



# AIMS K-12 College Prep Charter District

## Governance Meeting

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### Date and Time

Friday October 14, 2022 at 6:00 PM PDT

### Location

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

ID: 88554065700

*keyboard\_arrow\_up*

[\(US\) +1 253-215-8782](#)

*content\_copy*

*info\_outline*

Meeting host: [maya.nicholas@aimsk12.org](mailto:maya.nicholas@aimsk12.org)

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88554065700>

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AIMS does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, its programs or activities. Marisol Magana has been designated to receive requests for disability-related modifications or accommodations in order to enable individuals with disabilities to participate in open and public meetings at AIMS. Please notify Marisol Magana at (510) 220-9985 at least 24 hours in advance of any disability accommodations being needed in order to participate in the meeting.

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**Agenda**

	Purpose	Presenter	Time
<b>I. Opening Items</b>			<b>6:00 PM</b>
Opening Items			
<b>A.</b> Call the Meeting to Order			1 m
<b>B.</b> Record Attendance and Guests	Vote		2 m
<b>C.</b> Adoption of the Agenda	Vote	Chris Edington	1 m
AIMS Governance Committee will approve the Special Governance Committee Agenda			
<b>D.</b> Public Comments on Agenda Items			4 m
Public Comment on Action Items is set aside for members of the Public to address the items on the Board’s agenda prior to each agenda item. The Board of Directors will not respond or take action in response to Public Comment, except that the board may ask clarifying questions or direct staff. <b>Comments are limited to two (2) minutes per person, and a total time allotted for all public comment will not exceed thirty (30) minutes (10 minutes per section). Please enter all questions via Zoom chat feature.</b>			
<b>E.</b> Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items	Discuss		4 m
Public Comment on Non-Action Items is set aside for members of the Public to address the items on the Board’s agenda prior to each agenda item. The Board of Directors will not respond or take action in response to Public Comment, except that the board may ask clarifying questions or direct staff. <b>Comments are limited to two (2) minutes per person, and a total time allotted for all public comment will not exceed thirty (30) minutes (10 minutes per section). Please enter all questions via Zoom chat feature.</b>			
<b>II. Action Items</b>			<b>6:12 PM</b>
Governance			
<b>A.</b> Fiscal Policies for 2022 - 2023	Vote		10 m
<b>B.</b> 2022 - 2023 AIMS K12 Student Handbook and addition of HS honors Language	Vote	TBD	5 m

	Purpose	Presenter	Time
C. AIMS 2022 - 2023 Staff Handbook	Vote	TBD	5 m

**III. Closed Session 6:32 PM**

A. Public Comment on Closed Session Items	FYI		4 m
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Public Comment on Closed Session Items is set aside for members of the Public to address the items in this section prior to closed session. The Committee will not respond or take action in response to **Public Comment, except that the Committee may ask clarifying questions or direct staff. Comments are limited to two (2) minutes per person, and a total time allotted for all public comment will not exceed twenty (20) minutes (10 minutes per section).**

**IV. Closing Items 6:36 PM**

A. Items for Next Agenda	FYI		
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B. Adjourn Meeting	Vote		
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C. NOTICES	FYI	Chris Edington	1 m
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**The next regular meeting of the Board of Directors is scheduled to be held on October 18, 2022, at 6:30 pm. AIMS does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, it's programs or activities. Marisol Magana has been designated to receive requests for disability-related modifications or accommodations in order to enable individuals with disabilities to participate in open and public meetings at AIMS. Please notify Marisol Magana at (510)220-9985 at least 24 hours in advance of any disability accommodations being needed in order to participate in the meeting.**

**I, I posted this agenda at the AIMS Campus 171 12th street, Oakland, CA 94607 on, October 13, 2022, before 6:00 PM.**

**Certification of Posting**

# Coversheet

## Fiscal Policies for 2022 - 2023

**Section:** II. Action Items  
**Item:** A. Fiscal Policies for 2022 - 2023  
**Purpose:** Vote  
**Submitted by:**  
**Related Material:** Fiscal Policies for 2022 23 FINAL.docx.pdf

2022-2023

AIMS K-12 COLLEGE PREP FISCAL POLICIES

EFFECTIVE  
JULY 1, 2022  
THRU  
JUNE 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023

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## 200 ORGANIZATIONAL CONFLICT of INTEREST or SELF-DEALING (Related Parties)

### 201 Organizational Conflict of Interest or Self-Dealing (Related Parties)

AIMS K-12 College Prep Charter District feel that it is important for AIMS board members and key employees to understand the conflict of interest laws and rules that apply to the schools, to identify and avoid conflicts of interest. AIMS K-12 College Prep Charter District board and key employees shall receive annual conflict of interest training. Such training shall be provided at the time the board receives the mandatory Ralph M. Brown Act training required by the schools' charters and shall be provided by the school's legal counsel or another qualified provider. The conflicts of interest training shall cover specific topics including procedures for hiring, contractual arrangements, purchasing, bidding and expenditure approvals that help to prevent conflicts of interest.

AIMS will not be operated for the benefit of an affiliated or unaffiliated organization or an individual in his or her own private capacity or individuals related to AIMS or members of its management, unless the private benefit is considered merely incidental. This private benefit preclusion will extend to:

- A. Sale or exchange, or leasing, of property between the agencies and an affiliated or unaffiliated organization or a private or related individual.
- B. Lending of money or other extension of credit between an agency and an affiliated or unaffiliated organization or a private or related individual.
- C. Furnishing of goods, services or facilities between the agencies and an affiliated or unaffiliated organization or a private or related individual.
- D. Payment of compensation, unless authorized by the Board of Trustees or its governing body, by the Schools to an affiliated or unaffiliated organization or a private or related individual.
- E. Transfer to, use by, or for the benefit of a private or related individual of the income or assets of the Schools.

Thus, AIMS K-12 College Prep Charter District will be guided by the principle of arms-length standards with all affiliated or unaffiliated organizations or with a private or related individual(s).

Related party transactions shall include transactions between a school and members of the board, management, contracted management organization, employees, related individuals and affiliated companies. Related individuals within the scope of this definition include spouses, parents, children, spouses of children, grandchildren, siblings, father in law, mother in law, sister in law and brother in law of a board member or school employee.

### 202 Board of Trustees Authorities

The Board of Trustees shall have the authority to approve and will incorporate into its own minutes such matters as (i) change of the Schools' name, with Authorizer pre-approval (ii) adoption of the annual operating and capital budgets, (iii) selection or termination of key employees (iv) key employees salary and salary changes, (v) incurrence of debt, mortgages or other encumbrances and their covenants and restrictions, within the terms of the charter (vi) investment policies, (vii) depository and investment

banks, (viii) purchase or sale of property (ix) opening up or closing checking or savings accounts, and (x) selection of the Charter Schools' certified public accountants and (xi) other activities associated with the operations of the Charter Schools.

The Board of Trustees will meet at least three (3) times per (Adoption, Interims and Closing) year to ensure that its fiduciary duty is maintained. The Board will review the following: prior meeting minutes, business items, educational items, and subcommittee reports.

### 203 Signature Authorities

To properly segregate duties within the Charter Schools, the Board of Trustees, Superintendent and Chief Business Officer are the only individuals with signatory authority and are responsible for authorizing all cash transactions. All checks require two signatures and Individual checks greater than \$8,000 will require Board Approval and signature prior to check issuance. AIMS will not print AP checks on site

In response to the recent legislative action, American Indian Model Schools has identified Essential Service in accordance with the guidelines in **Section 10, Item (g)** by California Department of Health.

*g.) For the purposes of this Order, "Minimum Basic Operations" include the following, provided that employees comply with Social Distancing Requirements as defined this Section, to the extent possible, while carrying out such operations: i. The minimum necessary activities to maintain the value of the business's inventory, ensure security, process payroll and employee benefits, or for related functions. ii. The minimum necessary activities to facilitate employees of the business being able to continue to work remotely from their residences.*

*To comply with the "Stay in Place" ordinance, as of March 31, 2020, AIMS back office will obtain signatures from the individuals with signatory authority, create signature stamps to utilize for check issuance on behalf of AIMS. The initial definition of authority and method will remain in place. Checks will not be issued on behalf of AIMS without AIMS review and approval.*

### 204 Government Access to Records

The appropriate reporting director or contracted business back office services provider will provide access to the organization's records to the Superintendent, CBO, or his designee and provide supporting records, as requested, in a timely manner.

### 205 Security of Financial Data

A. The system's accounting data must be backed up daily by the business back office services provider to ensure the recoverability of financial information in case of hardware failure. The backup will be stored in a fire safe area and properly secured.

B. All other financial data, unused checks and unclaimed checks will be secured by the Chief Business Officer or designee or the business back office services provider from unauthorized access.

## 206 Security of School Documents

Originals of the following corporate documents are maintained, and their presence is verified on a periodic basis:

- A. Charters and all related amendments
- B. Minutes of the Board of Trustees and subcommittees
- C. Banking agreements
- D. Leases
- E. Insurance policies
- F. Vendor invoices
- G. Grant and contract agreements
- H. Fixed Asset inventory list

## 207 Use of School Assets

- A. No employee may use any of the Schools property, equipment, material or supplies for personal use without the prior approval of the Superintendent or designee.
- B. Personal Property intended for school-use must be pre-approved prior to use on campus by the CBO or designee. Without pre-approval, personal items for school use will not be covered by AIMS liability coverage.

## 208 Use of School Credit Cards

1. PURPOSE: The Board of Trustees of AIMS K-12 College Prep Charter District recognizes the efficiency and convenience afforded the day-to-day operation of AIMS charter school, for payments and recordkeeping for certain expenses, through the use of school credit cards. However, the Board recognizes the need to establish control measures for the use of these cards. The Board agrees that it has a responsibility to ensure that credit card expenses incurred by AIMS K-12 College Prep Charter District must clearly be linked to the business of AIMS schools. This policy addresses and establishes the proper use and assignment of school credit cards. The Board has agreed on the fundamental principles of this policy and has delegated responsibility for the implementation and monitoring of the policy to the Chief Business Officer (CBO).

2. DEFINITIONS:

2.01 Cardholder/User: The person for which the school credit card has been issued.

2.02 School credit card: The physical card and number associated with the card issued to the cardholder.

2.03 Administrator: The accounts payable staff member assigned to perform the online accounting process, follow up as required and file completed statement reconciliations.

### 3. SCHOOL CREDIT CARD USERS:

3.01 The following positions are authorized credit Cardholders/Users: The Superintendent of Schools, Chief Business Officer, Sports Program, Director of School Support Services, Director of Academics and Data, Director of Program Compliance Heads of Schools (with prior authorization). No other employee may use an AIMS school credit card without express written approval by the Superintendent or designee.

3.02 A list of those individuals issued a school credit card will be maintained by the Superintendent, CBO and the back-office services provider and reported to the Board of Directors annually.

3.03 A Cardholder/User employee who is no longer employed by AIMS charter schools shall return his or her AIMS school credit card upon termination or resignation to the CBO or CBO's designee.

3.04 Credit cards will be disabled immediately upon the termination or resignation or misuse of a Cardholder/User employee by the card administrator. Accounting for credit cards and settlement of credit card billings shall be part of employee separation checklists.

### 4. USER RESPONSIBILITIES:

4.01 Credit Cardholders/Users must take proper care of their school credit card(s) and take all reasonable precautions against damage, loss or theft by adherence to the following provisions:

4.01.1 All Cardholders/Users must keep secure and confidential all school credit card numbers and information.

4.01.2 Cardholders/Users shall not store sensitive school credit card data, including full account number, type, expiration and track data, in any method on computers or networks.

4.01.3 Cardholders/Users shall not transmit in an insecure manner, such as by email, unsecured fax or via mail, school credit card information.

4.01.4 Cardholders/Users shall restrict access to credit card data and processing to the Administrator or other authorized individuals.

4.01.5 Cardholders/Users shall maintain card information in a secure environment accessed only by the issued Cardholder/User.

4.02 Except for the Superintendent, Cardholders/Users shall not be allowed to authorize payment of their own travel expenses. Travel expenses for any Cardholder/ User other than the Superintendent must be pre-approved by the Superintendent and the CBO.

4.03 Cardholders/Users are responsible for retaining detailed receipts and/or supplier documentation for all purchases made with their school credit card, without which the Cardholder/User is responsible for the purchase.

4.04 Cardholders/Users shall submit detailed documentation, such as itemized detailed receipts and/or supplier documentation for services, travel and/or other actual and necessary expenses which have been incurred in connection with school-related business for which the school credit card has been used.

4.05 Failure to take proper care of school credit card(s) or failure to report damage, loss or theft may subject to the Cardholder/User to financial liability and discipline.

5. USAGE: School credit cards may only be used for legitimate AIMS charter school's business expenses and in accordance with AIMS K-12 College Prep Charter District policies, as defined below.

5.01 Credit cards shall only be used for transactions for which payment of check disbursement is not accepted or is not practicable, such as if the transaction would cause undue hardship to AIMS schools or the Cardholder/User.

5.02 School credit card usage is limited to the following types of expenses. Any deviations from this usage policy must have prior written approval from the Superintendent or CBO. The Superintendent may also approve expenses.

5.02.1 Business services, including nutrition, catering or advertising.

5.02.2 Business supplies, including office supplies, educational supplies, operation and maintenance supplies.

5.02.3 Travel, including transportation services, airfare, car rental expenses, or payments to a travel agency.

5.02.4 Payments to educational and charitable organizations, including schools, colleges, vocational schools and membership organizations.

5.03 **EXCLUSIONS: School credit cards shall not be used for cash advances, ATM, money orders, gift cards, alcohol, jewelry or clothing, medical expenses, or payment of fines or penalties unless prior written approval is received from the CBO. In no event shall a school credit card be used for a Cardholder/User's personal expenses.**

5.04 This policy and the schools' use of the school credit cards shall not circumvent AIMS purchasing policies and procedures. A school credit card shall be used as a method of payment only after all required purchasing forms have been completed, including but not limited to check request, purchase orders, travel vouchers and purchase requisitions.

5.05 School credit card transactions are hereby authorized using the following methods:

5.05.1 Card present (Point-of-sale) transactions: The Cardholder/User shall present the school credit card for purchase of goods and services. The Cardholder/User shall obtain a receipt for all purchases and credits, note the transaction with a purchase order number and check request number as required, and attach those approved documents for submission to the Administrator. If the vendor is unable to produce a receipt, the cardholder is to inform the Accounts Payable department so that proper documentation(a detailed invoice or any other supporting detailed documentation) can be obtained.

5.05.2 Via telephone or mail order: The Cardholder/User shall provide the vendor or merchant the school credit card number, expiration date and other pertinent data necessary to complete the transaction. The Cardholder/User shall take reasonable precautions to ensure that the transaction is valid prior to providing school credit card data. The Cardholder/User shall note and record confirmation data or other supplier documentation, as available, shall note the transaction with a purchase order number and check request number as required, and shall attach those approved documents for submission to the Administrator.

5.05.3 Via internet: The Cardholder/User shall provide the vendor or merchant with the school credit card number, expiration date and other pertinent data necessary to complete the transaction. The Cardholder/User shall take reasonable precautions to ensure that the transaction is valid, and the website is secure prior to providing pertinent school credit card data. The Cardholder/User shall obtain a screen printout of the receipt, confirmation data or other supplier documentation, as available, shall note the transaction with a purchase order number and check request number as required, and shall attach those approved documents for submission to the Administrator.

5.06 Purchases shall not exceed the card limits per billing cycle set for school credit card use, or the overall financial credit limit of AIMS K-12 College Prep Charter District. The CBO shall monitor and may recommend changes to these limits. The Superintendent limit may be changed only by the Board of Directors. The list of limits by class of Cardholder/User will be maintained by the CBO and reviewed annually to ensure adherence to procurement policy thresholds.

5.07 Any benefits of the school credit card such as membership awards programs are only to be used for the benefit of AIMS K-12 College Prep Charter District and shall not be redeemed for personal use.

5.08 Purchases that are unauthorized, illegal, representative of a conflict of interest, are personal in nature or otherwise violate the intent of this policy may result in credit card revocation and discipline of the Cardholder/User.

## 6. DOCUMENTATION:

6.01 The Administrator shall ensure AIMS maintains detailed documentation that all expenses charged to school credit cards are supported by: a credit card slip; a detailed invoice or receipt, and any other supporting detailed documentation, from the Cardholder/User as evidence of the validity of expenses; and a check request and any other necessary detailed documentation as outlined by AIMS schools' purchasing policies and procedures.

6.02 The Administrator is responsible for accounting for all purchases within five (5) working days of receiving a credit card statement.

6.03 The Accounts Payable Division shall ensure that all school credit card statements are reconciled prior to AIMS payment and recording of expenses in the general ledger.

6.04 The Finance department will retain detailed receipts and documentation for no less than five (5) years following the purchase date.

7. **PAYMENTS:** School credit card statements will be paid in their entirety monthly or otherwise in accordance with the cardholder agreement with issuing financial institution.

To assist employees in the conduct AIMS K-12 College Prep Charter District business and recording of business-related transactions, AIMS has established a Credit Card Program. Your signature below acknowledges you have read and agree to comply with the provisions of the credit card program and its future modifications.

You (Cardholder/Employee) are being entrusted with a company credit card. The credit card is being provided to assist you in paying for those materials and supplies necessary for the performance of your job. This Card may be cancelled at any time at the sole discretion of the AIMS K-12 College Prep Charter District. Each card has an account number to allow the tracking of transactions.

The following highlights key provisions of the program.

1. **CARD RESTRICTED TO BUSINESS USED ONLY.** The credit card issued to you must be used for the purchase of those materials and supplies necessary for the performance of your job. Materials and supplies may include but are not limited to classroom and instructional supplies, pre-approved travel, field trips, etc. You must sign the back of the card upon receipt. Use of the card is limited to you and you are prohibited from authorizing its use to any other individual for any purpose. The card shall not be used for personal purchases.
2. **COMPLETION OF MONTHLY PURCHASE REPORTS.** If transactions are not loaded into the Purchasing system by the receipt of statement, then the Administrator will be required to reconcile the expenses listed. Once a month you will receive a statement listing all purchases charged to the "Account". Within 5 working days of receipt of the statement you will need to (a) verify the amount of the charges with the original receipt and attach the receipt. (b) write the appropriate expenditure account number and brief description on statement. (c) If there is any discrepancy related to a charge you will initiate follow-up with AIMS Business Operations Services at [Finance@aimsk12.org](mailto:Finance@aimsk12.org), sign the statement; and forward to your Approving Manager or Supervisor.
3. **FAILURE TO FOLLOW THE REQUIREMENTS.** Inappropriate use of the card includes but is not limited to: Use of the Card without authorization. Misuse of the Card in any way. Providing false or misleading information; and loss or theft of the Card due to employee gross negligence. In accordance with AIMS policies and procedures, failure by an employee to follow program requirements may result in disciplinary actions, up to and including employment termination.
4. **LOSS OR STOLEN CARD.** If your Card is loss or stolen, or if you think your Account was used without your permission, you should notify ELAN VISA (Name and contact information) immediately. Additionally, you must notify the AIMS Business Department at (510)893-8701 ext. 17.
5. **SURRENDER CARD UPON TERMINATION OF EMPLOYMENT.** Upon termination of employment, you must immediately surrender the assigned card to your immediate supervisor.

6. **ACKNOWLEDGMENT.** I acknowledge receipt of the Card ad was provided an opportunity to ask questions of a knowledgeable designate regarding the appropriate use of this card. I confirm that I have read and understand the above requirements and agree to comply with the procedures.

## C. FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT POLICIES

### 300 BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

AIMS K-12 College Prep Charter District will maintain their accounting records and related financial reports on the accrual basis of accounting.

#### 301 Accounting Policies

The accounting policies and financial reporting adopted are consistent with the non-profit requirements of the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB), FASB is the recognized standard setting body for establishing non-profit accounting and financial reporting principles.

#### 302 Basis of Presentation

The accounts of the AIMS K-12 College Prep Charter District are organized on a basis of the charter school required elements of the Standardized Account Code Structure or SACS. The operations of the fund are accounted for by providing a separate set of self-balancing accounts, which comprise its assets, liabilities, net assets, revenues and expenditures. The Charter Schools use the following fund:

General Fund - This fund of AIMS K-12 College Prep Charter District is used to account for all financial resources associated with the operation of the schools. In addition, all activities relating to Student Activities should be separately identified and recorded within this fund.

Federal Funds – Title I, II, III, IV, Food Services and other funds identified as federally defined.

#### 303 Revenues

Under the accrual basis of accounting, revenues recognized when earned.

#### 304 Expenditures

Under the accrual basis of accounting, expenses are recognized when services are incurred or goods are received.



The Board of Trustees recognizes its fiduciary responsibility to oversee the prudent expenditure of district funds. In order to best serve district interests, the Superintendent or designee shall develop and maintain effective purchasing procedures that are consistent with sound financial controls and that ensure the district receives maximum value for items purchased. He/she shall ensure that records of expenditures and purchases are maintained in accordance with law.

(BP 309 - Budget)

(BP 302 – Employee Mileage Reimbursement)

(cf. 3400 - Management of District Assets/Accounts)

(cf. 3460 - Financial Reports and Accountability)

(cf. 9270 - Conflict of Interest)

#### Expending Authority

The Superintendent or designee may purchase supplies, materials, apparatus, equipment, and services up to the amounts specified in Public Contract Code 20111, beyond which a competitive bidding process is required or other allowable legal means. The Board shall not recognize obligations incurred contrary to Board policy and administrative regulations.

(cf. 3311 - Bids)

(cf. 3312 - Contracts)

The Board shall review all transactions entered into by the Superintendent or designee on behalf of the Board every 60 days. (Education Code 17605)

District funds shall not be expended for the purchase of alcoholic beverages. (Education Code 32435)

#### Purchasing Procedures

Insofar as possible, goods and services purchased shall meet the needs of the person or department ordering them at the lowest price consistent with standard purchasing practices. Maintenance costs, replacement costs, and trade-in values shall be considered when determining the most economical purchase price

#### Legal Reference:

##### EDUCATION CODE

17604 Delegation of powers to agents; approval or ratification of contracts by governing board

17605 Delegation of authority to purchase supplies and equipment

32370-32376 Recycling paper

32435 Prohibited use of public funds, alcoholic beverages

35010 Control of district; prescription and enforcement of rules

35035 Powers and duties of superintendent

35160 Authority of governing boards

35250 Duty to keep certain records and reports

38083 Purchase of perishable foodstuffs and seasonal commodities

41010 Accounting system  
41014 Requirement of budgetary accounting  
GOVERNMENT CODE

4330-4334 California made materials

PUBLIC CONTRACT CODE

3410 U.S. produce and processed foods  
20111 Contracts over \$50,000; contracts for construction; award to lowest responsible bidder

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

Maximizing School Board Governance: Fiscal Accountability, 2006

WEB SITES

CSBA, Financial Services: <http://www.csba.org/fs>

California Association of School Business Officials: <http://www.casbo.org>

California Department of Education: <http://www.cde.ca.gov>

### **305 Incurred Costs**

For the purpose of invoicing funding sources for allowable costs under cost reimbursement contracts, the term "costs incurred" is defined as follows:

A. Costs related to items or services incurred directly for the contract and received at the time of the request for reimbursement and is not specifically disallowed by the funding source.

### **306 Cash Management**

A. The School maintains cash accounts at the following banks:

1. Operating – EASTWEST Bank
2. Investment - EASTWEST Bank/Community Bank

B. A schedule of aged accounts and grants receivable is prepared monthly by CSMC and reviewed by the Chief Business Officer for collection. Appropriate collection procedures are initiated, if necessary.

### **307 Grants Receivable Aging Criteria**

Accounts receivables outstanding are aged on a thirty, sixty, ninety, and over-ninety-day basis.

### **308 Grant/Contract Invoicing**

A. All invoices are submitted to the funding sources by dates specified in the grant or contract agreement.

B. The invoicing format is that specified by the funding source.

## AR 308(a) Grants

AIMS Governing Board may accept any gift, grant, or bequest of money, property, or service to our schools from any individual, organization, foundation, or public or private agency that desires to support AIMS educational program. While greatly appreciating suitable donations, the Board shall reject any gift which may directly or indirectly impair its authority to make decisions in the best interest of district students or its ability or commitment to provide equitable educational opportunities.

A gift or donation, on the other hand, is defined as any item of value given to AIMS by a donor who expects nothing significant of value in return, other than recognition and disposition of the gift in accordance with the donor's wishes.

### **In general, the following characteristics describe a gift:**

1. No contractual requirements are imposed and there are no "deliverables" to the donor. However, the gift may be accompanied by an agreement that restricts the use of the funds to a particular purpose.
2. A gift is typically irrevocable. While the gift may be intended for use within a certain timeframe, there is no specified "period of performance" or "start"/ "stop" dates as associated with sponsored projects.
3. There is no formal fiscal accountability to the donor beyond periodic progress reports and summary reports of expenditures. These reports may be thought of as requirements of good stewardship, and, as such, may be required by the terms of a gift. They are not characterized as contractual obligations or "deliverables."

Grants, contracts, and cooperative agreements (collectively called sponsored projects) are externally-funded activities in which a formal written agreement, i.e., a grant, contract, or cooperative agreement, is entered into by AIMS and by the sponsor. A sponsored project may be thought of as a transaction in which there is a specified statement of work with a related, reciprocal transfer of something of value.

The following conditions characterize a sponsored project agreement, and help to distinguish such agreements from gifts:

- ✓ Statement of Work
- ✓ Details Financial Accountability
- ✓ Definition of Deliverables

## AR 308(b) Technology Donations

When new computers are donated to AIMS schools, they must match AIMS' district standards for new computers. This means that the computer is approved by Technology Services

If the donated computer is the same as one on the website, but it does not have professional licenses for Windows or Microsoft Office, they must be purchased

Donated computers, meeting the requirements above, should provide the best overall experience for everyone involved. These guidelines are meant to be firm in order to protect schools from accepting donations that may not be helpful to them.

### **Non-standard & Older Computer Donations**

Non-standard and older computers are much more expensive to configure, maintain and troubleshoot. It is not a good use of AIMS' resources to accept something that seems "free", but actually costs quite a bit in extra time and money throughout its lifespan. These donations often require significantly more staff resources to support and AIMS's provides limited support for them. In order for the district to provide any support for the computers, they must receive advance permission from Technology Services, and

meet AIMS' computer standards for donated computers

### **AR 308(c) Fundraising**

Fundraising can only happen with the approval of the site leader.

No site shall have more than three fundraisers happening at one time.

No GoFundMe or other social media fundraiser can be posted without prior approval of the site leader.

All funds without exception must be turned into the business office and placed in the NPF Funds will be earmarked for the purposes raised.

All Donors Choose items must be logged in with the site leader.

A copy of the log must be given to the finance department.

### **309 Budgets**

A. AIMS K-12 College Prep Charter District prepares an annual operating budget of revenues and expenses, a cash flow projection, and a capital budget. These budgets and projections are reviewed and approved by the Board of Trustees, prior to June 30 each year and modified, as necessary.

B. Financial statements displaying budget vs. actual results are prepared by the back-office services provider and reviewed by the Superintendent and the Chief Business Officer and presented to the Board of Trustees at each regularly scheduled board meeting.

### **310 Insurance and Bonding**

A. The Schools maintain minimum levels of coverage, as deemed appropriate by the Superintendent and Chief Business Officer, for the following policies:

1. General liability
2. Business & personal property (including auto/bus)
3. Cyber Coverage

4. Workers' Compensation
5. Student Accident Coverage
6. Personal injury liability

D. The Schools require proof of adequate insurance coverage from all prospective contractors, as deemed applicable by the Superintendent and Chief Business Officer.

### **311 Record Retention and Disposal**

A. Records are maintained for the following indicated minimum periods:

Books, records, documents and other supporting evidence including paid, cancelled or voided checks, accounts payable records, vendors' invoices, payroll sheets and registers of salaries and wages, tax withholding statements, employees' timesheets and other public documents are retained for seven years after the original entry date.

B. All records not supporting government grants or otherwise covered by rules of the Internal Revenue Service are retained for three years from the end of the fiscal year in which the records were originally prepared.

C. All financial records are maintained in chronological order, organized by fiscal year.

D. In connection with the disposal of any records, a memorandum of record disposal is prepared by the Head of Schools and Facility Coordinator, listing the record or the class of records disposed of. The Board of Trustees certifies this memorandum of records disposal.

### **AR 311(a) Access to District Records**

Public records include any writing containing information relating to the conduct of the district's business prepared, owned, used, or retained by the district regardless of physical form or characteristics. (Government Code [6252](#))

(BP 311- Record Retention)

Writing means any handwriting, typewriting, printing, Photostatting, photographing, photocopying, transmitting by electronic mail or facsimile, and every other means of recording upon any tangible thing any form of communication or representation, including letters, words, pictures, sounds, or symbols or combinations thereof, and any record thereby created, regardless of the manner in which the record has been stored. (Government Code [6252](#))

Member of the public means any person, except a member, agent, officer, or employee of the district or a federal, state, or other local agency acting within the scope of such membership, agency, office, or employment. (Government Code [6252](#))

## Public Records

Public records to which members of the public shall have access include, but are not limited to:

1. Proposed and approved district budgets and annual audits (Education Code [41020](#), [42103](#))  
(BP 309 - Budget)  
(BP 312 - Financial Reporting)
2. Statistical compilations
3. Reports and memoranda
4. Notices and bulletins
5. Minutes of public meetings (Education Code [35145](#))
6. Meeting agendas (Government Code [54957.5](#))
7. Official communications between the district and other government agencies
8. District and school plans, and the information and data relevant to the development and evaluation of such plans, unless otherwise prohibited by law  
(BP 126 - Comprehensive Plans)  
(BP 125 - School Plans/Site Councils)  
(cf. [0440](#) - District Technology Plan)  
(Staff Handbook - Comprehensive Safety Plan)  
(Staff Handbook - Emergencies and Disaster Preparedness Plan)
9. Records pertaining to claims and litigation against the district which have been adjudicated or settled (Government Code [6254](#), [6254.25](#))
10. Statements of economic interests required by the Conflict of Interest Code (Government Code [81008](#))  
(BP 201- Organizational Conflict of Interest or Self Dealing)
11. Documents containing names, salaries, and pension benefits of district employees
12. Employment contracts and settlement agreements (Government Code [53262](#))
13. Instructional materials including, but not limited to, textbooks (Education Code [49091.10](#))

Access to public records of the district shall be granted to Board of Trustees members on the same basis as any other member of the public. When Board members are authorized to access public records in the administration of their duties, the Superintendent or designee shall not discriminate among any of the Board members as to which record, or portion of the record, will be made available, or when it will be made available. (Government Code [6252.5](#), [6252.7](#))

When disclosing to a member of the public any record that contains personal information, including, but not limited to, an employee's home address, home telephone number, social security number, personal cell phone number, or birth date, the Superintendent or designee shall ensure that such personal information is redacted from that record. (Government Code [6254.29](#), [6254.3](#))

### Confidential Public Records

Unless otherwise authorized or required by law, information regarding an individual's citizenship or immigration status or religious beliefs, practices, or affiliation shall not be disclosed to federal government authorities. (Education Code [234.7](#); Government Code [8310.3](#))

Records to which the members of the public shall not have access include, but are not limited to:

1. Preliminary drafts, notes, and interagency or intra-district memoranda that are not retained by the district in the ordinary course of business, provided that the public interest in withholding these records clearly outweighs the public interest in disclosure (Government Code [6254](#))
2. Records specifically generated in connection with or prepared for use in litigation to which the district is a party or to respond to claims made against the district pursuant to the Tort Claims Act, until the litigation or claim has been finally adjudicated or otherwise settled, or beyond, if the records are protected by some other provision of law (Government Code [6254](#), [6254.25](#))
3. Personnel records, medical records, or similar materials, the disclosure of which would constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy (Government Code [6254](#))

(AR 103 - Criminal Record Check)

(BP 106 - Personnel Files)

The home addresses, home telephone numbers, personal cell phone numbers, or birth date of employees may only be disclosed as follows: (Government Code [6254.3](#))

- a. To an agent or a family member of the employee
- b. To an officer or employee of a state agency or another school district or county office of education when necessary for the performance of official duties

Upon written request of any employee, the district shall not disclose the employee's home address, home telephone number, personal cell phone number, or birth date, and the district shall remove this information from any mailing list of the district except a list used exclusively to contact the employee.

d. To an agent or employee of a health benefit plan providing health services or administering claims for health services to district employees and their enrolled dependents, for the purpose of providing the health services or administering claims for employees and their enrolled dependents

(BP 119 - Health and Welfare Benefits)

4. Student records, except directory information and other records to the extent permitted under the law, when disclosure is authorized by law

5. Test questions, scoring keys, and other examination data except as provided by law (Government Code [6254](#))

6. Without affecting the law of eminent domain, the contents of real estate appraisals or engineering or feasibility estimates and evaluations made for or by the district relative to the acquisition of property, or to prospective public supply and construction contracts, until all of the property has been acquired or all of the contract agreement obtained (Government Code [6254](#))

7. Information required from any taxpayer in connection with the collection of local taxes that is received in confidence and the disclosure of the information to other persons would result in an unfair competitive disadvantage to the person supplying the information (Government Code [6254](#))

9. Records for which the disclosure is exempted or prohibited pursuant to state or federal law, including, but not limited to, provisions of the Evidence Code relating to privilege (Government Code [6254](#))

10. Documents prepared by or for the district to assess its vulnerability to terrorist attack or other criminal acts intended to disrupt district operations and that are for distribution or consideration in closed session (Government Code [6254](#))

11. Recall petitions, petitions for special elections to fill Board vacancies, or petitions for the reorganization of the school district (Government Code [6253.5](#))

12. Minutes of Board meetings held in closed session (Government Code [54957.2](#))

13. Computer software developed by the district (Government Code [6254.9](#))

14. Information security records, the disclosure of which would reveal vulnerabilities to, or otherwise increase potential for an attack on, the district's information technology system (Government Code [6254.19](#))

15. Records that contain individually identifiable health information, including records that may be exempt pursuant to physician-patient privilege, the Confidentiality of Medical Information Act, and the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (Government Code [6254](#), [6255](#))

16. Any other records listed as exempt from public disclosure in the California Public Records Act or other statutes

17. Any other records for which the district can demonstrate that, based on the particular facts of the case, the public interest served by not disclosing the record clearly outweighs the public interest served by disclosure of the record (Government Code [6255](#))



## Inspection of Records and Requests for Copies

Any person may request a copy or inspection of any district record that is open to the public and not exempt from disclosure. (Government Code [6253](#))

Within 10 days of receiving any request to inspect or copy a district record, the Ombudsperson or designee shall determine whether the request seeks release of a disclosable public record in the district's possession. The Ombudsperson or designee shall promptly inform the person making the request of the determination and the reasons for the decision. (Government Code [6253](#))

In unusual circumstances, the Ombudsperson or designee may extend the 10-day limit for up to 14 days by providing written notice to the requester and setting forth the reasons for the extension and the date on which a determination is expected to be made. Unusual circumstances include the following, but only to the extent reasonably necessary to properly process the request: (Government Code [6253](#))

1. The need to search for and collect the requested records from field facilities or other establishments that are separate from the office processing the request
2. The need to search for, collect, and appropriately examine a voluminous amount of separate and distinct records which are demanded in a single request
3. The need for consultation, which shall be conducted with all practicable speed, with another agency (e.g., a state agency or city) having a substantial interest in the determination of the request or among two or more components of the district (e.g., two different school sites) with substantial interest in the request
4. In the case of electronic records, the need to compile data, write programming language or a computer program, or construct a computer report to extract data

If the Ombudsperson or designee determines that the request seeks disclosable public records, the determination shall state the estimated date and time when the records will be made available. (Government Code [6253](#))

Public records shall be open to inspection at all times during district office hours. Any reasonably segregable portion of a record shall be made available for inspection by any person requesting the record after deletion of the portions that are exempted by law. (Government Code [6253](#))

Upon request for a copy that reasonably describes an identifiable record, an exact copy shall be promptly provided unless it is impracticable to do so. (Government Code [6253](#))

The Ombudsperson or designee shall charge an amount for copies that reflects the direct costs of duplication. Written requests to waive the fee shall be submitted to the Ombudsperson or designee.

In addition to maintaining public records for public inspection during district office hours, the district may comply with public records requests by posting any public record on the district's web site and, in response to a public records request, directing the member of the public to the location on the web site where the record can be found. However, if the member of the public is unable to access or reproduce the record from the web site, the district shall promptly provide an exact copy of the public record upon payment of duplication fees, if applicable, unless it is impracticable to provide an exact copy. (Government Code [6253](#))

If any person requests that a public record be provided in an electronic format, the district shall make that record available in any electronic format in which it holds the information. The district shall provide a copy of the electronic record in the format requested as long as the requested format is one that has been used by the district to create copies for its own use or for use by other agencies. (Government Code [6253.9](#))

The cost of duplicating an electronic record shall be limited to the direct cost of producing a copy of the record in electronic format. However, the requester shall bear the cost of producing the copy of the electronic record, including the cost to construct the record and the cost of programming and computer services necessary to produce the copy, under the following circumstances: (Government Code [6253.9](#))

1. The electronic record is one that is produced only at otherwise regularly scheduled intervals.
2. The request would require data compilation, extraction, or programming to produce the record.

#### Assistance in Identifying Requested Records

If the Ombudsperson or designee denies a request for disclosable records, the requester shall be assisted in making a focused and effective request that reasonably describes an identifiable record. To the extent reasonable under the circumstances, the Ombudsperson or designee shall do all of the following: (Government Code [6253.1](#))

1. Assist in identifying records and information responsive to the request or the purpose of the request, if specified

If, after making a reasonable effort to elicit additional clarifying information from the requester to help identify the record, the Ombudsperson or designee is still unable to identify the information, this requirement shall be deemed satisfied.

