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M E M O R A N D U M

To: KSB Policy Service Subscribers
FROM: KSB School Law
DATE: June 2, 2023
RE: Annual Policy Updates

Attached are the 2023 KSB School Law policy updates. Below, we discuss the policy changes, the changes to our standard forms, and some issues that are raised by certain laws that do not necessarily require a policy change but do present new obligations or things to keep in mind as you enter the 2023-24 school year. We have broken these down into 3 sections: "Policy Changes;" "Forms Changes;" and "Other Issues to Consider."

Keep in mind that most bills that were enacted into law go into effect three months after the legislature adjourns. This year the Unicameral adjourned sine die on June 1st, so the effective date of most bills will be September 2, 2023. However, if a bill includes a specific effective date or an emergency clause, it goes into effect on the stated date or when passed and approved according to law.

To assist subscribers in implementing these policy changes and the other considerations laid out in this Memo, **KSB will hold a webinar on Wednesday, June 7, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. Central Time.** In the webinar, we will give a brief overview of the changes and then answer questions from attendees regarding the policies and other considerations. We have included the link to the ZOOM conference in the cover e-mail that transmitted these updates. We will also record the webinar and will post it on the KSB School Law website in the Policy Updates section.

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Please feel free to contact us if you have any additional questions or if you would like to have a policy customized or “tweaked” to meet your individual circumstances.

Policy Changes

REVISION OF POLICY 3001: BUDGET AND PROPERTY TAX REQUEST

We have revised this policy to provide a link to the website at which information on statewide receipts and expenditures and comparisons of cost per pupil and performance to other school districts is available. We also updated a statutory reference. Finally, we amended the policy to follow the changes in LB 243 that make clear that a school may only increase its property tax request by more than the allowable growth percentage “to the extent allowed by law.”

This change is required.

REVISION OF POLICY 3003.1: BIDDING FOR CONSTRUCTION, REMODELING, REPAIR, OR RELATED PROJECTS FINANCED WITH FEDERAL FUNDS

AND

POLICY 3004.1: FISCAL MANAGEMENT FOR PURCHASING AND PROCUREMENT USING FEDERAL FUNDS

Entities auditing school districts looked for an explicit “Buy American” provision in these policies. Although federal law only requires that the Buy American provision be included in any contract and not in the policy, we have added or revised this provision in these policies to appease the policy auditors.

This change is technically not required but is highly recommended.

REVISION TO POLICY 3033: LENDING TEXTBOOKS TO CHILDREN ENROLLED IN PRIVATE SCHOOLS

Section 79-734 requires public schools to purchase and loan textbooks, upon individual request, to children who are enrolled in kindergarten to grade

twelve of a private school which is approved for continued legal operation under rules and regulations established by NDE. LB 705 transfers this obligation to NDE effective July 1, 2024. We have amended this policy to end the public school's obligation to provide textbooks to private schools effective July 1, 2024.

This change is effective **three months after adjournment of the Unicameral, approximately September 2, 2023.**

This change is required.

REVISION TO POLICY 3036: PURCHASING (CREDIT) CARD PROGRAM

The Nebraska Secretary of State's Schedule 10 governs how long school districts must maintain certain records. Schedule 10 has been changed and now states that schools must maintain all financial records created or received by the school district for 7 years. We have changed our policy from a 10-year retention requirement to a 7-year requirement.

This change is not required but is highly recommended.

POLICY 3059: AUDIO AND VIDEO RECORDING (RELOCATION OF POLICY 5063)

Now that most middle-high school students, staff members, parents, and patrons have smartphones and other devices, it was time to revisit this policy. While this certainly does not address all technology-based conduct, we have made a few changes that apply to more than just students. This is why it will be relocated into the 3000 series.

For example, previously the policy did not prohibit staff from making secret recordings. We made that change.

We also updated the security camera footage section and made a few other tweaks to better align the policy to school practices.

These changes are not required but are highly recommended. Relocation is required even if you don't amend the policy for ease of tracking future changes.

