



2021-2022
Employee and Volunteer
Handbook

*“Excellence in
Teaching and Learning”*

Tempe★Union

HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

500 West Guadalupe Road Tempe, Arizona 85283

www.tempeunion.org

Governing Board Members

Brian Garcia, President
Andres Barraza, Vice President
Berdetta Hodge, Member
Sarah James, Member
Armando Montero, Member

Dr. Kevin J. Mendivil, Superintendent
Dr. Stacia K. Wilson, Associate Superintendent

Our Mission Statement

"Excellence in Teaching and Learning."

Our Vision Statement

All students will graduate with the skills necessary for success in college, career and life.

Our Core Values and Beliefs

Students First
Employees Matter
Family, Community and Business Partnerships
Diversity and Inclusion
Integrity

Our Strategic Goals

- Goal #1** We will work collaboratively to ensure all students learn at high levels.
- Goal #2** We will ensure resources meet the current and future needs of our students.
- Goal #3** We will recruit and retain a highly-effective diverse staff.
- Goal #4** We will create and nurture partnerships with the community to support students and staff.

Tempe Union High School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including sexual orientation and gender identify and expression), age, disability, veteran or military status, religion, or genetic information, or any other prohibited factor in the admission or access to, treatment or employment in its educational programs or activities. Inquiries or complaints concerning discrimination, including Title VI, Title VII and Title IX may be referred to the Superintendent, the District's Compliance Officer: See Notice of Non-Discrimination.



Handbook Acknowledgement Statement for All TUHSD Employees and Volunteers

The contents of this handbook contain general information and may be modified at any time by the appropriate District personnel. The Governing Board reserves the right to change policies, regulations and practices, including contents of this handbook, at any time, without notice. It is essential for you to know and abide by the laws, policies and regulations of the Governing Board of the District. Policies and information contained in this handbook were accurate at the time of printing. No statement should be construed as a promise of future or continuing employment or benefits. *Contents of this handbook do not form a contract of employment between TUHSD and an individual employee, group of employees, or volunteer.*

Handbook contents shall at no time supersede applicable Federal or State laws or Governing Board Policy. Every employee or volunteer must sign or electronically accept this acknowledgement statement for Human Resources record keeping purposes. This is required as condition of employment with Tempe Union High School District (TUHSD). Failure to do so may result in disciplinary action, up to and including recommendation for dismissal. The following information is not intended to be a complete representation of District policy. The District policy manual is available on the TUHSD website, www.tempeunion.org under the *About TUHSD* tab, then the *Governing Board* link.

My signature or my electronic acceptance of this document in the Staff Tab of the TUHSD website, verifies that I understand and have received the following:

1. *I have received and will read the 2021-2022 Employee and Volunteer Handbook.* A copy of this handbook is available to me at all times on the TUHSD website.
2. *It is my responsibility to become familiar with, and to abide by,* the District policies, regulations and procedures in this handbook and those adopted by the Governing Board and administration, *including but not limited to:* the District Technology Use Agreement, Staff Ethics Policy, Staff Conflict of Interest, Statement of Awareness, Confidentiality Agreement, Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) and the mandatory reporting requirements of Arizona Revised Statutes (A.R.S.) §13-3620 and A.R.S. §15-550.
3. *I will review the requirements of my job description and understand that I am responsible for completing the essential and marginal functions of my position in a satisfactory manner.* Approved job descriptions are available on the District website under the *Staff Tab, Human Resources, Staff Job Descriptions*. If I cannot locate my job description, I may contact Human Resources to obtain a copy. I further understand that the functions outlined in my job description are intended as guidelines, subject to change as necessary and that I may be asked to perform duties and/or responsibilities not specifically addressed in my job description.
4. Information in the handbook is updated regularly and it is important to familiarize myself with any changes.
5. If I have any questions regarding the contents of this handbook, I should bring them to the attention of my supervisor or Human Resources.

Employee Name (Please Print)

School or Department

Employee Signature

Date

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SECTION I: STATEMENT OF AWARENESS AND AGREEMENTS

Statement of Awareness Policies, Procedures and Regulations for all Employees

Employees are responsible for reviewing and complying with all policies, procedures, regulations and other documents that govern their conduct, performance and conditions of employment with the District. Administrators, Directors and Supervisors must provide employees with access to such documents.

As an Employee of TUHSD, I understand that the documents listed below are available to me for my review. I acknowledge and agree that I am responsible for reviewing and complying with all policies, procedures, regulations and other documents that govern my conduct, performance, and conditions of employment as an employee of the District. *I further understand that it is my responsibility to keep abreast of changes in policies, procedures and regulations.*

1	Tempe Union High School District Mission and Vision Statements; See tempeunion.org
2	Tempe Union High School District Policies and Regulations Manual. <i>Employees are responsible for adherence to all Governing Board policies and regulations. Specifically, the policies and regulations described on this Statement of Awareness must be reviewed carefully.</i> (Policy GBEA)
3	Arizona’s College and Career Ready Standards (AzCCRS) <i>(Certificated Administrators only)</i>
4	Certified Evaluation Processes and Timelines (GCO; GCO-R)
5	Child Abuse Reporting Protocol (A.R.S. § 13-3620) Any school personnel or any other person who has responsibility for the care or treatment of a minor and who reasonably believes that a minor is or has been the victim of physical injury, abuse, child abuse, a reportable offense or neglect that appears to have been inflicted upon the minor by other than accidental means or that is not explained by the available medical history as being accidental in nature or who reasonably believes there has been a denial or deprivation of necessary medical treatment or surgical care or nourishment with the intent to cause or allow the death of an infant who is protected under A.R.S. 36-2281 shall immediately report or cause reports to be made of such information to a peace officer or to the Department of Child Safety (DCS) of the Department of Economic Security, except if the report concerns a person who does not have care, custody, or control of the minor, the report shall be made to a peace officer only. Such reports shall be made immediately either electronically or by telephone. (Policy JLF)
6	Employee Schedules and Calendars All employees shall report to their duty stations on time each workday and be available there until the time they are scheduled to leave. All Classified non-exempt employees are subject to time reporting guidelines, rules and regulations as specified in policy. (Policy GCL Professional Staff Schedules and Calendars and Policy GDK Classified Staff Schedules and Calendars)
7	Classified Evaluation Process and Timelines <i>(Administrators, Supervisors, Classified employees)</i>
8	Classified Staff Contracts/Notices of Assignment <i>(Classified employees only)</i> Classified staff members are employees who are not required by state law or by District policy regulation or job description to possess <i>teaching</i> certificates from the Arizona Department of Education. Classified and Classified Exempt employees receive a contract or notice of assignment appropriate to their positions. (Policy GDB) IMPORTANT NOTE: <i>Classified and Instructional Support staff issued contracts and/or notices of assignments have a limited number of days to accept the document or the offer may be withdrawn. Please refer to the individual document regarding the acceptance timeline.</i> Certified Staff Contracts Salaries are differentiated in relationship to duties and responsibilities. A

	<p>probationary, continuing, limited term or teacher on assignment certified teacher who is issued a contract for the next school year must sign and return the contract within fifteen (15) business days from the date of receipt in accordance with A.R.S. § 15-536(A). (Policies GCB; GCB – R)</p> <p>Administrator, Certificated Staff and Instructional Support Staff Contracts have a liquidated damage clause. <i>A Request for Release from Contract may incur liquidated damages expenses up to \$1,500.</i></p>
9	<p>Copyright Employees must adhere to all copyright laws, including copying of printed materials, software and recorded music. (Policy EGAD)</p>
10	<p>Curriculum Guides, Curriculum Development (<i>Certificated teachers only</i>) Certificated teachers are required to participate in the development of District curriculum materials. Certificated teachers will be evaluated to assess whether they integrate District and state standards into their instructional practices to the extent that such standards apply to their teaching area. Curriculum guides must be submitted to the Superintendent, or designee for approval prior to publication. (Policies IGA)</p>
11	<p>Data/Records Retention Employees must comply with this policy, which establishes a records management program for all public records, including e-mail records that are created or maintained by employees. (Policy EHB)</p>
12	<p>Directives for Student Testing (<i>Certificated Administrators only</i> – Policy ILB; Applicable Written Procedures for Specific Tests or Assessments)</p>
13	<p>Discipline, Suspension and Dismissal of Professional and/or Classified Support Staff These policies define misconduct, list types of misconduct, outline methods of disciplinary action that may be taken, and explain the process for suspension and/or dismissal of an employee for unsatisfactory performance or misconduct. (Policy GCQF for Professional Staff and GDQD for Classified Support Staff)</p>
14	<p>Drug Free Workplace An employee arrested, cited or charged with a drug- and/or alcohol-related criminal offense (e.g., a D.U.I), whether a felony or a misdemeanor, <u>must notify his or her immediate supervisor.</u> Any employee who has been convicted under any criminal drug statute for a violation occurring in the workplace, as defined in Policy GBEC, shall notify their supervisor within five (5) days thereof that such conviction has occurred. Any employee arrested, cited, charged with, or convicted of any such offense who fails to notify his or her immediate supervisor will be subject to disciplinary action, including recommendation for dismissal from employment. (Policy GBEC)</p>
15	<p>Electronic Timekeeping Procedures It is the responsibility of each Classified non-exempt and any employee required to track hours to ensure accurate reporting of all hours worked which are submitted to Payroll for pay calculation. Employees must clock in and out for themselves, and ensure that any corrections are given to the Timekeeping Editor within the correct pay period.</p>
16	<p>Fair Labor Standards Act Statement of Understanding <i>All employees</i> of the District must be aware of the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) and the requirements pertaining to all Classified non-exempt employees. (Policies GCQD; GDBC; GDL)</p>
17	<p>Grade Level/Subject Curriculum (<i>Certificated Administrators and Employees only</i>)</p>
18	<p>Harassment/Sexual Harassment in the Workplace Harassment includes unwelcome verbal, written or physical conduct demonstrating hostility or aversion toward an individual on the basis of actual or perceived race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, gender, marital status, religion, veteran or military status, sexual orientation, gender expression or identity, or socioeconomic status. <u>Any</u> employee who believes he or she has been harassed should lodge a complaint with an appropriate supervisor or the Superintendent. Title</p>

	IX Coordinators contact information can be found at https://www.tempeunion.org/Title-IX-Sexual-Harassment-Reporting (Title VII; Title IX; Policy AC; Regulation AC-R; Policy ACA; Regulation ACA-R; Policy ACAA; Regulation ACAA-R; Policy ACB; Regulation ACB-R; GBEB-RB)
19	Hiring Laws, Regulations and Practices for Certificated, Instructional Support and Classified Employees
20	Information and Guidelines for Student Behavior (<i>Certificated Employees</i> - Policy Manual Section J; Student Handbook)
21	Leaves of Absence All leaves of absence must be properly approved. (Policy GCC) For information about leaves covered by the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 (FMLA), refer to Policy GCCC.
22	Purchasing Policies and Procedures Purchases of equipment, supplies, materials, and services by the District must be conducted in accordance with the school District procurement rules and under the administration of the Assistant Superintendent of Business Services. (Policies DJ; DJE; DJGA)
23	Reduction in Force This policy/regulation establishes the process for implementing a reduction in force (RIF) for teachers pursuant to A.R.S. § 15-544 and for Classified staff. (Policy GCQA Professional Staff and GDQA Classified and Support Staff)
24	Research and Publishing The Governing Board has proprietary rights to publications, instructional materials, and devices prepared by employees unless prepared by such employees on their own time and without use of school facilities and/or equipment. A staff member who submits professional materials for publication in which the District is mentioned will submit all such material to the Superintendent, or designee, prior to release for publication, including materials developed on the employee's own time. (Policy GCS)
25	Site Emergency Management Plan All employees are responsible for possessing a copy of the Site Emergency Management Plan, becoming thoroughly familiar with the plan and ensuring that each employee, in the event of an emergency, will know what to do in an efficient and effective manner. All administrators must distribute copies of the plan to all employees working at the site.
26	Special Education Implementation Manual (<i>Certificated Administrators only</i>) - Refer to “Procedural Safeguard Notice” and “Staff Handbook for 504” (Policy IHB)
27	Special Education-Related Topics – Refer to “Procedural Safeguard Notice” and “Staff Handbook for 504” (Policy IHB)
28	Staff Conflict of Interest No employee may be directly supervised by a close relative (spouse, child, grandchild, parent, grandparent, brother, sister and their spouses, and the parent, brother, sister or child of a spouse). Any employee whose relative has, substantial interest in any decision must disclose this interest in the official records of the District by completing a Conflict of Interest form. The employee must refrain from participating in such a decision. (Policy BCB, GBEEA)
29	Staff Conduct The District will not tolerate any behavior in the workplace that constitutes bullying as defined in policy regulation GBEB-RB. This policy regulation is applicable during normal working hours, at work-related or sponsored functions, while traveling on work-related business, or when using District email, computers, internet access or any other electronic communication system. There will be no retaliation for anyone who makes a good faith allegation of bullying. (Policy GBEB-RB)
30	Staff Safety and Health Employees who have exposure to blood borne pathogens (Hepatitis B/Human Immunodeficiency Virus) must report the details in writing and are required to follow post exposure evaluation

