

Professional Personnel

Leaves of Absence

Each of the provisions in this policy applies to all professional personnel to the extent it does not conflict with an applicable collective bargaining agreement or individual contract; in the event of a conflict, such provision is severable and the applicable bargaining agreement or individual agreement will control.

Sick and Bereavement Leave, Sabbatical Leave, Personal Leave, Maternity Leave, Extended Leave of Absence, Leave of Absence for Advanced Study, Leave of Absence

Please refer to the current Agreement(s) between Board of Education, J. Sterling Morton High School District 201, Cook County, Illinois and Morton Council Union, Illinois Federation of Teachers Local 571.

Leaves for Service in the Military

Leaves for service in the U.S. Armed Services or any of its reserve components and the National Guard, as well as re-employment rights, will be granted in accordance with State and federal law. A professional staff member hired to replace one in military service does not acquire tenure.

General Assembly

Leaves for service in the General Assembly, as well as re-employment rights, will be granted in accordance with State and federal law. A professional staff member hired to replace one in the General Assembly does not acquire tenure.

School Visitation Leave

An eligible professional staff member is entitled to 8 hours during any school year, no more than 4 hours of which may be taken on any given day, to attend school conferences or classroom activities related to the teacher's child, if the conference or activity cannot be scheduled during non-work hours. Professional staff members must first use all accrued vacation leave, personal leave, compensatory leave, and any other leave that may be granted to the professional staff member, except sick, and disability leave.

The Superintendent shall develop administrative procedures implementing this policy consistent with the School Visitation Rights Act.

Leaves for Victims of Domestic or Sexual Violence

Any professional staff member may take an unpaid leave from work who: (1) is a victim of domestic or sexual violence, or (2) has a family, or household member who is a victim of domestic or sexual violence whose interests are not adverse to the employee as it relates to the domestic or sexual violence. The unpaid leave allows the employee to seek medical help, legal assistance, counseling, safety planning, and other assistance without suffering adverse employment action.

The Victims' Economic Security and Safety Act, governs the purpose, requirements, scheduling, and continuity of benefits, and all other terms of the leave. Accordingly, an employee is entitled to a total of 12 work weeks of leave during any 12-month period. Neither the law nor this policy creates a right for an employee to take unpaid leave that exceeds the unpaid leave time allowed under, or is in addition to the unpaid leave time permitted by, the federal Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 (29 U.S.C. §2601)

LEGAL REF.: 20 ILCS 1805/30.1 et. seq.
105 ILCS 5/24-6, 5/24-6.1, 5/24-6.2, 5/24-6.3, 5/24-13, and 5/24-13.1
820 ILCS 147/1 et. seq. and 180/1 et. seq.

CROSS REF.: 5:180 (Temporary Illness or Temporary Incapacity), 5:185 (Family and Medical Leave), 5:330 (Educational Support Personnel - Sick Days, Vacation, Holidays, and Leaves)

ADOPTED: November 10, 2010