

# Rules of Procedure for School Code Mandate Reduction Council



Adopted January 15, 2026

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The School Code Mandate Reduction Council operates pursuant to the authority of 105 ILCS 5/22-62.

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**Section I—Declaration and Purpose**

- Section 1.1     The *School Code Mandate Reduction Council*, (Council), in order to fulfill its statutory purpose and responsibilities under 105 ILCS 5/22-62 and to serve the citizens of Illinois, hereby establishes Rules of Procedure to direct its operations. It is the purpose of these Rules of Procedure to clarify how the Council will perform its functions, delegate authority without avoiding responsibility, and respond to the requirements of its legislative mandate.
- Section 1.2     Pursuant to 105 ILCS 5/22-62, the Council is created to evaluate and assess mandates in the School Code for the purposes of modifying, combining, or eliminating mandates that are outdated, duplicative, unnecessarily burdensome, or no longer necessary to providing an efficient system of high-quality public educational institutions and services. The Council may choose to focus on specific areas of mandates or specific articles and sections of the School Code as the Council sees fit for the purposes of mandate reduction.

**Section II—Membership and Officers**

- Section 2.1     Members of the Council are selected pursuant to the appointment specifications noted in 105 ILCS 5/22-62.
- Section 2.2     Vacancies in membership will be filled in accordance with the appointment authority detailed in 105 ILCS 5/22-62.
- Section 2.3     The Chairperson shall be a member of the Council and shall be selected by the State Superintendent of Education at the initial meeting convened by the State Superintendent.
- Section 2.4     The Chairperson shall preside over all meetings of the Council, call meetings as herein provided, appoint members and chairs of all standing and temporary committees, and perform such other duties as may be vested in him or her by the Council.
- Section 2.5     The Vice Chairperson shall be a member of the Council and shall be nominated and elected by the Council. The Vice Chairperson shall preside over all meetings in the absence of the Chairperson and perform such other duties as may be vested in him or her by the Chairperson.
- Section 2.6     On January 1, 2027, the terms of all members serving on the Council shall expire. In the event the State Superintendent of Education reconvenes the Council on or after January 1, 2027, pursuant to 105 ILCS 5/22-62(h), members of the Council will be selected pursuant to the appointment specifications noted in 105 ILCS 5/22-62(c).

**Section III—Meetings**

- Section 3.1 All meetings of the Council, including committee meetings and public hearings, shall be open to the public and comply with the Open Meetings Act. Meetings closed to the public may be held only in accordance with Section 2 and Section 2a of the Open Meetings Act.
- Section 3.2 Regular meetings of the Council shall be held virtually at a date and time determined by the Chairperson in consultation with designated staff from the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE). The Chairperson, at his/her discretion, may cancel or reschedule any regular meetings by written notice within a reasonable time prior to the scheduled meeting date. The time and information needed to access virtually all such meetings scheduled or rescheduled shall be given to the Council members at least seven calendar days prior to this meeting date.
- Section 3.3 Special or emergency meetings of the Council may be called at the discretion of the Chairperson in consultation with designated ISBE staff or by request of a majority of Council members. An Agenda, together with a notice of the time and information needed to access the virtual meeting, must be provided to the Council members at least 48 hours prior thereto. Only matters contained in the Agenda shall be discussed at any special or emergency meeting. The Chairperson may cancel a special or emergency meeting at his or her discretion, provided that a meeting called by the Council members may be canceled only by the consent of a majority of the Council members.
- Section 3.4 The Chairperson shall prepare, in writing, an Agenda of business scheduled for deliberation prior to each regular meeting. The approval of Minutes from the previous meeting and a public comment opportunity shall be included on each Agenda. The Agenda shall be distributed to the members of the Council at least 48 hours prior to a scheduled meeting. Any member may have an item placed on the Agenda by notifying the Chairperson of his or her desires in that regard in writing at least 48 hours prior to the Council meeting. Such notification should also include a copy of any written materials that the member wishes to distribute to the Council.

**Section IV—Conduct of Business**

- Section 4.1 To transact business, a simple majority of those appointed to the Council must be present at the initial roll call at the commencement of any regular, special, or emergency meeting to constitute a quorum. Council members attending virtually, as permitted by the Open Meetings Act, shall be considered present for the purpose of establishing a quorum. If a quorum is not present at the scheduled time of the meeting, the Chairperson may continue a roll call for a reasonable time. Thereafter, if a quorum is not reached, the meeting may continue, provided no official action is taken. Official action may be taken if and when a quorum is subsequently reached.
- Section 4.2 A majority of those voting (defined as those who cast “yes” or “no” votes) on a motion shall be sufficient to pass and make it the official act of the Council. Motions shall be made and seconded by Council members before being called for a vote. A motion shall not be made and seconded by the same Council member.
- Section 4.3 The Chairperson shall have the right to call for a vote by voice vote in all cases unless there is an objection by one member, in which case a roll call vote shall be taken. The Minutes shall reflect the results of each roll call.
- Section 4.4 Proxy votes shall not be permitted. A Council member must be present to record his or her vote and to present a motion or motions.