	and follow-up activities in accordance with Arizona and Federal laws. (Policies GBGB; GBGC)
31	Staff-Student Relations Relationships between staff members and students that include dating, courtship, or romantic involvement are prohibited. These behaviors are deemed unacceptable and contrary to the expectations of District governance. (Policy GBEBB)
32	Staff Use of Digital Communications and Electronic Devices Social media technologies blogs, picture-sharing, v-logs, wall-postings, e-mail, instant messaging, music-sharing, crowdsourcing, Facebook, LinkedIn, My Space, Twitter, You Tube, and successor protocols. District employees have a responsibility to ensure appropriate use of social media in all communications in compliance with policy. (Policy GBEF) In addition, as a means of providing safety and security in direct electronic communications and to prevent abuses to the appropriate use of electronic equipment, all computer access to the internet through the District’s electronic systems may be monitored periodically or randomly through in-use monitoring or review of usage logs; the District shall review usage logs in response to any complaints regarding an employee’s use of the District’s electronic systems. (Policies GBEF and GBEFA)
33	Student Handbook All administrators are responsible for the production, revision in conjunction with guidance of the District’s legal counsel and distribution to all employees at the site. All administrators must be familiar with all content within the Student Handbook.
34	Teacher or Staff Handbook All administrators are responsible for the production, revision in conjunction with guidance of the District’s legal counsel and distribution to all employees at the site. All administrators must be familiar with all content within the Teacher or Staff Handbook.
35	Technology/Electronic Mail Use Policies and Guidelines (Policies EGD; EGDA; EGAEA)
36	Technology Resources and Use of Technology Resources in Instruction Video materials must reinforce the concepts being taught in the course curriculum, and must be age-and grade-level appropriate. (Policies IJND and IJNDB)
37	Tempe Union High School District <i>Employee and Volunteer Handbook</i>
38	Textbook/Supplementary Materials Adoption (<i>Certificated Administrators only</i>) The Governing Board approves and adopts all new and supplementary books. (Policy IJJ)
39	Unprofessional Conduct A staff member who is arrested for or charged with any nonappealable offense listed in A.R.S. § 41-1758.03(B), and who does not immediately report the arrest or charge to their supervisor is guilty of unprofessional conduct and shall be immediately dismissed from employment. (Policy GBEB; GCMF; GCQF)
41	Use of Physical Force by Supervisory Personnel An employee entrusted with the care and supervision of a minor may use reasonable, appropriate physical force to the extent reasonably necessary and appropriate to maintain order. The threat or use of physical force is not justified as a response to verbal provocation alone, nor when the degree of physical force used is disproportionate to the circumstances or exceeds that necessary to avoid injury or to preserve property (Policy GBEB)
42	Voluntary Termination of Employment (Policies GCQ; GCQC; GDQD)
43	Volunteers (Policy IJOC and IJOC-R) Volunteers who work with the students of Tempe Union High School District make many valuable contributions to our students and educational programs. All volunteers are subject to clearance in accordance with District Policies and Procedures prior to beginning service.
44	Workers’ Compensation and Accident Reporting All employees are covered by Workers’ Compensation insurance for most injuries or illnesses while on assignment, including injury or illness on school property or

	<p>while on official business off school property. The employee must complete a “Work-Related Injury Report” form and submit the completed form to the Benefits Coordinator immediately. (Policies GBGD; EBBB)</p>
45	<p>Mandatory Annual Benefit Notices All employees are responsible to stay current with the mandatory Annual Benefit Notices as required by law. Mandatory Annual Benefit Notices are located on the District website under Employee Benefits. These notices include: 403b plans; ASRS online enrollment; COBRA; FMLA for Military; FMLA; Glossary of Health Coverage and Medical Terms; Health Insurance Marketplace; HIPAA; Medicaid and CHIP; Medicare Part D; Summary of Benefits and Coverage; USERRA; WHCRA; OSHA Report.</p>

Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) Statement of Understanding for ALL Employees

Guidelines for Non-Exempt Employee Compensation Pay Practices Hours Worked/Time Recording (Policy GDBC)

Under the federal Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA), employers are required to keep certain records on their non-exempt classified employee compensation practices. These practices include the accurate recording of time on a daily and weekly basis, not working overtime without permission or authorization, and not working without accurately recording the hours worked.

In order to ensure that (1) accurate records are kept, (2) non-exempt classified employees are not working without recording their time, and (3) the District will not be in violation of the law, all employees must be aware of the wage and hour requirements. To prove compliance with the law, **this Statement of Understanding must be read and accepted by all employees.** A copy of this acceptance will be retained in the electronic personnel files. Employees who fail to abide by the laws and Governing Board Policy which govern wage and hour issues will be subject to disciplinary action.

For non-exempt classified employees:

1. The workweek begins at 12:01 a.m. on Sunday and ends at 12:00 midnight the following Saturday. If employees work overtime (in excess of 40 hours in one workweek), they are to be paid one and one-half (1½) times the regular hourly rate of pay for hours worked in excess of 40 hours. Compensatory time at a rate of one and one-half (1½) times may be given in lieu of overtime pay. Prior approval from the supervisor must be obtained prior to working.
2. Overtime may not be worked without prior approval. **Only in cases of emergency may approval be obtained after the fact.** Payment of non-approved overtime will not be withheld, but employees who do not gain supervisor's approval prior to working overtime will face disciplinary procedures up to and including recommendation for termination of employment.
3. All time worked must be recorded in the appropriate timekeeping system or in some extreme cases on electronic or paper timecards. **Employees shall not clock in or out for another employee.** It is the employee's responsibility to record all hours worked and **not** work "off the clock." If you feel that you are being directed or intimidated into not recording worked hours appropriately, contact Human Resources immediately. Employees who attempt to come in early, stay late, or work during the duty-free lunch period without the supervisor's prior approval will be subject to disciplinary action. Likewise, supervisory personnel, including staff who are administrators, managers, supervisors or acting in lead or supervisory roles, who expect employees to work without recording the time will be subject to disciplinary action. Employees who feel pressured to work in violation of rules should inform Human Resources, the Associate Superintendent, or the Superintendent, or designee.
4. It is your responsibility to ensure the accuracy of reported absences and hours worked. It is a legal requirement for the District to pay you for all hours worked.
5. Employment on the basis of a stipend, "flat rate" or other arrangement that does not compensate the employee on the basis of hours worked is prohibited. Payment in cash is prohibited.
6. The Employee agrees that in accordance with the Fair Labor Standards Act, Section 207(o) that as employees of a public agency they may receive, in lieu of overtime compensation, compensatory time off at a rate not less than one and one-half hours for each hour of employment for which overtime compensation is required. Per the Fair Labor Standards Act, overtime is required after 40 hours of worked time in a workweek.
7. Non-exempt employees are expected to adhere to their scheduled work hours and to abide by any designated lunch period.

Tempe Union High School District

Staff Confidentiality Agreement

It is the policy of Tempe Union High School District (the District) to provide our employees or students with a level of privacy with respect to confidential or personally identifiable information, and to maintain the confidentiality of School Business Information learned in the course of performing work.

In the course of your work, you may have access to Confidential Information (oral, written or computer generated and not otherwise available to the public at large or co-workers including other supervisors/administrators) about employees or students, their families and/or their personal business.

School Business Information includes, but is not limited to the following: computer programs, software and supporting documentation, technological improvement plans, strategic plans, financial information, employee information, compensation information, and the like.

THEREFORE, I AGREE that:

My right to enter, view or make use of Confidential Information and School Business Information is restricted to my need to know the data or information to perform my job responsibilities. I will keep my computer access password(s) confidential. If another method of accessing a computer system is used, I will restrict its use to myself. I will not discuss any Confidential Information or School Business Information in any public areas, hallways, gathering spaces or other locations. I will not access Confidential Information or School Business Information unless I have a bona fide reason to know that information and have my supervisor's permission to do so.

I will hold all Confidential Information and School Business Information of which I have knowledge in the strictest confidence, as required by law, District Policy and Regulation and this Confidentiality Agreement. I agree to utilize Confidential Information and School Business Information obtained by me only for the benefit of the employee or student or in performance of my job responsibilities.

Unauthorized disclosure, copying and/or misuse of Confidential Information or School Business Information is a serious breach of confidentiality and my duties as a District employee and will result in disciplinary action up to and including termination of employment.

Any individual with authorized access to Tempe Union High School District computer information system, records or files is given access to use the District's data or files solely for the business of the District and must not divulge this information outside of the District except for approved District business requirements approved by the Superintendent, or designee. Specifically, with respect to District records or information, individuals must:

- Access data solely in order to perform his/her job responsibilities.
- All transactions, processed by a user ID and password, are the responsibility of the person to whom the user ID and password was assigned. The user's ID and password must remain confidential and must not be shared with anyone.
- Not seek personal benefit or permit others to benefit personally from any data that has come to them throughout their work assignments.
- Not make or permit unauthorized use of any information in the District's information system or records.
- Not enter, change, delete or add data to any information system or files outside of the scope of their job responsibilities.
- Not include or cause to be included in any record or report, a false, inaccurate or misleading entry known to the user as such.
- Not alter or delete or cause to be altered or deleted from any records, report or information system, a true and correct entry.

- Not release District data other than what is required in completion of job responsibilities.
- Not exhibit or divulge the contents of any record, file or information system to any person unless it is necessary for the completion of their job responsibilities.

Further, this agreement shall be binding upon me both during my employment with the District and after my employment with the District ends for any reason. Outside requests for information about the District are handled by the Executive Director of Community Relations. If I receive a request for Confidential Information or School Business Information from someone who is not employed by the District, I will promptly report that request to my supervisor.

SECTION II: KEY DISTRICT PERSONNEL LAWS AND POLICIES

Absence Reporting

The success of our students relies on the cumulative performance of each and every employee. Attendance is essential. All administrative, certified, instructional support and classified employees are required to personally report **all absences** (including general leave, professional leave, compensatory bank leave and vacation) to their immediate supervisors and to the appropriate electronic timekeeping system, at a minimum of sixty (60) minutes prior to the start of the workday. **All classified employees must report absences in Time Clocks Plus. All punches must be completed and approved by the individual staff member through electronic devices onsite. It is the responsibility of each employee to ensure proper registration in the appropriate electronic system.** If you are a certified teacher, report your absence online to <http://frontlinek12.com/aesop> and enter your user name and password or report by phone to 1-800-942-3767 and enter your ID and PIN number and follow the prompts.

Purchasing (Purchasing Ethics Policy) (Policies DJ; DJGA)

The District's Governing Board members and employees shall not use their offices or positions to receive any valuable things or benefits that would not ordinarily accrue to them in the performance of duties if the things or benefits are of such value or character as to manifest a substantial and improper influence upon the performance of their duties.

A person who supervises or participates in contracts, purchases, payments, claims or other financial transactions, or a person who supervises or participates in the planning, recommending, selecting or contracting for materials, services, good, construction, or construction services of a school district or school purchasing cooperative is guilty of a Class 6 felony if the person solicits, accepts or agrees to accept any personal gift or benefit with a value of three hundred dollars (\$300) or more from a person or vendor that has secured or has taken steps to secure a contract, purchase, payment, claim or financial transaction with the school district or school purchasing cooperative. Soliciting, accepting or agreeing to accept any personal gift or benefit with a value of less than three hundred dollars (\$300) is a Class 1 misdemeanor.

Any person or vendor that has secured or has taken steps to secure a contract, payment, claim or financial transaction with a school district or school purchasing cooperative that offers, confers or agrees to confer any personal gift or benefit with a value of three hundred dollars (\$300) or more on a person who supervises or participates in contracts, purchases, payments, claims or other financial transactions, or on a person who supervises or participates in planning, recommending, selecting or contracting for materials, services, goods, construction or construction services for a school district or school purchasing cooperative, is guilty of a Class 6 felony. Offering, conferring or agreeing to confer any personal gift or benefits with a value of less than three hundred (\$300) is a Class 1 misdemeanor.

For the purpose of Policy DJ, a gift or benefit means a payment, distribution, expenditure, advance, deposit or monies, any intangible personal property, or any kind of tangible personal or real property. A gift or benefit does not include food or beverage, expense or sponsorships related to special event or function related to individuals identified in Policy DJ, nor does this include an item of nominal value such as a greeting card, T-shirt, mug or pen.

A District employee who has control over personnel actions may not take reprisal against a District employee or that employee's disclosure of information that is a matter of public concern, including violation of District policy or laws/regulations governing the District.

No school official, teacher, employee, or Governing Board member shall:

- Obligate District funds without first securing an approved agreement and/or purchase order. The employee may be held personally liable for unauthorized purchases.
- Accept, take or convert to one's own use, products or services of any kind in the course of, or as the result of, the inspection of such products or services.
- Use one's position to solicit, directly or indirectly, from any person who sells to the School District, the purchase of supplies, services or equipment at special discounts, for private use.
- Be a vendor or serve as an agent promoting the interests of any organization which transacts or attempts to transact business with the School District.
- Directly or indirectly provide estimates or any business service or information, not available to all prospective bidders, to any person bidding or expecting to bid on a contract with the School District.
- Purposefully exclude any qualified, responsible vendor from submitting a bid in conjunction with good business practices.
- Accept or recommend acceptance of bids which do not meet or exceed identified specifications.
- Open bids or other correspondence except in the manner prescribed by state statutes, Board policy, and good business practice.

Policy DJ should not be construed to prohibit District Governing Board members and employees from accepting inexpensive novelty advertising items and holiday gifts or occasional business meals.

All sales calls and demonstrations are to be coordinated through the purchasing department.

Bidding/Purchasing Procedures (Policy DJE)

The Superintendent, or designee, is responsible for all purchasing, contracting, competitive bidding, receiving and processing all bid protests, in accordance with Arizona State Board of Education procurement rules, including A.A.C. R7-2-1141 *et seq.* A contract shall not be awarded to an entity that does not verify employment eligibility of each employee through the E-verify program in compliance with A.R.S. 23-214 subsection A. Each contract shall contain the warranties required by A.R.S. 41-4401 relative to the E-verify requirements.

