

ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY 5.04  
USE OF DRONES ON SCHOOL PROPERTY

**(1) Definitions**

- a. The term “drone” refers to, all Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS), Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAV), and any other device invented, used, or designed to navigate or fly in the air or maneuver over the ground, that is operated without human intervention from within or on the aircraft.
- b. “District property” includes, but is not limited to, all school buildings, field houses, playfields, stadiums, playgrounds, parking lots, and other district facilities.

**(2) Application of Policy**

- a. To maintain the safety, security and privacy of students, staff and visitors of Milwaukee Public Schools the use or operation of drones by any individual is strictly prohibited unless prior authorization has been obtained, as described herein.
- b. All drone operators on MPS sites shall maintain knowledge of and shall be in compliance with all Federal laws, Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) regulations, and state and local laws related to the use of drones.
- c. All drone operators on MPS sites shall maintain knowledge of and shall be in compliance with the limitations created by the proximity to FAA registered airports/airstrips, including, but not limited to Mitchell International Airport and Lawrence J. Timmerman Airport.
- d. The use of drones shall in all instances be limited to outdoor events.
- e. All drone operation at events requires Certificate of Authorization (COA) and compliance with the FAA’s small unmanned aircraft rule, Part 107.
- f. Use of drones for the purpose of conducting research or gathering data shall not be permitted without additional review and approval of the Office of Research and Assessment.
- g. Use of drones on MPS property by any contracted vendor or service provider is prohibited, unless permission has been granted in the contract.
- h. This policy shall be reviewed every two years and any necessary revisions shall be brought to the Board for approval.

**(3) Student Use Prohibited**

- a. Use of drones on district property by students is prohibited.

**(4) Authorization for Staff Use**

- a. Use of drones on MPS property by staff shall be strictly for educational purposes.

- b. Staff shall obtain the pre-authorization of the building administrator or the Superintendent.
- c. Building administrators shall obtain written consent from the Regional Superintendent at least 48 hours prior to the use of the drone.
- d. A detailed description of the type of drone and the anticipated drone operation is required.
- e. The staff drone operator shall provide proof that he/she is licensed by the FAA to operate the drone. The staff drone operator shall provide the district with verification that the drone to be used is consistent with the FAA's requirements.

**(5) Authorization for Use by the Public**

- a. Use of drones on district property by minors is prohibited.
- b. A permit granting permission to use a drone on MPS property shall be obtained by the drone operator from the Department of Recreation prior to any drone use. The Department of Recreation will consult with other departments, as necessary, to determine the appropriateness of the request.
- c. A detailed description of the type of drone and the anticipated drone operation is required.
- d. The drone operator shall provide proof that he/she is licensed by the FAA to operate the drone. The drone operator must provide the district with verification that the drone to be used is consistent with the FAA's requirements.
- e. The drone operator shall provide a signed agreement holding the district harmless from any claims of harm to individuals or damage to property.
- f. Drone operators shall provide the district with a current certificate of Aviation Liability insurance with limits of not less than \$1 million. The certificate shall also document a waiver of any subrogation involving Milwaukee Public Schools or its insurance.

**(6) Use Requirements and Limitations**

- a. All drones must remain under the control of the drone operator at all times and shall remain within the line of sight of the operator.
- b. The use of drones shall be limited to the scope of operation in the permit/authorization for use, to include whether the drone operator may record and/or transmit audio, video, and/or images.
- c. The use of drones shall in all instances be limited to outdoor events. The use of drones within any district building is strictly prohibited.
- d. Drone operators are prohibited from flying drones over playing surfaces, seating and spectator areas where and when people are present, as well as event parking areas where and when people and/or vehicles are present.
- e. All drone operators and their employers (as applicable) are responsible for ensuring drone operators are trained and proficient in the use of the drone they will operate. Drone operators must be aware of the risks of drone use –

including, but not limited to, personal injury and property damage caused by the drone as a result of weather, operator error or judgment, and/or failure of drone systems and equipment – and must exercise due care to avoid such risks.

- f. Drones may not be operated in any way that would create a public safety hazard, damage property, violate privacy, or in such a way that unduly affects the environment of those entering, exiting, working in, or moving about MPS property.
- g. When recording and/or transmitting audio, video, and/or images, drone operators must, at all times, avoid areas reasonably considered private such as restrooms, locker rooms, individual residences and medical treatment rooms/areas.
- h. Event managers shall refuse admission to any individual or group attempting or intending to use a drone without authorization at any district-sanctioned event.
- i. Event managers are authorized to suspend play or activities, if necessary, to remove and confiscate any unauthorized use of a drone or any authorized use that is in prohibited areas during a district event.
- j. Failure to follow this policy may result in the drone operator being denied admission to future events on school or district grounds and/or the denial of future drone use requests.
- k. Prior drone use approval may be revoked at any time if district staff has good reason to believe the safety, security and/or privacy of students, staff or visitors is at risk.

#### **(6) Use at Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association (WIAA) Events**

- a. All drone operators shall adhere to WIAA regulations relative to the transmission, internet streaming, photography, imaging, filming, videotaping, audio recording, and play-by-play depiction or description of any competition and/or game. Such action is prohibited without written consent of the WIAA.
- b. All “real time” or tape-delayed audio, video, or textual transmission of play-by-play is the exclusive property of the WIAA and rights-granted entities. Any account/transmission of real-time video, audio or textual play-by-play is prohibited on-site or off-site without consent of the WIAA.