling price and assert a high degree of oversight on time-and-materials type contracts.
200.318(k)	The non-Federal entity alone must be responsible, in accordance with good administrative practice and sound business judgment, for the settlement of all contractual and administrative issues arising out of procurements. These issues include, but are not limited to, source evaluation, protests, disputes, and claims. These standards do not relieve the non-Federal entity of any contractual responsibilities under its contracts. The Federal awarding agency will not substitute its judgment for that of the non-Federal entity unless the matter is primarily a Federal concern. Violations of law will be referred to the local, state, or Federal authority having proper jurisdiction.	The Board must be responsible for settling contract disputes and administrative issues arising out of procurements.

<b>200.319</b>	<b>Competition</b>	
200.319(a)	All procurement transactions of the acquisition of property or services required under a Federal award must be conducted in a manner providing full and open competition consistent with the standards of this section and § 200.320.	The Board must conduct procurement transactions in a manner providing full and open competition.
200.319(b)	In order to ensure objective contractor performance and eliminate unfair competitive advantage, contractors that develop or draft specifications, requirements, statements of work, and invitations for bids or requests for proposals must be excluded from competing for such procurements. Some of the situations considered to be restrictive of competition include but are not limited to: (1) Placing unreasonable requirements on firms in order for them to qualify to do business; (2) Requiring unnecessary experience and excessive bonding; (3) Noncompetitive pricing practices between firms or between affiliated companies; (4) Noncompetitive contracts to consultants that are on retainer contracts; (5) Organizational conflicts of interest; (6) Specifying only a “brand name” product instead of allowing “an equal” product to be offered and describing the performance or other relevant requirements of the procurement; and (7) Any arbitrary action in the procurement process.	Contractors that develop or draft specifications, requirements, statements of work, and invitations for bids or requests for proposals must be excluded from competing for such procurements. The Board must avoid practices that are restrictive of competition.
200.319(c)	The non-Federal entity must conduct procurements in a manner that prohibits the use of statutorily or administratively imposed state or local geographical preferences in the evaluation of bids or proposals, except in those cases where applicable Federal statutes expressly mandate or encourage geographic preference. Nothing in this section preempts state licensing laws. When contracting for architectural and engineering (A/E) services, geographic location may be a selection criterion provided its application leaves an appropriate number of qualified firms, given the nature and size of the project, to compete for the contract.	The Board is generally prohibited from using geographical preference in the evaluation of bids or proposals.

200.319(d)	<p>The non-Federal entity must have written procedures for procurement transactions. These procedures must ensure that all solicitations: (1) Incorporate a clear and accurate description of the technical requirements for the material, product, or service to be procured. Such description must not, in competitive procurements, contain features which unduly restrict competition. The description may include a statement of the qualitative nature of the material, product or service to be procured and, when necessary, must set forth those minimum essential characteristics and standards to which it must conform if it is to satisfy its intended use. Detailed product specifications should be avoided if all possible. When it is impractical or uneconomical to make a clear and accurate description of the technical requirements, a “brand name or equivalent” description may be used as a means to define the performance or other salient requirements of procurement. The specific features of the named brand which must be met by offers must be clearly stated; and (2) Identify all requirements which the offerors must fulfill and all other factors to be used in evaluating bids or proposals.</p>	<p>The Board must have written procedures for procurement transactions that ensure that solicitations (1) incorporate a clear and accurate description of technical requirements and (2) identify all requirements the offeror must fulfill and all other factors to be used in evaluating bids or proposals.</p>
200.319(e)	<p>The non-Federal entity must ensure that all prequalified lists of persons, firms, or products which are used in acquiring goods and services are current and include enough qualified sources to ensure maximum open and free competition. Also, the non-Federal entity must not preclude potential bidders from qualifying during the solicitation period.</p>	<p>The Board must ensure all prequalified lists are current and include enough qualified sources to ensure open and free competition.</p>
200.319(f)	<p>Noncompetitive procurements can only be awarded in accordance with § 200.320(c).</p>	<p>Noncompetitive procurements must be awarded in accordance with § 200.320(c).</p>
<b>200.320</b>	<b>Methods of Procurement to be Followed</b>	
200.320	<p>The non-Federal entity must have and use documented procurement procedures, consistent with the standards of this section and §§ 200.317, 200.318, and 200.319 for any of the following methods of procurement</p>	<p>The Board must have and use documented procurement procedures for procurements made</p>

	used for the acquisition of property or services required under a Federal award or sub-award.	under a Federal award or sub-award.
200.320(a)	Informal procurement methods. When the value of the procurement for property or services under a Federal award does not exceed the simplified acquisition threshold (SAT), as defined in § 200.1, or a lower threshold established by a non-Federal entity, formal procurement methods are not required. The non-Federal entity may use informal procurement methods to expedite the completion of its transactions and minimize the associated administrative burden and cost. The informal methods used for procurement of property or services at or below the SAT include:	For purchases under the simplified acquisition threshold, or a lower threshold established by the Board, the Board may use informal procurement methods (micro-purchases and small purchases).
200.320(a)(1)	<p>(1) Micro-purchases—</p> <p>(i) Distribution. The acquisition of supplies or services, the aggregate dollar amount of which does not exceed the micro-purchase threshold (See the definition of micro-purchase in § 200.1). To the maximum extent practicable, the non-Federal entity should distribute micro-purchases equitably among qualified suppliers.</p> <p>(ii) Micro-purchase awards. Micro-purchases may be awarded without soliciting competitive price or rate quotations if the non-Federal entity considers the price to be reasonable based on research, experience, purchase history or other information and documents it[s] files accordingly. Purchase cards can be used for micro-purchases if procedures are documented and approved by the non-Federal entity.</p> <p>(iii) Micro-purchase thresholds. The non-Federal entity is responsible for determining and documenting an appropriate micro-purchase threshold based on internal controls, an evaluation of risk, and its documented procurement procedures. The micro-purchase threshold used by the non-Federal entity must be authorized or not prohibited under State, local, or tribal laws or regulations. Non-Federal entities may establish a threshold higher than the Federal threshold established in the Federal Acquisition</p>	Micro-purchases should be distributed equitably among qualified suppliers and may be awarded without soliciting competitive price or rate quotations if the Board considers the price to be reasonable based on research, experience, purchase history, or other information and documents its files accordingly.

	<p>Regulations (FAR) in accordance with paragraphs (a)(1)(iv) and (v) of this section.</p> <p>(iv) Non–Federal entity increase to the micro-purchase threshold up to \$50,000. Non–Federal entities may establish a threshold higher than the micro-purchase threshold identified in the FAR in accordance with the requirements of this section. The non–Federal entity may self-certify a threshold up to \$50,000 on an annual basis and must maintain documentation to be made available to the Federal awarding agency and auditors in accordance with § 200.334. The self-certification must include a justification, clear identification of the threshold, and supporting documentation of any of the following:</p> <p>(A) A qualification as a low-risk auditee, in accordance with the criteria in § 200.520 for the most recent audit;</p> <p>(B) An annual internal institutional risk assessment to identify, mitigate, and manage financial risks; or,</p> <p>(C) For public institutions, a higher threshold consistent with State law.</p> <p>(v) Non–Federal entity increase to the micro-purchase threshold over \$50,000. Micro-purchase thresholds higher than \$50,000 must be approved by the cognizant agency for indirect costs. The non-federal entity must submit a request with the requirements included in paragraph (a)(1)(iv) of this section. The increased threshold is valid until there is a change in status in which the justification was approved.</p>	
200.320(a)(2)	<p>(2) Small purchases—</p> <p>(i) Small purchase procedures. The acquisition of property or services, the aggregate dollar amount of which is higher than the micro-purchase threshold but does not exceed the simplified acquisition threshold. If small purchase procedures are used, price or rate quotations must be obtained from an adequate number of qualified sources as determined appropriate by the non–Federal entity.</p>	<p>For small purchases, the aggregate dollar amount of which is higher than the micro-purchase threshold but lower than the simplified acquisition threshold, price or rate quotations must be obtained from an</p>

	(ii) Simplified acquisition thresholds. The non-Federal entity is responsible for determining an appropriate simplified acquisition threshold based on internal controls, an evaluation of risk and its documented procurement procedures which must not exceed the threshold established in the FAR. When applicable, a lower simplified acquisition threshold used by the non-Federal entity must be authorized or not prohibited under State, local, or tribal laws or regulations.	adequate number of qualified sources.
200.320(b)	Formal procurement methods. When the value of the procurement for property or services under a Federal financial assistance award exceeds the SAT, or a lower threshold established by a non-Federal entity, formal procurement methods are required. Formal procurement methods require following documented procedures. Formal procurement methods also require public advertising unless a non-competitive procurement can be used in accordance with § 200.319 or paragraph (c) of this section. The following formal methods of procurement are used for procurement of property or services above the simplified acquisition threshold or a value below the simplified acquisition threshold the non-Federal entity determines to be appropriate:	For purchases that exceed the simplified acquisition threshold, or a lower threshold established by the Board, formal procurement methods must be used and public advertising may be required.
200.320(b)(1)	(1) Sealed bids. A procurement method in which bids are publicly solicited and a firm fixed-price contract (lump sum or unit price) is awarded to the responsible bidder whose bid, conforming with all the material terms and conditions of the invitation for bids, is the lowest in price. The sealed bids method is the preferred method for procuring construction, if the conditions [stet]. (i) In order for sealed bidding to be feasible, the following conditions should be present: (A) A complete, adequate, and realistic specification or purchase description is available; (B) Two or more responsible bidders are willing and able to compete effectively for the business; and (C) The procurement lends itself to a firm fixed price contract and the selection of the successful bidder can be made principally on the	In sealed bid procurements, bids are publicly solicited and the Board awards the contract to the lowest responsible bidder. The Board should use sealed bidding for procuring construction whenever complete, adequate, and realistic specifications are available, two or more responsible bidders are able to compete, and selection of a successful bidder can be made

	<p>basis of price. (ii) If sealed bids are used, the following requirements apply: (A) Bids must be solicited from an adequate number of qualified sources, providing them sufficient response time prior to the date set for opening the bids, for local, and tribal governments, the invitation for bids must be publicly advertised; (B) The invitation for bids, which will include any specifications and pertinent attachments, must define the items or services in order for the bidder to properly respond; (C) All bids will be opened at the time and place prescribed in the invitation for bids, and for local and tribal governments, the bids must be opened publicly; (D) A firm fixed price contract award will be made in writing to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder. Where specified in bidding documents, factors such as discounts, transportation cost, and life cycle costs must be considered in determining which bid is lowest. Payment discounts will only be used to determine the low bid when prior experience indicates that such discounts are usually taken advantage of; and (E) Any or all bids may be rejected if there is a sound documented reason.</p>	<p>principally on the basis of price. If sealed bids are used, they must meet certain requirements. Any or all bids may be rejected if there is a sound documented reason.</p>
200.320(b)(2)	<p>(2) Proposals. A procurement method in which either a fixed price or cost-reimbursement type contract is awarded. Proposals are generally used when conditions are not appropriate for the use of sealed bids. They are awarded in accordance with the following requirements: (i) Requests for proposals must be publicized and identify all evaluation factors and their relative importance. Proposals must be solicited from an adequate number of qualified offerors. Any response to publicized requests for proposals must be considered to the maximum extent practical; (ii) The non-Federal entity must have a written method for conducting technical evaluations of the proposals received and making selections; (iii) Contracts must be awarded to the responsible offeror whose proposal is most advantageous to the non-Federal entity, with price and other factors considered; and (iv) The non-Federal entity may use competitive proposal procedures for</p>	<p>Proposals for fixed price or cost-reimbursement type contracts are generally used when conditions are not appropriate for the use of sealed bids. Proposals are awarded after requests for proposals are publicized with evaluation factors identified; an adequate number of offerors are solicited, considered and evaluated; and contracts are awarded to the responsible offeror with the most advantageous proposal.</p>