REVISION TO POLICY 4003: DRUG POLICY REGARDING DRIVERS

We made a minor revision to fix a clerical error regarding the term Medical Review Officer.

This change is required.

REVISION TO POLICY 4045: MILK EXPRESSION

President Biden signed into law the Providing Urgent Maternal Protections for Nursing Mothers Act ("PUMP for Nursing Mothers Act") at the end of 2022. The Act expands protections for salaried employees such as teachers and also requires the break to be paid if the employee is also working while expressing breast milk. We changed our policy to include language regarding the frequency at which an employee can request to pump.

This change is required.

REVISION OF POLICY 4059: BEHAVIORAL AND MENTAL HEALTH TRAINING (FORMERLY SUICIDE PREVENTION TRAINING)

Section 79-2,146 currently requires nurses, teachers, counselors, school psychologists, administrators, school social workers, and any other appropriate personnel to receive at least one hour of suicide awareness and prevention training each year. LB 705 amends this section to require "all public school employees who interact with students and any other appropriate personnel" as determined by the superintendent to receive at least one hour of behavioral and mental health training with a focus on suicide awareness and prevention training each year. NDE will develop a list of approved training materials.

Please note, we left the proposed October 31 or within 30 days of initial employment wording in the policy. This is not required by law, so you can adjust the completion deadlines as you see fit.

These changes are effective **three months after adjournment of the Unicameral, approximately September 2, 2023.**

This change is required.

REVISION OF POLICY 5003: ADMISSION OF PART-TIME STUDENTS

LB 705 (Sec. 75) will amend Nebraska's part-time enrollment statute, section 79-2,136. Prior to the amendments, the statute contained only one section and generally deferred to school board policy for most part-time enrollment considerations. LB 705 contains some new requirements for the admission of part-time students.

First, the statute creates an ambiguity regarding which classes a part-time student can take. LB 705 added a clause into the original statute, which now reads: "Each school board shall allow the part-time enrollment of students, for all courses selected by the students...." We know many schools limit the classes available to part-time students, in addition to limitations based on class sizes and things like that. It is unclear whether the Unicameral intended the new clause to mean students can select *any* courses they want, or if they intended that to mean any courses offered to part-time students but not necessarily all courses they might be eligible to take if they were full-time students. We left the general restrictions based on class sizes and resources intact but remained silent on strict class availability for part-time students (e.g., only essential courses or only specials) giving each school the opportunity to decide whether they want to make all courses available or continue to limit courses a part-time student can take even if you have capacity.

Second, LB 705 requires school boards to establish policies and procedures relating to participation in extracurricular activities. It requires schools to permit part-time students to participate in extracurriculars "subject to the same requirements, conditions, and procedures" as your full-time students. This means they must comply with all academic, behavioral, and other eligibility rules established by the school, including your student code of conduct. We've also specified that this includes being eligible for NSAA participation, or eligible based on the governing body of any activity not subject to NSAA rules.

The statute has two specific limitations. Current NSAA rules require students to be enrolled in at least 20 credit hours, 10 of which must come from the public school. The statute changes now state that part-time students must be allowed to participate if they are enrolled in 5 credit hours in the public school. This change will reduce the public school enrollment requirement from 10 to 5 hours, and we anticipate the NSAA will make any changes necessary on its end to allow schools to comply with this statute.

The statute also prohibits schools from giving a preference in team selection to full-time students over part-time students.

As for transportation, the statute does not require schools to provide transportation for school attendance purposes, but it does require schools to provide extracurricular transportation or mileage to a part-time student on the same terms as you provide extracurricular transportation to your full-time students. For example, if you drive a bus from the school parking lot to away contests or off-site practices, the part-time student gets to ride the bus to those events. The part-time student would be responsible for getting himself or herself to the designated pick-up point.

Finally, this change also raises a timing issue. Schools will have their policies and handbooks updated to start the year, but these requirements do not go into effect until approximately September 10, 2023. This begs the question of whether a student is subject to the various credit hour and other requirements at the beginning of the fall season, or only after the law becomes effective. To avoid having to do mid-year changes to enrollment, handbooks, and policies, our recommendation is to begin applying the new requirements with the start of fall seasons, assuming the NSAA will provide flexibility for the flex time between the start of fall seasons and the effective date of the new requirements.

