

Rules of Procedure for the Ensuring Success in School Task Force



Adopted April 6, 2023

The Ensuring Success in School Task Force operates pursuant to Section 26A-15 of the School Code [[105 ILCS 5/26A-15](#)]

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Section 1 – Declaration and Purpose

- Section 1.1** The Ensuring Success in School Task Force (Task Force), in order to fulfill its statutory purpose and responsibilities under Section 26A-15 of the School Code [[105 ILCS 5/26A-15](#)] 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 the means by which the Task Force will perform its functions, delegate authority without avoiding responsibility, and respond to the requirements of its legislative mandate.
- Section 1.2** The Task Force is created to draft and publish model school and district policies and intergovernmental agreements for inter-district transfers; draft and publish model complaint resolution procedures as required in Section 26A-25(c) of the School Code [[105 ILCS 5/26A-25\(c\)](#)]; identify current mandatory educator and staff training and additional new trainings needed to meet the requirements as required in Section 26A-25(c) of the School Code [[105 ILCS 5/26A-25\(c\)](#)] and Section 26A-35 of the School Code [[105 ILCS 5/26A-35](#)]. These recommended policies and agreements shall be survivor-centered and rooted in trauma-informed responses and used to support all students, from prekindergarten through Grade 12, who are survivors of domestic or sexual violence, regardless of whether the perpetrator is school-related or not, or who are parenting or pregnant, regardless of whether the school is a public school, nonpublic school, or charter school.
- Section 1.3** On or before June 30, 2024, the Task Force shall report its work, including model policies, guidance recommendations, and agreements, to the governor and the General Assembly. The report must include all of the following:
- (1) Model school and district policies to facilitate inter-district transfers for student survivors of domestic or sexual violence, expectant parents, and parents. These policies shall place high value on being accessible and expeditious for student survivors and pregnant and parenting students.
 - (2) Model school and district policies to ensure confidentiality and privacy considerations for student survivors of domestic or sexual violence, expectant parents, and parents. These policies must include guidance regarding appropriate referrals for nonschool-based services.
 - (3) Model school and district complaint resolution procedures as prescribed by Section 26A-25 of the School Code [[105 ILCS 5/26A-25](#)].
 - (4) Guidance for schools and districts regarding which mandatory training that is currently required for educator licenses or under state or federal law would be suitable to fulfill training requirements for resource personnel as prescribed by Section 26A-35 of the School Code [[105 ILCS 5/26A-35](#)] and for the staff tasked with implementing the complaint resolution procedure as prescribed by Section 26A-25 of the School Code [[105 ILCS 5/26A-25](#)]. The guidance shall evaluate all relevant mandatory or recommended training, including, but not limited to, the training required under Section 4(j) of the Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act [[325 ILCS 5/4\(j\)](#)]; Sections 3-11, 10-23.12, 10-23.13, and 27-23.7 of the School Code [[105 ILCS 5/3-11](#), [105 ILCS 5/10-23.12](#), [105 ILCS 5/10-23.13](#), and [105 ILCS 5/27-23.7](#)]; and subsections (d) and (f) of Section 10-22.39 of the School Code [[105 ILCS 5/10-22.39](#)]. The guidance must also identify what gaps in training exist, including, but not limited to, training on trauma-informed responses and racial and gender equity, and make recommendations for future training programs that should be required or recommended for the positions as

prescribed by Sections 26A-25 and 26A-35 of the School Code [[105 ILCS 5/26A-25](#) and [105 ILCS 5/26A-35](#)].

Section 1.4 The Task Force is dissolved upon submission of its report under Section 26A-15(d) of the School Code [[105 ILCS 5/26A-15\(d\)](#)] and Section 1.3 of these Rules of Procedure.

Section 2 – Membership and Officers

Section 2.1 Members of the Task Force are selected pursuant to the appointment specifications noted in Section 26A-15(b) of the School Code [[105 ILCS 5/26A-15\(b\)](#)].

Section 2.2 Vacancies in membership will be filled in accordance with the appointment authority detailed in Section 26A-15(b) of the School Code [[105 ILCS 5/26A-15\(b\)](#)].

Section 2.3 A chairperson shall be designated by the state superintendent of education.

Section 2.4 A vice chairperson shall be a member of the Task Force and shall be appointed by the chairperson. Upon written direction from the chairperson, the vice chairperson shall fulfill duties as designated by the chairperson.