2. Describe the information technology and physical location in which the records exist
3. Provide suggestions for overcoming any practical basis for denying access to the records or information sought

Provisions of the Public Records Act shall not be construed so as to delay or obstruct the inspection or copying of public records. Any notification denying a request for public records shall state the name and title of each person responsible for the denial. (Government Code [6253](#))

### **312 Financial Reporting**

The back-office services provider maintains supporting records in sufficient detail to prepare the Schools' financial reports, including:

#### A. Annually:

1. Financial statements for audit
2. Annual budget

#### B. Monthly:

1. Trial balance
2. Internally generated budget vs. actual financial statements
3. Billing invoices to funding sources
4. Updating the cash flow projection

C. Periodically:

1. IRS Forms 941 and payroll tax returns and comparable state taxing authority returns
2. Other reports upon request

### **313 Audit**

The Board of Trustees arranges annually for a qualified certified public accounting firm to conduct an audit of the Celerity Charter Schools' financial statements in accordance with Government Auditing Standards and the Governmental Accounting Standards Board.

The audit reports will be submitted to the granting agency, (starting 2002) California Department of Education, (starting 2003) County Superintendent of Schools, and State Controller's Office by December 15 of each year. (Education Code 47605(m))

### **314 Audit/Finance Committee**

A maximum of two and a minimum of one member(s) of the Board of directors will act as an audit/finance subcommittee. Staff will review and present an analysis of independent auditor proposals to the committee and make a recommendation for selection of independent auditor. The committee will recommend and the Board will select the independent auditor and review the scope and results of the audit. The Board also receives notice of any consequential irregularities and management letter comments that the auditor noted during the engagement. Additionally, the committee will develop a corrective action plan to address all relevant weaknesses noted by the auditor. The Board of Directors will also review all financial information of the AIMS K-12 College Prep Charter District.

### **315 Federal Fund Management**

The Board of Trustees recognizes the district's responsibility to maintain fiscal integrity and transparency in the use of all funds awarded through federal grants. The district shall comply with all requirements detailed in any grant agreement with an awarding agency and with the federal Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards specified in 7 CFR 200.0-200.521 and any stricter state laws and district policy.

Any goods or services purchased with federal funds shall be reasonable in cost and necessary for the proper and efficient performance or administration of the program.

The Superintendent, Chief Business Officer or designee shall ensure that the district's financial management systems and procedures provide for the following: (2 CFR 200.302)

1. Identification in district accounts of each federal award received and expended and the federal program under which it was received

(BP - [309 Budgets](#))

2. Accurate, current, and complete disclosure of the financial and performance results of each federal award or program in accordance with the reporting requirements of 2 CFR 200.327 and 200.328

(BP – [312 Financial Reporting](#))

3. Records and supporting documentation that adequately identify the source and application of funds for federally funded activities, including information pertaining to federal awards, authorizations, obligations, unobligated balances, assets, expenditures, income, and interest

(BP - [311 Record Retention and Disposal](#))

4. Effective controls and accountability for all funds, property, and other assets and assurance that all assets are used solely for authorized purposes

5. Comparison of actual expenditures with budgeted amounts for each federal award

6. Written procedures to implement provisions governing payments as specified in 2 CFR 200.305

7. Written procedures for determining the allow ability of costs in accordance with 2 CFR 200.400-200.475 and the terms and conditions of the federal grant award

The Superintendent, Chief Business Officer or designee shall develop and implement appropriate internal control processes to reasonably assure that transactions are properly executed, recorded, and accounted for so that the district can prepare reliable financial statements and federal reports, maintain accountability over assets, and demonstrate compliance with federal laws, regulations, and conditions of the federal award. (2 CFR 200.61, 200.62, 200.303)

Equipment purchased with federal funds shall be properly inventoried and adequately maintained to safeguard against loss, damage, or theft of the property.

(BP -601 [Disposal of Property and Equipment](#))

(AR – [315 Federal Funding Management Inventory](#))

All staff involved in the administration or implementation of programs and activities supported by federal funds shall receive information and training on the allowable use of federal funds, purchasing procedures, and reporting processes commensurate with their duties.

(AR-315(c) [Federal Fund Time Management](#))

The district shall submit performance reports to the awarding agency in accordance with the schedule and indicators required for that federal grant by law and the awarding agency. As required, such reports may include a comparison of actual accomplishments to the objectives of the federal award, the relationship between financial data and performance accomplishments, the reasons that established goals were not met if applicable, cost information to demonstrate cost effective practices, analysis and explanation of any cost overruns or high unit costs, and other relevant information. The final performance report shall be submitted within 90 days after the ending date of the grant. (2 CFR 200.301, 200.328)

(BP-[1500 Management and Reporting Procedures](#))

Legal Reference:

**EDUCATION CODE**

42122-42129 Budget requirements

**CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 2**

180.220 Amount of contract subject to suspension and debarment rules

200.0-200.521 Federal uniform grant guidance, especially:

200.1-200.99 Definitions

200.100-200.113 General provisions

200.317-200.326 Procurement standards

200.327-200.329 Monitoring and reporting

200.333-200.337 Record retention

200.400-200.475 Cost principles

200.500-200.521 Audit requirements

**CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 34**

76.730-76.731 Records related to federal grant programs

**CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 48**

2.101 Federal acquisition regulation; definitions

**AR 315(a) Federal Fund Management**

To ensure the lawful expenditure of any federal formula or discretionary grant funds awarded to the district, the Superintendent or designee shall comply with the requirements of the Office of Management and Budget's Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (the "Uniform Guidance"), as contained in 2 CFR 200.0-200.521 and Appendices I-XII.

**Allowable Costs**

Prior to obligating or spending any federal grant funds, the Director of Compliance, Superintendent or designee shall determine whether a proposed purchase is an allowable expenditure in accordance with 2 CFR 200.400-200.475 and the terms and conditions of the award. He/she shall also determine whether the expense is a direct or indirect cost as defined in 2 CFR 200.413 and 200.414 and, if the purchase will benefit other programs not included in the grant award, the appropriate share to be allocated to the federal grant.

The Director of Compliance, Superintendent or designee shall review and approve all transactions involving federal grant funds and shall ensure the proper coding of expenditures consistent with the California School Accounting Manual.

(AR. 315(d) Federal Fund Management: Compliancy Review)

(BP. 302 – Basis of Presentation)

**Period of Performance**

All obligations of federal funds shall occur on or between the beginning and ending dates of the grant project and shall be paid no later than 90 days after the end of the funding period, unless specifically

authorized by the grant award to be carried over beyond the initial term of the grant. (2 CFR 200.77, 200.308, 200.309, 200.343)

## Procurement

When procuring goods and services with a federal grant, the Director of Compliance, Superintendent or designee shall comply with the standards contained in 2 CFR 200.317-200.326 and Appendix II of Part 200, or with any applicable state law or district policy that is more restrictive.

As appropriate to encourage greater economy and efficiency, the Director of Compliance, Superintendent or designee shall avoid acquisition of unnecessary or duplicative items consider consolidating or breaking out procurements, analyze lease versus purchase alternatives, consider entering into an interagency agreement for procurement of common or shared goods and services, and/or use federal excess or surplus property. (2 CFR 200.318)

The procurement of goods or services with federal funds shall be conducted in a manner that provides full and open competition in accordance with state laws and district regulations and the following requirements:

1. Any purchase of supplies or services that does not exceed the "micro-purchase" threshold specified in 48 CFR 2.101 may be awarded without soliciting competitive quotes, provided that the district considers the price to be reasonable and maintains written evidence of this reasonableness in the record of all micro-purchases. (2 CFR 200.67, 200.320)
2. For any purchase that exceeds the micro-purchase threshold but is less than the bid limit required by Public Contract Code [20111](#), the Superintendent or designee shall utilize "small-purchase" procedures that include obtaining price or rate quotes from an adequate number of qualified sources. (2 CFR 200.320). The micro threshold has been defined as \$10,000.
3. Contracts for goods or services over the bid limits required by Public Contract Code [20111](#) shall be awarded pursuant to California law - Bids, unless exempt from bidding under the law.
4. If a purchase is exempt from bidding and the district's solicitation is by a request for proposals, the award may be made by either a fixed-price or cost-reimbursement type contract awarded to the entity whose proposal is most advantageous to the program, with price and other factors considered. (2 CFR 200.320)
5. Procurement by noncompetitive proposals (sole sourcing) may be used only when the item is available exclusively from a single source, the need or emergency will not permit a delay resulting from competitive solicitation, the awarding agency expressly authorizes sole sourcing in response to the district's request, and/or competition is determined inadequate after solicitation of a number of sources. (2 CFR 200.320)
6. Time and materials type contracts may be used only after a determination that no other contract is suitable and if the contract includes a ceiling price that the contractor exceeds at its own risk. Time and materials type contract means a contract for which the cost is the sum of the actual cost of materials and

direct labor hours charged at fixed hourly rates that reflect wages, general administrative expenses, and profit. (200.328)

For any purchase of \$35,000 or more, the Chief Business Officer, Superintendent or designee shall verify that any vendor which is used to procure goods or services is not excluded or disqualified by the federal government. Verify through the US Department of Labor (2 CFR 180.220, 200.213)

All solicitations shall incorporate a clear and accurate description of the technical requirements for the material, product, or service to be procured. Such description shall not, in competitive procurements, contain features which unduly restrict competition. The description shall avoid detailed product specifications to the extent possible, but may include a statement of the qualitative nature of the material, product, or service to be procured and, when necessary, shall set forth those minimum essential characteristics and standards to which it must conform if it is to satisfy its intended use. When it is impractical or not economical to make a clear and accurate description of the technical requirements, a brand name or equivalent description may be used to define the performance or other salient requirements of procurement, clearly stating the specific features of the named brand which must be met by offers. In addition, every solicitation shall identify all requirements which the offer must fulfill and any other factors to be used in evaluating bids or proposals. (2 CFR 200.319)

The Chief Business Officer, Superintendent or designee shall maintain sufficient records to document the procurement, including, but not limited to, the rationale for the method of procurement, selection of the contract type, contractor selection or rejection, and the basis for the contract price. (2 CFR 200.318)

The Compliance Director, Superintendent or designee shall ensure that all contracts for purchases using federal grant funds contain the applicable contract provisions described in Appendix II to Part 200 - Contract Provisions for Non-Federal Entity Contracts Under Federal Awards. (2 CFR 200.326)

### **Capital Expenditures**

The Chief Business Officer, Superintendent or designee shall obtain prior written approval from the awarding agency before using federal funds to make capital expenditures, including the acquisition of land, facilities, equipment, and intellectual property and expenditures to make additions, improvements, modifications, replacements, rearrangements, reinstallations, renovations, or alterations to capital assets that materially increase their value or useful life. (2 CFR 200.12, 200.13, 200.20, 200.33, 200.48, 200.58, 200.89, 200.313, 200.439)

### **Conflict of Interest**

No Board of Trustees member, district employee, or district representative shall participate in the selection, award, or administration of a contract supported by federal funds if he/she has a real or apparent conflict of interest, such as when he/she or a member of his/her immediate family, his/her partner, or an organization which employs or is about to employ any of them has a financial interest in or a tangible personal benefit from a firm considered for a contract. Such persons are prohibited from soliciting or accepting gratuities, favors, or anything of monetary value from contractors or subcontractors unless the gift is an unsolicited item of nominal value. (2 CFR 200.318)

Employees engaged in contract selection, award, and administration shall also comply with Board policy - Conflict of Interest.

### **Cash Management**

The Director of Compliance, Superintendent or designee shall ensure the district's compliance with 2 CFR 200.305 pertaining to payments and cash management, including compliance with applicable methods and procedures that minimize the time elapsing between the transfer of funds to the district and the district's disbursement of funds. (2 CFR 200.305)

(BP- [1100 Cash Management Procedures](#))

When authorized by law, the district may receive advance payments of federal grant funds, limited to the minimum amounts needed and timed in accordance with the actual immediate cash requirements of the district for carrying out the purpose of the program or project. Except under specified conditions, the district shall maintain the advance payments in an interest-bearing account. The district shall remit interest earned on the advanced payment to the awarding agency on an annual basis, but may retain interest amounts specified in 2 CFR 200.305 for administrative expenses. (2 CFR 200.305)

When required by the awarding agency, the district shall instead submit a request for reimbursement of actual expenses incurred. The district may also request reimbursement as an alternative to receiving advance payments. (2 CFR 200.305)

The Director of Compliance, Superintendent or designee shall maintain source documentation supporting the expenditure of federal funds, such as invoices, time sheets, payroll stubs, or other appropriate documentation.

### **Personnel**

All district employees who are paid in full or in part with federal funds, including employees whose salary is paid with state or local funds but is used to meet a required match or in-kind contribution to a federal program, shall document the amount of time they spend on grant activities. (2 CFR 200.430)

(AR- [315\(c\) Time Accounting](#))

### **Records**

Except as otherwise provided in 2 CFR 200.333, or where state law or district policy requires a longer retention period, financial records, supporting documents, statistical records, and all other district records related to a federal award shall be retained for a period of three years from the date of submission of the final expenditure report or, for a federal award that is renewed quarterly or annually, from the date of the submission of the quarterly or annual financial report. (2 CFR 200.333)

(BP- 311 [Record Retention and Disposal](#))



*Micro-purchase* means an acquisition of supplies or services using simplified acquisition procedures, the aggregate amount of which does not exceed the micro-purchase threshold.

*Micro-purchase threshold* means \$10,000

## **AR 315(b) Federal Fund Management Inventory**

### **Inventories**

In order to provide for the proper tracking and control of district property, the Superintendent or designee shall maintain an inventory of equipment in accordance with law for the following:

1. All equipment items currently valued in excess of \$500 (Education Code 35168)
2. All equipment items purchased with state and/or federal categorical funds that have a useful life of more than one year with an acquisition cost of \$500 or more per unit.

In addition, the Superintendent or designee may maintain a list of specific items which shall be inventoried for internal control purposes regardless of their initial cost or current value.

The inventory shall contain a record of the following information: (Education Code 35168; 5 CCR 3946)

1. Name and description of the property
2. Identification number
3. Original cost of the item of equipment or a reasonable estimate if the original cost is unknown
4. Date of acquisition
5. Location of use
6. The date and method of disposal

### **(BP-601 Disposal OF Property and Equipment)**

In addition to the information specified in items #1-6 above, the following information shall be recorded for equipment acquired with state and/or federal categorical funds unless otherwise specified in law: (5 CCR 3946; 2 CFR 200.313)

1. Source of the property (funding source)
2. Titleholder
3. Percentage of federal participation in the cost of the property

4. Use and condition of property

5. Sale price of the property upon disposition and method used to determine current fair market value

(BP-[314 Federal Fund Management](#))

At the time of purchase, the Superintendent or designee shall affix a label to the equipment containing the identification number and the district name. Equipment items purchased with categorical program funds shall also be labeled with the name of the project in accordance with 5 CCR 3946.

Whenever an equipment item is moved to a new location or the equipment is used for a new purpose, the new location or purpose shall be recorded in the inventory.

A copy of the inventory shall be kept at the district office and at the appropriate school site.

(BP-[311 Record Retention and Disposal](#))

The Superintendent or designee shall annually submit an inventory listing of federally owned property in its custody to the federal agency that granted the award. (2 CFR 200.312)

#### **Physical Inventory**

At least once every two years, a physical inventory of equipment shall be conducted and the results reconciled with the property records. (2 CFR 200.313)

The Director of Health and School support , Superintendent or designee shall establish procedures for conducting the physical inventory which shall include, but not be limited to, designation of person(s) responsible for coordinating and conducting the inventory, preparation and distribution of count sheets, procedures for implementing the inventory, and procedures for conducting a recount to substantiate the validity of the inventory.

The Director of Health and School support and Health, Superintendent or designee shall investigate any differences between the quantities determined by the physical inspection and those in the accounting records.

#### **EQUIPMENT INVENTORY- Federal Program Monitoring**

AIMS K-12 Equipment Inventory-4400 Object Code

The LEA spending Title I, Part A funding on equipment must maintain a historical inventory record for each piece of equipment with an acquisition cost of \$500-\$4999 per unit. The record describes the acquisition by:

- (a) BCSD Asset Tag #
- (b) Type/description
- (c) Model/name
- (d) Serial number

- (e) Funding source
- (f) Acquisition date
- (g) Initial Cost (Financial)
- (h) Location
- (i) Current condition
- (j) Transfer, replacement or disposition of obsolete or unusable equipment

AIMS Operations Department must conduct a physical check of the inventory of equipment within the past two years and reconcile the result with inventory records.

**A. ORDERING:**

Title I Equipment (costing more than \$500) is for supplemental purposes and must be for student use. This expenditure must be included in the SPSA and or an SPSA Addendum. The LCAP Advisory Committee must approve Title I equipment as documented on the Equipment Justification Form.

**B. DISTRICT INVENTORY FOR ITEMS OVER \$500**

Any piece of equipment costing \$500 (not including tax and delivery charges) or more (not to exceed \$4999) must be labeled and inventoried. Inventories must be completed and maintained and a working file kept on file at all times.

**C. SCHOOL TECHNOLOGY INVENTORY FOR ITEMS PURCHASED FOR LESS THAN \$500**

Items purchased less than \$500 must reflected in the Purchase Order System and also be kept track of on electronic inventory form.

**D. MAINTENANCE AGREEMENTS**

Schools must check with the Director of Health and School support and Health to ensure that accurate contracted maintenance costs are budgeted.

**EQUIPMENT INVENTORY PROCEDURES**

**Inventory Printouts**

Our Back-office provider (CSMC) will email an electronic equipment inventory printout to the schools, Director of Operations and Chief Business Officer. Equipment purchased for \$500 or more will be on the inventory printout. (Other resource codes that may exist: 3010-Title I, 4035-Title II, 4203-Title III and/or 010-ASES). The designee in charge of equipment inventory must use the printout as their working copy. Please check the printout for accuracy and update any items that have been relocated to different locations.

**Discard Instructions**

To discard furniture or a large quantity (more than 5 items):

- ✓ Find a location on campus to store items. The location should be a non-accessible area to students and safe from weather.
- ✓ Email [operations@aimsk12.org](mailto:operations@aimsk12.org) the description, quantity, and the location where the items are stored forms.

### **Stolen Items**

A “Incident Report” form must be completed for items which are stolen from your site. You need to attach any backup you have (i.e. requisitions, inventory list, PO’s) so the correct item can be removed from your inventory.

(If stolen items are over \$10,000 in value, immediately contact Finance Department at [finance@aimsk12.org](mailto:finance@aimsk12.org))

Legal Reference:

#### **EDUCATION CODE**

35168 Inventory of equipment

#### **CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5**

3946 Control, safeguards, disposal of equipment purchased with consolidated application funds

16022-16023 Classification of records

16035 Historical inventories of equipment

#### **UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20**

2301-2414 Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act

#### **CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 2**

200.0-200.521 Federal uniform grant guidance

### **AR 315(c) Federal Fund Management Time Accounting**

#### **Head of School Responsibilities**

Each Head of Schools or designated site manager must ensure that all federally funded employees are familiar with the time documentation guidelines and are complying with these requirements. Please review the Employee Guidelines outlined below.

#### **FEDERALLY FUNDED EMPLOYEE TIME DOCUMENTATION**

Documentation is required to ensure that the district is properly charging salaries and wages that are reasonable, necessary and allowable in accordance with applicable federal program requirements. The resource codes involved with federal programs reviewed by CDE and that require time accounting forms are Title I Part A & D (Resource 3010 Restrictor 01); Title II Part A Resource 4035 Restrictor 02), Title III EL (Resource 4203 Restrictor 03), and Title IV (if allocated)

## **ESEA**

### **Title I Part A (3010)**

- Must be used to supplement the basic program
- Site employees cannot participate in administrative or clerical duties
- Intent is to provide support for low income students to become academically proficient in State Standards

### **Title II Part A (4035)**

- to increase the academic achievement of all students by helping schools and district= improve teacher and principal quality through professional development and other activities

### **Title III EL (4203)**

- support to ensure English learners in California, attain English proficiency,
- support so that English learners develop high levels of academic attainment in English
- support so that English learners meet the same challenging state academic standards as all other students

### **Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF)**

- **Considered State “general” funds – not categorical**
- **Employees funded with only LCFF do not participate in time accounting.**
- **Time Accounting is ONLY required if LCFF is combined with Title I, II, III, IV)**

### **Federal Time Accounting**

A requirement for the use of federal funds for salaries, time accounting certification records must be maintained and collected.

If an employee is paid with federal funds, documentation must be completed to reflect that the employee worked on that specific federal program and cost objective.

The following three components must be met for acceptable use of federal funds:

1. Necessary
2. Reasonable
3. Allocable (Time spent on compliant duties, proves ability to be allocated)

Types of Time Accounting:

1. Semi-Annual Fully Funded
2. Semi-Annual / Single Cost Objective
3. Personnel Activity Report (PAR) Multi-funded

**TIME ACCOUNTING FORMS: SEMI-ANNUAL CERTIFICATION AND PERSONNEL ACTIVITY REPORT  
SEMI-ANNUAL CERTIFICATION for EMPLOYEES FUNDED WITH 100%, ONE RESOURCE.**

<b>Title I, Part A&amp;D</b>	<b>3010- Resource</b>	<b>ELO 7425 Resource</b>
<b>Title II, Part A</b>	<b>4035- Resource</b>	<b>Other Federal Resource</b>
<b>Title III ELD</b>	<b>4203- Resource</b>	


If an employee works 100% on one activity and is paid through one federal funding source only, they will sign this form twice a year, which is submitted after each six-month work period. Some examples of these employees may be instructional aides or resource teachers at one school site working on one goal area on a set schedule.

**1.) January (July-December)      2.) June/July (January-June)**

*All duties must be supplemental and allowable under a Federal Title program.*

If position is 100% Title I a Semi-Annual Time Accounting certification is completed twice a year.

- ✓ The Job description is embedded in the form.
- ✓ Originals are kept at the school site.
- ✓ Head of School or Administrative designee submits signed copies to Operations Department after work is completed.



**Semi-Annual Certification**  
**Activity Report for Employees Working on a Single Cost Objective**  
 School Year 2020-2021

School Site \_\_\_\_\_

Federal Program: \_\_\_\_\_ Title I \_\_\_\_\_

**For the Six-Month Period of:** (Circle the completed six month time period and fill in the year)  
 January-June 20\_\_\_\_  
 July-December 20\_\_\_\_

I certify that the employee listed below worked 100% of their time in the above six-month time period on activities authorized by the federal program stated above. \*Include only staff fully funded through Federal Funds.

Employee Name	Employee Title
JOB DESCRIPTION	

\_\_\_\_\_  
Employee Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Supervisory Official's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

This form is to be completed every six months for any employee who is paid solely with federal funds from a single cost objective.  
 A school that has any staff that are split funded between Title I and another funding source must instead complete a Time and Effort Program Activity Report (PEAR).

**SEMI-ANNUAL CERTIFICATION with SCHEDULE FOR MULTI-FUNDED SITE BASED EMPLOYEES**

(Substitute System of Time Accounting)

If a multi-funded employee works on one goal (or cost objective), their schedule does not change, and they stay in one location, they may complete the SEMI-ANNUAL CERTIFICATION twice a year. In order to use this form, the employee MUST submit one accurate work schedule with each Semi-Annual Certification form. The schedule must include information such as time periods, grades, and subjects.



**Semi-Annual Certification  
Activity Report for Employees Working on a Multi-Funded  
School Year 2020-2021**

Employee Name: \_\_\_\_\_

School Site: \_\_\_\_\_ Position: \_\_\_\_\_

The following descriptions should reflect alignment between the work expended on the specific federal program and funds allowed for salary

Funding Source	Resource/Restrictor	Percentage
TITLE I	3010 - Restrictor 01	
TITLE II	4035 - Restrictor 02	
TITLE III	4208 - Restrictor 03	

The percentage is populated is based on your position's current year funding

Describe the duties you perform in each program shown:

\_\_\_\_\_

Funding Source	Resource/Restrictor	Percentage
LCFF	0000- Restrictor 0	
OTHER		

Describe the duties you perform in each program shown:

I certify that the report is an accurate statement of effort expended on the above programs and I have full knowledge of 100% of the activities. Supervisory office having firsthand knowledge of the activity performed by the employees.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Employee Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Supervisory Official's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

A school that has any staff that are split-funded between Title I and another funding source must instead complete a Time and Effort Program Activity Report (PAER).

**PERSONNEL ACTIVITY REPORT (PAR)– Calendar for Multiple Funding and Multiple Cost Objectives**

If the employee's work schedule varies daily or throughout the month, and/or the employee works at multiple sites, the employee should document daily activities, identify each program for which work was performed, and the daily time dedicated to each program. The total documented time for the day should equal to the actual hours worked.



All multi-funded, multiple cost objective employees must complete PARs on a monthly basis.

1. PARS must be submitted after the work month by the 10th of following month.
2. Cannot be submitted or signed after the last day of the following month

### School District Personnel Activity Report (PAR)

School Site:			For the Month of:			
Employee:			Year:			
Position:						
Supervisor:						

PROGRAM or ACTIVITY	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	Total	%
																																0.00	#DIV/0!
																																0.00	#DIV/0!
																																0.00	#DIV/0!
																																0.00	#DIV/0!
																																0.00	#DIV/0!
																																0.00	#DIV/0!
Leave Time																															0.00		
TOTAL	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	#DIV/0!	

I certify that the hours reported above are a true representation of work performed.	
Employee signature _____	Date _____
Immediate Supervisor signature _____	Date _____

### Personnel Activity Report (PAR) Procedures

**All multi-funded personnel responsible for completing a PAR will:**

- Complete & submit one description of duties annually to Compliance.
- Document their activities, per program, during their contracted hours on the Excel PAR Activity Report
- Employee Print and sign completed Excel PAR Activity Report after the last working day of each month
- Submit Excel PAR Activity Report monthly to site designee for Head of Schools to review and sign.
- Site designee will submit copies all signed Excel PAR Activity Reports to Compliance Department ([Timeaccounting@aimsk12.org](mailto:Timeaccounting@aimsk12.org)) and [compliance@aimsk12.org](mailto:compliance@aimsk12.org) by the 10th of the following month. (i.e. August PAR forms will be due September 10, 2020).

**All personnel sign time accounting certifications AFTER work is performed.**

**All original Time Accounting forms, with original signatures must be kept at school site for five years.**

### **Procedures to Review Federal Positions:**

A review of each federal funded position will occur annually.

Each Head of School will:

1. Provide evidence of the identified need, alignment to LCAP/SPSA goals, and intent of funding for each position.
2. Submit an annual job description (Duty Statement) for each multi-funded position.
3. Submit monthly Personnel Activity Records (PAR) for each multi-funded position.

District (Compliance Committee) will:

1. Review and confirm school steps 1-3.
2. Conduct a semi-annual fiscal review to determine if funds are allocated appropriately/aligned to work performed.
3. Make fiscal reconciliations if review results in misalignment.

\*If school is retaining the multi-funded position for the next school year, funding must be adjusted and reflected on the Position Action Form (PAF).

### **REVIEW AND APPROVAL CYCLE:**

**Personnel Activity Report (PAR):** After the last day of each month, the employee signs and submits their PAR completed, to their supervisor for review. The supervisor must date and sign the PAR after the end of the month and submit by the 10th of the following month. PARS cannot be signed or submitted after the last day of the following month.

**Semi-Annual Certification:** This form must be submitted in January (covering the July-December work period) and June (covering the January – June work period). In June, Semi-annuals can be signed on the last day of work for the employees' school year.

### **FORM SUBMISSION:**

All forms must be sent either hard copy to:

AIMS K-12 College Prep  
171 12<sup>th</sup> Street  
Oakland 94607  
Attn: Program Compliance

OR Scanned and emailed to: [Timeaccounting@aimsk12.org](mailto:Timeaccounting@aimsk12.org) and [compliance@aimsk12.org](mailto:compliance@aimsk12.org)

**EMPLOYEE TRAINING:**

Time Accounting training materials and forms can be found at [www.aimsK12.org](http://www.aimsK12.org). Time Accounting presentations are given in August of each year and updated throughout the year during Staff Professional Development days.

A PAR Technical Assistance workshop is given each fall. Supervisors and staff that are funded by Federal Programs will be notified prior to training and provided funding percentages.

If you have any questions on compliance or form completion, please contact Program Compliance at [Compliance@aimsk12.org](mailto:Compliance@aimsk12.org).

**RECONCILIATION PROCESS**

Personnel Activity Report (PAR):

1. Head of Schools or designated assignee collects the PAR form from all employees that are required to complete it. The Pars is reviewed by the Head and signed before submission to the Operations Department. The department ensures that all forms are received, are complete, and provides copies to the Accounting Fiscal Services Executive Assistant.
2. Business Operations reviews each PAR and compares it to the actual payroll expenditure ledger to confirm reported time activity agrees to the budgeted funding distribution. Managers are notified of discrepancies between resource allocation and time on calendars.
3. Compliance, Business Operations, Heads of Schools and/or Program Coordinator meet to review any variance in excess of 10% and provide recommendations to the Superintendent
4. Compliance, Business Operations, Heads of Schools and Superintendent (Cabinet) meet to review, discuss, and provide course of action for discrepancies. Budget Services moves expenditures and/or updates the budget to align with the PAR per Cabinets authorization and direction.
5. Reconciliation occurs quarterly in July, October, January and April, to coincide with each budget or actuals reporting period.

**Semi Annual Certification:**

1. Head of Schools or designated assignee collects the Semi-Annual form from all employees that are required to complete it. The Pars is reviewed by the Head and signed before submission to the Compliance Department. The Compliance department ensures that all forms are received, are complete, verifies the single cost objective, and provides copies to the Accounting Fiscal Services Executive Assistant.

2. Business Operations reviews each semi-annual and compares it to the actual payroll expenditure ledger to confirm semi-annual agrees to the budgeted funding distribution. Managers are notified of discrepancies between resource allocation and time on semi-annual forms.

3. Compliance, Business Operations, Heads of Schools and/or Program Coordinator meet to review any variance in excess of 10% and provide recommendations to the Superintendent

4. Compliance, Business Operations, Heads of Schools and Superintendent (Cabinet) meet to review, discuss, and provide course of action for discrepancies

### **AR 315(d) Federal Fund: Compliancy Review Process**

#### **Compliant Use of Funds:**

In order to ensure the compliant use of federal Funds, the Superintendent and designee shall follow the protocols for the compliancy review process:

The Superintendent, in partnership with the Business Office, Program Compliance, Ombudsman, and Academic Data and Performance compose the Compliance Review Committee to review the compliant use of designated funds and all required documentation in accordance with the Federal Guidelines.

#### **FEDERAL FUNDS: COMPLIANCY REVIEW PROCESS**

July

- **Compliance Committee:** Meet to review and align (prior year) Federal Time Accounting Records and Expenses.

August

- **Compliance Committee:** Meet to review (current year) Federal Expenses and approved programs for all schools: Identify Federally Funded Staff
- **Compliance Committee:** Provide Heads with Federal Fund Management Training
- **Compliance Committee:** Provide Federal Funded Staff with Time Accounting Training

September

- **PAR:** All multi-funded staff must submit Personnel Activity Report (August)

October

- **PAR:** All multi-funded staff must submit Personnel Activity Report (September)

November

- **PAR:** All multi-funded staff must submit Personnel Activity Report (October)
- **Compliance Committee:** Review Interim expenses with Heads of Schools to ensure alignment with program SPSA.

- **Compliance Committee:** Reviews Time Accounting submissions for accuracy

#### December

- **PAR :** All multi-funded staff must submit Personnel Activity Report (November)
- **Compliance Committee:** Reviews Time Accounting submissions for accuracy
- **Business Office:** Review expenses to ensure alignment with federal allocation requirements
- **Program Compliance:** Circulate Communication to Heads: Semi Annual Time Accounting Submission requirements and submission date

#### January

- **PAR :** All multi-funded staff must submit Personnel Activity Report (December)
- **Program Compliance:** Sends out Semi-Annual Reporting for Completion as outlined in AR 315(c ): Federal Fund Management Time Accounting.
- **Compliance Committee:** Reviews Time Accounting submissions for accuracy

#### February

- **PAR :** All multi-funded staff must submit Personnel Activity Report (January)

#### March

- **PAR :** All multi-funded staff must submit Personnel Activity Report (February)
- Preliminary Allocation for Federal Funds are provided to Heads
- **Heads begin allocation planning**

#### April

- **PAR :** All multi-funded staff must submit Personnel Activity Report(March)
- **Compliance Committee:** Reviews Time Accounting submissions for accuracy
- **Head of Schools/ELD:** engage LCAP Advisory Committee (serving as the SSC) to APPROVE the proposed expenses for the next fiscal year
- **Head of Schools/ELD:** submit SPSA and Committee minutes documenting the approval of proposed expenses to Compliance Committee for review and approval
- **Compliance Committee:** reviews for compliance (If approved, continue process; If denied, revisit and resubmit)

#### May

- **PAR :** All multi-funded staff must submit Personnel Activity Report (April)
- **Heads of Schools/ELD:** Approved SPSA submitted for Board Approval
- Approved plans and projected budgets submitted to finance to be reflected in the Adopted Budget.
- **Program Compliance:** Circulate Communication to Heads: Semi Annual Time Accounting Submission requirements and submission date
- **Compliance Committee:** meets to finalize and align information for Consolidated Application Submission.

#### June

- **PAR :** All multi-funded staff must submit Personnel Activity Report (May/June)

- **Human Resources:** Sends out Semi-Annual Reporting for Completion as outlined in AR 315(c): Federal Fund Management Time Accounting.
- **Chief Business Officer:** Consolidated Application completed
- **Chief Business Officer:** Adopted Budget and Consolidated Application submitted to Board for Approval
- **Chief Business Officer:** Adoption Budget Submitted to OUSD

(PAR = PERSONNEL ACTIVITY REPORT)

## 400 POLICIES RELATED TO ASSETS, LIABILITIES AND FUND EQUITY

### 401 Bank Accounts

A. Bank accounts for the indicated purpose and limitation(s) have been authorized by the Board of Trustees of AIMS K-12 College Prep Charter District at the indicated Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC)-insured banks:

#### EASTWEST BANK

#### COMMUNITY BANK

### 402 Petty Cash Checks Payments

A. Account has been closed.

### 403 Accounts Payable

Only valid accounts payable transactions based on documented vendor invoices, receiving report or other approved documentation are recorded as accounts payable.

### 404 Accounts Payable Payment Policy

Vendors and suppliers are paid as their payment terms require, taking advantage of any discounts offered. If cash flow problems exist, payments are made on a greatest dependency/greatest need basis.

### 405 Accrued Liabilities

Salaries, wages earned, and payroll taxes, together with professional fees, rent, and insurance costs incurred, but unpaid, are reflected as a liability when entitlement to payment occurs.

### 406 Liability For Compensated Absences

A. Compensated absences arise from employees' absences from employment due to vacation leave. When the AIMS K12 College Prep (aka American Indian Model Schools) expect to pay an employee for such compensated absences, a liability for the estimated probable future payments is accrued if all of the following conditions are met:

1. The employee's right to receive compensation for the future absences is attributable to services already performed by the employee.
2. The employee's right to receive the compensation for the future absences is vested or accumulates.

- 3. It is probable that the compensation will be paid.
- 4. The amount of compensation is reasonably estimable.

B. Compensated absences not required to be paid upon employee termination is only recorded when paid.

**407 Debt**

A. When applicable, short-term debt consists of financing expected to be paid within one year of the date of the annual audited financial statements. Long-term debt consists of financing that is not expected to be repaid within one year and is recorded in the Enterprise Fund.

B. Loan agreements approved by the Board of Trustees should be in writing and should specify all applicable terms, including the purpose of the loan, the interest rate, and the repayment schedule.

**AR 407(a) LOAN CONVENANT**

AIMS K-12 recognizes the obligation based on debt incurred for the 12<sup>th</sup> Street property required to remain within the limits defined by the Loan Officers (Bank: East West Bank) that states:

*Debt Coverage Ratio: Maintain a debt coverage ratio (defined as net operating income divided by current portion of long term debt plus interest expense) of not less 1.35 to 1 for the fiscal years ended June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020 and June 30<sup>th</sup> 2021 and 1.50 to 1 thereafter.*

*Except as provided above, all computations made to determine compliance with the requirements contained in this paragraph shall be made in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, applied on a consistency basis, and certified by Borrower as being true and correct.*

AIMS staff in Verification of loan requirement is reviewed at each fiscal quarter to ensure compliance. The calculation for the requirement is provided to the Board of trustees and the public at each fiscal reporting cycle (Adopting, 1<sup>st</sup> Interim, 2<sup>nd</sup> Interim and Unaudited Actuals/Closing).

**500 REVENUE**

**501 Revenue Recognition**

The AIMS K-12 College Prep Charter District record revenue on the accrual basis of accounting, consistent with generally accepted accounting principles applicable to special purpose governmental units.

**600 FACILITIES**

**601 Disposal of Property and Equipment**

A. No item of property or equipment shall be removed from the premises without prior approval from the Director of Health and School support and Health, Superintendent or designee.

B. AIMS K-12 College Prep Charter District have adopted standard disposition procedures for AIMS' staff to follow, which include an Resolution of Surplus/Obsolete, Asset Disposal Form, which identifies the asset, the reason for disposition, and signature of the requester. The form also allows for an identification of the asset's book value, condition of the asset, and supervisory approval or denial.

C. When property is retired, the appropriate asset in the fixed asset subsidiary will be adjusted and properly reflected in the Enterprise Fund.

## 700 PROCUREMENT POLICIES

### 701 AIMS K-12 College Prep Charter District adhere to the following objectives:

1. Procurements will be completely impartial based strictly on the merits of supplier and contractor proposals and applicable related considerations such as delivery, quantity, etc.
2. Make all purchases in the best interests of AIMS and their funding sources.
3. Obtain quality supplies/services needed for delivery at the time and place required.
4. Buy from responsible sources of supply.
5. Obtain maximum value for all expenditures.
6. Deal fairly and impartially with all vendors.
7. Maintain dependable sources of supply.
8. Be above suspicion of unethical behavior at all times; avoid any conflict of interest, related parties or even the appearance of a conflict of interest in AIMS K-12 College Prep Charter Districts' supplier relationships.

A. AIMS K-12 College Prep Charter District will execute a Purchase Order for all purchases except when it is in the best interest of the company to obtain maximum value for its expenditures. When staff receives a lower price from companies that do not accept purchase orders, the decision will be made to utilize either a check or a credit card to make the purchase. Purchases shall be approved by the Superintendent for amounts less than \$8,000 per school and by the Board of Trustees if greater than \$8,000 per school.

