

## **SEC. 1. PURPOSE OF POLICY.**

The purpose of this policy is to provide an overview of efforts in place to provide IDEA students a physically healthy learning environment.

## **SEC. 2. HEALTHY & SAFE PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENTS .**

Providing physically safe school environments so that our scholars will thrive is paramount to IDEA's vision and mission. IDEA and its property are alcohol, tobacco, drug, and gun free. Student violators of the prohibitions and restrictions relating to illegal substances and firearms which are detailed below are subject to possible prosecution, as allowed by law, as well as the disciplinary terms of the Student Code of Conduct.

### **Sec. 2.1 Asbestos Management.**

On October 22, 1986, Congress promulgated the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA), Public Law 99-519 (40 CFR 763 Subpart E), which requires schools to annually notify parents, legal guardians, students, school staff, employees, and workers of the availability of the schools' Asbestos Management Plan.

In accordance with federal and state regulations, IDEA has implemented an asbestos management plan to monitor and control any potential asbestos hazards in our facilities. IDEA's Asbestos Management Plan is available for review during regular hours of school operations at the Administration Office. IDEA also has a designated Asbestos Person who is available for more information regarding the Asbestos Management Plan. This designated person may be contacted via request at the Administration Office or via email with information provided in the Student Handbook.

### **Sec. 2.2 Drug-Free Schools.**

IDEA believes that student use of illicit drugs is both wrong and harmful. Consequently, IDEA prohibits the use, sale, possession, or distribution of illicit drugs by students on school premises or any school activity, regardless of its location. IDEA also prohibits the use, sale, possession, or distribution of look-alike substances and/or synthetic substances designed to imitate the look and/or effects of illicit drugs. Student violators are subject to possible prosecution, as allowed by law, as well as the disciplinary terms of the Student Code of Conduct.

### **Sec. 2.3 Gun-Free Schools.**

In accordance with the Gun-Free Schools Act, IDEA shall expel from the student's regular program for a period of one year, any student who is determined to have brought a firearm, as defined by federal law, to school. The principal may modify the term of expulsion for a student or assess another comparable penalty that results in the student's expulsion from the regular school program on a case-by-case basis and in accordance with legal requirements.

For the purposes of this section, "firearm" means:

1. Any weapon – including a starter gun – which will, or is designed to, or which may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive from the frame or receiver of any such weapon;
2. Any firearm muffler or firearm silencer;
3. Any destructive device. "Destructive device" means any explosive, incendiary or poison gas bomb, grenade, rocket having a propellant charge of more than four ounces, missile having an explosive or incendiary charge of more than 1/4 ounce, mine, or device similar to any of the

preceding described devices. It also means any type of weapon – other than a shotgun shell or a shotgun that is generally recognized as particularly suitable for sporting purposes – by whatever name known which will, or which may be readily converted to, expel a projectile by the action of an explosive or other propellant, and which has any barrel with a bore of more than 1/2 inch in diameter; and any combination of parts either designed or intended for use in converting any device into a destructive device as described, and from which a destructive device may be readily assembled.

#### **Sec. 2.4 Pest Control.**

As part of our commitment to provide your child with a safe, pest-free learning environment,

IDEA Public Schools may periodically apply pesticides to school buildings and grounds to help manage insects, weeds, or pathogens. IDEA will provide appropriate notice of treatments, and signs will remain until it is safe to enter the area as required by law. Pesticide applications are part of our Integrated Pest Management (IPM) program, which relies mainly on non-chemical forms of pest control.

Pesticide applications on IDEA Public Schools' property are made only by trained and licensed applicators. More information regarding pest control may be provided upon a request to the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) coordinator.

#### **Sec. 2.5 Steroid Notice.**

IDEA students are expressly prohibited from possessing, dispensing, delivering, or administering anabolic steroids.

A notice shall be posted in a conspicuous location in the school gym or in any place in a building where physical education classes are conducted.

Permitted Steroids: Anabolic steroids are for medical use only, and only a physician can prescribe use.

#### **Sec. 2.6 Tobacco and E-Cigarettes Prohibited.**

Students are prohibited from possessing or using any type of tobacco product, electronic cigarette (e-cigarette), or any form of smokeless tobacco or electronic vapor product while in school buildings, vehicles, or on or near school property, or at school-related or school-sanctioned events off school property.