These changes are effective **three months after adjournment of the Unicameral, approximately September 2, 2023.**

This change is required.

REVISION OF POLICY 5004: OPTION ENROLLMENT

LB 705 made three substantive changes to the option enrollment laws.

1. Special education capacity determinations must and may only be determined on a case-by-case basis. If an option application indicates that a student has an individualized education plan (IEP) or has been diagnosed with a disability, the application must be evaluated by the director of special education services or the director's designee who shall determine if the school district and the appropriate class, grade level, or school building has the capacity to provide the applicant the appropriate services and accommodations.
2. If the school board wishes to declare a program, class, or school unavailable for the following school year, the board must pass a

resolution with such a declaration **prior to October 15th** of the previous school year.

3. Schools must annually establish, publish, and report the capacity for each school building under the district's control according to procedures, criteria, and deadlines established by the Nebraska Department of Education

These changes are effective **three months after adjournment of the Unicameral, approximately September 2, 2023.**

This change is required.

REVISION OF POLICY 5035: STUDENT DISCIPLINE

PK-2nd Grade Students. LB 705 provides that schools will no longer be able to suspend a student in pre-kindergarten through second grade *unless* the student brings a deadly weapon as defined in section 28-109 on school grounds, in a school vehicle, or to a school-sponsored activity or athletic event. Schools must develop a policy to implement this new limitation and must include disciplinary measures inside the school as an alternative to suspension.

Completing Missed Work. Any student who is suspended ***must*** be given an opportunity to complete any classwork, homework, examinations, or other work missed during the period of suspension. "Must" used to say "may." Schools must develop and adopt guidelines that provide any suspended student with the opportunity to complete classwork and homework. The guidelines may not require the student to attend the school district's alternative programs for expelled students in order to complete classwork and homework. The guidelines must be provided to the student and a parent or guardian at the time of suspension.

Short-Term Suspensions. When a principal suspends a student for up to five school days, he or she must give a written notice of the suspension to the parent or guardian within 24 hours "or such additional time as is reasonably necessary." LB 705 has revised this requirement to state that the principal only has an additional 48 hours (a total of 72 hours) to send the written notice of the suspension. The principal has always been required to make a "reasonable effort" to hold a conference with the parent or guardian when the student returns to school. Now there is an additional requirement that the principal document such effort in writing.

Post-Expulsion Requirements. LB 705 includes a new requirement. At the conclusion of an expulsion, a school district must reinstate the student and accept nonduplicative, grade-appropriate credits earned by the student during the term of expulsion from any Nebraska-accredited institution or institution accredited by one of the six regional accrediting bodies in the United States.

Long-Term Suspension, Expulsion, or Mandatory Reassignment. The decision to recommend long-term suspension, expulsion, or mandatory reassignment did not have a timeline associated with it. Now, the decision must be made within two school days after learning of the alleged student misconduct. Also, if a student is suspended pending the outcome of a hearing for a long-term suspension, expulsion, or mandatory reassignment, the student must be allowed to complete classwork, homework, examinations, and other work during the period of suspension.

Hearing Examiner. When a hearing is requested under the Student Discipline Act, the superintendent now “recommends” the appointment of a hearing examiner within two school days after receiving the hearing request. Parents have two days to request the designation of a different hearing examiner. Upon receiving the request, the superintendent:

- **Must** provide one alternative hearing examiner who is not an employee of the school district or otherwise currently under contract with the school district and whose impartiality may not otherwise be reasonably questioned; and
- **May** also provide an additional list of hearing examiners that may include hearing examiners employed by or under contract with the school district.

The student or the student's parent or guardian must, within five school days, select a hearing examiner to conduct the hearing who was recommended, provided as an alternative hearing examiner, or included on an additional list, if any, and must notify the superintendent in writing of the selection. The superintendent must appoint the selected hearing examiner upon receipt of the notice.

