

**BOARD AGENDA ITEM**

**December 14, 2021**

***SUBJECT:***

Revision of the following policies and administrative rule:

Policy LA Education Agency Relations Goals/Priority Objectives, First Reading  
Policy LBA Shared Services and Staff  
Policy LC Relations with Education Research Agencies  
Policy LD Relations with Colleges and Universities  
Policy LDA Student Teaching and Internships, First Reading  
Administrative Rule LDA-R Student Teaching and Internships, First Reading  
Policy LH Relations with Educational Accreditation Agencies, First Reading

***BACKGROUND INFORMATION:***

Aiken County Public School District cyclically reviews policies and administrative rules. Section L – Education Agency Relations are policies that provide guidance for the district in collaboration with education agencies, including research agencies, colleges and universities, specifically for student teaching and internships, and educational accreditation agencies.

***ADMINISTRATIVE CONSIDERATION:***

Administration has reviewed all policies and the administrative rule in Section L Education Agency Relations. Administration recommends the revision of Policy LDA Student Teaching and Internships, Administrative Rule LDA-R Student Teaching and Internships, and Policy LH Relations with Educational Accreditation Agencies to reflect current practice.

***RECOMMENDATION:***

Approve the following policies and administrative rule:

Policy LA Education Agency Relations Goals/Priority Objectives, First Reading  
Policy LBA Shared Services and Staff  
Policy LC Relations with Education Research Agencies  
Policy LD Relations with Colleges and Universities  
Policy LDA Student Teaching and Internships, First Reading  
Administrative Rule LDA-R Student Teaching and Internships, First Reading  
Policy LH Relations with Educational Accreditation Agencies, First Reading

***ATTACHMENTS:***

Policy LA Education Agency Relations Goals/Priority Objectives  
Policy LBA Shared Services and Staff  
Policy LC Relations with Education Research Agencies  
Policy LD Relations with Colleges and Universities

Policy LDA Student Teaching and Internships  
Administrative Rule LDA-R Student Teaching and Internships  
Policy LH Relations with Educational Accreditation Agencies

***PREPARED BY:***

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## EDUCATION AGENCY RELATIONS GOALS/ PRIORITY OBJECTIVES

Code **LA** Issued **2/021/22**

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Purpose: To establish the board's vision for relations with other education and community agencies.

The board will strive to cooperate with other school districts and related organizations. This cooperation may extend to the South Carolina School Boards Association, the South Carolina State Department of Education, ~~the National School Boards Association~~ and the U.S. Department of Education as well as other governmental agencies and community organizations which contribute to the education process and to the welfare of citizens in the community.

Adopted 6/10/75; Revised 2/26/02; 1/11/22

## SHARED SERVICES AND STAFF

Code **LBA** Issued **2/021/22**

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Purpose: To establish the board's vision for sharing services and staff with other schools and school districts.

When it is necessary to provide special educational programs that require the use of highly specialized personnel and/or equipment or because the incidence of need in any given school population is low, the board may enter into a cooperative agreement with neighboring districts to provide such services. The superintendent will act as the board's agent in making such agreements.

Adopted 2/26/02; Reviewed 1/11/22

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### Legal references:

A. S. C. Code, 1976, as amended:

1. Section 59-17-90 - Purposes for which school districts may combine.
2. Section 59-21-740 - Eligibility for state aid.
3. Section 59-33-50 - Establishment and operation of programs by school districts; contracts between districts; special arrangements for multiple-handicapped children.

## RELATIONS WITH EDUCATION RESEARCH AGENCIES

Code **LC** Issued **2/021/22**

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Purpose: To establish the board's vision for relations with education research agencies.

It is the policy of the schools of the district to cooperate as far as possible with the colleges, universities and other agencies in promoting potentially profitable research. Because of the very large number of requests to make questionnaire and interview studies in our schools, the district has established definite criteria for such studies.

Decisions in connection with research involving students, teachers or other employees will be based on the following.

- All projects should have district level approval.
- The project should be so designed that it can be expected to produce valid and reliable results.
- The project should be expected to contribute something useful and of value for the improvement of education.
- Questionnaires and interview questions must be submitted in advance to the superintendent's cabinet and must not include items which invade the area of personal rights or which raise questions of a personal nature relative to status, race, creed or color.
- Outlines must be submitted and should be of sufficient scope and depth to justify the time and effort to be consumed.
- In general, it is board policy not to interrupt the work of students or teachers unless there seems to be real potential in the study.
- In the case of student projects, the student(s) must obtain prior written approval by a faculty member who will have some responsibility related to the student's project.

Adopted 7/26/76; Revised 2/26/02; Reviewed 1/11/22

## RELATIONS WITH COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

Code **LD** Issued **2/021/22**

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Purpose: To establish the board's vision for agreements with colleges and universities.