Purchases Not Requiring Bidding:

The Superintendent shall ensure that all aspects of bidding and purchasing procedures conform to federal and state laws, rule and regulations. Administrative regulations shall be established to assure the District is in full compliance, including contracting with small and minority businesses, women's business enterprises, and labor surplus area firms. (2 C.F.R. 200.231) This information is presented for general guidance. Please contact the Director of Purchasing for information regarding specific purchasing requirements.

- Purchases of less than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) may be made at the discretion of the Superintendent, or designee. Such procurements are not subject to competitive purchasing requirements, however reasonable judgment should be used to ensure the purchases are advantageous to the District.
- Written price quotations will be requested from at least three (3) vendors for transactions of at least ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) and less than one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000). If three (3) written price quotations cannot be obtained, documentation showing the vendors contacted that did not offer written price quotations, or explaining why written price quotations were not obtained, shall be maintained on file in the District office.

For additional information refer to Policy DJE – Bidding/Purchasing Procedures, or contact the Director of Purchasing.

Sales representatives for school services, supplies or other materials are not permitted to call on teachers or other

school staff members except with prior authorization from the Business Services Department. All sales calls and demonstrations are to be coordinated through the purchasing office.

No employee of the District will accept gifts from any person, group, or entity doing, or desiring to do, business with the District. The acceptance of any business-related gratuity is specifically prohibited, except for widely distributed, advertising items of nominal value. See also Policy GBEAA – Staff Conflict of Interest.

Reporting Child Abuse/Child Protection (Policy JLF)

Any school personnel or any other person who has responsibility for the care or treatment of a minor and who reasonably believes that a minor is or has been the victim of physical injury, abuse, child abuse, a reportable offense or neglect that appears to have been inflicted upon the minor by other than accidental means or that is not explained by the available medical history as being accidental in nature or who reasonably believes there has been a denial or deprivation of necessary medical treatment or surgical care or nourishment with the intent to cause or allow the death of an infant who is protected under A.R.S. [36-2281](#) shall immediately report or cause reports to be made of such information to a peace officer or to the Department of Child Safety (DCS) of the Department of Economic Security, except if the report concerns a person who does not have care, custody, or control of the minor, the report shall be made to a peace officer only. Such reports shall be made immediately either electronically or by telephone.

The Arizona Department of Economic Security, Division of Children, Youth and Families, has determined that all mandated reporters may now electronically submit non-emergency reports via a secure online reporting website. Non-emergency reports are those in which a child is not at immediate risk of abuse or neglect that could result in serious harm. Mandated reporters will be able to submit non-emergency reports twenty-four (24) hours a day without wait times.

All reports made via the online website will *require the person making the report (reporting source) to provide contact information*. A representative from the Child Abuse Hotline may contact the source for additional information, if necessary. This process will make it more convenient to meet the mandated reporting requirements and help ensure child safety.

All *emergency situations* where a child faces an immediate risk of abuse or neglect that could result in serious harm *must* still be reported by calling 911 or 1-888-SOS-CHILD (1-888-767-2445). If a reporting source is unsure as to whether or not the report is an emergency situation, the reporting source should call the Child Abuse Hotline to make a report.

Any concerns for the safety of a child due to abuse, neglect or abandonment, *must be reported*, by:

Calling 1-888-SOS-CHILD (1-888-767-2445),

TDD: 602-530-1831 (1-800-530-1831), or

Submitting *non-emergency* concerns via the Online Reporting Service at <https://dcs.az.gov/report-child-abuse>.

Pursuant to A.R.S. [13-3620](#), such reports shall contain, if known:

- The names and addresses of the minor, the parents, or the person or persons having custody of such minor, if known.
- The minor's age and the nature and extent of the minor's abuse, child abuse, or physical injuries or neglect, including any evidence of previous abuse, child abuse, physical injury or neglect.
- Any other information that such person believes might be helpful in establishing the cause of the abuse, child abuse, physical injury or neglect.

A person who furnishes a report, information, or records required or authorized under Arizona Revised Statutes or a person who participates in a judicial or administrative proceeding or investigation resulting from a report, information or records required or authorized under Arizona Revised Statutes is immune from any civil or criminal liability by reason of that action unless such person has acted with malice or unless such person has been charged with or is suspected of abusing or neglecting the child or children in question.

A report is not required under A.R.S. [13-3620](#) for conduct prescribed by A.R.S. [13-1404](#) and [13-1405](#) if the conduct involves only minors who are fourteen (14), fifteen (15), sixteen (16) or seventeen (17) years of age and there is nothing to indicate that the conduct is other than consensual.

A report is not required if a minor is of elementary school age, the physical injury occurs accidentally in the course of typical playground activity during a school day, occurs on the premises of the school that the minor attends and is reported to the legal parent or guardian of the minor and the school maintains a written record of the incident. The school will maintain a written record of the physical injury as part of the student's health file as required by Arizona State Library, Archives and Public Records (ASLAPR).

A person who fails to report abuse as provided in A.R.S. [13-3620](#) is guilty of a class 1 misdemeanor, except if the failure to report involves a reportable offense, the person is guilty of a class 6 felony.

Any person or Governing Board member who reasonably suspects or receives a reasonable allegation that a person certificated by the Department of Education has engaged in conduct involving minors that would be subject to the reporting requirements of A.R.S. [13-3620](#) shall report or cause reports to be made to the Department of Education in writing as soon as is reasonably practicable but not later than three (3) business days after the person first suspects or receives an allegation of the conduct.

Any person who is supervisor to or administrator of a person who is statutorily required to report is not required to make an independent report if the supervisor or administrator reasonably believes that their subordinate employee has made the required report.

Any school employee who has orally reported to DCS or a peace officer a reasonable belief of an offense to a minor must provide written notification to the principal of the oral report not later than the next workday following the making of the report.

Contracts/Notices of Assignment (Policies GCB; GDB)

Certified Employees

Certified employees receive contracts indicating their official employment status, whether they are limited term, probationary or continuing employees.

A limited term employee is anyone who is considered a late hire (hired after October 1), any employee who accepts less than a full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) teaching assignment or any employee who accepts a temporary position. A temporary position may include a position that is not funded by M & O. Any employee who does not work the full number of days in the contract period is paid on a prorated basis for the number of days worked. Any employee who does not work a full day (less than 1.0 FTE) will receive a prorated contract proportionate to the number of hours worked.

Classified Employees

Classified employees are either at-will or term employees.

- ***At will employees*** - An at-will employee is a classified staff member who is employed by the District for no specific term and who has no guarantee of continued employment. The employment of an at-will employee may be terminated by action of the Governing Board without advance notice. No employee or Governing

Board member shall have the authority to make any agreement or contract to the contrary or any agreement with an at-will employee for any specified period of time. No District policy or regulation or item within the District’s handbook is intended to – and shall not operate to – create any property or contract rights inconsistent with the at-will employment status of classified staff members. At-will employees **do not** receive a Classified Notice of Assignment.

- **Term employee** - A term employee is a classified staff member who is employed by the District pursuant to a written appointment (Notice of Assignment) to a position that specifies the duration of employment, not to exceed one (1) year. All classified staff members who are not term employees are at-will employees. All new term employees shall serve a probationary period of ninety (90) days, during which they shall be “at-will” and may be released or terminated by action of the Governing Board without advance notice.

Classified exempt employees receive contracts indicating their official employment status.

Each TUHSD employee must electronically accept their Contract or Notice of Assignment. *This includes Notice of Special Assignment Contracts as well as Contracts for regular employment.* Only “at-will” classified staff members or temporary workers (such as summer bookstore workers) who are not eligible to receive a Contract or Notice of Assignment shall be exempt from this requirement.

Administrator, Certified Staff and Instructional Support Staff Contracts

The contracts for Administrators, Certified and Instructional Support Staff have a liquidated damage clause. A ***Request for Release from Contract*** constitutes “breaking” your contract and may incur liquidated damages expenses up to a maximum \$1,500. *Exceptions may be made for extenuating circumstances; however, these will be handled on a case by case basis and all Requests for Release from Contract are subject to Governing Board approval.*

Copyright Compliance (Policy EGAD)

School equipment and personnel cannot be used for any printing work for parent, professional, charitable or character-building organizations. The only exception to this is when an individual school duplicates notices of the parent group meetings directly connected with a specific activity at school.

The District does not condone violations of the United States copyright laws. Subject to certain specific exceptions, the copyright owner has exclusive rights to reproduce, distribute, perform, or display the copyrighted work, or to authorize reproduction, distribution, performance, or display by others.

The District disapproves of unauthorized duplication in any form. Employees who willfully disregard the District’s Copyright Guidelines and policies do so at their own risk and assume all liability for their actions. For more information, refer to Policy EGAD – Copyright Compliance.

Disciplinary Action, Suspension and Dismissal Policies (Policies GBEB; GCQF; GDQD)

Policies GBEB, GCQF and GDQD contain references to employee misconduct and procedures for administering appropriate discipline to employees who engage in misconduct. Disciplinary action ranges from a verbal warning, a written warning, a letter of reprimand, suspension without pay to recommendation for dismissal.

Staff members are to report any suspected crime against a person or property that is a serious offense, involves a deadly weapon or dangerous instrument or that could pose a threat of death or serious injury to employees, students or others on school property. All such reports shall be communicated to the Superintendent who shall be responsible for reporting to local law enforcement.

A person who is employed by the District or is an applicant for employment with the District, who is arrested for or charged with any nonappealable offense listed in A.R.S. § [41-1758.03\(B\)](#), and who does not immediately report the arrest or charge to the person's supervisor or potential employer is guilty of unprofessional conduct and the person shall be immediately dismissed from employment with the District or immediately excluded from potential employment with the District. A person dismissed from employment for failure to report being arrested for or charged with a nonappealable offense has no right to appeal under the provisions of A.R.S. § [15-539\(F\)](#). Prior to an action to terminate for failure to report, an employee will be given the opportunity to provide a written explanation of circumstances or events which they believe mitigate the failure to report.

Drug-Free Workplace and Related Policies (Policies GBEC; GBECA; GBECB)

Workplace includes any school building or any school premises and any school-owned vehicle or any other school-approved vehicle used to transport staff members or students to and from school or school activities or on school business. Off school property, the workplace includes any school-sponsored or school-approved activity, event, or function where students or staff members are under the jurisdiction of the District. In addition, the workplace shall include all property owned, leased, or used by the District for any educational or District business purpose.

No employee shall violate the law or District policy in the manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession, or use, on or in the workplace, of alcohol or any narcotic drug, hallucinogenic drug, amphetamine, barbiturate, marijuana, or any other controlled substance, as defined in schedules I through V of section 202 of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 812) and as further defined by regulation at 21 C.F.R. 1308.11 through 1308.15.

Any employee who is convicted under a criminal drug statute for a violation occurring in the workplace, must notify the supervisor within five (5) days that a conviction has occurred. The use, possession or impairment resulting from previous use of any intoxicants or illegal drugs on school property is prohibited. Staff members who violate this policy are subject to the same penalties as for possession and/or consumption on school property.

Equal Employment Opportunity (Policy GBA)

The policy of the District is to prohibit discrimination against any individual on the basis of actual or perceived race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, gender, marital status, religion, veteran or military status, sexual orientation, gender expression or identity, or socioeconomic status. Special efforts will be made to ensure equal opportunity in employment for all qualified persons. All phases of employment shall include the categories of recruitment, selection, placement, training, assignment, promotion, transfer, compensation, benefits and termination.

Recruitment for all positions in the District shall be conducted in accordance with all federal and state legislation.

Equal working conditions shall be provided for all employee of the District, with one (1) exception: when an employee has a disability, the District shall ensure reasonable accommodation to the employee to the extent required by law.

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) (Policy JR, JRCA, JRR and LB)

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) is a Federal law protecting the privacy of student education records. FERPA gives parents certain rights regarding their children's education records. Those rights transfer to the student when he or she reaches age eighteen (18) or attends school beyond the high school level and becomes an "eligible student." A.R.S. § 15-141 applies these same rules to Arizona School districts.

Within the first three (3) weeks of each school year, the District will publish in a District communication a notice to parents and eligible students of their rights under FERPA including each parent of new students enrolling after

school begins [34 C.F.R. 300.9].

For additional information refer to Policies JR, JRCA, JRR and LB.

**Grievances—Professional and Classified Staff
(Policy GBK)**

Effective communication between District employees, administration and the Governing Board is essential. The Superintendent will establish a grievance procedure for employees as the prescribed means of resolving grievances as soon as possible, and at the lowest administrative level possible.

For additional information please refer to Policy GBK.

**Nondiscrimination/Equal Opportunity
(Title VII; Title IX; Policy AC)**

The Governing Board is committed to a policy of nondiscrimination on the basis of (real or perceived): age, race, color, national origin, disability, veterans and military status, religion, genetic information, pregnancy, or sex (including, but not limited to, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression). This policy will prevail in all matters concerning staff members, students, the general public, educational programs and services, and individuals with whom the Governing Board does business.

**Sexual Harassment
(Title VII; Title IX; Policy ACA)**

All individuals associated with this District, including, but not necessarily limited to, the Governing Board, the administration, the staff, and students, are expected to conduct themselves at all times so as to provide an atmosphere free from sexual harassment.

Sexual harassment is a form of sex discrimination that violates Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission defines “sexual harassment” as unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature when:

- submission to such conduct is either explicitly or implicitly made a term or condition of an individual's employment; or
- submission to or rejection of such conduct is used as a basis for employment decisions affecting such individual; or
- such conduct has the purpose or effect of substantially interfering with an individual's work performance, or creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive work environment.