The Hearing. Previously, the hearing had to be “scheduled” within five school days after it was requested. Now, the hearing must be “held” within five school days after the appointment of the hearing examiner.

Previously, students and their parents had the right to examine records and written statements “at a reasonable time” before the hearing. Now, the

school must provide copies of records, written statements, and required affidavits no later than 48 hours before the hearing.

The school must make available those witnesses who have knowledge of or were involved in the alleged misconduct and subsequent discipline of the student if such witnesses are requested by the student or the student's parent, guardian, or representative and ***if*** such witnesses are employees or under contract with the school district.

With changes from LB 705, the hearing examiner now has ten calendar days to provide the findings and recommendations to the superintendent, and the superintendent has five school days after receiving the report to make his or her determination. Previously, there was no time limit for either action.

Appeal. If the student or parent appeals the superintendent's decision, the superintendent's determination will no longer take immediate effect.

School Board Decision. In the event of an appeal, the school board now must take final actions within three calendar days after the hearing. Previously, there was no time limit on the board's ability to make a final decision.

The changes are effective **three months after adjournment of the Unicameral, approximately September 2, 2023**. However, Policy 5035 has been revised to reflect these new requirements so that you do not have to change policies and handbooks in September.

These changes are required.

REVISION TO POLICY 5045: STUDENT FEES

The Nebraska Public Elementary and Secondary Student Fee Authorization Act permits schools to charge fees for "postsecondary education costs." However, just like fees charged to participate in extracurriculars or for student meals, the board must designate the "maximum" fee that may be charged. Our policy has always contained a section for postsecondary education costs, but it did not list the maximum for those costs.

This change will now require you to list the maximum fee that might be assessed to a student for postsecondary education costs. Unless you designate the maximum fee (even if the student ends up paying less), it's technically not lawful. If you collaborate with local colleges, universities, or

community colleges to offer postsecondary classes or dual credit classes, you should list the maximum fee a student may be required to pay. Keep in mind that schools cannot charge a fee for earning high school credits. However, you can require families to pay any postsecondary costs if they also want college credit. We recommend listing the max amount *per course*, to include all fees for tuition, materials, etc. You should set the number high enough to account for the most a student may be required to pay, especially if you work with multiple institutions.

This change is required.

REVISION TO POLICY 5049: FIREARMS AND WEAPONS

LB 77 authorizes anyone, other than a minor or prohibited person, to carry a concealed handgun anywhere in Nebraska, with or without a concealed handgun permit. However, the law still prohibits people from carrying a concealed or unconcealed handgun into a public school or on public school property. This prohibition does not apply to a qualified law enforcement officer or qualified retired law enforcement officer carrying a concealed handgun pursuant to 18 U.S.C. 926B or 926C.

We have revised this policy to remove the reference to an exception based on possessing a concealed handgun permit.

This change is required.

REVISION TO POLICY 5052: SCHOOL WELLNESS

The link to the website at the bottom of the policy that contains the evidence-based strategies used in the policy has been updated.

This change is required.

REVISION TO POLICY 5062: LICE AND NITS

For the past several years, we have been asked by numerous clients about the rules governing the exclusion of students who have contracted active cases of lice, louse eggs, and nits. Our policy previously offered two options, one that excluded for nits and one that did not. Several schools have

received significant pushback (and even threats of litigation) for banning students with nits alone until they were treated.

Many state and national organizations have strong opinions on this issue, with entities like the CDC and various medical organizations now recommending against any school exclusion even if a student has an active case of headlice. A small handful of schools have even asked us for a policy that would not exclude students from school at all. While that may technically violate the Nebraska DHHS isolation regulation, we know some schools have nurses, administrators, and others who agree with this position. If you would like that type of policy, please contact one of us.

In revisiting the actual Nebraska DHHS regulation on this point, it states as follows for school exclusion/isolation periods for pediculosis:

Nits are not a cause for school exclusion. Parents of students with live lice are to be notified and the child treated prior to return to school. Only persons with active infestation need be treated. Avoid head-to-head contact. No exclusion of contacts.