B. All lease agreements will be evidenced by a lease or sublease agreement approved by the Board of Trustees and signed by the Superintendent. The agreement will identify all the terms and conditions of the lease.

### Procurement Procedure

### Accounts Payable

Accounts payable is a critical portion of your financial records and can be subject to fraud without careful reconciliation and oversight. Strong accounts payable audit procedures can ensure the accuracy and timeliness of your bill payments. The best accounts payable audit procedures allow a mixture of daily checks, routine internal controls and external audit procedures.



## **Routine Procedures**

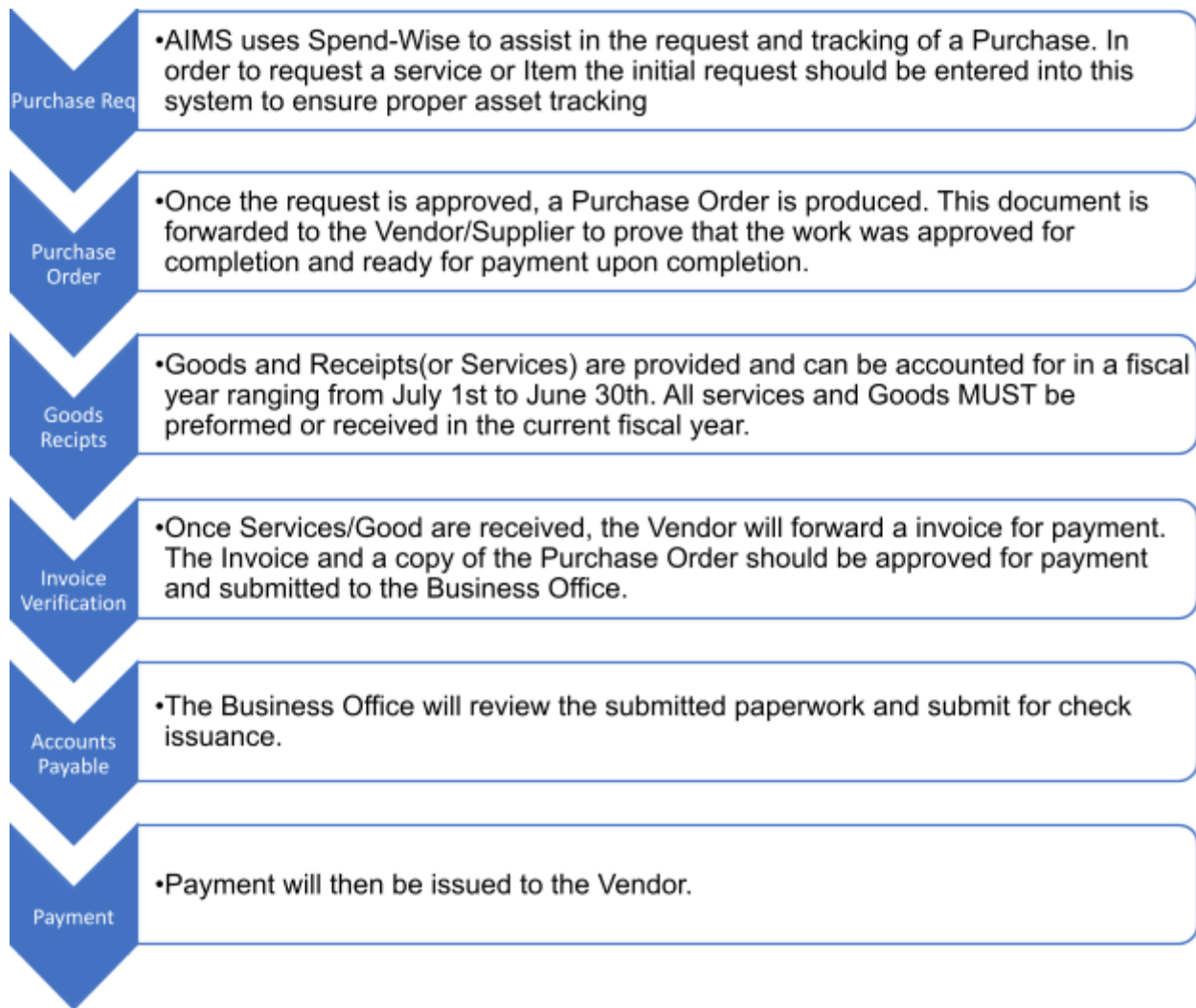
Accounts payable should be balanced daily to reconcile payments to recorded entries. Any discrepancy between the total amount paid and the total recorded should be examined and reconciled immediately. Management oversight of every individual involved in accounts payable should be stringent and should include routine monitoring of activities.

Sign-off procedures that help establish an audit trail should be enacted. These sign-offs include management review of goods and service requests, regular reconciliations, monthly discrepancy reports and individual sign-offs for large transactions to ensure that all information is correct.

## **Internal Controls**

Internal controls for accounts payable include signature requirements according to payment amounts. AIMS requires two signatures for all checks submitted for payment as well as Board Approval and signature for all checks over the \$8000 threshold.

During book closing procedures at the end of a month or financial period, AIMS requires sign-off for all account payable work including summary totals and account reconciliations. Additionally, Spendwise provides a running report that monitors payment levels from accounts payable processing



## 702 Check Issuance

1. All checks require two signatures
2. Checks written for \$8,000 and above require board approval, except for the following Vendors: PG&E (Electricity and Gas), AT&T (Office Telecommunications), EBMUD (Water Utilities), Waste Management, Mortgage and Rent payments. (These contracts are approved as Pre-Approved Vendors at the first board meeting of the fiscal year. Vendors may be amended depending on Services)
3. A list of Vendors / Purchase Orders can be submitted to the Board of Trustees (Semi-Annually) for pre-approval to allow for invoice and remittance workflow.
4. Checks shall be Computer generated by the back office
5. Checks are sent to Vendor from back-office and the copy of the check is provided and filed.
6. Voided Checks must be labeled as "VOID" in large letters. A Copy must be filed accordingly
7. NO CHECKS SHALL BE MADE OUT TO CASH or WRITTEN IN ADVANCE

## 800 TRAVEL POLICIES

### 801 Pre-Approval for Travel

A. All employees must request approval prior to attendance for off-site conference. An authorization to attend must be approved by the Superintendent and reviewed by the Chief Business officer, if funded by restricted monies.

### 802 Employee Mileage Reimbursement

A. All employees are reimbursed either at the standard mileage rate per mile as determined by the Internal Revenue Service for use of their own vehicle for business related travel or at a flat monthly rate which is taxable under IRS rules. In addition, parking fees and tolls paid are reimbursable if supported by invoices.

B. All employees requesting such mileage reimbursement are required to furnish a Travel Report containing the destination of each trip, its purpose and the miles driven, parking fees and tolls, within one month after the travel date, supported by invoices, if applicable.

C. If employees request to be reimbursed at a monthly flat fee, the payment will be done through payroll unless specified by contract and will be subject to all applicable taxes under IRS regulations.

## 900 CONSULTANTS AND CONTRACTORS

### 901 Consultant Utilization

The utilization of all consultants and contract personnel are sufficiently evidenced by:

A. Details of all agreements (e.g., work requirements, rate of compensation, and nature and amount of other expenses, if any) with the individuals or organizations providing the services and details of actual services performed.

B. Invoices or billings submitted by consultants, including sufficient detail as to the time expended and nature of the actual services performed.

C. The use of a management contract for educational and administrative services will clearly identify the contractor's performance requirements, including students' academic achievement, contractor's compensation and AIMS K-12 College Prep Charter Districts' rights to educational curricula and intellectual property developed.

## Vendor Contacts

The District urges vendors to deal directly with the District Leadership on all purchasing related matters, including sales calls, sales presentations, promotions, catalog distributions, returns, exchanges and substitutions. Vendors may not make sales calls directly at school sites. The District must adhere to bidding and competitive selection procedures. Vendors must first contact the Director of Health and School support and the Superintendent of Schools direction prior to making any sales presentations.

## Basis for Award

The District seeks to develop maximum competition for all purchases and to award contracts based on the lowest cost to the District by a responsible vendor presenting the most advantageous proposal to the District.

Formal bidding procedures are required for the purchase of materials and/or services exceeding amounts specified by law. Bid limits are subject to change on a yearly basis.

Informal quotes, bids or proposals for goods and/or services may be requested and received in writing by mail, e-mail and facsimile. Informal bids apply to purchases below the formal bid limits required by law.

## Gifts and Gratuities

The District maintains a strict policy prohibiting the acceptance by its employees of gifts and/or gratuities from any vendor or potential vendor. However, this policy does not preclude employees from accepting promotional or advertising items such as calendars, desk pads, notebooks and other office supplies which are offered free to all as part of a public relations program.

## DEFINITIONS

- AIMS K-12 College Prep shall be hereinafter referred to as the “District” and the vendor/supplier shall be hereinafter referred to as “Vendor.”
- The purchase order approved by the District’s Governing Board and issued by an authorized representative of the District’s Purchasing Department and these Terms and Conditions are hereinafter referred to as the “Agreement.”

## HOLD HARMLESS AND INDEMNIFICATION LANGUAGE

- Vendor agrees to indemnify and hold harmless District, its officers, agents, employees and volunteers from any and all loss, costs and expense including legal fees, or other obligations or claims, arising directly or indirectly out of any liability or claim of loss or liability for personal injury, bodily injury to persons, contractual liability and damage to property, or any other loss, damage, injury or other claim of any kind or nature, arising out of the activities, omissions to act or negligence of Vendor and/or Vendor's officers, agents, independent contractors, subcontractors or affiliated entities and/or their employees, agents and representatives, whether such activities, omissions to act, negligence or intentional conduct is or was

authorized by this Agreement or not.

- Vendor further agrees to pay or cause to be paid for any and all damage, or loss or theft to the property of the District arising out of the performance of services, omissions to act, or negligence of Vendor. District assumes no responsibility whatsoever for any property placed on the District premises. Vendor agrees to waive all rights of subrogation against District. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Vendor shall not be responsible for indemnification for claims or losses caused solely by the negligence of the District.

### INSURANCE

- Vendor covenants and agrees to provide general liability, automobile liability (if driving on District sites), products and completed operations, property damage and errors and omissions insurance in an amount of not less than \$1 million per claim or occurrence. Proof of Workers' compensation coverage evidencing statutory limits and Employers' Liability limits evidencing not less than \$1 million. Vendor further agrees to provide all insurance coverage as required to conduct business with the District. Vendor agrees to provide the District with proof of insurance evidencing required insurance coverage at least 30 days prior to commencement of services under this Agreement and name the District as an additional insured on the general liability and automobile liability (if driving on District premises) coverage. Each insurance policy required by this Agreement shall be endorsed to state that coverage shall not be suspended, voided, canceled, reduced in coverage or in limits except after thirty (30) days prior written notice to the District.

### INSPECTION AND ACCEPTANCE

- Inspection and acceptance will be at destination, unless otherwise provided. Regardless of the F.O.B. point, the Vendor agrees to bear all risk of loss, injury, or destruction of goods and materials ordered herein which occur prior to delivery; and such loss, injury, or destruction shall not release the Vendor from an obligation hereunder.

### COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS

- The Vendor shall observe and comply with all rules and regulations of the Governing Board of the District and all federal, state, and local laws, ordinances and regulations.

### CERTIFICATES/PERMITS/LICENSES

- The Vendor and all Vendor's employees or agents shall secure and maintain in force such certificates, permits and licenses as are required by law in connection with the furnishing of goods or services pursuant to this Agreement.

### NO RIGHTS IN THIRD PARTIES

- This Agreement does not create any rights in, or inure to the benefit of, any third party except as expressly provided herein.

### LIMITATION OF DISTRICT LIABILITY

- Other than as provided in this Agreement, District's financial obligations under this Agreement shall be limited to the payment of the compensation provided in this Agreement. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement, in no event shall District be liable, regardless of whether any claim is based on contract or tort, for any special, consequential, indirect or incidental damages, including, but not limited to, lost profits or revenue, arising out of or in connection with this Agreement for the services performed in connection with this Agreement.

### CALIFORNIA LAW

- This Agreement shall be governed by and the rights, duties and obligations of the parties shall be determined and enforced in accordance with the laws of the State of California. The parties further agree that any action or proceeding brought to enforce the terms and conditions of this Agreement shall be

maintained in Alameda County, California.

**WAIVER**

- The waiver by either party of any breach of any term, covenant, or condition herein contained shall not be deemed to be a waiver of such term, covenant, condition, or any subsequent breach of the same or any other term, covenant, or condition herein contained.

**SEVERABILITY**

- If any term, condition or provision of this Agreement is held by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, void or unenforceable, the remaining provisions will nevertheless continue in full force and effect, and shall not be affected, impaired or invalidated in any way.

**902 Independent Contractors**

The use of consultants is closely monitored so as not to vary from the rules of the Internal Revenue Code.

In particular, consultants will:

- A. Not be controlled as to what services will be performed and how these services will be performed. Consultants will not have set hours of work.
- B. Adhere to a precise contract scope of services, recomputed or at least adjusted annually. This consultant agreement will specify the obligation of the consultant to pay his or her own self-employment taxes, if applicable.
- C. Not receive any fringe benefits as such, although their fee may include provision for fringe benefits. D. Not be assigned a permanent workstation.
- E. Make their services available or work for a number of firms or persons at the same time.
- F. Will use his or her own stationery or invoice in billing for services.

**INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR**

- While providing the supplies or services ordered herein, the Vendor shall be and act as an independent contractor. Vendor understands and agrees that he/she and all of his/her employees shall not be considered officers, employees, agents, partner, or joint venture of the District, and are not entitled to benefits of any kind or nature normally provided employees of the District and/or to which District's employees are normally entitled, including, but not limited to, State Unemployment Compensation or Worker's Compensation.

**1000 - GENERAL ACCOUNTING PROCEDURES**

In this section, procedures are described for the overall accounting system design, General Ledger activity and General Ledger closeout for the Celerity Schools.

**GENERAL LEDGER ACTIVITY**

***Control Objective***

To ensure that all General Ledger entries are current, accurate and complete.

**Major Controls**

A. Timeliness of Entries

All entries are made soon after the underlying accounting event to ensure the financial records and reporting is current.

B. Support Documentation

All entries are supported by adequate documentation that clearly shows the justification and authorization for the transaction.

C. Audit Trail

A complete audit trail is maintained by the use of reference codes from source documentation through the books of original entry and General Ledger, to periodic reporting statements.

**Procedures**

1. Financial data on source documentation is verified against original documents (e.g., invoice, purchase order, etc.) by the Director of Operations before entering into the accounting system.
2. Each entry in the accounting system is reviewed and approved by the Chief Business Officer.
3. Provision is made for using recurring General Journal entries for certain transactions, such as recording the monthly portion of prepaid insurance.
4. Non-recurring entries, such as for correcting entries, recording accruals and recording non-cash transactions, are prepared as circumstances warrant and on a monthly basis.
5. All entries in the books of original entry (e.g., cash receipts journal and checkbook) are made soon after the accounting event from authorized forms and are prepared and reviewed by qualified accounting personnel.
6. All General Journal entries are supported by General Journal Vouchers that have supporting documentation attached and are approved by the Chief Business Officer.

**GENERAL LEDGER CLOSE-OUT**

**Control Objective**

To ensure the accuracy of financial records and reports.

**Major Controls**

A. Trial Balance

Monthly, a trial balance is prepared to ensure the accuracy of the General Ledger account balances.

#### B. Reconciliation of General Ledger Control Accounts with Subsidiary Ledgers

Reconciliations are prepared on a monthly basis.

#### **Procedures**

1. At the end of each month, a trial balance of all General Ledger accounts is prepared by the back office business services provider to the Chief Business

Officer.

2. Reconciliation between the General Ledger control accounts and the subsidiary ledgers are completed by the back-office business services provider.

3. At fiscal yearend and after the annual audit, all income and expense accounts are closed out, and the general ledger balances are agreed to the audited financial statements.

## **1100 - CASH MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES**

In this section, procedures are described for cash receipts, cash disbursements and prepaid items.

### **CASH RECEIPTS**

#### **Control Objective**

To record cash receipts completely and accurately and to prevent the diversion of cash assets.

#### **Major Controls**

##### A. Cash Flow Projection

AIMS K-12 College Prep Charter District annually prepare and update monthly a cash flow projection for operations and capital cash needs to monitor and ensure adequate cash flow.

##### B. Cash Receipts Policies

AIMS K-12 College Prep Charter District has internal control systems in place to monitor cash receipts and ensure that deposits are made in a timely manner. AIMS also use electronic fund transfers to accelerate deposits.

##### C. Internal Accounting Controls

(i) Opening of mail assigned to an employee with responsibilities independent of access to files or documents pertaining to accounts receivable or cash accounts.

(ii) Listed receipts and credits compared to accounts receivable and bank deposits.

(iii) General Ledger control accounts reconciled with Accounts Receivable Subsidiary Ledger

#### **Procedures**



A. General

1. Mail is received by the Receptionist who sorts the checks and forwards them to the Finance department or the appropriate recipient.
2. All checks are restrictively endorsed by the Finance department.
3. The finance department prepares deposit slips and forwards them to the back office provider for the preparation of journal entries.
4. A copy of each check to be deposited is made and attached to copy of the deposit slip and filed to provide support for all deposits.
5. The back office business services provider reviews and signs off on journal entries.
6. The back office business services provider inputs journal entries.
7. The finance department makes deposits on weekly or as checks are received. All deposits are maintained in a secure area with limited access.
8. Reconciliation of cash receipts to deposit slips and bank statements are performed by the Chief Business Officer or designated finance staff and the back-office business services provider on a monthly basis.

**Cash Handling Procedure (Internal)**

**AIMS Cash Handling Policy 2022-2023 School Year**

General Procedures

- Schools are not authorized to use collected funds for any purpose whatsoever other than for deposit.
- Count cash at the end of each day.
- Balance cash to receipts daily prior to deposit. Keep a copy on a spreadsheet and file copy of receipt.
- Keep reconciliation log (Excel Spreadsheet for School Uniforms).
- All payments received must be logged in receipt book.
- Cash is never sent through school mail.

Front Desk Cash Handling (Lunch Payment, Sale of School Uniforms/Swag)

- Cash is accepted at the front desk from 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
- Cash deposited to the front desk must be stored in a lockbox immediately.
- MealTime (Lunch Program Payment System) deposits must be made to student’s profile.
- Receipt must be logged and receipt must be given to parent/guardian after deposit is completed.
- By 12:45 p.m. lockbox and receipt book must be taken to finance department for cash handoff and review. (Double Count of Cash)

Online Lunch Payment

- Payment can be made online through Mealttime.com
- Payments can be made by visa, American Express or MasterCard

- Payments can be made throughout the year or lump sum payments can be made towards student account and lunch balance.

### Reconciliation of Cash Handling

- Cash collected must be balanced by comparing the total of the cash to the pre-numbered receipt totals and the money received.
- Two staff members will review total cash amount received to ensure accuracy.
- Deposit tickets are to be reconciled to cash received, daily deposit printout from MealTime (Lunch Program Payment System).
- Proof of reconciliation is stored in finance office and locked in a file.

### Security of Cash Handling

- Cash and other deposits are to be kept secured, in safe locked location always. Do not leave deposits or cash unlocked in desk, drawers or file cabinets.
- Front desk clerk is responsible to ensure all cash deposits are secured and ready for pick up by the finance office must have finance clerk review and sign off on total received.
- Deposit bags must be secured along with any other deposits until picked up by the finance department.
- Finance department logs totals for the day and total deposit is taken to the bank and deposit slip is retrieved.

### Refund

- Refunds are completed through finance department. Front desk clerk should provide the following information, the students first and last name, amount of refund, date and reason to finance clerk.
- Once refund check is complete finance will mail check to parent/guardian.

### Collections

- Print out MealTime (Lunch Program Payment System) negative balance report, call families with negative balances. Inform families to pay balance immediately.

## COVID-19 Addendum

In response to the recent legislative action, American Indian Model Schools has identified Essential Service in accordance with the guidelines in **Section 10, Item (g)** by California Department of Health.

***g.)** For the purposes of this Order, “Minimum Basic Operations” include the following, provided that employees comply with Social Distancing Requirements as defined this Section, to the extent possible, while carrying out such operations: i. The minimum necessary activities to maintain the value of the business’s inventory, ensure security, process payroll and employee benefits, or for related functions. ii. The minimum necessary activities to facilitate employees of the business being able to continue to work remotely from their residences.*

Front Desk Cash Handling (Lunch Payment, Sale of School Uniforms/Swag)

- Cash is accepted at the front desk from 9:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m. at the 171 12th St. or 746 Grand Ave school site location.
- Cash deposited to the front desk must be stored in a secured lockbox with limited access immediately.
- MealTime (Lunch Program Payment System) deposits must be made to the student's profile.
- Receipt must be logged and receipt must be given to parent/guardian after deposit is completed.
- One a week Finance will come to 12th street for the cash handoff, reconciliation and review. (Double Count of Cash)

Online Lunch Payment

- Payment can be made online through Mealtime.com
- Payments can be made by visa, American Express or MasterCard
- Payments can be made throughout the year or lump sum payments can be made towards student account and lunch balance.

**CASH DISBURSEMENTS**

***Control Objective***

To disburse cash for authorized purposes and record cash disbursements completely and accurately.

***Major Controls***

A. Cash Disbursement Policies

Check preparation and signatures are delayed until the due date, consistent with available discounts if available.

B. Internal Accounting Controls

(i) Pre-numbered checks and special check protective paper.

(ii) Match disbursement records against accounts payable/open invoice files.

(iii) Bank statements reconciled to cash accounts and any outstanding checks verified by either the back office business services provider, if applicable.

(iv) Supporting documentation canceled to prevent resubmission for payment.

(v) Detailed comparison of actual vs. budget disbursements on a periodic basis. (vi) Separation of duties to the extent possible for an organization the size of the Celerity Schools.

**Procedures**

1. When the transaction is complete, and payment is due, a pre-numbered check is prepared by the back office business services provider who attaches all supporting documentation: (e.g. vendor invoice, purchase order, purchase requisition, etc.) and submits the package to the Chief Executive Officer or Director of Health and School support for approval.

2. All invoices submitted for signature will include approvals for payment, expense account charged, check number and date of payment.
3. The Superintendent and Chief Financial Officer approves checks, after examining the supporting documentation.
4. After having been approved and/or signed, the checks are mailed directly to the payee by back office provider.
5. All supporting documents are uploaded into the A/P system by back office business services provider as back-up for each check.
6. All payment requests are researched in the A/P system by vendor and by invoice number to prevent double payments.
7. On a periodic basis, cash disbursement records are matched against accounts payable/open invoice files for any discrepancies. 8. Bank statements are reconciled soon after receipt by either the back offices business services provider and reviewed by the Chief Business Officer.
8. All checks are printed by our back office

## **PETTY CASH FUNDS**

### **THIS ACCOUNT IS CLOSED**

#### ***Control Objective***

To control the use of petty cash funds for valid transactions.

#### ***Major Controls***

##### **A. Internal Accounting Controls**

(i) AIMS K-12 College Prep Charter District do not use Petty Cash Funds. All local emergency school expenditures are done via credit card transactions.

## **1200 - PAYROLL PROCEDURES**

Payroll procedures are organized under six categories: personnel requirements, personnel data, timekeeping, preparation of payroll, payroll payment, and payroll withholdings.

### **PERSONNEL REQUIREMENTS**

#### **Control Objective**

To ensure that the AIMS K-12 College Prep Charter District hire only those employees, full or part-time, it absolutely needs and exerts tight control over hiring new employees.

***Major Controls***

Payroll Policies Procedures New Employees

1. Requests for new employees are initiated by the Principal and compared with the approved annual personnel budget.
2. New employees complete an Application for Employment.
3. New employees complete all necessary paperwork for payroll.
4. Employee is fingerprinted. Fingerprint clearance must be received by the AIMS before any employee may start work.

Vacation and Sick Pay

1. Employees accrue vacation time based on personnel policy of the AIMS Schools.
2. Employee is required to provide advanced notice to supervisors for a vacation request.
3. Regular part-time employees do not earn vacation time on a pro-rated bases based on personnel policy of the AIMS K-12 College Prep Charter District.
4. Employees' earned vacation balances are adjusted monthly to reflect vacation time earned and taken and reviewed by the Principal.
5. Sick leave taken is monitored against each employee's available sick time on an electronic spreadsheet and reviewed by the Principal.
6. AIMS sick time is unpaid at release of employment. Any unused sick leave can be credited to PERS retirement system.
7. A General Journal entry is prepared at year-end to record the accrued vacation liability.
8. Unused vacation time is based on personnel policy of the Celerity Schools.

**PERSONNEL DATA**

**TIMEKEEPING**

***Control Objective***

To ensure that payment for salaries and wages is made in accordance with documented time records.

***Major Controls***

- A. Timekeeping Policies

Employees are instructed on the proper punching in and out utilizing a biometric clock to assure the accuracy of recorded time to cost objectives.

**B. Punches**

Labor hours are accurately recorded by the use of biometric clocks and any corrections to timekeeping records, including the appropriate authorizations and approvals, are documented.

**C. Internal Accounting Controls**

- (i) Reconciliation of hours charged to attendance records.

**Procedures**

Time and Attendance

1. Hourly and salary employees' clock in and out using biometric time clocks daily. Hourly employees submit paper timesheets that are reconciled at each pay period with the time clock records.

Approval and Collection of Time and Attendance

1. Each employee's punches are reviewed daily by School Heads and exceptions are reported to HR.
2. Authorized time clock punches are processed by the back office business services provider for payment.

Reconciliation of Payroll to Punches

1. Hours shown on time and attendance system are reconciled to the hours recorded on the Payroll Register by the Payroll department for each payroll period.

**PREPARATION OF PAYROLL**

***Control Objective***

To ensure that payment of salaries and wages is accurately calculated.

***Major Controls***

- A. Internal Accounting Controls

(i) Time records are periodically reconciled with payroll records.

**Procedures**

1. Employee time sheets are approved by School Heads. All deviations from pre-programmed parameters are approved by HR.
2. The total time recorded on time and attendance system and the number of employees is calculated by the payroll system and reviewed by HR and the back-office business services provider.
3. Recorded hours from the time clock punches are communicated to the Payroll Service electronically.
4. The payroll documents received from payroll software (e.g., calculations, payrolls and payroll summaries) are compared with employee punches, pay rates, payroll deductions, compensated absences etc. by the HR department and the back-office business services provider.
5. The back-office business services provider verifies gross pay and payroll deductions.
6. The total hours and number of employees are compared with the totals in the Payroll Register by the back-office business services provider.
7. The Payroll Register is reviewed and approved by AIMS appropriate personnel.

**PAYROLL PAYMENT**

***Control Objective***

To ensure payment for salaries and wages by check, direct deposit, cash or other means is made only to employees entitled to receive payment.

**PAYROLL WITHHOLDINGS**

***Control Objective***

To ensure that payment withholdings are correctly reflected and paid to the appropriate third parties.

***Major Controls***

A. Reconciliation of Payment and Payroll Withholdings

Payroll withholdings are recorded in the appropriate General Ledger control accounts and reconciled with payments made to third parties.

B. Internal Accounting Controls

**Procedures**

1. The web-based payroll software calculates payroll withholdings for each employee. These are summarized by pay period and recorded in General Ledger.

2. Payments for payroll withholdings are reconciled with the amounts recorded in the General Ledger control accounts by the back-office business services provider.

3. The back-office business services provider reviews the accuracy and timeliness of payments made to third parties for payroll withholdings.

4. Original withholding and benefit election forms, maintained in the employee file, are prepared by employee and reviewed and approved on a periodic basis by the back-office business services provider.

## **1300 DEPRECIATION**

### **Procedures**

1. AIMS K-12 College Prep Charter District capitalize all fixed assets when acquired and records the historical cost of these items in the Enterprise Fund. In accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, as they relate to special purpose business-type activity, government units, under GASB 34 depreciation expense must be recorded in the statement of revenue, expenditures and changes in net assets. The AIMS will use the straight-line method of depreciation over the assets useful life as determined as follow:

Computers 3 years, Office Equipment 5 years, Vehicles 5 years, Office Furniture 7 years, Leasehold Improvements, Life of lease or 5 years, whichever is greater, Building Improvements 20 years, and Building 30 years.

## **1400 EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT**

### ***Control Objective***

To ensure the AIMS K-12 College Prep Charter District pays for only authorized business expenses.

### ***Major Controls***

#### **A. Travel Policies**

AIMS K-12 College Prep Charter District has adopted policies on travel reimbursement.

#### **B. Business Expense Reimbursement**

In extremely rare circumstances, and with prior approval and/or a purchase order as may be required by the schools' purchasing policies and procedures, AIMS employees may purchase school supplies or services and seek reimbursement from AIMS. Reimbursements shall be made only for actual and necessary business expenses. Reimbursements shall not be used as an alternative to the purchase requisition system; all purchases for which employees seek reimbursement shall comply with the schools' purchasing policies and procedures.



No purchases of any school supplies or services shall be made without prior approval and/or a purchase order, as may be required by the schools' purchasing policies and procedures. In the event an employee seeks reimbursement for a purchase made without following these procedures, the school may refuse the services and deny payment or return the supplies to the vendor and deny payment, and the purchasing party may be held personally financially liable for payment of the supplies or services.

Reimbursement requests shall contain a receipt, invoice and/or record of sale, and all other relevant documentation, such as prior approval and/or a purchase order, as may be required by the schools' purchasing policies and procedures. Reimbursement requests shall be submitted via the purchase requisition system.

Purchases of the following items are not eligible for reimbursement by AIMS K-12 College Prep Charter District. Any purchases of such items, if appropriate, shall be made through the schools' purchase requisition system.

- o Deposits or advances for services that have not been rendered;
- o Donations or sponsorships;
- o Flowers, gifts or gift cards;
- o Personal cell phone purchases or monthly plans (these are handled by purchase orders, with minor accessory items allowed)
- o Alcoholic beverages; and
- o Individual items costing more than \$2,000, excluding travel.

#### C. Internal Accounting Controls

- (i) Justification for travel approved by Superintendent.
- (ii) Documentation for incurred employee expenses.
- (iii) Documentation for company credit card purchase.

#### **Expense Advance or Reimbursement**

Expense Reimbursement:

1. Soon after traveling, but not exceeding 30 days, an employee who seeks reimbursement for authorized expenses completes a Travel Report detailing the expenses incurred, attaching originals of supporting documentation.
2. All credit card purchases are supported by invoices in order to be reimbursed.
2. The employee's Travel Report and credit card purchases invoices are reviewed and approved by their management.

## 1500 - MANAGEMENT REPORTING PROCEDURES

In this section, procedures are covered for supporting the annual budget, financial reporting and tax compliance.

### ANNUAL BUDGET

#### *Control Objective*

To effectively support the preparation of the annual budget and its periodic review.

#### *Major Controls*

##### A. Budget Process

The Chief Business Officer works with the back-office business services provider and prepares the annual operating and capital budgets and cash flow projection, with input from the AIMS' community. The budgets and projection are submitted to the Board of Trustees for approval.

##### B. Internal Accounting Controls

Accuracy and completeness of the budget and projections

### Procedures

1. In preparation of the annual operating and capital budget and cash flow projection, the back-office business services provider prepares a preliminary budgets and projection for review by the Chief Business Officer in consultation with the AIMS' staff.
2. To support budgets and projection estimates, the back-office business services provider prepares current year-to-date financial data with projections of year-end totals.
3. The back-office business services provider and the Chief Business Officer review the budgets and projection submitted for completeness and reasonableness.
4. The Board of Trustees approves and adopts the final budgets and projection.
5. The adopted budgets totals are entered in the General Ledger by the back-office business services provider for the new fiscal year, in order to prepare budget to actual reports.

### FINANCIAL REPORTING

#### *Control Objective*

To ensure the accuracy, completeness and timeliness of financial reporting to support decision- making.

#### *Major Controls*

##### A. Schedule

Monthly managerial reports are prepared based on a schedule.

B. Review and Approval Financial reports are reviewed for accuracy and completeness.

C. Audit

The annual financial statements of the AIMS' are audited by a certified public accounting firm.

#### **Procedures**

1. The back-office business services provider prepares monthly budget vs. actual financial reports and cash flow projection for the Board of Trustees meetings.
2. AIMS K-12 College Prep Charter District submit to an audit of their financial statements by a qualified certified public accounting firm, in accordance with Governmental Auditing Standards
3. AIMS K-12 College Prep Charter District shall automatically submit all financial reports required under Education Code Section 47604.33 and 47605(m).

#### **PAYROLL TAX COMPLIANCE**

##### ***Control Objective***

To accurately prepare and file required tax documents on a timely basis.

##### ***Procedures***

1. AIMS K-12 College Prep Charter District maintains a schedule of required filing due dates for:
  - (i) IRS Form W-2 - Wage and Tax Statement.
  - (ii) IRS Form W-3 - Transmittal of Income and Tax Statements.
  - (iii) IRS Form 940 - Employer's Federal Unemployment (FUTA) Tax Return.
  - (iv) IRS Form 941 - Employer's Quarterly Federal Tax Return for Federal Income Tax Withheld from Wages and FICA Taxes.
  - (v) IRS Form 1099 MISC (also 1099-DIV, 1099-INT, 1099-OID) - U.S. Annual Information Return for Recipients of Miscellaneous Income.
- (i) Quarterly and annual state(s) unemployment tax return(s).
2. Before submission, all payroll tax documents and the supporting schedules are reviewed and approved by the back-office business services provider for accuracy and completeness.

## Coversheet

### 2022 - 2023 AIMS K12 Student Handbook and addition of HS honors Language

<b>Section:</b>	II. Action Items
<b>Item:</b>	B. 2022 - 2023 AIMS K12 Student Handbook and addition of HS honors Language
<b>Purpose:</b>	Vote
<b>Submitted by:</b>	
<b>Related Material:</b>	AIMS College Prep High School Valedictorian and Salutatorian Policy.pdf 2022-23+AIMS+K-12+Student+and+Family+Handbook.pdf



## AIMS Finance Committee Meeting Item Cover Letter

Item:

Presented By:

Staff Recommendation:

Committee Approval:

Total Associated Cost:

Included in Budget?

Funding Source:

Over/Under Budget?

Amount Over/Under Budget?

Included in LCAP?

Which LCAP?



## **AIMS College Prep High School Valedictorian and Salutatorian Policy October 10, 2022**

1. The student that fulfills all AIMS College Prep High School graduation requirements and possesses the highest overall unweighted GPA in their graduating class, shall be recognized as the AIMS HS Valedictorian.
2. The student that fulfills all AIMS College Prep High School graduation requirements and possesses the second highest overall unweighted GPA in their graduating class shall be recognized as the AIMS HS Salutatorian.
3. When any two or more students that fulfill all AIMS College Prep High School graduation requirements but possess a tie in calculating the second highest overall unweighted GPA, these students shall be recognized as Co-Salutatorians.
4. When any two or more students that fulfill all AIMS College Prep High School graduation requirements but possess a tie in calculating the highest overall unweighted GPA, the student with the highest overall weighted GPA shall be recognized as Valedictorian.
4. When any two or more students that fulfill all AIMS College Prep High School graduation requirements but possess a tie in calculating the highest overall weighted GPA, these students shall be recognized as Co-Valedictorians. In this scenario, the student with the second highest weighted GPA shall be recognized as Salutatorian.

5. When any two or more students that fulfill all AIMS College Prep High School graduation requirements but possess a tie in calculating the second highest overall weighted GPA, these students shall be recognized as Co-Salutatorians.



**AIMS K-12**  
**COLLEGE PREP**  
CHARTER DISTRICT

**AIMS K-12 COLLEGE PREP**  
**CHARTER DISTRICT**

**STUDENT AND FAMILY HANDBOOK**  
**2022-2023**

AIMS COLLEGE PREP ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (GRADES K-5)  
AIMS COLLEGE PREP MIDDLE SCHOOL (GRADES 6-8)  
AIMS COLLEGE PREP HIGH SCHOOL (GRADES 9-12)

171 12TH STREET, OAKLAND, CA 94607 | TEL: 510-893-8701 | FAX: 510-893-0345  
[WWW.AIMSK12.ORG](http://WWW.AIMSK12.ORG)



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# 1. INTRODUCTION

## 1.1. Welcome Statement

Dear AIMS Families,

This handbook is designed to acquaint you with official AIMS District policies and to better help prepare you for a rigorous college prep environment and beyond.

AIMS K-12 reserves the right to adopt changes to its handbook at any given time as needed. Updates to this handbook will be communicated to all families and students and will be posted on our school's website at [aimsk12.org](http://aimsk12.org).

## 1.2. AIMS K12 College Prep Charter District

**Year Founded:** 1996 (Oakland, CA)

**Mascot:** Golden Eagles

**School Colors** - Red, Athletic Gold, and Royal Blue\*

**Number of Students:** 1300

**Website:** [www.aimsk12.org](http://www.aimsk12.org)

**Email Address:** [Communications@aimsk12.org](mailto:Communications@aimsk12.org)

**District Address:** 171 12<sup>th</sup> Street Oakland, CA 94607

**Office Phone Number:** (510) 893-8701

**Superintendent:** Maya Woods-Cadiz

**Board President:** Christopher Edington

## 1.3. AIMS K-12 History

Founded in 1996, AIMS K-12 began as a middle school (AIPCS) by Native American families looking to retain a cultural connection for their children. AIPCS was Oakland's second publicly-funded charter school. In 2006, AIPCS became the first Oakland public charter school in Oakland to win recognition as a National Blue-Ribbon School. Later that year, AIPCS expanded to include a high school (AIPHS), and, in 2012, AIMS K-12 expanded to include an elementary school. As AIMS K-12 grew, the student body became increasingly diverse, and, in 2018, both our elementary and middle schools were recognized for nearly closing the achievement gap in African American students.