	<p>qualifications-based procurement of architectural/engineering (A/E) professional services whereby offeror's qualifications are evaluated and the most qualified offeror is selected, subject to negotiation of fair and reasonable compensation. The method, where price is not used as a selection factor, can only be used in procurement of A/E professional services. It cannot be used to purchase other types of services though A/E firms that are a potential source to perform the proposed effort.</p>	
200.320(c)	<p>Noncompetitive procurement. There are specific circumstances in which noncompetitive procurement can be used. Noncompetitive procurement can only be awarded if one or more of the following circumstances apply:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) The acquisition of property or services, the aggregate dollar amount of which does not exceed the micro-purchase threshold (see paragraph (a)(1) of this section);</li> <li>(2) The item is available only from a single source;</li> <li>(3) The public exigency or emergency for the requirement will not permit a delay resulting from publicizing a competitive solicitation;</li> <li>(4) The Federal awarding agency or pass-through entity expressly authorizes a noncompetitive procurement in response to a written request from the non-Federal entity; or</li> <li>(5) After solicitation of a number of sources, competition is determined inadequate.</li> </ul>	<p>The Board may procure goods via noncompetitive procurement only when the aggregate dollar amount does not exceed the micro-purchase threshold; the item is available only from a single source; in times of public emergency; when the Federal awarding agency expressly authorizes noncompetitive procurement; or competition is determined inadequate after solicitation of a number of sources.</p>
<b>200.321</b>	<p><b>Contracting with Small and Minority Businesses, Women's Business Enterprises, and Labor Surplus Area Firms</b></p>	
200.321(a)	<p>The non-Federal entity must take all necessary affirmative steps to assure that minority businesses, women's business enterprises, and labor surplus area firms are used when possible.</p>	<p>The Board must take all necessary affirmative steps to assure that minority businesses, women's business enterprises, and labor</p>



		surplus area firms are used when possible.
200.321(b)	Affirmative steps must include: (1) Placing qualified small and minority businesses and women’s business enterprises on solicitation lists; (2) Assuring that small and minority businesses, and women’s business enterprises are solicited whenever they are potential sources; (3) Dividing total requirements, when economically feasible, into smaller tasks or quantities to permit maximum participation by small and minority businesses, and women’s business enterprises; (4) Establishing delivery schedules, where the requirement permits, which encourage participation by small and minority businesses, and women’s business enterprises; (5) Using the services and assistance, as appropriate of such organizations as the Small Business Administration and the Minority Business Development Agency of the Department of Commerce; and (6) Requiring the prime contractor, if subcontracts are to be let, to take the affirmative steps listed in paragraphs (1) through (5) of this section.	Affirmative steps include, among other things, placing qualified small and minority businesses and women’s business enterprises on solicitation lists; assuring such businesses are solicited whenever they are potential sources; dividing total requirements, when economically feasible, into smaller tasks or quantities; and establishing delivery schedules, where the requirement permits, which encourage participation by such businesses.
<b>200.322</b>	<b>Domestic Preferences for Procurements</b>	
200.322(a)	As appropriate and to the extent consistent with law, the <del>Federal</del> entity should, to the greatest extent practicable under a Federal award, provide a preference for the purchase, acquisition, or use of goods, products, or materials produced in the United States (including but not limited to iron, aluminum, steel, cement, and other manufactured products). The requirements of this section must be included in all subawards including all contracts and purchase orders for work or product under this award.	The Board will, to the greatest extent practicable, provide a preference for goods, products or materials produced in the United States.
200.322(b)	For purposes of this section:	

	<p>(1) “Produced in the United States” means, for iron and steel products, that all manufacturing processes, from the initial melting stage through the application of coatings, occurred in the United States.</p> <p>(2) “Manufactured products” means items and construction materials composed in whole or in part of non-ferrous metals such as aluminum; plastics and polymer-based products such as polyvinyl chloride pipe; aggregates such as concrete; glass, including optical fiber; and lumber.</p>	
<b>200.323</b>	<b>Procurement of Recovered Materials</b>	
200.323	<p>A non-Federal entity that is a state agency or agency of a political subdivision of a state and its contractors must comply with section 6002 of the Solid Waste Disposal Act, as amended by the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act. The requirements of Section 6002 include procuring only items designated in guidelines of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) at 40 CFR part 247 that contain the highest percentage of recovered materials practicable, consistent with maintaining a satisfactory level of competition, where the purchase price of the item exceeds \$10,000, or the value of the quantity acquired by the preceding fiscal year exceeds \$10,000; procuring solid waste management services in a manner that maximizes energy and resource recovery; and establishing an affirmative procurement program for procurement of recovered materials identified in the EPA guidelines.</p>	<p>The Board must follow standards in procuring certain items over \$10,000 to ensure, among other things, the highest percentage of recovered materials practicable, consistent with maintaining a satisfactory level of competition.</p>
<b>200.324</b>	<b>Contract Cost and Price</b>	
200.324(a)	<p>The non-Federal entity must perform a cost or price analysis in connection with every procurement action in excess of the Simplified Acquisition Threshold including contract modifications. The method and degree of analysis is dependent on the facts surrounding the particular procurement</p>	<p>The Board must perform a cost or price analysis for every procurement in excess of the simplified acquisition threshold.</p>

	situation, but as a starting point, the non-Federal entity must make independent estimates before receiving bids or proposals.	
200.324(b)	The non-Federal entity must negotiate profit as a separate element of the price for each contract in which there is no price competition and, in all cases, where cost analysis is performed. To establish a fair and reasonable profit, consideration must be given to the complexity of the work to be performed, the risk borne by the contractor, the contractor's investment, the amount of subcontracting, the quality of its record of past performance, and industry profit rates in the surrounding geographical area for similar work.	The Board must negotiate profit for sole-source procurements and for procurements where cost analysis is performed.
200.324(c)	Costs or prices based on estimated costs for contracts under the Federal award are allowable only to the extent that costs incurred or cost estimates included in negotiated prices would be allowable for the non-Federal entity under Subpart E [Cost Principles] of this part. The non-Federal entity may reference its own cost principles that comply with the Federal cost principles.	Costs incurred or estimated costs are allowable only to the extent they comply with Federal Cost Principles.
200.324(d)	The cost plus a percentage of cost and percentage of construction cost methods of contracting must not be used.	The cost plus a percentage of cost and percentage of construction cost methods of contracting must not be used.
<b>200.325</b>	<b>Federal Awarding Agency or PassThrough Entity Review</b>	
200.325(a)	The non-Federal entity must make available, upon request of the Federal awarding agency or passthrough entity, technical specifications on proposed procurements when the Federal awarding agency or passthrough entity believes such review is needed to ensure that the item or service specified is the one being proposed for acquisition. This review generally will take place prior to the time the specification is incorporated into a solicitation document. However, if the non-Federal entity desires to have	The Board must make technical specs for procurements available upon request by the Federal awarding agency or passthrough entity.

	the review accomplished after a solicitation has been developed, the Federal awarding agency or passthrough entity may still review the specifications, with such review usually limited to the technical aspects of the proposed purchase.	
200.325(b)	The non-Federal entity must make available upon request, for the Federal awarding agency or passthrough entity pre-procurement review, procurement documents, such as requests for proposals or invitations for bids, or independent cost estimates, when: (1) The non-Federal entity's procurement procedures or operation fails to comply with the procurement standards in this part; (2) The procurement is expected to exceed the Simplified Acquisition Threshold and is to be awarded without competition or only one bid or offer is received in response to a solicitation; (3) The procurement, which is expected to exceed the Simplified Acquisition Threshold, specifies a "brand name" product; (4) The proposed contract is more than the Simplified Acquisition Threshold and is to be awarded to other than the apparent low bidder under a sealed bid procurement; or (5) A proposed contract modification changes the scope of a contract or increases the contract amount by more than the Simplified Acquisition Threshold.	Upon request, the Board must make procurement documents available for pre-procurement review by the Federal awarding agency or passthrough entity in a number of circumstances.
200.325(c)	The non-Federal entity is exempt from the pre-procurement review in paragraph (b) of this section if the Federal awarding agency or passthrough entity determines that its procurement systems comply with the standards of this part. (1) The non-Federal entity may request that its procurement system be reviewed by the Federal awarding agency or passthrough entity to determine whether its system meets these standards in order for its system to be certified. Generally, these reviews must occur where there is continuous high-dollar funding, and third party contracts are awarded on a regular basis; (2) The non-Federal entity may self-certify its procurement system. Such self-certification must not limit the Federal	The Board is exempt from pre-procurement review if the Federal awarding agency or passthrough entity determines that its procurement systems comply with the standards of this part.

	awarding agency's right to survey the system. Under a self-certification procedure, the Federal awarding agency may rely on written assurances from the non-Federal entity that it is complying with these standards. The non-Federal entity must cite specific policies, procedures, regulations, or standards as being in compliance with these requirements and have its system available for review.	
<b>200.326</b>	<b>Bonding Requirements</b>	
200.326	For construction or facility improvement contracts or subcontracts exceeding the Simplified Acquisition Threshold, the Federal awarding agency or pass-through entity may accept the bonding policy and requirements of the non-Federal entity provided that the Federal awarding agency or passthrough entity has made a determination that the Federal interest is adequately protected. If such a determination has not been made, the minimum requirements must be as follows:	For construction or facility improvement contracts or subcontracts exceeding the simplified acquisition threshold, the Federal awarding agency or passthrough entity may accept the Board's bonding requirements if it determines that its interest is adequately protected.
200.326(a)	A bid guarantee from each bidder equivalent to five percent of the bid price. The "bid guarantee" must consist of a firm commitment such as a bid bond, certified check, or other negotiable instrument accompanying a bid as assurance that the bidder will, upon acceptance of the bid, execute such contractual documents as may be required within the time specified.	The Board must require a bid guarantee of 5% of the bid price if the awarding agency or passthrough entity does not accept the Board's bonding requirements.
200.326(b)	A performance bond on the part of the contractor for 100 percent of the contract price. A "performance bond" is one executed in connection with a contract to secure fulfillment of all the contractor's obligations under such contract.	The Board must require a performance bond for 100% of the contract price if the awarding agency or passthrough entity does not accept the Board's bonding requirements.