In light of the current regulation, we have removed the policy option permitting exclusion for nits, alone (the former "Option A"). The policy now has only one option that tracks the regulation. It states that the school will contact the student's parent/guardian(s) immediately to pick up the child. Because the regulation still says that the child needs to be treated "prior to return to school," we left that in the policy.

This change is required if you previously selected "Option A" which included nits. If you previously selected "Option B," these changes are recommended.

**POLICY 5063: [INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK]
(RELOCATED TO POLICY 3059)**

This policy is relocated.

REVISION TO POLICY 5064: SUPPLEMENT, NOT SUPPLANT

We have updated this policy to reflect the provision that requires federal grant funds supplement local effort for all Title funds which expands beyond Title I to include Title II and Title IV grant funds.

This change is technically not required but is highly recommended.

REVISION TO POLICY 6003: INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM

We have updated the policy to reflect the minimum number of instructional hours for each corresponding grade as required by Nebraska law and NDE regulations. You may adjust these hours upward if desired.

This change is required.

REVISION TO POLICY 6004: CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

We have updated the policy to reflect the new requirement that goes into effect for the 2023-24 school year that all students take at least one course in financial literacy. This required coursework may not be embedded in other curricula throughout a high school student's secondary education. Rather the course must be a standalone class equaling five (5) high school credits or an equivalent one-semester course. The Nebraska Department of Education has curricular resources for [the financial literacy course](#) here. The Financial Literacy Act requires the district to submit a report to the board of education about your compliance with the Act no later than December 31, 2024. **You do not need to worry about reporting for the 2023-24 school year.** We will provide you with the necessary information for that report in the years they will be required and will add them to our running list of annual notices, hearings, and reports at that time.

The Financial Literacy Act was passed as a companion statute to the Computer Science and Technology Act. LB 705 pushed back the effective date of the Computer Science and Technology Act to the 2027-28 school year.

As a side note, Policy 6004 has a table that sets out a schedule for curriculum review and textbook adoption. This table will need to be edited to reflect your district's practices. For example, if your district staff reviews the curriculum in one year and then actually adopts a textbook in the following year, you would adjust the content of the "textbook adoption" cell down a level. This year is also a good time to check the dates that your district has filled in under the "school year" column and to update them as necessary.

The financial literacy curriculum is required for 23-24, but we have added both financial literacy and computer science to the curriculum review chart.

ADDITIONAL OPTIONS ADDED TO POLICY 6025: STUDENT CELL PHONE AND OTHER ELECTRONIC DEVICES

We have added some additional options to policy 6025. The current policy is most permissive, allowing students to use cell phones and other devices so long as they don't violate other school rules. As more schools start to go back to restrictive policies or consider storage plans like classroom turn-in boxes or Yondr bags, we want to provide some additional options. Those are included in the redline of this policy. However, the substance of the current policy did not change.

If you are happy with your current student cell phone and electronic devices policy, you do not need to make any changes.

NEW POLICY 6038: Artificial Intelligence

This is an optional policy. We have received questions from several clients about a board policy on the extent to which students may permissibly use artificial intelligence tools "AI Tools" (such as ChaptGPT and other chatbots) in connection with school assignments. This policy lays out (1) the board's approval of using AI Tools in connection with academic assignments, and (2) details the minimum requirements and expectations for such use.

Under this policy, teachers are responsible for determining the extent to which a student may permissibly use AI Tools in connection with any specific assignment and the policy imposes certain minimum requirements that students using such tools must meet (including disclosure and proper attribution). Please note that the criteria laid out in this policy is not in response to legal requirements. Rather, this policy provides a practical framework for your teaching staff to consider whether and how AI Tools can and should be used in connection with school assignments. The policy also clarifies that student use of AI Tools should be consistent with expectations of academic honesty when using other sources of information. If the board is inclined to adopt this policy (or a version of it), we strongly encourage the board to consult with the administration (who may work with the teaching

staff) to ensure that the framework and expectations are consistent with the teaching practices.