- Section 4.5 Minutes shall be taken of all regular, special, and emergency meetings, whether open or closed, and a verbatim record shall be made of all closed meetings in the form of an audio or video recording. Minutes of each regular meeting shall be approved by the Council as required by the Open Meetings Act. Copies of the approved Minutes shall be posted online within 10 calendar days after Council approval and made available to anyone who requests them in accordance with the Open Meetings Act.
- Section 4.6 Members of the public may comment at each meeting subject to reasonable constraints. Participants are expected to follow these guidelines:
1. Sign in prior to the start of the meeting as instructed on the Agenda. Address the Council only at the appropriate time as indicated on the Agenda and when recognized by the Chairperson.
  2. Identify oneself and be brief. Comments shall be limited to three minutes.
  3. In the interest of time, the Chairperson may shorten public comment to give the maximum number of participants the opportunity to speak.

#### **Section V—Committees**

- Section 5.1 The Chairperson may create committees in consultation with designated ISBE staff and shall appoint all committee members, chairpersons, and vice chairpersons, all of whom shall serve at his or her pleasure. Any vacancy in the membership of any committee shall be filled by appointment by the Chairperson. Committee activities shall be consistent with the provisions of these Rules of Procedure and governed by the actions of the Chairperson and/or the Council.
- Section 5.2 Committees shall exercise those powers as are appropriate to their mission and responsibility. They also shall have such other powers and duties as designated by the Council Chairperson. Committee reports and recommendations shall be submitted to the Council Chairperson within the time prescribed by him or her and they shall be advisory only.
- Section 5.3 Committee meetings shall be scheduled by the Council Chairperson or the committee chairperson in consultation with the Council and shall be subject to provisions of Section III of these Rules of Procedures and the Open Meetings Act. Committee meetings shall be held virtually.
- Section 5.4 In order to transact business, a majority of those appointed to a committee must be present at the initial roll call at the commencement of any regular or special committee meeting. If a quorum is not present at the scheduled time of the meeting, the committee chairperson may continue a roll call for a reasonable time. Thereafter, if a quorum is not reached, the meeting may continue, provided no official action is taken. If a quorum is subsequently reached, official action may be taken at that time.
- Section 5.5 The provisions of Sections 4.2 through 4.4 apply to committees of the Council and the committee chairperson shall fulfill the role of Chairperson for committee meetings.

#### **Section VI—Administrative Support**

- Section 6.1 Designated ISBE staff shall provide administrative support to the Council.
- Section 6.2 Designated ISBE staff shall create and maintain a website for the Council that shall serve to inform the public about the Council.

**Section VII—Ethics and Sexual Harassment Training, Open Meetings Act Training, and Conflicts of Interest**

- Section 7.1 All members of the Council shall annually complete the mandatory ethics training for members of Illinois boards and commissions. A signed acknowledgment of completion of the training shall be submitted to designated ISBE staff and kept for each Council member.
- Section 7.2 All members of the Council shall annually complete the Open Meetings Act training available on the website of the Illinois Attorney General. A certificate of completion shall be submitted to designated ISBE staff and kept for each Council member.
- Section 7.3 No Council member shall accept any stipend, fee, gratuity, or consideration of any kind or nature from any person, unit, agency, or organization for the purpose of influencing a vote, decision, or recommendation of a member on a matter before the Council.
- Section 7.4 No Council member shall receive any funds related to recommendations made by the Council.
- Section 7.5 The decision of the Chairperson with respect to conflict of interest situations shall be final unless the situation involves the Chairperson, in which case the Vice Chairperson’s decision shall be final.

**Section VIII—Robert’s Rules of Order**

- Section 8.1 All matters not covered by these Rules of Procedure shall be governed by the latest edition of Robert’s Rules of Order.

**Section IX—Adoption of and Amendments to Rules of Procedure**

- Section 9.1 Adoption or amendment of these Rules of Procedure shall require a two-thirds vote of the Council members voting at an official meeting that has been properly noticed as required by these Rules of Procedure.
- Section 9.2 A complete electronic copy of these Rules of Procedure shall be posted on the website required by Section 6.2.