200.326(c)	A payment bond on the part of the contractor for 100 percent of the contract price. A “payment bond” is one executed in connection with a contract to assure payment as required by law of all persons supplying labor and material in the execution of the work provided in the contract.	The Board must require a payment bond for 100% of the contract price if the awarding agency or passthrough entity does not accept the Board’s bonding requirements.
<b>200.327</b>	<b>Contract Provisions</b>	
00.327	The non-Federal entity’s contracts must contain the applicable provisions described in Appendix II to Part 200- Contract Provisions for Non-Federal Entity Contracts Under Federal Awards.	The Board must include the Federal contract provisions in its contracts.





**Business**

**3500 P**

## **PURCHASING**

### **I. REQUIREMENTS APPLICABLE TO PURCHASES OF ALL GOODS AND SERVICES**

#### **A. Definition**

For the purposes of this policy:

1. “Goods or service” includes, but is not limited to, portable classrooms, motor vehicles or materials and equipment, such as telephone systems, computers and copy machines.
2. “General services” include all services which result in a measurable end product that can be defined by bid specifications and all services used in the process of building or altering property (excluding architectural, engineering and other design services).
3. “Property” means real property or personal property.

#### **B. Consultation with Municipality Regarding Contracts for Goods or Services, Including Insurance and Payroll Software**

After going out to bid for a good or service and receiving submissions, if the local municipality uses such good or service, the Branford Board of Education (the “Board”) shall consult with the legislative body of the municipality, or in the case of a municipality for which the legislative body is a town meeting or representative town meeting, the board of selectmen, and, if the equivalent level of such good or service is provided by the municipality through a municipal contract for a lower cost than the lowest qualified bid submission received by the Board, the Board will consider a cooperative agreement with the local municipality for the provision of such good or service.

Further, the Board will consult with the local municipality’s legislative body, or in the case of a municipality for which the legislative body is a town meeting or representative town meeting, the board of selectmen, prior to purchasing payroll processing or accounts payable software systems to determine whether such systems may be purchased or shared on a regional basis.



When possible, the Board will consult with the local municipality's legislative body, or in the case of a municipality for which the legislative body is a town meeting or representative town meeting, the board of selectmen, regarding the joint purchasing of property insurance, casualty insurance, and workers' compensation insurance.

## II. COMPETITIVE BIDDING PROCESS

### A. Purchases Requiring Competitive Bidding Process

Purchases of goods or general services, including high technology equipment, expected to involve an expenditure of \$500,000 or more must be made by sealed competitive bid. As set forth below, such purchases in amounts less than \$500,000 may be awarded by the Superintendent or his/her designee. Such purchases in the amount of \$500,000 or more must be awarded by the Board.

### B. Bid Specifications

When competitive bidding is required, all requirements, terms and conditions describing and detailing the goods or general services to be purchased must be included in the bid specifications. The bid specifications should define the requirements for quality of materials, equipment and/or services to be procured, and as such, they should clearly and accurately reflect the required characteristics of the goods and services. The bid specifications should also include any vendor or contractor qualification requirements, a school district contact person responsible for all communications with prospective bidders, a requirement that all communications between the school district contact person and prospective bidders be in writing and, if the purchase will require entering into a contract, a draft contract whenever possible.

The Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee shall develop the proposed bid specifications and other bid documents.

### C. Advertising

A legal notice inviting sealed bids shall be published by the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee at least once in a daily newspaper in the local municipality and on the Board's website. At least five (5) calendar days must intervene between the date of the last newspaper or website publication and the final date for submitting bids. The notice shall contain a general description of the goods or services being bid, the school district contact person and the day, hour and place of the bid opening and may contain other information relating to the bid including, but not limited to, where and when bid packages may be obtained.

D. Bid Openings and Awards

All bids, and bid security if applicable, must be submitted to the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee in sealed envelopes and show on the face of the envelopes the bid number, the title of the bid and the bidder's name. All envelopes will be date stamped as received.

All bids shall be opened in public and read aloud at the time stated in the legal notice. No bids shall be accepted, or opened, that were not submitted in compliance with the procedures set forth in the notice advertising the bid.

Within a reasonable time following the bid opening, the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee will tabulate and analyze the bids. For contracts of less than \$500,000, the Superintendent shall, subject to the right of rejection, award the bid to the Lowest Responsible Qualified Bidder, as defined below. For contracts of \$500,000 or more, the Board shall, subject to the right of rejection, award the bid to the Lowest Responsible Qualified Bidder, as defined below.

Transportation contracts may be awarded covering periods of not more than five years.

A record of all bids submitted, giving the names of the bidders, the amounts of the bids and indicating the successful bidder, shall be preserved by the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee in accordance with State law.

E. Bid Security

When, in the judgment of the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee, bid security is advisable, all bids must be accompanied by security in one of the following forms - certified check, cashier's check, personal money order, letter of credit or bid bond. The requirement for, and the amount of, the security must be set forth in the bid advertisement. All security presented must show the "Branford Board of Education" as the payee.

F. Requirements Governing Bid Awards

The award shall be made to the bidder whose bid meets the requirements, terms and conditions contained in the bid specifications and is the lowest among those bidders possessing the skill, ability and integrity necessary for faithful performance of the work based on objective criteria considering past performance and financial responsibility (the "Lowest Responsible Qualified Bidder"), and after consideration of a cooperative agreement with the municipality as described in Section I.B, above.

In determining the Lowest Responsible Qualified Bidder the following criteria will be considered, as applicable:

- (1) The ability and capacity of the bidder to perform the work based on an evaluation of the character, integrity, reputation and experience of the bidder. Consideration shall be given to previous work performed by the bidder for the Board or for other agencies, including the quality and degree of satisfaction with the work performed.
- (2) The financial resources of the bidder and the bidder's ability to secure any required bonds and/or insurance.
- (3) Compliance by the bidder with all applicable federal, state and local laws, including any licensing requirements.
- (4) Delivery or completion time.
- (5) Cost.
- (6) Involvement in litigation.

Should a situation arise where it is impossible to distinguish between two bidders to identify the Lowest Responsible Qualified Bidder, and one of the bidders has its principal place of business located within the Town of Branford, the award will be made to the local bidder.

G. Rejection Of Bids

The Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee has the right to reject any and all bids in whole or in part. Any or all bids may be rejected if there is any reason to believe that collusion exists among the bidders. Individual bids may be rejected for irregularities of any kind, including, without limitation, alteration of form, additions not called for, conditional bids, incomplete bids and unexplained erasures.

The Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee retains the right to waive any formality or procedural irregularities in the bids received. Nothing in this Section should be construed to limit in any way the right of the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee to reject any and all bids.

H. Advisement Of Bid Award

Upon acceptance of the Lowest Responsible Qualified Bidder, a letter will be sent to the successful bidder(s) announcing the award of the bid. All unsuccessful bidders will be sent a letter notifying them that they were not selected.

### III. COMPETITIVE QUOTATION PROCESS

#### A. Purchases Requiring Competitive Quotation Process

Price quotations should be requested for all purchases of goods or general services, including high technology equipment, expected to involve an expenditure of at least \$10,000 but less than the Town Charter bid threshold. Purchases of goods or services which involve an expenditure of less than \$10,000 may be made directly, without regard to any competitive bid or quotation process. Waivers from the quotation process are available for the same reasons that Waivers are available from the bidding process. (See Section V.)

#### B. Process For Obtaining Quotations

Generally quotations, either oral or written, should be solicited by the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee from at least three (3) vendors or obtained from current catalogues or price sheets. The refusal of an otherwise valid supplier to quote shall qualify as a quotation. The quotation process does not require a public opening, and the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee may send requests to a limited number of selected vendors. However, vendors must furnish all of the necessary information to the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee by the specified date.

The purchase shall be awarded to the provider whose proposal is deemed to best provide the good and/or services desired, taking into account cost and the project requirements, and after consideration of a cooperative agreement with the municipality as described in Section I.B, above.

### IV. COMPETITIVE PROPOSAL PROCESS FOR SPECIAL OR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

#### A. Purchases Requiring Competitive Proposal Process

Purchases of Special or Professional Services may be made by competitive proposal should the situation warrant if the purchase exceeds the monetary thresholds set forth below. Special or Professional Services involve the furnishing of judgment, expertise, advice or effort by persons other than Board employees, and not involving the delivery of a specific end product that is defined by bid specifications. Examples of Professional Services include, but are not limited to, in-service instructional leaders, pupil services, special education evaluations, interpreters, tutors, computer programmers, architects, auditors, attorneys, instructional consultants, and temporary agencies. Examples of Special Services include, but are not limited to, repair services for Board property, equipment and vehicles where the nature of the repair cannot be defined in advance by bid specifications and the professional expertise of the service provider is critical. Waivers from the proposal process are available for the same reasons that Waivers are available from the bidding process. (See

Section V.) Funds must be available in the proper account in order to begin development of a Request for Proposals ("RFP").

Purchases of Special or Professional Services that are expected to be less than \$150,000 shall be made directly by the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee, without regard to a competitive proposal process.

B. Informal Competitive Proposal Process (\$10,000 to \$149,999)

Purchases of Special or Professional Services for at least \$10,500 but less than \$150,000 shall be based upon a reasonable and documented attempt to solicit proposals. Where possible, proposals should be solicited from at least three (3) potential service providers. The refusal to submit a proposal from an otherwise valid provider shall qualify as a proposal. The process shall be documented in writing by the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee. If a single reasonable source exists for the service, this fact shall be documented in writing.

An evaluation of the proposals received will be made by the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee. The Superintendent or his/her designee shall award the contract to the service provider whose proposal is deemed to best provide the services desired, taking into account cost and the project requirements.

A record of all proposals submitted, giving the names of the service providers, the amount of the proposal and indicating the successful provider, shall be preserved by the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee in accordance with State law.

C. Formal Competitive Proposal Process

Request for Proposals for Purchases of Special or Professional Services for \$150,000 or more shall be prepared by the Superintendent or his/her designee. All requirements, terms and conditions, including provider qualifications, should be included in the RFP, as well as a draft contract whenever possible. The award of any such contracts for \$150,000 or more shall be approved by the Board.

The Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee will arrange to have a legal notice requesting proposals published in a local newspaper and on the Board's website at least ten (10) business days prior to the deadline for submitting proposals. Whenever the Superintendent or his/her designee determines that the service requested is so specialized that few appropriate providers can reasonably be expected to respond to the notice, the Superintendent may substitute another means of notifying potential providers of the RFP in lieu of such newspaper and website notice. Any advertisement or

other notice of the RFP shall include the general description of the services sought and the location where RFPs may be obtained.

Where possible, proposals should be solicited from at least three (3) potential service providers. The refusal to submit a proposal from an otherwise valid provider shall qualify as a proposal. The process shall be documented in writing by the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee. If a single reasonable source exists for the service, this fact shall be documented in writing.