This new policy is optional.

Form Changes

NOTICE OF NON-DISCRIMINATION

Some of our school districts have asked for an all-encompassing, one-and-done nondiscrimination statement. We have not drafted one yet, mainly for two reasons. One, drafting such a single non-discrimination statement that effectively addresses all requirements from a variety of entities has proven difficult to do in a straightforward and streamlined manner. Two, we have decided to wait until the new Title IX and Section 504 regulations have been approved and finalized. But once those changes are made, we will tackle and produce a new notice of non-discrimination.

There is no change to make - yet.

Other Issues To Consider

LB 298: Dyslexia

On or before July 1 of each year, the school district must provide the required information relating to dyslexia to NDE.

LB 298: Written Dress Code and Grooming Policy

On or before July 1, 2025, the school board must adopt a written dress code and grooming policy to be implemented at the start of the 2025-26 school year that is consistent with the model policy developed by NDE and “may include any other procedures and provisions the school board deems appropriate.” NDE must develop and distribute its model dress code and grooming policy on or before December 1, 2024.

LB 705: Behavioral Intervention Training and Teacher Support Act

Sections 2 through 5 of LB 705 create the Behavioral Intervention Training and Teacher Support Act. This Act is effective **July 1, 2023**.

Training. Beginning in school year 2024-25, the Educational Service Unit Coordinating Council shall (i) ensure annual behavioral awareness training is available statewide and (ii) develop, implement, and administer an ongoing statewide teacher support system.

Beginning in school year 2026-27, each school district must ensure that each administrator, teacher, paraprofessional, school nurse, and counselor receives behavioral awareness training. Each administrator, teacher, paraprofessional, school nurse, and counselor who has received such training must receive a behavioral awareness training review at least once every three years. Each school district may offer such training, or similar training, to any other school employees at the discretion of the school district. In addition, all school employees must have a basic awareness of the goals, strategies, and schoolwide plans included in such training.

The Act defines what behavioral awareness training must include.

Report. On or before July 1, 2025, and on or before July 1 of each year thereafter, each school district must submit a behavioral awareness training

report to the Educational Service Unit Coordinating Council. The report must include the school district behavioral awareness training plan and summarize how the plan fulfills the requirements of the Act.

Point of Contact. Each school district must designate one or more school employees as a behavioral awareness point of contact for each school building or other division as determined by such school district. Each behavioral awareness point of contact must be trained in behavioral awareness and shall have knowledge of community service providers and other resources that are available for the students and families in the school district.

Mental Health and Counseling Resources. Each school district must maintain or have access to a registry of local mental health and counseling resources. The registry must include resource services that can be accessed by families and individuals outside of school. Each behavioral awareness point of contact must coordinate access to support services for students whenever possible. Except as provided in section 43-2101, if information for an external support service is provided to an individual student, school personnel must notify a parent or guardian of such student in writing unless the recommendation involves law enforcement or child protective services. Each school district shall indicate each behavioral awareness point of contact for the school district on the school district's website and in any school directory for the school that the behavioral awareness point of contact serves.

LB 705: Nebraska Teacher Recruitment and Retention Act

The purpose of the Nebraska Teacher Recruitment and Retention Act is to provide financial incentives to recruit and retain teachers in Nebraska classrooms. A teacher may apply to NDE for multiple retention grants of \$2,500 if the teacher has signed a contract to complete the teacher's second, fourth, and sixth complete school years of full-time employment in the 2023-24 through 2026-27 school years. A teacher may apply for a high-need retention grant of \$5,000 if the teacher (1) obtains an endorsement in special education, mathematics, science, technology, or dual credit; and (2) signs a contract to complete a school year of full-time employment as a teacher at a Nebraska school in 2024-25, 2025-26, or 2026-27. The Act terminates on January 1, 2028.

The Unicameral encourages "individual schools and school districts to adopt policies incentivizing teacher recruitment and retention through policies similar to the Nebraska Teacher Recruitment and Retention Act." KSB has

not drafted such a policy for its service because such a “policy” would actually need to be negotiated with the teacher’s association and included in the negotiated agreement.