During the 2018-19 school year, the AIMS Board of Trustees (the "Board") took action to change the name of AIPHS to AIMS College Prep High School (AIMS HS). During the 2019- 20 school year, AIMS College Prep High School was awarded the A-G Award from Families In Action (FIA) with 100% A-G graduate rate completion for African- American students. Additionally, in 2020, the AIMS K12 organization received the California Charter School Association Hart Vision Award, recognizing AIMS as the Northern California Charter school network of the year. In 2017, AIMS HS began its first athletic program. Since that time, our sports teams have won 4 varsity championships, 3 varsity championship runner-up's, 5 JV Championships, 2 CIF-Oakland Section Championship Runner-Ups, and 8 students participated in the CIF State Championships over a two-year period. Students must maintain a 3.0 GPA in order to partake in AIMS sports programs.

## 1.4. Mission Statement

AIMS exists to prepare all students, especially those who have been traditionally underserved, to enter a four-year college after graduation from high school and complete at minimum a four-year degree.

## 1.5. AIMS Credo

<b>The Family</b>	We are a family at AIMS K-12.
<b>The Goal</b>	We are always working for academic and social excellence.
<b>The Faith</b>	We will prosper by focusing and working toward our goals.
<b>The Journey</b>	We will go forward, continue working, and remember we will always be a part of the AIMS K-12 family.

## 1.6. AIMS Values

<b>Excellence</b>	Commitment to excellence in all that we do.
<b>Wisdom and Knowledge</b>	Pursuit of wisdom and knowledge as intrinsically valuable.
<b>Empathy</b>	Recognition of dignity and worth of every human being.
<b>Family and Community</b>	Building of family and community.
<b>Equity</b>	Social awareness and justice that leads to action.
<b>Legacy</b>	The continued preservation and development of AIMS methodologies for 21st century learners and educators.

## 1.7. AIMSTRONG

AIMSTRONG has developed into the official moniker of the AIMS K12 College Prep Charter District. When taken in its totality, AIMSTRONG best conveys the model AIMS student:

**Academics:** Academics is the first word in AIMSTRONG and is the cornerstone to future success. Academics means developing and growing our scholarship, our grades, our inquiry, our brains.

**Integrity:** Being honest and possessing strong moral principles. Integrity means being true to our best selves consistently.

**Mentorship:** Providing guidance, influence, and direction to your AIMS community. Mentorship is serving our neighbors, community and families, especially with our strengths.

**Strength:** The influence or power possessed by you to combat the rigors of academics and real-life while resisting being moved or broken. Strength is both physical growth and the will power to complete the work we begin.

**Teamwork:** The combined action of each group member doing their part selflessly to benefit the whole. Teamwork is being part of a group which has an agreed goal.

**Responsibility:** Moral, legal, or mental accountability and taking ownership for one's actions. Responsibility is when we own our real part of getting teamwork, family, and planning done.

**Organization:** Preparation and efficiency when coordinating and carrying out activities. Organization is both how we plan and what we do to get things done systematically.

**Nerve:** Displaying courage, power, control and steadiness under pressure. Nerve knows when to step out to make a change in a situation or plan.

**Grit:** To keep going to accomplish our plans, even when there are strong obstacles. Grit is best personified in our ability to be knocked down and to get back up again.

## 1.8. AIMS Model

**Pedagogy and Practices:** In order for AIMS to meet our mission of successful acceptance to a four-year college or university, we have designed K-12 instruction toward the goal of mastery of the spiral progression of learning standards.

**Diversity and Inclusion:** We believe that each child has a unique talent and purpose. We see and celebrate differences, and do not tolerate bullying or prejudices.

- Every student has opportunities to learn individually and in groups.
- Teachers are expected to regularly examine their own biases with respect to student behavior and aptitude.
- AIMS functions as a school designed to serve traditionally underserved communities. The programming design of AIMS will prioritize the needs of these communities.
- Teachers are expected to support students in accessing the general education classroom whenever possible.
- Parent communications will happen with the support of translators whenever possible.
- Students are encouraged to share their cultural traditions at school functions.
- AIMS staff is committed to supporting students in practicing dialogue and critical thinking when both inspirations and conflicts arise.
- At AIMS, we accept and respect each other regardless of race, religion, or orientation.

**Learning Environment:** The AIMS Model classroom is one that is orderly and clean. We believe that an orderly classroom increases time on task for instruction. Students are expected to help in the upkeep of their classrooms and school environment and teachers may assign students classroom jobs to help promote classroom culture and efficiency.

## 2. SCHOOL INFORMATION AND PROCEDURES

### 2.1. 2020-21 Academic Calendar

A copy of the Academic Calendar can be found online at [aimsk12.org](http://aimsk12.org).

### 2.2. Leaving the School During the Day

AIMS College Prep High School is a closed campus. Unauthorized leave is not permitted under any circumstances.

**Leaving the School during the Day:** If you must pick up your child early for an appointment during the day, the parent/legal guardian needs to sign out a student or sign a note explaining the reason for leaving.

Students will not be released for early dismissal 15 minutes prior to the regular dismissal time unless previous arrangements have been made with the teacher, the site administrator, and the office. When picking up students early, the parent or authorized adult will be asked to complete an early dismissal form and the office will notify the teacher to send the student to the office for departure. Parents may not enter the classroom before the class has been dismissed without prior approval from the teacher or the office.

**If a student is 18 years old or older:** If a student is 18 years old, they are allowed to sign themselves out but they must inform office staff/teachers of the purpose of their leaving school. However, if they choose to sign themselves out, they must be fully aware that in the event they are cutting classes, they will be subject to disciplinary action. These absences will be marked as unexcused absences. In the event that a student must leave school, a signed note from the student's parent is preferred.

### 2.3. Visiting the School

All visitors to school sites must report to the school office when entering and receive authorization to visit elsewhere in the school site (please follow Pandemic guideline for the 2021-2022 school year). While AIMS strongly encourages parent visits, classroom visits during school hours must be authorized by both the teacher and the administrator. Unauthorized persons will not be permitted in school buildings or on school grounds. The Head of School or designees are authorized to take appropriate action to prevent such persons from entering buildings and from loitering on school grounds.

### 2.4. Emergency Contact Information -Online Form Needed

Every family must **submit** a new emergency card or confirm the information on the existing emergency sheet every school year before classes begin. These must be submitted online. Please **submit** a new emergency card immediately at any point during the year if any of the following information changes:

- Home address
- Work address



- Home, cell, work telephone numbers
- Doctor's phone number
- People who are authorized to be contacted in case of an emergency
- Telephone numbers of people to be contacted in case of an emergency
- People authorized to pick up your child from school
- Health and Vaccination Status

## 2.5. Custodial Arrangements

Parent(s) shall provide complete information regarding the custodial care and visitation rights of their child(ren). Upon request, the parent(s) shall furnish to the Head of School a copy of any relevant court order so as to ensure the safety and welfare of the respective student. The parent(s) shall have a continuing duty to apprise the school of any changes in the custodial care of the student and of the issuance of any court order restricting or prohibiting parental or third-party access to the child.

## 2.6. Enrollment

After a student is accepted, they would need to complete the following steps:

Submit online Registration document with the following information:

- Student's name and Age Verification Document (e.g., Birth Certificate, Passport, Parent/Guardian Affidavit)
- Provide Immunization Verification
- Copy of existing Individualized Education Program (IEP) and record of prior special education services (if applicable)
- Transcripts
- Most recent SBAC scores. Students in grades 4th through 11th (if applicable)
- Most recent ELPAC Scores (if applicable).
- Most recent student report card from the previous school.
- Technology Agreement
- Emergency Contact Information Form
- Household Income Questionnaire
- Counseling Services Form
- Media Authorization
- FERPA (Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act)
- Attend Enrollment Orientation

New and returning students will need to complete the following steps:

Submit re-registration Application with the following information:

- Provide Immunization Verification
- Technology Agreement
- Emergency Contact Information Form
- Counseling Services Form
- Media Authorization
- FERPA (Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act)
- Field Trip Permission
- Home Language Survey
- Lunch Application

#### Homeless students:

The law requires the immediate enrollment of homeless students. Schools cannot delay or prevent the enrollment of a student due to the lack of school or immunization records. It is the responsibility of the new school to request all necessary documents from the previous school, and refer parents to all programs and services for which the student is eligible. For more information, please refer to the Homeless Student section.

### **2.7. Confidentiality of Records**

AIMS K12 will adhere to all procedures related to confidentiality and privacy of records. In the event that a child enters AIMS K12 upon transfer from an existing district school, the child's cumulative records will be requested from the respective district. Upon exit from AIMS K12, the child's cumulative records will be forwarded upon request.

### **2.8. Off-Campus Lunch Policy**

Students are not allowed to leave campus during breaks or their lunch period. Outside foods may not be ordered for delivery to campus.

### **2.9. Lost & Found**

Anything left or found unattended will be considered a lost item. Any items found on campus will be taken to the Lost and Found. The Lost and Found will be cleaned out every two weeks. Items not claimed will be donated or discarded. All items brought to school should be clearly labeled with the student's name.

## 3. SCHOOL POLICIES

### 3.1. Student Dress Code Policy

All students at AIMS in grades K-12 must adhere to this dress code while on the school campus. Teachers and administrators are responsible to ensure this code is adhered to. Students not in dress code will receive detentions and other applicable consequences.

Please refer to your specific school for guidelines.

### 3.2. Technology Policies

The use of technology on campus is an opportunity to enhance the learning environment and to deliver instruction.

Technology must be used for educational purposes. Students seen off-task or on inappropriate sites will have their electronic device confiscated.

**Cell Phone Policy:** Students must have their cell phones labeled. Teachers must collect cell phones at the beginning of the day or period as appropriate. Students are not to use their phones on campus. If an adult sees a student using their cell phone, it must be taken away and returned only to the student's parent/guardian. In addition to having the phone taken away, the student will earn a detention.

Teachers must collect all cell phones at the beginning of the day or the period, as appropriate.

Academic use, which must be with the prior approval of both the administration and the teacher.

Under all other circumstances, cell phones must not be seen on campus. If a cell phone is heard ringing or buzzing, it can be confiscated for the remainder of the day.

It is recommended for students to turn their cell phones **completely off**, and to **put devices in their bags** before they arrive at school in the morning. Cell phones must be powered off to avoid any situations with their devices.

The school does not assume any responsibility for lost or stolen items.

**Chromebooks:**

Chromebooks are available for student use while on campus. It is the student's duty to protect and preserve the Chromebooks.

Damage to the Chromebooks due to negligence may result in loss of technology privileges.

Students are permitted to borrow Chromebooks or laptops from the office. Laptops or Chromebooks which are issued for student use will be checked out with their school ID, and must be returned in good condition at the end of the school year, or grades will be withheld.

In the case of Independent Study or hybrid learning the school will provide Chromebooks to students. Laptops or Chromebooks which are issued for student use will be checked out with their school ID, and must be returned in good condition.

### Printing Services:

Whenever possible, it is the expectation that students submit all assignments digitally to their instructors as required. Students in need of physical copies of their work may email their teacher regarding printing out copies.

## 3.3. Textbooks/School Materials

Students will be issued textbooks and materials necessary for classroom instruction. These books become the responsibility of the student. Students must cover the issued textbooks and write their names in the designated areas. Damaged or lost books must be replaced by parents or paid in full. Unpaid textbook replacement fees may result in the school holding the student's records until the fees are paid.

## 3.4. Parent Communication Policies

It is very important to ensure that communication between your home and the school is a continuous process. To stay informed of all meetings and events, please check the monthly calendar and the school website on a regular basis.

Communication is key to AIMS being a healthy environment for students and adults. Follow these tips to effectively communicate:

### With Teachers:

Parents have an opportunity to meet with teachers at Back-to-School Night and Open House in the Fall.

Parents may receive personal phone calls or emails periodically from their child's teachers.

Parents will meet with teachers for a parent/teacher conference at least once each semester. All parents are encouraged to attend teacher conferences and/or to contact teachers to meet with them throughout their child's high school years.

Parents may contact teachers by written notes, phone calls, emails or communicate through Parent Square.

Parents may also make an appointment to meet with the teacher during their scheduled preps or open "office hours," or according to teachers' availability. We encourage all parents to be proactive in their communication with teachers, and not only when problems may arise.

You can contact a teacher by:

1. Calling the school and leaving a message on the voice mail system, and the teacher will return your call within 48 hours
2. Writing a note to the teacher
3. and sending with your student
4. Sending an email or parent square
5. Making an appointment to meet with the teacher during their scheduled open "office hours," or according to teachers' availability.

## With the School

1. The AIMS website, AIMS Standard and handbook contain answers to many of the questions parents and community members may have. Please consult these prior to contacting the school with questions.
2. Parents may contact the school with written notes, phone calls, emails if they have questions or concerns, or make an appointment with the appropriate person to address your concerns.
3. Progress reports are given every three weeks, and must be signed by parent/guardian and returned to school.
4. Report cards will be distributed every nine weeks, and parents must meet with teachers if their student is failing, or if teachers request a conference.
5. Student progress, grades, attendance are also available on PowerSchool. Grades are updated on a weekly basis.
6. AIMS Newsletters will be emailed via Parent Square.
7. Memos and flyers are sent home on an as needed basis.
8. Back-to-School Night, scheduled in the Fall, is an opportunity for parents/guardians to meet their child's teachers, to get an overview of grade level curriculum and expectations, and to learn more about the school from the Head of School and your child's teacher.
9. Family Advisory Council (FAC) is the vehicle for parents to learn on a monthly basis about school activities and meet to support those activities.
10. Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) is where stakeholders learn about the budget and to provide input.
11. Board meetings are a time for the board to meet and discuss governance. Visitors are welcomed and protocols for behavior and structure must be followed by attendees.

## With your child during the school day:

If you need to communicate with your child during school, call the office and leave a message for your child. That message will be given to your child. A child will only be called to the phone if it is an emergency.

Please make all carpool or after school pick up arrangements with your child before school.

## 3.5. Student Communication

1. Students must use their school email account while on campus
2. Students will use proper communication protocols to be heard and will not interrupt others.
3. Students will follow adults' directions.
4. Students will not use foul language, or participate in bullying, name-calling, or fighting.

## 3.6. Admissions Policy

Admission to AIMS K12 is open to all students who wish to attend the school as outlined in Education Code, section 47605(d)(2)(A). For specific admissions information, please log into the [www.aimsk12.org](http://www.aimsk12.org) website.

AIMS K12 schools are public charter schools that will not charge students tuition, as it is free to all who are admitted. AIMS 12 will not discriminate against any student on the basis of disability, gender, gender identity, gender expression, nationality, race or ethnicity, religion, sexual

orientation, or any other characteristic that is contained in the definition of hate crimes set forth in Section 422.55 of the Penal Code. AIMS k12 will also adhere to the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act and ensure that each child of a homeless individual and each homeless youth has equal access to the same free, appropriate public education as provided to other children and youths. AIMS shall adhere to all state and federal laws regarding the minimum age of students. AIMS k12 shall not enroll pupils over 19 years of age unless continuously enrolled in a public school and making satisfactory progress toward high school diploma requirements and is not over the age of 22.

### 3.7. Parent Involvement Guidelines

The involvement of parents in the classroom or at the school is greatly encouraged. Along with being a school volunteer, parents may visit the classroom as an observer. Parents are welcome to request an observation period at any time.

However, teachers have the right to refuse unscheduled observation requests. The best way to plan an observation is to follow these procedures:

1. Schedule a date and time with the teacher by leaving a message for them in the main office or contacting them during their office hours.
2. Explain the purpose for the observation.

Note: Observation times may be limited. During observations, teachers and support staff are not available for any one-on-one discussions or conferences. These meetings may be scheduled for a later time.

Our goal is to create the strongest possible partnership between home and school in order to increase student achievement and success. Parents are our most important partners in the road to student success. We strongly believe that students will find greater levels of academic success when their home and school share similar values about learning, develop a positive relationship and work together to build a strong partnership.

To ensure the development of authentic and productive relationships with parents, AIMS K12 offers a variety of opportunities for you to be involved in the academic life of your child at the classroom and school levels. We further demonstrate our commitment to forging genuine partnerships with all parents by offering high-quality family services, including a comprehensive parent workshop program.

### Ways to Participate at AIMS

**Become a School Instructional Volunteer:** Throughout the school year opportunities will arise for you to volunteer in your student's classroom, in the school, and for special events. AIMS K12 encourages your involvement as a volunteer in the life of our school and welcomes your participation as a volunteer. We ask that you follow certain policies and guidelines as a school volunteer as outlined in the following section "School Volunteer Guidelines."

#### Family Advisory Council:

AIMS K12 has a Family Advisory Council (FAC), which serves as an advisory forum for parents to engage the AIMS K12, staff and other parents. The council will consist of the Head of Schools, Parent Engagement Coordinator teachers, other staff members and parents. Students will also be encouraged to participate so that they may help shape school policy.

#### LCAP Advisory Committee And SSC:

## The LCAP Advisory Committee and SSC

recommends modifications to the strategic plan to reflect changing needs and/or priorities. Also, the LCAP Advisory Committee will provide input on: LCAP, SPSA curricula and instructional strategies, staff professional development, the school budget, parent involvement, staff stipends, and the school calendar. The LCAP Advisory Committee and SSC will meet monthly during the academic year. Ultimately, the goal is to ensure that there is two-way communication between the school, parents and all its stakeholders.

Election of parent representatives and other community members are held during the fall of each school year. Nomination forms for parent and community members shall be distributed at each school site and sent home to parents. New members and alternates shall be installed by the October meeting.

Other special program/project committees may be established for specific purposes such as fundraising activities, special events, etc.

### Participate in Parent Workshops:

Various Parent Workshops and school special events and activities will be held during the school year. Throughout the year the school may offer educational opportunities for the continuing education of parents/guardians. Such opportunities may include classes on parenting, health topics, open communication, job training, domestic violence and English Language Development. Other opportunities include families having the option to attend DLAC, ELAC, Wellness and Family Advisory meetings. All meeting spaces and workshops are open to families.

## School Volunteer Guidelines

### Volunteer Procedures:

Any person interested in participating in a school's volunteer program must complete the volunteer application through AIMS K12 Human Resources Department.

A volunteer for a single event that takes place for the duration of one day only does not need to submit an application but must be checked by a school administrator against the California Megan's Law online database at <http://www.meganslaw.ca.gov>.

The Head of School must confirm and verify that the volunteer has met all requirements, including:

- Completed and signed volunteer application
- Megan's Law clearance
- Tuberculosis test clearance (no more than two years old)
- Live Scan Fingerprinting required

Volunteer applicants need to be fingerprinted only once during their volunteer service. AIMS adheres to the California State statutes pertaining to supervised volunteerism in public schools. Fingerprinting clearance by the FBI and the DOJ is required for the following persons:

- Persons providing direct instruction to students regardless of the number of hours engaged in such activity, even if supervised by a certificated employee
- Persons volunteering in any school for more than 16 hours per week, regardless of supervision
- Persons volunteering for less than 16 hours per week under general supervision and whose duties require significant contact with students, as determined by the school principal, including the following:
- Lunch supervision assistants/food handlers

School volunteers are required to sign in at the school office upon entering the campus and sign out when they exit the campus. No person may provide volunteer service until all necessary clearances are verified by the school principal and the volunteer has signed a copy of the application.

## **Volunteer Guidelines**

Classroom and student work is always confidential. Please don't discuss student problems with anyone except the teacher or Head of School. Try not to compare children within the classroom. Since there are as many methods as there are teachers, please do not compare different methods of teaching. There is no defined best way to teach. Work positively for the good of the school. Constructive criticism should be directed only to the supervising teacher or school administrator. When you are volunteering in the classroom, please remember that you are doing so under the direction of the teacher. Ask questions! If something is unclear, please ask for clarification. If you have any questions about volunteer policies and procedures, please contact the Administrative Assistant to the Head of School.

### **3.8. Harassment, Discrimination, and Bullying Policy**

AIMS K12 is committed to protecting its students, employees, and applicants for admission from bullying, harassment, or discrimination based on the actual or perceived characteristics set forth in Penal Code Section 422.5, Education Code Section 220 and actual or perceived sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, gender expression, race or ethnicity, ethnic group identification, ancestry, nationality, national origin, religion, color, mental or physical disability, age, immigration status or on the basis of a person's association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics, in any program or activity it conducts or to which it provides significant assistance.

AIMS K12 believes that all students and employees have a right to a safe, equitable and harassment-free school environment. As a school, we have an obligation to promote mutual respect, tolerance and acceptance. AIMS K12 prohibits any acts of discrimination, harassment, and bullying on any area of the school campus, at school-sponsored events and activities, regardless of location, through school-owned technology and through other electronic means, consistent with this policy. Bullying, harassment, or discrimination will not be tolerated and shall be just cause for disciplinary action.

For additional information, please read the Section on School Code of Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures.

### **3.9. Administrative Searches**

Administrators reserve the right to provide searches in accordance with state and local laws.

### **3.10 Use of Student Images/ Schoolwork**

The District often includes images of students engaged in school activities and events as part of outreach and information about our programs for parents, family, and the wider community. Community organization or partners value these images as compelling ways to share and urge support for the work of our teachers and students.



During the school year, your student may be photographed or filmed by District staff while participating in school programs and activities. If you have a special concern about the use of your student's image or name, please notify the school office and request to opt your child out of media and pictures related to district.

### **3.11. Media and Special Projects**

There are times when schools may be featured in various news media. News reporters, photographers and/or film crews from TV, radio stations, newspapers, magazines, online publications, or other

media may wish to interview, photograph and/or film your child in relation to a story about our schools or students, such as a school performance, a sports competition, or other newsworthy events. Your child's name might be included in the report. We want you to know:

Media representatives must register immediately upon entering any school building or grounds when school is in session and a media representative who wishes to photograph students on school grounds should first make arrangements with the Head of School or designee.

- The district will not impose restraints on students' right to speak freely with media representatives at those times which do not disrupt a student's educational program.

Parents/guardians may, at their discretion, instruct their children not to communicate with news media representatives. Please discuss your wishes with your students if you do not want them to be interviewed, photographed or filmed by news media, on or off campus.

## 4. STUDENT ATTENDANCE

Consistent school attendance is critical to student success. Chronic absenteeism has been linked to an increased likelihood of poor academic performance, disengagement from school, and high school dropout rates - particularly among students of color.

Because of the vital link between students' attendance and academic success, we take pride in the fact that our school's attendance rates for students far surpass District and state averages. Students are recognized for perfect attendance each quarter. Attendance is a priority at AIMS, and understanding that some absences are unavoidable, this attendance policy outlines procedures for ensuring that consistent learning is not hindered by absences.

### 4.1. How to Report an Absence

When your child is absent from school, please notify your child's school at 510-893- 8701 (K-8) and 510-220-5044(9-12).

When leaving a message regarding your child's absence please provide the following information:

- Student's name
  - Date(s) absent
  - Reason for absence
  - Grade/teacher
  - Your name and your relation to child
  - Daytime phone number
1. Attendance is taken at the beginning of each class period. The office staff will call home daily when students are absent.
  2. Once an absence is reported by a parent/guardian, the front office will notify the student's teachers.
  3. Notifying a teacher or designee directly without first notifying the front office is not sufficient and will not excuse a student's absence.

### 4.2. Excused and Unexcused Absences

Students who are absent for any reason must attend Saturday School. Please be aware that the State does not reimburse the District for any absence. Every day a student is absent results in a loss of revenue to the District.

The District is still required to keep accurate records of student attendance and reasons for absences.

- 1) Absences are "excused" when they are due to:
  - a) Illness, quarantine, or medical, dental, optometric, or chiropractic appointment
  - b) Family emergency
  - c) Legal matter
  - d) Religious holiday or ceremony - Pupils, with the written consent of their parents or guardians, may be excused from school in order to participate in religious exercises with prior approval by the Head of School [Education Code Section 46014]. Additionally, students may be absent to attend a religious retreat [Education Code Section 48205(a) (7)], not to exceed four hours per semester. Such absences are considered excused absences, and pupils are responsible for making up missed work.

Funeral services of an immediate family member (one day if the service is in California and not more than three days if the service is outside California).

- e) Jury Duty
- f) Illness or medical appointment during school hours of a child of whom the pupil is the custodial parent
- g) For justifiable personal reasons when the pupil's absence is requested in writing by the parent or guardian and approved by the Head of School or a designated representative pursuant to uniform standards established by the governing board.
- h) For the purpose of serving as a member of a precinct board
- i) For the purpose of spending time with a member of the pupil's immediate family who is an active-duty member of the uniformed services and has been called to duty for, is on leave from, or has immediately returned from, deployment to a combat zone or combat support position.
- j) For the purpose of attending the pupil's naturalization ceremony to become a United States citizen.
- k) Authorized parental leave for a pregnant or parenting pupil for up to eight (8) weeks.
- l) Work assignment for students who hold an entertainment work permit or who participates with a not-for-profit arts organization in a performance for a public-school audience.

*The law limits the number of excused absences for a child holding an entertainment work permit to five absences per school year, each of which may consist of up to five days. CA. Ed. Code 48225.5.*

- 2) Absences due to an illness exceeding 3 consecutive days require a note from a doctor or nurse excusing the absence **AND** specifying the amount of time excused. If no note is received, the absence is considered an unexcused absence.

**Note:** A student with an excused absence from school will be allowed to complete all assignments and tests missed during the absence that can be reasonably provided and, upon satisfactory completion within a reasonable period of time, shall be given full credit. The teacher of the class from which a student is absent will determine which tests and assignments shall be reasonably equivalent to, but not necessarily identical to, the tests and assignments that the student missed during the absence. If the work is not completed within a reasonable time, the student will receive no credit.

- 3) Any absence for reasons other than those listed as EXCUSED ABSENCES are **unexcused**, even if the parent calls in to excuse it. Absences unverified after 3 school days will be recorded as unexcused.
- 4) A prolonged absence due to any other unforeseen circumstance must be approved by the Head of School.

**Dismissal Due to Illness:**

A child may be sent home early from school if s/he is ill or appears to be suffering from an infectious or contagious disease.

Parents/guardians or emergency contacts listed will be contacted to pick up the child.

**4.3. Student Absence & Homework/Test Taking Procedures**

- A. Teachers will prepare homework for absent students so they can pick it up from the office to

limit interruptions in the classroom.

- B. It is the student and the parent/guardian's responsibility to contact their teachers directly to obtain a copy of all missing homework assignments.
- C. Students and the parent/guardian may notify the front office if they are unable to connect with their teacher within a 6-12-hour time period.
- D. If the students cannot get to school due to transportation issues, they should let the school know so we can try to provide a solution.
- E. Teachers will assign Saturday school to all students who are absent.
- F. Teachers will report class list/attendance grid discrepancies immediately.

#### 4.4. Tardies

- A. Students will be marked absent if they are not present by the start of the class period, as determined by the master bell schedule.
- B. Students that are tardy must first sign in at the front desk before heading to class to ensure their attendance is updated accordingly. Teachers will not allow tardy students to join class without a tardy pass, which is issued after signing in.
- C. Students with a legitimate excuse, as determined by the aforementioned section on excused absences, shall be marked "Tardy Excused" when attending class late.
- D. Students who arrive after the first 30 minutes of class without a legitimate excuse shall be marked as "Truant."

#### 4.5. Truancy

California Education Code 48260 defines a student as [truant](#) if he or she has any combination of:

- Three unexcused absences;
  - Three unexcused tardies; and/or
  - Three absences exceeding 30 minutes.
1. Students shall be classified as truant if absent from school three (3) full days in one school year, without a valid excuse or was tardy for more than any 30-minute period during the school day on three occasions during one school year, or any combination thereof.
  2. Upon reaching truant status, the parent/guardian will receive the first "Truancy Notification" letter from the school and will be referred to the Student Attendance Review Team (SART). This letter must be signed by the parent/guardian and returned to the school within ten (10) days. As part of the SART process, the parent/guardian, student, teacher representative(s) and an administrator will meet to form a SST and consider a plan for correcting the attendance problem.
  3. Upon reaching four (4) unexcused absences, the parent/guardian will receive a second Truancy Notification letter (to be signed and returned to school within ten (10) days and will be required to attend a follow-up meeting to consider a plan for correcting the problem.
  4. Upon reaching five (5) or more unexcused absences and/or tardy truant, the parent/guardian will receive a third Truancy Notification letter and will be required to meet with the Student Attendance Review Board (SARB). The SARB may include an administrator, Board member, classroom teacher, and support staff such as psychologist and or counselor. It is the school's intent to identify and remove all barriers to the
  5. student's success and will explore every possible option to address student attendance issues with the family. The SARB team will discuss the absence problem with the parent/guardian to work on solutions, develop strategies, discuss appropriate support services for the student and

his/her family, and establish a plan to resolve the attendance issue.

6. After continuous attempts to resolve, students may be referred to the district attorney's office. If the student is reported as a truant three or more times per school year, and does not follow the SARB's directive, the matter may be referred to the District Attorney for prosecution, and other appropriate action may be taken by the school, The parent/guardian must be notified of this action. (EC §48262, §48263, §48263.5)

#### **4.6. SARB/T: Student Attendance Review Board/Team**

All children between 6 and 18 years of age are required by California's Education Code to attend school and their parents have a legal responsibility to ensure their child's attendance.

The law also states that a student's refusal to attend school regularly can result in a referral to the School Attendance Review Board/Team (SARB/T), Juvenile Probation, and the Juvenile Court System. Additionally, parents who fail to compel their child's attendance may face criminal prosecution and penalties. (Education Code Section 48260)

At AIMS HS the SARB/T addresses chronic attendance and truancy problems. The SARB/T meets with students and families to collaborate, identify persistent attendance issues, and develop solutions to resolve these issues. It is a panel that may include but not limited to the school's SARB/T Coordinator, social/mental health services, community agency representatives, and a referring school site representative.

Prior to referring a student to SARB/T, the school will help the student remedy his/her attendance situation by referring the student to the Student Success Team (SST). Interventions may include counseling, mentoring, tutoring, after school program referral, behavioral support, wellness center referral and home visits. When school sites have exhausted their resources and attendance has not improved, a family can be referred to the SARB/T panel which will then schedule a hearing before a panel and the student and parent/guardian are required to attend.

#### **4.7. Academic Consequences for Chronic Absenteeism/Truancy**

Students with unexcused absences or tardies that cannot be justified due to unforeseen circumstances will not be allowed to make up missing assignments or exams.

Upon reaching three (3) or more unexcused absences that cannot be justified due to unforeseen circumstances in any academic course in any given quarter, the student will automatically fail the quarter with a grade capped at no greater than a C-.

#### **4.8. Saturday Schools**

Students who are absent for any reason, excused or unexcused, must attend Saturday School.

For more information regarding AIMS K12 Saturday School, please see the Section on Student Code of Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures.

## 5. School Code of Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures

AIMS K12 is committed to ensuring that employees and all individuals who work with or have contact with students conduct themselves with students in a way that is supportive, positive, professional, and non-exploitative. AIMS will not tolerate inappropriate conduct or behavior towards or with students by its employees or any individual who works with or has contact with students.

At AIMS K12 we believe that by demonstrating respect for each other, we can create a safe, caring and cooperative environment that promotes learning and celebrates the uniqueness of all individuals. AIMS K12 believes that all students have the right to learn. No student has the right to choose behavior that infringes upon the rights of others. We recognize the primary role of parents as the first and best teachers of their children. We also recognize the partnership that needs to exist between home and school. Our discipline policy is designed to encourage students to acquire and apply acceptable behaviors because student behavior is a key component of school culture and sets the foundation for academic achievement.

We expect that all students behave in a respectful way toward their teachers, any adults, their classmates, and the property of others. Additionally, students will be treated and spoken to respectfully and with care.

With a focus on community building, it is our goal that every student possesses a clear understanding of how their actions affect others. While our larger goal is to discourage misbehavior preemptively, when it occurs, we use missteps as opportunities for learning and reflection. Schools have developed behavior expectations, procedures, and policies that are consistent with a positive discipline model in which we use both kindness and firmness to co-create relationships that include both care and

accountability. Systematic positive praise, reinforcement of desired behaviors, and community building structures are coupled with fair and equitable consequences for students who do not adhere to their responsibilities.

AIMS K12 Schools' approach to discipline includes: teaching school rules and social-emotional skills, reinforcing appropriate school behavior, using effective classroom management and positive behavior support strategies by providing early intervention for misconduct and appropriate use of consequences, and tracking discipline data to ensure that rules and consequences are being applied fairly to all students.

Upon enrollment and at the beginning of each school year, AIMS K12 families will each receive a copy of the Parent/Student Handbook in their Enrollment Packets and be asked to review the Handbook and agree in writing to abide by the provisions of the Handbook, including the school's discipline policy. The plan may include, but not limited to, day-to-day discipline including, school detentions, in-school suspensions, Saturday schools, disciplinary probation, and guidelines for suspension and expulsion. The student discipline policy will define student responsibilities, unacceptable behavior, and the consequences for noncompliance. In addition, school staff members review the discipline policy with new students and parents at the commencement of school each year.

Teachers will be trained during professional development meetings to use effective classroom management strategies to maximize instruction and minimize student misbehavior, and there will be school-wide systems for assigning both positive and negative consequences. Positive consequences include privileges such as lunch with teachers and free dress. Students who do not adhere to stated expectations for behavior and who violate the school's rules may expect

consequences for their behavior. Consequences may include, but are not limited to:

- Warning, verbal and/or written
- Individual conference with the teacher
- Loss of privileges
- Individual behavior contract
- Referral to the School Director or other school staff member
- Notices to parents by telephone or letter
- Parent conference, at school or during a home visit
- Suspension
- Expulsion

Staff shall enforce disciplinary rules and procedures fairly and consistently among all students. Corporal punishment shall not be used as a disciplinary measure against any student. Corporal punishment includes the willful infliction of or willfully causing the infliction of physical pain on a student. For purposes of the policy, corporal punishment does not include an employee's use of force that is reasonable and necessary to protect the employee, students, staff or other persons or to prevent damage to school property. Suspended or expelled students shall be excluded from all school and school- related activities unless otherwise agreed during the period of suspension or expulsion.

Any student who engages in repeated violations of the school's behavioral expectations, or a single severe infraction, will be requested to attend a meeting with the school's staff and the student's parents. The school will prepare a specific, written agreement outlining future student conduct expectations, timelines, and consequences for failure to meet the expectations which may include, but are not limited to, suspension or expulsion.

AIMS K12 is exempt from Education Code requirements and procedures related to student suspension and expulsion. Therefore, references in this charter to the Education Code are used as a guideline. A student may be suspended or expelled for any of the acts enumerated in Education Code § 48900, except for willful defiance, related to school

activity or school attendance that occurs at any time including, but not limited to:

- While on school grounds
- While going to or leaving from school
- During, or traveling to or from school- sponsored activities

AIMS K12 will be a positive and progressive place of learning. The discipline system is designed to create a culture of learning and the Code of Conduct (see Code of Conduct area below) is created to be preventative. Teachers will use a range of lower-level consequences (nonverbal cues, conferencing with the student, loss of privileges, etc.) before resorting to more serious consequences. However, we will have clear policies governing suspension and expulsion. Certain offenses will result in in-school suspension while other more serious violations will result in out-of-school suspensions. Violations - that put students and/or the school in grave physical danger - will be considered grounds for expulsion according Ed. Code 4900. Suspended students will also be responsible for making up all missed work within the specified timetable.

## 5.1. Student Behavior Expectations

At AIMS K12, students are held accountable for their behavior. No one student has the right to disrupt the learning environment of their fellow class members. Students are interested in their education and helping keep the focus on that main goal. Students are aware that they impact other students in the classroom, as they transition, participate in lunch and study hall, and

stand in line.

With the instructions of their teachers, they choose to behave appropriately in those situations and others.

Students are expected to:

- Be diligent in their studies. Treat school property, private property, and other people with respect.
- Obey all school and classroom rules while at school, at District and school activities, and on the way to and from school.
- Follow all directions and directives given by any staff member.
- Dress according to the AIMS K12 dress code. All gang-related attire is prohibited.
- Use proper communication protocols to be heard and to not interrupt others.
- Not use foul language, or participate in bullying, name-calling, or fighting.

## 5.2. Students with Disabilities

Generally, any student identified as a student with a disability pursuant to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, 20 1400-1482, is subject to the same disciplinary measures applicable to all students for violations of the code of conduct, except when the student's behavior is determined to be a manifestation of his/her disability.

## 5.3. Responses to Misbehavior of the Student Discipline Policy

- Warning
  - Detention
  - Behavior Contract
- a) Students who have repeated behavioral problems need to have a behavior contract that describes the behaviors the student is supposed to engage in as well as the consequences. Parents and students must sign the agreement, and there must be a follow up meeting within four to six weeks. A referral may be made to SST to address the repeated misbehaviors.
  - b) Parent Conference
  - c) Counseling
  - d) Loss of privileges, extracurricular activities, etc.
  - e) Sending a student to another classroom for a limited period of time.
    - Behavioral referral forms will be completed by the teacher before sending a student out to a buddy classroom or to an administrator. The form will state why the student was sent, and what was done in the classroom to first stop the concern. A file of the forms will be kept in the office.
  - f) Additional required hours at school: detention or Saturday School.
  - g) Additional school work: extra homework, writing lines or copying materials, additional study/review.
  - h) Community Service: Clean, organize; take out trash, sweep, etc. AIMS k12 will provide gloves and necessary cleaning supplies as appropriate.
  - i) Communication tools: Students will write letters of apology to their families/staff to discuss poor behavior/performance
  - j) Confiscation of prohibited items.
  - k) Suspension or Expulsion in extreme cases with leadership approval

### Consequences Requirements:



Consequences include the following for Detentions: Doubled detentions, banning from extra-curricular activities (like sports, dances), parent shadowing, removal from classroom, apology to class for misbehavior, apology to parents and teacher for misbehavior.

## 5.4. Detention

Detentions must be given until behavior improves. Detention forms must be used to ensure that the student, office, and teacher each have a copy. Detention sessions must be quiet and focused. Detentions are not optional at any level. See Additional Forms for a copy of a detention slip. There are a variety of reasons a detention can be issued. These include, but are not limited to:

1. Tardiness
2. Cutting class
3. Not returning homework
4. Unsigned memo/detention/report card/etc.
5. Missing classroom materials
  - Disorganization
  - Incomplete classroom job
6. Speaking out of turn
7. Talking in class
8. Out of seat without permission
9. Not following directions
10. Food/Drinks/Gum/Candy
11. Throwing/Kicking/Hitting/Teasing

## 5.5. Saturday School

Saturday School is held weekly at each school site.

