# Missouri Consultants for Education, LLC

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July 10, 2014

**Re: Missouri Consultants for Education (“MCE”) July 2014 Updates**

**– Charter Schools**

Dear Principal,

The Legislature and State Board have both been active during this past semester. The July 2014 updates respond to these legislative and administrative pronouncements. As you know, there will be a veto session to consider SB 493 and its applications for unaccredited districts and student transfers. We have not and will not propose policy changes until after the veto session.

The Governor also recently signed HB 1303 “Missouri Religious Liberties Act.” The provisions of the Act mirror federal law which is reflected in PRF 1110 – Religious Expression. There is no need to amend our present language to accommodate this new state law.

If you have any questions concerning the new policy revisions, or navigating through our website, please feel free to call me at the office, (314) 878-5600 or my cell (314) 330-8903. The July 2014 updates provide as follows:

**JULY 2014 POLICY, REGULATION AND FORM UPDATES**

**Policy 0320 – School Board Elections**

The update is required by recent legislation. The apparent purpose is to encourage write-in candidates. The legislation does not specify March 1, but rather, provides notice prior to the first day of the month (April) in which board elections are held. March 1 provides more meaningful information to citizens. *Adoption is Mandatory*.

**Policy 1432 – Prohibition against Firearms and Weapons**

This newly enacted statutory change creates an optional exception to our existing prohibition of firearms and weapons on school premises.

The change permits districts, following a public hearing, to designate a limited number of teachers/administrators to serve as “School Protection Officers” and, in that capacity, to carry a concealed firearm or self-defense spray device. The training and approval process is provided in this policy update. (Note: while we anticipate the Governor’s signature on the underlying litigation, he has not done so to date. We will advise if the Bill is enacted). *Adoption is Optional.*

**Policy 2210 – Entrance Age**

The statutory change sets a minimum entrance age for pre-kindergarten programs in those districts electing to maintain a pre-kindergarten program. *Adoption is Mandatory for Schools with pre-kindergarten programs.*

**Policy and Regulation 2200 – Admission and Withdrawal; Policy and Regulation 2230 – Admission of Non-Tuition Students; Policy 2290 – Denial of Admission and Student Withdrawal from School; Regulation 2664 – Enrollment of Return following Suspension and/or Expulsion; Regulation 2260 – Admission of Homeless Students**

The policies/regulations all deal with the various aspects of student enrollment. We have done a comprehensive review of these policies/regulations to comply with recent court decisions and to ensure consistency among related policies. *Adoption is Mandatory*.

**Policy 2640 – Student Use of Tobacco, Alcohol & Drugs and Policy 5250 – Use of Tobacco Products**

This update contains two basic changes. First, e-cigarettes and similar devices are prohibited in the same manner as cigarettes containing tobacco.

Policy 2640 also provides administrators with criteria to be used to determine if a student is under the influence of alcohol, or a controlled substance. Remember, the degree of proof needed to establish a conduct violation is 50.0001% of the evidence. *Adoption is Recommended.*

**Policy 2780 – Use of Tracking Devices**

While we are not aware of any Missouri school that requires students to wear tracking devices, the legislature has seen fit to ban them. This is a new policy. *Adoption is Mandatory.*

**Policy and Form 2835 – Consent to Medical Treatment and Educational Services**

This is a new policy and form to satisfy recent legislation adding “relative caregiver” to consent to medical and educational services providing the requirements of this policy and the requisite affidavit (Form 2835). *Adoption of Mandatory*.

**Policy 3381 – Purchase/Lease of Real Estate**

This policy simplifies the process and facilitates the use of lease/purchase for capital projects. *Adoption is Mandatory.*

**Policy 3470 – Average Daily Attendance – Early Childhood Program**

This is a new policy related to the change in Policy 2210. This new policy simply sets a calculation for inclusion of 3-5 year olds in the district’s ADA. *Adoption is Mandatory.*

**Policy and Regulation 4440 – Mentoring**

This policy, with some student outcome additions, tracks the requirements enacted by the State Board. *Adoption is Mandatory.*

**Policy 6110 – Curriculum Development**

We suspect that this is a change adopted by the legislature as a result of the Common Core discussion. It simply states that the Board is responsible for approval and adoption of the school’s curriculum. *Adoption is Mandatory*.

**Policy 6117 – Veteran’s Day Commemoration**

This is a new policy to satisfy recent legislation requiring instruction on the meaning and significance of Veteran’s Day. *Adoption is Mandatory.*

**Regulation 0342 – Nepotism, Conflict of Interest and Financial Disclosure**

The statutory change simplifies what was a technical restriction only on board members. While the policy now also extends to school employees, it does provide a means of board member/employee involvement in contractual and business relationships with the school if certain requirements are met. *Adoption is Mandatory.*

**Regulation 0411 – Meeting Agenda**

This policy makes clear the right of board members to full participation in board meetings by video conferencing. The past limited audio participation remains an option, albeit, more limited. *Adoption is Mandatory.*

**Regulation 1405 – Parent Family Involvement in Education**

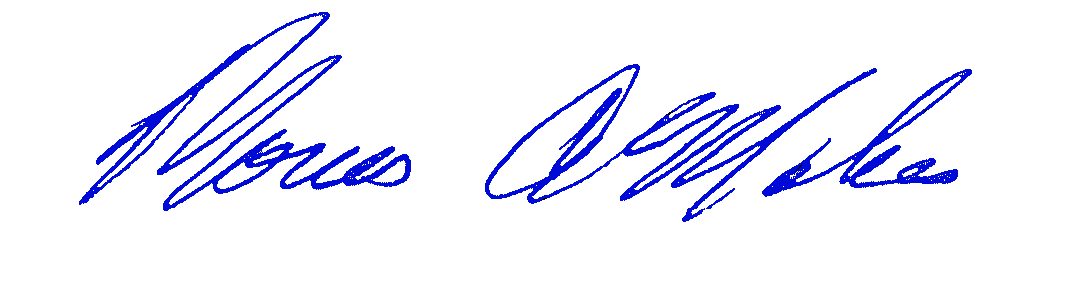
This expansion of our present Regulation is necessitated by federal rule-making. The addition of items 9 and 10 reflect practices that are already in use in most schools. However, government auditors will now be checking to find this language***.*** *Adoption is Mandatory****.***

**BOARD ACTIONS**

Revised policies and regulations may be voted upon with a single motion as follows. I move to adopt the following policies and regulations:

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| Policy 0320 | Policy 3470 |
| Policy 1210 | Policy and Regulation 4440 |
| Policy 1432 | Policy 5250 |
| Policy and Regulation 2200 | Policy 6110 |
| Policy 2210 | Policy 6117 |
| Policy and Regulation 2230 | Regulation 0342 |
| Policy 2290 | Regulation 0411 |
| Policy 2640 | Regulation 1405 |
| Policy 2780 | Regulation 2664 |
| Policy 2835 | Regulation 2260 |
| Policy 3381 |  |

If you have any questions, please feel free to call.

 Sincerely,

MISSOURI CONSULTANTS FOR EDUCATION, LLC

Thomas A. Mickes

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