This provision was subject to an e-clause.

LB 705: Student Discipline Act

NDE Policy. NDE must develop and adopt a model policy relating to behavioral intervention, behavioral management, classroom management, and removal of a student from a classroom in school on or before July 1, 2025. The model policy shall include appropriate training for school employees on behavioral intervention, behavioral management, classroom management, and removal of a student from a classroom in schools and how frequently such training shall be required.

School Policy. On or before August 1, 2025, each school district must develop and adopt a policy consistent with or comparable to the model policy developed by NDE. The school must file the policy with the Commissioner of Education. The policy must be included with any notifications required under the Student Discipline Act.

Behavioral Awareness and Intervention Training. Beginning in school year 2026-27, each school district must ensure that any school employee who has behavioral management responsibilities participates in behavioral awareness and intervention training consistent with the school district’s revised student discipline policy developed and adopted on or before August 1, 2025. The training must be provided by the school district or the school district’s ESU. The training must be consistent with the model policy relating to behavioral intervention, behavioral management, classroom management, and removal of a student from a classroom in school developed by NDE (on or before July 1, 2025).

LB 705: Computer Science and Technology Education

The requirement that public school students attend at least five credit hours of computer science and technology education has been extended from the 2026-27 school year to the 2027-28 school year. The deadline to include computer science and technology education aligned to the academic content standards has been extended from 2024-25 to 2025-26. This change is effective **three months after adjournment of the Unicameral, approximately September 2, 2023.**

LB 705: FAFSA

Beginning in 2024-25, each public high school student must complete and submit to the United States Department of Education a Free Application for Federal Student Aid prior to graduating from high school unless a parent or legal guardian, the principal or designee, or a student who is 19 or older or emancipated submits an NDE-created declination form. The principal or designee must submit compliance information to the school board and to NDE. This change is effective **three months after adjournment of the Unicameral, approximately September 2, 2023.**

LB 705: Youth Organizations

Each school district must, upon request, allow a representative of any youth organization (a corporation chartered by Congress and 29 listed in 36 U.S.C. Subtitle II, Part B, as of January 1, 2023) to provide:

- (i) oral or written information to the students of the school district regarding the youth organization and how the youth organization furthers the educational interests and civic involvement of students in a manner consistent with good citizenship and
- (ii) services and activities to any student of the school district who is a member of the youth organization.

Frequency and Timing. Each requesting youth organization must be allowed to provide its information, services, and activities in a school building or on the school grounds of a school in each school district at least once during each school year. Schools must make a good faith effort to select a date, time, and location for each requesting youth organization to provide its information, services, or activities that is mutually agreeable to the school district and to the youth organization. Oral information may only be provided during noninstructional time.

Background Checks. Prior to allowing a representative of a youth organization to provide information, services, or activities at a school, the representative must be subject to a background check. Except as otherwise provided by the new law or by the rules and regulations of the Nebraska State Patrol, the parameters of the background check shall be determined by the relevant school district. A school district may prohibit any representative of a youth organization that has been convicted of a felony from providing information, services, or activities at any school in the school district. Each representative of a youth organization is responsible for all costs associated with obtaining the background checks.

This change is effective **three months after adjournment of the Unicameral, approximately September 2, 2023.**

Other Bills of Interest

LB 243: Adopt the School District Property Tax Limitation Act

LB 583: Change Provisions of the Special Education Act and the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act

LB 727: Change Provisions Relating to Revenue and Taxation

LB 753: The Opportunity Scholarships Act

CONCLUSION

It is all too easy to adopt policies that look good but that do not actually reflect how the school operates or assist the school in accomplishing its goals. Every year we stress that it is very important to us to give you a working, useful set of policies and a continuing ***policy service***. For our Complete Service subscribers, there is no additional charge for revisions to our policies or consultation about them. Please don't hesitate to contact any one of us with questions about the updates or other policies. Our group e-mail address is ksb@ksbschoollaw.com.