Sexual harassment may include, but is not limited to:

- Suggestive or obscene letters, notes, invitations, derogatory comments, slurs, jokes, epithets, assault, touching, impeding or blocking movement, leering, gestures, or display of sexually suggestive objects, pictures, or cartoons.
- Continuing to express sexual interest after being informed that the interest is unwelcome. (Reciprocal attraction between peers is not considered sexual harassment.)
- Implying or withholding support for an appointment, promotion, or change of assignment; suggesting that a poor performance report will be prepared; suggesting that probation will be failed.
- Coercive sexual behavior used to control, influence, or affect the career, salary, and/or work environment of another employee.

- Offering or granting favors or employment benefits, such as promotions, favorable performance evaluations, favorable assignments, favorable duties or shifts, recommendations, reclassifications, et cetera, in exchange for sexual favors.

Anyone who is subject to sexual harassment, or who knows of the occurrence of such conduct, should inform the compliance officer, as provided in ACA-R.

A substantiated charge against a staff member in the District shall subject such staff member to disciplinary action.

All matters involving sexual harassment complaints will remain confidential to the extent possible.

Title IX Sexual Harassment (Title IX Policy ACAA)

Title IX of the Federal Education Amendments Act protects people from discrimination based on sex in education programs or activities that receive Federal financial assistance. The District does not discriminate on the basis of sex. The District is also required by Title IX to not discriminate on the basis of sex. The District adheres to all conditions established by Title IX by recognizing the right of every student who attends school in the District and every employee who works in the District to do so without the fear of sexual harassment.

The District accepts and shall employ the definition of sexual harassment as established by the Title IX regulations. Sexual harassment means conduct on the basis of sex that satisfies one (1) or more of the following:

- An employee of the District conditioning the provision of an aid, benefit, or service of the District on an individual's participation in unwelcome sexual conduct;
- Unwelcome conduct determined by a reasonable person to be so severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive that it effectively denies a person equal access to the District's education program or activity; or
- "Sexual assault" as defined in 20 U.S.C. 1092(f)(6)(A)(v), "dating violence" as defined in 34 U.S.C. 12291(a)(10), "domestic violence" as defined in 34 U.S.C. 12291(a)(8), or "stalking" as defined in 34 U.S.C. 12291(a)(30).

The District also accepts and shall employ the definition of a complainant as an individual who is alleged to be the victim of conduct that could constitute sexual harassment, and a respondent as an individual who has been reported to be the perpetrator of conduct that could constitute sexual harassment.

The District shall designate and authorize an employee as the "Title IX Coordinator" to comply with its responsibilities pertaining to sexual harassment under Title IX. Inquiries about the application of Title IX may be referred to the District's Title IX Coordinator.

Any person may report sex discrimination, including sexual harassment, regardless of whether the person reporting is the person alleged to be the victim of the reported conduct or not. A report may be made in person, by mail, by telephone, or by electronic mail, using the contact information listed for the Title IX Coordinator, or by any other means that results in the Title IX Coordinator receiving the person's verbal or written report. Such a report may be made at any time (including during non-business hours) by using the telephone number or electronic mail address, or by mail to the office address, listed for the Title IX Coordinator. The District shall notify students, parents or legal guardians of students, employees, applicants for employment, and all unions or professional organizations holding collective bargaining or professional agreements with the District, of the name or title, office address, electronic mail address, and telephone number of the Title IX Coordinator.

The District will respond promptly when any school employee has notice of sexual harassment. Upon receipt of notice of sexual harassment, the District shall notify students, parents or legal guardians of students, employees, applicants for employment, and all unions or professional organizations holding collective bargaining or professional agreements with the District, of the District's grievance procedures and grievance process, including how to report or file a complaint of sex discrimination, how to report or file a formal complaint of sexual

harassment, and how the District shall respond. The District is committed to investigating each formal complaint submitted and to taking appropriate action on all confirmed violations of policy. The District shall follow grievance procedures that provide for the prompt and equitable resolution of complaints from students and employees alleging sexual harassment.

The District shall, to the extent reasonably feasible, keep confidential the identity of any individual who has made a report or filed a formal complaint of sexual harassment, any complainant, any individual who has been reported to be the perpetrator of sex discrimination, any respondent, and any witness, except as is necessary to carry out the grievance process and as may otherwise be permitted by law.

Title IX sexual harassment complaints may include violations covered by Arizona's mandatory reporting statute, A.R.S. §[13-3620](#). Any abuses classified by statute as "reportable offenses" must be reported as such to the authorities because not reporting a reportable offense is classified as a Class 6 Felony.

Retaliation Prohibited

Neither the District nor any person may intimidate, threaten, coerce, or discriminate against any individual for the purpose of interfering with any right or privilege secured by Title IX, or because the individual has in good faith made a report or complaint, testified, assisted, or participated or refused to participate in any manner in an investigation, proceeding, or hearing. Intimidation, threats, coercion, or discrimination, including charges against an individual for violations that do not involve sex discrimination or sexual harassment, but arise out of the same facts or circumstances as a report or complaint of sex discrimination or a report or formal complaint of sexual harassment, for the purpose of interfering with any right or privilege secured by Title IX, constitutes retaliation.

Names and contact information for the Title IX Coordinators are located at
<https://www.tempeunion.org/Title-IX-Sexual-Harassment-Reporting>
Hostile Environment Harassment
(Title VII; Title IX; Policy ACB)

It is the policy of the District to maintain a learning environment that is free from harassment, actual or perceived, because of an individual's race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, disability, veteran's and military status, sexual orientation and gender expression or identity. For purposes of this policy, these characteristics are referred to collectively as "protected characteristic." The District prohibits any and all forms of harassment because of any person's protected characteristic(s).

It shall be a violation of District policy for any student, teacher, administrator, other school personnel or other person to harass a student, staff member or visitor through conduct of a sexual nature, or regarding any protected characteristic, as defined by this policy.

It shall also be a violation of District policy for any teacher, administrator or other school personnel to tolerate harassment because of a student's, staff members, or other person's protected characteristic, as defined by this policy.

The District will act to promptly investigate all complaints, either formal or informal, verbal or written, of harassment because of any person's protected characteristic; to promptly take appropriate action to protect individuals from further harassment; and, if it determines that hostile environment harassment occurred, to promptly and appropriately discipline any student, teacher, administrator, or other personnel, or take immediate and appropriate corrective action toward a visitor, who is found to have violated this policy and/or take other appropriate action reasonably calculated to end the harassment.

For additional information refer to Policy ACB.

McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (Policy JFABD)

The McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Improvements Act of 2001 is a Federal law that provides specific protection for the educational rights of homeless students. Homeless children are defined as “individuals who lack a fixed, regular, adequate nighttime residence.” The McKinney-Vento Act ensures homeless children free transportation to and from school, allowing children to attend their school of origin (the last school where they were enrolled or the school they attended when they first become homeless) regardless of where they now reside. It requires schools to register homeless children even if they lack required documents, such as immunization records or proof of residence. Local districts must appoint a liaison to ensure employees are aware of these rights, to provide public notice to homeless families (at shelters and at school) and to facilitate access to school and transportation services.

For additional information refer to Policy JFABD.

Personnel Records and Files (Policy GBJ)

The District maintains a complete official personnel file for each employee. Employees are permitted to review their official personnel files by making a written request and an appointment with a Human Resources staff member. Employees are advised of, and are permitted to review and comment on, all information placed in their official personnel files. The employee may prepare a written reply, and such reply, if any, will be appended to the information in the file. If included, the written reply must contain the employee’s signature and the date.

Employees are required to supply Human Resources Department with current, complete official transcripts of all college credits, if applicable to their position. It is the responsibility of each employee to keep current any certificates/licensures required to maintain the position, including maintaining a valid DPS fingerprint clearance card, when applicable. Failure to keep current required certificates/licensures or valid DPS fingerprint clearance card may lead to disciplinary action up to and including termination.

Professional/Classified Staff Absences without Authorized Leave; Abandonment of Employment (Policy GCC)

An employee is *absent without authorized leave* when absent from work because of:

- A reason that conforms to a policy currently in effect but the maximum days provided for in that policy will be exceeded; or
- A reason that does not conform to any policy currently in effect; or
- Failure to report to work without prior notification to the Superintendent

In no case shall an employee be compensated for time lost due to being absent without authorized leave.

An employee who is absent from work without prior approval is subject to disciplinary action, as is one who was unable to obtain prior approval due to unusual circumstances and approval is denied upon return.

In no case shall an employee be compensated for time not worked due to being absent without authorized leave. Pay deductions for such absences shall be made as soon as possible following the determination that an absence without leave has occurred.

For employees compensated on an hourly basis, pay deductions shall be based on the individual employee’s hourly rate of pay and number of hours absent from work. For employees compensated on a salary basis, pay deductions shall be based on the per diem rate of pay for each absence on a contracted day.

Job abandonment is considered a voluntary termination after three (3) consecutive days of the employee not coming to work, and not providing appropriate notice to his or her supervisor of the absence. The supervisor will make and document a good faith effort to complete a welfare check.

Professional Leave for Conferences, Seminars, In-services and Workshops (Policy GCI)

Professional Leave

Professional leave with pay may be granted, and substitutes provided for approved absences from work to participate in a conference, seminar, or workshop. Requests for professional leave must be submitted to and approved by the Superintendent, or designee.

A maximum of five (5) days per school year may be granted. Leaves may not be requested during the opening two (2) weeks of a semester or the closing two (2) weeks of the school year without prior approval of administration and the Governing Board.

In-Service Leave and Training

Employees may be released from work to attend District approved workshops, conferences, or trainings. The following stipulations apply to in-service leave:

- Application for in-service leave is made in advance using established District procedures.
- In-service leave must be recommended by the Principal and approved by the Superintendent, or designee.
- Substitute costs must be identified at the time of request for approval. Unless otherwise approved, substitute costs must come from the same funding source(s) used for registration and/or travel costs for the in-service leave.
- Applicants must be able to demonstrate that their participation in a designated activity promises to benefit the department, school, and/or District.
- Applicants must demonstrate willingness to share their experiences with the department, school, and/or District.

Staff Conduct/Staff Conduct with Students/Workplace Bullying (Policies GBEB; GBEB-RA©; GBEB-RB; GBEBB)

All staff/volunteers of the District are expected to conduct themselves in a manner which promotes the educational process and protects students and District property. No employee, by action or inaction, may disrupt any District activity. Staff members must report any suspected crime against a person or property that is a serious offense, involves a deadly weapon or dangerous instrument or that could pose a threat of death or serious injury to employees, students or others on school property. Reports are to be made to the Superintendent, or designee. There will be no retaliation for anyone who makes a good faith allegation of bullying.

Reporting Suspected Crimes or Incidents

Staff members are to report any suspected crime against a person or property that is a serious offense, involves a deadly weapon or dangerous instrument or that could pose a threat of death or serious injury to employees, students or others on school property. All such reports shall be communicated to the Superintendent who shall be responsible for reporting to local law enforcement.

A person who is employed by the School District or is an applicant for employment with the School District, who is arrested for or charged with any nonappealable offense listed in section 41-1758.03, subsection B and who does not immediately report the arrest or charge to the person's supervisor or potential employer is guilty of unprofessional conduct and the person shall be immediately dismissed from employment with the School District or immediately excluded from potential employment with the School District. A person dismissed from

employment for failure to report being arrested for or charged with a nonappealable offense has no right to appeal under the provisions of A.R.S. 15-539, subsection G. Prior to an action to terminate for failure to report, an employee will be given the opportunity to provide a written explanation of circumstances or events which they believe mitigate the failure to report.

Employees must exercise general supervision of students at all times while in the classroom, as well as before and after school. Employees and volunteers will accord students the dignity and respect that they deserve, and avoid embarrassing any student unnecessarily.

The District will not tolerate any behavior in the workplace that constitutes bullying activity as defined in Policy GBEB-RB. This regulation prohibits workplace bullying by and against District employees, applicants for employment and other in the workplace environment including members of the public.

Workplace Bullying (Regulation GBEB-RB)

The District will not tolerate any behavior in the workplace that constitutes bullying activity as defined by Regulation GBEB-RB Staff Conduct (Workplace Bullying). Bullying conduct in the workplace has a negative impact on operations of the District and results in consequences such as:

- Deterioration in the quality of work
- Increased absenteeism
- Lack of communication and teamwork
- Lack of confidence and lack of commitment to the job
- Potential negative impact on student learning

This policy regulation applies during normal working hours, at work-related or sponsored functions, while traveling on work related business, to District use of e-mail systems, computers, internet access and/or any other District electronic communication systems or devices to engage in bullying activity.

There will be no retaliation for anyone who makes a good faith allegation of bullying.

Employees who violate this regulation will be subject to disciplinary action up to and including recommendation for termination from employment.

Regulation GBEB-RB prohibits workplace bullying by and against District employees, applicants for employment and others in the workplace environment including members of the public. This regulation also includes bullying directed at an employee by a supervisor, co-worker, subordinate, vendor, elected official, contractor or member of the public.