Saturday School can be separated into two categories: **Academic** and **Restorative Justice**.

### **Academic Saturday School.**

**Academic Saturday School** may be assigned by any teacher or administrator, often as a disciplinary measure with regard to low grades, missing work, or absences.

**Restorative Justice Saturday School** is for behavioral concerns, and is often assigned by a staff member or administrator. Restorative Justice Saturday School can also be assigned automatically, by having two detentions in one week.

### 5.5.1. Academic Saturday School:

Evidence shows that increased academic instruction, tutoring, and study time can help support students in areas where they are struggling. For these reasons, as part of the AIMS Standard, we offer and may require students to attend Academic Saturday School in instances where academic concerns must be addressed.

Academic Saturday School may be issued under the following circumstances:

- Obtaining a C- or below in any academic quarter or semester
- To Complete Make-Up Assignments, Projects, or Assessments
- Any unexcused student absence or tardy truancy
- Placement on Academic Probation
- In need of improving their subject benchmark mastery, or statewide assessments
- At the discretion of the Teacher, Administrator, Parent/Guardian, or Student

Students will be assigned packets to complete any makeup school work, missing assignments, or to receive tutoring. Students should come to Saturday School prepared and ready to work.

### **5.5.2. Restorative Justice Saturday School:**

Restorative Justice is a theory of justice that emphasizes repairing the harm caused by criminal behavior. It is best accomplished through cooperative processes that allow all willing stakeholders to meet, although other approaches are available when that is impossible. This can lead to transformation of people, relationships and communities.

Students who have received two detentions in one week will attend Restorative Justice Saturday School. Students who have committed egregious violations of any part of the code of conduct will attend Restorative Justice Saturday School. Restorative Justice Saturday School may be assigned at the discretion of the Head of School.

Dialogue and other Restorative Justice practices can be used so that students can learn to resolve conflicts on their own and in small groups. Students can be empowered to make better decisions. Students will participate in campus community service in order to encourage character building.

### **5.5.3. Absences from Saturday School:**

Students may not be absent from Saturday School without a legitimate excuse and prior approval from an administrator. A legitimate excuse (lack of transportation, religious holiday, etc.) and a signed note from a parent or guardian are required for approval from an administrator or designee. Attending an AIMS or Non-AIMS sporting event or extracurricular activity is **not** a legitimate excuse to be absent from Saturday School.

Any unexcused Saturday school absence will result in an additional Saturday School. If unexcused absences continue, different disciplinary measures may occur.

### **5.5.4. Academic Saturday School Procedures:**

Teachers will receive a memo to distribute to students on the Wednesday prior to the upcoming Saturday School. Students must submit their signed memo by the following school day.

Students may only work on homework after they have completed their assigned Saturday School work.

## **5.6. Parent - Teacher Conferences**

Parent - Teacher conferences may be held as needed to allow parent, teacher, and student to address areas of concern and determine a course of action.

## **5.7. Social Probation**

At the discretion of the Head of School and/or designee, an AIMS K12 student may be placed on social probation, which is defined as a period of time in which a student is

restricted from engaging in any AIMS K12 activities. Students can be placed on social probation for repeated disciplinary concerns or suspension.

Students on social probation may be prohibited from:

1. Attending or participating in any on or off campus athletic events
2. Prohibition of attending club meetings

Failure to adhere to the terms of social probation will result in a longer term of social probation or suspension.

## 5.8 Administrative Searches

AIMS may conduct searches of students and items under the students' control (e.g., locker, backpack, purse) to ensure student and staff safety. Specifically, the purpose of these searches is to:

- Detect the possession of weapons or controlled substances
- Deter bringing weapons or controlled substances onto school grounds or during school activities
- Reduce the potential for violent incidents
- 
- Searches may be conducted under the following circumstances:
- Searches Based on Reasonable Suspicion If a student has engaged in conduct that causes an administrator to have reasonable suspicion that the student has committed, or is about to commit, a crime or has violated statutory laws or school rules, the administrator may conduct a search of that student. The administrator must:
  - 
  - Contact a parent or guardian and inform them of the search.
  - Be able to articulate the reasons for his/her suspicion and the facts and/or circumstances surrounding a specific incident.
  - Be able to reasonably connect the student to a specific incident, crime, rule, or statute violation.
  - Have relied on recent, credible information from personal knowledge and/or other eyewitnesses.
  - Ensure that a search based on reasonable suspicion is not excessively intrusive in light of the student's age and gender and the nature of the offense.
  -
- When conducting a student search based on reasonable suspicion, school administrators must adhere to the following practices:
  - Conduct the search only if there are clear and specific reasons for suspicion and there are facts that connect the student to a specific incident of misconduct.
  - Jackets, purses, pockets, backpacks, bags and containers in the student's possession may be searched to the extent reasonably necessary.
  - Under no conditions may a body or strip search be conducted.
  - Only school administrators of the same gender as the student searched may conduct the search.
  - Searches based on reasonable suspicion must be conducted in a private area where the search will not be visible to other students or staff (except for a school administrator or designee witness, also of the same gender).
  - The school can request law enforcement participation if necessary.

## 6. STUDENT SERVICES

### 6.1 Admissions & Records

The Office of Admissions & Records is here to serve as a resource for admissions, registration transactions, academic records, enrollment verifications, and the production of a timely and accurate transcript.

To reach the office of Admissions & Records office please send an email to [enrollment@aimsk12.org](mailto:enrollment@aimsk12.org)

### 6.2 Health and Wellness Services

#### A. School Nurse

The school nurse supports student success by providing health care through assessment, intervention, and follow-up for all children within the school setting. The school nurse addresses the physical, mental, emotional, and social health needs of students and supports their achievement in the learning process.

#### B. Social/Emotional Counseling

Students showing that they may be having a social or emotional issue must be referred to the district counselor using the appropriate form. Students are not to be in session without parent's written approval. The district counselor must be informed ASAP when there is a crisis situation. The following informational links go into more detail on services provided, procedures, protocols and the State Licensed Social Emotional counselors areas of experience in serving youth in the AIMS school setting:

Parental Permission form: <http://tiny.cc/60kksz>

Counselors Services and Experience: <http://tiny.cc/r0kksz>

To contact Mr. Castellano, email him at [anthony.castellano@aimsk12.org](mailto:anthony.castellano@aimsk12.org)

### 6.3 College Planning and Guidance

All students at AIMS K12 are guided and supported to obtain college acceptances to the schools of their choice. Because of the rigorous course schedule and college support at AIMS K12, our students stand out from the crowd.

All students grade K-12 are supported by the College Bound Kids department. Grades K-8 have opportunities to participate in activities geared towards college exposure.

All Seniors will take a college planning course where they will work directly with the college advisor to craft college entrance essays, research schools, apply to scholarships, secure application waivers, submit college applications, submit FAFSA, and other college-related activities.

Additionally, AIMS will pay for 3-5 college applications per student. While students and their families choose their next steps after graduating from AIMS, being accepted to at least one four-year school is required to successfully complete all AIMS graduation requirements to receive their diploma.

All Juniors will take an SAT/AP exam test prep class to better prepare for their standardized

tests. And all grade levels will be exposed throughout the year to college- related programming and extracurricular opportunities.

## 6.4 School Meal Program and Application

All families should submit an Income Verification Form at the beginning of each school year, regardless of family income.

AIMS will provide free School Meal Program to all students. The meal program includes breakfast, lunch, and snacks. All families must complete an Income Verification Form for 2022-2023.

General Info, Application, Special Diet Accommodations & Contacts:

**Elementary:** [aimsk12.org/es-nutrition](https://aimsk12.org/es-nutrition)

**Middle School:** [aimsk12.org/ms-nutrition](https://aimsk12.org/ms-nutrition)

**High School:** [aimsk12.org/hs-nutrition](https://aimsk12.org/hs-nutrition)

## 6.5 Parent Coordinator Services

The Parent Coordinator focuses on family engagement and equity by equipping parents with necessary information, skills, and resources to effectively navigate the school system, support their children's success in school and engage them in school leadership opportunities. Support is also provided to parents and caregivers in need of advocacy support and information to address concerns about their children. Please contact [Vanessa.Oden@aimsk12.org](mailto:Vanessa.Oden@aimsk12.org) for information about family support services.

At AIMS K12, families receive a full-range of comprehensive support and services.

**Case Management-** Families can connect with Parent Support services to obtain information to connect to resources in the community such as food resources, free and low-cost internet, and other relevant resources provided in the local community. They can also obtain support around topics that arise in the everyday lives of families and be referred to who they should contact in the school. Families receive support for meetings, translations, questions, and other key aspects in their lives as AIMS K12 families.

- A. **Family Events-** AIMS K12 hosts a wide range of family activities that promote family bonding, family mentoring, cohesiveness, and a family friendly environment across the district.
- B. **Family Advisory Council (FAC)-** The FAC is the vehicle for parents to learn on a monthly basis about school activities and meet to support those activities.
- C. **Family Volunteer Days-** AIMS K12 has several hosted days throughout the year where families participate in community service activities to promote bonding, volunteerism, and service in unity. There are several opportunities for families to get involved at AIMS K12.
- D. **Family Education Classes-** AIMS K12 hosts several family educations classes and workshops such as navigating child study habits, internet safety, child safety, communication, drug prevention, ESL, parenting and topics relevant to schools, families, parenting, and social-emotional topics.

- E. **Transitional Support-** AIMS K12 provides support to parents in transitions such as navigating moving through child development stages, as well as transitioning from elementary to middle school to high school and beyond. This support also assists with family transitions that a family may need support with during the school year.
- F. **Liaison Services-** AIMS K-12 Community Liaison serves as a bridge between schools and families, helping families navigate their journeys at AIMS K12 and advocating for the needs of families and their children.

## 6.6 English Language Development (ELD) Services

English Language Development (ELD) refers to an instructional program for students who are developing proficiency in English. English Language Learners (ELLs) refer to students who are identified by the Home Language Survey (HLS) with another language besides English. Please contact [Adria.Bani@aimsk12.org](mailto:Adria.Bani@aimsk12.org) for information about our English Language Development services.

- 1) **Supports For ELD Students:** Students who are identified as an ELL will be placed in mainstream classes with both designated and integrated ELD instruction.
  - a) Newcomers are ELLs who have just started school in the US and will be placed in ELD classes instead of ELA for 1-2 years.
  - b) Long Term English Learners (LTELs) are ELLs who have continued to be identified as an English Learner for more than 5 years.
  - c) Students received specialized services according to their English Language Proficiency Assessment of CA (ELPAC). ELD Instructional Aides support teachers in providing EL strategies to support ELs in mainstream classrooms. IAs are scheduled to provide intervention support during class and after-school.
- 2) **Supports for ELD Families:** Engaging with families of ELL students is vital to helping our students succeed. Parental involvement is the foundation of a child's education. AIMS K12 offers services to help families navigate through their child's experiences at AIMS K12.
- 3) **English as a Second Language (ESL) class for parents-** Parents have the opportunity to sign up for an ESL class taught by an AIMS K12 staff member. Class focuses on conversations on how to communicate in the school environment. Other topics include reading and writing for more advanced parents.
- 4) **English Learner Advisory Committee (ELAC) -** is required if there are more than 21 English Learners at any particular school. Meetings are held every other month and open to the public. Elections are held to elect members that will represent each school at the DELAC meetings. Meetings are focused on the ELD programs, make parents aware of the importance of regular school attendance, etc.
- 5) **The District English Learner Advisory Committee (DELAC)** is composed of representatives from each school's English Learner Advisory Committee (ELAC). The committee's role is to advise the district on programs and services for English Learner students.

## 6.7 Protected Prayer

AIMS has a Protected Prayer Policy approved by our AIMS School Board. Students will be allowed to pray on campus and will be provided space if needed. Please see AIMS policy on our website [aimsk12.org/reports](https://aimsk12.org/reports)

## 6.8 Title IX

AIMS prohibits unlawful discrimination (such as discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying) against any student, employee, or other person participating in district programs and activities, including, but not limited to, those programs or activities funded directly by or that receive or benefit from any state financial assistance, based on the person's actual or perceived characteristics of race or ethnicity, color, ancestry, nationality, national origin, immigration status, ethnic group identification, age, religion, marital, pregnancy, or parental status, physical or mental disability, medical condition, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, gender expression, or genetic information, or any other characteristic identified in Education Code 200 or 220, Government Code 11135, or Penal Code 422.55 or equity or compliance with Title IX, or based on his/her association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics (5 CCR 4610). Complaint forms are available on the district webpage at [www.aimsk12.org](http://www.aimsk12.org). You may contact the AIMS Ombudsperson via email at [eric.haar@aimsk12.org](mailto:eric.haar@aimsk12.org).

## 7. STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

For specific information about our special education services please contact Deborah.Woods@aimsk12.org

### 7.1. Child Find Mandate

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (“IDEA”) includes the “Child Find” mandate, which requires AIMS K12 to identify, locate, and evaluate all children with disabilities enrolled in its schools. If AIMS K12 has knowledge that a student has a disability, or is suspected of having a disability and may need special education and related services, AIMS K12 must offer to assess the student. Indicators for when a student is suspected of having a disability, and AIMS K12 should thus offer an initial assessment.

### 7.2. Special Education Assessments

A student may be referred for special education services at any time by AIMS K12 school staff, parents, or other service providers. Before a student can be assessed for eligibility for special education, or reassessed while receiving special education and related services, AIMS K12 must develop an Assessment Plan and provide it to the parents for their approval within 15 calendar days from the date of receipt of a written request for a special education assessment. Assessments must be administered in all areas related to the suspected disability by trained and knowledgeable personnel using sound instruments. For school-age children, the eligibility assessment must be completed within 60 days of AIMS’ receipt of written parental consent for specified assessment activities and an Assessment Report provided to parents outlining required information. Under certain conditions, a parent may have the right to obtain an independent educational evaluation (IEE) at public expense. Please note that a student may demonstrate a disability, but may not necessarily be eligible for special education and related services. A student’s IEP team will determine eligibility based on the requirement that the student’s disability negatively or adversely affects his/her educational performance.

### 7.3. Individualized Education Plan (IEP)

An Individualized Education Program (IEP) is a written statement that AIMS K12 must develop for each student who receives special education and related services. The educational program must be designed to meet the child’s individual specific needs. Every child who receives special education services must have an IEP. The purpose of an IEP is to outline a plan for meeting a student’s specific disability related needs that sets reasonable learning goals for the child and states the services that the school will provide for the child. The IEP is developed jointly by the school, the parents, and the student, when appropriate.

#### Nine Essential Elements of an IEP

Each child’s IEP must contain specific information, as listed within IDEA, which includes nine essential elements:

- 1) **Present Levels of Performance:** A statement of the student’s present levels of performance including how the disability affects the student’s involvement and progress in the general curriculum.



- 2) **Measurable Annual Goals:** Measurable annual goals, including academic and functional goals, related to the student's needs, resulting from the student's disability, that will enable the student to be involved in and progress in the general education curriculum and that meet each of the student's other educational needs that result from the student's disability.
- 3) **Progress:** A description of how the student's progress toward meeting the annual goals described above will be measured and when periodic reports on the progress the student is making toward meeting the annual goals (such as through the use of quarterly or other periodic reports) will be provided.
- 4) **Special Education and Related Services:** A statement of the special education and related services and supplementary aids and services, based on peer-reviewed research to the extent practicable, to be provided to the student, or on behalf of the student, and a statement of the program modifications or supports for school personnel that will be provided to enable the student to advance appropriately.
- 5) **Participation in General Education:** An explanation of the extent, if any, to which the student will not participate with general education students in the general education classroom and in extracurricular and nonacademic activities.
- 6) **State Testing:** A statement of any individual appropriate accommodations that are necessary to measure the academic achievement and functional performance of the student on State and district assessments. If the IEP team determines that the student shall take an alternate assessment on a particular State or district assessment of student achievement, the IEP must include a statement of why the student cannot participate in the regular assessment and why the particular alternate assessment selected is appropriate for the student.
- 7) **Timing of Services and Modifications:** The projected date for the beginning of the services and modifications identified in the IEP, along with the anticipated frequency, location, and duration of the services and modifications.
- 8) **Transition and Post-Secondary Goals:** Beginning no later than the first IEP to be in effect when the student is 16, and updated annually thereafter, appropriate measurable postsecondary goals based upon age-appropriate transition assessments related to training, education employment, and where appropriate, independent living skills and the transition services (including courses of study) needed to assist the student in reaching those goals.
- 9) **Age of Majority:** Beginning at least one year before the student reaches the age of 18, a statement that the student has been informed of the IDEA rights that will transfer to him or her upon turning 18.

### Who develops the IEP?

The IEP is developed by a team of individuals that include the parent(s), an administrator, general education teacher, special education teacher, an expert who can interpret evaluation results, and the student, if appropriate. The team meets, reviews the assessment information available about the child, and designs an educational program to address the child's educational needs that result from his or her disability.

### When is the IEP developed and the IEP meeting held?

Assuming eligibility is found, an IEP must be developed by the IEP team and implemented for each student, within 60 days of obtaining written parental consent of the Assessment Plan. For

students already eligible for special education services, the IEP must also be reviewed at least annually thereafter to determine whether the annual goals are being achieved and must be revised as appropriate. An IEP meeting must be held within 30 days of receipt of any written request from a parent.

## 7.4. 504 Plans

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 protects disabled individuals against discrimination. It does so by mandating that no qualified individual with a disability shall, on the basis of disability, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity of any entity that is a recipient of Federal financial assistance (34 CFR § 104.4(a)). AIMS k12 must establish and maintain services and accommodations for students with physical or mental impairments that substantially limit one or more major life activities in order to ensure that these students have equal access to education.

Section 504 accommodations and/or related services must be delineated in a Section 504 Plan formulated by the student's teachers, parents, members of the SST team, and a school administrator.

Examples of 504 Plan accommodations and/or services that AIMS must provide to students include:

1. Assistance with PE equipment for a student with mild cerebral palsy
2. Extra time on tests for a student with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD)
3. Nursing services for a student with Type I Diabetes
4. Use of an amplification system for a student with a hearing loss

A teacher, parent, guardian, or administrator can request a 504 Plan for a student. If a parent requests that their child be accommodated through a 504 Plan, you must follow through with a 504 Team meeting as soon as possible, even if you do not think the student needs a 504 Plan.

### A. Requirements for a 504 Plan

In order to have a 504 Plan, a student must meet all three of these requirements:

1. The student must have a physical or mental impairment that gets in the way of learning or participating in school programs or activities. The "physical or mental impairment" can be any physical or mental condition or problem. It can be something that lasts for a long time, for a short time, or it might come and go. Examples of impairments include: cancer, chronic asthma, diabetes, seizures, ADHD.
2. The student's impairment must affect at least one major life activity. Major life activities include such things as seeing, hearing, eating, sleeping, breathing, speaking, walking, thinking, learning, and working. Major life activities also include the operation of major bodily functions such as normal cell growth, the immune system, bowels, bladder, neurological, and circulatory functions.
3. The impairment must substantially limit a major life activity. The determination of whether an impairment substantially limits a major life activity requires an individualized assessment. An impairment does not have to prevent or significantly limit a major life

activity to be considered

4. “substantially limiting.” For instance, if a student has a visual impairment that can be fully corrected by the use of ordinary eyeglasses or contact lenses, it will not be considered.

## **B. Essential Elements of a 504 Plan**

In general, a 504 plan should include the following elements, all tailored to the child’s individual needs:

1. Specific accommodations, supports or services
2. Names of the school professional that will provide each service
3. The name of the person responsible for ensuring the 504 plan is implemented

For additional information about IEPs and 504 Plans, please see speak with a school administrator, or Education Coordinator.

## **7.5. Special Education**

According to state and federal law, students with identified physical, emotional, learning, or developmental disabilities are entitled to a free and appropriate public education and have the right to placement in the least restrictive environment. They may receive special education services according to a written Individualized Education Program (IEP) or may receive specific accommodations based on a 504- accommodation plan. Questions regarding special education services or 504 accommodation plans may be directed to the Head of School. The overriding mandate in assessing need and delivering services is that the student should be taught in the least restrictive environment. Therefore, when a student is referred for special education, every effort is made to serve the student in the regular general education program.

## **The 504 Plan for Students with Disabilities**

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 is a broad civil rights law regulated by the Office of Civil Rights. The law’s intent is to eliminate discrimination based on disability in any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance. Under Section 504, students with a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities, including learning, are eligible to receive services and aid designed to meet their needs.

To evaluate a student's eligibility under Section 504, the school site administrator or designee convenes a committee of individuals, including the parent, who are knowledgeable about the student's individual needs and school history, the meaning of evaluation data, and accommodation options. If the committee establishes that the student has a disability requiring services under Section 504, a written plan is developed that informs what modifications and/or special services and aids are needed. Please contact your child’s Head of Schools if you have a 504 request or concern.

## **7.6. English Language Learners**

According to law, parents of limited English proficient (English Learner) students participating in a language instruction program shall be notified, not later than 30 days after the beginning of the school year, of the following:

- the child's level of English proficiency, how such level was assessed, and the status of the child's academic achievement;
- the methods of instruction used in the program in which their child is, or will be participating, and the methods of instruction used in other available programs, including how such programs differ in content, instructional goals, and the use of English and a native language in instruction;
- how such programs will specifically help their child learn English and meet age-appropriate academic achievement standards for grade promotion and graduation;
- the specific exit requirements for the program, including the expected rate of transition from such program into classrooms that are not tailored for limited English proficient children, and the expected rate of graduation from secondary school, if applicable;
- in the case of a child with a disability, how such program meets the objectives of the individualized education program of the child;
- information pertaining to parental rights

## 7.7. Homeless Education Assistance

The McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Assistance Act requires school districts to remove all barriers to enrollment, attendance and school success for homeless students. Assistance to homeless students and families is provided by the Operations Office. Students and families identified as homeless are provided with enrollment assistance, transportation to/from school, school supplies, supplementary academic supports, and referrals to outside agencies. A student identified as an individual with disabilities or for whom the Charter School has a basis of knowledge of a suspected disability pursuant to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004 (“IDEA”) or who is qualified for services under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (“Section 504”) is subject to the same grounds for suspension and expulsion and is accorded the same due process procedures applicable to general education students except when federal and state law mandates additional or different procedures.

The Charter School will follow all applicable federal and state laws including but not limited to the California Education Code, when imposing any form of discipline on a student identified as an individual with disabilities or for whom the Charter School has a basis of knowledge of a suspected disability or who is otherwise qualified for such services or protections in according due process to such students.

No student shall be involuntarily removed by the Charter School for any reason unless the parent or guardian of the student has been provided written notice of intent to remove the student no less than five schooldays before the effective date of the action. The written notice shall be in the native language of the student or the student’s parent or guardian or, if the student is a foster child or youth or a homeless child or youth, the student’s educational rights holder, and shall inform him or her of the basis for which the pupil is being involuntarily removed and his or her right to request a hearing to challenge the involuntary removal. If a parent, guardian, or educational rights holder requests a hearing, the Charter School shall utilize the same hearing procedures specified below for expulsions, before the effective date of the action to involuntarily remove the student. If the student’s parent, guardian, or educational rights holder requests a hearing, the student shall remain enrolled and shall not be removed until the Charter School issues a final decision. As used herein, “involuntarily removed” includes disenrolled, dismissed, transferred, or terminated, but does not include removals for misconduct which may be grounds for suspension or expulsion as enumerated below. Please contact [Vanessa.Oden@aimsk12.org](mailto:Vanessa.Oden@aimsk12.org) for information about homeless student support services.

## 8. STUDENT SAFETY AND RESPONSIBILITY

### 8.1. School Cleanliness

Students have the responsibility of working to keep their campus clean. It is part of the AIMS Standard that we take pride in our campus and school, so AIMS K12 students should not only clean up after themselves, they should endeavor to leave the campus as clean as they found it at the beginning of the day.

### 8.2. Restroom Policy

1. By law, students must not be prohibited from using the restroom. However, AIMS k12 has the following guidelines in place to prevent students from abusing bathroom privileges: Except for cases of emergency, students should not use the restroom within the first and last 30 minutes of class. Students must also utilize their breaks and lunch periods and use the restroom during these times.
2. Students must sign in and out of the classroom when going to the restroom.
3. Inform the administrative assistant if the bathrooms are low or out of toilet paper, soap, paper towels, or toilet seat liners.
4. Students with medical related bathroom needs should complete a 504 plan with the school at their earliest convenience.

### 8.3. Administration of Medication

Students who need to take prescribed or over-the-counter medication during the school day may be assisted by designated school personnel or allowed to self-administer certain medication as long as it is

in accordance with law, AIMS k12 policies, and administrative regulations.

It is necessary for the District to have a written statement from the student's physician and a written statement from the student's parent/guardian before (1) a designated employee administers or assists in the administration of any prescribed medication to any student; or (2) any student is allowed to carry and self-administer prescription auto-injectable epinephrine or prescription inhaled asthma medication during school hours.

It is vitally important that parents fill out new student medication forms every fall in order to have the most current medication information, as well as the current status of any health conditions. A separate form is required for each medication. Please contact the school office for the required forms. Update these forms should any of the information change during the school year.

Students who need to take prescribed or over-the-counter medication during the school day may be assisted by designated school personnel or allowed to self-administer certain medication as long as it is in accordance with law, and/or AIMS Board policies. AIMS K12 students may receive their medications from the front office or the school nurse. It is necessary for AIMS K12 to have a written statement from the student's healthcare provider and a written statement from the student's parent/guardian before:

1. A designated employee administers or assists in the administration of any prescribed medication to any student; or
2. Any student is allowed to carry and self-administer prescription auto-injectable epinephrine

or prescription inhaled asthma medication during school hours.

3. Single dose over-the-counter medication, such as aspirin, ibuprofen, or cough drops, may be given to students, with prior consent from parents.

## 8.4. Medical Emergencies

If your child is in need of minor first aid, it will be administered in accordance with District first aid training. If medical attention appears to be necessary, but not required immediately, the parent/guardian or other emergency contacts listed will be contacted to pick the child up. Should immediate medical attention be necessary, the school will call an ambulance. If a person is suffering, or reasonably believed to be suffering, from an anaphylactic reaction, trained school personnel may use an epinephrine auto-injector to provide emergency medical assistance. Every effort will be made to contact the parent or other emergency contact person(s).

## 8.5. Immunizations and Other Health Requirements

To be admitted to school, children must be fully immunized in accordance with the law. Children shall be excluded from school only as allowed by law.

If you need assistance or information on free clinics, call the Alameda County Immunization Project at 510-267-3230.

Parents are required to provide documentation that their child has been immunized against the following:

### Kindergarten-12th grade

#### Polio

- 4 doses meet the requirement, or
- 3 doses for ages 4-6 years if at least 1 was given on or after the 4th birthday or
- 3 doses meet the requirement for ages 7-17 if 1 dose was given on or after the 2nd birthday

#### Diphtheria, Pertussis, and Tetanus (DPT)

- 5 doses meet the requirement, or
- 4 doses meet the requirement for ages 4-6 years if 1 dose was given on or after the 4th birthday, or
- 3 does meet the requirement for ages 7-17 if one dose was given on or after the 2nd birthday

#### Pertussis (Tdap)

- 1 dose given after 7th birthday is required for 7th grade students and students new to the district in grades 8-12.

#### Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR)

- 2 doses meet the requirement; both must be given on or after the first birthday (one dose can be measles vaccine only; 1 dose must be MMR)
- -3 doses meet the require Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR)

#### Hepatitis B

- 3 doses meet the requirement, or
- 2 doses of 2-dose formulation meet the requirement for ages 11-15 (must be documented as a

2-dose formulation of Hepatitis B vaccine)

### **Varicella (chickenpox)**

- 1 dose required in kindergarten through sixth grade (2010-2011 school year) or students under age 13 entering a California school for the first time, or
- No dose is required if a physician or clinic has documented on the child's immunization card "had disease"

## **8.6. Campus Environment Policy**

### **Weapons Policy:**

Students, parents and teachers are forbidden to have weapons or look-alike weapons on campus. Possession of a firearm, whether loaded or unloaded, (including pellet-type guns) or other weapons such as pocket knives can carry severe disciplinary action up to permanent removal from AIMS K12.

The Federal Gun Free Safe Schools Act and California law prohibit the possession of firearms on school campuses. Pursuant to these laws, any student found in possession of a firearm will be subject to arrest and will be recommended for expulsion immediately.

Upon a finding that the student was in

possession of a firearm, the school's governing board shall expel the student. The term of expulsion shall be one year.

Possession includes, but is not limited to, storage in lockers, purses, backpacks, or automobiles.

### **Smoke-free Environment Policy:**

AIMS K12 maintains a smoke-free environment, so smoking, including the use of vaping devices is not allowed on campus. Students who engage in smoking on campus are subject to disciplinary action.

### **Alcohol/Drugs Policy:**

AIMS believes the use of alcohol or other drugs adversely affects a student's ability to achieve academic success, is physically and emotionally harmful, and has serious social and legal consequences. For these reasons, these substances are prohibited on campus, and AIMS K12 will make every effort to assist students and families in reducing the use of these substances. AIMS perceives this effort to be an important step towards preventing violence, promoting school safety, and creating a disciplined environment conducive to learning.

### **Enforcement/Discipline:**

The Head of School or designee shall take appropriate action for violation of any of the policies concerning weapons, smoking, or

possession, use or sale of alcohol and/or other drugs and related paraphernalia on school grounds, at school events, or in any situation in which the school is responsible for the conduct and well-being of students. School authorities may search students and school properties for the possession of alcohol and other drugs in accordance with law, Board policy, and administrative regulations.

Students possessing, using or selling alcohol or other drugs or related paraphernalia at school or at a school event shall be subject to disciplinary procedures, including suspension or expulsion in accordance with law, Board policy, and administrative regulations. Such students also may be referred to an appropriate rehabilitation program.

## 8.7. Confiscated Items Policy

Any and all Items that are not allowed according to AIMS K12 rules and policies will be confiscated. The administrators will keep the item until the parent/guardian comes to retrieve it. On the first confiscation, the student will receive one detention. On the second, they will receive an additional two. On the third, the student will receive an additional three detentions and in-house suspension.

## 8.8. Counseling

AIMS K12 provides social emotional counseling for students. If needed, please speak to your Head of School for a referral.

## 8.9. Surveillance Cameras

For the safety of students and staff, surveillance cameras that include video only (no audio) are installed in several locations on AIMS K12 campuses. Surveillance cameras are not located inside any school bathrooms or locker rooms. Surveillance videos are viewed by school administrators and may also be viewed by police, as allowed by law, and used as evidence in disciplinary matters.

## 8.10. Safety Drills and Procedures

Each school site is required to hold regular fire, earthquake, and lockdown drills. The purpose of these drills is to provide students and staff practice with evacuation, lockdown, and shelter-in-place procedures. Additionally, AIMS K12 has a comprehensive school safety plan, which includes emergency preparedness, available for review. District staff has received training in armed intruder preparedness.

Parents are asked to make sure that their students actively participate and take emergency drills seriously. These drills help make schools the safest place for students during an emergency.

Parents should be familiar with the school 's emergency procedures. Keep your cell phone with you to receive recorded updates on the emergency. Knowing where to go to pick up your child will save time and reduce anxiety. Parents should remember that schools have emergency procedures in place to protect all the students and that schools will follow these procedures during an emergency.

Parents should also remember that children look to them for guidance and support during an emergency. Parents who are calm and are prepared for emergencies can inspire children to do the same. This will go a long way to promote recovery and a return to normalcy. Parents who have questions about their school 's emergency procedures are encouraged to contact the school 's administration.

- A. **Fire Emergency Procedures** - Every school practice this procedure once each month.
- B. **Earthquake Emergency Procedures** - Every school has earthquake preparedness procedures in place and
- C. practices this procedure once each semester.
- D. **Lockdown Procedures** - At least once a year, schools practice how they will respond to a threa including active shooter on or near the campus
- E. **Shelter- in-Place Drill** - At least once a year, schools practice how they will respond to an



environmental hazard on or near the campus.

- F. **Evacuation Procedures** - At least once a year, the school practices evacuation procedure along with the fire drill.

## Emergency Preparedness Drills

The school has developed a school emergency plan which is designed to ensure the safety of your students and all of the staff. The school implements regular emergency drills to ensure that all members of the school community know the plan.

Teachers will review emergency preparedness procedures with the students during the first month of school.

In case of an emergency during the school day, your child will only be released into the custody of those people who you have previously identified on the emergency card. Proof of identity is required. Those NOT identified on the emergency card can only pick up a student if the parent or guardian has sent a handwritten and signed note to the school notifying the school of this person's identity and proof of identification is provided.

### 8.11. Student Driving Policy

Students are not allowed to drive on campus or to park on campus without prior permission. After obtaining approval to drive to school, they must also apply for a parking permit to park on campus.

**Student and Family Privacy Rights** Board Policy mandates that personal information concerning students and their families should be kept private in accordance with the law. Parents have the right to exempt their children from participating in (a) surveys that request personal information, and/or (b) physical exams or screenings. Students are screened for vision and hearing in grades K, 2, 5, 8, and 10 and by teacher referral. Parents must submit a note in writing to the school in order to opt out of vision and hearing screening.

### 8.12. Special Care Plans

Students with conditions requiring special care during their school day must have a physician signed care plan on file in the school office to guide designated school personnel in procedures required for the student's health and safety. Care plans for diabetes, seizures, asthma, and severe allergies are to be completed by the student's medical provider on at least an annual basis and as the student's care needs change.

### 8.13. Use of Pesticides

Should a situation arise where pesticide use is unavoidable, all applicable City of Oakland requirements are observed, signs are posted 24 hours in advance of the pesticide application, and remain in place 72 hours after the pesticide application.

### 8.14. Accommodations for a Lactating Pupil

Reasonable accommodations are provided to a lactating student on a school campus to allow the

student to express breast milk, breastfeed an infant, or address other needs related to breastfeeding. A lactating student may seek assistance regarding accommodations from the School Nurse.

### **Uniform Complaint Policy**

[Uniform Complaint Policy and Procedures](#) can be found at [aimsk12.org/reports](https://aimsk12.org/reports) all complaints must be submitted using the [Uniform Complaint Form](#).

## **8.15. Suspension, Expulsion, and Involuntary Removal Policy**

All schools within the AIMS family adhere to the following procedures with regard to student suspension, expulsion and involuntary removal. Though the AIMS K12 administration permits a certain level of discretion in determining the appropriate disciplinary actions on a case-by-case basis, all schools operate within certain parameters. Those parameters are outlined in this policy and are aligned with each of the school's charters.

A pupil may be suspended or expelled for acts that are enumerated herein and related to a school activity or school attendance that occur at any time, including, but not limited to, any of the following:

1. While on school grounds.
2. While going to or coming from school.
3. During the lunch period whether on or off the campus.
4. During, or while going to or coming from, a school-sponsored activity.

### **Grounds for Suspension and Expulsion**

Out of school suspension is a disciplinary measure that must be executed when extreme safety concerns or egregious behavior have been displayed.

In the case of fights or other acts of violence, suspension is automatic.

With the exception of extreme concerns (at the determination of the Head of Schools or their designate), generally, suspensions will not be more than two days.

### **In-School Suspension:**

**Suspension** - Out of school suspension is a last resort action. Buddy classroom placement should be utilized. Students should first have detentions and Saturday School prior to most suspensions. Parent shadowing should be used prior to most suspensions. In-house suspension should be used prior to most suspensions. In the case of fights or other acts of violence, suspension is automatic. Actions leading up to expulsion warrant suspension. With the exception of extreme concerns, suspensions shall not be more than two days.

A student identified as an individual with disabilities or for whom the Charter School has a basis of knowledge of a suspected disability pursuant to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004 ("IDEA") or who is qualified for services under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 ("Section 504") is subject to the same grounds for suspension and expulsion and is accorded the same due process procedures applicable to general education students except when federal and state law mandates additional or different procedures. The

Charter School will follow all applicable federal and state laws including but not limited to the California Education Code, when imposing any form of discipline on a student identified as an individual with disabilities or for whom the Charter School has a basis of knowledge of a suspected disability or who is otherwise qualified for such services or protections in according due process to such students.

No student shall be involuntarily removed by the Charter School for any reason unless the parent or guardian of the student has been provided written notice of intent to remove the student no less than five schooldays before the effective date of the action. The written notice shall be in the native language of the student or the student's parent or guardian or, if the student is a foster child or youth or a homeless child or youth, the

student's educational rights holder, and shall inform him or her of the basis for which the pupil is being involuntarily removed and his or her right to request a hearing to challenge the involuntary removal. If a parent, guardian, or educational rights holder requests a hearing, the AIMS K12 shall utilize the same hearing procedures specified below for expulsions, before the effective date of the action to involuntarily remove the student. If the student's parent, guardian, or educational rights holder requests a hearing, the student shall remain enrolled and shall not be removed until AIMS K12 issues a final decision. As used herein, "involuntarily removed" includes disenrolled, dismissed, transferred, or terminated, but does not include removals for misconduct which may be grounds for suspension or expulsion as enumerated below.

## Suspension/Discretionary Expulsion Conduct

The Head of School or designee may suspend from school or recommend for expulsion a pupil if he or she determines that the pupil has committed one of the following acts:

- A. **Physical Injury or Violence:** Caused, attempted to cause, or threatened to cause physical injury to another person; or willfully used force or violence upon another person, except in self-defense. A pupil who aids or abets in infliction of physical injury to another may be suspended but not expelled.
- B. **Dangerous Object:** Possessed, sold, or otherwise furnished a firearm, knife, explosive, or other dangerous object, unless, in the case of possession of an object of this type, the pupil had obtained written permission to possess the item from the principal or the designee of the principal.
- C. **Drugs or Alcohol:** Unlawfully possessed, used, or otherwise furnished, or been under the influence of a controlled substance, an alcoholic beverage, or an intoxicant of any kind.
- D. **Look-Alike Substance:** Unlawfully offered, arranged, or negotiated to sell a controlled substance, an alcoholic beverage, or an intoxicant of any kind, and either sold, delivered, or otherwise furnished to a person a replica substance.
- E. **Robbery/Extortion:** Committed or attempted to commit robbery or extortion.
- F. **Property Damage/Vandalism:** Caused or attempted to cause damage to school property or private property, including electronic files and databases.
- G. **Theft:** Stolen or attempted to steal school property or private property.

