

**BETHEL SCHOOL DISTRICT #52
BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY STATEMENT**

Subject: Records Checks and Fingerprinting

Policy Number: GCDA/GDDA Effective Date: 2/2024

Date of Original Policy and Revisions: 4/94, 5/95, 2/00, 10/06, 1/09, 1/10, 1/12, 2/13, 1/14, 1/16, 12/17, 6/22

Cancels Policy No.: GBO Dated: NA

Date of Next Review: 2/2027

POLICY

In a continuing effort to ensure the safety and welfare of students and staff, the District shall require all newly hired full-time and part-time employees¹ not requiring licensure under Oregon Revised Statute (ORS) 342.223 to submit to a criminal records check and/or fingerprinting as required by law. Other individuals, as determined by the District, that will have direct, unsupervised contact with students shall submit to criminal records checks and/or fingerprinting as established by Board policy and as required by law.

“Direct, unsupervised contact with students” means contact with students that provides the person opportunity and probability for personal communication or touch when not under direct supervision.

Pursuant to state law, a criminal records check or fingerprint based criminal records checks shall be required of the following individuals²:

1. All individuals employed as or by a contractor, whether employed part-time or full-time, and considered by the District to have direct, unsupervised contact with students;
2. Any community college faculty member providing instruction at the site of an early childhood education program, at a school site as part of an early childhood program, or at a grade K through 12 school site during the regular school day;
3. Any individual who is an employee of a public charter school and not requiring licensure under ORS 342.223; and
4. Any individual considered for volunteer service with the District who is allowed to have direct, unsupervised contact with students.

The District will provide the written notice about the requirements of fingerprinting and criminal records checks through means such as staff handbooks, employment applications, contracts or volunteer forms.

The District shall require a fingerprint based criminal records check for volunteers allowed direct, unsupervised contact with students in the following positions:

1. Coaches and advisors of District-sponsored programs and activities;

¹ Any individual hired within the last three months. A subject individual does not include an employee hired within the last three months if the district has evidence on file that meets the definition in Oregon Administrative Rule (OAR) 581-021-0510(11)(b).

² Subject individuals and requirements are further outlined in GCDA/GDDA-AR – Criminal Records Checks and Fingerprinting.

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2. Choreographer, accompanist, or drama coach;
3. Overnight chaperone, other than a K-12 student;
4. Volunteers with direct, unsupervised contact with students on a regular basis; and
5. Head coaches of District-recognized, community-sponsored club sports.

The procedure for processing fingerprint collection is further outlined in GCDA/GDDA-AR – Criminal Records Checks and Fingerprinting.

Collection of fingerprint information for a subject individual shall be processed only after the offer of employment or contract from the District. The subject individual may be charged a fee by the District which they may request be withheld from the amount owed to them by the District.

The District shall not begin the employment of a subject individual or terms of a District contractor before the return and disposition of the required criminal records checks.

The service of a volunteer with direct, unsupervised access to students will not begin before the return and disposition of a criminal records check.

When the District is notified of a subject individual who has been convicted of any crimes prohibiting employment or contract the individual will not be employed or contracted, or if employed will be terminated. When the District is notified of a subject individual who knowingly made a false statement as to the conviction of any crime, the individual may be employed or contracted by the District, or if employed by the District may be terminated. A subject individual who fails to disclose the presence of convictions that would not otherwise prohibit employment or contract with the District as provided by law may be employed or contracted by the District.

The District's use of criminal history must be relevant to the specific requirements of the position, services or employment.

The service of a volunteer allowed to have direct, unsupervised contact with students will not begin before the return and disposition of a criminal records check.

A volunteer who knowingly made a false statement or has a conviction of the crimes listed in ORS 342.143, or the substantial equivalent of any of those crimes if the conviction occurred in another jurisdiction or in Oregon under a different statutory name or number may result in immediate termination from the ability to volunteer in the District.

The Superintendent shall develop administrative regulations as necessary to meet the requirements of law.

APPEALS

A subject individual may appeal a determination from ODE that prevents employment or eligibility to contract with the District to the Superintendent of Public Instruction as a contested case under ORS 183.413 – 183.470.

A volunteer may appeal a determination from a fingerprint-based criminal records check by ODE that prevents the ability to volunteer with the District to the Superintendent of Public Instruction as a

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contested case, under ORS 183.413 – 183.470.

DRIVER CERTIFICATION AND APPROVAL TO OPERATE DISTRICT-OWNED VEHICLES

All drivers must be certified annually prior to operating District-owned or District-sponsored vehicles, or transporting students in an official capacity to school-sponsored events. Certification is based on the employee's satisfactory driving record.

Potential drivers of District-owned vehicles authorize the District to collect required information to complete a Background Record Check with the Department of Motor Vehicles.

REPORTS

None.

ATTACHMENTS

None.

END OF POLICY

REFERENCES / COMMENTS

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| ORS 181.A.180 | ORS 342.143 |
| ORS 181.A.230 | ORS 342.223 |
| ORS 326.603 | OAR 414-061-0010 to -0030 |
| ORS 326.607 | OAR 581-021-0510-021-0512 |
| ORS 332.107 | OAR 581-022-2430 |
| ORS 336.631 | OAR 584-050-0012 |

Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, 42 U.S.C. § 2000e, et. seq. (2017).