Student violators are subject to possible prosecution, as allowed by law, as well as the disciplinary terms of the Student Code of Conduct.

### **SEC. 3. DISEASE.**

#### **Sec. 3.2 Communicable Disease.**

IDEA adheres to guidelines set forth by the Florida Department of Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Most illnesses do not require exclusion, however, if any of the following criteria are met, the child should be excluded regardless of the type of illness.

- The child has a fever equal to or greater than 100.4°F.
- The child is vomiting repetitively (more than two times in 24 hours and is not from a known condition).

- The child has diarrhea (more than two loose stools above normal for that child).

Parents of students with a communicable or contagious disease should notify the Principal or designee so that other students who might have been exposed to the disease can be alerted. IDEA Health Services staff will contact the local health authorities who will advise on next steps, if needed. Any student excluded from school attendance for reasons of communicable disease may be readmitted:

- With a written clearance from an attending physician, advanced practice nurse, or physician assistant attesting that the child does not currently have signs or symptoms of a communicable disease or to the disease's non-infectiousness in a school setting.
- Submitting a permit for readmission issued by a local health authority; or
- Meeting readmission criteria as established by the commissioner of health.

Students who have not received the required immunizations for reasons of conscience, including religious beliefs, may be excluded from school in times of governmental declared emergency or epidemic.

### Sec 3.2.1 Head Lice

Head lice (which are not an illness or disease) are common among children and may spread easily through contact during play or when students share items such as headphones, brushes, combs hats, or other items that come in contact with hair.

If a child is identified as having head lice or nits, he or she shall not be excluded from school. All students identified with live lice will be sent home at the end of the school day after contacting parent/guardian by phone. Parents/Guardians will be advised to treat their child for head lice. Educational materials about treatment and prevention will be given and explained to the parent/guardian.

Parents are responsible to provide the appropriate treatment to eliminate head lice and nits. When a student is identified as having head lice or nits, notification will be provided to the student's class.

## **SEC. 4. FOOD ALLERGY.**

### **Sec. 4.1 Food Allergy Information.**

For purposes of this section, the term "severe food allergy" means a dangerous or life-threatening reaction of the human body to a food-borne allergen introduced by inhalation, ingestion, or skin contact that requires immediate medical attention.

Each IDEA student's legal guardian must complete a form provided by IDEA that discloses (1) whether the child has a food allergy or a severe food allergy that should be disclosed to IDEA to enable it to take any necessary precautions regarding the child's safety and (2) specifies the food(s) to which the child is allergic and the nature of the allergic reaction.

IDEA may also require information from a child's physician if the child has food allergies.

To access the Allergy and Anaphylaxis Action Plan and Special Diet Request Form, please visit:  
<https://ideapublicschools.org/health-services/>.

#### **Sec. 4.1.1 Confidential Management of Food Allergy Information.**

Food allergy information will be maintained in the child's student records and shall remain confidential. Information provided on food allergy information forms may be disclosed to teachers, school counselors, health aids/nurses, and other appropriate school personnel only to the extent consistent with Board policy

and as permissible under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (“FERPA”).

**SEC. 5. TRAINING AND UPDATES.**

IDEA shall properly train or ensure training is provided to IDEA officers and employees on the requirements of this policy and any administrative procedures adopted to implement this policy. Additionally, IDEA shall notify IDEA officers and employees of any changes to this policy and related requirements.

**SEC. 6. ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES.**

IDEA shall formally adopt administrative procedures as reasonably necessary to properly administer this policy and to adhere to applicable law and rule. In doing so, IDEA shall not adopt, and are prohibited from adopting, an administrative procedure that conflicts with applicable law or this policy. Accordingly, IDEA shall confer with the Board or legal counsel before deviating from the requirements set forth in this policy. In the event that a deviation from this policy becomes necessary, IDEA shall either recommend an amendment to this policy or the Board’s approval of a specific deviation, including the purpose, scope and duration of the requested deviation.

**SEC. 7. DATE ADOPTED AND EFFECTIVE.**

As set forth in the pertinent minutes to the meeting of the Board, the Board amended this policy on June 26, 2024, and it became effective on June 26, 2024.

**SEC. 9. RETENTION.**

This policy shall be retained until superseded, expired, or discontinued and for five (5) years thereafter in accordance with state law.