- H. **Tobacco:** Possessed or used tobacco, or products containing tobacco or nicotine products, including, but not limited to, cigarettes, cigars, miniature cigars, clove cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, snuff, chew packets.
- I. **Obscenity/Profanity/Vulgarity:** Committed an obscene act or engaged in habitual profanity or vulgarity.
- J. **Drug Paraphernalia:** Unlawfully possessed or unlawfully offered, arranged, or negotiated to sell drug paraphernalia.
- K. **Receipt of Stolen Property:** Knowingly received stolen school property or private property
- L. **Imitation Firearm:** Possessed an imitation firearm. As used in this section, “imitation firearm” means a replica of a firearm that is so substantially similar in physical properties to an existing firearm as to lead a reasonable person to conclude that the replica is a firearm.
- M. **Witness Harassment or Intimidation:** Harassed, threatened, or intimidated a pupil who is a complaining witness or a witness in a school disciplinary proceeding for the purpose of either preventing that pupil from being a witness or retaliating against that pupil for being a witness, or both.
- N. **Prescription Drug Soma:** Unlawfully offered, arranged to sell, negotiated to sell, or sold the prescription drug Soma.
- O. **Hazing:** Engaged in, or attempted to engage in, hazing. For purposes of this subdivision, “hazing” means a method of initiation or pre-initiation into a pupil organization or body, whether or not the organization or body is officially recognized by an educational institution, which is likely to cause serious bodily injury or personal degradation or disgrace resulting in physical or mental harm to a former, current, or prospective pupil. For purposes of this subdivision, “hazing” does not include athletic events or school-sanctioned events.
- P. **Bullying/Electronic:** Engaged in an act of bullying, including, but not limited to, bullying committed by means of an electronic act, as defined herein, directed specifically toward pupil or school personnel.
  - 1. **“Bullying”** means any severe or pervasive physical or verbal act or conduct, including communications made in writing or by means of an electronic act, and including one or more acts committed by a pupil or group of pupils directed toward one or more pupils or school personnel that has or can be reasonably predicted to have the effect of one or more of the following:
    - a. Placing reasonable pupil or school personnel in fear of harm to that pupil’s or school personnel’s person or property.
    - b. Causing reasonable pupil or school personnel to experience a substantially detrimental effect on his or her physical or mental health.
    - c. Causing a reasonable pupil to experience substantial interference with his or her academic performance, or school personnel with his or her job performance.
    - d. Causing a reasonable pupil to experience substantial interference with his or her ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities, or privileges provided by a school.
  - 2. **“Electronic act”** means the creation or transmission originated on or off the school site, by means of an electronic device, including, but not limited to, a telephone, wireless

telephone, or other wireless communication device, computer, or pager, of a communication, including, but not limited to, any of the following:

- a. A message, text, sound, video, or image.
  - b. A post on a social network Internet Web site, including, but not limited to:
    - i. Posting to or creating a burn page. **“Burn page”** means an Internet Web site created for the purpose of bullying.
    - ii. Creating a credible impersonation of another actual pupil for the purpose of having one or more of the effects listed in paragraph (1). **“Credible impersonation”** means to knowingly and without consent impersonate a pupil for the purpose of bullying the pupil and such that another pupil would reasonably believe, or has reasonably believed, that the pupil was or is the pupil who was impersonated.
    - iii. Creating a false profile for the purpose of having one or more of the effects listed in paragraph (1). **“False profile”** means a profile of a fictitious pupil or a profile using the likeness or attributes of an actual pupil other than the pupil who created the false profile.
  - c. An act of cyber sexual bullying:
    - i. For purposes of this clause, **“cyber sexual bullying”** means the dissemination of, or the solicitation or incitement to disseminate, a photograph or other visual recording by a pupil to another pupil or to school personnel by means of an electronic act that has or can be reasonably predicted to have one or more of the effects described in subparagraphs (i) to (iv), inclusive, of paragraph (1). A photograph or other visual recording, as described above, shall include the depiction of a nude, semi-nude, or sexually explicit photograph or other visual recording of a minor where the minor is identifiable from the photograph, visual recording, or other electronic act.
    - ii. For purposes of this clause, **“cyber sexual bullying”** does not include a depiction, portrayal, or image that has any serious literary, artistic, educational, political, or scientific value or that involves athletic events or school-sanctioned activities.
3. Notwithstanding subparagraphs (1) and (2) above, an electronic act shall not constitute pervasive conduct solely on the basis that it has been transmitted on the Internet or is currently posted on the Internet.
4. **“Reasonable pupil”** means a pupil, including, but not limited to, an exceptional needs pupil, who exercises average care, skill, and judgment in conduct for a person of his or her age, or for a person of his or her age with his or her exceptional needs.
- Q. **Sexual Harassment:** The pupil has committed sexual harassment. The harassing conduct must be considered by a reasonable person of the same gender as the victim to be sufficiently severe or pervasive to have a negative impact upon the individual’s academic performance or to create an intimidating, hostile, or offensive educational environment.
- R. **Hate Violence:** The pupil has caused, attempted to cause, threatened to cause, or participated in a “hate crime.” “Hate crime” means a criminal act committed, in whole or in part, because of one or more of the following actual or perceived characteristics of the victim: disability, gender, nationality, race or ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, or association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics.
- S. **Harassment, Threats, or Intimidation:** The pupil has intentionally engaged in harassment,

threats, or intimidation, directed against a pupil or group of pupils, that is sufficiently severe or pervasive to have the actual and reasonably expected effect of materially disrupting classwork, creating substantial disorder, and invading the rights of that pupil or group of pupils by creating an intimidating or hostile educational environment.

- T. **Terroristic Threats:** The pupil has made terroristic threats against school officials or school property, or both. For the purposes of this section, “terroristic threat” shall include any statement, whether written or oral, by a person who willfully threatens to commit a crime which will result in death, great bodily injury to another person, or property damage in excess of one thousand dollars (\$1,000), with the specific intent that
  - U. the statement is to be taken as a threat, even if there is no intent of actually carrying it out, which, on its face and under the circumstances in which it is made, is so unequivocal, unconditional, immediate, and specific as to convey to the person threatened, a gravity of purpose and an immediate prospect of execution of the threat, and thereby causes that person reasonably to be in sustained fear for his or her own safety or for his or her immediate family’s safety, or for the protection of school district property, or the personal property of the person threatened or his or her immediate family.

I. Parent/Guardian will be notified in all cases of violations.

II. Administration will determine discipline based upon the following criteria:

- a) Seriousness of offense
- b) Circumstances of situation
- c) Student’s prior disciplinary records
- d) Any other extenuating circumstances

## Suspension Procedures

The site leaders are afforded a great deal of discretion in determining appropriate punishments, **unless a mandatory expulsion offense is identified.**

Even if suspension is deemed appropriate, the site administrator may opt for supervised in-school suspension.

If the Head of School or Division Heads or designee determines that suspension is appropriate, a school employee shall make a reasonable effort to contact the pupil’s parent or guardian in person or by telephone. Whenever a pupil is suspended from school, the parent or guardian shall be notified in writing of the suspension.

The Head of School or Division Heads or designee shall report the suspension of the pupil, including the cause therefore, to the Superintendent.

A parent conference will be scheduled to discuss the matter with the Head of Schools or designee. Whenever practical, the teacher or staff member who witnessed the offense will also be present. At this conference, the administration and the parent or guardian will discuss the causes, duration, school policy involved, and any other matters pertinent to the suspension.

Any pupil who is suspended for five days or fewer must complete all assignments and tests missed during the suspension within three school days of their return. Any pupil who is suspended for more than five days will have five school days after their return to complete all assignments and

tests missed during suspension.

**Administration has the authority to lengthen the amount of time a pupil has to make-up his or her work, as appropriate in a given situation. Assignments submitted late will receive no credit.**

## Expulsion Requirements

All 48900 offenses as spelled out in the California Education Code automatically warrant an expulsion hearing. Students may also be expelled for repeated excessive behavioral concerns. AIMS expulsion forms must be used in the process. Legal Timelines must be adhered to without exceptions. All relevant witnesses, teachers and administrators must be present at the hearing. Parents must be informed in writing of the expulsion. (This section also appears in the behavior section.)

Students who commit offenses that result in a recommendation for expulsion or mandatory expulsion, or whose conduct falls under **“Suspension/Discretionary Expulsion”** (excluding disruption or defiance) will be referred to the Head of School or designee. If a teacher observes disruptive or defiant conduct, the teacher will make a determination as to whether or not administrative intervention is required. Otherwise, they may follow the school’s discipline policies to ensure proper student conduct.

To determine whether or not an offense meets the guidelines for suspension or expulsion, the Superintendent and the Head of School or designee will meet with the pupil and school employee who referred the pupil for discipline. At the conference, the pupil shall be informed of the reason for the disciplinary action and the evidence against him or her and shall be given the opportunity to respond. If an “emergency situation” exists, the pupil may be excluded from this meeting. “Emergency situation” means a situation determined by the Head of School or designee to constitute a clear and present danger to the life, safety, or health of pupils or school personnel. If a pupil is suspended without a conference before suspension, both the parent and the pupil shall be notified of the pupil’s right to a conference. Unless an offense results in a recommendation for expulsion or mandatory expulsion, as a matter of policy, American Indian Model Schools consider suspension and discretionary expulsion a punishment of last resort. Suspension and discretionary expulsion shall be imposed only when other means of correction fail to bring about proper conduct. Therefore, our schools will first consider the appropriateness of other disciplinary avenues before suspending or expelling a student.

If a pupil has committed a suspension-eligible offense, then the Head has the authority to recommend expulsion. Expulsion will be used as a tool of last resort for students whose conduct is so egregious that it is unlikely to be changed by any other means and whose behavior poses a threat to the safety of a member of the school community or significantly limits the ability of other students to effectively learn.

In addition to any school action, suspected criminal activity will be reported to the police and appropriate legal consequences may result.

For purposes of notification to parents, and for the reporting of expulsion or suspension offenses to the CDE, AIMS K12 Schools will identify, by offense committed, in all appropriate records of a pupil each suspension or expulsion of that pupil.

AIMS K12 will notify the District of Residence within 30 days of all transfers, disciplinary or not.

For all students who are expelled, the school will contact the District of Residence to notify them of the terms of the expulsion.

## Expulsion Hearings and Process

The Head of School recommends expulsion by clearly defining the facts and situation in writing to the AIMS K12 Superintendent.

The AIMS K12 Superintendent decides whether or not to recommend expulsion to the Board.

Within 30 school days of a recommendation for expulsion from the Superintendent, the Board will hold a hearing to determine if it is appropriate to expel the pupil. The pupil may request, in writing, a postponement of no more than 30 calendar days. Any additional postponement may only be granted at the discretion of the Board.

Within 10 school days after the conclusion of the hearing, the Board shall decide whether to expel the pupil.

If compliance by the Board with the time requirements for the conducting of an expulsion hearing under this subdivision is impracticable, the Superintendent may, for good cause, extend the time period for the holding of the expulsion hearing for an additional 5 school days.

Written notice of the hearing shall be forwarded to the pupil at least 10 calendar days prior to the date of the hearing by the Board Secretary and shall include:

- a. The date and place of the hearing.
- b. A statement of the specific facts and charges upon which the proposed expulsion is based.
- c. A copy of the disciplinary rules of the school district that relate to the alleged violation.
- d. A notice of the parent, guardian, or pupil's obligation upon enrollment in another school district to inform the receiving school district of his or her status with the previous school.
- e. Notice of the opportunity for the pupil or the pupil's parent or guardian to appear in person or to be represented by legal counsel or by a non-attorney adviser, to inspect and obtain copies of all documents to be used at the hearing, to confront and question all witnesses who testify at the hearing, to question all other evidence presented, and to present oral and documentary evidence on the pupil's behalf, including witnesses.
- f. The Board shall conduct a hearing to consider the expulsion of a pupil in a session closed to the public, unless the pupil requests, in writing, at least five days before the date of the hearing, that the hearing be conducted at a public meeting. Regardless of whether the expulsion hearing is conducted in a closed or public session, the Board may meet in closed session for the purpose of deliberating and determining whether the pupil should be expelled.

A record of the hearing shall be made. The record may be maintained by any means, including electronic recording, so long as a reasonably accurate and complete written transcription of the proceedings can be made.

Technical rules of evidence shall not apply to the hearing, but relevant evidence may be admitted and given probative effect if it is the kind of evidence upon which reasonable persons are accustomed to rely in the conduct of serious affairs. A decision of the Board to expel must be supported by substantial evidence showing that the pupil committed the act(s) of which he or she is accused.



The final action to expel a pupil shall be taken only by the Board in an open session. Written notice of any decision to expel or to suspend the enforcement of an expulsion order during a period of probation must be sent by the board president or his or her designee to the pupil or the pupil's parent or guardian.

The Board shall maintain a record of each expulsion, including the cause therefore. Records of expulsions shall be a non-privileged, disclosable public record subject to FERPA. The expulsion order and the causes therefore shall be recorded in the pupil's mandatory interim record and shall be forwarded to any school in which the pupil subsequently enrolls upon receipt of a request from the admitting school for the pupil's school records.

## **Suspending an Expulsion Order**

The Board, upon voting to expel a pupil, may suspend the enforcement of the expulsion order for a period of not more than one calendar year and may, as a condition of the suspension of enforcement, assign the pupil to a school, class, or program that is deemed appropriate for the rehabilitation of the pupil. The rehabilitation program to which the pupil is assigned may provide for the involvement of the pupil's parent or guardian in his or her child's education in ways that are specified in the rehabilitation program. A parent or guardian's refusal to participate in the rehabilitation program shall not be considered in the Board's determination as to whether the pupil has satisfactorily completed the rehabilitation program.

During the period of the suspension of the expulsion order, the pupil is deemed to be on probationary status. The Board may revoke the suspension of an expulsion order under this section if the pupil commits any of the acts designated as Suspension/Discretionary Expulsion Conduct or violates any of the school's rules and regulations governing pupil conduct. When the Board revokes the suspension of an expulsion order, a pupil may be expelled under the terms of the original expulsion order. Upon satisfactory completion of the rehabilitation assignment of a pupil, the Board shall reinstate the pupil and may also order the expungement of any or all records of the expulsion proceedings.

## **Readmission to the Charter**

An expulsion order shall remain in effect until the Board orders the readmission of a pupil. At the time an expulsion of a pupil is ordered for an act other than Mandatory Expulsion Conduct, the Board shall set a date, not later than the last day of the semester following the semester in which the expulsion occurred, when the pupil shall be reviewed for readmission. For a pupil who has been expelled for an act of Mandatory Expulsion Conduct, the Board shall set a date of one year from the date the expulsion occurred, when the pupil shall be reviewed for readmission, except that the Board may set an earlier date for readmission on a case-by-case basis.

The Board shall recommend a plan of rehabilitation for the pupil at the time of the expulsion order, which may include, but not be limited to, periodic review as well as assessment at the time of review for readmission. The plan may also include recommendations for improved academic performance, tutoring, special education assessments, job training, counseling, employment, community service, or other rehabilitative programs.

Any pupil who has been expelled and who seeks readmission, must submit a request to the Board President in writing no more than 21 (but no less than 7) calendar days before the end of the term of the expulsion. In addition, the pupil must provide documentation that all conditions for rehabilitation set by the Board have been met.

Upon completion of the readmission process, the Board shall readmit the pupil, unless the Board makes a finding that the pupil has not met the conditions of the rehabilitation plan or continues to pose a danger to campus safety or to other pupils or employees of the school. A description of the procedure shall be made available to the pupil and the pupil's parent or guardian at the time the expulsion order is entered.

If the Board denies the pupil's request for readmission, the Board shall provide written notice to the expelled pupil and the pupil's parent or guardian describing the reasons for denying the pupil re-admittance into the school.

# Coversheet

## AIMS 2022 - 2023 Staff Handbook

**Section:** II. Action Items  
**Item:** C. AIMS 2022 - 2023 Staff Handbook  
**Purpose:** Vote  
**Submitted by:**  
**Related Material:** AIMS Staff Handbook 2022-2023-(20220830-formatted).pdf



# AIMS K-12

## COLLEGE PREP

### CHARTER DISTRICT

# AIMS K-12 COLLEGE PREP CHARTER DISTRICT

## STAFF HANDBOOK

2022-2023

AIMS COLLEGE PREP ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (GRADES K-5)  
AIMS COLLEGE PREP MIDDLE SCHOOL (GRADES 6-8)  
AIMS COLLEGE PREP HIGH SCHOOL (GRADE 9-12)

171 12TH STREET, OAKLAND, CA 94607 | TEL: 510-893-8701 | FAX: 510-893-0345  
[WWW.AIMSK12.ORG](http://WWW.AIMSK12.ORG)

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## Important Message Regarding the AIMS Handbook

The purpose of this handbook is to inform AIMS employees of the official AIMS K-12 College Prep Charter District's policies and prepare them for our AIMS environment of excellence. AIMS K-12 College Prep Charter District reserves the right to adopt changes to its handbook at any given time as needed.

The rules and policies are not suggestions. AIMS has had success with students because our employees adhered to our AIMS Model as embodied in the AIMS Standards.

## About AIMS K-12 College Prep Charter District

AIMS K-12 College prep is celebrating 25 years of successfully educating the children of Oakland.

In 1996 Native American families looking to retain a cultural connection for their children founded AIPCS. AIPCS was Oakland's second public charter school. In 2006, AIPCS became the first public school in Oakland to win recognition as a National Blue Ribbon School. Later that year, AIPCS expanded to include American Indian Public High School (AIPHS), and, in 2012, expanded again to include American Indian Public Charter School II (AIPCS II) as a K-8 campus.

In 2014 AIMS Board hired Superintendent Maya Woods-Cadiz. Under her leadership, AIMS expanded and became a more holistic organization.

During the 2018-19 school year, the AIMS Board in keeping with feedback from our community, changed the name of American Indian Model School to AIMS K-12 College Prep Charter District.

AIPCS II became AIMS Elementary K-8, AIPCS became AIMS Middle School, and AIPHS became AIMS High School.

Since 2015, AIMS Schools have repeatedly received National Honor Roll distinction, recognition as top Bay Area public schools for underserved students, Family In Action 100% A-G graduate rate completion for African-American students, Multiple sports championships, and the California Charter School Association Hart Vision Award, recognizing AIMS K-12 College Prep Charter District as the Northern California Charter school network of the year.

This year all of AIMS schools will be applying for Blue Ribbon Schools distinction. AIMS goal is to have a district that rivals the top American private schools.

## SECTION I: FOUNDATIONAL BELIEFS

The purpose of this section is to familiarize the employee with the foundational beliefs of AIMS K-12 College Prep Charter District. Employees will be required to memorize these foundational beliefs

### AIMS Tenets

1. Family
2. Accountability
3. High Expectations
4. Free Market Capitalism

### AIMS Framework

***High Expectations + High Support = Students' Success***

## AIMSTRONG

- Academics** Academics is the first word in AIMSTRONG and is the cornerstone to future success. Academics means developing and growing our scholarship, our grades, our inquiry, our brains.
- Integrity** Being honest and possessing strong moral principles. Integrity means being true to our best selves consistently.
- Mentorship** Providing guidance, influence, and direction to your AIMS community. Mentorship is serving our neighbors, community and families, especially with our strengths.
- Strength** The influence or power possessed by you to combat the rigors of academics and real-life while resisting being moved or broken. Strength is both physical growth and the will power to complete the work we begin.
- Teamwork** The combined action of each group member doing their part selflessly to benefit the whole. Teamwork is being part of a group which has an agreed goal.
- Responsibility** Moral, legal, or mental accountability and taking ownership for one's actions. Responsibility is when we own our real part of getting teamwork, family, and planning done.
- Organization** Preparation and efficiency when coordinating and carrying out activities. Organization is both how we plan and what we do to get things done systematically.
- Nerve** Displaying courage, power, control and steadiness under pressure. Nerve knows when to step out to make a change in a situation or plan.
- Grit** To keep going to accomplish our plans, even when there are strong obstacles. Grit is best personified in our ability to be knocked down and to get back up again.

## AIMS Mission Statement

AIMS K12 College Prep Charter District offers a rigorous program designed for academic excellence with the goal of closing the achievement gap while raising the bar. Our ultimate mission is to have all of our students be accepted to a four-year college or university

## AIMS Credo

- The Family** We are a family at AIMS Schools.
- The Goal** We are always working for academic and social excellence.
- The Faith** We will prosper by focusing and working toward our goals.
- The Journey** We will go forward, continue working, and remember we will always be a part of the AIMS K-12 College Prep Charter District family.

## AIMS Values

At AIMS we value:

- Excellence** Commitment to excellence in all that we do
- Wisdom and Knowledge** Pursuit of wisdom and knowledge as intrinsically valuable
- Empathy** Recognition of dignity and worth of every human being **Family and Community** - Building of family and community **Equity** - Social awareness and justice that leads to action
- Legacy** The continued preservation and development of AIMS methodologies for 21st century learners and educators.\

## Our Core Values

1. We are a family at AIMS K-12 College Prep Charter District.
2. When teachers, families and students follow and support the AIMS Model as written, children are guaranteed to be prepared for college.
3. We create an extended family with administration, teachers, staff, students, family, and selected community. Students, teachers and staff are expected to clean and take care of the school property. Parents and family are expected to be a positive and supportive presence.
4. Teachers spend two years with their students in grades 1-2 and three years with their students in grades 3-5 and grades 6-8, teaching all core academic subjects. This creates an environment of strong academics and a family culture.
5. Former AIMS school students enrolled in college may be paid to work with our current students.
6. The AIMS community supports and guides all our students by engaging in restorative practices and alternatives to traditional discipline. The AIMS community does not give up on our students.
7. All current and former students are encouraged to sign up on the alumni page on the AIMS [website](#).

## SECTION II: EMPLOYMENT POLICIES AND PRACTICES

### AIMS Facilities Use

During the COVID-19 restrictions, AIMS facilities will be for the primary use of AIMS students and staff. Any other use must be approved by the Superintendent or her designee through the completion of an AIMS Facilities Use Form.

### Classrooms

1. We value cleanliness! Staff and students must ensure classrooms are kept neat and in order.
2. Custodial will do deep cleaning of each classroom daily.
3. There should never be anything left on the floor or on the desks after school. Anything left on the floor will be thrown away.
4. The teacher's desk should also be neat and clean at the end of each day.
5. Do not keep unsealed food in the classroom.
6. Boards should be cleaned with board cleaner (not antibacterial wipes) at least once a week, when applicable.
7. Students and staff are to wash hands frequently
8. Students and staff are to maintain social distancing and wear PPE
9. Students and staff are not to share materials and equipment

### Bathrooms

1. Students shall report any bathroom uncleanliness brought to their attention to their teacher.
1. Students must sign in and out of the classroom when going to the restroom.
2. Inform the administrative assistant if the bathrooms are low or out of toilet paper, soap, paper towels, or toilet seat liners.
3. Although we want to discourage students from abusing bathroom usage during instruction, students will not be prohibited from using the restroom as needed. K-3 students are required to have restroom breaks.
4. Regular disinfecting of restrooms will take place throughout the day.

## Doors

1. The following items will be posted on **both sides of classroom doors**:
  - a. credo
  - b. mission statement
  - c. slogan
  - d. daily schedule
  - e. class name and
  - f. teacher's name and classroom number
2. COVID-19 safety postings
3. Doors should **always** be neat with papers securely posted.

## Initial Teacher / Parent Meetings

All new and returning teachers must schedule a 15-minute meeting with each student's family before September 15th of each year. Meetings must be done virtually.

## Study Hall

Study Hall is an integral component of the AIMS Model, and, when executed properly, is effective in providing quality study time that is essential in preparing our students for academic success. In addition, a properly functioning study hall sets the tone for the school day and models real-life conditions of a college-preparatory environment. Teachers are expected to implement and hold students accountable to AIMS Study Hall Policies.

Procedures on how this will happen will vary by school and grade span.

## Tutoring

1. Tutoring is an essential component to academic improvement and AIMS K-12 College Prep Charter District' success.
2. All students with a grade of C- or below in grades 3-12, and or demonstrating low-fluency in grades K-2, must receive tutoring.
3. These students will also be required to attend Saturday School (grades 3-12) to receive additional help. Saturday School is an opportunity for all teachers to be available for students who need help.
4. Students who have low standardized test scores
5. If a parent requests tutoring for their child or a student requests tutoring, the request will be evaluated, and the student will be placed in tutoring based on need and availability.
6. Students must, whenever possible, attend all scheduled tutoring sessions. The administrator, classroom teacher, and Instructional Aides must be informed in writing if a student is absent or did not attend a scheduled tutoring session on the same day.
7. Tutoring sessions should not be used for students to complete missed exams or homework

## Student of the Month

1. Student of the Month is awarded to one student each month.
5. Teachers will submit their nominations to the administrative assistant by the last day of each month.
6. Teachers are responsible for displaying these winners inside or outside the classroom.

## Honor Roll

1. Students who earn a GPA of 3.33 or higher will be placed on the Honor Roll. Honor Roll students may not have a grade of C- or below.
2. This includes all subjects (including PE, Mandarin, writing, etc.).
3. Teachers will submit a list of Honor Roll students to the office with each quarter report card.

## Superintendent's List

1. Students who earn a GPA of 4.00 an academic semester will be placed on the Superintendent's List.
2. Students who earn a GPA of 4.00 an academic semester and have perfect attendance will also earn "Cum Laude" distinction.

## Honorable Mention

1. Students who earn a GPA of 3.00 or higher will be placed on Honorable Mention. Honorable mention students may not have a grade of C- or below.
2. Teachers will submit this list with the list of Honor Roll students.

## Physical Education

1. The PE teachers will recognize excellent physical performance (i.e., top mile times) with a display at the front of the school.
2. This needs to be updated at least each quarter.



## Perfect Attendance Competition Counts

1. AIMS will use the District standard for tracking perfect attendance, with the exception of the District's standard that students who are absent for the entire day but who come to school to drop off their completed homework and pick up their homework assignments will be considered present.
7. Only students who show up to school on a given day will be considered present.
8. Students who are absent, and whose family members or friends pick up homework assignments, will be considered absent and the class's perfect attendance count will return to zero.
9. The site administrators may make exceptions to this policy on a case-by-case basis as circumstances dictate.

## STUDENT ASSESSMENT

10. All grades, including physical education grades and elective grades count toward the Grade Point Average (GPA).
11. Progress reports are distributed every three weeks. If a student is failing any subject, he or she will receive a progress report. A grade of **C- or lower** is considered to be failing.
12. Comments on report cards and progress reports are essential. Notification of retention should not only be on the report card. Families of students who are at risk of being retained will be informed in writing and in person. Documenting the possible retention in the student's report card shall only be one form of communication. (See Retention and Promotion Policy.)
13. Two copies of the report card will be sent home with the student. One copy is for the family to keep and the other is to be signed and returned to the teacher. A third copy will be kept in the student's classroom file in case the student loses the copies sent home.

## GRADING SCALES

### K - 1st Grade Reading Scores

Grade	Fluency Scores	Comprehension Level
E	Above Grade Level WPM	Exceeding Common Core State Standards (CCSS) expectations per grade level
P	K 60-74 WPM 1st 75-100 WPM 2nd 101-120 WPM	Meeting CCSS expectations per grade level
B	Below Grade Level WPM	Not meeting CCSS expectations per grade level

### K - 1st Grade Math Scores

Grade	Fluency Scores
E	Exceeding mastery of CCSS on AIMS' pacing guide
P	Meeting mastery of CCSS on AIMS' pacing guide
B	Not meeting mastery of CCSS on AIMS' pacing guide

### 2nd - 8th Grade

Grade	Score	Grade Points
A	94-100	4.00
A-	90-93	3.67
B+	88 - 89	3.33
B	84 - 87	3.00
B-	80 - 83	2.67
C+	78 - 79	2.33
C	74 - 77	2.00
C- or below is a non-pass		

## High School

Percentage	Grade	Points	Points for Honors/AP/ College Courses
94-100	A	4.0	5.0
90-93	A-	3.67	4.67
88-89	B+	3.33	4.33
84-87	B	3.0	4.0
80-83	B-	2.67	3.67
78-79	C+	2.33	3.33
74-77	C	2.0	3.0
<b>C- or below is a non-pass</b>			

## STAFF ATTENDANCE POLICY

The following are the only excused absences for eleven (11) month employees. Twelve (12) month employees may add vacation time to this list.

- Illness or medical appointment during school hours
- Jury Duty
- Funeral services of an immediate family member (one day if the service is in California and not more than three days if the service is outside California). Members of the immediate family, as used in this section, means the mother, father, grandmother, grandfather, or a grandchild of the employee or of the spouse of the employee, and the spouse, son, son-in-law, daughter, daughter-in-law, brother, or sister of the employee, or any relative living in the immediate household of the employee.
- Illness or medical appointment during school hours of a child of whom the employee is the custodial parent
- For justifiable personal reasons when the absence is requested in writing by the employee and approved by the Head of School or a designated representative pursuant to uniform standards
- For the purpose of serving as a member of a precinct board
- For the purpose of spending time with a member of the employee's immediate family who is an active-duty member of the uniformed services and has been called to duty for, is on leave from, or has immediately returned from, deployment to a combat zone or combat support position.
- For the purpose of attending the naturalization ceremony to become a United States citizen.
- Authorized family/medical leave in accordance with state and federal law

All other absences are "unexcused" absences, with the exception of 12-month employees taking earned vacation time or those placed on administrative leave. Unexcused absences may result in the docking of pay as well as other disciplinary action up to and including dismissal.

## Absence Reporting

An absent employee must report his/her absence to their Head of School or designee as far in advance as possible before the start of the employee's workday or as soon as practical given the nature of the absence. It is not sufficient for an employee to notify a co-worker, secretary, or receptionist, unless the supervisor as the appropriate contact has designated such person for this purpose.

When an employee is absent for medical reasons for more than three (3) working days, the employee must, upon return, provide the Head of School or designee with a Doctor's statement certifying the medical basis for the absence and stating that the employee is able to return to work.

### Planned Absence:

The following steps must be taken when submitting a request for a planned absence.

- A. Request Time off through Swipeclock
- B. Supervisor will be notified through Swipeclock
- C. When approved or denied, you will be notified through Swipeclock
- D. If your request hasn't been approved, Contact Supervisor

### Unplanned Absence:

The following steps must be taken when submitting a request for a planned absence.

- A. Contact Supervisor (via email & text message)
- B. Submit your absence through Swipeclock
- C. Once approved, you will be notified through Swipeclock

## STUDENT SAFETY AND LIABILITY

- A. Safety is one of our first concerns. Students must NEVER be left unsupervised.
- B. Staff members must monitor students during pick-up and drop-off.
- C. Injuries during the school day must be reported, and an Incident Report Form (IRF) must be obtained from the office and completed. A copy of the report must be email to Health & School Support Services Department ([hsss@aimsk12.org](mailto:hsss@aimsk12.org)), and be placed in the student's file, administrator's mailbox, administrative assistant's mailbox, and teacher's mailbox.
- D. Teachers must ESCORT THEIR OWN CLASS to lunch and physical education (when applicable)
- E. Teachers should use caution and professional judgment when interacting with students outside of school. Teachers should never accept or invite employees to join their social media circle (e.g., "Friending of Facebook").
- F. Teachers must be alert and cautious at all times when escorting students off campus (including field trips, outings to the park, and when running the students around the block during PE).
- G. Memos and letters to parents or family members must be approved and initiated by the Division Head/Head of Schools or designee before being distributed.
- H. Student and staff injuries must be documented on the AIMS Incident report form (IRF). Your Head of School or designee will have a copy of this form.

## CHILD ABUSE REPORTING POLICY

Child abuse includes: physical abuse, sexual abuse (including both sexual assault and sexual exploitation), extreme emotional abuse, willful cruelty or unjustified punishment, unlawful corporal punishment or injury that is willfully inflicted, resulting in a traumatic condition, and/or neglect (including both acts and omissions). Child neglect is defined as negligent treatment which threatens a child's health or welfare.

In accordance with Sections 11164-11174.3 of the California Penal Code, all certificated employees, employees of child care centers, instructional aides, teacher's aides, teacher's assistants, and classified employees who have been trained in the duties imposed by this law and are considered to be mandated reporters. Any one of these specified employees who knows or reasonably suspects that a child has been a victim of a child abuse and/or neglect incident must do the following:

- A. Report the incident to a child protective agency (i.e., Department of Children and Family Services), the Police (not School Police), or Sheriff's Department, County Probation Department, or a County Welfare Department immediately by telephone.
- B. Send a written report of the incident to the same agency within 36 hours. Although the Penal Code obligation to report applies to the aforementioned employees only, it is the policy of AIMS that **all** employees shall comply with the law's reporting procedure whenever they have knowledge of or observe a child in the course of their employment whom they know or reasonably suspect to have been the victim of child abuse.

Additionally, teachers and counselors are legally bound required to immediately inform a parent and/or authority and report the following instances to the Head of School, who will contact law enforcement and/or the student's parent/guardian in accordance with the law: (1) when a student indicates he or she is going to physically harm himself or herself or jeopardize his or her life; (2) when a student indicates he or she is going to physically harm another person or jeopardize another person's life or has knowledge that another person's well-being is threatened; (3) when a student indicates he or she is being physically and/or emotionally abused; (4) when a student indicates he or she has committed a felony.

## Child Abuse Mandated Reporting



**What Must be Reported:**

Any of the below acts involving anyone under the age of 18:

- Physical Abuse
- Sexual Abuse
- Emotional Abuse
- Neglect

The mandated reporter must only have *reasonable suspicion* that a child has been mistreated; no evidence or proof is required prior to making a report.

The case will be further investigated by law enforcement and/or child welfare services.

**How to Report:**

**By Phone:** Immediately, or as soon as possible, make a telephone report to child welfare services and/or to a Police or Sheriff’s department.

1. Child Welfare Services phone # 510-259-1800
2. Police Department phone # 510-777-3333
3. Sheriff’s Department phone # 510-272-6878

**In Writing:** Within 36 hours, a written report must be sent, faxed or submitted electronically. The written report should be completed on a state form called the 8572, which can be downloaded at [http://ag.ca.gov/childabuse/pdf/ss\\_8572.pdf](http://ag.ca.gov/childabuse/pdf/ss_8572.pdf)

**Other information:**

- Safeguards for Mandated Reporters:
  - The Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Act (CANRA) states that the name of the mandated reporter is strictly confidential, although it is provided to investigative parties working on the case.
  - Under state law, mandated reporters cannot be held liable in civil or criminal court when reporting as required; however, under federal law mandated reporters only have immunity for reports made in good faith.
- Failure to report:
  - Failure to report concerns of child abuse or neglect is considered a misdemeanor and is punishable in California by six months in jail and/or up to a \$1,000 fine.
- For the complete law and a list of mandated reporters refer to California Penal Codes 11164 -11174.3.

This document and Mandated Reporting information can be found at [www.mandatedreporterca.com](http://www.mandatedreporterca.com)



## Statement Acknowledging Requirement to Report Suspected Child Abuse

The California Penal Code prohibits sexual abuse, sexual assault, sexual exploitation, child neglect, the infliction of cruel or inhuman corporal punishment, and unjustifiable physical pain or mental suffering on a child. In addition, the Penal Code prohibits allowing or causing a child to be placed in a situation that endangers a child's health or person.

Section 11166 of the Penal Code requires any child care custodian, health practitioner, or employee of a child protective agency who has knowledge of or observes a child in his or her professional capacity or within the scope of his or her employment whom he or she knows or reasonably suspects has been the victim of child abuse report the known or suspected instance of child abuse to a child protective agency. The report must be sent to the child protective agency within 36 hours of receiving the information concerning the incident.

“Child Care Custodian” includes all persons who interact directly on a regular basis with employees, including teachers, administrators, employee service employees, paraprofessionals and volunteers. “Health practitioner” includes nurses, physicians, psychologists, and family and child counselors.

As an employee of AIMS K-12 College Prep Charter District, your employment position falls within the definition of Section 11166 of the California Penal Code. Therefore, you are mandated to comply with the child abuse reporting requirement as stated above.

I, \_\_\_\_\_ have read and understood the requirements of

the Section 11166 of the California Penal Code as outlined above and will comply with those provisions.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

A signed copy of this form must be placed in the employee's file

## STUDENT FILES

1. Teachers must maintain their own student files in the classrooms that include:
  - a. Detention slips and any other discipline related document
  - b. Progress reports and report cards
  - c. Any other document related to the student for the school year
2. Doctor's and parent's notes go to the office.

## HOMEWORK POLICY

1. Teachers should assign homework on a daily basis. The following is the average amount of time that students should spend for daily homework completion at each grade level:
  - a. 30 minutes for K - 2nd
  - b. 45 minutes for 3rd
  - c. 1 hour for 4th and 5th
  - d. 1 hour and 15 minutes for 6th
  - e. 1 hour and 30 minutes for 7th
  - f. 1 hour and 45 minutes for 8th
  - g. 2 hours for 9th
  - h. 2 hours and 30 minutes for 10th, 11th, and 12th grades.
2. Students need to be held accountable for completing daily assignments, and assessment is necessary to measure student progress.
3. Instructional time should **not** be used to have students call out numbers for teachers to record in grade books.
4. Students in grades K-6 should not take home more than two large textbooks a night.
5. Homework shall not be done during the regular class day or during detention.

## STUDENT BEHAVIOR MANAGEMENT

### Acceptable Forms of Behavior Management

- A. Warning
- B. Behavior Contract
- C. Parent Conference
- D. Counseling
- E. Loss of privileges (extracurricular activities, etc.)
- F. Sending a student to another classroom for a limited period of time.
- G. Additional required hours at school: detention or Saturday School.
- H. Additional school work: extra homework, writing lines or copying materials, additional study/review.
- I. Community Service: Clean, organize; take out trash, sweep, etc. AIMS will provide gloves and necessary cleaning supplies as appropriate.
- J. Communication tools: Students write letters of apology or to their families to discuss poor behavior/performance.
- K. Confiscation of prohibited items
- L. Suspension or Expulsion in extreme cases and with leadership approval pursuant to the Suspension and Expulsion Policy (Insert link to policy)
- M. Any other form of discipline must be approved by the Head of Schools or designee.