Definitions

- ***Bullying***
 - Bullying behavior is persistent, malicious, severe and pervasive, unwelcome or unreasonable behavior that harms, degrades, demeans, intimidates or humiliates people either as individuals or as a group.
 - Bullying behavior is often persistent and part of a pattern, but it can also occur as a single incident.
 - It is usually carried out by an individual but can also be an aspect of group behavior (see “mobbing” below).
- ***Workplace Bullying***
 - Workplace bullying is intentional behavior to create an abusive work environment for an employee or group of employees.
 - Bullying behavior is behavior in the workplace that is considered hostile, offensive and not obviously related to an employer’s legitimate business interests.
 - Bullying Actions - May include, but are not limited to the following:

- Use of disrespectful and devaluing language
- Unwanted physical contact
- Persistent or constant criticism in front of others including co-workers, vendors, contractors or members of the public for the purpose of humiliating another employee
- Tampering with an employee's personal belongings or work equipment
- Invasions of privacy, such as spying, stalking, rummaging through personal belongings, including unauthorized access to personal e-mail and contents of personal cell phones or personally owned electronic devices. NOTE: An employee does not have expectation of privacy in any items of personal equipment attached to Tempe Union High School District network devices
- Repeated infliction of verbal abuse, such as the use of derogatory remarks, insults and epithets
- ***Bullying by Supervisor***
 - Making up arbitrary rules that only apply to the targeted employee
 - Assigning undesirable work as punishment
 - Managing by threat and intimidation
 - Preventing access to opportunities
 - Being given tasks with unreasonable, impossible or constantly changing objectives and/or deadlines
 - Removing key areas of responsibility and/or replacing them with more trivial or unpleasant tasks for no business-related reason
 - Denying access to necessary information, consultation, training or resources
 - Withholding essential information or purposefully giving incorrect information
 - Constantly criticizing a subordinate employee's actions outside the scope of reasonable disciplinary efforts
- ***Bullying by Co-workers (To Include Supervisors) - In addition to the behaviors listed in B (above):***
 - Using confidential information to humiliate privately or publicly
 - Withholding information that affects an employee's performance
 - Intimidating an employee through inappropriate personal comments, disparaging opinions or criticism with no basis in fact
 - Taking credit for another employee's work
 - Repeatedly belittling a co-worker whether publicly or privately
- ***Bullying by Sabotage***
 - Falsely accusing an employee of making errors
 - Ensuring failure of an employee's work by not performing required tasks such as taking calls, giving messages, working collaboratively, etc.
 - Undermining or deliberately impeding an employee's work
- ***Bullying by Shunning***
 - Isolating an employee from co-workers, in workplace social events or physically
 - Launching a campaign not based on facts to provoke an employee to leave or be removed
 - Purposely excluding an employee from an essential meeting
 - Excluding employees from matters in which they would be expected to be included as part of the job
- ***Mobbing***
 - Mobbing is a particular type of bullying behavior carried out by a group rather than by an individual.
 - Mobbing is the bullying or social isolation of a person through collective unjustified accusations, humiliation, general harassment or emotional abuse. Although it is a group behavior, specific incidents such as an insult or a practical joke may be carried out by an individual as part of mobbing behavior.

Reporting

- ***Targets*** – When an employee believes that he or she is the target of behavior that may satisfy the definition of workplace bullying (as defined herein), the employee must report any and all incidents immediately to an administrator/supervisor. Employees who believe they are the target of bullying are not required to confront the alleged bully; however, the availability of this complaint procedure does not preclude individuals who believe they are being subjected to bullying conduct from promptly advising the offender that his or her behavior is unwelcome and requesting that such behavior immediately stop.
- ***Witnesses*** – When an employee has witnessed or was made aware of behavior that may satisfy the definition

of workplace bullying (as defined herein), the employee must report any and all incidents immediately to an administrator/supervisor.

- **Administrators/Supervisors** – When an administrator/supervisor is notified about possible workplace bullying behavior (as defined herein), the supervisor must immediately notify Human Resources.
- **Human Resources** – Employees always have the right to report potential bullying activity directly to Human Resources.

Investigation

- Human Resources will investigate of the reported workplace bullying activity.
- NOTE: If the alleged bullying conduct involves conduct based on the target's membership in a protected class [age, race, color, national origin, disability, veterans and military status, religion, genetic information, pregnancy, or sex (including, but not limited to, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression)], the matter will be investigated in accordance with District Policy AC and Regulation AC-R, Nondiscrimination/Equal Opportunity. If the alleged bullying conduct involves conduct that may constitute sexual harassment, the matter will be investigated in accordance with District Policy and Regulation ACA and ACA-R, Sexual Harassment.
- Human Resources will prepare a report of its investigative findings and make recommendations to the Superintendent, or designee, for further action.
- The Superintendent, or designee, shall issue a final decision and notify all parties involved of the final decision.

Disciplinary and/or Corrective Action

- Appropriate disciplinary and/or corrective action will be taken with any employee(s) found to have violated this policy regulation according to District policies, federal and state regulations and laws.

Mandatory Cooperation

- It is an expectation of the District that all employees including administrators and supervisors shall cooperate with any investigative process or resolution, whether informal or formal.
- Any employee who fails to cooperate and/or attempts to undermine and/or discourage participation in an investigation will be subject to discipline up to and including possible termination from employment.

Retaliation Prohibited

- This regulation prohibits retaliation against any employee who reports potential workplace bullying or participates in an investigation of such a complaint.
- Any employee bringing a complaint under this regulation, or assisting with an investigation of such a complaint, will not be adversely affected in terms and conditions of employment nor terminated because of the complaint unless the complaint is found to be intentionally false.
- Anyone who engages in retaliatory action will be subject to discipline up to and including possible termination from employment.

Confidentiality

- To the extent feasible, information provided in the complaint and investigation process at both the informal and formal levels will be treated as confidential. However, information may need to be disclosed if deemed reasonably necessary to investigate and take appropriate disciplinary and/or corrective action or to defend such disciplinary and/or corrective action and/or if required by law.

Staff Conflict of Interest (Policy GBEAA)

Employment of Close Relatives

No employee may be directly supervised by a close relative (spouse, child, grandchild, parent, grandparent, brother, sister and their spouses, and the parent, brother, sister or child of a spouse). This applies to summer or part-time work as well as full-time employment.

A dependent of a Governing Board member (a person more than half of whose support is obtained from a Governing Board member) cannot be hired in the District except by consent of the Governing Board. The spouse of a Governing Board member cannot be employed by the District.

Direct supervision includes recommendation for hiring, making specific work assignments, evaluating, disciplining, effecting or recommending transfer, promotion or dismissal. Indirect supervision includes receiving, acting upon or recommending decisions including those listed as examples of direct supervision.

Definitions

- ***Business Relations*** – Any employee who has, or whose relative has, a substantial interest in any decision of the District shall make known this interest in the official records of the District and shall refrain from participating in any manner as an employee in such a decision.
- ***Vendor Relations*** – No employee of the District will accept gifts from any person, group, or entity doing, or desiring to do, business with the District. The acceptance of any business-related gratuity is specifically prohibited, except for widely distributed, advertising items of nominal value.

Interest in District Decision-Making

Any employee who has, or whose relative has, substantial interest in any decision must make known this interest in the official records of the District by completing a Conflict of Interest form. The employee must refrain from participating in such a decision.

Employees are required to sign a Staff Conflict of Interest form annually.

Staff/Volunteer Ethics (Policy GBEA)

All employees of the District are expected to maintain high standards in their relationships. The Employees acknowledge that the schools belong to the public they serve for the purpose of providing educational opportunities to all. Every employee assumes responsibility for providing leadership in the schools and community. This responsibility requires the employee to maintain standards of exemplary conduct, keeping in mind that the actions of each employee are viewed and appraised by the community, associates, and students. To these ends, the Governing Board adopts the following statements of standards.

The school employee

- Makes the well-being of students the fundamental value of all decision making and actions.
- Maintains just, courteous and proper relationships with students, parents, staff members and others.
- Strives for the maintenance of efficiency and knowledge of developments in the employee's field of work.
- Fulfills job responsibilities with honesty and integrity.
- Directs any criticism of other staff members or any department of the school directly to the school administrator or appropriate district administrator who has the responsibility for improving the situation.
- Supports the principle of due process and protects the civil and human rights of all individuals.
- Obeys local, state and national laws and does not knowingly join or support organizations that advocate, directly or indirectly the overthrow of the government.

- Implements the Governing Board’s policies and administrative rules and regulations.
- Refrains from using school contacts and privileges to promote political or sectarian religious views or personal agenda of any kind.
- Pursues appropriate measures to correct any laws, policies or regulations that are not consistent with sound educational goals.
- Avoids using position for personal gain through political, social, religious, economic or other influence.
- Maintains the standards and seeks to improve the effectiveness of the profession through research and continuing professional development.
- Stresses the proper use and protection of all school properties, equipment and materials.
- Honors all contracts until fulfillment or release.

In the performance of duties, employees shall keep in confidence such information as they may secure unless disclosure serves District purposes or is required by law.

**Staff Involvement in District Decision-Making
(Policy GBB)**

Employees are encouraged to participate in the District’s decision-making processes. In recommending policies to the Governing Board and developing regulations, the Superintendent, or designee, may involve any employees who may be affected by such provisions. The Superintendent will establish opportunities for the consideration of recommendations regarding the operation of the schools. Professional organizations recognized will be the Tempe Secondary Education Association (TSEA) and Classified Tempe Employee Council (CTEC).

**Staff Participation in Political Activities
(Policy GBI)**

The Governing Board recognizes the rights of its employees, as citizens, to engage in political activity. However, school time, personnel, equipment, supplies, materials, buildings or other resources may not be used to influence the outcomes of elections.

- No employee while on duty shall engage in political activities upon property under the jurisdiction of the Governing Board.
- The prohibition on the use of public resources to influence the outcome of bond, budget override and other tax-related elections includes the use of School District-focused promotional expenditures that occur after an election is called and through election day.
- Campaigning and other election activities must be done in off-duty hours, when not working in an official capacity or representing the District, and without the participation of District employees or students acting in the capacity of District or school representatives.
- Invitations to participate in election activities on a given campus, except when extended by groups leasing or using school facilities, shall be permitted only when such invitations are to all candidates for the office. The rental use of District property by a private person or entity that may lawfully attempt to influence the outcome of an election is permitted if it does not occur at the same time and place as a related District-sponsored forum or debate.
- Political circulars or petitions may not be posted or distributed in school.
- The collection of campaign funds and/or campaign workers is prohibited on school property.
- Students may not be given written materials to influence the outcome of an election or advocate support for, or opposition to, pending or proposed legislation.
- Students may not be used to write, address or distribute material intended to influence the outcome of an election or to advocate support for or opposition to pending or proposed legislation.

Employees of the District may not use the authority of their position to influence the vote or political activities of any subordinate employee.

- District employees who hold elective or appointive office are not entitled to time off from their school duties for reasons incident to such offices, except as such time may qualify under the leave policies of the Board.
- The discussion and study of politics and political issues, when such discussion and study are appropriate to classroom studies and the prescribed curriculum approved by the Governing Board, are not precluded under the provisions of this policy.
- District employees shall be permitted time as provided in statute, if required, to vote in the primary or general election.
- The District shall not make expenditures for literature associated with campaign conducted by or for a District official.

Staff Transfers—Voluntary and Involuntary (Policies GCK; GDJ)

The Governing Board delegates primary responsibility for assigning certificated staff members to specific instructional and extracurricular duties to the high school principal. Extracurricular activities must be mutually agreed upon by both the principal and the certificated staff member involved. Though the principal shall receive and utilize input from department heads, ultimate accountability is vested in the principal; therefore, the Governing Board grants the principal the authority to make any and all such assignments.

A teacher who has been employed by the School District for the major portion of three (3) or more consecutive school years and who is currently designated in the lowest performance classification for two (2) consecutive school years shall not be transferred as a teacher to another school in that school district unless the District has issued a preliminary notice of inadequacy of classroom performance and approved a performance improvement plan for the teacher pursuant to A.R.S. [15-539](#) (lowest performance classification) and the Governing Board has approved the new placement as in the best interests of the pupils in the school. A teacher who continues to be designated in one (1) of the two (2) lowest performance classifications shall not be permitted to transfer to another school. A teacher shall not be transferred more than once pursuant to A.R.S. [15-537](#).

There is an additional admonition in A.R.S. [15-537](#) that any School District policy pertaining to the transfer of teachers from one school to another school within the School District shall take into consideration the needs of the pupils in the School District and the current distribution of teachers across all of the four (4) performance classifications adopted by the State Board of Education pursuant to A.R.S. [15-203\(A\)\(38\)](#).

Voluntary Assignment from One Campus to Another

The Governing Board recognizes that certified staff members may need to transfer from one teaching assignment to another for personal and professional reasons. The Governing Board therefore subscribes to the importance of an orderly professionally-sound process for voluntary transfer from one campus to another.

Voluntary transfer of certificated staff members from one campus to another within the District shall be accomplished through the following process:

- In most situations, voluntary transfers will not be permitted during the current academic year; however, in situations that appear in the best interest of the students and instructional programs or departmental operations, or subject to the availability of teaching personnel, a voluntary transfer may be considered.
- All vacancies will be posted in accordance with Human Resources regulations.
- Any certificated staff member who desires transfer to a posted vacancy shall, within seven (7) calendar days after posting, apply for the specific assignment and school(s) preferred, in accordance with District application procedures. No position shall be filled prior to seven (7) calendar days after the posting.
- The desires of the certificated staff member requesting a voluntary transfer shall be honored to the extent the

transfer does not conflict with the instructional requirements and best interests of the District.

- If more than one (1) certificated staff member with equal qualifications should request transfer to the same vacancy, preference shall be given to the certified staff member with seniority within the District. Applicants for voluntary transfer shall be considered along with new applicants. However, if, in the judgment of the recommending administrator, the requestor for voluntary transfer and the new applicant possess equal qualifications, preference shall be given to the voluntary transfer requestor.
- As soon as practical the Executive Director for Human Resources or designee shall notify each voluntary transfer applicant, in writing, of the status of the request for transfer.

