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**Lacey Township School District Board of Education
Policy Committee Meeting
Co-Curricular, Safety & Security, LTASA**

AGENDA - January 13, 2025 @ 4:15 pm

Dan Bell, **Chairperson**
Kim Klaus
Jack Conaty

Linda Walker, Alternate
William W. Zylinski - Acting Superintendent

New Policy/Regulations for Review and/or Discussion:

- P 5512 - Harassment, Intimidation, or Bullying (M) - Revised

*The Uniform State Memorandum of Agreement Between Education and Law Enforcement Officials (MOA) includes a section 4.4.5. titled “Coordination of HIB and Criminal Investigations”. Section 4.4.5. provides guidance and rules for when student conduct is being investigated by law enforcement officials as a violation of the criminal code and school officials as a violation of the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act. Policy Guide 5512 has been revised to add information from this section, including parental notification requirements and procedural guidance on when a school district must stay/pause a HIB investigation to allow law enforcement to conclude their investigation. If a school district would like further guidance on this situation, the MOA provides a detailed explanation of common scenarios and the proper steps for a school district to implement. Policy Guide 5512 is mandated and must be adopted by the Board as N.J.S.A. 18A:37-13 requires school districts to adopt a written policy addressing HIB. Policy Guide 5512 is **MANDATED**.*

- P/R 5533 - Student Smoking (M) - Revised

The Uniform State Memorandum of Agreement Between Education and Law Enforcement Officials (MOA) was revised to add section 3.3.8. titled “Electronic Smoking Devices”. Section 3.3.8. addresses the school district’s responsibility to report the use or seizure of an electronic smoking device to law enforcement. Strauss Esmay has revised Policy and Regulation Guides 5533 to include language from the MOA addressing the requirement that school districts report the use or seizure of an electronic smoking device to law enforcement when school officials have reasonable suspicion the electronic smoking device contains a controlled dangerous substance or cannabis. Policy Guide 5533 is mandated as the use of tobacco

products is illegal on school grounds pursuant to N.J.S.A. 26:3D-58. Policy Guide 5533 is **MANDATED**. Regulation Guide 5533 is **RECOMMENDED**.

- P/R 7441 - Electronic Surveillance in School Buildings and on School Grounds (M) - Revised

N.J.S.A. 18A:41-9 requires a school district with at least one school building that is equipped with video surveillance equipment capable of streaming live video wirelessly to a remote location to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with local law enforcement which will provide the authorities the capacity to activate equipment and view the live streaming video. The Uniform State Memorandum of Agreement Between Education and Law Enforcement Officials (MOA), section 7.4.1., added clarifying information to the language of the statute and the following statement has been revised to add the **bolded** language to the MOA and Policy and Regulation Guides 7441: “In accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:41-9, if at least one school building of the school district is equipped with video surveillance equipment that is capable of streaming live video wirelessly to a remote location, the Board of Education shall enter into a MOU with local law enforcement authorities providing the authorities with the capacity to activate the equipment and view live streaming video **during an emergency situation**.” The addition of “during an emergency situation” provides much needed clarity regarding law enforcement’s rights to access a school district’s live streaming video surveillance system. Policy and Regulation Guides 7441 are mandated as N.J.S.A. 18A:41-9 requires the school district to comply with the provisions of the statute and enter into a MOU with law enforcement regarding this issue and Regulation Guide 7441 must be adopted by the Board. Policy Guide 7441 is **MANDATED**. Regulation Guide 7441 is **MANDATED**.

- P/R 9320 - Cooperation with Law Enforcement Agencies (M) - Revised

All school districts must annually review, revise when appropriate, and adopt the Uniform State Memorandum of Agreement Between Education and Law Enforcement Officials (MOA) pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-6.2(b)13 through 14. The MOA provides a much greater level of detail regarding N.J.A.C. 6A:16-6 and all of the requirements outlined therein. Strauss Esmay has revised Policy and Regulation Guides 9320 to include two new requirements from the MOA, among other minor revisions. The first revision provides the Superintendent or designee with the option to designate a “law enforcement unit” for the district. A detailed explanation of what a “law enforcement unit” is and its purpose in the district is in the MOA, Section 2.4: Creation of Law Enforcement Units. The second revision to Regulation Guide 9320 addresses the “Handle With Care” program created by New Jersey Attorney General Directive 2020-9. “Handle With Care” is a program which requires law enforcement officials to notify the district when a student enrolled in the district witnesses something traumatic outside of the school environment. The revision states the Superintendent or designee will designate a point of contact for each school building tasked with receiving these notifications. There are student privacy rights issues implicated within the “Handle With Care” program that should be discussed with the Board Attorney and the individuals designated to receive these notifications.