## CONFISCATED ITEMS

- A. Obtain a Confiscated Items Form from the office and fill it out (signed by the teacher and the student). Give the form and item to an administrator.
- B. The administrator will also sign the form and file it in a binder.
- C. The item will be placed in a bag with the student's name inside the bag. The bag will be placed in a locked box or safe.
- D. Items will be returned to students at the end of the week, or in the case of repeated violations or dangerous items, the student's parent will be required to come to school to pick up the item. Illegal items may be turned over to law enforcement.

## DETENTION

Detention procedures differ by site. Please refer to your Head of Schools or designee for time and location.

## SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY

In light of the explosive growth and popularity of social media technology in today's society, AIMS has developed the following policy (see below) to establish rules and guidelines regarding the appropriate use of social media by employees and students. This policy applies to situations when you:

- (1) make a post to a social media platform that is related to the Charter School;
- (2) engage in social media activities during working hours;
- (3) use AIMS equipment or resources while engaging in social media activities;
- (4) use your AIMS e-mail address to make a post to a social media platform;
- (5) post in a manner that reveals your affiliation with AIMS.

For the purposes of this policy, the phrase "social media" refers to the use of a website or other electronic application to connect with other people, including, but not limited to, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat, Pinterest, LinkedIn, and YouTube, as well as related web-based media, such as blogs, wikis, and any other form of user-generated media or web-based discussion forums. Social media may be accessed through a variety of electronic devices, including computers, cell phones, smart phones, PDAs, tablets, and other similar devices.

This policy is intended to supplement, not replace, the Charter' School's other policies, rules, and standards of conduct. For example, AIMS policies on confidentiality, use of AIMS equipment, professionalism, employee references and background checks, workplace violence, unlawful harassment, and other rules of conduct are not affected by this policy.

You are required to comply with all AIMS policies whenever your social media activities may involve or implicate AIMS in any way, including, but not limited to, the policies contained in this Handbook

## STANDARDS OF CONDUCT FOR SOCIAL MEDIA

You are required to comply with the following rules and guidelines when participating in social media activities that are governed by this policy:

Comply with the law at all times. Do not post any information or engage in any social media activity that may violate applicable local, state, or federal laws or regulations.

- Do not engage in any discriminatory, harassing, or retaliatory behavior in violation of AIMS policy.
- Respect copyright, fair use, and financial disclosure rules and regulations. Identify all copyrighted or borrowed material with proper citations and/or links.
- Students may not engage in social media activities during school hours. Do not use your AIMS e-mail address to register on social media websites, blogs, or other online tools utilized for personal use.
- Always be fair and courteous to employees, students, parents, or other people who work on behalf of AIMS. Avoid posting statements, photographs, video, or audio that could be

reasonably viewed as malicious, obscene, threatening, or intimidating, that disparage employees, students, parents, or other people who work on behalf of AIMS, or that might constitute harassment or bullying. Violation of this may lead to discipline including but not limited to expulsion or dismissal. Parents could be held civilly liable to the person that was maligned.

- Make sure you are always honest and accurate when posting information or news, and if you make a mistake, correct it quickly. Never post any information or rumors that you know to be false about AIMS, employees, students, parents, people working on behalf of AIMS, or other schools. Violation of this may lead to discipline including but not limited to expulsion or dismissal. Parents could be held civilly liable to the person that was maligned.
- Express only your personal opinions. Never represent yourself as a spokesperson for AIMS unless authorized to do so. If you publish social media content that may be related to your school or subjects associated with AIMS, make it clear that you are not speaking on behalf of AIMS and that your views do not represent those of AIMS, employees, students, parents, or other people working on behalf of AIMS. It is best to use a disclaimer such as, “The postings on this site are my own and do not necessarily reflect the views of AIMS.” Violation of this may lead to discipline including but not limited to expulsion or dismissal. Parents could be held civilly liable to the person that was maligned.

In the event you have any questions about whether a particular social media activity may involve or implicate AIMS, or may violate this policy, please contact your site administrator.

Social media is in a state of constant evolution, and AIMS recognizes that there will likely be events or issues that are not addressed in these guidelines. Thus, each AIMS employee is responsible for using good judgment and seeking guidance, clarification, or authorization before engaging in social media activities that may implicate this policy.

The Superintendent or her designee is the sole spokesperson for AIMS. Any statements made to the media regarding AIMS must be made with the written approval of the Superintendent.

## SECTION III: EMPLOYMENT POLICIES AND PRACTICES

### ANTI-VIOLENCE POLICY

AIMS is committed to providing a workplace that is free from acts of violence or threats of violence. In keeping with this commitment, AIMS has established a strict policy that prohibits any employee from threatening or committing any act of violence in the workplace, while on duty, while on school-related business, or while operating any vehicle or equipment owned or leased by AIMS. This policy applies to all employees.

In order to achieve our goal of providing a workplace that is secure and free from violence, AIMS must enlist the support of all employees. Compliance with this policy and our commitment to a zero-tolerance policy with respect to workplace violence is every employee's responsibility.

Compliance with this anti-violence policy is a condition of employment. Due to the importance of this policy, employees who violate any of its terms, who engage in or contribute to violent behavior, or who threaten others with violence may be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including immediate termination.

Employees are required to report any incident involving a threat of violence or act of violence immediately to their supervisor, Head of Schools, or Superintendent. If these individuals are not available, report the incident to any other supervisor and report the incident to the Superintendent as soon as he or she is available. All reports will be investigated by AIMS and appropriate corrective action will be taken.

If an employee becomes aware of an imminent act of violence, a threat of imminent violence, or actual violence, emergency assistance must be sought immediately. In such situations, the employee should contact the law enforcement authorities by dialing 911. Immediately after contacting the law enforcement authorities, the employee must report the incident to the Superintendent.

Employees should immediately inform their supervisor or the Head of School about any workplace security hazards. If these individuals are not available, the employee should immediately inform any other supervisor so that appropriate action can be taken.

There will be no retaliation against any employee who brings a complaint in good faith under the Workplace Anti-Violence Policy or who honestly assists in investigating such a complaint, even if the investigation produces insufficient evidence that there has been a violation, or if the charges cannot be proven. However, disciplinary action may be taken against employees who, in bad faith, make false or frivolous accusations.

## Availability of Health Insurance

All Employees working the appropriate hours are eligible for emotional counseling, medical, vision, and dental benefits. Please contact AIMS Business Office for further information.

## Employee Compensation

All employees are paid according to their placement on the AIMS salary scale. If you have concerns regarding your compensation, please contact the [Payroll@aimsk12.org](mailto:Payroll@aimsk12.org).

### Salary Schedule Placement Guidelines

#### Certificated (Teacher) Salary Schedule Placement Guidelines:

- Maximum of 10 years of prior \*full-time teaching experience accepted, pending verification
- AIMS Compliance Office must receive completed VOE within 45-days of start date in order to maintain salary schedule placement
- Additional \$1,000 annual \*\*Master's stipend pending Official Master's Degree Conferral Transcripts
- Additional \$2,000 annual \*\*Doctorate stipend pending Official Master's Degree Conferral Transcripts

Note: Master's and Doctorate stipends are built into the salary schedule.

#### Certificated (Admin) Salary Schedule Placement Guidelines:

- Maximum of 10 years of prior \*full-time teaching experience accepted, pending verification
- AIMS Compliance Office must receive completed VOE within 45-days of start date in order to maintain salary schedule placement
- Additional \$1,000 annual \*\*Master's stipend pending Official Master's Degree Conferral Transcripts
- Additional \$2,000 annual \*\*Doctorate stipend pending Official Master's Degree Conferral Transcripts
- Additional \$500 annual Admin. Services Credential stipend pending official verification

\* Full Time = Teacher or Administrator of record for 75% of the year or more. Any combination of part-time or substitute experience does not count as one year of full-time experience.

### **Classified/Management Salary Schedule Placement Guidelines:**

- Maximum of 5 years of prior \*\*\*full-time work experience in similar role accepted, pending verification (VOE)
- AIMS Compliance Office must receive completed VOE within 45-days of start date in order to maintain salary schedule placement

\*\*\* Full Time = 30-40 hours per week and having worked/completed a minimum of 75% of the year. Any combination of part time experience does not count as one year of full-time experience.

### **Concussion/Head Injuries**

A concussion is a brain injury that can be caused by a bump, blow, or jolt to the head, or by a blow to another part of the body with the force transmitted to the head. Even though most concussions are mild, all concussions are potentially serious and may result in complications including prolonged brain damage and death if not recognized and managed properly. Because the Charter School has elected to offer an athletic program, we must immediately remove from a school-sponsored athletic activity for the remainder of the day an athlete who is suspected of sustaining a concussion or head injury during that activity. The athlete may not return to that activity until he or she is evaluated by, and receives written clearance from, a licensed healthcare provider. If the licensed health care provider determines the athlete has a concussion or head injury, the athlete shall also complete a graduated return-to-play protocol of no less than 7 days in duration under the supervision of a licensed health care provider. On a yearly basis, a concussion and head injury information sheet must be signed and returned by the athlete and the athlete's parent or guardian before the athlete initiates practice or competition.

This requirement does not apply to an athlete engaging in an athletic activity during the regular school day or as part of a physical education course.

### **Employee Interactions with Students**

The School recognizes its responsibility to make and enforce all rules and regulations governing student and employee behavior to bring about the safest and most

learning-conducive environment possible.



## Corporal Punishment

Corporal punishment shall not be used as a disciplinary measure against any student. Corporal punishment includes the willful infliction of, or willfully causing the infliction of, physical pain on a student.

For purposes of this policy, corporal punishment does not include an employee's use of force that is reasonable and necessary to protect the employee, students, staff or other persons or to prevent damage to property.

For clarification purposes, the following examples are offered for direction and guidance of School personnel:

- A. Examples of PERMITTED actions (NOT corporal punishment)
  1. Stopping a student from fighting with another student;
  2. Preventing an employee from committing an act of vandalism;
  3. Defending yourself from physical injury or assault by a student;
  4. Forcing an employee to give up a weapon or dangerous object;
  5. Requiring an athletic team to participate in strenuous physical training activities designed to strengthen or condition team members or improve their coordination, agility, or physical skills;
  6. Engaging in group calisthenics, team drills, or other physical education or voluntary recreational activities.
- B. Examples of PROHIBITED actions (corporal punishment)
  1. Hitting, shoving, pushing, or physically restraining a student as a means of control;
  2. Making unruly students do push-ups, run laps, or perform other physical acts that cause pain or discomfort as a form of punishment;
  3. Paddling, swatting, slapping, grabbing, pinching, kicking, or otherwise causing physical pain.

## Acceptable and Unacceptable Staff/Student Behavior

This policy is intended to guide all School faculty and staff in conducting themselves in a way that reflects the high standards of behavior and professionalism required of school employees and to specify the boundaries between students and staff.

Although this policy gives specific, clear direction, it is each staff member's obligation to avoid situations that could prompt suspicion by parents, students, colleagues, or school leaders. One viable standard that can be quickly applied, when you are unsure if certain conduct is acceptable, is to ask yourself, "Would I be engaged in this conduct if my family or colleagues were standing next to me?"

For the purposes of this policy, the term “boundaries” is defined as acceptable professional behavior by staff members while interacting with a student. Trespassing the boundaries of a student/teacher relationship is deemed an abuse of power and a betrayal of public trust.

Some activities may seem innocent from a staff member’s perspective, but can be perceived as flirtation or sexual insinuation from a student or parent point of view. The objective of the following lists of acceptable and unacceptable behaviors is not to restrain innocent, positive relationships between staff and students, but to prevent relationships that could lead to, or may be perceived as, sexual misconduct.

Staff must understand their own responsibility for ensuring that they do not cross the boundaries as written in this policy. Disagreeing with the wording or intent of the established boundaries will be considered irrelevant for disciplinary purposes. Thus, it is crucial that all employees learn this policy thoroughly and apply the lists of acceptable and unacceptable behaviors to their daily activities. Although sincere, competent interaction with students certainly fosters learning, student/staff interactions must have boundaries surrounding potential activities, locations and intentions.

## **Duty to Report Suspected Misconduct**

When any employee reasonably suspects or believes that another staff member may have crossed the boundaries specified in this policy, he or she must immediately report the matter to a school administrator. All reports shall be as confidential as possible under the circumstances. It is the duty of the administrator to investigate and thoroughly report the situation. Employees must also report to the administration any awareness or concern of student behavior that crosses boundaries or where a student appears to be at risk for sexual abuse.

## **Examples of Specific Behaviors**

The following examples are not an exhaustive list:

### **Unacceptable Staff/Student Behaviors (Violations of this Policy)**

- Giving gifts to an individual student that are of a personal and intimate nature.
- Kissing of any kind.
- Any type of unnecessary physical contact with a student in a private situation.
- Intentionally being alone with a student away from the school.
- Making or participating in sexually inappropriate comments.
- Sexual jokes.
- Seeking emotional involvement with a student for your benefit.
- Listening to or telling stories that are sexually oriented.
- Discussing inappropriate personal troubles or intimate issues with a student in an attempt to gain their support and understanding.
- Becoming involved with a student so that a reasonable person may suspect inappropriate behavior.

## Unacceptable Staff/Student Behaviors without Parent and Supervisor Permission

### Cautionary Staff/Student Behaviors

These behaviors should only be exercised when a reasonable and prudent person, acting as an educator, is prevented from using better practice or behavior. Staff members should inform their supervisor of the circumstance and occurrence prior to or immediately after the occurrence

- a. Remarks about the physical attributes or development of anyone.
- b. Excessive attention toward a particular student.
- c. Sending emails, text messages or letters to students if the content is not about school activities.

### Acceptable and Recommended Staff/Student Behaviors

- a. Getting parents' written consent for any after-school activity.
- b. Obtaining formal approval to take students off school property for activities such as field trips or competitions.
- c. Emails, text, phone and instant messages to students must be very professional and pertaining to school activities or classes (Communication should be limited to school technology).
- d. Keeping the door open when alone with a student.
- e. Keeping reasonable space between you and your students.
- f. Stopping and correcting students if they cross your own personal boundaries.
- g. Keeping parents informed when a significant issue develops about a student.
- h. Keeping after-class discussions with a student professional and brief.
- i. Asking for advice from fellow staff or administrators if you find yourself in a difficult situation related to boundaries.
- j. Involving your supervisor if conflict arises with the student.
- k. Informing the Principal about situations that have the potential to become more severe.
- l. Making detailed notes about an incident that could evolve into a more serious situation later.
- m. Recognizing the responsibility to stop unacceptable behavior of students or coworkers.
- n. Asking another staff member to be present if you will be alone with any type of special needs student.
- o. Asking another staff member to be present when you must be alone with a student after regular school hours.
- p. Giving students praise and recognition without touching them.
- q. Keeping your professional conduct a high priority.
- r. Asking yourself if your actions are worth your job and career.

## EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

AIMS K-12 College Prep Charter District is an equal employment opportunity employer and makes employment decisions, including, but not limited to, hiring, firing, promotion, demotion, training, and/or compensation, on the basis of merit. Employment decisions are based on an individual's qualifications as they relate to the job under consideration. The AIMS' policy prohibits unlawful

discrimination based on race, religious creed (which includes religious dress and grooming practices), color, national origin, ancestry, physical disability, mental disability, medical condition, genetic information, marital status, sex (which includes pregnancy, childbirth, breastfeeding, and related conditions), gender, gender identity, gender expression, age, sexual orientation, military or veteran status, or any other consideration made unlawful by federal, state or local laws, ordinances, or regulations. All such discrimination is unlawful.

AIMS is committed to complying with all applicable laws providing equal employment opportunities. This commitment applies to all persons involved in the operations of AIMS and prohibits unlawful discrimination by any employee of AIMS, including supervisors and coworkers.

To comply with applicable laws ensuring equal employment opportunities to qualified individuals with a disability, AIMS will make a good faith effort to provide reasonable accommodations for the known physical or mental limitations of an otherwise qualified applicant or employee with a disability, unless undue hardship would result to AIMS. An applicant or employee who believes he or she requires an accommodation in order to perform the essential functions of the job should contact [Ombudsperson@aimsk12.org](mailto:Ombudsperson@aimsk12.org) and request such an accommodation, specifying what accommodation he or she needs to perform the job. AIMS will analyze the situation, engage in an interactive process with the individual, and respond to the individual's request.

## **AT-WILL EMPLOYMENT**

All employment at AIMS is "at will." This means that both the Employee and AIMS have the right to terminate the Employee's employment at any time, with or without advanced notice, and with or without cause. The Employee also may be demoted or disciplined and the terms of his or her employment may be altered at any time, with or without cause, and with or without advance notice, at the discretion of AIMS.

Subject to this Employment At-Will provision, Employee shall be employed during the school year beginning no earlier than July 1, 2021 and concluding no later than June 30, 2022 ("School Year"). Pursuant to the Employee At-Will provision of this Handbook, either party has the right to terminate the Employee's employment at any time, with or without advance notice, and with or without cause whether effective before or after the expiration of the stated School Year. By signing the Handbook Acknowledgement, the Employee acknowledges and understands that he or she has entered into this employment relationship with AIMS voluntarily and acknowledges and understands that there is no specific length or agreed upon period of employment.

## **UNLAWFUL HARASSMENT AND DISCRIMINATION**

AIMS is committed to providing a work environment free of unlawful harassment and discrimination. AIMS' policy prohibits harassment and discrimination based on race, religious creed (which includes religious dress and grooming practices), color, national origin, ancestry, physical disability, mental disability, medical condition, genetic information, marital status, sex (which includes pregnancy, childbirth, breastfeeding, and related conditions), gender, gender identity, gender expression, age,

sexual orientation, military or veteran status, or any other consideration made unlawful by federal, state or local laws, ordinances, or regulations. All such harassment is unlawful.

AIMS' unlawful harassment and discrimination policy applies to all persons involved in the operation of AIMS and prohibits unlawful harassment and discrimination by any employee of AIMS, including supervisors and co-workers. AIMS will take all reasonable steps to prevent or eliminate harassment and discrimination by

non-employees, including customers, clients, and suppliers, who have workplace contact with our employees.

Prohibited unlawful discrimination includes, but is not limited to, the following behaviors:

- Verbal conduct such as epithets, derogatory jokes or comments, slurs or unwanted comments.
- Visual conduct such as derogatory posters, photography, cartoons, drawings, or gestures.
- Physical conduct such as assault, unwanted touching, blocking normal movement, or interfering with work because of sex, race, or any other protected basis.
- Retaliation for having reported or threatened to report harassment or discrimination. California Education Code Section 212.5 defines sexual harassment as any unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, or other verbal, visual, or physical conduct of a sexual nature made by someone from or in the work or educational setting, under the following conditions:
  - Submission to the conduct is explicitly or implicitly made a term or a condition of an individual's employment, academic status, or progress.
  - Submission to, or rejection of, the conduct by the individual is used as the basis of employment or academic decisions affecting the individual.
  - The conduct has the purpose or effect of having a negative impact upon the individual's work or academic performance, or of creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive work or educational environment.
  - Submission to, or rejection of, the conduct by the individual is used as the basis for any decision affecting the individual regarding benefits and services, honors, programs, or activities available at or through the educational institution.

Sexual harassment may include, but is not limited to:

- Unwelcome verbal conduct such as suggestive or derogatory comments, sexual innuendos, slurs; unwanted sexual advances, invitations, or comments; pestering for dates; making threats; or spreading rumors about or rating others as to sexual activity or performance.
- Unwelcome visual conduct such as displays of sexually suggestive objects, pictures, posters, written material, cartoons, or drawings; graffiti of a sexual nature; or use of obscene gestures.
- Unwelcome physical conduct such as unwanted touching, pinching, kissing, patting, hugging, blocking of normal movement, or assault; or interference with work or study directed at an individual because of the individual's sex, sexual orientation, or gender.

- Threats, demands, or pressure to submit to sexual requests in order to keep a job or academic standing or to avoid other losses, and offers of benefits in return for sexual favors.

This policy applies to all phases of employment, including, but not limited to, recruiting, testing, hiring, upgrading, promotion, demotion, transfer, layoff, termination, rates of pay, benefits, and selection for training.

If you believe you have been subjected to unlawful harassment or discrimination, please follow the complaint procedure outlined below. Employees must report conduct prohibited by this policy whether or not they are personally involved.

## **UNLAWFUL RETALIATION**

AIMS prohibits retaliation against any employee because of the employee's opposition to a practice or conduct the employee reasonably believes to be unlawful or because of the employee's lawfully protected participation in an investigation or proceeding. Any retaliatory adverse action because of such opposition or participation may be unlawful and will not be tolerated. All such retaliation is unlawful.

If you believe you have been subjected to unlawful retaliation, please follow the complaint procedure outlined below.

## **COMPLAINT PROCEDURE—DISCRIMINATION, HARASSMENT, RETALIATION**

Employees must report all incidents believed to be unlawful discrimination, harassment, or retaliation. If you believe you have been subjected to any form of such unlawful conduct, submit a complaint, preferably in writing, to your supervisor or Ombudsperson if the complaint is about your supervisor. Supervisors must report any and all conduct of which they are made aware, which violates, or may violate, policies regarding unlawful discrimination, harassment, or retaliation to the Ombudsperson. Your complaint should be specific and should include the names of the individuals involved and the names of any witnesses.

AIMS encourages all employees to immediately report any incidents of unlawful discrimination, harassment, and/or retaliation so that complaints can be quickly and fairly resolved. If you receive such a complaint from a fellow employee, report it immediately to your supervisor or the Superintendent of AIMS. If these individuals are not available, report it to any other supervisor. All complaints will be handled as confidentially as possible and information will be disclosed only as it is necessary to complete the investigation and resolve the matter.

Upon notice of such a complaint, AIMS will promptly undertake an effective, thorough, and objective investigation and attempt to resolve the situation. If AIMS determines that unlawful conduct or a violation of applicable policies has occurred, effective remedial action will be taken in accordance with the circumstances involved. Any employee

determined by AIMS to be responsible for unlawful discrimination, harassment, and/or retaliation will be subject to appropriate disciplinary action, up to and including termination. Appropriate action will also be taken to deter future conduct.

There will be no retaliation against any employee who brings a complaint in good faith or who honestly assists in investigating such a complaint, even if the investigation produces insufficient evidence that there has been a violation, or if the charges cannot be proven.

## **ANTI-VIOLENCE POLICY**

AIMS is committed to providing a workplace that is free from acts of violence or threats of violence. In keeping with this commitment, AIMS has established a strict policy that prohibits any employee from threatening or committing any act of violence in the workplace, while on duty, while on school-related business, or while operating any vehicle or equipment owned or leased by AIMS. This policy applies to all employees.

In order to achieve our goal of providing a workplace that is secure and free from violence, AIMS must enlist the support of all employees. Compliance with this policy and our commitment to a zero-tolerance policy with respect to workplace violence is every employee's responsibility.

Compliance with this anti-violence policy is a condition of employment. Due to the importance of this policy, employees who violate any of its terms, who engage in or contribute to violent behavior, or who threaten others with violence may be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including immediate termination.

Employees are required to report any incident involving a threat of violence or act of violence immediately to their supervisor, Head of Schools, or Superintendent. If these individuals are not available, report the incident to any other supervisor and report the incident to the Superintendent as soon as he or she is available. All reports will be investigated by AIMS and appropriate corrective action will be taken.

If an employee becomes aware of an imminent act of violence, a threat of imminent violence, or actual violence, emergency assistance must be sought immediately. In such situations, the employee should contact the law enforcement authorities by dialing 911. Immediately after contacting the law enforcement authorities, the employee must report the incident to the Superintendent.

Employees should immediately inform their supervisor or the Head of School about any workplace security hazards. If these individuals are not available, the employee should immediately inform any other supervisor so that appropriate action can be taken.

There will be no retaliation against any employee who brings a complaint in good faith under the Workplace Anti-Violence Policy or who honestly assists in investigating such a complaint, even if the investigation produces insufficient evidence that there has been a violation, or if the charges cannot

be proven. However, disciplinary action may be taken against employees who, in bad faith, make false or frivolous accusations.

## DRUG AND ALCOHOL ABUSE POLICY

Our employees are our most valuable resource, and their own health and safety are therefore serious concerns. We will not tolerate any drug or alcohol related conduct that imperils the health and well-being of our employees. Further, the use of illegal drugs and abuse of controlled substances is inconsistent with law abiding behavior expected of all citizens. Employees who use illegal drugs or abuse other controlled substances or alcohol tend to be less productive, less reliable, and prone to greater absenteeism resulting in the potential for increased cost and risk.

We believe our employees have the right to work in an alcohol and drug-free environment and to work with persons free from the effects of alcohol and drugs. Employees who abuse alcohol or drugs are a danger to themselves, students, and to other employees. We are therefore committed to maintaining a safe and healthy workplace free from the influence of alcohol and drugs. We hope all employees will join with us in achieving our goal of a safe and productive drug-free workplace.

For purposes of this policy, “illegal drugs” includes, but is not limited to, substances that are prohibited by law (such as cocaine, heroin, etc.), controlled substances, marijuana (including medicinal marijuana), and prescription drugs (if they are not prescribed for the person using them and/or not being used as prescribed). “Drug paraphernalia” means any accessory for the use, possession, manufacture, distribution, dispensation, purchase, or sale of illegal drugs. “Under the influence” means that the employee is affected by alcohol and/or illegal drugs in any detectable manner.

### Prohibited Use

AIMS prohibits the following:

- Use, possession, manufacture, distribution, dispensation, purchase, or sale of alcohol (if unauthorized), illegal drugs, or drug paraphernalia on AIMS premises or AIMS business or during working hours.
- Storing alcohol (if unauthorized), illegal drugs, or drug paraphernalia in a locker, desk, automobile, or other repository on AIMS premises.
- Being under the influence of alcohol (if unauthorized) or illegal drugs on AIMS premises or AIMS business or during working hours.
- Refusing to submit to an inspection when requested by management.
- Failure to keep all prescribed medicine in its original container, which identifies the drug, date of prescription, and the prescribing doctor.
- Smoking and the use of any tobacco products on AIMS property including AIMS-owned, leased, or contracted buildings, and in AIMS vehicles at all times, by all persons, including employees, students, and visitors at any school or AIMS site or attending any school-sponsored events.



Employees are required to notify administration of any criminal drug and alcohol statute conviction for a violation occurring in the workplace no later than five (5) days after such conviction. Within thirty (30) days of receiving the notice, AIMS shall take appropriate administrative or disciplinary action.

In addition, if you are required to take any kind of prescription or nonprescription medication that will affect your job performance, you are required to report this to your supervisor. Your supervisor will determine if it is necessary to temporarily place you on another assignment or take other action as appropriate to protect the safety of you, other employees, and students.

## Searches

AIMS may at times conduct unannounced searches of AIMS property for alcohol, illegal drugs, drug paraphernalia, and/or unauthorized controlled substances or to ensure compliance with this or any other policy. This includes desks, storage areas, and rooms normally used to store employees' personal property. As a result, **employees do not have an expectation of privacy in this regard.**

Additionally, whenever AIMS suspects that an employee has sold, purchased, used, or possessed alcohol, illegal drugs, drug paraphernalia, and/or unauthorized controlled substances on AIMS premises, AIMS may inspect the employee's personal effects (including parcels, purses, bags, and briefcases) or automobile on AIMS property. As a result, employees do not have an expectation of privacy in this regard.

## Violations

Compliance with this policy is a condition of employment at AIMS. Failure or refusal of an employee to cooperate fully, sign any required document, or submit to any inspection will result in discipline, up to and including termination. Furthermore, any violations of this policy may result in disciplinary action, up to and including termination, at AIMS' sole discretion. Employees should be aware that participation in a rehabilitation program will not necessarily prevent the imposition of disciplinary action, including termination, for violation of this policy. Employees who undergo voluntary counseling or treatment and who continue to work, if any, must meet all established standards of conduct and job performance.

Because the use, sale, purchase, possession, or furnishing of an illegally obtained substance is a violation of the law, AIMS may report such illegal drug activities to an appropriate law enforcement agency.

## IMMIGRATION COMPLIANCE

AIMS is committed to full compliance with federal and state immigration laws. These laws require that all individuals pass an employment verification procedure before they are permitted to work. This procedure has been established by law and requires that every individual provide satisfactory

evidence of his or her identity and legal authority to work in the United States no later than three business days after he/she begins work.

Accordingly, all new hires must go through this procedure.

## **EMPLOYEE CLASSIFICATIONS**

Upon hiring, all employees are classified as exempt or nonexempt, full-time or

part-time, and regular or temporary. All employees are either exempt or nonexempt according to provisions of applicable wage and hour laws. These classifications do not guarantee employment for any specific length of time. Employment is at the mutual consent of the employee and AIMS.

### **Exempt Employees**

Pursuant to the federal Fair Labor Standards Act and applicable state laws, exempt employees are those who exercise the requisite degree of discretion and independent judgment and perform certain administrative, professional, and/or executive duties, or those who are considered outside/inside sales personnel under the law. Exempt employees are not entitled to overtime pay.

### **Non-Exempt Employees**

Pursuant to the Fair Labor Standards Act and applicable state laws, non-exempt employees are entitled to overtime pay. Non-exempt employees may have to work hours beyond their normal schedules as work demands require. If this results in working more than 8 hours in one day or 40 hours in one-week, non-exempt employees will receive overtime compensation in accordance with state and federal law. Non-exempt employees are required to take meal and rest periods in the manner described in this Handbook.

### **Regular Employees**

Regular employees are those who are hired to work on a regular schedule. Regular employees may be classified as full-time or part-time.

### **Full-Time Employees**

An employee who is regularly scheduled to work and regularly works at least 40 hours per week is considered a regular full-time employee.

## Part-Time Employees

An employee who is regularly scheduled to work and regularly works fewer than 40 hours but more than 30 hours per week is considered a regular part-time employee with benefits. An employee who is regularly scheduled to work and regularly works fewer than 30 hours per week is considered a regular part-time employee WITHOUT benefits. A regular part-time employee WITHOUT benefits is not eligible to earn, accrue, or participate in any AIMS benefits program, except as otherwise required by law, such as Paid Sick Leave.

## Temporary Employees

An employee who is hired for a particular project or job of limited or definite duration (short-term) is considered a temporary employee. A temporary employee is not eligible to earn, accrue, or participate in any AIMS benefits program, except as otherwise required by law.

An employee will not change from one status to any other status or classification simply because of the number of hours that the employee is scheduled to work or the length of time spent as an employee. The status of a temporary employee may change only if the employee is notified of the change in status, in writing, by the Head of School or Superintendent.

## JOB DUTIES

You will receive a job description and your supervisor will explain your job responsibilities and the performance standards expected of you. Be aware that your job responsibilities may change at any time during your employment. From time to time, you may be asked to work on special projects or to assist with other work necessary or important to the operation of AIMS. Your cooperation and assistance in performing such additional work is expected.

AIMS reserves the right, at any time, with or without notice, to transfer, demote, suspend, administer discipline, change job responsibilities, and change the terms and conditions of employment at its sole discretion.

## PAYMENT OF WAGES

Employees are paid semi-monthly (twice per month). If a payday falls on a weekend or holiday, employees will be paid on the preceding workday. Employees are required to report any overpayment of wages to the Office. Any discrepancies or shortages in the calculation of wages should be reported as soon as possible after payday.

## EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENTS

Employees shall be reimbursed for approved out-of-pocket expenditures for materials and supplies. All expenses claimed must be recorded on a reimbursement form and submitted with the original

receipts for pre- approval of the Head of Schools or designee. If permission for the expenditure is not requested and approved before the purchase, reimbursement is not guaranteed.

## OVERTIME

All non-exempt employees are required to obtain approval from their supervisor prior to working overtime. Failure to obtain such approval may subject an employee to discipline, up to and including termination. Overtime compensation will be paid in accordance with all state and federal laws.

For purposes of overtime calculations for non-exempt employees, the School's workweek begins on Monday and ends the following Sunday. The workday begins at midnight and ends the following day at 11:59 p.m. Employees will be informed when they are required to work overtime hours.

## WORKDAY AND WORKWEEK

The work schedule for employees shall be in accordance with the 2021-2022 school year calendar, and each employee's employment agreement, should one exist.

For purposes of calculating overtime, AIMS' standard workweek begins on Sunday at 12:01 a.m. and ends on Saturday at 12:00 a.m. (midnight). The standard workday is 12:01 a.m. to 12:00 a.m. (midnight) each day.

## MEAL AND REST PERIODS

**Meal Periods:** All non-exempt employees must take an uninterrupted meal period of at least 30 minutes each day they work more than 5 hours. You must commence the meal period before you complete your fifth hour of work. Thus, if you begin working at 8:30 a.m., for example, you must take your meal period prior to 1:30 p.m. In addition, you must record the actual times that you stop and start work to take a meal period. All non- exempt employees must take an uninterrupted meal period of at least 30 minutes each day they work more than 10 hours. You must commence the meal period before you complete your tenth hour of work. Meal periods are unpaid.

**Rest Periods:** All non-exempt employees are authorized, permitted, and strongly encouraged to take a 10- minute rest period every 4 hours worked or major fraction thereof. Ordinarily, this amounts to two 10-minute rest periods per 8-hour workday. The first rest period should be taken roughly in the middle of the 4-hour work period prior to lunch, and the second rest period should be taken roughly in the middle of the 4-hour work period following lunch. You do not need to record the times of these rest periods. You will be paid for the time spent on your rest periods.

During your meal periods and rest periods, you may not work at all. You are excused from all duties. In addition, please understand that you may not join together required meal or rest periods in order

to take a longer break. Also, you may not miss a required meal or rest period in order to start work later or leave work earlier.

In the rare event that you believe you cannot take a meal or rest period, or you are unable to take a full meal or rest period pursuant to AIMS policy, you must notify your supervisor in advance whenever possible (and, in any event, as soon as possible) so that the proper measures may be taken.

Failure to comply with the AIMS' policy regarding meal and/or rest periods can lead to discipline, up to and including termination.

## **TIMEKEEPING**

To ensure compliance with all applicable laws, non-exempt employees must accurately record all hours worked. This means they must clock in and out whenever they begin, cease, or resume working during the course of a workday. While you need not clock out and in during your rest periods, you must clock out and in during your meal periods.

Under no circumstances may one employee clock in or out for another employee.

Exempt employees may also be expected to record their time worked and report absences from work due to personal needs or illness.

Recording inaccurate time on your timesheet or recording time on another employee's timecard is a violation of AIMS policy and may result in discipline, including immediate termination. Employees are strictly prohibited from working "off the clock" or failing to record all time worked. Falsification of any timecard may result in disciplinary action, up to and including termination.

## **PERSONNEL FILES AND RECORD KEEPING PROTOCOLS**

AIMS and its designees shall maintain a confidential personnel file for each employee. All information in personnel files is strictly confidential, as is all payroll information. Any employee who violates this confidentiality is subject to discipline including discharge. Employees have the right to inspect certain documents in their personnel file, as provided by law, in the presence of a School representative, at a mutually convenient time.

To keep our personnel records accurate and to comply with state and federal laws, you must notify your supervisor immediately of any change(s) in the following personnel information:

- Your name (whether by marriage or otherwise).
- Your home address and telephone number.
- Who to inform in case of an emergency, including names and home and work telephone numbers and addresses.
- Withholding tax information (your marital status and correct number of dependents).
- Completion of education.

- Change of beneficiary on group life insurance.

## PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

At regular intervals, your immediate supervisor will provide you with a written evaluation of your work performance. The purpose of these reviews is to identify strengths, recognize areas for improvement and skill development, encourage growth, and develop strategies within a supportive team. This evaluation typically includes ratings in the following areas: quantity and quality of work, work habits and attitudes, interpersonal skills, dependability, and attendance. For new employees, there will be an interim performance review after the first ninety (90) days of employment, which will include an employee self-evaluation. For returning employees, performance evaluations will be completed annually. Your supervisor will discuss the evaluation with you and a copy of the completed form will be given to you. If you do not receive your evaluation, ask your supervisor about it. The performance evaluation form also offers you an opportunity to indicate if you believe you are working out of class, i.e., whether you are performing duties different from the ones listed in your class description. It is important for you to provide this information so that your position is classified and compensated appropriately.

All employees shall have the right to make their own written comments in response to the observations or review findings. This response will be attached to the observation and/or evaluation and kept in the employee's confidential personnel file.

## EMPLOYEE DISCIPLINARY ACTION: CAUSES FOR SUSPENSION, DEMOTION, AND DISMISSAL

The following conduct is prohibited and will not be tolerated by AIMS. This list of prohibited conduct is illustrative only; other types of conduct injurious to security, personal safety, employee welfare, and AIMS' operations also may be prohibited. Violation of the following standards may result in disciplinary action, up to and including immediate termination.

- Falsification of employment records, employment information, or other AIMS records. This includes making false statements or omitting material information in the application procedure for employment.
- Falsifying any time record.
- Theft, damage, or destruction of any AIMS property or the property of any employee or client.
- Removing or borrowing AIMS property without prior authorization.
- Unauthorized use of AIMS equipment, time, materials, or facilities.
- Provoking a fight or fighting during working hours or on AIMS property.
- Participating in horseplay on work time or on AIMS premises.
- Carrying firearms or any other dangerous weapons on AIMS premises at any time.
- Causing, creating, or participating in a disruption of any kind during working hours.
- Insubordination, including, but not limited to, failure or refusal to obey the legitimate orders or instructions of a supervisor or member of administration, or the use of abusive or threatening language toward a supervisor or member of administration.