Involuntary Transfers

The Governing Board recognizes its responsibility to prevent undue disruptions to instructional programs or departmental operations, to relieve overstaffing, and to provide means of overcoming other unforeseen circumstances that may occur. The Governing Board, therefore, is committed to a process of involuntary transfers that accommodates both District needs and, to the extent possible, the interests and aspirations of certificated staff members.

Classified Employees

Vacancies are posted in accordance with Human Resources regulations for a minimum of five (5) working days. An employee desiring to be considered for a posted position must apply for the specific assignment and site preferred, in accordance with District application procedures. Skill testing may be required for some classified positions.

Staff Use of Digital Communications and Electronic Devices (Policy GBEF)

Social media is the use of web-based and mobile technologies to communicate through interactive dialogue. Social media technologies include blogs, picture-sharing, vlogs, wall-postings, e-mail, instant messaging, music-sharing, crowdsourcing, Facebook, LinkedIn, My Space, Twitter, You Tube, and successor protocol to transmit information. Mobile technologies transmit sounds, images, texts, messages, videos, or electronic information; electronically records, plays, or stores information; or accesses the Internet, or private communication or information networks.

The Governing Board recognizes how web-based and mobile technologies are changing opportunities to communicate with individuals or groups and how their use can empower the user and enhance discourse. Employees are to adhere to adopted policies and to utilize digital communications and electronic devices in a professional manner at all times. For additional information regarding staff use of digital communications, please refer to Policy GBEF.

District employees

- are expected to maintain high standards in their school relationships. Every employee assumes responsibility for providing leadership in school and community. This responsibility requires the employee to maintain standards of exemplary conduct. It must be recognized that the employee's actions will be viewed and appraised by the community, associates and students.
- shall adhere to all Governing Board policies related to technologies including but not limited to the use of District technology, copyright laws, student rights, parent rights, the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), staff ethics and staff-student relations;
- are responsible for the content of their posting on any form of technology through any form of communication;
- shall not communicate with students via social media for any other purposes but school related, school sponsored, extra-curricular activities or events;
- shall not use District owned or provided technologies to endorse or promote a product, a cause, as outlined in regulation and approved by District Administration or a political position or candidate;

- must recognize their association with the District and their individual responsibility to ensure the content of any posting is consistent with the presentation of a professional image to colleagues, community members, parents and students and which is consistent with the duties and job responsibilities of the position for which the employee was hired;
- in all instances must be aware of his/her association with the District and ensure the related content of any posting consistent with how they wish to present themselves to colleagues, community members, parents and students;
- shall not modify or use District logos, or District intellectual property for personal use or profit;
- shall immediately report all misuse or suspected misuse of technology to their direct supervisor/administrator who in turn will immediately report to the Superintendent, or designee;
- shall comply with all applicable records management parameters established by Arizona State Library, Archives and Public Records.

Violations of this policy may result in disciplinary action up to and including termination and may constitute a violation of federal and state law in which case appropriate law enforcement shall be notified. The Superintendent, or designee, shall report violations of this policy to the Governing Board and shall make reports to the appropriate law enforcement agency when determined necessary.

Examples of inappropriate or excessive use include gaming, shopping, use of social media/technologies or other similar uses that impact an employee's work time. Additionally, under no circumstances may District owned computers or other electronic equipment, including devices owned by the employee, be used on work time to obtain, view or reach any pornographic or otherwise inappropriate, non-business-related sites. Electronic communication should not be used to solicit or sell products or services that are not related to the District's business, distract, intimidate or harass coworkers or third parties or disrupt the workplace. Unauthorized internet/intranet use can lead to disciplinary action up to and including recommendation for termination or non-renewal.

The use of the District's computers, networks and Internet access is a privilege granted by administration and may be revoked at any time for inappropriate conduct carried out on such systems.

In addition to the above information, as a means of providing safety and security in direct electronic communications and to prevent abuses to the appropriate use of electronic equipment, all computer access to the internet through District's electronic systems may be monitored periodically or randomly through in-use monitoring or review of usage logs; the District shall review usage logs in response to any complaints regarding an employee's use of the District's electronic systems. If unauthorized or excessive personal use is found on monitoring, disciplinary action up to and including recommendation for termination may occur. Use is defined as "excessive" if it interferes with normal job functions, responsiveness or the ability to perform daily job activities.

Staff Use of Digital Wireless Communications or Electronic Devices While Operating a Motor Vehicle (Policy GBEFA)

An employee may not operate a motor vehicle on a street or highway while conducting any District business if the person does either of the following:

- Physically holds or supports with any part of the person's body either of the following:
 - portable wireless communication device, except that a person may use a portable wireless communication device with an earpiece, headphone device or device worn on a wrist to conduct a voice-based communication; or
 - a stand-alone electronic device.
- Writes, sends or reads any text-based communication, including a text message, instant message, email or Internet data on a portable wireless communication device or stand-alone electronic device.

This does not apply to the following:

- The use of a voice-based application or Bluetooth device to direct the writing, sending, reading or other communicating of any text-based communication.
- The use of a portable wireless communication device or stand-alone device when used in a hands-free manner for:
 - navigation of the motor vehicle; or
 - use of a global positioning system; or
 - obtaining motor vehicle information or information relate dot driving a motor vehicle.

This also does not prohibit the operation of a motor vehicle while using a device, including a device that is accessible through an interface that is embedded in a motor vehicle, that allows communication without the use of either of the driver’s hands, except to activate or deactivate a function of the device.

When it is safe to do so, an operator may use a portable wireless communication device:

- To report illegal activity, report a safety hazard or summon emergency/emergency medical help.
- That is permanently or temporarily affixed to the motor vehicle to realty information in the course of the operator’s occupational duties between the operator and either: i) a dispatcher, ii) a digital network or software application service.

“*Stand-alone electronic device*” means a portable device other than a portable wireless communication device that stores audio or video data files to be retrieved on demand by a user.

The Superintendent will develop training to implement this policy.

Statements of Awareness for School Employees

Each employee, as a condition of employment, will annually verify acceptance of a Statement of Awareness (of District policies, procedures and regulations) a Statement of Understanding of the overtime requirements of the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA), the Conflict of Interest Disclosure Form Employment of Relatives; Contracts with the School District and a Confidentiality Agreement. New employees will accept these documents within thirty (30) days of beginning employment and/or of beginning of the new school year.

Student Transportation in Private Vehicles (Policy EEAG)

During school or school-sponsored functions, students may be transported only in school-approved vehicles operated by District-authorized personnel unless specific approval by the Superintendent has been obtained.

The Governing Board specifically forbids any employee to transport students for school purposes without prior authorization by the Superintendent.

Each District employee authorized to use a private vehicle for District purposes shall be notified in writing that the employee's automobile insurance is the primary coverage and District insurance coverage is secondary.

The Superintendent may develop regulations to govern the use of private vehicles for transporting students.

Substitute Staff Arrangements (Policy GCGB-R)

It is the teacher’s responsibility to notify the electronic absence and substitute request service, as soon as possible, of the need for a substitute teacher. If the teacher knows in advance that a return to duty will be assured on a certain date, the Substitute Coordinator should be notified.

If a teacher requests a substitute and later determines that the substitute is not needed and fails to cancel the request, the daily rate for substitute teachers is deducted from the teacher's next paycheck. (See GCGB-R)

**Technology/Electronic Mail Use Policies and Guidelines
(Policies EGAEA; EGD; EGDA)**

Employees will use the District's technology resources in support of education, educational research and the educational goals of the District. Technology resources include databases, network services, electronic mail, social media and other sources of information. Violation of the Technology Use Agreement may result in denial of service, confiscation of equipment without notice and employee discipline up to and including termination. An investigation by authorized personnel to ensure compliance with Federal and State laws and the District's Technology Use Agreement may be initiated at any time.

District employees are required to use District-issued technology equipment, with the exception of equipment used for ADA compliance or Individualized Education Plan compliance. Electronic communications sent or received by District employees pertaining to District business may be subject to disclosure and inspection as public records and/or discovery in litigation. Use of electronic mail must conform to the same standards of judgment, propriety, and ethics as other forms of school business-related communications.

**Tobacco Use by Staff Members
(Policy GBED)**

The possession or use of tobacco products and electronic cigarettes is prohibited in the following locations:

- School grounds.
- School buildings.
- School parking lots.
- School playing fields.
- School buses and other District vehicles.
- Off-campus school-sponsored events.

Under the provisions of A. R. S. 36-798.03, a person who violates the prohibition is guilty of committing a petty offense.

**Transportation Employee Mandatory Drug and Alcohol Testing Requirements
(Policy EEAEAA)**

All drivers are subject to pre-employment drug and alcohol testing, as well as mandatory testing which includes reasonable suspicion, random and post-accident testing in accordance with the Omnibus Act [49 C.F.R. 382.301 – 382.311]. All offers of employment with the District for drivers are contingent upon pre-employment test results. An applicant testing positive for alcohol or controlled substances will not be employed [49 C.F.R. 382.505].

A transportation employee who refuses to submit to drug and alcohol testing or whose test results are positive may be disciplined in accordance with District policy up to and including dismissal from employment [A.R.S. § 15-513].

**Voluntary Termination of Employment
(Policies GCQ; GCQC; GDQB)**

Administrative, Certified and Instructional Support staff

Contracts constitute legally binding commitments. Requests for resignation or release from contract must be made in writing and must contain the employee's signature. For this purpose, an "Employee Resignation Request Form" was developed by Human Resources and is available on the District website and at each work location. This form

should be completed, signed by the employee and the supervising administrator, principal or director, and submitted to Human Resources.

Employees are expected to fulfill the requirements and term of their Contract. In the event the employee desires to vacate his/her position after the issuance of the Contract, the employee is expected to remain in the position until a replacement is found or is subject to disciplinary action for unprofessional conduct. Liquidated damages may be assessed against employee for release from Contract with Board approval or resignation without Board approval, and may be up to a maximum of One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$1,500). Any amount of liquidated damages owed may be withheld and recouped from any remaining salary due to the employee. In the event a balance remains owed after recoupment, employee will pay the remaining balance to the District within fifteen (15) days of termination of employment.

The Governing Board will consider releasing the individual from employment obligations prior to the end of the contract, generally contingent upon the availability of a well-qualified, certified staff member as a replacement. Resignation during the term of a contract without Board approval may, at the Governing Board's discretion, result in loss of general leave and vacation reimbursement.

Classified Professional Exempt Staff

Professional Exempt employees voluntarily terminating their employment are expected to give advanced notice of thirty (30) calendar days prior to the requested last day of employment. This notice must be submitted to the supervisor, in writing, and should specify both the last day of work and the reason for terminating. An "Employee Resignation Request Form" should be completed and submitted for this purpose. Resignation without providing the required written notice may, at the Governing Board's discretion, result in loss of general leave and vacation reimbursement.

Classified Staff

Employees voluntarily terminating their employment are expected to give advanced notice of ten (10) working days. This notice must be submitted to the supervisor, in writing, and should specify both the last day of work and the reason for resigning. The employee must sign the request. An "Employee Resignation Request Form" should be completed and submitted for this purpose. Resignation without providing the required written notice may, at the Governing Board's discretion, result in loss of general leave and vacation reimbursement.

SECTION III: EMPLOYMENT TERMS, BENEFITS AND RELATED POLICIES

Americans with Disabilities Act

The ADA requires employers to provide reasonable accommodation for the known disability of a qualified individual, unless it imposes an undue hardship on the operation of an employer's business. The ADA (American with Disabilities Act (ADA) became law in 1990. The ADAAA (Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act of 2008) expanded the scope of coverage for individuals covered under the Act. Definition of disability, U.S. Code, 42 U. S. Code § 12102 - An impairment that is episodic or in remission constitutes a disability if it would substantially limit a major life activity when active. In cases where accommodations are requested, the ADA mandates an interactive process to determine appropriate accommodations. To request an accommodation and begin the interactive process or for more information please contact the Benefits Coordinator.

Bereavement Leave (Policy GCCH)

An employee is allowed bereavement leave of up to ten (10) days to be charged against accumulated leave, where their absence is due to the death of a family member. Family members include: spouse, domestic partner, father, mother, child, brother, sister, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, father or mother of spouse, guardian, dependent person, or grandparent. Requests for bereavement leave for individuals not named in this list may be submitted to Human Resources for special consideration. If the employee does not have sufficient leave to cover the ten (10) days, the employee may request a non-compensable leave.

Certification and DPS Fingerprint Clearance Card Requirements (Policies GCF, GCFC)

All certificated employees to be hired by the District shall be fingerprinted as a condition of employment, except for personnel who, as a condition of certification are required to have a valid fingerprint clearance card. All certificated employees must have *and maintain* a current, valid teaching certificate in the content area(s) they teach as required by Arizona law and Governing Board Policy. These requirements are part of the employee's contractual obligation with the District. It is the responsibility of the certificated employee to ensure that all coursework required to remove certification deficiencies, documentation of professional development activities, and fingerprint clearance card requirements are completed *prior to the expiration of the certificate*. **Failure to keep current required certificates/licensures or a valid DPS fingerprint clearance card may lead to disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal.**

District Mail Delivery (Policy EGAE)

An in-District mail service system is maintained for delivery of internal and external communications. Use of District mail facilities and personnel for the distribution of materials and communications is restricted to materials and communications relevant to official school business and educational purposes. The District is not liable for items lost or opened, or any damage or injury incurred as a result of use of the mail service.

Duty Day Calendars, Payroll Calendars, Job Descriptions and Staff Salary Schedules

For your convenience, approved duty day calendars for all District positions are sent to the administrative office of each school and published on the Staff link of the District home page, under Human Resources, Staff Documents. Current year salary schedules and the Payroll Calendar are published on this link as well. Job descriptions for all current administrative, certified, instructional support, classified and coaching positions are available on this link. All documents are updated when changes are approved.

