

Recommended September Policy Updates

The following policies are being brought forward for revision based on recommendations from the South Carolina School Boards Association (SCSBA). Most of the recommendations are based on legislative updates or South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) updates that necessitate a change to policy.

Policy IKA-R Grading / Assessment Systems

Changes to this policy were to ensure that GPA conversions of transfer students that had a “Pass” or “Fail” grade were consistent across the state and were considered GPA neutral when calculated.

Policy IHBF Medical Homebound Instruction

Since students may be treated by other providers in addition to physicians, the medical homebound regulation has been amended to allow these additional providers to sign as is customary with other medical forms.

Policy EEAE Bus Safety Program

It is mandated that this section be amended to include a section on the driving record of school bus transportation driver candidates. It adds to policy the frequency in which driver background checks are done and addresses the consequences of alcohol use by drivers. In addition, we have added language in reference to preroute inspections and how often they should be done. This is already a practice but the change makes it part of our policy.

Policy KLAGA School Resource Officers

In 2017, SCSBA recommended that districts utilizing School Resource Officers (SROs) in their schools either adopt the SCSBA Model Policy or adopt a local policy based on state law and local regulations. *This year, the regulation has been amended to clarify SRO training requirements and to ensure that the circumstances under which the SRO should be utilized are consistent with state law.*

Policy ADC	Tobacco-Free Schools
Policy GBED	Tobacco-Free Schools / Staff
Policy JICG	Tobacco Use by Students

The General Assembly amended the Youth Access to Tobacco Prevention Act of 2006 to require, among other things, local school districts to adopt, implement, and enforce a written policy prohibiting at all times the use of any tobacco product or alternative nicotine product by any person in school buildings, and some facilities, on school campuses, and in or on any other school property or school sponsored event in the presence of students or school personnel or in an area where smoking or other tobacco use is otherwise prohibited by law. The amended law also redefines “alternative nicotine products” to mean any vaping product, whether or not it contains nicotine, including electronic smoking devices or other products, that can be ingested into the body by chewing, smoking, absorbing, dissolving, inhaling, or by any other means.

The changes also address tobacco or alternative tobacco use by members of the public who are not students or staff.

These three policies are exactly the same and are in the manual in multiple sections so they can be simply accessed by those who need to find them but may not know where to look.