- Using abusive, profane, threatening, indecent, or foul language and/or having inappropriate physical contact with students or other employees at any time on AIMS premises.
- Unreported absences.
- Failure to observe working schedules, including meal and rest periods.
- Sleeping or malingering on the job.
- Working overtime without authorization or refusing to work assigned overtime.
- Working “off the clock” or failing to record or report all hours worked.
- Failing to keep confidential information pertaining to students.
- Violation of any safety, health, security, or other AIMS policies, rules, or procedures.
- Committing a fraudulent act or a breach of trust under any circumstances.
- Engaging in unlawful harassment, discrimination, or retaliation.
- Making false or malicious statements about any employee or AIMS.
- Gambling of any type on AIMS premises.
- Intentionally supplying false information in order to obtain a leave of absence or other benefits from AIMS.
- Poor attendance, including, but not limited to, habitual tardiness and/or absenteeism, leaving early without permission, absence from work without permission, and abuse of time during work hours, to the extent permitted by law.
- Unsatisfactory work performance.
- Performing unauthorized work on AIMS work time.
- Failure to report incidents of child abuse.
- Willful and persistent violation of provisions of the Education Code or the Board of Education or school charter.

For employees with a written contract of employment that provides for termination “For Cause,” “Cause” shall include, but is not limited to: breach of the employment agreement or the employee’s failure to perform his/her duties as set forth in the employment agreement, as defined by law, or as specified in the employee’s job specification; the employee’s failure or refusal to comply with the lawful and reasonable direction of his/her supervisor, or the policies, standards and/or rules of AIMS; if it is determined that employee has conducted him/herself in an unprofessional, unethical, illegal or fraudulent manner, or has acted in a manner detrimental to the reputation, character or standing of AIMS.

## USE OF AIMS TELEPHONES, INTERNET, AND E-MAIL SYSTEM

Telephones in AIMS schools and offices are to be used only for official business with the exception of a personal emergency in which conversations must be kept as brief as possible. Outgoing personal calls should be made on your personal cell phone only during lunch and break periods so that they will not interfere with work. Personal business, including the handling of personal mail, e-mail, text messages, and telephone calls should be completed outside of your working hours. Remember that your AIMS' email account is reserved for AIMS' business purposes only.

Employees are reminded that AIMS various electronic communications systems, including, but not limited to, its electronic devices, computers, telephones, e-mail accounts, video conferencing, voice mail, facsimiles, internal and external networks, computers, PDAs, tablets, and AIMS-issued cell phones, are the property of AIMS. All communications and information transmitted by, received from, or stored in these systems are AIMS records.

As a result, AIMS may, and does, monitor its employees' use of these electronic communication systems, including for social media activities, from time to time, AIMS may monitor such activities randomly, periodically, and/or in situations when there is reason to believe that someone associated with the school has engaged in a violation of this, or any other, AIMS policy. As a result, employees do not have a reasonable expectation of privacy in their use of or access to AIMS' various electronic communications systems.

Your use of the AIMS' e-mail, internet, and computer systems has **no guarantee of privacy**.

## CHANGE OF CONTACT INFORMATION

Promptly report any change of home address or telephone number by completing a name and address card with the current information and submitting it to your time reporter.

## PERSONAL PROPERTY

It is the employee's responsibility to ensure that their handbag, wallet, and other personal property are kept locked in a safe place while at work. The school is not responsible for damage to, or theft of, private property, unless the school has been negligent. We recommend that employees not bring expensive items to school which may be stolen, such as iPads, mobile phones, and jewelry. The school does not accept responsibility for these items and is therefore not obliged to pay compensation for lost or stolen items.



## SOLICITATION & DISTRIBUTION

AIMS feels very strongly that work time is for work. Therefore, in the interests of our students, there will be no solicitation of any kind by any employee during the working time of the employee soliciting or the employee being solicited. Solicitation is permitted only during non-working time, such as break times, meal periods, and before checking in for work or after checking out of work. In addition, distribution of literature is prohibited during working time and in working areas. Exceptions to this rule for charitable organizations or charitable purposes require the advance approval of the Head of School.

Non-employees are prohibited from solicitation and distribution for any purpose on AIMS premises at any time.

Employees are not to utilize AIMS facilities or return to the work site outside of regular working hours unless prior approval from the Head of School has been granted.

Employees may be on AIMS premises only when they are on duty, scheduled to work, or have received advance approval from the Head of School.

## HEALTH AND SAFETY POLICY

The safety of students and staff is among the highest of priorities for AIMS. Injuries and illnesses create personal loss to employees, students, and their families, and reduce the AIMS' ability to provide quality education. It is AIMS' position that all accidents are preventable. Each employee is expected to obey safety rules and to exercise caution in work activities. Site administrators have primary responsibility for providing a safe working and learning environment and are accountable for ensuring strict compliance with applicable health and safety requirements. All supervisory employees, from executives to first line supervisors, share responsibility for ensuring the safety of students and staff. Employees should immediately inform their supervisor about any workplace accidents or security hazards. If this individual is not available, the employee should immediately inform any other supervisor so that appropriate action can be taken.

Employees should not transport students unless it relates to a school function and has been approved by AIMS K-12 College Prep Charter District.

When an accident or injury occurs on school property, it should be reported immediately to the Site Administrator. An Incident Report Form (IRF) should be completed as soon as possible. This form is available at the front office.

## INCIDENT/ACCIDENT REPORTING POLICY

Employees are expected to immediately notify the Site Administrator of any work-related incidents or injuries (within 24 hours). When a work-related incident or injury occurs, the following protocol must be followed.

- Step 1:** Employee completes Incident Report Form (IRF) & submit to supervisor
- Step 2:** Supervisor/HOS or designee provides employee with a DWC1 Form, witness with a Witness Report Form & completes a Supervisor Report Form
- Step 3:** Employee completes DWC1 & submits to ombudsperson via email at [ombudsperson@aimsk12.org](mailto:ombudsperson@aimsk12.org)
- Step 4:** Supervisor submits completed Incident/Witness & Supervisor Reports to ombudsperson via email at [ombudsperson@aimsk12.org](mailto:ombudsperson@aimsk12.org)

## FINGERPRINT POLICY

All employees of AIMS are fingerprinted and the prints are transmitted to the California Department of Justice and the Federal Bureau of Investigation for a criminal conviction records check. The employee will bear the cost of DOJ background checks. No employee will be permitted to perform any of the duties of his/her position until this processing has been completed and it is determined that there is no criminal conviction that would prohibit the employee from working with students and staff.

## INFORMATION PROTECTION POLICY

It is the policy of AIMS to protect sensitive and confidential information. Every employee of the school district must ensure the proper protection of information, either in paper or electronic form. Employees are not to take sensitive records home nor leave them lying unprotected in the open, such as on a desk, where they can be accessed.

Employees are not to convert sensitive information into an electronic format and send it unprotected through email or over the internet. Whenever requests for access to information are made, employees should check with the data owner (specified individuals who collect or use the information on behalf of AIMS). It is best to err on the side of protecting information.

All information relating to students including names, addresses, contact numbers, and progress information is confidential information and may not be shared with unauthorized parties. All records concerning employees shall be kept strictly confidential and be maintained in separate files.

Please note: The release of unauthorized confidential information may result in immediate dismissal and the filing of criminal charges. When in doubt, check with the supervisor and Head of School.

## NEW HIRES

Classroom and instructional aides must submit all required paperwork listed below to the hiring manager.

Please review the checklist below and check with the your supervisor if you need any forms:

1. A cover letter, resume, and official transcripts (from all colleges and universities you attended).
2. TB Test Result (must be administered within the last 4 years)
3. A receipt for your Livescan background check for FBI and DOJ. (Note: if we do not get a result within 2 weeks, it is your responsibility to follow-up).
4. W-4 forms and health insurance enrollment forms. It is the employee's responsibility to report any change in filing status to Payroll@aimsk12.org and to fill out a new W-4 form.
5. Proof of registration for any tests you need: CBEST, CSET, Teaching Foundations, etc.
6. Credential Clearance or proof of enrollment in a credentialing program.

AIMS will work with universities to complete the credential program.

Keep the administrator informed of your progress toward completing your credential program.

**AIMS teachers are required to hold a current California Commission on Teacher Credentialing certificate, permit, or other document equivalent to that which a teacher in other public schools would be required to hold.**

## EMPLOYEE DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROCESS

AIMS offers dispute resolution procedures to provide employees who have a complaint concerning conditions of employment with an internal avenue for resolution. The concern or complaint will be heard by the Site Administrator. He or she, or any designee, will be accessible and ready to hear suggestions and complaints. The school cannot act on any problem unless it is aware of it, so complaints must be put in writing as soon as possible. The Site Administrator will provide a written response within five (5) business days. If the response is not satisfactory to the complainant, then the complaint may be submitted in writing to the Board and will be placed on the agenda for the next regular Board meeting. The Complainant may address the Board and make a suggestion for resolution. The Board will issue a written response within five (5) business days. The Board's decision shall be final.

## STAFF DRESS CODE POLICY

AIMS employees are here to serve as role models for our students. We are to set the standard for professionalism and proper dress and should always project a professional image when on campus. The Staff Dress Code applies to all AIMS employees on all campuses with the exception of the P.E. aides and athletic coaches.

### Appropriate dress for staff:

1. Dresses and skirts no shorter than three inches above the knee. The slit of a dress or skirt must come no higher than three inches above the knee.
2. Jeans are only permitted on Fridays with a professional top (blazer, dress-shirt, blouse).
3. Low-cut blouses, see-through clothing, off the shoulder, halter style, or clothing which reveals the midriff are not permitted.
4. Shoes and sandals without a back strap are not permitted. Flip-flops are not allowed. Athletic garments such as shorts, shoes/sneakers are only permitted for physical education teachers or coaches.
5. Tattoos that are considered offensive, racist, vulgar, show scenes of violence, drug-related, contain strong sexual imagery, gang related or contain obscene phrases may not be visible.
6. Collared shirts are preferred.

### The following clothing items are not permitted:

1. Jeans (except on Fridays)
2. Carpenter or cargo pants
3. Shorts
4. T-shirts
5. Hooded sweatshirts
6. Tank tops/ halter tops
7. Flip-flops

There may be occasions when an employee may need to wear certain clothing for medical or religious reasons. In this case, the employee must request an exception from the Head of School and may be asked to provide medical documentation that clearly describes the deviation from this dress code policy.

If you have any questions, please ask your supervisor.

## SECTION IV: LEAVES AND VACATION VACATION/PERSONAL LEAVE

Vacation time is granted to employees as defined in the current year school calendar (holidays and school breaks) and in each employee's employment agreement, if one exists.

In addition to the paid school holidays listed on the school calendar, classified employees (not Teachers) will accrue paid personal/vacation time per month beginning immediately upon hire, as defined in their employment agreement. There is a cap on personal/vacation day accrual. Once the classified employee's personal/vacation time reaches the maximum stated in his or her employment agreement, further accrual is suspended until the employee has reduced the balance below this limit. In such a case, no personal/vacation time will be earned for the period in which the classified employee's personal/vacation time was at the maximum. Accrued but unused personal/vacation will carry over from year to year, subject to this maximum accrual. Accrued but unused personal/vacation time will be paid out upon termination. Classified employees may use personal/vacation time beginning on the 30th day of employment.

Personal/vacation time may be taken in minimum increments of two hours. Employee must provide his/her supervisor with reasonable advance notification, in writing, of the need to use personal/vacation days, if foreseeable. Requests for personal/vacation time may be denied based on the needs of the Charter School, or if adequate notice is not provided by the Employee.

### PAID SICK LEAVE (PSL)

In satisfaction of the California Healthy Workplaces, Healthy Families Act, employees will be allotted PSL beginning immediately upon the effective date of employment as specifically provided in each employee's employment agreement. For employees with no employment agreement, PSL will be granted according to law.

PSL days are not accrued on an as-worked basis but rather are allotted to eligible employees on the first day of work each contract year for use in the current year. Employees may use PSL beginning on the 30th day after the effective date of employment. Employees may use their accrued PSL to take paid time off for the diagnosis, care, or treatment of an existing health condition of (or preventative care for) the employee or the employee's family member. Employee may also use PSL to take time off from work for reasons related to domestic violence, stalking, or sexual assault. For purposes of this policy, "family member" means a child, parent, spouse, registered domestic partner, grandparent, grandchild, or sibling of the employee. "Child" means a biological child, a foster child, an adopted child, a step-child, a child of a registered domestic partner, a legal ward, or a child of a person standing in loco parentis. "Parent" means a biological, foster, or adoptive parent, a step-parent, or a legal guardian of the employee or the employee's spouse or registered domestic partner. "Spouse" means a legal spouse, as defined by California law.

Up to 72 hours of accrued PSL may be carried over from year to year. Accrued but unused PSL in excess of 72 hours may not be carried over from year to year and will not be paid out upon termination.

PSL may be taken in minimum increments of two hours. Employee must provide reasonable advance notification, orally or in writing, of the need to use PSL, if foreseeable. If the need to use PSL is not foreseeable, Employee must provide notice as soon as practicable.

## **FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE**

Eligible employees may request a family and medical leave of absence under the circumstances described below. Eligible employees are those who have been employed by the AIMS for at least 12 months (not necessarily consecutive), have worked at least 1250 hours during the 12 months immediately prior to the family and medical leave of absence, and are employed at a worksite where there are 50 or more employees of the AIMS within 75 miles.

Ordinarily, you must request a planned family and medical leave at least 30 days before the leave begins. If the need for the leave is not foreseeable, you must request the leave as soon as practicable. You should use the AIMS' request form, which is available upon. Failure to comply with this requirement may result in a delay of the start of the leave.

A family and medical leave may be taken for the following reasons:

1. The birth of an employee's child or the placement of a child with the employee for foster care or adoption, so long as the leave is completed within 12 months of the birth or placement of the child;
2. The care of the employee's spouse, child, parent, or registered domestic partner with a "serious health condition";
3. The "serious health condition" of the employee;
4. The care of the employee's spouse, child, parent, or next of kin who is a member of the Armed Forces, including a member of the National Guard or Reserves, and who is undergoing medical treatment, recuperation, or therapy, is otherwise in outpatient status, or is otherwise on the temporary disability retired list, for a serious injury or illness; or
5. Any qualifying exigency as defined by the applicable regulations arising out of the fact that the employee's spouse, child, or parent 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.

A "serious health condition" is one that requires inpatient care in a hospital or other medical care facility or continuing treatment or supervision by a health care provider. You may take a leave under paragraph (2) above only if due to a serious health condition, your spouse, child, parent, or registered domestic partner requires your care or assistance as certified in writing by the family member's health care provider. If you are seeking a leave under paragraph (3) above, you must provide the AIMS with a medical certification from your healthcare provider establishing eligibility for the leave, and you must provide the AIMS with a release to return to work from the health care provider before returning to work. You must provide the required medical certification to the AIMS in a timely manner to avoid a delay or denial of leave. You may obtain the appropriate forms from your supervisor.

Family and medical leave may be taken for up to 12 work-weeks during the designated 12-month period (with the exception of qualifying leaves to care for a member of the Armed Services who has a serious illness or injury, which may be taken for up to a total of 26 workweeks of leave during a single 12-month period). The 12-month period will be defined as a “rolling twelve months” looking backward over the preceding 12 months to calculate how much family and medical leave time has been taken and therefore determine the amount of leave that is available. All time off that qualifies as family and medical leave will be counted against your state and federal family and medical leave entitlements to the fullest extent permitted by law.

You will be required to use any vacation/personal leave during unpaid family and medical leave. You will also be required to use any accrued paid sick leave during unpaid family and medical leave that is due to your own or a family member’s serious health condition. However, if an employee is receiving benefit payments pursuant to a disability insurance plan (such as California’s State Disability Insurance plan or Paid Family Leave program) or workers’ compensation insurance plan, the employee and AIMS may mutually agree to supplement such benefit payments with available vacation and/or paid sick leave.

During a family and medical leave, group health benefits will be maintained as if you were continuously employed. However, you must continue to pay your share of applicable premiums (for yourself and any dependents) during the leave.

If you do not return to work on the first workday following the expiration of an approved family and medical leave, you will be deemed to have resigned from your employment. Upon returning from such a leave, you will normally be reinstated to your original or an equivalent position and will receive pay and benefits equivalent to those you received prior to the leave, as required by law. In certain circumstances, “key” employees may not be

eligible for reinstatement following a family and medical leave. AIMS will provide written notice to any “key” employee who is not eligible for reinstatement.

If you have any questions concerning, or would like to submit a request for a family and medical leave of absence, please contact [Ombudsperson@aimsk12.org](mailto:Ombudsperson@aimsk12.org).

## COVID-19 LEAVES AND OTHER INFORMATION

Families First Coronavirus Response Act Leave (“FFCRA”). Eligible employees are entitled to request FFCRA leave in accordance with the law. FFCRA shall only be applicable until December 31, 2022, unless otherwise extended by law. Qualifying FFCRA absences include:

1. Employee is subject to a Federal, State, or local quarantine or isolation order related to COVID-19 and is unable to work virtually;
2. Employee has been advised by a health care provider to self-quarantine related to COVID-19 and is unable to work virtually;



3. Employee is experiencing COVID-19 symptoms and is seeking a medical diagnosis and is unable to work virtually;
4. Employee is caring for an individual subject to an order described in (1) or self-quarantine as described in (2) and is unable to work virtually;
5. Employee is caring for a child whose school or place of care is closed (or child care provider is unavailable) for reasons related to COVID-19 and is unable to work virtually; or
6. Employee is experiencing any other substantially-similar condition specified by the Secretary of Health and Human Services, in consultation with the Secretaries of Labor and Treasury and is unable to work virtually.

Contact [Ombudsperson@aimsk12.org](mailto:Ombudsperson@aimsk12.org) if you wish to request FFCRA leave.

## LACTATION ACCOMMODATIONS

In consideration to working mothers who may be lactating, the School will provide a reasonable amount of break time to accommodate an employee desiring to express breast milk. If possible, such break time should be taken during the rest or meal breaks already provided to the employee. For non-exempt employees, any additional breaks taken to express milk may be unpaid. The School provides space to express milk in private. If you are in need of such an accommodation, please contact your supervisor as soon as possible so that any necessary arrangements can be made. Discrimination of any kind against an employee who chooses to express breast milk in the workplace is prohibited.

## PREGNANCY DISABILITY LEAVE

AIMS provides pregnancy disability leaves of absence without pay to eligible employees who are temporarily unable to work due to a disability related to pregnancy, childbirth, or related medical conditions. Employees should make requests for pregnancy disability leave to their supervisor at least 30 days in advance of foreseeable events and as soon as possible for unforeseeable events. A health care provider's statement must be submitted, verifying the need for such leave and its beginning and expected ending dates. Any changes in this information should be promptly reported to the AIMS. Employees returning from pregnancy disability leave must submit a health care provider's verification of their fitness to return to work.

AIMS will make a good faith effort to provide reasonable accommodations and/or transfer requests when such a request is medically advisable based on the certification of a health care provider. When an employee's health care provider finds it is medically advisable for an employee to take intermittent leave or leave on a reduced work schedule and such leave is foreseeable based on planned medical treatment because of pregnancy, AIMS may require the employee to transfer temporarily to an available alternative position. This alternative position will have equivalent rate of pay and benefits and must better accommodate recurring periods of leave than the employee's regular job.

Eligible employees are normally granted unpaid leave for the period of disability, up to a maximum of four months (or 17 1/3 weeks or 693 hours) per pregnancy. Employees will be required to use any

accrued paid sick time during any unpaid portion of pregnancy disability leave. Employees may also elect to use any accrued vacation time during any unpaid portion of pregnancy disability leave. If an employee is receiving benefit payments pursuant to a disability insurance plan (such as California's State Disability Insurance plan or Paid Family Leave program), the employee and AIMS may mutually agree to supplement such benefit payments with available vacation and/or paid sick leave.

Benefit accrual, such as vacation, paid sick leave, and holiday benefits, will be suspended during the approved pregnancy disability leave period and will resume upon return to active employment. Group health benefits will be maintained during the approved pregnancy disability leave as if you were continuously employed. However, you must continue to pay your share of applicable premiums (for yourself and any dependents) during the leave. So that an employee's return to work can be properly scheduled, an employee on pregnancy disability leave is requested to provide the AIMS with at least one week's advance notice of the date she intends to return to work.

When an approved pregnancy disability leave ends, the employee will be reinstated to the same position, unless the job ceased to exist because of legitimate business reasons. An employee has no greater right to reinstatement to the same position or to other benefits and conditions of employment than if she had been continuously employed in this position during the pregnancy disability leave or transfer. If the same position is not available, the employee will be offered a comparable position in terms of such issues as pay, location, job content, and promotional opportunities, if one exists. An employee has no greater right to reinstatement to a comparable position or to other benefits or conditions of employment than an employee who has been continuously employed in another position that is being eliminated.

If you have any questions regarding pregnancy disability leave, please contact the [Ombudsperson@aimsk12.org](mailto:Ombudsperson@aimsk12.org).

## UNPAID LEAVE OF ABSENCE (MEDICAL)

In an effort to comply with its duty to accommodate employees with qualifying disabilities, AIMS will provide leaves of absence without pay when an employee is temporarily unable to work due to a mental or physical disability, certified in writing by his or her health care provider, unless such leave would cause an undue hardship to AIMS. Approved absences of less than two weeks are not treated as medical leaves of absences but rather as excused absences without pay. Employees granted unpaid medical leave have no right to guaranteed reinstatement.

Benefit accrual, such as vacation, paid sick leave, and holiday benefits, will be suspended during an unpaid medical leave period and will resume upon return to active employment. Unless otherwise required by law, AIMS does not continue to pay premiums for health insurance coverage for employees on unpaid medical leave.

However, if eligible, you may self-pay the premiums under the provisions of COBRA.

## **DISCRETIONARY UNPAID LEAVE OF ABSENCE (NON-MEDICAL)**

AIMS may grant a discretionary leave of absence to employees in certain unusual circumstances. It is important to request any leave in writing as far in advance as possible, to keep in touch with your supervisor during your leave, and to give prompt notice if there is any change in your return date. If your leave expires and you have not contacted your supervisor or AIMS, AIMS will assume that you do not plan to return and that you have voluntarily terminated your employment. Employees do not continue to accrue vacation, paid sick leave, or holiday benefits while they are on unpaid discretionary leaves of absence. Unless otherwise required by law, AIMS does not continue to pay premiums for health insurance coverage for employees on discretionary unpaid leaves of absence. However, if eligible, you may self-pay the premiums under the provisions of COBRA.

## **MILITARY LEAVE**

All employees who leave AIMS for active military service or military reserve duty will be placed on an unpaid military leave of absence. Employees are entitled to reinstatement upon completion of such military service or duty, provided an application for reinstatement is made within 90 days of discharge, or as otherwise provided by law.

You may use accrued vacation time during military leave. Time spent on military leave counts for purposes of determining "length of service." However, you will not accrue vacation or paid sick leave or receive holiday pay during military leave.

## **JURY DUTY/WITNESS DUTY**

All employees who receive a notice of jury/witness duty must notify their supervisor as soon as possible so that arrangements may be made to cover the absence. In addition, employees must provide a copy of the official jury/witness duty notice to their manager. Employees must report for work whenever the court schedule permits. Either AIMS or the employee may request an excuse from jury/witness duty if, in AIMS' judgment, the employee's absence would create serious operational difficulties.

Non-exempt employees who are called for jury/witness duty will be provided time off without pay. Exempt employees will receive their regular salary unless they do not work any hours during the course of a workweek. Employees may elect to use any accrued vacation during jury/witness duty leave.

In the event that the employee must serve as a witness within the course and scope of his or her employment with AIMS, AIMS will provide time off with pay.

## TIME OFF FOR VOTING

AIMS encourages its employees to fulfill their civic responsibilities by participating in elections. Because polls are open from 7:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m., employees generally are able to find time to vote either before or after their regular work schedule. If employees are unable to vote in an election during their non-working hours and have not requested an absentee ballot, then AIMS will grant up to two hours of paid time off to vote.

Employees must request time off to vote from their supervisor at least two working days prior to the election day. Advance notice is required so that the necessary time off can be scheduled at the beginning or end of the work shift, whichever provides the least disruption to the normal work schedule.

Employees must submit a voter's receipt on the first working day following the election to qualify for paid time off.

## EMERGENCY DUTY/TRAINING LEAVE

In California, no employee shall receive discipline for taking time off to perform emergency duty/training as a volunteer firefighter, reserve peace officer, or emergency rescue personnel. If you are participating in this kind of emergency duty/training, please alert your supervisor so that he or she may be aware of the fact that you may have to take unpaid time off for emergency duty/training. In the event that you need to take time off for emergency duty/training, please alert your supervisor before doing so whenever possible. Time off for emergency training may not exceed 14 days per calendar year.

Emergency Duty/Training Leave is unpaid. You may choose to use your accrued vacation if you wish to receive compensation for this time off, but you are not required to do so.

If you feel you have been treated unfairly as a result of taking or requesting Emergency Duty/Training Leave, you should contact your supervisor or any other manager, as appropriate.

## SUSPENDED employee/CHILD LEAVE

California law requires employers to provide time off for parents required to visit a child's school when the child has served a period of suspension from school. To be eligible for time off to attend a child's school, the employee must be the parent of a child in kindergarten or in grades 1-12 and must present the school's letter, which requests the employee's appearance at the school, to his or her supervisor at least two days before the requested time off. Employees may use accrued vacation while attending a child's school under these circumstances. If not, suspended employee/child leave will be unpaid.

## LEAVE FOR CRIME VICTIMS AND THEIR FAMILY MEMBERS

If you are the victim-or an immediate family member (i.e., spouse, registered domestic partner, child, step-child, sibling, step-sibling, parent, stepparent, or the child of a registered domestic partner) of the victim-of a violent felony, serious felony (as defined by the California Penal Code), or felonies related to theft or embezzlement, you are permitted to be absent from work to attend judicial proceedings related to the crime.

You must provide your supervisor with written notification for each scheduled proceeding, unless advance notice is not possible. This time off is unpaid. You may choose to use your accrued vacation, but this is not required.

## MILITARY SPOUSE LEAVE

Qualified employees are eligible for up to 10 days of unpaid leave when their spouse or registered domestic partner is on leave from military deployment. A qualified employee is one who regularly works more than 20 hours per week and whose spouse or registered domestic partner is a member of the Armed Forces, National Guard, or Reserves and is on leave from deployment during a period of military conflict.

If you are eligible for such leave, please submit a written request for leave to your supervisor within two business days of receiving official notice that your spouse or registered domestic partner will be on leave from deployment. You will also be required to provide written documentation certifying that your spouse or registered domestic partner will be on leave from deployment.

Non-exempt employees must use accrued vacation time in order to receive compensation for this time off. If no vacation time is available, the employee may take this time off without pay. An exempt employee is required to charge any absence of four or more hours under this policy to his or her vacation bank, if any. Otherwise, exempt employees will be compensated to the extent required by applicable law.

## SCHOOL AND DAYCARE LEAVE

If you are the parent or guardian of a child who is in school up to grade 12, or who attends a licensed day care facility, you may take up to 40 hours of unpaid leave per year to participate in the activities of the school or daycare facility. You may take no more than eight hours off for this purpose in any one calendar month. You should schedule this time off with your supervisor in advance. You may be asked to provide documentation from the school or daycare facility that you participated in the activity on the specific date and at the specific time that you took the leave. This time off is unpaid. You may choose to use your accrued vacation, but this is not required.

## LEAVE FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, SEXUAL ASSAULT, AND STALKING VICTIMS

If you are a victim of domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking, you may take unpaid time off to help ensure the health, safety, or welfare of you and/or that of your child.

Specifically, you may take such leave for the following reasons:

1. To obtain a temporary or permanent restraining order or other court assistance;
2. To seek medical attention for injuries caused by domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking;
3. To obtain services from a shelter, program, or rape crisis center as a result of domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking;
4. To obtain psychological counseling related to an experience of domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking; or
5. To participate in safety planning and take other actions to increase safety from future domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking, including temporary or permanent relocation.

If you need to take time off for any of the above reasons, you should notify your supervisor in advance, if possible. If your absence is unscheduled, you may be asked to provide documentation, such as a police report, court order, or other evidence that you appeared in court, or documentation from a counselor or domestic violence advocate. Although this leave is unpaid, you may use your accrued vacation or paid sick leave, as appropriate, if you wish to receive compensation for this time off.

You may also take unpaid time off to recover from domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking pursuant to AIMS' family and medical leave policy.

AIMS does not tolerate any acts of discrimination, harassment, or retaliation against employees who are victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking. If you believe you have been the victim of any such act, please contact your supervisor. If the complaint is about your supervisor, please contact [Ombudsperson@aimsk12.org](mailto:Ombudsperson@aimsk12.org).

AIMS will maintain the confidentiality of requests for time off due to domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking to the extent possible and as allowed by law. Request can be made to [Ombudsperson@aimsk12.org](mailto:Ombudsperson@aimsk12.org).

## ADULT LITERACY LEAVE

Pursuant to California law, AIMS will reasonably accommodate any eligible employee who seeks to enroll in an adult literacy education program, provided that the accommodation does not impose an undue hardship on AIMS. AIMS does not provide paid time off for participation in an adult literacy education. However, you may utilize accrued vacation if you want compensation for this time off. If you do not have accrued vacation available, you will be permitted to take the time off without pay.

## **ALCOHOL AND DRUG REHABILITATION LEAVE**

Pursuant to California law, AIMS will reasonably accommodate any eligible employee who wishes to voluntarily enter and participate in an alcohol or drug rehabilitation program, provided that the accommodation does not impose an undue hardship on AIMS. AIMS does not provide paid time off for participation in an alcohol or drug rehabilitation program. However, you may utilize accrued vacation if you want compensation for this time off. If you do not have accrued vacation available, you will be permitted to take the time off without pay.

This policy in no way restricts AIMS' right to discipline an employee, up to and including termination of employment, for violation of AIMS' Drug and Alcohol Abuse Policy.

## **BEREAVEMENT LEAVE**

Employees will be granted bereavement leave in order to attend funeral services of an immediate family member (one day if the service is in California and not more than three days if the service is outside California).

Members of the immediate family, as used in this section, means the mother, father, grandmother, grandfather, or a grandchild of the employee or of the spouse of the employee, and the spouse, son, son-in-law, daughter, daughter-in-law, brother, or sister of the employee, or any relative living in the immediate household of the employee.

## **CIVIL AIR PATROL LEAVE**

Pursuant to California law, AIMS will provide unpaid leave to employees who are volunteer members of the California Wing of the Civil Air Patrol and who have been duly directed and authorized to respond to an emergency operational mission of the California Wing of the Civil Air Patrol. Employees must be employed for at least 90 days immediately preceding the commencement of leave in order to be eligible.

Employees are required to give AIMS as much notice as possible of the intended dates upon which the leave would begin and end. AIMS will restore the employee to the position he or she held when the leave began or to a position with equivalent seniority status, employee benefits, pay, and other terms and conditions of employment, unless the employee is not restored because of conditions unrelated to the exercise of the leave rights by the employee. The time off is unpaid. However, an employee may utilize accrued vacation.

## LEAVE FOR BONE MARROW AND ORGAN DONORS

Pursuant to California law, AIMS will provide up to five business days of paid leave within a one-year period to an employee who donates bone marrow to another person; the AIMS will also provide up to 30 business days of paid leave within a one-year period to an employee who donates an organ to another person. The AIMS requires that bone marrow donors use up to five days of available accrued sick or vacation time during the course of the leave. Organ donors must use up to ten days of available accrued paid sick leave or vacation time during the course of the leave.

To qualify for this leave, an employee must have been employed for at least 90 days prior to the commencement of the leave and must provide the AIMS with written verification of his or her status as an organ or bone marrow donor and the medical necessity for the donation. During such leave, the AIMS will continue coverage under its group medical insurance plan, if applicable. However, employees must continue to pay their portion of the applicable premiums. Employees should give the AIMS as much notice as possible of the intended dates upon which the leave would begin and end.



## SECTION V: BENEFITS & RETIREMENT

All Employees working the appropriate hours are eligible for emotional counseling, medical, vision, and dental benefits. Please contact [Ombudsperson@aimsk12.org](mailto:Ombudsperson@aimsk12.org).

### HEALTH BENEFITS

AIM Schools will provide access to health, life insurance, dental, and vision benefits for full-time employees. The employee benefits cost will be deducted from their payroll if applicable.

The health insurance anniversary date is set by the insurance carrier; please contact the office for the enrollment and anniversary dates. Current employees will only be able to receive benefits on this anniversary date if they do not have them already. For employees who decide not to receive health benefits, the next time the employee will be able to apply for health benefits will be on the anniversary date.

Spouses, domestic partners or dependents of the employee may be eligible to enroll in the health insurance plan pursuant to the specific terms and conditions of the plan, which ultimately govern all aspects of the employee's eligibility for and participation in the plan.

## Cash in Lieu of Medical Coverage

An employee who is eligible for H & W Benefits through AIMS, but is otherwise provided basic group medical coverage, may opt to have AIMS pay [insert amount here] annually, cash in lieu. Such payment shall be in lieu of medical coverage paid by AIMS and shall be initiated only following the employee's certification of alternative coverage.

## Coverage Begins

New employees must enroll in medical, dental and vision plans within thirty (30) days of the first date of employment. Insurance coverage will begin on the first day of the month following the receipt of the health benefits application. AIMS will provide new employees with an explanation of these plans in sufficient time to enable meeting the 30-day enrollment deadline.

## Duration of Benefits

Employees who work a complete school year and are in paid status on June 30 shall be provided health benefits through June 30.

## Cobra

Should an employee's employment be terminated (voluntarily/involuntarily), the employee's benefits shall continue through the last day of the month. The employee shall then be entitled to continued coverage under the medical, dental & vision plans in accordance with federal law.

## Leaves of Absence (Effects on Benefits)

Dental & vision benefits continue as part of the compensation for the employee on a paid or unpaid leave of absence. Employees on an authorized paid or unpaid leave of absence may continue their medical coverage through an option of self-paying for their benefits premium.

Benefits will automatically continue for the month in which the leave begins. An employee wishing not to continue with benefits during their leave must notify the AIMS Business Office immediately. An employee returning from an unpaid leave of absence and would like to re-enroll in benefits must contact the AIMS Business Office upon their return to request re-enrollment in benefits.

## STATE DISABILITY INSURANCE

AIMS contributes to the State of California to provide you with State Disability Insurance (“SDI”) pursuant to the California Unemployment Insurance Code. Contributions are made through a payroll deduction. SDI is payable when you cannot work because of illness or injury not caused by employment with AIMS or when you are entitled to temporary workers’ compensation at a rate less than the daily disability benefit amount.

## PAID FAMILY LEAVE

Under California law, eligible employees may participate in the Paid Family Leave (“PFL”) program, which is part of the state’s unemployment compensation disability insurance program. The PFL program provides up to six weeks of partial wage replacement benefits to employees who take time off to care for a seriously ill child, spouse, parent, registered domestic partner, siblings, grandparents, grandchildren, or parents-in-law or to bond with a new child. The PFL program does not provide job protection or reinstatement rights.

AIMS will require you to take up to two weeks of accrued but unused vacation prior to your receipt of benefits under the PFL program.

The program will be administered in a manner consistent with California law. For more information regarding this program, you may contact the California Employment Development Department.

## UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION

AIMS contributes a significant amount of money each year to the California Unemployment Insurance Fund on behalf of its employees. Under certain circumstances, you may be eligible for unemployment insurance benefits.

## WORKERS' COMPENSATION INSURANCE AND LEAVE

At no cost to you, you are protected by the AIMS workers' compensation insurance policy while employed by AIMS. This policy covers you in case of occupational injury or illness.

The workers' compensation benefits provided to injured employees may include:

1. medical care,
2. cash benefits tax free to replace lost wages,
3. vocational rehabilitation to help qualified injured employees return to suitable employment.

To ensure that the employee receives all workers' compensation benefits to which he or she may be entitled, you will need to:

1. immediately report any work-related injury to the Site Administrator (see [AIMS Incident Reporting Protocol](#)),
2. seek medical treatment and follow-up care if required,
3. complete a written Employee's Claim form and return it to the Site Administrator, and
4. provide the school with medical certification from your health care provider regarding the need for workers' compensation disability leave and your ability to return to work from the leave.

Under most circumstances, upon submission of a medical certification that an employee is able to return to work from workers' compensation leave; the employee will be reinstated to his or her same position held at the time the leave began or to an equivalent position if available. An employee returning from a workers' compensation leave has no greater right to reinstatement than if the employee had been continuously employed rather than on leave. If the employee's same position is not available upon the employee's return to work, an employee's returning to work will depend on job openings existing at the time of his or her scheduled return.

Any person who makes or causes to be made any knowingly false or fraudulent material statement or material misrepresentation for the purpose of obtaining or denying workers' compensation benefits or payments is guilty of a felony. The law requires that AIM Schools notify its workers' compensation carrier of any concerns of false or fraudulent claims.

## **SOCIAL SECURITY, 403(b) AND CALIFORNIA PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM**

Social Security is an important part of every credentialed employee's retirement benefit. Certificated employees are required to pay into Social Security. AIMS pays a matching contribution to each employee's Social Security taxes. (Employees who have participated in STRS elsewhere do not lose credits previously earned, but will not earn added service credit while at AIMS.) AIMS makes a matching contribution to certificated employee's 403(b) contribution up to 3% of the employee's annual base salary. In addition, non-credentialed employees are enrolled in CalPERS in lieu of social security. AIMS makes matching the PERS mandated annual contribution to each contribution contributions to each eligible employee's account with PERS.

## Acknowledgement of Reading 2022-2023 AIMS Staff Handbook

ALL EMPLOYEES MUST READ THIS EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK AND FILL OUT AND RETURN THIS PORTION TO [S-FHandbook@aimsk12.org](mailto:S-FHandbook@aimsk12.org) WITHIN ONE WEEK OF RECEIPT.

I have received a copy of the AIMS Staff Handbook. I will carefully read and understand its contents and I agree to follow the policies stated therein. I understand that my continued employment is contingent upon adherence to the policies and procedures outlined herein. I understand that transfers, demotions, suspensions, employee discipline, and changes in the terms and conditions of employment may be administered at the sole and absolute discretion of the Charter School. I understand that the conditions governing my employment status (at-will or fixed term) may not be modified orally and may only be modified in a writing signed by the Head of School and me.

I understand that the Charter School reserves the right to depart from and modify the policies stated in the Handbook at its sole discretion, with the exception of my employment status (at-will or fixed term).

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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