Regulation Guide 9320 has been revised to include the language “or other drugs” as marijuana/cannabis is no longer a controlled dangerous substance, but still triggers a district’s responsibility to notify law enforcement if a student is under the influence or is in

possession of marijuana/cannabis. Regulation Guide 9320 is mandated and must be adopted by the Board as N.J.A.C. 6A:16-6.2 requires the development of policies and procedures that align with the MOA. Policy Guide 9320 is **MANDATED**. Regulation Guide 9320 is **MANDATED**.

- P 5460 - High School Graduation (M) - Revised

Policy Guide 5460 has been revised to include a new graduation requirement for high school graduating classes of 2025, 2026, and 2027. On January 16, 2024, P.L.2023 c.295 was enacted which states a Board will require a student, and the student's parent, if applicable, to complete and submit a financial aid application in a form prescribed by the New Jersey Higher Education Assistance Authority. This financial aid application requirement is a prerequisite to the student receiving a high school diploma. A student may be exempt from the requirement if the student, or the student's parent, submits to the district a waiver form requesting the exemption. Strauss Esmay has revised Policy Guide 5460 to reflect this new requirement and has updated the legal citations and the language that is in N.J.A.C. 6A:8-5.1, 5.2, and 5.3. The provisions in Policy Guide 5460 which outline requirements for the graduating classes of 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, and 2022 have been removed as they are no longer applicable. Policy Guide 5460 is mandated as N.J.A.C. 6A:8-5.1 states a Board shall develop, adopt, and implement graduation requirements that prepare students for success in post-secondary degree programs, careers, and civic life in the 21st century. Policy Guide 5460 is **MANDATED**.

- P 8500 - Food Services (M) - Revised

The "Working Class Families' Anti-Hunger Act" has been revised and the following statute sections have changes which necessitated revisions to Policy Guide 8500: N.J.S.A. 18A:33-3.2; 18A:33-4; 18A:33-11; 18A:33-14a.; 18A:33-21.; 18A:33-21b1; 18A:33-21.1; and 18A:33-27.2. The revisions to the statutes include, but are not limited to: new terminology, expansion of income eligibility to qualify students for free meals, and additional parental notification of school meal information. Revised Policy Guide 8500 is a comprehensive "Food Services" Policy Guide that addresses the pertinent provisions of the "Working Class Families' Anti-Hunger Act"; Federal regulations 7 CFR 210.1 et seq.; and the corresponding Federal guidance document "Eligibility Manual for School Meals Determining and Verifying Eligibility".

Strauss Esmay has received questions from school districts regarding the Federal Special Milk Program. If a school district operates the Federal Special Milk Program, the Board must adopt Policy Guides 8505 and 8561. Furthermore, the New Jersey Department of Agriculture has stated:

"The Special Milk Program may not be operated in a school or institution, which is also participating in the National School Lunch Program or School Breakfast Program.

Exception: Districts may participate in the Split Session Kindergarten Milk program. The Split Session Kindergarten Milk Program allows for the serving of milk to children enrolled in the Split Session Kindergarten programs, where they do not have access to the National School Lunch Program."

*Policy Guide 8500 is mandated and must be adopted by the Board if the district participates in the National School Lunch Program as it is a United States Department of Agriculture audit requirement. Policy Guide 8500 is **MANDATED**.*

Co-Curricular - No agenda items to discuss

Safety and Security - No agenda items to discuss

LTASA - No agenda items to discuss

Other -

- 2025-2026 School Calendar
- Therapy Dog News

Next Meeting: Wednesday, February 12, 2024 @ 4:15 pm