The board supports the continuing educational development of its staff. Therefore, the board supports cooperative arrangements with institutions of higher learning to provide courses for staff members. Such arrangements may be expressed in the form of a written contract that may not financially obligate the board without its prior approval.

Adopted 8/21/84; Revised 2/26/02; Reviewed 1/11/22

## STUDENT TEACHING AND INTERNSHIPS

Code **LDA** Issued **2/021/22**

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Purpose: To establish the basic structure for student teaching and internships.

The district will cooperate where practical with colleges and universities in their teacher preparatory training programs, including the provision of experiences for practicum students and student interns. ~~Practicum students and student interns will be approved by the board in the same manner as certified employees.~~ Practicum students will be approved by the principal. Student interns will be approved by district personnel.

The superintendent will sign an annual letter of agreement which will stipulate the responsibilities of the district and the college or university.

Adopted 6/10/75; Revised 1/28/86, 2/26/02, 1/11/22

## STUDENT TEACHING AND INTERNSHIPS

Code **LDA-R** Issued **2/021/22**

The ~~Teacher Education Program of USCA and the~~ School District of Aiken County ~~recognize~~ **recognizes** that cooperating schools are important in the teacher education program and that they play a vital role in raising the quality of teachers entering the profession. In order to provide for optimal practicum and student intern experiences, ~~the USCA School of Education colleges and universities' schools of education~~ and the district will use the following guidelines.

- The district will comply with all federal and state laws and regulations pertaining to nondiscrimination (see policy AC).
- Undergraduate education students are in the process of acquiring those skills and attitudes needed for successful classroom teaching. Recognizing that individual capacities vary widely, undergraduate education majors should be placed in those schools in which principals and teachers understand the role of the ~~Teacher Education Program~~ **teacher education program** and wish to participate in the professional development of preservice teachers. The undergraduate education major will adhere to the policy of the school and to professional ethics. The supervising teacher and the principal, in consultation with the ~~USCA School of Education school of education~~, will provide supervised one-to-one and small group experiences for the practicum students while the student intern will gradually be given full responsibility for a group regularly assigned to one teacher. Practicum students and student interns should be supervised at all times.
- Practicum students are encouraged to obtain tuberculin tests and to acquire medical and liability insurance, although they have no legal responsibility for the classroom and its students. Practicum students will be placed in a variety of situations during their four years of undergraduate teacher preparation.
- Student interns will be in the final stages of their bachelor's degree studies. They will also be encouraged to obtain tuberculin tests and to acquire medical and liability insurance although they have no legal responsibility for the events in the classroom.
- The district and the ~~USCA School of Education~~ **schools of education** will agree on a published schedule for the year.
- Both practicum students and student interns will be placed with cooperating teachers who display those personal characteristics and teaching competencies which can serve as models. ~~Practicum students will be placed with cooperating teachers by principals; student interns will be placed with cooperating teachers by district personnel, in consultation with principals.~~
- No one teacher will have more than two practicum students at a given time. A teacher who supervises a student intern should not have a practicum student at the same time.
- The district and its personnel, including principals and supervising teachers, have the right to refuse placement of individual students. The ~~USCA School of Education~~ **school of education** may refuse placement of undergraduate education majors with a particular supervising classroom teacher.
- The ~~USCA School of Education~~ **school of education** will furnish the district with the names of practicum students and student interns and other necessary data.



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- The district will approve the names of all students participating ~~in practica and~~ in student internships before students begin working in the schools. The district will notify the ~~USCA School of Education~~ school of education in writing when the approvals have been obtained.
- Supervising teachers will sign the completed timesheets and complete evaluation forms as required. Such forms will be returned to the ~~USCA School of Education~~ school of education.
- The district and ~~USCA~~ the schools of education will reevaluate the entire program at the end of each academic year.

~~When feasible, the district will cooperate with other colleges and universities upon request to provide classroom experiences for preservice teachers following the guidelines stated in this administrative rule.~~

Issued 1976; Revised 2/26/02, 1/11/22

## RELATIONS WITH EDUCATIONAL ACCREDITATION AGENCIES

Code **LH** Issued **2/021/22**

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Purpose: To establish the board's vision for relations relationships with educational accreditation agencies.

All schools will meet the accreditation standards established by the South Carolina State state Department of Education.

The board authorizes the administration to seek and maintain accreditation of the high schools, middle schools and elementary schools with agencies recognized accrediting bodies, such as Cognia. the accrediting body which represents the unified policies and procedures for K-12 school and District accreditation. ~~the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.~~ It is the board's intent that all schools in the district maintain membership ~~in the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools in Cognia~~ and that all schools meet all standards set forth by the association.

Adopted 11/9/71; Revised 2/26/02, 1/11/22