

Resolution 1617R-003

By Director Falk

WHEREAS, Unmanned aircraft systems (UASs) — or “drones,” as they are popularly known — have become increasingly affordable and accessible by the general public; and

WHEREAS, As drones have become more sophisticated and commonplace, and the use of this technology has rapidly expanded into recreation, research and education, business and commerce (including the media), and even public safety, school districts around the country are now beginning to realize the need to establish rules, policies, and guidelines for the use of drones within their grounds and even within their buildings, both by students and staff and by outside people and entities; and

WHEREAS, As school leaders have learned from the rapid rise of cell phones and other, similar devices, there is a need to try, if not to keep ahead of new technological advances, at least to keep pace with them in the development and revision of administrative policies governing their use; and

WHEREAS, The use of drones on or around district property raises serious concerns regarding:

- compliance with federal, state, and local laws and regulations;
- safety, not only of students and staff, but of residents of and visitors to the neighborhoods around our buildings;
- privacy, as it relates to the use of cameras and recording equipment attached to the drones; and
- liability, including personal injury, property damage, and insurance coverage; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Administration be directed to develop policies and procedures governing the use of drones by students, staff, and the public on and around school property; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That while this policy must be designed to limit the District’s liability as much as possible in regard to the use of drones, it must avoid placing any unreasonable limits on the opportunities for students to explore the productive, beneficial, and creative use of drones; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That, in developing this policy, the Administration be directed to consult

- the rules and regulations of the Federal Aviation Administration;
- the applicable Wisconsin Statutes (such as Chapter 114 and 941.292);
- the WIAA’s policy for unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs);
- the applicable policies already developed by Wisconsin school districts
- the resources of the Wisconsin Association of School Boards (WASB), which has already begun extensive examination of the subject; and
- any other resources that Administration deems appropriate; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That proposed policy be brought back to the Board as soon as possible, but no later than April of 2017.

October 27, 2016