An evaluation of the proposals will be made by the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee. The contract shall be awarded to the service provider whose proposal is deemed to best provide the services desired, taking into account cost and the requirements, terms and conditions contained in the RFP.

A record of all proposals submitted, giving the names of the service providers, the amount of the proposal and indicating the successful provider, shall be preserved by the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee in accordance with State law.

#### V. WAIVERS

In certain situations the bidding, quotation and proposal processes described above may be waived even though the estimated cost exceeds the dollar threshold established by the Board. The formal processes may be waived for any of the following reasons:

- (1) Only one (1) reasonable or qualified source can be identified. This shall include situations such as the purchase of copyrighted materials and textbooks.
- (2) Time is a critical factor, and taking the time necessary to comply with the formal process would not be in the best interests of the school district.
- (3) In the opinion of the Superintendent or his/her designee, an emergency requires the purchase of goods or services to avoid injury or damage to human life or property.
- (4) A special source, including but not limited to a sale, purchasing plan, government discount or trade-in allowance, will supply a lower cost than that which would result from a bid process.

- (5) A formal process would result in substantially higher costs to the school district, or inefficient use of personnel, or cause substantial disruption of school district operations.
- (6) Prices of goods or services are subject to specific federal or state competitive bidding requirements, including, but not limited to, "school building projects" as defined in the Connecticut General Statutes.
- (7) Regional or cooperative purchases.
- (8) Cooperative agreement with the local municipality.

For a requesting administrator to obtain a Waiver, the requesting administrator must make a written request to the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee. The Waiver must bear the signature of the requesting administrator and state the reason(s) for requesting the Waiver. Upon receipt of such request, the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee will promptly notify the requesting administrator if such Waiver has been granted.

In addition, the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee, in his/her sole determination, may grant a Waiver for any of the above-listed reasons. Upon granting such a Waiver, the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee must, in writing, state the reason(s) for granting such Waiver.

#### VI. PROCUREMENT OF PROPERTY AND SERVICES UNDER A FEDERAL AWARD

When procuring property and/or services under a Federal award, the Board will comply with relevant regulations in the Code of Federal Regulations, as described in 2 C.F.R. § 200.318 through 2 C.F.R. § 200.327, as amended from time to time, to the extent it is required to do so. See Appendix A.

#### VII. AUDITS

The Board may periodically engage an independent audit firm to review the purchasing procedures outlined in this policy.

#### Legal References:

##### State Law:

Conn. Gen. Stat. §10-241c Local board of education to consult with municipality re joint purchasing of property insurance, casualty insurance and workers' compensation insurance.

- Conn. Gen. Stat. §10-241d Local board of education consultation with municipality re goods and services. Cooperative arrangements.
- Conn. Gen. Stat. §10-241e Local board of education consultation with municipality prior to purchase of payroll processing or accounts payable software program.

Federal Law:

- 2 C.F.R. § 200.317 through 2 § C.F.R. 200.327.  
2 C.F.R. § 200.81 (definition of property).

ADOPTED: 10-19-2022

REVISED:

3/15/2021





## APPENDIX A

### Procurement Standards for the Acquisition of Property or Services Under a Federal Award 2 C.F.R. §§ 200.317-300.327

*This Appendix addresses procurements of property and services under a Federal award. Whenever these Federal Uniform Guidance Procurement Standards, as may be amended from time to time, are applicable to procurements made by the Board of Education (the “Board”), the Board shall apply the more restrictive procurement rules, to the extent it is required to do so.*

2 C.F.R. §	FULL TEXT OF C.F.R. SECTION	BRIEF SUMMARY
200.317	<b>Procurements by States</b>	
	When procuring property and services under a Federal award, a State follow the same policies and procedures it uses for procurements from non-Federal funds. The State will comply with §§ 200.321, 200.322, and 200.323 and ensure that every purchase order or other contract include any clauses required by 200.327. All other non-Federal entities, including subrecipients of a State, must follow the procurement standards in §§ 200.318 through 200.327.	A State must follow the same policies and procedures when making procurements under a Federal award and when making procurements using non-Federal funds. The Board must follow 2 C.F.R. §§ 200.318 through 200.327 when making procurement under a Federal award.
200.318	<b>General Procurement Standards</b>	
200.318(a)	The non-Federal entity must have and use documented procurement procedures, consistent with State, local, and tribal laws and regulations and the standards of this section, for the acquisition of property or services.	The Board must have and use documented procurement procedures consistent with State,

	required under a Federal award or subaward. The non-Federal entity's documented procurement procedures must conform to the procurement standards identified in §§ 200.317 through 200.327.	local, and Federal requirements for procurements made under a Federal award.
200.318(b)	Non-Federal entities must maintain oversight to ensure that contractors perform in accordance with the terms, conditions, and specifications of their contracts or purchase orders.	The Board must maintain oversight of its contractors.
200.318(c)(1)	The non-Federal entity must maintain written standards of conduct covering conflicts of interest and governing the performance of its employees engaged in the selection, award and administration of contracts. No employee, officer, or agent may participate in the selection, award, or administration of a contract supported by a Federal award if he or she has a real or apparent conflict of interest. Such conflict of interest would arise when the employee, officer, or agent, any member of his or her immediate family, his or her partner, or an organization which employs or is about to employ any of the parties indicated herein, has a financial or other interest in or a tangible personal benefit from a firm considered for contract. The officers, employees, and agents of the non-Federal entity must neither solicit nor accept gratuities, favors, or anything of monetary value from contractors or parties to subcontracts. However, non-Federal entities may set standards for situations in which the financial interest is not substantial or the gift is an unsolicited item of nominal value. The standards of conduct must provide for disciplinary actions to be applied for violations of such standards by officers, employees, or agents of the non-Federal entity.	The Board must have written standards of conduct covering conflicts of interest and governing the performance of its employees engaged in the selection, award, and administration of contracts. Board officers and employees (and their immediate family members, partners, and organizations which employ or are about to employ them) must not have a financial or other interest in a contract and must not solicit or accept gifts from contractors or subcontractors. The standards of conduct must provide for disciplinary actions for violations. See Code of Conduct Governing Procurements Under a Federal Award.
200.318(c)(2)	If the non-Federal entity has a parent, affiliate, or subsidiary organization that is not a state, local government, or Indian tribe, the non-Federal entity must also maintain written standards of conduct covering organizational conflicts of interest. Organizational conflicts of interest means that because	The Board's conflict of interest policy must cover relationships with certain parent, affiliate, or subsidiary organizations, if any.

	of relationships with a parent company, affiliate, or subsidiary organization, the non-Federal entity is unable or appears to be unable to be impartial in conducting a procurement action involving a related organization.	
200.318(d)	The non-Federal entity's procedures must avoid acquisition of unnecessary or duplicative items. Consideration should be given to consolidating or breaking out procurements to obtain a more economical purchase. Where appropriate, an analysis will be made of lease versus purchase alternatives, and any other appropriate analysis to determine the most economical approach.	The Board must avoid acquisition of unnecessary or duplicative items.
200.318(e)	To foster greater economy and efficiency, and in accordance with efforts to promote cost-effective use of shared services across the Federal government, the non-Federal entity is encouraged to enter into state and local intergovernmental agreements or inter-entity agreements where appropriate for procurement or use of common or shared goods and services. Competition requirements will be met with documented procurement actions using strategic sourcing, shared services, and other similar procurement arrangements.	The Board is encouraged to use intergovernmental agreements or inter-entity agreements.
200.318(f)	The non-Federal entity is encouraged to use Federal excess and surplus property in lieu of purchasing new equipment and property whenever such use is feasible and reduces project costs.	The Board is encouraged to use Federal excess and surplus in lieu of purchasing new, when feasible.
200.318(g)	The non-Federal entity is encouraged to use value engineering clauses in contracts for construction projects of sufficient size to offer reasonable opportunities for cost reductions. Value engineering is a systematic and creative analysis of each contract item or task to ensure that its essential function is provided at the overall lower cost.	The Board is encouraged to use value engineering clauses in construction contracts of sufficient size.
200.318(h)	The non-Federal entity must award contracts only to responsible contractors possessing the ability to perform successfully under the terms and conditions of a proposed procurement. Consideration will be given to such matters as contractor integrity, compliance with public policy, record of past performance, and financial and technical resources.	The Board must award contracts to responsible contractors, after considering contractor integrity, compliance with public policy, past

		performance, and financial and technical resources.
200.318(i)	The non-Federal entity must maintain records sufficient to detail the history of procurement. These records will include, but are not necessarily limited to the following: rationale for the method of procurement, selection of contract type, contractor selection or rejection, and the basis for the contract price.	The Board must maintain procurement records.
200.318(j)(1)	The non-Federal entity may use a time-and-materials type contract only after a determination that no other contract is suitable and if the contract includes a ceiling price that the contractor exceeds at its own risk. Time-and-materials type contract means a contract whose cost to a non-Federal entity is the sum of: (i) The actual cost of materials; (ii) Direct labor hours charged at fixed hourly rates that reflect wages, general and administrative expenses, and profit.	The Board may only use time-and-materials type contracts in limited circumstances.
200.318(j)(2)	Since this formula generates an open-ended contract price, a time-and-materials contract provides no positive profit incentive to the contractor for cost control or labor efficiency. Therefore, each contract must set a ceiling price that the contractor exceeds at its own risk. Further, the non-Federal entity awarding such a contract must assert a high degree of oversight in order to obtain reasonable assurance that the contractor is using efficient methods and effective cost controls.	The Board must set a ceiling price and assert a high degree of oversight on time-and-materials type contracts.
200.318(k)	The non-Federal entity alone must be responsible, in accordance with good administrative practice and sound business judgment, for the settlement of all contractual and administrative issues arising out of procurements. These issues include, but are not limited to, source evaluation, protests, disputes, and claims. These standards do not relieve the non-Federal entity of any contractual responsibilities under its contracts. The Federal awarding agency will not substitute its judgment for that of the non-Federal entity unless the matter is primarily a Federal concern. Violations of law will be referred to the local, state, or Federal authority having proper jurisdiction.	The Board must be responsible for settling contract disputes and administrative issues arising out of procurements.

<b>200.319</b>	<b>Competition</b>	
200.319(a)	All procurement transactions of the acquisition of property or services required under a Federal award must be conducted in a manner providing full and open competition consistent with the standards of this section and § 200.320.	The Board must conduct procurement transactions in a manner providing full and open competition.
200.319(b)	In order to ensure objective contractor performance and eliminate unfair competitive advantage, contractors that develop or draft specifications, requirements, statements of work, and invitations for bids or requests for proposals must be excluded from competing for such procurements. Some of the situations considered to be restrictive of competition include but are not limited to: (1) Placing unreasonable requirements on firms in order for them to qualify to do business; (2) Requiring unnecessary experience and excessive bonding; (3) Noncompetitive pricing practices between firms or between affiliated companies; (4) Noncompetitive contracts to consultants that are on retainer contracts; (5) Organizational conflicts of interest; (6) Specifying only a “brand name” product instead of allowing “an equal” product to be offered and describing the performance or other relevant requirements of the procurement; and (7) Any arbitrary action in the procurement process.	Contractors that develop or draft specifications, requirements, statements of work, and invitations for bids or requests for proposals must be excluded from competing for such procurements. The Board must avoid practices that are restrictive of competition.
200.319(c)	The non-Federal entity must conduct procurements in a manner that prohibits the use of statutorily or administratively imposed state or local geographical preferences in the evaluation of bids or proposals, except in those cases where applicable Federal statutes expressly mandate or encourage geographic preference. Nothing in this section preempts state licensing laws. When contracting for architectural and engineering (A/E) services, geographic location may be a selection criterion provided its application leaves an appropriate number of qualified firms, given the nature and size of the project, to compete for the contract.	The Board is generally prohibited from using geographical preference in the evaluation of bids or proposals.