**Employee Benefits
(Policies GCBF; GDBD)**

The District offers our employees a wide range of benefits. Employees must meet minimum requirements to be eligible to qualify for benefits. For additional information, please contact Benefits at 480-345-3756 or tuhsdbenefits@tuhsd.k12.az.us. Benefits include, but are not limited to the following:

Major Medical	Flexible Spending Accounts
Optional Dental Coverage	Tax Sheltered Annuities
Short Term Disability	Employee Assistance Program
Long Term Disability	Wellness Program
Workers' Compensation	Unemployment Compensation
Life Insurance with Additional Optional Coverage	Notary Public Services
Payroll Direct Deposit	Arizona State Retirement System

**Evaluation of Professional and Classified Staff Members
(Policies GCO; GDO)**

Certified staff members are evaluated in accordance with Arizona Revised Statutes and Governing Board Policies and Regulations. The evaluation process is designed to improve instruction and strengthen the abilities of the certified employee.

Classified staff members are evaluated by the appropriate supervisor. An annual written evaluation for each classified staff member is completed prior to the anniversary date of employment. A new employee will receive an evaluation, not later than ninety (90) days after the first day of employment. A second first-year evaluation will be completed no later than the anniversary date of employment. The evaluation will be used to increase job proficiency and to recommend continued employment.

**Fair Labor Standards Act
(Policy GDL)**

The Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) requires compensation at the rate of one- and one-half times the hourly rate of pay for all non-exempt employees for any hours worked, *in excess of forty (40) worked hours*, during a regular work week in which no holidays, breaks or paid leave occur.

Under certain conditions, employees of State or local government agencies may receive compensatory time off, at a rate of not less than one and one-half hours for each overtime hour worked instead of over- time payment. State and local government employees may accrue up to 240 hours. An employee must be permitted to use compensatory time on the date requested unless doing so would “unduly disrupt” the operations of the agency. **Due to budgetary implications, the District requires employees to use accrued compensatory time prior to using accrued general leave or vacation leave.**

All non-exempt employees must accurately record their hours using the current timekeeping system. Timekeeping records are used to determine regular pay and overtime. Overtime work in the District is discouraged due to budgetary implications. **Employees must obtain approval from the supervisor *prior to working overtime*. Failure to obtain prior approval before working overtime may result in disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal.**

There is no Arizona or Federal law that mandates “breaks,” “rest periods,” or “meal periods.” However, if schedules permit, TUHSD allows two (2) paid fifteen-minute breaks (one in the morning and one in the afternoon); in addition to a one-half hour *unpaid* lunch period. There may be times when breaks are not offered, depending on the needs of your campus or department. You may not use breaks to shorten your work day or to extend your lunch.

The District's designated workweek begins at 12:01 a.m. on Sunday and concludes at 12:00 midnight the following Saturday.

General Leave Accrual/Earned Paid Sick Time (Policy GCCA)

The District's provision of General Leave/Earned Paid Sick Time (EPST) under this policy and its implementing regulations shall meet the requirements set forth in statute to provide EPST to its employees. General Leave and/or EPST may be used interchangeably throughout this policy and the implementing regulations.

Eligibility

General Leave

Each classified/instructional support employee employed for thirty (30) or more hours per week and each certified employee contracted for three fifths (3/5) or more assignment shall qualify for General Leave not to exceed annual maximums as set forth in the regulations for this policy.

EPST

All employees eligible for General Leave, as outlined above, and each classified/instructional support employee employed for twenty-nine (29) hours or less per week and each certified employee contracted for less than three-fifths (3/5) assignment shall qualify for EPST not to exceed annual maximums as set forth in the regulations for this policy.

Use of General Leave and/or EPST

Employees may use unused accrued General Leave for reasons of personal business including, but not limited to, the reasons as set forth below.

Employees shall not use General Leave/EPST for the purpose of maintaining other employment.

Except as noted below, employees shall not use General Leave for personal business immediately preceding or following a holiday, unless approved by the Superintendent, or designee, in advance.

Employees shall be entitled, without exception, to use up to forty (40) hours or five (5) days per year of unused General Leave/EPST for the following reasons:

- An employee's mental or physical illness, injury or health condition; an employee's need for medical diagnosis, care or treatment of a mental or physical illness, injury or health condition; an employee's need for preventative medical care;
- Care of a family member with a mental or physical illness, injury or health condition; care of a family member who needs medical diagnosis, care or treatment of a mental or physical illness, injury or health condition; care of a family member who needs preventative medical care;
- Reasons related to child care, domestic violence, sexual violence, abuse or stalking and legal services as described in A.R.S. § 23-373.

For General Leave/EPST use of three (3) or more consecutive work days, the District may require reasonable documentation that the EPST has been used for a purpose covered by A, B, or C above. Documentation signed by a health care provider indicating that EPST is necessary shall be considered reasonable documentation for purposes of this section.

General Leave/EPST shall be provided upon the request of an employee. Such request may be made orally, in writing, by electronic means or by any other means acceptable to the District. When possible, the request shall

include the expected duration of the absence.

Employees shall not be required to search for or find a replacement worker to cover the hours during which the employee is using earned General Leave/EPST as a condition of an employee's taking General Leave/EPST.

General Leave/EPST may be used in the smaller of hourly increments or the smallest increment that the District's payroll system uses to account for absences or use of other time.

When the use of General Leave is foreseeable, the employee shall make a good faith effort to provide at least three (3) days advanced notice of the need for such time in advance of the use of the General Leave and shall make a reasonable effort to schedule the use of General Leave in a manner that does not unduly disrupt the operations of the District.

When the use of General Leave is not foreseeable, the employee shall follow the procedures set forth by the District for using General Leave and for communicating absences with the District. General Leave/EPST shall not be denied to an employee for failure to comply with the District's General Leave procedures, if the employee has not been provided with the District's procedures.

In the event of prolonged illness or death of a family member that requires the employee to be absent in excess of five (5) days, the employee must apply for other applicable leaves as identified in policy. In addition, required travel time in connection with the absence, not to exceed five (5) school days in any one (1) year, may be charged against General Leave.

The amount of accrued General Leave annually used for personal reasons may not exceed the employee's total annual maximum allocation of General Leave.

Retaliation Prohibited

It shall be unlawful for the District or any other person to interfere with, restrain, or deny the exercise of, or the attempt to exercise, any right protected in statute.

The District shall not engage in retaliation or discriminate against an employee or former employee because the person has exercised protected rights. Such rights include, but are not limited to, the right to request or use General Leave/EPST pursuant to the statute; the right to file a complaint with the commission or courts or inform any person about any employer's alleged violation; the right to participate in an investigation, hearing or proceeding or cooperate with or assist the commission in its investigations of alleged violations and the right to inform any person of his or her potential rights.

It shall be unlawful for the District's absence control policy to count EPST taken as an absence that may lead to or result in discipline, discharge, demotion, suspension, or any other adverse action.

Protections of this section shall apply to any person who mistakenly but in good faith alleges violations of this policy based on the supporting statutes.

Notice Requirements

- Employers shall give employees written notice of the following at the commencement of employment or by July 1, 2017, whichever is later:
 - That employees are entitled to EPST, the amount of earned paid sick time and the terms of its use guaranteed in statute;
 - That retaliation against employees who request or use EPST is prohibited;
 - That each employee has the right to file a complaint if EPST as required by statute is denied by the employer or the employee is subjected to retaliation for requesting or taking EPST; and

- The contract information for the commission where questions about rights and responsibilities can be answered.
- The required notice shall be in English, Spanish, and any language that is deemed appropriate by the Industrial Commission of Arizona.
- The amount of EPST available to the employee, the amount of EPST taken by the employee to date in the year and the amount of pay the employee has received as EPST shall be recorded in, or on an attachment to, the employee's regular paycheck.
- The District may use any model notices distributed by the Industrial Commission of Arizona to comply with the notice requirements in State statute.
- The District shall be subject to a civil penalty as prescribed in A.R.S. § 23-364, for failure to comply with the notice provisions required in statute.

Definitions

As defined in statute (A.R.S. § 23-371), “family member” means:

- Regardless of age, a biological, adopted or foster child, stepchild or legal ward, a child of a domestic partner, a child to whom the employee stands *in loco parentis*, or an individual to whom the employee stood *in loco parentis* when the individual was a minor;
- A biological, foster, stepparent or adoptive parent or legal guardian of an employee or an employee's spouse or domestic partner or a person who stood *in loco parentis* when the employee or employee's spouse or domestic partner was a minor child;
- A person to whom the employee is legally married under the laws of any state, or a domestic partner of an employee as registered under the laws of any state or political subdivision;
- A grandparent, grandchild or sibling (whether of a biological, foster, adoptive or step relationship) of the employee or the employee's spouse or domestic partner; or
- Any other individual related by blood or affinity whose close association with the employee is the equivalent of a family relationship.

**Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA)
(Policy GCCC)**

The Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) requires employers to grant *eligible* employees up to twelve (12) weeks of job-protected leave during a twelve (12) month period for any of the qualifying reasons listed below. The information in this section is provided as a general overview only. For detailed information regarding FMLA, please contact the Benefits Coordinator.

An *eligible* employee is one who has been employed by the District at least twelve (12) months and who has completed at least 1,250 hours of service immediately prior to the time the FMLA leave commences. Using the “look back period,” any eligible employee of the District may take up to twelve (12) weeks of FMLA for one or more of these reasons:

- The birth and first year care of the employee's child.
- The placement of a child for adoption or foster care.
- A serious health condition that causes the employee to be unable to perform the essential functions of the position.
- Care for a spouse, son, daughter, or parent of the employee, if the person has a serious health condition.
- Because of a qualifying exigency, arising out of the fact that the spouse, or a son, daughter, or parent of the employee is on active duty (or has been notified of an impending call or order to active duty) in the Armed Forces in support of a contingency operation. For this purpose, up to twenty-six weeks of FMLA leave is available.

A husband and wife who are both employees of the District may be limited to a total of twelve (12) weeks of leave

during each applicable twelve (12) month period for leave for the birth of a child, placement of a child for adoption or foster care or to care for a parent with a serious health condition.

An employee must provide at least thirty (30) days' notice before FMLA leave begins if the leave is foreseeable based on a birth, placement for adoption, or foster care, planned medical treatment for a serious health condition, or military service leave of the employee or family member. All FMLA leave must be supported by a medical certificate completed by the employee's health provider.

Jury Duty/Military/Victim Leave (Policy GCCD)

Jury Duty

There is no deduction of paid leave during jury service if appropriate documentation of the service is provided.

Failure to submit appropriate documentation results in a deduction from general leave. An employee excused from jury duty must report to work as soon as possible. Failure to report will result in a deduction equal to the portion of a workday missed from accrued leave.

Military Leave

An employee who is a member of the Military Reserve or National Guard is entitled to a leave without loss of pay, or time when engaged in field training. An employee who is a member of the uniformed service may use vacation leave or other accumulated paid time off during their service, or may take unpaid leave of absence. The employee may also be eligible for other leave protection under USERRA and/or FMLA. Contact the Benefits Coordinator for additional information.

Victim Leave

An employee who is the victim of juvenile or adult crime may exercise the right to be present at a proceeding. The employee may use available vacation or other leave in accordance with policy.

Time Clock Procedures (For Classified Non-Exempt Employees and Supervisors)

The District uses an electronic timekeeping system to record hours worked by all non-exempt classified employees and under certain circumstances other employee categories as well. Employees must report hours using the current timekeeping system.

It is the responsibility of each employee to ensure accurate reporting of all hours worked that are submitted to Payroll for paycheck calculation. It is considered a falsification of your timekeeping records to have someone else add or remove your hours worked in the time keeping system.

It is the responsibility of each supervisor to review and approve all time submitted within the timeframe required to ensure accurate and timely payment of employees.

Medical Leave Assistance Program (Policy GCCG; GCCG-R)

The District allows individual employees to donate accumulated general leave to other employees who have depleted their accrued general leave and vacation as a result of a serious illness or injury. There are restrictions and limitations for both the donor and the recipient. For additional information regarding Medical Leave Assistance, please refer to Policy regulation GCCG-R and contact the Benefits Coordinator at 480-345-3756.

From time to time it may be deemed appropriate that, due to unexpected situations or unforeseen circumstances, a District wide school closure may be necessary requiring staff to use comp time, general leave, or vacation. In these circumstances, the donor employee may donate general leave only if the employee has thirty (30) or more days of accumulated general leave; and the donor employee may donate no more than five (5) days of general leave in any employment year for this purpose.

In this instance, the donor recognizes that donated general leave days will go into one (1) central general leave bank. The general leave days from this central general leave bank will be dispersed among the impacted employees as appropriate. Should there be excess general leave days, they will be held in the central general leave bank through the end of the school year and will not be transferred.

Payroll Action Requests (PAR)

The electronic PAR form is used to obtain approval for all regular and volunteer employment requests, as well as extra duty assignments and recommendations for terminating employment. The PAR originates at the site, is approved by the supervising administrator, principal or director, and then is routed electronically to the Business Services, Human Resources and Payroll departments. Nothing submitted on a PAR should be considered final until processed by these departments and, when required, approved by the Governing Board.

A PAR must be completed for any employee or group of employees who will be paid for an extra-duty assignment prior to the employee or employees beginning the assignment. Payroll cannot process a time card for which no PAR has been submitted.