Section III – Meetings

Section 3.1 All meetings of the Task Force, including committee meetings and public hearings, shall be open to the public and comply with the Open Meetings Act.

Section 3.2 The Task Force shall first meet at the call of the state superintendent of education, and each subsequent meeting shall be called by the chairperson.

Section 3.3 Regular meetings of the Task Force shall be held at a time and location 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 meeting by written notice within a reasonable time prior to the scheduled meeting date. The time and place of all such meetings scheduled or rescheduled shall be given to the Task Force members at least five calendar days prior to this meeting date.

Section 3.4 Special meetings of the Task Force may be called at the discretion of the chairperson in consultation with designated ISBE staff or by request of a majority of Task Force members. An Agenda, together with a notice of the time and place of any such meeting, must be provided to the Task Force members at least five calendar days prior thereto. Only matters contained in the Agenda shall be discussed at any special meeting. The chairperson may cancel a special meeting at his or her discretion, provided that a meeting called by a majority of Task Force members may be canceled only with majority consent.

Section 3.5 The chairperson shall prepare an Agenda of business scheduled for deliberation prior to each 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 Task Force at least five calendar days prior to a scheduled meeting. Any member may have an item placed on the Agenda by notifying the chairperson in writing of his or her desires in that regard at least seven days prior to the Task Force meeting. Such notification should also include a copy of any written materials that the member wishes to distribute to the Task Force. In addition, there shall always be a category titled “New Business” on every Agenda for the initiation of emergent matters, except on a special meeting. Items discussed in New Business may not be voted upon.

Section IV – Conduct of Business

- Section 4.1** In order to transact business, a simple majority of those appointed to the Task Force must be verified as present by a roll call at the commencement of any regular or special meeting and they shall constitute a quorum. Task Force members attending in person, by video teleconference, or by telephone, as permitted by the Open Meetings Act, shall be considered present. 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. If a quorum is subsequently reached, official action may be taken at that time.
- 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 Task Force. Motions shall be made and seconded by Task Force members before being called for a vote. A motion shall not be made and seconded by the same Task Force 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 Task Force member must be present to record his or her vote and to present a motion or motions.
- Section 4.5** Minutes of each meeting shall be approved by the Task Force as required by the Open Meetings Act. Copies of the approved Minutes shall be posted online 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. Address the Task Force only at the appropriate time as indicated on the Agenda and when recognized by the chairperson.
 2. Identify oneself and be brief. Ordinarily, comments shall be limited to five minutes. In the interest of time, the chairperson may shorten public comment to give the maximum number of participants the opportunity to speak.
 3. Conduct oneself with respect and civility toward others.

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 the chairperson’s pleasure. Committee activities shall be consistent with the provisions of these Rules of Procedure and governed by the actions of the chairperson and/or the Task Force.
- 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 chairperson. Committee reports and recommendations shall be submitted to the 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 chairperson or the committee chairperson in consultation with designated ISBE staff and shall be subject to the provisions of Section III of these Rules of Procedures.

Section 5.4 In order to transact business, a simple majority of those appointed to a committee must be verified as present by a roll call at the commencement of any regular or special meeting of such committee, and they shall constitute a quorum. Committee members attending in person, by video teleconference, or by telephone, as permitted by the Open Meetings Act, shall be considered present. 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 4.6 apply to committees of the Task Force; the committee chairperson shall fulfill the role of the Task Force chairperson for committee meetings.

Section VI – Administrative Support

Section 6.1 Designated ISBE staff shall provide administrative support to the Task Force.

Section 6.2 Designated ISBE staff shall create and maintain a website for the Task Force that shall serve to inform the public about the Task Force.

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

Section 7.1 All members of the Task Force shall annually complete the mandatory ethics and sexual harassment 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 Task Force member.

Section 7.2 All members of the Task Force shall 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 Task Force member.

Section 7.3 No Task Force 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 Task Force.

Section 7.4 No Task Force member shall receive any funds related to recommendations made by the Task Force.

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 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 Task Force members voting at an official meeting that has been properly noticed as required by these Rules of Procedure. Amendments shall be proposed only by members during a regular meeting of the Task Force and voted upon during the next regular meeting.

Section 9.2 A complete electronic copy of these Rules of Procedure shall be posted on the website required by Section 6.2.