200.319(d)	<p>The non-Federal entity must have written procedures for procurement transactions. These procedures must ensure that all solicitations: (1) Incorporate a clear and accurate description of the technical requirements for the material, product, or service to be procured. Such description must not, in competitive procurements, contain features which unduly restrict competition. The description may include a statement of the qualitative nature of the material, product or service to be procured and, when necessary, must set forth those minimum essential characteristics and standards to which it must conform if it is to satisfy its intended use. Detailed product specifications should be avoided if all possible. When it is impractical or uneconomical to make a clear and accurate description of the technical requirements, a “brand name or equivalent” description may be used as a means to define the performance or other salient requirements of procurement. The specific features of the named brand which must be met by offers must be clearly stated; and (2) Identify all requirements which the offerors must fulfill and all other factors to be used in evaluating bids or proposals.</p>	<p>The Board must have written procedures for procurement transactions that ensure that solicitations (1) incorporate a clear and accurate description of technical requirements and (2) identify all requirements the offeror must fulfill and all other factors to be used in evaluating bids or proposals.</p>
200.319(e)	<p>The non-Federal entity must ensure that all prequalified lists of persons, firms, or products which are used in acquiring goods and services are current and include enough qualified sources to ensure maximum open and free competition. Also, the non-Federal entity must not preclude potential bidders from qualifying during the solicitation period.</p>	<p>The Board must ensure all prequalified lists are current and include enough qualified sources to ensure open and free competition.</p>
200.319(f)	<p>Noncompetitive procurements can only be awarded in accordance with § 200.320(c).</p>	<p>Noncompetitive procurements must be awarded in accordance with § 200.320(c).</p>
<b>200.320</b>	<b>Methods of Procurement to be Followed</b>	
200.320	<p>The non-Federal entity must have and use documented procurement procedures, consistent with the standards of this section and §§ 200.317, 200.318, and 200.319 for any of the following methods of procurement</p>	<p>The Board must have and use documented procurement procedures for procurements made</p>

	used for the acquisition of property or services required under a Federal award or sub-award.	under a Federal award or sub-award.
200.320(a)	Informal procurement methods. When the value of the procurement for property or services under a Federal award does not exceed the simplified acquisition threshold (SAT), as defined in § 200.1, or a lower threshold established by a non-Federal entity, formal procurement methods are not required. The non-Federal entity may use informal procurement methods to expedite the completion of its transactions and minimize the associated administrative burden and cost. The informal methods used for procurement of property or services at or below the SAT include:	For purchases under the simplified acquisition threshold, or a lower threshold established by the Board, the Board may use informal procurement methods (micro-purchases and small purchases).
200.320(a)(1)	<p>(1) Micro-purchases—</p> <p>(i) Distribution. The acquisition of supplies or services, the aggregate dollar amount of which does not exceed the micro-purchase threshold (See the definition of micro-purchase in § 200.1). To the maximum extent practicable, the non-Federal entity should distribute micro-purchases equitably among qualified suppliers.</p> <p>(ii) Micro-purchase awards. Micro-purchases may be awarded without soliciting competitive price or rate quotations if the non-Federal entity considers the price to be reasonable based on research, experience, purchase history or other information and documents it[s] files accordingly. Purchase cards can be used for micro-purchases if procedures are documented and approved by the non-Federal entity.</p> <p>(iii) Micro-purchase thresholds. The non-Federal entity is responsible for determining and documenting an appropriate micro-purchase threshold based on internal controls, an evaluation of risk, and its documented procurement procedures. The micro-purchase threshold used by the non-Federal entity must be authorized or not prohibited under State, local, or tribal laws or regulations. Non-Federal entities may establish a threshold higher than the Federal threshold established in the Federal Acquisition</p>	Micro-purchases should be distributed equitably among qualified suppliers and may be awarded without soliciting competitive price or rate quotations if the Board considers the price to be reasonable based on research, experience, purchase history, or other information and documents its files accordingly.

	<p>Regulations (FAR) in accordance with paragraphs (a)(1)(iv) and (v) of this section.</p> <p>(iv) Non-Federal entity increase to the micro-purchase threshold up to \$50,000. Non-Federal entities may establish a threshold higher than the micro-purchase threshold identified in the FAR in accordance with the requirements of this section. The non-Federal entity may self-certify a threshold up to \$50,000 on an annual basis and must maintain documentation to be made available to the Federal awarding agency and auditors in accordance with § 200.334. The self-certification must include a justification, clear identification of the threshold, and supporting documentation of any of the following:</p> <p>(A) A qualification as a low-risk auditee, in accordance with the criteria in § 200.520 for the most recent audit;</p> <p>(B) An annual internal institutional risk assessment to identify, mitigate, and manage financial risks; or,</p> <p>(C) For public institutions, a higher threshold consistent with State law.</p> <p>(v) Non-Federal entity increase to the micro-purchase threshold over \$50,000. Micro-purchase thresholds higher than \$50,000 must be approved by the cognizant agency for indirect costs. The non-federal entity must submit a request with the requirements included in paragraph (a)(1)(iv) of this section. The increased threshold is valid until there is a change in status in which the justification was approved.</p>	
200.320(a)(2)	<p>(2) Small purchases—</p> <p>(i) Small purchase procedures. The acquisition of property or services, the aggregate dollar amount of which is higher than the micro-purchase threshold but does not exceed the simplified acquisition threshold. If small purchase procedures are used, price or rate quotations must be obtained from an adequate number of qualified sources as determined appropriate by the non-Federal entity.</p>	<p>For small purchases, the aggregate dollar amount of which is higher than the micro-purchase threshold but lower than the simplified acquisition threshold, price or rate quotations must be obtained from an</p>



	(ii) Simplified acquisition thresholds. The non-Federal entity is responsible for determining an appropriate simplified acquisition threshold based on internal controls, an evaluation of risk and its documented procurement procedures which must not exceed the threshold established in the FAR. When applicable, a lower simplified acquisition threshold used by the non-Federal entity must be authorized or not prohibited under State, local, or tribal laws or regulations.	adequate number of qualified sources.
200.320(b)	Formal procurement methods. When the value of the procurement for property or services under a Federal financial assistance award exceeds the SAT, or a lower threshold established by a non-Federal entity, formal procurement methods are required. Formal procurement methods require following documented procedures. Formal procurement methods also require public advertising unless a non-competitive procurement can be used in accordance with § 200.319 or paragraph (c) of this section. The following formal methods of procurement are used for procurement of property or services above the simplified acquisition threshold or a value below the simplified acquisition threshold the non-Federal entity determines to be appropriate:	For purchases that exceed the simplified acquisition threshold, or a lower threshold established by the Board, formal procurement methods must be used and public advertising may be required.
200.320(b)(1)	(1) Sealed bids. A procurement method in which bids are publicly solicited and a firm fixed-price contract (lump sum or unit price) is awarded to the responsible bidder whose bid, conforming with all the material terms and conditions of the invitation for bids, is the lowest in price. The sealed bids method is the preferred method for procuring construction, if the conditions [stet]. (i) In order for sealed bidding to be feasible, the following conditions should be present: (A) A complete, adequate, and realistic specification or purchase description is available; (B) Two or more responsible bidders are willing and able to compete effectively for the business; and (C) The procurement lends itself to a firm fixed price contract and the selection of the successful bidder can be made principally on the	In sealed bid procurements, bids are publicly solicited and the Board awards the contract to the lowest responsible bidder. The Board should use sealed bidding for procuring construction whenever complete, adequate, and realistic specifications are available, two or more responsible bidders are able to compete, and selection of a successful bidder can be made

	<p>basis of price. (ii) If sealed bids are used, the following requirements apply: (A) Bids must be solicited from an adequate number of qualified sources, providing them sufficient response time prior to the date set for opening the bids, for local, and tribal governments, the invitation for bids must be publicly advertised; (B) The invitation for bids, which will include any specifications and pertinent attachments, must define the items or services in order for the bidder to properly respond; (C) All bids will be opened at the time and place prescribed in the invitation for bids, and for local and tribal governments, the bids must be opened publicly; (D) A firm fixed price contract award will be made in writing to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder. Where specified in bidding documents, factors such as discounts, transportation cost, and life cycle costs must be considered in determining which bid is lowest. Payment discounts will only be used to determine the low bid when prior experience indicates that such discounts are usually taken advantage of; and (E) Any or all bids may be rejected if there is a sound documented reason.</p>	<p>principally on the basis of price. If sealed bids are used, they must meet certain requirements. Any or all bids may be rejected if there is a sound documented reason.</p>
200.320(b)(2)	<p>(2) Proposals. A procurement method in which either a fixed price or cost-reimbursement type contract is awarded. Proposals are generally used when conditions are not appropriate for the use of sealed bids. They are awarded in accordance with the following requirements: (i) Requests for proposals must be publicized and identify all evaluation factors and their relative importance. Proposals must be solicited from an adequate number of qualified offerors. Any response to publicized requests for proposals must be considered to the maximum extent practical; (ii) The non-Federal entity must have a written method for conducting technical evaluations of the proposals received and making selections; (iii) Contracts must be awarded to the responsible offeror whose proposal is most advantageous to the non-Federal entity, with price and other factors considered; and (iv) The non-Federal entity may use competitive proposal procedures for</p>	<p>Proposals for fixed price or cost-reimbursement type contracts are generally used when conditions are not appropriate for the use of sealed bids. Proposals are awarded after requests for proposals are publicized with evaluation factors identified; an adequate number of offerors are solicited, considered and evaluated; and contracts are awarded to the responsible offeror with the most advantageous proposal.</p>