Payroll and Deductions (Policies DKA; DKB)

The District will establish two (2) or more days in each month, not more than sixteen (16) days apart, as fixed paydays for payment of wages in accordance with Arizona Statute. Employees may choose to have their salaries paid in full upon the last pay date following completion of their assignments or may annualize their pay. Employees who choose to receive payment of wages beyond the period in which the wages were earned (deferred payment) will be subject to Internal Revenue Service (IRS) penalties unless they provide a written election of such deferral prior to the first duty day of the year of deferral. Forms for such deferral shall be made available. Any change to the election must be made prior to the first duty day of the fiscal year of the deferment.

An employee who quits the service of the District shall be paid all wages due on the regular payday for the pay period during which termination occurs. Such wages may be paid by mail if requested.

An employee who is discharged from service of the District shall be paid all wages due within ten (10) calendar days from the date of discharge.

The District may withhold or divert any portion of an employee's wages if the District is required or empowered to do so by state or federal law, if the District has prior written authorization from the employee, or if there is a reasonably good faith dispute as to the amount of wages due, including the amount of any counterclaim or any claim of debt, reimbursement, recoupment or set-off asserted by the District against the employee.

Salary Deductions

The Superintendent shall establish procedures that conform to all requirements of the law and all policies of the District, that ensure employees receive paychecks not later than the stated payroll dates, and that ensure all amounts withheld from employee compensation are remitted and reported appropriately, correctly, and timely.

Involuntary Deductions (Public Record)

Federal and Arizona income taxes, Social Security (OASI/FICA), and employee contributions to the Arizona State Retirement System (ASRS) will be deducted as mandated by state and federal statutes. All other deductions must

be authorized by the Governing Board and the employee unless ordered by a court of competent jurisdiction.

Voluntary Deductions and Redirections (Not Public Record)

The following deductions and redirections have been authorized by the Governing Board:

- Insurance premiums for staff members or dependents who are being covered under Governing Board-approved Section 125 cafeteria programs.
- Direct deposits of net payroll with financial institutions.
- Tax-sheltered annuities for companies approved by the District.
- Credit union deposits.
- U.S. Savings Bonds.
- Professional dues.
- Contributions to District-approved qualified charitable organizations.
- Contributions to a public school for the support of extracurricular activities or character education programs of the public school.

**Personal Property
(Policy ECAD)**

Employees who bring personal property to the workplace must clearly mark the property with their names. The District does not assume responsibility for the employee's personal property. In case of theft, loss, water or fire damage, the District's insurance program will typically not provide for replacement or payment for personal property brought into the workplace.

**Professional/Classified Staff Leaves of Absence without Pay
(Policy GCCC)**

Noncompensable leaves of absence may be granted with appropriate approval. Examples include:

- An extension of a leave of absence from work immediately following another type of approved leave as defined in Policy GCCC
- For a leave of absence that benefits or is in the best interest of the District, as determined by the Governing Board upon review of the application.
- For leave under the Family and Medical Leave Act.

Certain rights and benefits may be forfeited if the resulting employment or contract qualifies the employee for part-time rather than full-time status.

**Professional Staff Salary Advancement
(Policy GCBA and GCBA-R)**

***Salary Advancement - Prior Approval
Academic Credit:***

- All academic work that applies to an advanced degree in the teacher's area of specialization or in education shall not require prior approval.
- A lifetime maximum of thirty (30) undergraduate-level credits (100 level and above) may be used for advancement. Courses taken to obtain an original Bachelors degree may not be "retaken" and used for salary advancement.

- Prior approval must be obtained for all academic and nonacademic work that does not pertain to an advanced degree in education or in the teacher's area of specialization. For all requests, complete and submit a *Request for Prior Approval* form and a copy of the course description or program description to Human Resources at least thirty (30) days prior to beginning coursework or other activities.

Nonacademic Credit:

The District offers a variety of in-service professional development courses and workshops. Staff are encouraged to attend in-service offerings as well as external workshops to hone their craft. Credit for extraordinary travel experiences that enhance the instructional program may be requested.

- The maximum, nonacademic credit a teacher may earn shall not exceed six (6) credits or ninety (90) hours in any of the nonacademic categories for a maximum combined total of twelve (12) credits.
- No credit for in-service, workshop, or travel experiences from other districts will be honored.
- No credit for in-service or workshop, paid for with District funds, will count toward salary advancement.

In-service or Workshop Classes:

- Fifteen (15) hours of workshop class work shall count as one (1) credit toward salary advancement.
- Certificates of Attendance shall be submitted as verification of completion and contain the title of the workshop or in-service, the number of clock hours earned, and the date earned along with course descriptions or outlines.
- No subsidy in the form of workshop pay, in-service release time, or pay for registration costs may be provided from District funds if the activity is to be used for salary advancement.
- All related Certificate of Attendance documents listed above must be attached to a Salary Advancement Request form when submitted to Human Resources for processing.

Travel Experience:

Credit for extraordinary travel that enhances the instructional program may be requested under the following guidelines:

- Credit for travel to any one (1) place may be granted only once;
- A maximum one (1) credit may be granted per five (5) days of approved travel;
- A detailed itinerary of the travel will be submitted to Human Resources for approval ***at least twenty (20) days prior*** to the travel event, together with a report explaining how the particular travel event will apply toward the enhancement of the classroom instructional program.

Request for Salary Advancement:

- A *Request for Salary Advancement* form must be completed and submitted to Human Resources with an official transcript and/or required documentation of nonacademic credit attached. In order to receive an adjustment in compensation for the current school year, requests must be received in Human Resources on or before December 1. Compensation shall be retroactive to the first day of the current school year contract. Only complete salary advancement requests will be accepted. Partial or incomplete salary advancement requests will be returned to the employee until the full number of credits have been earned to advance on the salary schedule.
- Requests received after the December 1 deadline must be submitted before February 15 to be processed for the next school year.
- Only academic coursework completed after the date of the award of the highest degree earned may be used for salary advancement.

- The original Request for Salary Advancement form and transcripts will be retained in Human Resources as part of the teacher's personnel file.

**Staff Health and Safety; Staff Wellness
(Policies GBGB; GBGC; GBGCA; GBGCA-R; GBGCB)**

Eye Protective Devices

Every student, employee, volunteer and visitor must wear appropriate protective eyewear while participating in or observing vocational, technical, industrial arts, art, or laboratory science activities. Protective eyewear is provided by the District.

Employee Assistance

Employees who have had exposure to blood borne pathogens (Hepatitis B/Human Immunodeficiency Virus) must report the details in writing and are required to follow post exposure evaluation and follow-up activities in accordance with Arizona and Federal laws.

Exclusion from School

A staff member who has a communicable disease will be excluded from school only if he or she presents a direct threat to the health or safety of others in the school workplace. A staff member who has a chronic communicable disease, such as tuberculosis or HIV/AIDS, will not be excluded unless a significant risk to the health and safety of others is presented.

Immunity

As a condition of employment, all employees, including substitutes, shall provide proof of immunity to measles (Rubeola) and German measles (Rubella) prior to reporting to work.

Reporting and Notification

The District must report each diagnosed and suspected case of a communicable disease. If an outbreak occurs in a school setting, the District will promptly inform staff members who are known to have special vulnerability to infection.

Confidentiality

The District makes reasonable efforts to maintain confidentiality of employees' medical conditions. All medical information is confidential. The identity of a staff member who has a communicable disease and/or the nature of the communicable disease may be disclosed only to:

- Staff members who must have such information to fulfill their duties; *or*
- Staff members or students who must have the information to protect themselves from direct threat to health or safety.

**Staff Termination Benefits - Accrued General and Vacation Leave
(Policy GCQD)**

An eligible employee who resigns or requests release from contract or notice of assignment may receive termination benefits in accordance with policy.

Once an employee resigns their position, the resignation goes to the Governing Board for approval. Once that approval process is completed, the payroll department completes the required forms for Arizona State Retirement

System and the final payroll is issued with termination benefits. Employees can contact payroll with any additional questions by emailing DOpayroll@tuhsd.k12.az.us. Employees can visit azasrs.gov for retirement questions and information.

It is also good to note that access to software applications and Gmail/Google drive accounts for resigning employees terminates at 5:00 p.m. your final day of employment. This means employees will no longer have access to any information contained on Google driver, or in Gmail.

Employees may direct any questions regarding benefits and/or COBRA benefits to the benefits department at tuhsdbenefits@tuhsd.k12.az.us.

Human Resources will send the employee a link to an Exit Interview for completion. This information is very important in trending information and feedback. Human Resources appreciates parting employees who take the time to complete this important survey.

Staff Vacations and Holidays (Policies GCD; GDD)

Administrators

Twelve (12) month administrators earn annual vacation leave in accordance with the provisions of the administrator's employment agreement. A limit of forty (40) days will be paid upon leaving employment with the District at the per diem rate of pay in effect at the time the days were earned provided the employee has completed five (5) consecutive years of employment. Vacation days may not be appended to the end of employment.

Professional Exempt and Classified Non-exempt Staff

Twelve (12) month employees earn two (2) weeks of paid vacation per year. After five (5) years of continuous service, twelve (12) month employees receive three (3) weeks of vacation per year and after ten (10) years of continuous service they earn four (4) weeks of vacation per year.

During the first year of employment, contracts/notice of assignments must be fulfilled before vacations with pay are granted. An employee who terminates employment before completing one (1) year of employment is not entitled to compensation for accumulated days of vacation. Vacation time accruals are capped. The maximum number of accrued days is forty (40) days *plus* the current year's allocation. When the maximum number of days is accumulated the employee does not qualify to earn additional vacation days until the first of the month following the month in which the number of accrued days falls below the allowable maximum.

General Leave days and/or Vacation days may not be appended to the end of employment.

Holidays

Holidays are established by the District calendar. Paid holidays are provided for positions as identified on the appropriate Salary Schedule. No employee will receive pay for a holiday unless the employee works both the day before and the day after a holiday, except in cases of illness or approved vacation leave.

Tempe Union High Schools Education Foundation

The Tempe Union High Schools Education Foundation (TUHSEF) is a nonprofit organization that solicits and receives gifts and donations benefitting the students of Tempe Union High School District. TUHSEF is proud to provide funding for outstanding educational projects and many distinctive programs that help enhance educational experiences. Teachers may apply for mini-grants of up to \$1500 to support special projects. Projects eligible for funding include:

- Innovative projects that boost student achievement at all grade levels and subject areas.

- Mentoring/tutoring programs that help students develop positive attitudes about school, life and themselves.
- Scholarships and grants for special programs.

Trip Reduction Plan/Emergency Transportation Program

As an employer and a member of the community, Tempe Union High School District is committed to supporting efforts to reduce air pollution. We encourage employees, whenever possible, to consider alternate ways to get to work, such as by carpool or public transportation.

The District participates in the Maricopa County Trip Reduction program. The Program's goal is to reduce emissions by lowering the number of single occupancy vehicles on Valley streets. We offer reserved parking for registered carpoolers, emergency transportation, bike racks, showers, bi-annual drawings for all registered Alternate Mode Users are held through the year. Drawings are also held during Valley Bike Month and Rideshare Clean Air Campaigns and during the Valley's High Pollution Advisory season. To learn more, please contact the Superintendent's Office or your campus Trip Reduction Coordinator.

Use of District Property (Policy EDB; EDC)

Employees are responsible for the proper care of all District facilities, equipment, and property in their custody or control. The employee who receives approval to take equipment off campus assumes full liability for the equipment while it is under his/her care. District-owned equipment may be used off campus according to the following guidelines:

- No employee may use District-owned equipment for personal gain. Equipment may be used only for work directly related to professional responsibilities.
- Prior written approval by the principal or director is required before any equipment can be taken off District property.
- School resources or personnel cannot be used to complete copying or printing work for parent, professional, charitable, or other organizations. The only exception is when an individual school duplicates notices of parent group meetings directly connected with a specific activity in the school.

Vehicle Emission Testing Notification (A.R.S. § 49-452)

Maricopa County is a Vehicle Emissions Control area. A.R.S. § 49-452 requires vehicle emission inspection for all vehicles registered in Maricopa County *and* all vehicles registered outside the county, if the vehicle is used to commute to work within Maricopa County. New Arizona residents must immediately register their vehicles in Arizona. Failure to comply will result in civil penalties including payment of applicable fines.

Workday Definition (Policies GCM; GDK)

Certificated Staff

All professional staff members are expected to report to their duty stations on time each workday and to be present until the time they are scheduled to leave. The school day may be extended for meetings, special events, and activities.

To ensure the safety of students and security of each campus, teachers may be asked to perform supervisory duties during the day as needed. These duty assignments shall be considered a regular part of a teacher's duties and shall be fulfilled accordingly. Teachers may perform duties other than classroom teaching. Extra duty assignments may be made by the Superintendent.

Classified Staff

All classified staff employees must report to their duty stations on time each workday and shall, as scheduled, be available there until the designated time they are scheduled to leave. Employees are not permitted to skip lunch periods or breaks in order to leave early.

Workers' Compensation and Accident Reporting (Policies GBGD; EBBB)

All employees and volunteers are covered by workers' compensation insurance for most injuries or illnesses while on assignment, including injury or illness on school property or while on official business that is being conducted off school property. If medical attention is needed, the employee, along with the supervisor, must call the Triage Nurse Line at 888-252-4689 to begin the claim process. If medical attention is not required, the employee, along with the supervisor, must complete the Supervisor's Incident Report and send the original to the Benefits Office immediately.

Reports must be filed for accidents that take place on school and/or District property or that involve school vehicles, students, or staff members on school-sponsored trips, including staff members on authorized school business trips. Volunteers who are injured at one of our sites must contact the Benefits Office for additional information.

Reports are required whether or not there are injuries or illnesses that are immediately evident.