	<p>qualifications-based procurement of architectural/engineering (A/E) professional services whereby offeror's qualifications are evaluated and the most qualified offeror is selected, subject to negotiation of fair and reasonable compensation. The method, where price is not used as a selection factor, can only be used in procurement of A/E professional services. It cannot be used to purchase other types of services though A/E firms that are a potential source to perform the proposed effort.</p>	
200.320(c)	<p>Noncompetitive procurement. There are specific circumstances in which noncompetitive procurement can be used. Noncompetitive procurement can only be awarded if one or more of the following circumstances apply:</p> <p>(1) The acquisition of property or services, the aggregate dollar amount of which does not exceed the micro-purchase threshold (see paragraph (a)(1) of this section);</p> <p>(2) The item is available only from a single source;</p> <p>(3) The public exigency or emergency for the requirement will not permit a delay resulting from publicizing a competitive solicitation;</p> <p>(4) The Federal awarding agency or pass-through entity expressly authorizes a noncompetitive procurement in response to a written request from the non-Federal entity; or</p> <p>(5) After solicitation of a number of sources, competition is determined inadequate.</p>	<p>The Board may procure goods via noncompetitive procurement only when the aggregate dollar amount does not exceed the micro-purchase threshold; the item is available only from a single source; in times of public emergency; when the Federal awarding agency expressly authorizes noncompetitive procurement; or competition is determined inadequate after solicitation of a number of sources.</p>
<b>200.321</b>	<p><b>Contracting with Small and Minority Businesses, Women's Business Enterprises, and Labor Surplus Area Firms</b></p>	
200.321(a)	<p>The non-Federal entity must take all necessary affirmative steps to assure that minority businesses, women's business enterprises, and labor surplus area firms are used when possible.</p>	<p>The Board must take all necessary affirmative steps to assure that minority businesses, women's business enterprises, and labor</p>

		surplus area firms are used when possible.
200.321(b)	Affirmative steps must include: (1) Placing qualified small and minority businesses and women’s business enterprises on solicitation lists; (2) Assuring that small and minority businesses, and women’s business enterprises are solicited whenever they are potential sources; (3) Dividing total requirements, when economically feasible, into smaller tasks or quantities to permit maximum participation by small and minority businesses, and women’s business enterprises; (4) Establishing delivery schedules, where the requirement permits, which encourage participation by small and minority businesses, and women’s business enterprises; (5) Using the services and assistance, as appropriate of such organizations as the Small Business Administration and the Minority Business Development Agency of the Department of Commerce; and (6) Requiring the prime contractor, if subcontracts are to be let, to take the affirmative steps listed in paragraphs (1) through (5) of this section.	Affirmative steps include, among other things, placing qualified small and minority businesses and women’s business enterprises on solicitation lists; assuring such businesses are solicited whenever they are potential sources; dividing total requirements, when economically feasible, into smaller tasks or quantities; and establishing delivery schedules, where the requirement permits, which encourage participation by such businesses.
<b>200.322</b>	<b>Domestic Preferences for Procurements</b>	
200.322(a)	As appropriate and to the extent consistent with law, the <del>Federal</del> entity should, to the greatest extent practicable under a Federal award, provide a preference for the purchase, acquisition, or use of goods, products, or materials produced in the United States (including but not limited to iron, aluminum, steel, cement, and other manufactured products). The requirements of this section must be included in all subawards including all contracts and purchase orders for work or product under this award.	The Board will, to the greatest extent practicable, provide a preference for goods, products or materials produced in the United States.
200.322(b)	For purposes of this section:	

	<p>(1) “Produced in the United States” means, for iron and steel products, that all manufacturing processes, from the initial melting stage through the application of coatings, occurred in the United States.</p> <p>(2) “Manufactured products” means items and construction materials composed in whole or in part of non-ferrous metals such as aluminum; plastics and polymer-based products such as polyvinyl chloride pipe; aggregates such as concrete; glass, including optical fiber; and lumber.</p>	
<b>200.323</b>	<b>Procurement of Recovered Materials</b>	
200.323	<p>A non-Federal entity that is a state agency or agency of a political subdivision of a state and its contractors must comply with section 6002 of the Solid Waste Disposal Act, as amended by the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act. The requirements of Section 6002 include procuring only items designated in guidelines of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) at 40 CFR part 247 that contain the highest percentage of recovered materials practicable, consistent with maintaining a satisfactory level of competition, where the purchase price of the item exceeds \$10,000, or the value of the quantity acquired by the preceding fiscal year exceeds \$10,000; procuring solid waste management services in a manner that maximizes energy and resource recovery; and establishing an affirmative procurement program for procurement of recovered materials identified in the EPA guidelines.</p>	<p>The Board must follow standards in procuring certain items over \$10,000 to ensure, among other things, the highest percentage of recovered materials practicable, consistent with maintaining a satisfactory level of competition.</p>
<b>200.324</b>	<b>Contract Cost and Price</b>	
200.324(a)	<p>The non-Federal entity must perform a cost or price analysis in connection with every procurement action in excess of the Simplified Acquisition Threshold including contract modifications. The method and degree of analysis is dependent on the facts surrounding the particular procurement</p>	<p>The Board must perform a cost or price analysis for every procurement in excess of the simplified acquisition threshold.</p>

	situation, but as a starting point, the non-Federal entity must make independent estimates before receiving bids or proposals.	
200.324(b)	The non-Federal entity must negotiate profit as a separate element of the price for each contract in which there is no price competition and, in all cases, where cost analysis is performed. To establish a fair and reasonable profit, consideration must be given to the complexity of the work to be performed, the risk borne by the contractor, the contractor's investment, the amount of subcontracting, the quality of its record of past performance, and industry profit rates in the surrounding geographical area for similar work.	The Board must negotiate profit for sole-source procurements and for procurements where cost analysis is performed.
200.324(c)	Costs or prices based on estimated costs for contracts under the Federal award are allowable only to the extent that costs incurred or cost estimates included in negotiated prices would be allowable for the non-Federal entity under Subpart E [Cost Principles] of this part. The non-Federal entity may reference its own cost principles that comply with the Federal cost principles.	Costs incurred or estimated costs are allowable only to the extent they comply with Federal Cost Principles.
200.324(d)	The cost plus a percentage of cost and percentage of construction cost methods of contracting must not be used.	The cost plus a percentage of cost and percentage of construction cost methods of contracting must not be used.
<b>200.325</b>	<b>Federal Awarding Agency or PassThrough Entity Review</b>	
200.325(a)	The non-Federal entity must make available, upon request of the Federal awarding agency or passthrough entity, technical specifications on proposed procurements when the Federal awarding agency or passthrough entity believes such review is needed to ensure that the item or service specified is the one being proposed for acquisition. This review generally will take place prior to the time the specification is incorporated into a solicitation document. However, if the non-Federal entity desires to have	The Board must make technical specs for procurements available upon request by the Federal awarding agency or passthrough entity.

	the review accomplished after a solicitation has been developed, the Federal awarding agency or passthrough entity may still review the specifications, with such review usually limited to the technical aspects of the proposed purchase.	
200.325(b)	The non-Federal entity must make available upon request, for the Federal awarding agency or passthrough entity pre-procurement review, procurement documents, such as requests for proposals or invitations for bids, or independent cost estimates, when: (1) The non-Federal entity's procurement procedures or operation fails to comply with the procurement standards in this part; (2) The procurement is expected to exceed the Simplified Acquisition Threshold and is to be awarded without competition or only one bid or offer is received in response to a solicitation; (3) The procurement, which is expected to exceed the Simplified Acquisition Threshold, specifies a "brand name" product; (4) The proposed contract is more than the Simplified Acquisition Threshold and is to be awarded to other than the apparent low bidder under a sealed bid procurement; or (5) A proposed contract modification changes the scope of a contract or increases the contract amount by more than the Simplified Acquisition Threshold.	Upon request, the Board must make procurement documents available for pre-procurement review by the Federal awarding agency or passthrough entity in a number of circumstances.
200.325(c)	The non-Federal entity is exempt from the pre-procurement review in paragraph (b) of this section if the Federal awarding agency or pass-through entity determines that its procurement systems comply with the standards of this part. (1) The non-Federal entity may request that its procurement system be reviewed by the Federal awarding agency or pass-through entity to determine whether its system meets these standards in order for its system to be certified. Generally, these reviews must occur where there is continuous high-dollar funding, and third party contracts are awarded on a regular basis; (2) The non-Federal entity may self-certify its procurement system. Such self-certification must not limit the Federal	The Board is exempt from pre-procurement review if the Federal awarding agency or passthrough entity determines that its procurement systems comply with the standards of this part.

	awarding agency's right to survey the system. Under a self-certification procedure, the Federal awarding agency may rely on written assurances from the non-Federal entity that it is complying with these standards. The non-Federal entity must cite specific policies, procedures, regulations, or standards as being in compliance with these requirements and have its system available for review.	
<b>200.326</b>	<b>Bonding Requirements</b>	
200.326	For construction or facility improvement contracts or subcontracts exceeding the Simplified Acquisition Threshold, the Federal awarding agency or pass-through entity may accept the bonding policy and requirements of the non-Federal entity provided that the Federal awarding agency or passthrough entity has made a determination that the Federal interest is adequately protected. If such a determination has not been made, the minimum requirements must be as follows:	For construction or facility improvement contracts or subcontracts exceeding the simplified acquisition threshold, the Federal awarding agency or passthrough entity may accept the Board's bonding requirements if it determines that its interest is adequately protected.
200.326(a)	A bid guarantee from each bidder equivalent to five percent of the bid price. The "bid guarantee" must consist of a firm commitment such as a bid bond, certified check, or other negotiable instrument accompanying a bid as assurance that the bidder will, upon acceptance of the bid, execute such contractual documents as may be required within the time specified.	The Board must require a bid guarantee of 5% of the bid price if the awarding agency or passthrough entity does not accept the Board's bonding requirements.
200.326(b)	A performance bond on the part of the contractor for 100 percent of the contract price. A "performance bond" is one executed in connection with a contract to secure fulfillment of all the contractor's obligations under such contract.	The Board must require a performance bond for 100% of the contract price if the awarding agency or passthrough entity does not accept the Board's bonding requirements.



200.326(c)	A payment bond on the part of the contractor for 100 percent of the contract price. A “payment bond” is one executed in connection with a contract to assure payment as required by law of all persons supplying labor and material in the execution of the work provided in the contract.	The Board must require a payment bond for 100% of the contract price if the awarding agency or passthrough entity does not accept the Board’s bonding requirements.
<b>200.327</b>	<b>Contract Provisions</b>	
00.327	The non-Federal entity’s contracts must contain the applicable provisions described in Appendix II to Part 200- Contract Provisions for Non-Federal Entity Contracts Under Federal Awards.	The Board must include the Federal contract provisions in its contracts.



## **DRUG AND ALCOHOL USE BY STUDENTS AND CHEMICAL HEALTH FOR STUDENT ATHLETES**

### Policy Statement

The Branford Board of Education (the “Board”) is required by Connecticut law to prescribe rules for the management and discipline of its schools. Further, the Board participates in the Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Conference, which requires compliance with CIAC rules concerning, among other things, the use of drugs, performance enhancing substances and alcohol by student athletes. In keeping with ~~this mandate~~ these mandates, the unlawful use, sale, distribution or possession of controlled drugs, controlled substances, drug paraphernalia, as defined in Connecticut General Statutes Section 21a-240, or alcohol on or off school property or during any school-sponsored activity is prohibited. It shall be the policy of the Board to take positive action through education, counseling, discipline, parental involvement, medical referral, and law enforcement referral, as appropriate, in the handling of incidents in the schools involving the unlawful possession, distribution, sale or use of substances that affect behavior, including performance enhancing substances for student athletes, whether or not such athletes are participating in CIAC controlled activities.

### Definitions

- (1) Controlled Drugs: means those drugs which contain any quantity of a substance which has been designated as subject to the federal Controlled Substances Act, or which has been designated as a depressant or stimulant drug pursuant to federal food and drug laws, or which has been designated by the Commissioner of Consumer Protection pursuant to C.G.S. Section 21a-243, as having a stimulant, depressant or hallucinogenic effect upon the higher functions of the central nervous system and as having a tendency to promote abuse or psychological or physiological dependence, or both. Such controlled drugs are classifiable as amphetamine-type, barbiturate-type, cannabis-type, cocaine-type, hallucinogenic, morphine-type and other stimulant and depressant drugs. C.G.S. Section 21a-240(8).
- (2) Controlled Substances: means a drug, substance or immediate precursor in schedules I to V, inclusive, of the Connecticut controlled substance scheduling regulations adopted pursuant to C.G.S. Section 21a-243. C.G.S. Section 21a-240(9).
- (3) ~~Professional Communication: any communication made privately and in confidence by a student to a professional employee of such student's school in~~

- ~~the course of the professional employee's employment. C.G.S. Section 10-154a(a)(4).~~
- (4) ~~Professional Employee: means a person employed by a school who "(A) holds a certificate from the State Board of Education, (B) is a member of a faculty where certification is not required, (C) is an administration officer of a school, or (D) is a registered nurse employed by or assigned to a school." C.G.S. Section 10-154a(a)(2).~~
- (5) Drug Paraphernalia: means any equipment, products and materials of any kind which are used, intended for use or designed for use in planting, propagating, cultivating, growing, harvesting, manufacturing, compounding, converting, producing, processing, preparing, testing, analyzing, packaging, repackaging, storing, containing or concealing, or injecting, ingesting, inhaling or otherwise introducing any controlled substance into the human body, including but not limited to all items specified in C.G.S. Section 21a-240(20)(A), such as "bongs," pipes, "roach clips," miniature cocaine spoons, cocaine vials, and any object or container used, intended or designed for use in storing, concealing, possessing, distributing or selling controlled substances. C.G.S. Section 21a-240(20)(A).
- (4) Performance Enhancing Substances: means any anabolic steroid, hormone or analogue, diuretic or other substance designed to enhance a student's performance in athletic competition, except when used under the care and direction of a licensed medical professional and only then in the manner prescribed by the medical professional and manufacturer's recommendations.
- (5) Professional Communication: any communication made privately and in confidence by a student to a professional employee of such student's school in the course of the professional employee's employment. C.G.S. Section 10-154a(a)(4).
- (6) Professional Employee: means a person employed by a school who "(A) holds a certificate from the State Board of Education, (B) is a member of a faculty where certification is not required, (C) is an administration officer of a school, or (D) is a registered nurse employed by or assigned to a school." C.G.S. Section 10-154a(a)(2).
- (7) Student Athlete: means any student participating in an extracurricular school-sponsored athletic activity, whether interscholastic or intramural, including but not limited to student athletes who are participating in CIAC controlled activities.

## Procedures

- (1) Emergencies.

If an emergency situation results from ~~drug~~use of drugs, performance enhancing substances or alcohol~~-use~~, the student shall be sent to the school nurse or medical advisor immediately, or emergency medical personnel will be notified. The parent or designated responsible person will be notified.

(2) Prescribed Medications.

Students may possess and/or self-administer medications in school in accordance with the Board's policy concerning the administration of medication in school. The parent or guardian of a student athlete who is required to take prescribed medication during student athletic activities shall so inform the school nurse or the person designated to act in the absence of a nurse. Such prescribed medication will then be administered to the student athlete under the supervision of the school nurse or designee in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes Section 10-212a and the applicable regulations and in accordance with any Board policies and regulations concerning medication administration, except as provided below.

Students taking improper amounts of a prescribed medication, or otherwise taking medication contrary to the provisions of the Board's policy on the administration of medication, will be subject to the procedures for improper drug or alcohol use outlined in this policy.

A student athlete with a documented medical history demonstrating the need for regular use of performance enhancing substances for therapeutic purposes shall not be in violation of this policy when such substances are properly prescribed and taken by the student athlete in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes Section 10-212a and the applicable regulations and in accordance with any Board policies and regulations concerning medication administration.

A student athlete with a documented medical history demonstrating the need for regular, palliative use of marijuana shall not be considered to be in violation of this policy when such substance is properly prescribed and taken by the student athlete in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes Sections 21a-408a through 408q. Under no circumstances shall the school nurse or designee administer to the student or permit the palliative use of marijuana by the student on a school bus, school grounds or property, in public places or in the presence of persons under the age of eighteen.

(3) Voluntary Disclosure of Drug/Alcohol Problem (Self-Referral).

The following procedures will be followed when a student privately, and in confidence, discloses to a professional employee in a professional

communication information concerning the student's use, possession, distribution or sale of a controlled drug, controlled substance or alcohol.

- (a) Professional employees are permitted, in their professional judgment, to disclose any information acquired through a professional communication with a student, when such information concerns alcohol or drug abuse or any alcohol or drug problem of such student. In no event, however, will they be required to do so. C.G.S. Section 10-154a(b).
- (b) Any physical evidence obtained from such student through a professional communication indicating that a crime has been or is being committed by the student must be turned over to school administrators or law enforcement officials as soon as possible, but no later than two calendar days after receipt of such physical evidence, excluding Saturdays, Sundays and holidays. Employees are encouraged to contact the school administrator immediately upon obtaining physical evidence. In no case, however, will such employee be required to disclose the name of the student from whom the evidence was obtained. C.G.S. Section 10-154a(b).
- (c) Any professional employee who has ~~received~~ a professional communication from a student may obtain advice and information concerning appropriate resources and refer the student accordingly, subject to the rights of the professional employee as described in paragraph (a) above.
- (d) If a student consents to disclosure of a professional communication concerning the student's alcohol or drug problem, or if the professional employee deems disclosure to be appropriate, the professional employee should report the student's name and problem to ~~the~~ school's building administrator or designee who shall refer the student to appropriate school staff members for intervention and counseling.

(4) Involuntary Disclosure or Discovery of Drug/Alcohol Problems

When a professional employee obtains information ~~related to a student~~ *from a source other than the student's confidential disclosure* that the student, on or off school grounds or at a school sponsored activity, is under the influence of, or possesses, uses, dispenses, distributes, administers, ~~sells~~ in the procurement of a controlled drug, controlled substance, drug paraphernalia or alcohol, that information is considered to be involuntarily disclosed. In this event, the following procedures will apply.

- (a) The professional employee will ~~immediately~~ report the information to the building administrator or designee. The building administrator or

designee will then refer the student to appropriate school staff members for intervention and counseling.

- (b) Any physical evidence (for example, alcohol, drugs or drug paraphernalia) obtained from a student indicating that a crime has been or is being committed by the student must be turned over to the building administrator or designee or to law enforcement officials as soon as possible, but no later than within two calendar days after receipt of such physical evidence, excluding Saturdays, Sundays and holidays. C.G.S. Section 10154a(b). Because such evidence ~~was~~ obtained through a professional communication, the name of the student must be disclosed to the building administrator or designee.
- (c) Search and Seizure of Students and/or Possessions A professional employee who reasonably suspects that a student is violating a state/federal law or a school substance abuse policy ~~immediately~~ report such suspicion to the building administrator or designee. The building administrator or designee may then search a student's person or possessions connected to that person, in accordance with the Board's policies and regulations if the administrator or designee has reasonable suspicion from the inception of the search that the student has violated or is violating either the law or a school substance abuse policy.

Any physical evidence obtained in the search of a student, or a student's possessions indicating that the student is violating or has violated a state or federal law ~~must~~ be turned over to law enforcement officials as soon as possible, but not later than within three calendar days after receipt of such physical evidence, excluding Saturdays, Sundays and holidays. C.G.S. Section 10154a(c). All school employees are encouraged to contact the school administration immediately upon obtaining physical evidence.

(5) Consequences for the Use, Sale, Distribution or Possession of Controlled Drugs, Controlled Substances, Drug Paraphernalia or Alcohol

- (a) Any student in the Branford Public Schools using, consuming, possessing, being under the influence of, manufacturing, distributing, selling or aiding in the procurement of controlled drugs, controlled substances, drug paraphernalia or alcohol either on or off school property, or at a school sponsored activity, except as such use or possession is in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes 408a through 408q, is subject to discipline up to and including expulsion pursuant to the Board's student discipline policy. ~~On and after January 1, 2022, a~~ student shall not face greater discipline, punishment or sanction for the use, sale, or possession of cannabis on school property

than a student would face for the use, sale, or possession of alcohol on school property, except as otherwise required by applicable law.

- (b) In conformity with the Board's student discipline policy, students may be suspended or expelled for drug or alcohol use off school grounds if such drug or alcohol use is considered seriously disruptive of the educational process. In determining whether the conduct is seriously disruptive of the educational process, the Administration and the Board may consider, among other factors: 1) whether the drug or alcohol use occurred within close proximity of a school; 2) whether other students from the school were involved; and 3) whether any injuries occurred.
- (c) If a school administrator has reason to believe that any student was engaged, on or off school grounds, in offering for sale or distribution a controlled substance (as defined by Conn. Gen. Stat. § 21a-240(9)), whose manufacturing, distribution, sale, prescription, dispensing, transporting, or possessing with intent to sell or dispense, offering or administering is subject to criminal penalties under Conn. Gen. Stat. §§ 21a-277 and 21a-278, the administrator will recommend such student for expulsion, in accordance with Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-233d(a)(2) and the Board's student discipline policy.
- (d) Students found to be in violation of this policy may be referred by the building administrator to an appropriate agency licensed to assess and treat drug and alcohol involved individuals. In such event, assessment and treatment costs will be the responsibility of the parent or guardian.
- (e) A meeting may be scheduled with appropriate school staff members for the purpose of discussing the school's drug ~~and~~, alcohol and chemical health policy with the student and parent or guardian.
- (f) Law enforcement officials may be contacted by the building administrator in the case of suspected involvement in the use, sale or distribution of controlled drugs, controlled substances, drug paraphernalia or alcohol.
- (g) A student athlete found by the administration to have violated this policy may, in the discretion of school administrators, be suspended from play for short or long term periods, or may have student athletic participation privileges revoked.
- (h) A student athlete found by the administration to have used performance enhancing substances shall receive a minimum penalty of revocation of athletic participation privileges for one hundred eighty (180) days. The Board shall report the violation to the CIAC.

(i) The Board recognizes that the CIAC may impose additional sanctions on student athletes participating in CIAC controlled activities who are found to have violated this policy.

(6) Discretionary Nature of Student Athletic Activities.

The Board sponsors athletic programs as part of its extracurricular program. The opportunity to participate in extracurricular activities such as student athletics is a privilege, not a right. The Board may remove students from participation in athletics activities in its discretion.

(7) Prohibition on the Promotion or Dispensing of Performance Enhancing Substances by School Staff Members, Coaches or Volunteers.

(a) No school staff member, coach or volunteer responsible for or involved in student athletic programs shall dispense any drug, medication (prescription or non-prescription), or food supplement to any student athlete except under the supervision of the school nurse or designee in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes Section 10-212a and the applicable regulations, and in accordance with any Board policies and regulations concerning medication administration.

(b) No school staff member, coach or volunteer responsible for or involved in student athletic programs shall encourage the use of any drug, medication (prescription or non-prescription), or food supplement in a manner not described by the manufacturer.

(c) No school staff member, coach or volunteer responsible for or involved in student athletic programs shall supply, recommend, or knowingly permit student athletes to use any drug, medication (prescription or non-prescription), or food supplement for the specific purpose of enhancing their athletic performance.

(d) A school staff member, or coach responsible for or involved in student athletic programs, who violates the terms of this policy shall be subject to discipline, up to and including termination of employment. The Board may also report violations of this policy by employees to parents of student athletes and/or state and local authorities.

(e) The Board shall immediately terminate a volunteer responsible for or involved in student athletic programs who violates the terms of this policy. The Board may also report violations of this policy by volunteers to parents of student athletes and/or state and local authorities.



(8) Publication of Policy to School Staff Members, Coaches, Volunteers and Students.

(a) The Board shall publish this policy to all school staff members, coaches and volunteers responsible for or involved in student athletic programs.

(b) The Board shall publish this policy to all students and their parents/guardians.

Legal References:

Connecticut General Statutes:

June Special Session, Public Act No. 21-1, An Act Concerning Responsible and Equitable Regulation of Adult-Use Cannabis

Section 10-154a

Section 10-212a

Section 10-221

Sections 10-233a through 10-233f

Section 21a-240

Section 21a-243

Section 21a-408a through 408q

2023-2024 CIAC Handbook, Section 4.12.E (Chemical Health Policy and Regulations), available at <http://www.casciac.org/ciachandbook/>

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## DRUG AND ALCOHOL USE BY STUDENTS

### Policy Statement

The Branford Board of Education (the "Board") is required by Connecticut law to prescribe rules for the management and discipline of its schools. In keeping with this mandate, the unlawful use, sale, distribution or possession of controlled drugs, controlled substances, drug paraphernalia, as defined in Connecticut General Statutes Section 21a-240, or alcohol on or off school property or during any school-sponsored activity is prohibited. It shall be the policy of the Board to take positive action through education, counseling, discipline, parental involvement, medical referral, and law enforcement referral, as appropriate, in the handling of incidents in the schools involving the unlawful possession, distribution, sale or use of substances that affect behavior.

### Definitions

- (1) Controlled Drugs: means those drugs which contain any quantity of a substance which has been designated as subject to the federal Controlled Substances Act, or which has been designated as a depressant or stimulant drug pursuant to federal food and drug laws, or which has been designated by the Commissioner of Consumer Protection pursuant to C.G.S. Section 21a-243, as having a stimulant, depressant or hallucinogenic effect upon the higher functions of the central nervous system and as having a tendency to promote abuse or psychological or physiological dependence, or both. Such controlled drugs are classifiable as amphetamine-type, barbiturate-type, cannabis-type, cocaine-type, hallucinogenic, morphine-type and other stimulant and depressant drugs. C.G.S. Section 21a-240(8).
- (2) Controlled Substances: means a drug, substance or immediate precursor in schedules I to V, inclusive, of the Connecticut controlled substance scheduling regulations adopted pursuant to C.G.S. Section 21a-243. C.G.S. Section 21a-240(9).
- (3) Professional Communication: any communication made privately and in confidence by a student to a professional employee of such student's school in the course of the professional employee's employment. C.G.S. Section 10-154a(a)(4).
- (4) Professional Employee: means a person employed by a school who "(A) holds a certificate from the State Board of Education, (B) is a member of a faculty

where certification is not required, (C) is an administration officer of a school, or (D) is a registered nurse employed by or assigned to a school." C.G.S. Section 10-154a(a)(2).

- (5) Drug Paraphernalia: means any equipment, products and materials of any kind which are used, intended for use or designed for use in planting, propagating, cultivating, growing, harvesting, manufacturing, compounding, converting, producing, processing, preparing, testing, analyzing, packaging, repackaging, storing, containing or concealing, or injecting, ingesting, inhaling or otherwise introducing any controlled substance into the human body, including but not limited to all items specified in C.G.S. Section 21a-240(20)(A), such as "bongs," pipes, "roach clips," miniature cocaine spoons, cocaine vials, and any object or container used, intended or designed for use in storing, concealing, possessing, distributing or selling controlled substances. C.G.S. Section 21a-240(20)(A).

#### Procedures

- (1) Emergencies.

If an emergency situation results from drug or alcohol use, the student shall be sent to the school nurse or medical advisor immediately. The parent or designated responsible person will be notified.

- (2) Prescribed Medications.

Students may possess and/or self-administer medications in school in accordance with the Board's policy concerning the administration of medication in school.

Students taking improper amounts of a prescribed medication, or otherwise taking medication contrary to the provisions of the Board's policy on the administration of medication, will be subject to the procedures for improper drug or alcohol use outlined in this policy.

- (3) Voluntary Disclosure of Drug/Alcohol Problem (Self-Referral).

The following procedures will be followed when a student privately, and in confidence, discloses to a professional employee in a professional communication information concerning the student's use, possession, distribution or sale of a controlled drug, controlled substance or alcohol.

- (a) Professional employees are permitted, in their professional judgment, to disclose any information acquired through a professional communication with a student, when such information concerns alcohol or drug abuse or any alcohol or drug problem of such student. In no event, however, will they be required to do so. C.G.S. Section 10-154a(b).

- (b) Any physical evidence obtained from such student through a professional communication indicating that a crime has been or is being committed by the student **must** be turned over to school administrators or law enforcement officials as soon as possible, but no later than two calendar days after receipt of such physical evidence, excluding Saturdays, Sundays and holidays. Employees are ~~enaged~~ to contact the school administrator immediately upon obtaining physical evidence. In no case, however, will such employee be required to disclose the name of the student from whom the evidence was obtained. C.G.S. Section 10-154a(b).
- (c) Any professional employee who has received a professional communication from a student may obtain advice and information concerning appropriate resources and refer the student accordingly, subject to the rights of the professional employee as described in paragraph(a) above.
- (d) If a student consents to disclosure of a professional communication concerning the student's alcohol or drug problem, or if the professional employee deems disclosure to be appropriate, the professional employee should report the student's name and problem to the school's building administrator or designee who shall refer the student to appropriate school staff members for intervention and counseling.

(4) Involuntary Disclosure or Discovery of Drug/Alcohol Problems

When a professional employee obtains information related to a student ~~from a source other than the student's confidential disclosure~~ ~~that~~ the student, on or off school grounds or at a school sponsored activity, is under the influence of, or possesses, uses, dispenses, ~~disse~~ administers, sells or aids in the procurement of a controlled drug, controlled substance, drug paraphernalia or alcohol, that information is considered to be involuntarily disclosed. In this event, the following procedures will apply.

- (a) The professional employee will immediately report the information to the building administrator or designee. The building administrator or designee will then refer the student to appropriate school staff members for intervention and counseling.
- (b) Any physical evidence (for example, alcohol, drugs or drug paraphernalia) obtained from a student indicating that a crime has been or is being committed by the student must be turned over to the building administrator or designee or to law enforcement officials ~~as soon~~ as possible, but no later than within two calendar days after receipt of such physical evidence, excluding Saturdays, Sundays and holidays. C.G.S. Section 10-154a(b). Because such evidence ~~was~~ not obtained through a

professional communication, the name of the student must be disclosed to the building administrator or designee.

- (c) Search and Seizure of Students and/or Possessions: A professional employee who reasonably suspects that a student is violating a state/federal law or a school substance abuse policy ~~immediately~~ report such suspicion to the building administrator or designee. The building administrator or designee ~~may~~ then search a student's person or possessions connected to that person, in accordance with the Board's policies and regulations if the administrator or designee has reasonable suspicion from the inception of the search that the student has violated or is violating either the law or a school substance abuse policy.

Any physical evidence obtained in the search of a student, or a student's possessions, indicating that the student is violating or has violated a state or federal law must be turned over to law enforcement officials as soon as possible, but not later than within three calendar days after receipt of such physical evidence, excluding Saturdays, Sundays and holidays. C.G.S. Section 10154a(c). All school employees are encouraged to contact the school administration immediately upon obtaining physical evidence.

(5) Consequences for the Use, Sale, Distribution or Possession of Controlled Drugs, Controlled Substances, Drug Paraphernalia or Alcohol

- (a) Any student in the Branford Public Schools using, consuming, possessing, being under the influence of, manufacturing, distributing, selling or aiding in the procurement of controlled drugs, controlled substances, drug paraphernalia or alcohol either ~~on~~ school property, or at a school sponsored activity, except as such use or possession is in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes ~~408a~~ through 408q, is subject to discipline up to and including expulsion pursuant to the Board's student discipline policy. On and after January 1, 2022, a student shall not face greater discipline, punishment or sanction for the use, sale, or possession of cannabis on school property than a student would face for the use, sale, or possession of alcohol on school property, except as otherwise required by applicable law.
- (b) In conformity with the Board's student discipline policy, students may be suspended or expelled for drug or alcohol use off school grounds if such drug or alcohol use is considered seriously disruptive of the educational process. In determining whether the conduct is seriously disruptive of the educational process, the Administration and the Board may consider, among other factors: 1) whether the drug or alcohol use occurred within close proximity of a school; 2) whether other students from the school were involved; and 3) whether any injuries occurred.

- (c) If a school administrator has reason to believe that any student was engaged, on or off school grounds, in offering for sale or distribution a controlled substance (as defined by Conn. Gen. Stat. § 21a-240(9)), whose manufacturing, distribution, sale, prescription, dispensing, transporting, or possessing with intent to sell or dispense, offering or administering is subject to criminal penalties under Conn. Gen. Stat. §§ 21a-277 and 21a-278, the administrator will recommend such student for expulsion, in accordance with Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-233d(a)(2) and the Board's student discipline policy.
- (d) Students found to be in violation of this policy may be referred by the building administrator to an appropriate agency licensed to assess and treat drug and alcohol involved individuals. In such event, assessment and treatment costs will be the responsibility of the parent or guardian.
- (e) A meeting may be scheduled with appropriate school staff members for the purpose of discussing the school's drug and alcohol policy with the student and parent or guardian.
- (f) Law enforcement officials may be contacted by the building administrator in the case of suspected involvement in the use, sale or distribution of controlled drugs, controlled substances, drug paraphernalia or alcohol.

Legal References:

Connecticut General Statutes:

June Special Session, Public Act No. 21-1, An Act Concerning Responsible and Equitable Regulation of Adult-Use Cannabis

Section 10-154a  
Section 10-212a  
Section 10-221  
Sections 10-233a through 10-233f  
Section 21a-240  
Section 21a-243  
Section 21a-408a through 408q

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